

**Component 2: The Culture of Health
Care**

**3.1: Unit 3: Health Care Settings-
Where Care is Delivered**

3.1 b: Hospitals

Hospitals

- This section will briefly explain the different types of hospitals– community hospitals, teaching hospitals, government hospitals (including VA, military, public health, Indian health service), tertiary care centers, trauma centers, academic medical and academic medical centers
- This section will also look at health care in nontraditional settings: school-based, community based, and employer-based

Component 2/Unit 3 Health IT Workforce Curriculum Version 1.0/Fall 2010 2

Community Hospitals

- Definition- non-federal hospital whose facilities are available to the public.
- There are approximately 5000 of these hospitals in the US today

Component 2/Unit 3 Health IT Workforce Curriculum Version 1.0/Fall 2010 3

Teaching Hospitals

- Definition- a hospital that provides clinical education and training to future and current doctors, nurses, and other health professionals, in addition to delivery medical care to patients. Some teaching hospitals also have a commitment to research and are centers for experimental, innovative, and technically sophisticated services.

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Version 1.0/Fall 2010 4

Government Hospitals

- Includes Public Health, Veterans' Administration, Military, and Indian Health Hospitals
 - Public Health Hospitals are few and far between. They began as hospitals for merchant marines and have slowly closed their doors.
 - Veterans' Administration Hospitals
 - 171 medical centers
 - These hospitals provide care to veterans at no charge

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Version 1.0/Fall 2010 5

Government Hospitals (cont'd)

- Veterans' Hospitals are located across the country, including Hawaii and Alaska.
- These hospitals are run and funded by the Veterans' Administration.
- Physicians are federal employees
- This form of hospital resembles a socialized medicine hospital found in countries such as the United Kingdom. Quality services are available, but there are usually waiting times associated with the services.

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Version 1.0/Fall 2010 6

Government Hospitals (cont'd)

- Military Facilities
 - All branches of the military run military treatment facilities. Most of the small hospitals have been converted into large clinics and the larger hospitals remain
 - Major military medical centers include
 - National Naval Medical Center (Navy)
 - Walter Reed Army Hospital (Army)
 - Wilford Hall Medical Center (Air Force)

Government Hospitals (cont'd)

- Military Medical Treatment Facilities (MTFs) do not charge active duty personnel or their dependents for medical care.
- The structure for MTFs is similar to a civilian hospital except that there is no Board of Trustees/Directors, the CEO is the hospital commander, the physicians are employees of the hospital, and the hospital is funded by the Department of Defense.

Government Hospitals (cont'd)

- Indian Health Service-
 - Mission- to raise the physical, mental, social, and spiritual health of American Indians and Alaska Natives to the highest level.
 - Foundation- to uphold the Federal Government's obligation to promote health American Indian and Alaska Native people, communities, cultures, and to honor and protect the inherent sovereign rights of Tribes.
 - Facilities are operated at no charge to the patients.

Tertiary Care Centers

- Definition- Hospitals that render highly specialized services requiring highly technical resources. Usually offered by academic medical centers or specialty hospitals, such as burn centers.

Component 2/Unit 3 Health IT Workforce Curriculum 10
Version 1.0/Fall 2010

Trauma Hospitals

- Definition- a hospital equipped to provide comprehensive emergency medical services to patients suffering traumatic injuries. Not all hospitals have this capability
 - Level I- handle any level of severity or trauma, trauma surgeon on-site 24/7, and an operating room ready at all time for trauma cases.
 - Level II- provides comprehensive trauma care, 24-hour availability of all essential specialties and equipment.
 - Level III- provides emergency resuscitation, surgery, and intensive care of most trauma patients.

Component 2/Unit 3 Health IT Workforce Curriculum 11
Version 1.0/Fall 2010

Academic Medical Centers

- Definition- partnerships between a medical school and its affiliated teaching hospitals and clinics working together to provide the highest quality of patient care from expert physician specialists, conduct breakthrough research leading to medical advancements for patients today and tomorrow, teach tomorrow's physicians, and offer the most advanced technology to diagnose and treat disease.

Component 2/Unit 3 Health IT Workforce Curriculum 12
Version 1.0/Fall 2010

Academic Medical Centers (cont'd)

- Academic medical centers (AMCs) are known for dedicating resources for advancing the health status of individuals and communities.
- Most AMCs have renowned research programs that bring in millions of dollars each year.
- This is where the innovations are brought into clinical care—mechanical heart, artificial blood, transplants, to name a few.

Component 2/Unit 3

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Version 1.0/Fall 2010

13

Healthcare in Nontraditional Settings

- School-based
 - Clinics that are located in public schools. Can be elementary, middle, or high schools. The services vary, but most provide primary care and mental health services to students and their families.
 - Started in the 1960's to increase the persistence and graduation of students.

Component 2/Unit 3

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Version 1.0/Fall 2010

14

Healthcare in Nontraditional Settings (cont'd)

- Community-based centers
 - These centers are set up to serve the low-income and elderly populations.
 - Can be operated by volunteers
 - Can be funded through grant funds
 - Provide primary care and access to health care for folks who do not have health insurance

Component 2/Unit 3

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Version 1.0/Fall 2010

15

Healthcare in Nontraditional Settings (cont'd)

- Employer-based health care clinics
 - Clinics operated by an employer to serve their employees and their families
 - Can be operated in areas where there is limited access to healthcare
 - Present in healthcare facilities to deal with OSHA related issues—i.e. follow-up care after a needlestick incident.
 - Can also focus on health promotion and preventive services
