



## HEALTH INNOVATIONS

NAME OF PRACTICE: Safety Walkabouts Presentation

JURISDICTION: Ontario

HEALTH THEME: Workplace-General

HEALTH SECTOR: HHR-General

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: 2010

Building On Our Strategy

Who We Are

CF H Svcs Gp is Canada's 14th healthcare system. It is an integral part of the Canadian Forces (CF), providing "best care anywhere" to CF personnel, wherever we serve. This integrated team of military and civilian health professionals is a leader in healthcare reform. The team supports the Canada

First Defence Strategy by offering a patient-focused comprehensive spectrum of care in evidence-based health services.

The health needs of CF personnel are a top priority for the CF and the Government of Canada. The universality of service or "soldier first" principle requires that CF personnel be physically fit, employable, and deployable at all times. The Surgeon General's obligation to CF personnel is to provide the services necessary for them to maintain their health and mental well-being; to prevent disease; to diagnose and treat any injury, illness, or disability; and, to facilitate their rapid return to operational fitness. Because strength and endurance could mean the difference between success and failure in a military operation, CF personnel must maintain a high standard of health and fitness.

CF H Svcs Gp supports the effectiveness of Canada's operational readiness by promoting a healthy lifestyle and physical fitness, delivering high-quality care in garrison, and providing operational healthcare services. Care provided to ill and injured CF personnel is on an individual basis and designed to meet their needs so they are able to have the best recovery and quality of life. By maintaining close relationships with the healthcare services of our allies and with civilian healthcare services, CF H Svcs Gp ensures that ill and injured CF personnel receive the best care possible from the whole community.

CF H Svcs Gp is a key component of the Defence Team and comprises approximately 6 400 regular force, reserve force and civilian personnel, as well as 500 civilian contractors. Our mandate is three-fold:

## 1 — DELIVER HEALTHCARE

## 2 — PROVIDE A DEPLOYABLE HEALTH SERVICES CAPABILITY

### TO OPERATIONAL COMMANDS

## 3 — PROVIDE HEALTHCARE ADVICE

An evidence-based, best-practice, and performance-measurement culture is alive and well throughout CF H Svcs Gp—effectiveness and efficiency are at the heart of all we do. Our highly trained health professionals, recognized internationally for their excellence, are leaders in collaborative and interdisciplinary care. The structure of CF H Svcs Gp brings together a range of skills and expertise, as dictated by the needs of patients, commanders and operations.

CF personnel have access to at least the equivalent standard of healthcare and publicly funded benefits and services that Canadians receive under provincial healthcare plans. The “Canadian Forces Spectrum of Care” document describes these benefits and services, and it sets one standard for all CF personnel.

CF H Svcs Gp provides health services to CF personnel in two distinct environments: in garrison and on deployment. In Canada, every military base provides in-garrison care. Overseas, we provide health services whenever and wherever CF personnel deploy. These closely linked CF H Svcs Gp services ensure that personnel are healthy, thereby increasing deployment readiness and reducing the risk of health emergencies on deployment.

Without healthy soldiers, sailors, airmen and airwomen, the CF would not be a combat-capable military force.

### CF H SVCS GP—POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

(total population: 6 400)

regular force 7%

reserve force 24%

civilian personnel 43%

civilian contractors 26%

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