

SPACE AVAILABLE HEALTHCARE

**BEGINNING
JANUARY 1, 2023**

Military Treatment Facilities (MTFs) in the Indo-Pacific will offer Space Available (Space-A) care in Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, & Gynecology when excess capacity exists after meeting federal statutes governing access to care for Active Duty Service Members and TRICARE Prime enrolled patients.

Patients not enrolled in TRICARE Prime are **HIGHLY** encouraged to seek care within their healthcare provider's network due to limited capacity within MTFs.

MAKING AN APPOINTMENT



Check your respective MTF's social media pages for Space-A appointments. Available appointments will be listed daily by 10 a.m. local time.



Follow the procedure at your respective MTF for scheduling a Space-A appointment.



Please ensure you attend your scheduled Space-A appointment. "No-shows" and late arrivals result in decreased appointment availability for all of our patients.



The Defense Health Agency Region Indo-Pacific understands that all members of our military communities are crucial to mission success. While we must maintain compliance with federal and DHA access to care requirements for our Active Duty Service Member and TRICARE Prime beneficiaries, we are committed to maximizing Space-A programs within our MTFs.

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

● WHAT IS SPACE-A HEALTHCARE?

MTFs provide healthcare to non-enrolled patients on a Space-A basis. These appointments are not guaranteed, but are offered as capacity allows. MTFs will offer Space-A appointments on a "same-day" basis. This means you cannot book Space-A appointments for a future date.

● WHAT TYPE OF SPACE-A APPOINTMENTS ARE OFFERED?

Space-A appointments are for episodic care, which addresses occasional medical needs that are newly occurring or changing. Space-A appointments are not available for chronic medical needs, which are long-term concerns that require routine monitoring. Appointments are also available for refilling prescriptions not readily available in the local community, such as many Behavioral Health medications.

● IS THIS A NEW POLICY?

Federal statutes have dictated MTF access to care requirements for many years. The Defense Health Agency Region Indo-Pacific (DHAR-IP) recently released DHAR-IP AI 6025.02 to provide additional guidance for our MTFs on managing Space-A programs.

● WHAT ABOUT THE PHARMACY, VACCINES, AND PHYSICALS?

All MTFs will continue to offer access to non-TRICARE enrolled patients for walk-in services, such as immunizations and contraceptive clinics. MTFs can also extend group services to non-TRICARE enrolled patients, such as school and sport physicals. Emergency Departments will continue to offer 24/7 access to all ID card holders experiencing a medical emergency.

● ARE SURGICAL SERVICES AVAILABLE ON A SPACE-A BASIS?

MTFs may offer surgical referrals for procedures required to maintain providers' clinical skills if excess capacity exists. Surgical referrals will include follow-on care as needed throughout recovery.