

A Beginner's Guide to Army Healthcare System

Austere/remote environment: environments where access to clean water, electricity, and to a fixed or mobile medical facility is significantly degraded or denied, and where diagnostic and treatment resources and medical personnel are unavailable or limited for extended periods of time.

Prolonged field care: The need to provide patient care for extended periods of time when evacuation or mission requirements surpass available capabilities and/or capacity to provide that care.

Echelon/Role of Care		Available Provider of Care	Typical Physical Environment	Types of Care Provided
ROC 1	Point of Injury (POI)	Self; buddy; combat lifesaver (non-medical team member trained in enhanced first-aid); combat medic or corpsman trained in tactical combat casualty care.	Combat environment	First-aid and immediate lifesaving measures
ROC 1	Battalion Aid Station (BAS)	Up to Physician Assistant or equivalent, supported by medics.	100% mobile. Not much electricity, little/no refrigeration, dusty/damp (not isolated from the ambient environment); very limited footprint. No patient holding capability.	Triage, treatment, evaluation. No surgical capacity.
ROC 2	Medical Companies	Mostly PAs (and RNs) supported by a lot of medics. May have an MD. May include optometry. No ophthalmologist.	100% mobile. Limited inpatient bed space.	Basic primary care and further triage, treatment and evaluation of combat casualties. Has capability to deliver packed RBCs, limited X-ray, clinical lab, dental support, stress control, preventive medicine. Has surgical capabilities when augmented with Forward Resuscitative Surgical Team (FRST).
ROC 3	Field Hospital (FH) (formerly Combat Support Hospital)	PAs, MDs, RNs supported by a lot of medics. Ophthalmologist is in general not available but may be available when a FH is augmented by a Head & Neck Team.	Scalable configurations up to 176-bed. Includes other Service's theater hospitals and Hospital Ships USNS Mercy and USNS Comfort (999-bed).	Care to all categories of patients including resuscitation, initial wound surgery, damage control surgery, and postoperative treatment.
ROC 4	Fixed Medical Treatment Facilities (MTF)	Ophthalmologist, including specialized ophthalmic care, available.	CONUS-based hospitals and OCONUS-based hospitals; may include VA and other long-term care facilities.	Care to all categories of patients, including chronic and long-term care.