

Duties performed by HM's include:

- assisting in prevention and treatment of disease and injuries;
- caring for sick and injured;
- administering immunization programs;
- rendering emergency medical treatment;
- instructing sailors and marines in first aid, self-aid, and personal hygiene procedures;
- transporting the sick and injured;
- conducting preliminary physical examinations;
- performing medical administrative, supply and accounting procedures;
- maintaining treatment records and reports;
- supervising shipboard and field environmental sanitation and preventive medicine programs;
- supervising air, water, food, and habitability standards;
- performing clinical laboratory tests and operating sophisticated laboratory equipment;
- taking and processing X-rays and operating X-ray equipment;
- filling prescriptions, maintaining pharmacy stock;
- serving as operating room technicians for general and specialized surgery;
- performing preventive maintenance and repairs on biomedical equipment.

Working Environment

Hospital corpsmen work in a variety of environments.

Most HMs work indoors in hospitals or clinics. Others work aboard ships and submarines; with air squadrons, special operational environments (e.g., SEAL, Recon Forces, Seabee units and Deep-sea Diving). Duties are service oriented, repetitive and require good judgment and mental alertness. HM's may work alone or with supervision by other health professionals, depending on the assignment.

Women are assigned to most ships and field medical support units of the Fleet Marine Force (FMF). Women are not assigned to submarines, with the SEALs, or some units of the FMF.

A-School (Job School) Information

Great Lakes, IL --96 calendar days

A-School teaches basic principles and techniques of patient care and first aid procedures through group and modular instruction. After completion of "A" school, hospital corpsmen are normally assigned to Navy medical treatment facilities although some are assigned to operational units. Advanced training in a "C" school, a tour at sea or ashore, overseas or with the Marine Corps may follow this initial tour. The HM field has several sub-specialties in which personnel may request advanced "C" school training (see "Sub-Specialties Available for This Rating," below).

En route to their first permanent duty stations, most male HMs will be assigned to either Field Medical Service School, Camp Lejeune NC, or Camp Pendleton CA, for specialized training in the knowledge and skills required to perform medical services in the field with the Marine Corps and/or the "Seabees."

ASVAB Score Requirement: VE+MK+GS=146

Security Clearance Requirement: None (Note: Some assignments may require a Security Clearance)