



# NAVY MEDICINE *FAST FACTS*

September 2024

## NAVY MEDICINE ENTERPRISE (NME) **Established August 14, 2024**

**Navy Medicine is Present in Every Facet of Warfighting**  
*NME will develop and deliver manned, trained, and equipped naval medical forces capable of preparing, preserving, and sustaining medical readiness of the naval human weapon system.*

**NME is an Operationally Focused Structure**  
*NME provides senior fleet leadership a mechanism to address and prioritize health services support requirements to meet operational objectives.*

**NME Prioritizes Mental and Physical Health Readiness**  
*NME will maximize human performance and treat / rehabilitate warfighters through standardized quality of care, policy, education, training, and through the delivery of medical forces.*

- THE SIX NAVY ENTERPRISES**
- Naval Expeditionary Combat Enterprise
  - Surface Warfare Enterprise
  - Undersea Warfare Enterprise
  - Information Warfare Enterprise
  - Naval Aviation Enterprise
  - Navy Medicine Enterprise

## NAVAL UNDERSEA MEDICAL INSTITUTE (NUMI) TRAINING TOMORROW'S UNDERSEA MEDICAL EXPERTS

- Located at the **Naval Submarine Base New London, Groton, Conn.**, NUMI provides training and technical support in **undersea medicine**, **radiation health**, and related matters, to meet Navy Medicine's requirements and to provide technical support to joint force activities worldwide.
- NUMI is the **sole source of training** for **Submarine Force Independent Duty Corpsmen (HM-L01A)**, **Radiation Health Technicians (HM-L05A)**, **Undersea Medical Officers (16U0)** and **Radiation Health Officers (NOBC 0845 or 0847)**.
- NUMI also provides the **Navy's only Radiation Health Indoctrination course** for officers who support a wide variety of billets throughout the fleet.

### 7 COURSES OFFERED

- Undersea Medical Officer Course (UMOC)
- Submarine Independent Duty Corpsman (IDC)
- Submarine IDC Conversion
- Refresher Training (REFTRA) UMO and IDC
- Radiation Health Officer (RHO)
- Radiation Health Technician (RHT)
- Radiation Health Indoctrination (RHI)

### TOTAL STUDENTS TRAINED / YEAR: 195+




## 2 NECs Trained

1. SUB IDC – NEC LO1A
2. RHT – NEC LO5A

## Undersea Medical Officer Course (UMOC)

- The Undersea Medical Officer Course has been offered since World War II, making it the **longest standing service school in Navy Medicine**.
- UMOs are **Navy divers, occupational physicians** and **perform hyperbaric treatments for diving and flight-related injuries** as well as medical indications.
- The **six-month training** includes 11 weeks of didactic training in submarine health and emergency response, occupational health, radiation health, hyperbaric medicine and the **dive medical officer training at Navy Diving and Salvage Training Center in Panama City, Fla.**



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## NUMI "BABY SUB DOC" PILOT PROGRAM



- NUMI initiated the "baby doc" pilot program in **December 2022** for Hospital Corps School graduates and Radiation Health Technicians (RHT) to attend Basic Enlisted Submarine School.
- The program places **new RHTs on submarines as a junior corpsmen**, where they can use their radiation health training, qualify in submarines and gain on the job training prior to returning as Submarine IDCs.
- Since 2022, **more than 20 RHT students have been detailed on submarine follow-on tours** with the aim that these sailors will return and attend NUMI's Submarine IDC School.
- The **keenest IDCs are chosen to mentor these sailors to develop future submarine IDCs** for the fleet.

## DR. G.R.W. FRENCH, THE U.S. NAVY'S FIRST DIVING MEDICAL OFFICER

- In 1912, Passed Assistant Surgeon **George Reuben Williamson French**, USN (1883-1955) began a collaboration with Warrant Gunner George Stillson (1883-1953) at the Brooklyn Navy Yard that helped advance the U.S. Navy's diving capabilities and pave the way for the establishment of the Navy Experimental Diving Unit.
- French had studied **diving with the British Royal Navy** and had **extensive knowledge of Dr. John Haldane's research on decompression** prior to his work with Stillson.
- Their efforts led to the acquisition and evaluation of **new diving apparatuses, record setting dives**, the Navy **adopting Haldane's decompression tables**, and the **standardization of diving equipment and specifications for recompression chambers**.
- Following the sinking of the submarine USS *F-4* off Honolulu, with the loss of 21 crewmembers, Stillson and French travelled to Hawaii to support **the U.S. Navy's first deep dive salvage operation**.
- French later documented this historic operation in the article "**Diving Operations in Connection with the Salvage of the USS 'F-4'**" published in the *Naval Medical Bulletin* in 1916.



Diving support activities on the USS *Walke*'s deck during deep diving tests conducted in Long Island Sound in late October and early November 1914. Note: Chief Petty Officer holding diver's air line, and Passed Assistant Surgeon **George R.W. French** (wearing communications headset and microphone) talking to the diver (George Stillson) by telephone, and recompression chamber in the background.

*Photo courtesy of Navy History and Heritage Command*