CIVIL AIR PATROL
HEALTH SERVICES

‘CAP Health’ Provides Safe Delivery of Members’ Personal Health Information

Did you know Civil Air Patrol is catching up with the rest of the medical world?

CAP Health is a specially designed electronic health record intended to improve how Civil Air Patrol’s Health Services Program maintains important health-related information for encampments, National Cadet Special Activities, and even its missions.



“CAP Health is supported and approved by our national leadership,” said Lt. Col. Stephen Leighton (pictured), Health Services’ senior program manager. “It is intended to organize everything within a secure framework to protect personal health information, and to allow access only to commanders and health services officers assigned to CAP events, for the duration of the event.”

CAP Health integrates the contents of existing forms, including CAP Form 160 and CAP Form 161, as well as new forms under development associated with the new Health Services regulation currently in review. In addition, it will track cadet medication administration, and members’ allergies (medications, food and environmental) and special accommodations. In the event a member must be referred outside the event for medical care, CAP Health can produce a summary to hand or send to emergency medical services (EMS), or medical facilities/providers.

CAP Health uses the same security processes recommended for systems that must comply with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), although Civil Air Patrol and Health Services do not meet the requirements to engage in HIPAA compliance. “This multi-level security implementation is the result of CAP information technology security working to identify and implement the appropriate processes to ensure members’ privacy through secure handling of electronic personal health information.”

The program was designed and coded by CAP IT, with significant design input from several members of the Health Services Advisory Team with clinical experience, and in two cases, with experience in the development of electronic health records. During development, the team’s participants engaged in testing during “sprint” meetings where items were demonstrated, then released for testing. The team’s feedback drove IT’s interactive design and development cycle.

“This is an opportunity to move beyond the pen-and-paper documentation we have been using for years, with a system that will grow with Civil Air Patrol and allow better health management of medications, illnesses and injuries,” Leighton said.

Please take a look at this new system, which is available on eServices, under the Administration submenu in the upper left corner of the landing page. CAP Health is the second entry down.

“Each member has their own account, and you can look at the information already there, and add more to it whenever you please,” Leighton said.

If you have any other questions about CAP Health, send them to this link.