mHIC and BUMED Team Up to Expand MHCE’s Reach

In the 3rd and 4th quarters of FY16, the TATRC Mobile Health Innovation Center (mHIC) team worked tirelessly in partnership with the Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) to establish the necessary agreements to achieve a Navy “branded” instance of the Mobile Health Care Environment (MHCE) system and secure mCare mobile application. The purpose of this research partnership was envisioned to create mutual efficiencies and synergistically advance Military Health System capabilities through the sharing of expertise, technology, research material, products and facilities.

The Chief Digital Officer for BUMED, Mr. Mark Beckner, spearheaded a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with TATRC to establish an mCare presence for demonstration purposes with an interface look and feel that is specific to the US Navy. TATRC and BUMED have common goals of collaborating to enhance and facilitate research on healthcare information technology. This pilot will be used to show how the Navy may leverage the same technology for home monitoring, activity tracking and other established features within the MHCE system as a means of using personal mobile devices in a secure fashion in the future.

The MOU between TATRC and BUMED was signed on 23 September 2016. In the next quarter, TATRC’s mHIC will ensure that BUMED has access to both the secure mCare app and web portal with a Navy look and feel for demonstration purposes only.

TATRC’s mHIC Lab Manager, Ms. Jeanette Little stated, “Having a collaborative environment like this, for Army and Navy Connected Health projects is a critical first step towards identifying tri-service requirements.”

If successful, this could lead to a more in-depth partnership between TATRC and BUMED with regard to connected health projects in the future.