

56th Medical Group



Col Maureen A. Charles

Lineage.

Constituted as USAF Regional Hospital, MacDill, on 18 March 1969.

Activated on 1 July 1969.

Redesignated 56th Medical Group on 15 March 1987.¹

Inactivated on 4 January 1994.²

Activated on 1 April 1994.³

Honors.

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 July 1969-31 December 1969⁴

1 January 1977-1 January 1979⁵

1 July 1980-30 June 1982

1 June 1984-31 May 1986⁶

1 May 1989-30 April 1990⁷

¹ DAF/PRM 770q, 5 March 1987

² ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

³ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁴ DAF SO GB-891, 4 November 1970

⁵ DAF SO GB-719, 30 November 1979

⁶ DAF SO GB-275/1987

⁷ TAC SO GA-048, 16 August 1990

Decorations. (Continued)

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)

1 May 1990-30 April 1991⁸
1 July 1994-30 June 1996⁹
1 July 1996-30 June 1998¹⁰
1 July 1998-30 June 2000¹¹
1 July 2001-30 June 2003¹²
1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005¹³
1 July 2005-30 June 2006¹⁴
1 July 2006-30 June 2007¹⁵
1 July 2007-30 June 2008¹⁶
1 July 2008-30 June 2009¹⁷
1 July 2009-30 June 2010¹⁸
1 July 2010-30 June 2011¹⁹
1 July 2011-30 June 2012²⁰
1 July 2012-30 June 2013²¹
1 July 2013-30 June 2014²²

⁸ TAC SO GA-069/1991

⁹ AETC SO GA-18/1996

¹⁰ AETC SO GA-12/1998

¹¹ AETC SO GA-9/2000

¹² AETC SO GA-55/2004

¹³ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

¹⁴ AETC SO GA-045/2007

¹⁵ AETC SO G-054/2008

¹⁶ AETC SO G-071/2009

¹⁷ AETC SO G-025/2010

¹⁸ AETC SO G-086/2011

¹⁹ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

²⁰ AETC SO G-036, 1 March 2013

²¹ AETC SO G-017, 1 February 2014

²² AETC SO G-029, 8 January 2015

PAST AND PRESENT UNITS ASSIGNED

Currently Assigned Units		Time Frame Assigned
<i>Squadrons</i>		
56th Aerospace Medicine Squadron		1 April 1994. ²³
56th Dental Squadron		1 April 1994. ²⁴
56th Medical Operations Squadron		1 April 1994. ²⁵
56th Medical Support Squadron		1 April 1994. ²⁶
Previously Assigned Units		Time Frame Assigned
<i>Squadrons</i>		
56th Tactical Hospital		
later, 56th Air Transportable Hospital	15-March 1987-4 January 1994.	²⁷

Assignments. 15th Tactical Fighter Wing, 1 July 1969. 1st Tactical Fighter Wing, 1 October 1970. 56th Tactical Fighter (later, 56th Tactical Training; later, 56th Fighter) Wing, 30 June 1975-4 January 1994.²⁸ 56th Fighter Wing, 1 April 1994-.²⁹

Stations. MacDill AFB, FL, 1 July 1969-4 January 1994.³⁰ Luke AFB, AZ, 1 April 1994-.³¹

Aircraft. None.

²³ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

²⁴ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

²⁵ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

²⁶ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

²⁷ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

²⁸ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975; ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

²⁹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

³⁰ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

³¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Emblem. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.]
Emblem approved 19 April 1967. [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.]

Blazon. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.] Tenne on a chevron azure fimbriated or two lightning flashes chevronwise of the last. [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.].

Motto. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.]
Cave Tonitrum (Beware of the Thunderbolt) . [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.]

Significance. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.]
The emblem is symbolic of the Wing. The heraldic chevron, represents support and signifies the Wing's support of our nation's quest for peace. The blue of the chevron represents the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. The lightning bolt symbolizes speed and aggressiveness with which the unit performs. The color of the shield represents the Air Corps and commemorates the service of the 56th Fighter Group, whose honors and history the Wing inherits. The emblem bears the Air Force colors of golden yellow and ultramarine blue. [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.]

Commanders.

USAF Regional Hospital, MacDill [1 July 1969-15 March 1987]

Unknown	Unknown
Col John S. Flint	bef 23 January 1977 ³²
Col Frank E. Edmunds, Jr.	17 September 1978
Col James E. McClure	bef 5 July 1982
Lt Col Fredrick S. Arnold	bef 5 July 1982
Col William E. Palma	[NOT 6] 5 July 1982 ³³
Col Pedro N. Rivera	15 November 1984 ³⁴
Col Pedro N. Rivera	2 March 1986 ³⁵
Col Thomas F. Treat	9 May 1986
Col Martin I. Victor	23 May 1986
Col Karl N. Schaberl	16 July 1986 ³⁶
Col Martin I. Victor	29 July 1986-15 March 1987 ³⁷

56th Medical Group [15 March 1987-4 January 1994; 1 April 1994-.]

Col Martin I. Victor	15 March 1987
Col Mervin T. Avants, Jr.	14 September 1987 ³⁸
Col Martin I. Victor	10 October 1987 ³⁹
Col Gary K. Brandon	16 July 1990
Col Lynn M. Jones	6 June 1993 ⁴⁰
Col John J. Kalosis	August 1993-4 January 1994

³² 56 CSG SO G-5, 23 January 1977 [temp order for Col Smith]

³³ 56 CSG SO G-15, 4 August 1982

³⁴ 56 CSG SO G-35, 13 November 1984

³⁵ 56 CSG SO G-21, 2 March 1986

³⁶ 56 CSG SO G-50, 16 July 1986

³⁷ 56 CSG SO G-54, 29 July 1986

³⁸ 56 CSG SO G-75, 14 September 1987

³⁹ 56 CSG SO G-4, 9 October 1987

⁴⁰ 56 MS SO G-002, 28 May 1993

Commanders. (Continued)

Col Roger A. Beck	1 April 1994 ⁴¹
Col Michael W. Lischak	7 August 1998 ⁴²
Col James Malenkos, III	11 July 2000 ⁴³
Col Donald E. Taylor	9 July 2002 ⁴⁴
Col Schuyler K. Geller	8 July 2004 ⁴⁵
Col Joseph P. Chozinski	7 June 2006 ⁴⁶
Col Mark J. Holland	11 May 2009 ⁴⁷
Col Yolanda D. Bledsoe	17 June 2011 ⁴⁸
Col Maureen A. Charles	18 July 2014 ⁴⁹ -Present.

⁴¹ [58 MDG SO SO-GU-001, 26 January 1993]

⁴² 56 MDG SO GU-008, 7 August 1998

⁴³ 56 MDG SO GU-012, 26 June 2000

⁴⁴ 56 MDG SO GU-003, 20 June 2002

⁴⁵ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-3, 12 July 2004

⁴⁶ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-3, 9 May 2006

⁴⁷ 56 MSG SO G-029, 13 May 2009

⁴⁸ 56 MDG SO 56 MSG G-013, 17 June 2011

⁴⁹ 56 MSG GS-26-14, 27 July 2014

Narrative.

The 56th Medical Group was constituted on 18 March 1969 as the USAF Regional Hospital MacDill. It activated at MacDill AFB, Florida on 1 July 1969. The Hospital reported to the 15th Tactical Fighter Wing until 1 October 1970, when it began reporting to the 1st Tactical Fighter Wing. On 30 June 1975, the Hospital fell under the 56th Tactical Fighter (later, Tactical Training, then Fighter) Wing. Previously, another medical unit was assigned to the 56th, but it did not transfer with the wing. The Hospital provided both in and out patient care for all personnel assigned to MacDill AFB, including Headquarters, U.S. Readiness Command and Headquarters, U.S. Central Command. On 15 March 1987, the Hospital was redesignated as the 56th Medical Group. On that date it established a subordinate organization, the wing's former medical unit redesignated as the 56th Tactical Hospital (later the 56th Air Transportable Hospital). On 4 January 1994, the 56th Medical Group and its subordinate inactivated at MacDill AFB.

On 1 April 1994, the 56th Medical Group reactivated at Luke AFB, Arizona, when the 56th Fighter Wing moved to the base. The group also activated new four subordinate squadrons that day. During Fiscal Year 2005, Air Staff ordered a reduction in services. In September and October 2005, the group terminated the ambulatory procedure unit, operating rooms, Women's Health Clinic, and extended hours at the clinic and podiatry. In 2009, the group began teaching new nurses how to be Air Force nurses through the Nurse Transition Program at Scottsdale Healthcare System in Scottsdale, Arizona. In 2013, the group began a fellowship program with the Scottsdale Healthcare System which gave doctors experience with critical care and emergency trauma cases. Today the group provides Phase II Medical Laboratory Apprentice Training, which gives Laboratory Technician students hands on experience. The group also runs the Medical Simulation Center, which allows a myriad of diverse training programs from Resuscitation Skills, and Self-Aid/Buddy Care to Sustainment Trauma. The 56th Medical Group is an outpatient only Medical Treatment Facility (MTF), which serves more than 90,000 beneficiaries (active duty military members, retirees and their families) in the immediate area. The Medical Group is accredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care. The Medical Group, with more than 600 assigned personnel, has a three-pronged mission that emphasizes providing great healthcare, promoting safety and wellness, and military readiness. During its tenure at MacDill AFB and Luke AFB, the group earned 19 Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards.

Date Prepared. 10 December 1996

PREPARED BY William J. Allen

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Updated by Rick Grisct