



**Active Duty Rehabilitation Unit
A Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs Collaboration**

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Augusta has:

- Charlie Norwood Veterans' Affairs Medical Center, a 1A (top tier) facility, home of the nation's only Active Duty Rehabilitation Unit located within a VA facility, the VA's largest Spinal Cord Injury Unit, and one of 10 Blind Rehab Centers
- Eisenhower Army Medical Center, a Level 1 Center for traumatic brain injury and a major destination for air-evacuees from Iraq and Afghanistan
- One 7-bedroom Fisher House on Fort Gordon, co-located with Eisenhower Army Medical Center, and a second 20-suite Fisher House on the campus of the Charlie Norwood VAMC that broke ground December 9th, 2009

The Active Duty Rehabilitation Unit

- A joint Department of Defense/VA venture not found elsewhere, treating Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, Airmen and Coast Guardsmen
- First patient admitted February 4th, 2004
- Provides all aspects of rehabilitative medicine services for blast injuries including traumatic brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, vision and hearing loss, orthopedic injuries, and loss of limb
- Mental health care specialists (psychiatrists and psychologists) to treat and prevent PTSD, are embedded on the unit
- Staff includes physiatrists, physical, occupational and recreational therapists, social workers, nursing and administrative staff
- More than 1,200 active duty personnel have been treated at the Active Duty Rehab Unit, including 720 inpatients
- 25% treated for Traumatic Brain Injury (as of August 2007)
- 32% return-to-duty rate
- 30 bed unit (with capacity for expansion if needed)
- Olin Teague Award winning unit (highest VA customer service award)
- Military command and control on the unit

Testimony in the 2007 VA Senate Committee from LTG Eric Schoomaker, now Army Surgeon General: "This unique and very successful partnership is principally about a very visionary and industrious team working together with one goal in mind: to provide the best care for Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines at a site closest to their home or home unit."