

FUTURE OF HEALTH CARE IN THE INSULAR AREAS:

Panel 4: Telehealth: Connecting Island Health Care. How telecommunications technology could bring improved patient care and the training of health workers in the Insular Areas.

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Pacific Telehealth & Technology Hui
A DoD/VA Joint Venture TATRC Organization

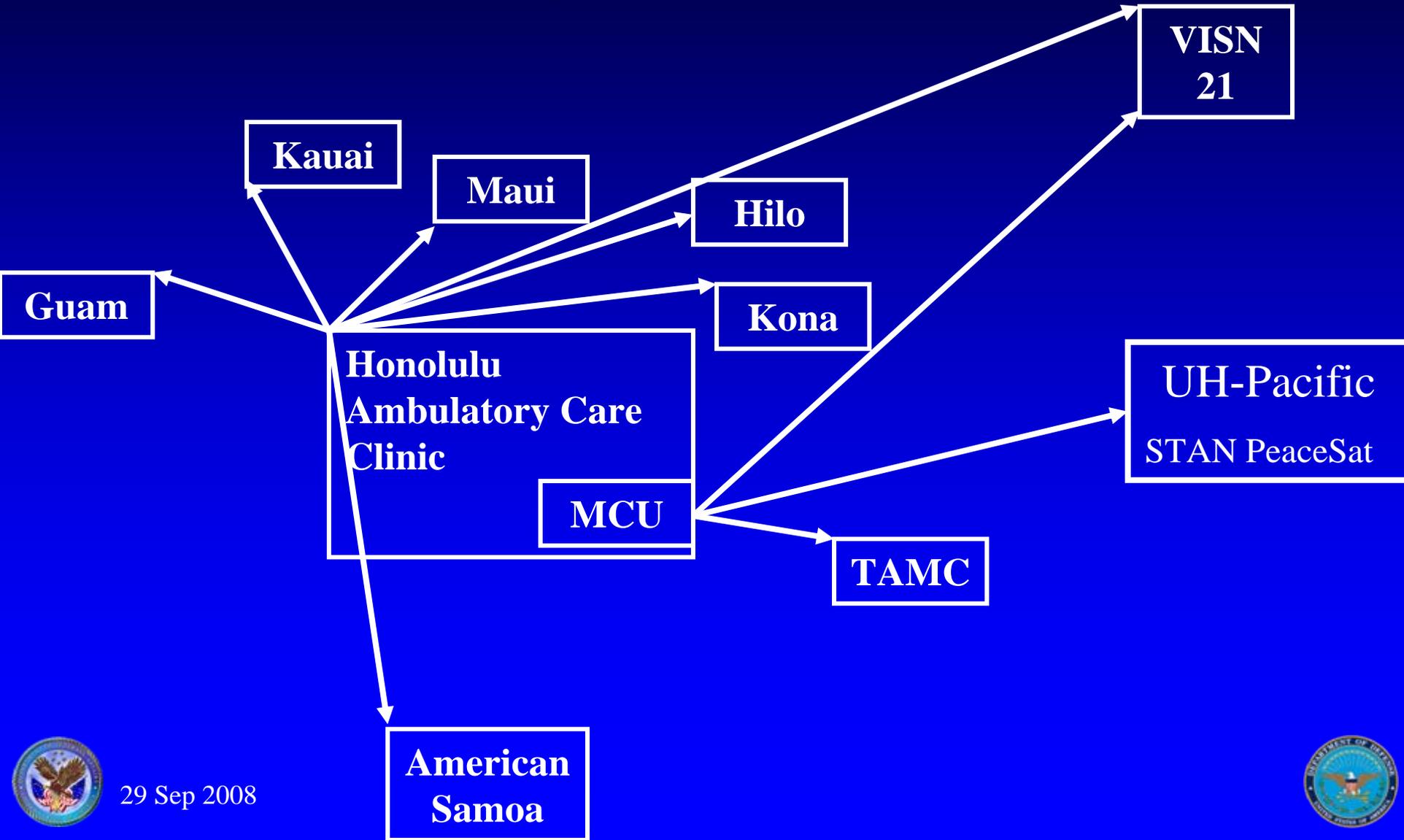


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Telemedicine: VA Pacific Islands Health Care System – VISN 21

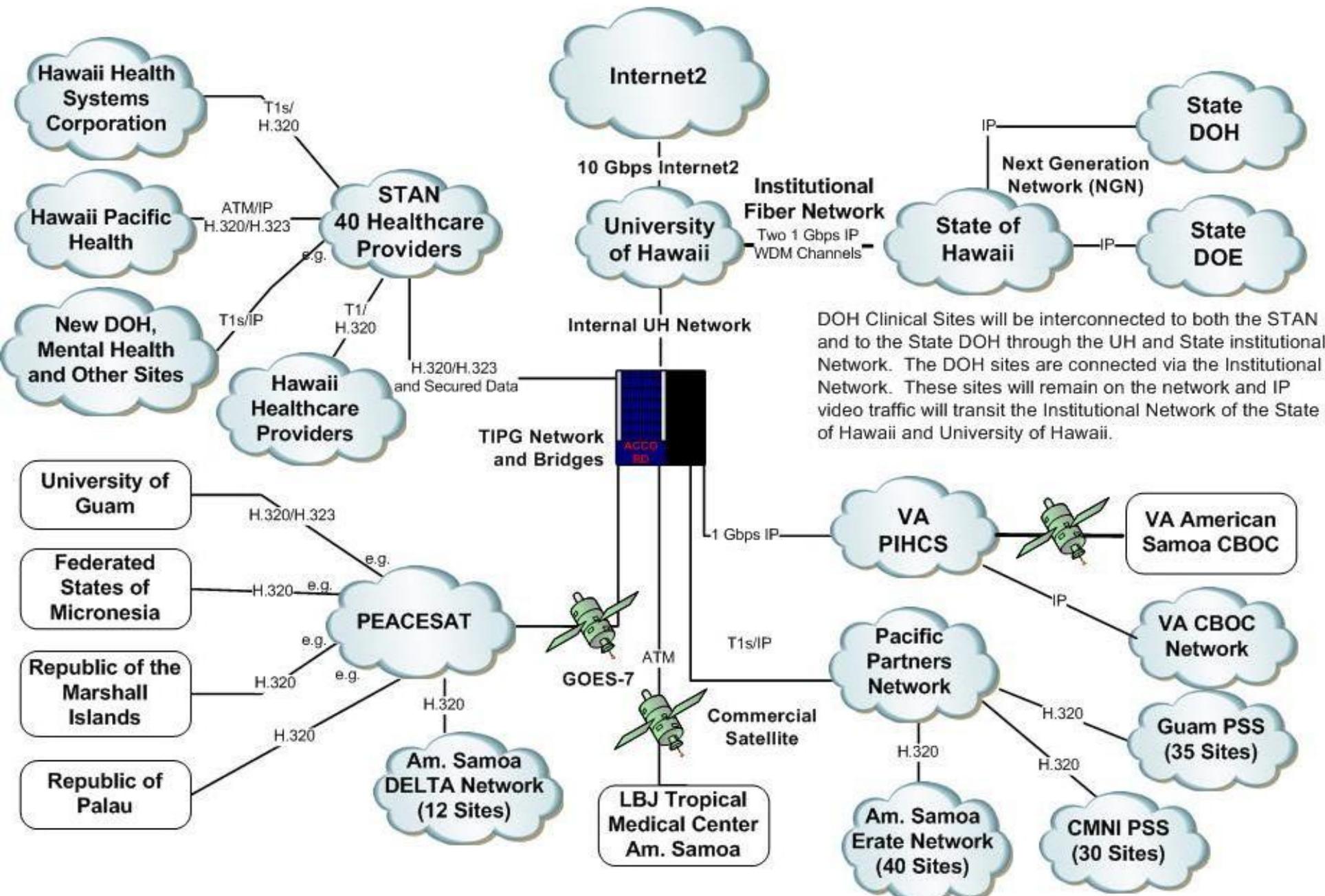
Telemedicine Network Map



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Figure 3 – Conceptual Representation of the FCC Pacific Broadband Telehealth Demonstration Project



Telemedicine: VA Pacific Islands Health Care System – VISN 21

Telemedicine Subdivided into:

VA Telemedicine Subdivided into:

- **Care Coordination General Telehealth (CCGT)**
Synchronous VTC sessions
- **Care Coordination Home Telehealth (CCHT)**
Home Monitoring devices
- **Care Coordination Store-and-Forward (CCSF)**
General Consultation
Teledermatology
Teleretinal Imaging
Wound Care



Telemedicine: VA Pacific Islands Health Care System – VISN 21

Telemedicine Modalities at VAPIHCS:

General Telehealth - Video

- Medical subspecialty care
Nephrology
Cardiology
Neurology
- Other Medical Care
Wound Care
Surgical Pre-op
Vascular Surgery
- Mental Health Care
Psychiatry
Psychology Individual
Psychology Group Care
- Compensation & Pension Psych Evaluations
- Patient Education
- Nutrition Clinic
- MOVE! Weight Management Program

- Staff Education

Med and Psych Grand Rounds

General Staff Training (procedures, safety)

VAPIHCS Home Telehealth

Health Buddies

ATI Telecare unit Participant in Pohnpei

VAPIHCS Store-and-Forward Telehealth

Teledermatology

Teleretinal Imaging (on hiatus)

Wound Care
Other Medical Care



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Telemedicine: VA Pacific Islands Health Care System – VISN 21

Telemedicine Lessons Learned; VAPIHCS-Everywhere:

- It's much more difficult than you might think
- “If you build it they will come...NOT!”
- If you do, Clinicians must build it
- The complexity is more than doubled
- It's not the technology that's hard, it's the clinical workflow



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- Vision of Senator Daniel K Inouye
 - Bring technology to health care for Federal Beneficiaries
 - Leverage Federal Spending - Emulate the **Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership** (DoD, VA, IHS, Coast Guard, others)
- **Hawaii Federal Health Care Partnership**
- Hawaii Federal Health Care Network funding line
- DoD/VA Pacific Telehealth and Technology Hui



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Pacific Telehealth & Technology Hui

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Early Hui Missions:

- Support Telemedicine and Informatics Innovation at Tripler Army Medical Center (TAMC) and VAPIHCS
 - Pacific Islands Health Care Project
 - Pacific Asynchronous Tele-Health (PATH)
 - Multiple other TAMC Telehealth Research Projects (ENT, Speech Therapy, Biofeedback, Behavioral Modification)
 - Development of VAPIHCS Telemedicine Program
- Allowed VA-DoD to maintain critical mass of clinical and technical expertise in tele-health and computational/telecommunications technology
- Technology Transfer: Support technology transfer of taxpayer paid technologies to non-federal entities, examples include:
 - CPRS-Vista (Open Vista) to LBJ / UH/ Private Hospitals
 - PATH to Local Hawaii Hospitals
 - Distance Education to Hawaii Nursing Schools



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Pacific Telehealth & Technology Hui

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Hui Re-Alignment:

- Akaka Bill, to allow Native Hawaiians to be federal beneficiaries (as with Indian Health Service) never passed.
- Hui changed association from TAMC to Telemedicine and Advanced Technology Research Center at Medical Research and Materiel Command Fort Detrick MD.

Points:

- Technology can be a force multiplier in Insular locations.
- Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership; a potential model for collaboration in the Insular Regions
- Technology Transfer is a method to provide non direct care benefit to Insular Regions
- Collaboration can help to maintain critical mass of clinical and technical expertise, essential to fostering technology deployment in resource poor locales



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