



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

AUG 28 2007

Assistant Secretary for Health  
Office of Public Health and Science  
Washington D.C. 20201

**TO:** Commissioned Officers Assigned to the Washington, DC Metro Area

**FROM:** Assistant Secretary for Health

**SUBJECT:** Closure of the Commissioned Officers Dental Clinic

For several decades, Commissioned Officers stationed in or near the Washington, DC Metro Area have been eligible to receive their dental care at the Commissioned Officers Dental Clinic (CODC) operated through sponsorship of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). During the past year, the leadership of the NIH have notified the Commissioned Corps of their decision not to renew the long-term lease for the dental clinic space. In consultation with Commissioned Corps leadership, I have considered other options for sponsorship of the clinic, but have decided not to continue operation of the CODC. Therefore, the CODC will close as of December 31, 2007.

Although the CODC will cease operations as of the end of December 2007, your Commissioned Corps benefit of dental coverage will continue and you will be able to obtain oral health care through other providers. Corps officers who are currently receiving their dental care at the CODC should make arrangements to continue their care in another setting. CAPT Mike Arnold, Chief of the CODC, will be sending further information to you outlining your options for continued dental care and for retrieving up your dental records from the CODC.

John O. Agwunobi  
ADM, USPHS  
Assistant Secretary for Health