

President Trump Has Annual Physical; 'In Very Good Health'



By Jamie Wells, M.D. — February 8, 2019



Shealah Craighead [Public domain] ^[1]

The President of the United States has completed a roughly four hour periodic physical examination by his physician, Dr. Sean P. Conley, performed at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center - this is his second since taking office. In a preliminary statement released to the public, Dr. Conley writes in part he "performed and supervised the evaluation with a panel of 11 different board certified specialists. He [*President Trump*] did not undergo any procedures requiring sedation or anesthesia...While the reports and recommendations are being finalized, I am happy to announce the President of the United States is in very good health and I anticipate he will remain so for the duration of his Presidency, and beyond."

Read the full statement here:



PHYSICIAN TO THE PRESIDENT
THE WHITE HOUSE

February 8, 2019

MEMORANDUM FOR: SARAH H. SANDERS
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

FROM: SEAN P. CONLEY, DO
PHYSICIAN TO THE PRESIDENT
COMMANDER, U.S. NAVY

SUBJECT: The President's Second Periodic Physical Exam

This afternoon at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, the President participated in a second periodic physical examination. Over the course of approximately four hours, I performed and supervised the evaluation with a panel of 11 different board certified specialists. He did not undergo any procedures requiring sedation or anesthesia. The President is very grateful for the outstanding care he received today, and he especially wants to thank all the doctors, nurses, enlisted and civilian staff who participated. While the reports and recommendations are being finalized, I am happy to announce the President of the United States is in very good health and I anticipate he will remain so for the duration of his Presidency, and beyond.

This is pretty standard fare for a preliminary report. The main take home being President Trump is in good health with no expected significant issues in the present or foreseeable future. Once a likely follow-up report is released with greater detail a more comprehensive picture can be assessed of what was ruled out or in, for example, and what testing revealed. But, this conclusion implies there is nothing of consequence that would impede his ability to do his job.

While we await the next phase of this announcement and the accompanying predicted media swarm, let's revisit last year's evaluations to get up to speed.

- [Diagnosing President Trump's Medical Statement: 'Fit For Duty'](#) [2]

This article discusses my extensive interpretation of the President's first periodic medical examination. President Donald Trump completed it at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center as well. His then White House physician, Rear Adm. Ronny Jackson, released a statement of his findings and held a protracted press conference.

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[In Medicine, Words Matter \(And Not In The Ways You Might Think\)](#) [3]

You may recall that the press and social media went wild with the 2018 preliminary statement release by White House Press Secretary Sarah Sanders of POTUS' first routine medical exam in office. But, were they using the right lens? Here, I discuss nuances of medical speak and how it differs from our choices for daily conversation.

- [Dr. Wells Interviews POTUS' Doctor, Rear Adm. Ronny Jackson, At The White House](#) [4]

As the first physician to serve three administrations and be the appointed Physician to the President for two presidents, Rear Adm. Ronny Jackson is a historical figure. I had the privilege of going to the White House to find out, among other things: Are presidents difficult patients? Can his team operate on Air Force One? How does he feel about the politicizing of a candidate's health, in general? What is the capacity of the White House medical unit on the premises and while traveling? This piece gives a glimpse into an important world that is not focused on much in the public sphere.

- These articles better inform as well:
 - [President Trump To Have Customary Physical Exam In January. But, Does It Matter?](#) [5]
 - [ACSH's Dr. Jamie Wells On BBC Debunking Myths About President Trump's Physical Exam](#) [6]
 - [Who's NOT Medically Fit To Be President?](#) [7]

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Links

[1] https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/56/Donald_Trump_official_portrait.jpg

[2] <https://www.acsh.org/news/2018/01/17/diagnosing-president-trumps-medical-statement-fit-duty-12430>

[3] <https://www.acsh.org/news/2018/01/15/medicine-words-matter-and-not-ways-you-might-think-12420>

[4] <https://www.acsh.org/news/2018/02/05/dr-wells-interviews-potus-doctor-rear-adm-ronny-jackson-white-house-12522>

[5] <https://www.acsh.org/news/2017/12/29/president-trump-have-customary-physical-exam-january-does-it-matter-12344>

[6] <https://www.acsh.org/news/2018/01/12/acshs-dr-jamie-wells-bbc-debunking-myths-about-president-trumps-physical-exam-12410>

[7] <https://www.acsh.org/news/2016/09/21/whos-not-medically-fit-be-president-10196>