



VISN 6 Mid-Atlantic MIRECC Post Deployment Mental Health



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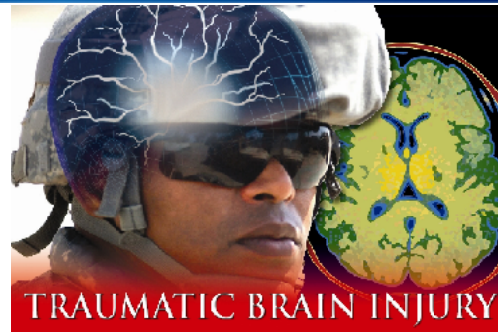
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2011 NATO Advanced Research Workshop: Wounds of War III



This workshop
is supported by:

The NATO Science for Peace
and Security Programme



Coping with Blast-Related Traumatic Brain Injury in Returning Troops

February 20-22, 2011, Vienna, Austria

Panel: Diagnostic and Assessment Issues

Robin A. Hurley *Neuropsychiatry of Traumatic Brain Injury
and Common CoMorbidity*

Workgroup: Diagnostic and Assessment Issues

Robin A. Hurley - Moderator

In the News!

One of our researchers, **Dr. Jason Nieuwsma**, was coauthor on a recent review paper on treatment resistant depression that has received a lot of attention.

Talk therapy may help tough-to-treat depression

By Geneva Pittman In *Reuters Health* January 13, 2011

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/01/13/us-talk-therapy-idUSTRE70C5IB20110113>

Recently Approved Grants

Meador K & Nieuwsma J (VA Co-Leads) *DoD/VA Integrated Mental Health Strategy Initiative Strategic Action #23: Role of Chaplains/Community Clergy in VA Mental Health Care, DoD/VA Integrated Mental Health Strategy Initiative (IMHS)*

The IMHS was launched in the Fall of 2010. The goal is to improve mental health care services for Service Members and Veterans via better integration of aims and efforts across DoD and VA. One specific strategic action of the IMHS is to enhance the role played by chaplains at the intersection of faith and mental health. This project seeks to : 1) increase support of continuity in the role of the chaplain between the Services and VA; and 2) improve identification of how to facilitate access to mental health care through collaboration with community clergy and faith communities to promote care that is consistent with the values and preferences of veterans.

Approved Research Sites & Contacts:

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Invited Lectures

Dr. Jason A. Nieuwsma (MIRECC Researcher) presented *"Integrating mental health and chaplain services to enhance veteran care"* in the Mid-Atlantic MIRECC Research Lecture series, December 2010, Durham NC

Dr. Nagy Youssef, (MIRECC Fellow) presented *"Improving Diagnostic Accuracy of Bipolar Disorder: Treatment & Prognostic Implications"* in the Mid-Atlantic MIRECC Research Lecture series, October 21, 2010, Durham NC and at Grand Rounds, University of South Alabama, November 11, 2010, Mobile AL

Project Update!

Engaging Chaplains in Mental Health Care

This project is funded by Central Office and housed within our MIRECC. Dr. Keith Meador is directing the initiative, and Dr. Jason Nieuwsma is serving as associate director. They recently held their third conference.



Bridging Chaplaincy and Mental Health Care

January 20-21, 2011
San Diego CA

There were 68 attendees, including broad representation from VA chaplaincy and mental health, local clergy, and active duty military chaplains. Terri LaVelle attended as representative from the White House. Her blog about the meeting will be posted at:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2011/01/18/caring-america-s-veterans-bridging-chaplaincy-and-mental-health-care>

Journal Articles

Dao TK, Youssef NA, Gopaldas RR, Chu D, Bakaeen F, Wear E, Menefee D. *Autonomic cardiovascular dysregulation as a potential mechanism underlying depression and coronary artery bypass grafting surgery outcomes*. Journal of Cardiothoracic Surgery. 2010; 5:36.

Dedert EA, Becker ME, Fuemmeler BF, Braxton LE, Calhoun PS, Beckham JC. *Childhood traumatic stress and obesity in women: the intervening effects of PTSD and MDD*. Journal of Trauma Stress. 2010; 23(6):785-63.

Guerra VS, Calhoun PS, VA Mid-Atlantic MIRECC OEF/OIF Registry Workgroup. *Examining the relation between posttraumatic stress disorder and suicidal ideation in an OEF/OIF veteran sample*. Journal of Anxiety Disorders. 2011; 25(1):12-8.

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New MIRECC Researcher

In November **Jennifer Runnals, PhD** joined the MIRECC in Durham as a Research Psychologist working on the Registry and SCID administration. She recently graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University after completing her clinical internship at the Durham VAMC. Jennifer's clinical specialty is treatment of anxiety disorders and her research projects have focused on PTSD.



Prior to working on her doctorate, Jennifer was the director of the Washington DC branch of Johnson O'Connor Research Foundation, overseeing aptitude assessment. She completed a MS in Clinical Psychology from Augusta State University, and her BA in Industrial Psychology at Christopher Newport University. Jennifer lives in Mebane with her husband and two young daughters.

Outreach to VA & Community Providers

MILITARY FAMILY ISSUES



Dr. Harold Kudler (Associate Director, Clinical) and **Dr. Kristy Straits-Troster (Assistant Director, Clinical)** have collaborated with the CSSP and NC-AHEC to develop this series of 1 day workshops. This training will focus on aspects of today's military family that makes them unique. Various components of the military lifestyle will be reviewed such as a family perspective of military culture and the affects of deployment(s). Resources specific to healthcare professionals treating service members will be highlighted.

Who Should Attend? Psychologists, counselors, social workers and all healthcare practitioners who provide treatment to service men and women and/or their families.

2011 workshops

March
Rocky Mount, NC
Monday, March 28

April
Greenville, NC
Monday, April 11
Greensboro, NC
Thursday, April 14

May
Winston-Salem, NC
Thursday, May 12

Raleigh, NC
Friday, May 13
Fayetteville, NC
Thursday, May 26

June
Charlotte, NC
Monday, June 13

Brochure: http://www.seahec.net/departments/ce/forms_and_files/brochures/military.pdf



Free Web Courses for Providers

www.aheconnect.com/citizensoldier

Click on **New Users** to register. You will then see the available web courses listed:

Treating the Invisible Wounds of War: Part 1 - Post Traumatic Stress Disorder

Treating the Invisible Wounds of War: Part 2 - Traumatic Brain Injury

Treating the Invisible Wounds of War: Part 3 - Issues of Women Returning from Combat

These courses were developed by MIRECC faculty in collaboration with Citizen Soldier Support Program (CSSP) and North Carolina Area Health Education Center (NC AHEC). They are designed to help primary care physicians, case workers, mental health providers - who may see a veteran or family member on an unrelated issue - develop a better understanding of the culture in which veterans and their families live and work, and provide best practices for identifying, assessing and treating mental health problems that result from the trauma of war.

Journal Articles

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Hayes J, Morey RA, Petty CM, Seth S, Smoski MJ, McCarthy G, LaBar KS. *Staying cool when things get hot: Emotion regulation modulates neural mechanisms of memory encoding*. *Frontiers in Neuroscience*. 2010 Dec 22;4:230.

Klein RC, Mace BE, Moore SD, Sullivan PM. *Progressive loss of synaptic integrity in human apoE4 targeted replacement mice and attenuation by apoE2*. *Neuroscience* 2010; 4:1265-1272.

Naylor JC, Li Q, Kang-Park M-H, Wilson WA, Kuhn C, Moore SD. *Dopamine attenuates evoked inhibitory synaptic currents in central amygdala neurons*. *European Journal of Neuroscience*. 2010; 32:1836-1842.

Taber KH, Salpekar J, Wong AHC, Hurley RA. *Developmental Origins for Neuropsychiatric Illness*. *Journal of Neuropsychiatry and Clinical Neuroscience* 2011; 23(1):1-5

Noon V-tel Lecture Schedule:

March 11

Dr. David F. Drake (Director, Interventional Pain Clinic, Richmond VAMC)
Acupuncture in Pain Medicine

April 8

Dr. Ajit Pai (Medical Director, Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center, Richmond VAMC)
The Right Time to Drive

May 13

Dr. Brian McMahon (Virginia Commonwealth University)
TBA

June 10

Dr. Shane McNamee (Chief, PM&R, Richmond VAMC)
TBA

This series is presented by V-tel and audio conferences. We are having increasing participation from sites outside VISN 6, so our assigned numbers may change. The number that each VISN 6 site will use to dial in will be included in an email notification prior to each presentation.

If you wish to attend from a site outside of VISN 6, please contact Mary Peoples (mary.peoples1@va.gov; 704-638-9000 ext 2956) so she can make the necessary arrangements.

Visit our web site for more resources

<http://www.mirecc.va.gov/visn6.asp>