Defense Centers of Excellence (DCoE) for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury: Overview

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Overall Context

- Feb 2007: Walter Reed story broke in the *Washington Post*
- At the same time, multiple reports provided high-level attention to the needs of returning service members
  - Task Force on Returning GWOT Heroes
  - DoD Mental Health Task Force
  - Commission on Care for America’s Returning Wounded Warriors
  - DoD IG Review of DoD/DVA Interagency Care Transition
  - Independent Review Group (IRG)
  - Veterans Disability Benefits Commission
Overall Context

• May 2007: Wounded, Ill, and Injured
  Senior Oversight Committee was formed
  – Consisting of 8 Lines of Action (LOAs)
    focused on issues such as:
    • Disability System
    • TBI/Psychological Health
    • Case Management
    • DoD/DVA Data Sharing
    • Facilities
    • Personnel, Pay and Financial Support
DCoE

• One of the outcomes of the SOC was the creation of the Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and TBI
  • SEP 2007: Director appointed - BG Loree Sutton
  • 30 NOV 2007: Center established
  • JUN 2008: Acting Deputy Director (VA) named
  • JUL 2008: All key leaders onboard and all Directorates stand up
  • AUG 2008: Split operations began with staff co-located in both Rosslyn and Silver Spring
  • JAN 2009: VA Deputy confirmed
    – Hiring 2 additional VA liaisons
DCoE Mission

DCoE facilitates and implements prevention, resilience, identification, treatment, rehabilitation, and reintegration programs for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury to ensure the Department of Defense meets the needs of the nation’s military communities, warriors, and families.
DCoE Headquarters

• Leadership
• 8 Directorates
  – Clearinghouse, Advocacy and Outreach
  – Research, QA, Program Evaluation, and Surveillance
  – Resilience and Prevention
  – Standards of Care – Psychological Health
  – Standards of Care – Traumatic Brain Injury
  – Strategy, Plans, and Programs
  – Telehealth and Technology
  – Training and Education
“Center of Centers”

DCoE Headquarters
www.dcoe.health.mil

Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVBIC)
- TBI-specific evaluation, treatment and follow-up care for all military personnel, their loved ones and veterans
- TBI clinical research, training and education
- Designated DoD Office of Responsibility for TBI surveillance for all the services

Center for Deployment Psychology (CDP)
- Deployment-related behavioral health training for military and civilian mental health professionals
- Research deployment-related needs of service members and families
- Efforts underway to extend training to primary care and other specialties

Deployment Health Clinical Center (DHCC)
- Consultation & assessment of post-deployment physical symptoms
- Three-week Specializes Care Programs for traumatic stress spectrum conditions
- Deployment healthcare education using web-based and traditional strategies
- Deployment healthcare program implementation & evaluation
- Clinical & deployment health services research

Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress (CSTS)
- Research, education, consultation and training on PH and TBI
- Knowledge, leadership and applications for preparing for, responding to and recovering from the consequences of disaster and trauma
- Integrates science, clinical care, community needs and the health of the nation

Telehealth & Technology Center (T2)
- Leverage telehealth and other technologies to screen, educate, prevent, assess and treat
- Research, evaluate, and develop new tech applications
- Deploy technologies and provide analyses to support key DoD and Service programs including suicide tracking, annual and deployment health screenings
- Opens Fall 2009
- Clinical arm of DCoE
- PH and TBI intensive outpatient evaluation and diagnosis, initial treatment plans, family-centered education, telehealth and long-term follow-up
- Research teams/consortia (intramural and extramural)

www.dvbic.org
www.deploymentpsych.org
www.pdhealth.mil
www.centerforthestudyoftraumaticstress.org
www.dcoe.health.mil
www.dcoe.health.mil
DCoE Collaborations

Coast Guard
Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS)
Reserve Components
Air Force
USMC
Navy
International Partners
Army
Civilian Collaborators
Defence Health Board (DHB) Advisory Groups
DoD/Service Leadership & Training
JTF CapMed
USPHS
Warriors and Families
Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

Defense Centers of Excellence

National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE)

Deployment Health Clinical Center (DHCC)
Center for the Study of Traumatic Stress (CSTS)

Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVBiC)

10 CDP Sites
DVBiC: 10 Military Treatment Facility (MTF) Sites
DVBiC: 5 VA Centers
DVBiC: 2 Civilian Sites
Selected Accomplishments to Date

• NICoE Groundbreaking in JUN 2008
• Funded $45M in PH/TBI Research
  – Including $5M in CAM proposals
• Launched afterdeployment.org
• Partnered with WETA on Brainline
• Partnered with DoL and VA on America’s Heroes at Work Campaign
• Revised/developed mTBI clinical practice guidelines with VA; Currently revising VA/DoD PTSD guidelines
• CDP Trained 1,178 Providers in FY 2008
• Cosponsored/hosted multiple conferences (Trauma Spectrum Disorders, Suicide Prevention, Warrior Resilience, Paving the Way Home)
• Launched 24/7 Outreach Center (866-966-1020)
• Initiated Real Warriors public awareness campaign
Questions?

• For more information, visit:

www.dcoe.health.mil