BACKGROUND

A 2014 Institute of Medicine (IOM) report noted that nearly two decades may pass before psychological health research findings become part of routine clinical practice in the Departments of Defense (DoD) and Veterans Affairs (VA). DoD had already started working with the VA in 2012 to study research translation structures in both departments, to develop a collaborative framework to rapidly translate psychological health (PH) research findings into clinical practice. This poster focuses primarily on DoD efforts.

Since 2012, the VA and DoD Practice Based Implementation Network (PBI Network) team has worked to achieve three overarching goals:

1. Develop and implement the PBI Network clinical and operational support infrastructure and technology (IT) platform
2. Deploy the PBI Network to test the speed of its translation efforts, and effectiveness of its model and structure through piloting use of the Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Checklist (PCL) to monitor PTSD treatment outcomes
3. Implement the sustainment plan to institutionalize the PBI Network to facilitate practice change in the VA and DoD

METHODS

• The PBI Network was based on Stetler’s 2011 framework for Promoting Action on Research Implementation in Health Services (PARIHS) to implement psychological health evidence-based practices (EBPs), and the VA Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (QUERI) model
• The PBI Network implemented practice change initiatives at 12 behavioral health (BH) clinics and two primary care (PC) clinics in the DoD Military Health System (MHS), and at 18 VA BH and PC clinics
• The PBI Network training and facilitation process helps the larger system identify operational barriers and solutions for selected practice changes, to inform feasibility and capacity-building decisions prior to widespread enterprise dissemination
• The PBI Network used the PCL to monitor PTSD treatment outcomes in BH clinics as a pilot to test and evaluate PBI Network effectiveness
• A PBI Network information technology platform and website enhances communication and knowledge exchange between implementation-trained providers at PBI Network sites and across departments

RESULTS

• Evaluation indicated practice changes were successfully introduced to clinicians within one year by the PBI Network
• Results showed significantly increased PTSD outcomes monitoring by providers in outpatient settings six months after PBI Network training and facilitation ended
• Findings suggest the PBI Network is a viable medium to facilitate clinical practice changes

CONCLUSIONS

• The PBI Network facilitation and training along with a collaborative website facilitates knowledge translation and promotes coordination and information sharing, while creating a community of practice
• The PBI Network enhances enterprise operations because it is an enduring structure, thus increasing efficiency of future practice changes using existing implementation trained clinicians to assist with identifying barriers and facilitators prior to broader practice change dissemination across DoD and VA

REFERENCES