



# DoD IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE MONTHLY

October 2018

Prepared by the Psychological Health Center of Excellence

*Informing a community of behavioral health providers who lead the rapid translation of research findings into routine clinical practice*

## Resource of the Month

### Psychological First Aid (PFA) Mobile

PFA Mobile was designed to assist responders who provide psychological first aid (PFA) to adults, families, and children as part of an organized response effort. This app provides responders with summaries of PFA fundamentals, PFA interventions matched to specific concerns and needs of survivors, mentor tips for applying PFA in the field, a self-assessment tool for readiness to conduct PFA, and a survivors' needs form for simplified data collection and easy referral. PFA Mobile was created by the VA's National Center for PTSD in partnership with the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) and DoD's Connected Health Branch. The app is available to download in the App Store and Google play.

## Featured Articles

### Supporting Teams to Optimize Function and Independence in Veterans: a Multi-study Program and Mixed Methods Protocol

Successful implementation of new clinical programs depends on effectively establishing, reorganizing, or enhancing team structures and processes to coordinate the work of individuals who are interdependent in their tasks, manage relationships, and share responsibility for outcomes. However, a one-size-fits-all approach is rarely effective. In this study, the Optimizing Function and Independence VA Quality Enhancement Research Initiative program (Function QUERI), in partnership with VA national clinical leaders and local clinical champions, evaluated efforts to implement team-based clinical programs for Veterans at risk for functional decline and disability.

### Longitudinal Evaluation of a Course to Build Core Competencies in Implementation Practice

A Practicing Knowledge Translation (PKT) was developed to address the gap of training opportunities available for implementation practitioners. It teaches practitioners to use evidence and apply implementation science in health care settings. The aim of this study was to describe PKT and evaluate participant use of implementation science theories, models and frameworks, knowledge, self-efficacy, and satisfaction and feedback on the course.

*Featured articles are available on the Practice-Based Implementation (PBI) Network's max.gov website. For access to the max.gov site, please send an email to [dha.ncr.j-9.mbx.phcoe-pbi-network@mail.mil](mailto:dha.ncr.j-9.mbx.phcoe-pbi-network@mail.mil).*

## Action Items

### National VA/DoD Women's Mental Health Mini-Residency

PHCoE and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) co-hosted the inaugural VA/DoD Women's Mental Health Mini-Residency Aug. 28-30, 2018. With 200 participants, the mini-residency, which included presentations from many PHCoE personnel, was extremely well-received by VA and DoD providers. The presentations, posters, and agenda, complete with presenters' biographies, are available on the mini-residency website. Attendees were required to identify goals to advance mental health for female active duty service members and veterans based on knowledge gained during the event, and, over the next six months, to develop implementation strategies related to integrating lessons learned from the mini-residency into their practice or their clinic's practice. For any questions, please contact the planning team at [dha.ncr.j-9.mbx.phcoe-wmh-mini-residency@mail.mil](mailto:dha.ncr.j-9.mbx.phcoe-wmh-mini-residency@mail.mil).

### Tri-Service Buprenorphine Webinar Waiver Training

PHCoE will hold a Tri-Service Buprenorphine Webinar Waiver Training in collaboration with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) on Dec. 5, 2018. The training includes an overview of opioids and opioid use disorder and an introduction to buprenorphine, including confidentiality and urine drug testing, special populations, evaluation and clinical uses. **It is free of charge, provides 8 hours of online training necessary to apply for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) waiver, and is designated 5 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™.** For more information and to register, contact [dha.ncr.j-9.mbx.phcoe-sud-support@mail.mil](mailto:dha.ncr.j-9.mbx.phcoe-sud-support@mail.mil).

### VA PBI Network Continuing Education Lecture Series

A new lecture series is available to all mental health providers and researchers within and outside of the VA who are interested in using technology (e.g., mobile apps, online interventions, and telehealth) to support treatment for PTSD and related mental health concerns (e.g., anger, substance use, and insomnia). These live, virtual, knowledge-based webinars are hosted by subject matter experts from VA's National Center for PTSD, Dissemination & Training Division, and feature a different speaker and technology-related topic each month. The lectures are held the second Wednesday of each month at 12 p.m. ET. **There is 1.0 free CE available via ACCME, ANCC, NBCC, ACCME-NP, APA, ASWB, & NYSSED.**

### The Science of Dissemination and Implementation (D&I) in Health Conference

**Dec. 3-5, 2018, in Washington, D.C.**

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual D&I conference, co-hosted by the National Institutes of Health and AcademyHealth, aims to ensure that evidence is used to inform decisions that will improve the health of individuals and communities by bridging the gap between research, practice, and policy. This year's theme is *Scaling up Effective Health and Health Care: Advancing the Research Agenda and Necessary Infrastructure*. It will focus on strategies for scaling up effective interventions across communities, health systems, networks and countries, and efforts to build capacity for D&I science, with an emphasis on low-resource settings.

Contact the PHCoE IS Team  
Learn about the PBI Network  
Editor: Karyn E. Tate, MPH

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301-295-7681 | [pdhealth.mil](http://pdhealth.mil)