TAILORING ACCESS TO ADEQUATELY MEET NEEDS-SPECIFIC HEALTHCARE FOR MILITARY VETERANS

RONALD COLE, RN, MPH
WILLIAM WASHINGTON, MD, MPH
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT & CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Ronald Cole and William Washington both work for the United States (US) Army but the views of this presentation do not reflect the views of the United States, US Army, or any other branch of the US Military. The views of this presentation are the results of the authors’ research and their opinion only.

No sponsorship or commercial support has been provided by the US Army or any other agency.
LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of this presentation the audience should:

• Understand the experience of military members as they transition out of service and return to civilian life

• Identify the disparity gap in healthcare for veterans in the Veterans Administration (VA) and private sector

• Have a better understanding of the uniqueness of the veteran population

• Be better equipped to meet the needs of veterans within their facilities
MILITARY VETERANS – COVERING ALL GENERATIONS

Demographics

- Pre 911: 29
- Post 911: 27
- No response: 44
VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (VHA)

Eligible Vets

- 50% Enrolled
- 50% Not enrolled

Enrolled Vets

- 42% Enrolled (Use services)
- 58% Enrolled (Do not use services)
VHA BARRIERS

• Often not located in communities where they are most need
• Care can be fragmented and cumbersome for veterans
• The approach to healthcare is disease focused instead of health focused
SUPPORTIVE SYSTEMS ARE LOSS AFTER TRANSITION

• Research supports transition challenges
• Military life is full of structure
• Daily accountability
• Teamwork is everything
NON-MILITARY HEALTHCARE SYSTEM: NOT PREPARED

Video: [https://vimeo.com/241759900/b8c73d5417](https://vimeo.com/241759900/b8c73d5417)

- Often unaware the patient is a Veteran
- EHRs are not synchronized with military systems
- Most providers do not understand the secondary effects of serving
- Lack of rapport due to lack of trust
**FILLING A CAPABILITY GAP**

Modeling a system which provides a comprehensive, health-based approach

Provide structured and integrated care

Specialize in military-specific healthcare needs

Strive to have facilities in the communities that need them
QUESTIONS


REFERENCES


Images

Sailor Transitioning to Civilian life
https://www.navyfederal.org/resources/articles/personal-finance/transitioning-from-military.php

Fallen Service Memvber

Veterans
https://www.google.com/search?q=Veterans&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjLwfnr3NPiAhUrYdf8KHYgIBWcQ_AUjEsC&biw=1440&bih=852#imgrc=