

## CTR Expeditionary Medical Encounter Database

### Wounded Warrior Recovery Project (WWRP) Overview

#### Quality of Life Outcomes in Injured US Military Personnel

#### Problem and Requirement

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) are common injuries and diagnoses in injured tri-service US military personnel engaged in overseas contingency operations. The long-term consequences of these devastating injuries and diagnoses are not well understood.

#### Solution and Product

In order to better understand the consequences of TBI and PTSD on long-term service members' health, the Naval Health Research Center (NHRC) CTR EMED working group has developed a long-term research track that will examine not only rehabilitative outcomes but also quality of life (QoL) outcomes in US service members injured in overseas contingency operations. This project is entitled the Wounded Warrior Recovery Project (WWRP). This prospective survey-based study will follow this population for three to six years after enrollment. Both US military personnel that are still on active-duty and those that have separated from the military will be invited to enroll.

#### Approach and Results

The CTR Expeditionary Medical Encounter Database (CTR EMED) will be used to identify prospective participants. The CTR EMED is a data repository developed by NHRC that is an objective source of clinical and injury data on US military personnel injured in overseas contingency operations. This rich source of medical treatment data will be integrated with other Department of Defense (DoD) health and tactical datasets to provide a basis upon which to build the WWRP.

Preliminary pilot work with the CTR EMED suggests that up to 9,000 injured military personnel may be enrolled. This population will be followed for three to six years, with surveys being administered every six months to gauge physical and mental health, as well as QoL. QoL outcomes in TBI and/or PTSD positive injured service members will be compared to QoL outcomes in seriously injured service members without TBI and/or PTSD.

#### Benefits

Study results will provide a crucial understanding of the long-term health and QoL of this population.

Quantifying and qualifying the morbidity of these injuries and diagnoses will allow for the implementation of strategies aimed at mitigating the long-term consequences of TBI and PTSD.

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