

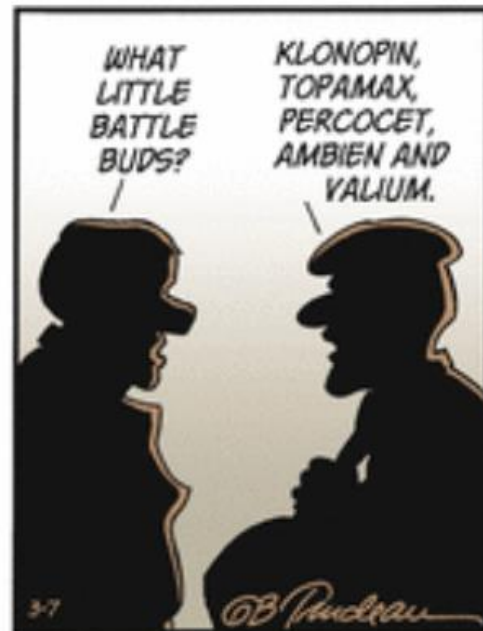


Defense Health Board

Psychotropic Medication Work Group Complementary and Alternative Medicine Work Group Updates

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**Defense Health Board Meeting
March 8, 2011**





Overview

- Work Group Charge
- Recent Activities
- Forthcoming Activities
- Discussion



Work Group Charge

- Review and provide recommendations on DoD's use of Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM)
- Examine and provide recommendations on prescription practices and use of psychotropic medication in DoD
- Consider issues that would augment and ensure patient safety and quality of care
- Take into account the context of specific military-unique challenges (increased military operational tempo, separations, and deployment stress) that might impact the well-being and psychological health of Service members



Work Group Charge (Continued)

Scope of Interest:

- In-theater, deployed, and operational **settings**
- Service members engaged in peace-keeping missions, preparing to deploy, or between deployments
- Most common mental health **conditions** in theater
- Optimal evidence-based **therapies** for most common in-theater mental health conditions that are viable in theater
- Clinically appropriate **deployment-related clinical practice guidelines**
- **Provider scope of practice:** who is providing care and in what context



Work Group Charge (Continued)

- **Treatment processes and protocols** used by primary care physicians and psychiatrists **prescribing medication in theater**
- **In-theater availability of medical records** for providers
- **Existing framework** for the **dissemination of knowledge and awareness of deployment-limiting conditions** related to psychological health **in theater**
- **Stigma** and associated challenges related to mental health issues and **deployability**



Recent Activities

- **November 3, 2010:** Meeting of the Psychotropic Medication and CAM Work Groups
- **December 2-3, 2010:** Joint Meeting with the Psychological Health External Advisory Subcommittee
- **February 24-25, 2011:** Joint Meeting with the Psychological Health External Advisory Subcommittee



Recent Activities (Continued)

November 3, 2010: Meeting Briefings

- **Mental Health Advisory Team Data on Medication Use Collected In Theater** - Dr. Charles Hoge
- **Evidence Base for Medications in Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Acute Stress Disorder** - Dr. Charles Hoge
- **CAM and Mind-Body Integrative Health Skills for Total Force Fitness: Overview , Use, and Effects on Prevention, Readiness, and Resilience** - Dr. Nisha Money
- **Panel Discussion with Military Service Psychiatrists**



Recent Activities (Continued)

November 3, 2010: Meeting Briefings (Continued)

- **In-Theater Psychiatric Care - CAPT Robert Koffman**
- **Psychotropic Prescriptions In-Theater: 3.5 Years of Data from the DoD Theater Medical Data Store - CDR Vythilingam**



Recent Activities (Continued)

December 2-3, 2010 Joint Meeting Briefings:

- **Department of Defense Pharmacoeconomic Center - LTC Stacia Spridgen**
- **Evidence-Based Use of CAM for Pain Management and Integration of Approaches and Therapies in Patient Care - Dr. Brian Berman**
- **Training, Regulation and Supervision of Corpsmen Who Prescribe Psychotropic Medications - CAPT Edward Simmer**



Recent Activities (Continued)

- **Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury: Initiatives Regarding Deployment Psychological Health Issues and Provider Training** - Dr. Mark Bates
- **National Center for Complementary And Alternative Medicine: Evidence-Based CAM** - Dr. Josephine Briggs
- **Army Combat Operational Stress Control Course Curriculum for Psychotropic Medication** - Mr. Carl Smith
- **In-Theater Psychotropic Medication Use and Military Operational Considerations** - Dr. Elspeth Cameron Ritchie
- **Army Comprehensive Behavioral Health Initiative**
- COL Rebecca Porter



Recent Activities (Continued)

February 24-25, 2011 Joint Meeting Briefings:

- **Military Health System Psychological Health Portfolio and Psychological Health Outcomes and Measures Working Group - Dr. Michael Dinneen**
- **Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury - Lt Col Christopher Robinson**
- **Re-Engineering Systems of Primary Care Treatment and Walter Reed Army Medical Center Clinical Activities - COL Charles Engel**
- **Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center Database- COL Robert DeFrait**



Forthcoming Activities

- The Psychological Health External Advisory Subcommittee is currently addressing the Work Groups' charge
- Draft report is currently being developed
- Findings and proposed recommendations will be presented to the Board during the June 2011 meeting for deliberation and vote



Discussion