



Application Guide

Introduction

The American Psychological Association's bibliographic database, PsycINFO, provides an essential resource for faculty, students, and research professionals seeking information in the areas of psychology, behavioral science, and other related disciplines.

Health professionals and others interested in military psychology will find essential materials in APA databases in areas such as coping with combat stress, addressing overall veterans' health, improving family relationships, training and leadership, living with severe physical injuries sustained in military conflicts, training for battle, and public opinion about war.

Topics in PsycINFO of Relevance to Military Psychology

Example 1. The Stress of Military Deployments

One of the defining aspects of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan is the practice of multiple deployments of US military personnel to combat zones. The stress of transitioning to the home environment and then facing possible return to high-stress war regions presents family members and mental health workers a significant challenge. A search of PsycINFO using the search terms **Military Deployment, Stress, Adjustment, and Posttraumatic Stress Disorder** retrieves results including the following:

Jakupcak, M., Luterek, J., Hunt, S., Conybeare, D., & McFall, M. (2008). Posttraumatic stress and its relationship to physical health functioning in a sample of Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans seeking postdeployment VA health care. *Journal of Nervous and Mental Disease, 196*, 425-428. doi:10.1097/NMD.0b013e31817108ed

La Bash, H. A. J., Vogt, D. S., King, L. S., & King, D. W. (2009). Deployment stressors of the Iraq war: Insights from the mainstream media. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence, 24*, 231-258. doi:10.1177/0886260508317177

Palmer, C. (2008). A theory of risk and resilience factors in military families. *Military Psychology, 20*, 205-217. doi:10.1080/08995600802118858

Example 2. Rehabilitation of Traumatic Brain Injuries

According to news accounts, a large number of injuries sustained by soldiers serving in Iraq and Afghanistan are traumatic brain injuries caused by blasts. Many of these soldiers do not fully recover their pre-injury functioning. Health personnel may find recent literature in PsycINFO about this topic by searching using **Traumatic Brain Injury** and for terms containing the word **Rehabilitation**. Some of the results include the following:

Evans, J. J., Bateman, A., Turner, G., & Green, R. (2008). Research digest: Understanding brain injury resources and evidence base. *Neuropsychological Rehabilitation, 18*, 372-384. doi:10.1080/09602010801909153

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Malec, J. F., Mandrekar, J. N., Brown, A. W., & Moessner, A. M. (2009). Injury severity and disability in the selection of next level of care following acute medical treatment for traumatic brain injury. *Brain Injury*, 23, 22-29. doi:10.1080/02699050802590320

Thornton, K. E., & Carmody, D. P. (2008). Efficacy of traumatic brain injury rehabilitation: Interventions of QEEG-guided biofeedback, computers, strategies, and medications. *Applied Psychophysiology and Biofeedback*, 33, 101-124. doi:10.1007/s10484-008-9056-z

Example 3. PTSD in World War II Veterans.

Although the current conflicts are focused on in much research, there is still interest in historical research into the incidence and reporting of cases of posttraumatic stress disorder in soldiers who served in World War II. To find the literature on this topic in PsycINFO, conduct a search using the search term **Posttraumatic Stress Disorder** and combine it with natural language searching on variant spellings for World War II, including WWII and Second World War. In this way, your results will not include research on veterans of other wars. Here is a sampling of the results retrieved:

Bramsen, I., Van Der Ploeg, H. M., & Boers, M. (2006). Posttraumatic stress in aging World War II survivors after a fireworks disaster: A controlled prospective study. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*, 19, 291-300. doi:10.1002/jts.20089

Cook, J. M., O'Donnell, C., Moltzen, J. O., Ruzek, J. I., & Sheikh, J. I. (2005). Clinical observations in the treatment of World War II and Korean War veterans with combat-related PTSD. *Clinical Gerontologist*, 29, 81-93. doi:10.1300/J018v29n02_09

Watson, P. B., & Daniels, B. (2008). Post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms in the files of Australian servicemen hospitalized in 1942-1952. *Australasian Psychiatry*, 16, 13-17. doi:10.1080/10398560701616213

For additional search strategies and training tools visit <http://www.apa.org/databases/training/homepage.html>

Selected Index Terms

From the *Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms*, 11th edition
(<http://www.apa.org/databases/thesaurus.html>)

Disorders & Injuries

Acute Stress Disorder
Addiction
Alcohol Abuse
Alcoholism
Amputation
Anxiety Disorders
Attempted Suicide
Brain Concussion
Chronic Illness
Chronic Pain
Comorbidity
Death and Dying
Drug Abuse
Drug Addiction
Drug Seeking
Dual Diagnosis
Emotional Trauma
Hearing Disorders

Hemiplegia
Injuries
Major Depression
Paralysis
Paraplegia
Posttraumatic Stress Disorder
Quadriplegia
Sexual Abuse
Spinal Cord Injuries
Suicide
Traumatic Brain Injury
Traumatic Neurosis

Psychological Adjustment & Behavior

Adjustment
Aggressive Behavior
Anger Control
Anxiety
Coping Behavior

Courage
Divorce
Domestic Violence
Emotional Responses
Fatigue
Fear
Financial Strain
Guilt
Homeless
Marital Conflict
Morale
Parent Child Relations
Partner Abuse
Protective Factors
Psychosocial Readjustment
Resilience (Psychological)
Risk Factors
Stress Reactions
Suicidal Ideation

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Treatment & Rehabilitation

Caregivers
Cognitive Rehabilitation
Community Mental Health Services
Crisis Intervention Services
Debriefing (Psychological)
Disability Evaluation
Drug Therapy
Health Care Utilization
Health Disparities
Health Insurance
Health Screening
Hot Line Services
Mental Health Services
Neuropsychological Assessment
Neuropsychological Rehabilitation
Physical Therapy
Prescribing (Drugs)
Prostheses
Psychiatric Evaluation
Psychiatric Hospitals
Psychological Assessment
Psychopharmacology
Screening Tests

Smoking Cessation
Suicide Prevention

Conflicts & Government & International Issues

Combat Experience
Counterterrorism
Foreign Policy Making
Government Agencies
Government Programs
Hostages
International Relations
National Security
Peacekeeping
Prisoners of War
Terrorism
Torture
War

Personnel & Training

Air Force Personnel
Army Personnel
Coast Guard Personnel
Commissioned Officers
Draftees

Enlisted Military Personnel
Leadership Qualities
Marine Personnel
Military Attrition
Military Deployment
Military Duty Status
Military Medical Personnel
Military Personnel
Military Psychologists
Military Recruitment
Military Schools
Military Training
Military Veterans
National Guard Personnel
Navy Personnel
ROTC Students
Volunteer Military Personnel

Sample Citations

Berz, J. B., Taft, C. T., Watkins, L. E., & Monson, C. M. (2008). Associations between PTSD symptoms and parenting satisfaction in a female veteran sample. *Journal of Psychological Trauma, 7*, 37-45. doi:10.1080/19322880802125969

Carretta, T. R., & King, R. E. (2008). Improved military air traffic controller selection methods as measured by subsequent training performance. *Aviation, Space, and Environmental Medicine, 79*, 36-43. doi:10.3357/ASEM.2166.2008

Cheng, E. M., Siderowf, A. D., Swartztrauber, K., Lee, M., Vassar, S., Jacob, E., Eisa, M. S., & Vickrey, B. G. (2008). Disparities of care in veterans with Parkinson's disease. *Parkinsonism & Related Disorders, 14*, 8-14. doi:10.1016/j.parkreldis.2007.05.001

Friedman, M. J. (2009). Phenomenology of posttraumatic stress disorder and acute stress disorder. In M. M. Antony & M. B. Stein (Eds.), *Oxford handbook of anxiety and related disorders* (pp. 65-72). New York: Oxford University Press.

Geuze, E., Vermetten, E., de Kloet, C. S., Hijman, R., & Westenberg, H. G. M. (2009). Neuropsychological performance is related to current social and occupational functioning in veterans with posttraumatic stress disorder. *Depression and Anxiety, 26*, 7-15. doi:10.1002/da.20476

Hall, L. K. (2008). *Counseling military families: What mental health professionals need to know*. New York: Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group.

James, L. C., & Freeman, G. A. (Col) (2008). *Fixing Hell: An army psychologist confronts Abu Ghraib*. New York: Grand Central Publishing/Hachette Book Group.

Langkamer, K. L., & Ervin, K. S. (2008). Psychological climate, organizational commitment and morale: Implications for Army captains' career intent. *Military Psychology, 20*, 219-236. doi:10.1080/08995600802345113

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- Martz, E., Bodner, T., & Livneh, H. (2009). Coping as a moderator of disability and psychosocial adaptation among Vietnam theater veterans. *Journal of Clinical Psychology, 65*, 94-112. doi:10.1002/jclp.20541
- Moore, K. (2008). *Disrupting science: Social movements, American scientists, and the politics of the military, 1945-1975*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- Nelson, K. G., & Oehlert, M. E. (2008). Evaluation of a Shortened South Oaks Gambling Screen in veterans with addictions. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors, 22*, 309-312. doi:10.1037/0893-164X.22.2.309
- Nishimura, S. (2008). Promoting health during the American occupation of Japan: The Public Health Section, Kyoto Military Government Team, 1945-1949. *American Journal of Public Health, 98*, 424-434. doi:10.2105/AJPH.2006.088906
- Polusny, M. A., Dickinson, K. A., Murdoch, M., & Thuras, P. (2008). The role of cumulative sexual trauma and difficulties identifying feelings in understanding female veterans' physical health outcomes. *General Hospital Psychiatry, 30*, 162-170. doi:10.1016/j.genhosppsych.2007.11.006
- Punamäki, R. (2008). Developmental challenges in military conflict: The case of Palestinian children. In M. E. Garralda & J.-P. Raynaud (Eds.), *Culture and conflict in child and adolescent mental health*. (pp. 3-32). Lanham, MD: Jason Aronson.
- Reger, G. M., & Gahm, G. A. (2008). Virtual reality exposure therapy for active duty soldiers. *Journal of Clinical Psychology, 64*, 940-946. doi:10.1002/jclp.20512
- Renshaw, K. D., Rodrigues, C. S., & Jones, D. H. (2008). Psychological symptoms and marital satisfaction in spouses of Operation Iraqi Freedom veterans: Relationships with spouses' perceptions of veterans' experiences and symptoms. *Journal of Family Psychology, 22*, 586-594. doi:10.1037/0893-3200.22.3.586
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- Russell, M. C. (2008). Treating traumatic amputation-related phantom limb pain: A case study utilizing eye movement desensitization and reprocessing within the armed services. *Clinical Case Studies, 7*, 136-153. doi:10.1177/1534650107306292
- Sawamura, T., Shimizu, K., Masaki, Y., Kobayashi, N., Sugawara, M., Tsunoda, T., et al. (2008). Mental health in Japanese members of the United Nations peacekeeping contingent in the Golan Heights: Effects of deployment and the Middle East situation. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry, 78*, 85-92. doi:10.1037/0002-9432.78.1.85
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Abstract

Background: Several studies have reported deficits in both immediate and delayed recall of verbal memory in patients with posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). However, most of these studies had several methodological disadvantages. None of these studies assessed parameters related to social or occupational functioning. Methods: Fifty Dutch veterans of UN peacekeeping missions (25 with PTSD and 25 without PTSD) were assessed with a comprehensive neuropsychological test battery consisting of four subtests of the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale-III, California Verbal-Learning Test, and the Rey Auditory Verbal-Learning Test. Veterans with PTSD were free of medication and substance abuse. Results: Veterans with PTSD had similar total intelligence quotient scores compared to controls, but displayed deficits of figural and logical memory. Veterans with PTSD also performed significantly lower on measures of learning and immediate and delayed verbal memory. Memory performance accurately predicted current social and occupational functioning. Conclusions: Deficits of memory performance were displayed in a sample of medication- and substance abuse-free veterans with PTSD. Deficits in memory performance were not related to intelligence quotient, length of trauma exposure, or time since trauma exposure. This study showed that cognitive performance accurately predicted current social and occupational functioning in veterans with PTSD. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2009 APA, all rights reserved)

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3215 Neuroses & Anxiety Disorders; 3800 Military Psychology

Population Group

Human; Male

Age Group

Adulthood (18 yrs & older)

Location

Netherlands

Methodology

0400 Empirical Study; 1800 Quantitative Study

Tests and Measures

Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale-III; Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test; California Verbal Learning Test; Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV

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