



Update From Federal and Other Funding Agencies

Defense Health Agency

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Legislative language



“... medical research to support military families and directs the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) to collaborate with institutions of higher education, Federal agencies, and non-profit entities that have robust research and clinical expertise with illness and conditions that have material effect on military family health and well-being, including, but not limited to adverse childhood events, menopause and mid-life women’s health, medical barriers to growing and supporting families, mental and behavioral health, substance use disorders, and gender-specific healthcare.”



Military Family Readiness Plan



Purpose: Deliver evidence-based capabilities to support psychological health, enhance resilience, and maintain readiness among Service Members (SMs) and military families.

Scope: The Defense Health Agency (DHA) Strategic Research Plan (SRP) on Psychological Health (PH) addresses Military Family Readiness topics encouraged by SAC-Defense. Collaborating with academic institutions, Federal agencies, and non-profit organizations who support military family health and wellbeing (e.g., adverse childhood events, menopause and mid-life women's health, medical barriers to growing and supporting families, mental and behavioral health, substance use disorders, and gender-specific health care), DHA will proceed as follows:

Plan:

- Identify modifiable protective factors and risk factors for negative outcomes to employ interventions in the community and health care settings.
- Develop evidence-based health promotion, prevention activities, and early interventions to strengthen the ability of military families to cope with stressors and maintain readiness.
- Implement effective resilience and family support programs.



Crosswalk Between PH SRP and Military Readiness Plan

Gap Areas	Investment Focus to Transition Gaps to Capability Areas	Military Family Readiness Areas
Countermeasures for Military Community Needs and Vulnerabilities	Develop new and/or refine current solutions for continuity of psychological health care for Service Members (SMs) and their families during care transitions.	Adverse Childhood Events (ACE) Mental and Behavioral Health (M&BH)
	Develop new and/or refine current solutions that provide continuity of psychological health care for SMs and their families during micro and macro military lifecycle transitions.	ACE M&BH
	Develop new and/or refine current psychological health and wellness solutions that address the needs of communities of SMs and/or families with social vulnerabilities.	M&BH Gender Specific Health Care (GSHC)
	Identify facilitators for and barriers against the transition of evidence-based and/or evidence-informed psychological health research solutions into actionable policy and practice.	Medical Barriers (MB)
	Develop new and/or refine current universal community-level prevention solutions for SM and family psychological fitness needs.	ACE M&BH
Models of Care for Efficient Interventions	Develop new and/or refine current solutions for recognition, triage, referral, and/or interventions of psychological health conditions across all environments.	M&BH Substance Use Disorders (SUD)
Models of Care for Tailored Interventions	Develop new and/or refine current solutions to restore and maintain short and/or long-term psychological functioning of the military community members to mitigate negative outcomes.	M&BH SUD
	Develop new and/or refine current solutions to psychological health restoration that incorporate the world view of members of the military community.	GSHC



Research Plan Timelines



Military Family Readiness Areas	Anticipated Deliverables of Research Investments	FY26	FY27	FY28	FY29	FY30	FY31	FY32	FY33	FY34
Adverse Childhood Events	- Solutions for continuity of psychological health care for SMs and their families during care transitions. - Solutions that provide continuity of psychological health care for SMs and their families during micro and macro military lifecycle transitions. - Universal community-level prevention solutions for SM and family psychological fitness needs.				KP					KP
Menopause and Midlife Women's Health	- Solutions for the effects of menopause on musculoskeletal health, cardiovascular health, sleep, mental health, and performance in operational settings. - Solutions for Chemical, Radiological, and Environmental Exposures to enhance understanding of how low-level chemical exposures uniquely impact females and ensure evidence-based health protections. - Solutions to support the transition back to pre-pregnancy fitness standards and operational readiness.				KP		KP			KP
Medical Barriers to Growing and Supporting Families	- Solutions that facilitate SMs and their families to seek out psychological health care. - Solutions that remove barriers to psychological health care.				KP		KP			
Gender-Specific Health Care	- Psychological health and wellness solutions that address the needs of communities of SMs and/or families with social vulnerabilities. - Solutions to psychological health restoration that incorporate the world view of members of the military community.				KP		KP			

Knowledge Products



Medical Research to Support the Military Family



- A total of 48 projects were peer and programmatically reviewed as part of this effort
- 14 projects were chosen for funding with the FY25 and FY26 CSI appropriations

Funded Projects	Research Topic Area
7	Mental and Behavioral Health Solutions to Support Military Families
3	Menopause and Midlife Women's Health
2	Substance Use Disorder Solutions to Support Military Families
1	Medical Barriers to Growing and Supporting Families
1	Adverse Childhood Events
0	Sex-Specific Health Care



Funding Opportunities for Extramural Organizations

- **Broad Agency Announcement (BAA)** – USAMRDC's BAA is a continuously open, competitive announcement intended to solicit extramural research and development ideas. Military operational medicine-relevant proposals will route to MOMRP for consideration.

BAA Webpage: <https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/ProgramFY.htm?programFYId=635101>

- **Medical Technology Enterprise Consortium (MTEC)**: The consortium focuses on the development and delivery of innovative medical technologies to improve the health and safety of U.S. military personnel, veterans, and civilians.

MTEC Webpage: <https://mtec-sc.org/>

- **Defense Health Agency Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)/Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR)** - Competitive, awards-based programs that align innovative small businesses to meet Defense Health Agency research and development needs

DoD SBIR/STTR Website - <https://www.dodsbirsttr.mil/submissions/login>



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- Psychological Health Strategic Research Plan: <https://www.health.mil/Reference-Center/Publications/2024/02/01/DHA-Strategic-Research-Plan-Psychological-Health>



Questions