

Abstract for “Optimizing the predictive validity of the PDHA/PDHRA”

The goal of this research is to determine if other information that is already being collected in the PDHA/PDHRA, could be useful in determining whether the military member may or may not have PTSD. Information from the symptom checklist, conflict ideation, and exposure to potentially traumatic events may be indicative of current or emerging PTSD and other mental health problems, and is less obviously linked to mental health than the PTSD screening questions that are currently used. Military members have reasons to not be completely honest in their responses. If this additional information is strongly associated with later being diagnosed with PTSD, it could aid the clinician in determining the military member's mental health needs. If the answers to the PTSD questions and the non-PTSD questions are consistent, this information could support the military member's responses to the PTSD questions. If the answers are inconsistent, this could suggest further inquiry.