



DEER LODGE CENTRE

Making lives better

Research Project Summary

Code: DLC-102

Subject areas: Mental Health, Occupational Medicine

Title	“Exploring the relationship between post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and occupational functioning in Canadian military personnel and veterans”
Overview	Post-traumatic stress disorder is a serious psychiatric condition frequently accompanied by significant social and occupational impairment. PTSD is common in Canadian military personnel. Post deployment questionnaires suggest that perhaps 20% of returning soldiers in the Canadian military show evidence for depression and PTSD after return from peacekeeping missions (Birenbaum, 1994). PTSD is also associated with occupational disability in both civilian and military populations (Bleich and Solomon, 2004; Schnyder et al., 2003; Matthews, 2005; Emsly et al., 2003). The project will involve a longitudinal study of various functional dimensions in current or former Canadian soldiers with PTSD.
Objectives	To explore the association between posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and occupational disability among current and former Canadian military personnel.
Principal Investigator	Joseph O. Polimeni, Jennifer C. Laforce
Affiliation	University of Manitoba Dept. of Psychiatry (JP), Dept. of Clinical Health Psychology (JL)
Location	Deer Lodge Centre, OSI Clinic
Subject area	Military mental health
Methodology	Subject interviews (brief cognitive tests, questionnaires), data analysis
Project timelines	February, 2007 to December 2008
Potential benefit	To understand the clinical factors that contribute to occupational disability in Canadian veterans or active military personnel.
Status	In start-up phase
Publications	None yet
Last summary update	February 2007