Topics in PsycINFO of Relevance to Military Psychology

PsycINFO is a research database published by the American Psychological Association. Nurses and other health care professionals can use it to locate research on coping with combat stress, improving family relationships, living with severe physical injuries sustained in military conflicts, and public opinion about war.

Sample Searches in Military Psychology Research

Scenario: A therapist working with the family of a Marine would like to know more about the stress of transitioning back to the home environment after a combat deployment.

Search: Military Families AND (Stress OR Adjustment)

Results: Articles on stressors encountered by the service member’s family, including the particular needs of children and the resiliency of military marriages.

Scenario: A chaplain would like to learn more about the emotional well-being of soldiers who have returned from a combat deployment.

Search: Combat Experience AND Emotional Trauma

Results: Articles on topics such as Posttraumatic Stress Disorder, anxiety, depression and aggression among combat veterans.

Scenario: A new physician at a VA hospital is seeking information on the effects of traumatic brain injury.

Search: Traumatic Brain Injury AND Military Personnel

Results: A variety of articles on the physical and emotional impact of traumatic brain injuries among service members.
Selected Search Terms
The search terms provided here are just a few excerpts from the many relevant terms in PsycINFO’s thesaurus. If you aren’t sure how to use these terms (called Subject Terms, Subject Headings, or Index Terms depending on your interface), check with your librarian or consult the PsycINFO Quick Reference Guide you may also have received at the same time as this handout.

Conflicts & Government & International Issues
- Combat Experience
- Counterterrorism
- Foreign Policy Making
- Government Programs
- Peacekeeping
- Torture
- War

Injuries
- Amputation
- Brain Concussion
- Hearing Disorders
- Paralysis
- Spinal Cord Injuries
- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Wounds

Disorders
- Alcoholism
- Anxiety Disorders
- Chronic Pain
- Drug Abuse
- Hallucinations
- Major Depression
- Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

Treatment & Rehabilitation
- Crisis Intervention Services
- Health Care Utilization
- Health Insurance
- Neuropsychological Rehabilitation
- Physical Therapy
- Prostheses
- Psychological Assessment

Adjustment & Behavior
- Anger Control
- Financial Strain
- Guilt
- Risk Factors
- Stress Reactions

Personnel & Training
- Air Force Personnel
- Commissioned Officers
- Military Deployment
- Military Veterans

Family Issues
- Divorce
- Emotional Responses
- Military Families
- Parent Child Relations
- Partner Abuse

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