



Chronic effects of neurotrauma consortium: a combined comparative analysis of six studies

Purpose

To examine the findings to date of the six clinical projects that CENC has initiated, to describe the growing cohort of Veterans and SMs and to identify emerging cross-study similarities and differences.

Participants

All participants were U.S. Veterans and SMs who served on active duty in the OEF/OIF/OND conflicts between the years 2000 and 2014.

How was the study conducted?

Data measures from the six clinical studies for this analysis included demographic, mTBI exposure information and clinical variables. For this analysis, data tables from the six studies were compared for all data collected through 15 September 2017. Variables presented in the comparison tables represent those that were similar in definition to allow for cross-study comparisons.

Findings

The six studies were compared on demographic, clinical and cognitive characteristics. Results from these analyses provide an important snapshot of the psychological and cognitive functioning of a diverse group of Veterans and SMs exposed to combat during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Military Impact

Results capture the complex and varying associations between mTBI and psychological, clinical and cognitive functioning. While these cross-sectional findings denote an important step towards expanding our understanding of the impact of mTBI on Veterans and SMs, further longitudinal study is critical.

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