



## JOINING FORCES

### Pledge

- Enrich medical education to ensure that current and future physicians are trained in the unique clinical challenges and best practices associated with caring for military service members, veterans, and their families;
- Disseminate the most up-to-date diagnostic and therapeutic information as it relates to traumatic brain injury (TBI) and psychological health conditions, such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD);
- Grow the body of knowledge leading to improvements in health care and wellness for our military service members, veterans, and their families; and
- Join with others to further strengthen the supportive community of physicians, institutions, and health care providers dedicated to improving the health of military service members, veterans, and their families.

### Current Relevant Curricular Content

Medical Human Gross Anatomy and Embryology – Traumatic Brain Injury

Profession of Medicine – VA palliative care team

Introduction to Clinical Psychiatry – Post Traumatic Stress Disorder with VA patient

Transitions to Clerkships

-Veteran-specific health issues by era.

-Specific health issues from WWII and Korea, Cold War, Gulf War, Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn and environmental exposures.

-Compensation and benefits, sexual harassment/assault/trauma, living situation (high incidence of homelessness and substance abuse) and stress reactions/adjustment problems.

-Provided the students Military Health History Pocket Card produced by VA Office of Academic Affiliations

3<sup>rd</sup> year clerkship VA rotations – Internal Medicine, Psychiatry, Surgery, Specialties

Community Medicine Clerkship – Veteran’s Health module during health fair orientation

-Redistribution of Military Health History Pocket Card

-Demographics

-Veteran’s health concerns

-Veteran’s health history

-Available resources

-Suicide risk appraisal

Keystone Course – VA healthcare system

Generally curricular topics related to military, family, and veteran’s health but not specific to these groups: chronic care model (Profession of Medicine & Community Medicine Clerkship), cardiac rehab and COPD (Practice of Medicine), substance abuse & suicide (Introduction to Clinical Psychiatry),

depression and COPD (Family Medicine clerkship), mental health disorders (Psychiatry clerkship), multiple medical problems seen in veterans (Internal Medicine Clerkship)

#### Other Activities

Student volunteer activity – Project Healing Waters

Military Medicine Student Interest Group

Periodic special presentations, e.g. Col Jeff Morgan, surgical experience in Iraq and Afghanistan

#### Opportunities:

- Ask the question

- Military sexual trauma in HS workshops

- Make one case in COL and/or Practice of Medicine have a veteran or military focus.

- Add appropriate groups to Community Health Fair

- Sponsorship of activities by student groups, e.g. Gold, AOA, etc.