

The National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE) Directorate at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC) is dedicated to improving the lives of patients and families impacted with traumatic brain injury (TBI) and associated health conditions.

With a vision to become a leader in TBI care, research, and education, the NICoE utilizes a holistic, interdisciplinary approach to clinical care.



Clinical Operations

Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP)

The NICoE Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) is a four-week program for patients diagnosed with both TBI and associated health conditions. Tailored treatment plans are created with patient, family, and provider input that focus on the mind, body, and spirit. Patients learn self-management skills to increase resilience, manage symptoms, and enhance their long-term well-being. This program is open to active-duty service members with mild-to-moderate TBI and associated health conditions who have not responded to traditional treatment.



TBI Outpatient Services

The NICoE TBI Outpatient Services provide diagnostic evaluations, treatments, and follow-up care for patients diagnosed with TBI of all severities. Patients work with providers to receive personalized outpatient rehabilitation services, symptom management, and treatment plans. Rehabilitation team providers meet regularly to discuss and monitor patients' progress and to make sure they receive the care that meets their unique needs and goals. Treatment continues on a case-by-case basis, for as long as providers recommend, to support healing and recovery and to help patients return to their highest level of functioning.



In addition to outpatient offerings, the NICoE staff is available to consult on patients who are in WRNMMC inpatient settings for TBI-related assessment and treatment needs.

Education

The NICoE offers TBI education courses through the clinic for both patients, and families, including one-on-one sessions, TBI basics classes, and additional family-centered resources. The NICoE provides educational opportunities for medical professionals, students and staff, on promising and best practices that support TBI understanding and recovery. Educating clinicians and researchers through hands-on experience allows the organization to influence care both within the Military Health System (MHS) and civilian sectors, nationally and internationally.



Research

The NICoE's research goal is to evaluate NICoE TBI diagnostic techniques and treatment methods, and promising scientific discoveries, to export MHS-wide those proven effective at contributing to force readiness.

There are about twelve active, IRB-approved research protocols with a range of collaborators inclusive of federal agencies, nonprofit and private organizations, and academia.

Informatics

NICoE Informatics serves a vital role in tracking patient data and key outcomes in support of TBI clinical care and research.



NICoE Informatics:

- Leverages data collected for providers to better understand the complexity of each patient's case
- Provides consistency that allows researchers to easily review, integrate, and analyze data
- Standardizes large amounts of cohesive data



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