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WRAMC Adult Telepsychiatry

Telepsychiatry research in the WRAMC Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Services lead to the development of adult telepsychiatry services. Due to the frequency of distant deployment, supporting family behavioral health is critical to the mission of force health protection. Quite often, because of base closures and budget cuts, full spectrum MH services have been available, but not reasonably accessible because of geographic factors. Telepsychiatry enables the active duty member to have specialized needs met in a local environment. In the quest to improve access to quality care, improve timeliness of service and decrease cost, the specialist is brought to the patient via privacy-assured video teleconferencing.

Since January 2001, WRAMC Adult TelePsychiatry’s service has actively been providing care within the region to Fort Detrick, The Pentagon, Fort Meade and to distant Fort Rucker (Alabama). Services for Aberdeen Proving Ground, Fort Lee and Fort Drum are in development. In response to AMEDD needs, further services are being designed to answer needs in pre-deployment and operational environments.

Service modules are designed to meet the needs of the requesting site/ facility. The network includes Psychiatry, Psychology and Social Work as the operational members of the active Behavioral Health Team.

Services address assessment, treatment, medication management, peer review, supervisory need, including response to command directed requests for evaluation

- Where there is an existing psychiatrist on post reserved for active duty service members, TelePsychiatry serves dependents.
- Where local Psychiatrists are unavailable, TelePsychiatry provides service for Active Duty personnel.
- WRAMC Inpatient and Outpatient Consult Services - post consult service
- Pre-deployment services
- Operational TeleBehavioral Health services.

Points of Contact

Principal Investigators	Project Officers
WRAMC Department of Psychiatry	Project Officer, TeleMental Health

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