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Use of Video Teleconferencing to Decrease Lost Work Days and Enhance Force Protection in Division Mental Health

This project seeks to:

- Determine the diagnostic agreement of adult clinical psychiatric examinations using in-person, face-to-face evaluations vs. VTC evaluations using a 384KB connection.
- Explore patient satisfaction with examinations using VTC.
- Determine cost (direct, lost productivity, and lost time) savings of using VTC vs. traditional face-to-face consultations.

This is a randomized clinical crossover trial involving 200 volunteer, non-emergency subjects. All subjects act as their own control or a self-control trial.

1. **Structured Clinical Interview for DSM IV (SCID)**- a gold standard structured interview is used for accurate diagnosis in psychiatric literature compared to diagnoses derived from routine face-face diagnostic evaluation and VTC evaluation. All subjects are examined by blinded third-party reviewers for diagnostic accuracy. Both general diagnostic category (mood disorder, anxiety disorder) and specific diagnoses will be compared.
2. **OQ- Outcome questionnaire**- a standardized self report questionnaire is used to determine current level of functioning will be compared to the GAF (Global Assessment of Functioning) Axis V of DSM IV diagnosis Axis performed face to face and by VTC.
3. **Patient Demographic Survey and Patient Satisfaction Survey.**

There is a high potential for using VTC equipment for medication evaluations and diagnostic evaluations. VTC may also be used for a similar purpose in peacekeeping missions such as Bosnia or Kosovo.

Points of Contact

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