Screening, Assessment, and Intervention Model for Intimate Partner Violence Perpetration and Co-Occurring Combat-Related Conditions

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Agenda

• Overview of Model Document
• The Intersection of Intimate Partner Violence and Co-Occurring Combat-Related Conditions
• A Community-Wide Approach to Screening and Assessment of IPV Perpetration and Co-Occurring Conditions
• Intervention
• Conclusion and Recommendations
• Appendices
Model for Understanding IPV Perpetration and Combat-Related Co-Occurring Conditions

• Context of violence and risk, danger, and safety
  o Intent, meaning, and effect of the violence
  o History of violence
  o Four contexts and *assessment tips

• Combat experience, IPV, and context

• Assessing risk and danger
  o Risk assessment
  o Risk factors
  o *Assessment tip
Model for Understanding IPV Perpetration and Combat-Related Co-Occurring Conditions (Cont.)

• IPV risk and danger related to combat exposure
  o Abusive behavior prior to deployment to combat zone
  o IPV tactics versus symptoms of co-occurring conditions
  o *Assessment tip
  o PTSD, depression, and suicidal talk and IPV – dangerous combination
Intersection of IPV and Co-Occurring Combat-Related Conditions

• Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
• Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
• Substance Use Disorder (SUD)
• Depression

*A complex matrix of symptoms and behaviors that are interconnected, in a state of flux; changing as the service member or veteran engages in or drops out of treatment.
Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) & IPV

• PTSD symptoms vs IPV tactics

• Case scenarios: Examples of how these two intersect. Can you identify PTSD symptoms and IPV tactics? How are they different or the same?
  o Nightmares
  o Flashbacks
  o Avoidance
  o Irritability and angry outbursts
  o Hyper-vigilance
  o Startle response

• *Assessment Tip
Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) & IPV

• Overview of TBI and combat-related injuries

• Areas of impaired functioning:
  o Cognitive
  o Emotional
  o Behavioral
  o Physical

• Case scenarios: Examples of how the two intersect. Can you identify TBI symptoms/behaviors and IPV tactics? What are the contexts of violence?

• *Assessment Tip
Substance Use Disorder (SUD) & IPV

• Overview of substance misuse among service members and military veterans with combat deployments.
  o Types of substances & frequency of use patterns and IPV behaviors

• Case scenario: Increased alcohol consumption after returning from a deployment to Afghanistan. What behaviors were present before deployment? How did they change after deployment?

• *Assessment Tip
Depression & IPV

• Overview of depression in service members and veterans with combat deployments.

• Factors that affect risk and danger when both depression and IPV behaviors are present.
  o Depressed mood
  o Diminished interest or pleasure
  o Significant weight change
  o Slowed response or agitated behavior
  o Feeling worthless, excessive guilt
  o Impaired concentration
  o Thoughts of death or killing themselves
Depression & IPV (Cont.)

• Case example: Depression after deployment and threats of suicide? Is IPV also present? What risks factors are critical to consider?

• *Assessment Tip
Depression & IPV/Suicide

• Overview of suicide and service members and military veterans.

• Overview of general risk of homicide and suicidal intent when IPV is also present.
Community-Wide Approach to Screening and Assessment of IPV Perpetration and Co-Occurring Conditions
Screening and Assessment at Community Points of Intervention

• Why it is important to identify IPV when the combat-related co-occurring conditions are present?

• The difference between a screen and an assessment

• The key community players, recommendations for all points of intervention, and site-specific information needed
Screening and Assessment at Community Points of Intervention (Cont.)

• The key community players:
  o 911 dispatcher/responders
  o Patrol officers
  o Police investigators/detectives
  o Correctional officers
  o Pretrial services, probation & parole
  o Health care systems
  o Mental health and substance abuse programs
  o The Veterans’ Health Administration (VHA)
  o Offender intervention programs
Screening and Assessment at Community Points of Intervention (Cont.)

• Screening for military service and war/conflict zone deployments:
  o Cultural awareness and sensitivity (specific to military service)
  o Military Service Screening Questions

• IPV perpetration screening & assessment by point of intervention:
  o Screening - Law enforcement key players
  o Screening & Assessment - Justice system key players
  o Screening & Assessment - Community program key players
Screening and Assessment at Community Points of Intervention (Cont.)

• Risk/danger assessment by point of intervention:
  o Overview of danger/risk assessment [immediate vs longer-term risk]
  o Risk/danger assessment by law enforcement, justice system, community programs

• PTSD screening/assessment and points of intervention:
  o PTSD screening/assessment - Justice system key players
  o PTSD screening/assessment - Community program key players
Screening and Assessment at Community Points of Intervention (Cont.)

• TBI screening/assessment and points of Intervention:
  o TBI screening - Justice System Key players
  o TBI screening/assessment - Community program key players

• Substance use screening/assessment and points of intervention:
  o Substance use screening/assessment - Law enforcement key players
  o Substance use screening/assessment - Justice system key players
  o Substance use screening/assessment - Community program key players
Screening and Assessment at Community Points of Intervention (Cont.)

• Depression screening/assessment and community points of intervention:
  o Depression screening - Law enforcement key players
  o Depression screening/assessment - Justice system key players
  o Depression screening/assessment - Community program key players

• *Assessment Tip: Regardless of the setting, principles regarding the safety of victims and their children are a priority.
Intervention

• Complete thorough and appropriate assessments
  o Context of the IPV
  o Existence of any co-occurring conditions
  o Risk and danger present for the victim

• Intervention for one problem will not address all the problems
  o Multiple interventions may need to occur concurrently
  o No one provider has subject matter expertise in IPV and all co-occurring conditions

• Considerations for law enforcement

• Considerations for the criminal justice system and community-based programs
Intervention (Cont.)

• An effective response to this population would be a coordinated community approach that includes:
  o Screening for military and combat experience by appropriate responding agencies
  o Assessment for possible co-occurring conditions by appropriate mental health providers
  o Adoption of appropriate risk assessment protocols in each responding agency
  o A range of court-ordered sanctions that support perpetrators in ending violent behavior while carefully monitoring compliance with court orders to ensure victim safety
  o IPV intervention services that understand and address the complex issues of these perpetrators
Intervention (Cont.)

• Anger management
• Guidelines for couples counseling
• Considerations for military/veteran-specific offender intervention programs
  o Advantages and risks of culturally-specific programs
• Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National IPV Assistance Program
Tips for Intervening with Military Personnel and Veterans

- Collaborate with military installations
- Collaborate with VA facilities
- Use institutional powers effectively
Conclusions

Challenges

• Responding to the combined impact of multiple co-occurring problems - one problem can affect another, and a change in any one can quickly impact the overall dangerousness of the IPV situation.

• Not all points of intervention have the same responsibilities for screening, assessment, and intervention.

• Some points will conduct only quick screens providing information that will inform additional actions taken at other points.

• Some points will carry the responsibility for more thorough assessments, some of which will also provide the intervention for the identified problem(s).
Conclusions (Cont.)

• All points of intervention are responsible for screening for IPV and assessing for immediate risk and danger.
• Need for multiple responses from multiple systems.
• Coordination and collaboration with military installations and programs and VA facilities critical to seamless response to IPV involving military and veteran perpetrators.
• Failure to identify IPV and other co-occurring problems for service members and veterans places individuals and communities at risk.
• Essential that each part of the system understand the roles and responsibilities at each point of intervention.
Recommendations

• All Points of Intervention: Military and Veteran Specific Information
• Best Practice for All IPV Cases: Law Enforcement and Justice System
• Best Practice in All IPV Cases: Community Programs (including DoD and VA facilities)
• Best Practice for Intervention: Community Programs (including DoD and VA Facilities)
Appendices

• Appendix A: Civilian-Military-Veteran Coordinated Community Response
• Appendix B: Military Service Screening Tool
• Appendix C: Intimate Partner Violence Assessment Tool
• Appendix D: IPV Perpetration Screening Tool
• Appendix E: Abusive Behavior Inventory (ABI-Offender Form)
• Appendix F: Abusive Behavior Inventory (ABI-Partner Form)
Appendices (Cont.)

• Appendix G: Dangerousness/Risk Assessment Protocol Perpetrator
• Appendix H: Dangerousness/Risk Assessment Protocol Adult Victim
• Appendix I: PTSD Screening Tool
• Appendix J: TBI Screening Tool
• Appendix K: Alcohol Abuse Screening Tool
• Appendix L: Drug Abuse Screening Tool
• Appendix M: Depression Screening Tool
Questions and Answers
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