

Research and Scholarly Manuscripts Inventory

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January 2019

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Authors/ Research Team	Berberian, M., Walker, M. S., & Kaimal, G. (2018) Marygrace Berberian, Melissa S. Walker, Girija Kaimal
Study Name	"Master My Demons:" Art Therapy Montage Painting by Active-Duty Military Service Members with Traumatic Brain Injury and Post-Traumatic Stress
Abstract	This study involved a thematic analysis of montage paintings and of related clinical records of 240 active duty military service members collected during their art therapy treatment for traumatic brain injury (TBI) and underlying psychological health concerns, including post-traumatic stress, at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Bethesda, MD. Congruent with other research findings, the qualitative analyses of this study suggest that the group art therapy experiences fostered improvement in interpersonal relatedness, hopefulness and gratification for the service members in treatment, aiding in externalization, progressive exposure and construction of a trauma narrative imperative for recovery. The mixed media nature of the montage painting supported the expression of a range of post-combat symptoms. Results from this study highlighted the complexity of military culture, necessitating a broader scope of analyses for how art therapy helps service members express and communicate their challenges to care providers, peers and family as well as regulate emotion in the short and long term.
Population Studied	Service members in art therapy treatment at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE); N=240
Treatment	Art Therapy; Integrated medicine; Standalone treatment; Group art therapy sessions in week four of 4-week program.
Study Design	Grounded theory; thematic analysis.
Methods and Measures	Grounded theory analysis of content in montage painting and clinical notes created by art therapist. Measures: Images and clinical notes.
Status or Citation	Berberian, M., Walker, M. S., & Kaimal, G. (2018). "Master My Demons:" Art therapy montage painting by active-duty military service members with traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress. <i>Medical Humanities</i> . Advance online publication. doi:10.1136/medhum-2018-011493
Weblink	https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30077986

Authors/ Research Team	Jones, J. P., Gonzaga, A., Landless, B., & Kaimal, G. (2015) Jacqueline P. Jones, Adele Gonzaga, Bronwen Landless, Girija Kaimal
Study Name	Evaluation of the Art Therapy Program at Fort Belvoir Intrepid Spirit One
Abstract	This report presents an evaluation of art therapy programs at Intrepid Spirit at Fort Belvoir (ISO). Fort Belvoir Community Hospital is located on the Fort Belvoir base in northern Virginia and serves military service members (SMs) from the local region. It provides state of the art care to active duty SMs, retired SMs, and their families. The hospital also supports cutting edge research in order to provide optimal clinical care to SMs. Art therapy is offered at the ISO as part of a range of therapies and aims to help service members express themselves and process traumatic experiences from their past.
Population Studied	Military service members in art therapy treatment at Intrepid Spirit Fort Belvoir; N=200
Treatment	Art Therapy and therapeutic/expressive writing; Standalone treatment. Service members participate in three to nine weeks of individual and group therapy sessions.
Study Design	Evaluation, mixed-methods.
Methods and Measures	Includes a summary of feedback surveys collected over a two-year period. Qualitative and quantitative responses were analyzed using descriptive statistics and thematic analysis. Measures: Narrative and Likert-scale feedback surveys.
Status or Citation	Jones, J. P., Gonzaga, A., Landless, B. M. & Kaimal, G. (2015). <i>Evaluation of the art therapy program at Fort Belvoir Intrepid Spirit One</i> . Report prepared for the Fort Belvoir Community Hospital and the National Endowment for the Arts. Philadelphia, PA: Drexel University.
Weblink	N/A

Authors/ Research Team	Jones, J. P., Walker, M. S., Drass, J. M., & Kaimal, G. (2018) Jacqueline P. Jones, Melissa S. Walker, Jessica M. Drass, Girija Kaimal
Study Name	Art Therapy Interventions for Active Duty Military Service Members with PTS and TBI
Abstract	This paper provides an overview of short and long-term art therapy treatment approaches, used in the USA, for military service members with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury. The described clinical approaches are based on the theoretical foundations and the art therapists' experiences in providing individualised care for the unique needs of the patient population. The art therapy models and directives are designed to be more therapist-led in the short-term model, moving on to an increasingly patient-led format in the long-term treatment model. The overall objectives of art therapy are: to support identity integration, externalisation, and authentic self-expression; to promote group cohesion; and to process grief, loss, and trauma. In addition, programme evaluation is used in both settings as a means to understand participants' experiences and the perceived value of art therapy.
Population Studied	N/A
Treatment	Art Therapy; Integrated medicine; Standalone treatment.
Study Design	Clinical practice paper.
Methods and Measures	Description of art therapy clinical practice and use of evaluation in two settings.
Status or Citation	Jones, J. P., Walker, M. S., Masino Drass, J. & Kaimal, G. (2018). Art therapy interventions for active duty service members with post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury. <i>International Journal of Art Therapy</i> . doi: 10.1080/17454832.2017.1388263
Weblink	https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/17454832.2017.1388263

Authors/ Research Team	Kaimal, G., Jones, J. P., Dieterich-Hartwell, R. M., Acharya, B., & Wang, X. (in press)Girija Kaimal, Jacqueline P. Jones, Rebekka Dieterich-Hartwell, Binod Acharya, Xi Wang
Study Name	Evaluation of Long- and Short-Term Art Therapy Interventions in an Integrative Care Setting for Military Service Members with Post-Traumatic Stress and Traumatic Brain Injury
Abstract	 Background: Program evaluations can serve as a doorway to research in the creative arts therapies. This study provides findings from analyses of participant feedback on short- and long- term art therapy services for military service members with post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury (TBI). Methods: Data for the study included feedback surveys from 204 service members who received art therapy services as part of treatment at an integrative care setting. Results: The results indicate that long-term art therapy resulted in higher satisfaction with treatment. Art therapy helped most with developing a sense of self after injury, experiencing positive emotions, processing trauma, and reducing feelings of guilt, grief, and loss. There were no statistically significant differences in outcomes based on rank or severity of TBI, but art therapy services were found to be related to improved symptoms for service members with longer times in service. Implications: The feedback from evaluation helps identify potential areas for further research on how art therapy addresses issues of identity, time in service and experiences of emotions as a result of post-traumatic stress and TBI. Evaluation provides directions for further clinical treatment and yields data on improving quality of care.
Population Studied	Active duty military service members with TBI, and PTS.
Treatment	Art Therapy; Integrated medicine.
Study Design	Program evaluation, mixed methods.
Methods and Measures	Evaluation of long-term art therapy clinical practice.
Status or Citation	Kaimal, G., Jones, J. P., Dieterich-Hartwell, R., Acharya, B., & Wang, X. (in press). Evaluation of long- and short-term art therapy interventions in an integrative care setting for military service members with post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury. <i>Arts in</i> <i>Psychotherapy</i> . Doi: 10.1016/j.aip.2018.10.003
Weblink	https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0197455618301321

Authors/ Research Team	Kaimal, G., Walker, M. S., Herres, J., French, L. M., & DeGraba, T. J. (2018) Girija Kaimal, Melissa S. Walker, Joanna Herres, Louis M. French, Thomas J. DeGraba
Study Name	Associations Between Visual Imagery and Measures of Depression, Anxiety, and Post- Traumatic Stress Among Active-Duty Military Service Members with Traumatic Brain Injury
Abstract	 OBJECTIVES: To compare recurring themes in the artistic expression of SMs with PTSD, TBI, and PH conditions with measurable psychiatric diagnoses. Affective symptoms and struggles related to verbally expressing information can limit communication in individuals with post-traumatic stress symptoms and deployment-related health conditions. Visual self-expression through art therapy is an alternative way for military service members (SMs) with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and other psychological health (PH) conditions to communicate their lived experiences. This study offers the first systematic examination of associations between visual self-expression and how it relates to standardized clinical self-report measures. PRIMARY OUTCOMES: Associations between scores on the PTSD Checklist –Military (PCL-M), the Patient Health Questionnaire-9, and the Generalized Anxiety Disorder 7-item scale on visual themes in depictions of aspects of individual identity (psychological injury, military symbols, military identity and visual metaphors). RESULTS: Comparisons of the visual and clinical data indicate that SMs who depicted psychological injury also had higher scores for post-traumatic stress and depression. However, the depiction of military unit identity, nature metaphors, sociocultural metaphors, and cultural and historical characters was associated with lower post-traumatic stress scores. CONCLUSIONS: There are emergent patterns of resilience and risk embedded in the use of images created by the participants, which in turn could provide valuable information for patients, clinicians and caregivers serving this population.
Population Studied	Active duty military service members with a history of TBI, posttraumatic stress symptoms and related psychological health conditions receiving treatment at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE); N=370
Treatment	Art Therapy; Integrated medicine; Standalone treatment. The images used for analysis were created by the SMs in the form of masks during art therapy sessions in week 1 of a 4-week integrative treatment program.
Study Design	ANCOVA & correlational analysis of data on clinical symptoms of posttraumatic stress, depression, and anxiety compared with visual themes in mask imagery.
Methods and Measures	Methods: Described above. Measures: Themes in masks, PTSD Checklist–Military (PCL-M), Patient Health Questionnaire-9, Generalized Anxiety Disorder 7-item scale
Status or Citation	Kaimal G., Walker, M. S., Herres J., French, L. M., & DeGraba, T. J. (2018). Observational study of associations between visual imagery and measures of depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress among active-duty military service members with traumatic brain injury at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. <i>BMJ Open, 8,</i> e021448. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2017-021448 (Impact factor = 2.4)
Weblink	https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/8/6/e021448

Authors/ Research Team	Walker, M. S., Kaimal, G., Gonzaga, A. M. L., Myers-Coffman, K. A., & DeGraba, T. J. (2017) Melissa S. Walker, Girija Kaimal, Adele M. L. Gonzaga, Katherine A. Myers-Coffman,
Study Name	Thomas J. DeGraba Active-Duty Military Service Members' Visual Representations of PTSD and TBI in Masks
Abstract	Active-duty military service members have a significant risk of sustaining physical and psychological trauma resulting in traumatic brain injury (TBI) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Within an interdisciplinary treatment approach at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence, service members participated in mask making during art therapy sessions. This study presents an analysis of the mask-making experiences of service members (n=370) with persistent symptoms from combat- and mission-related TBI, PTSD, and other concurrent mood issues. Data sources included mask images and therapist notes collected over a five-year period. The data were coded and analyzed using grounded theory methods. Findings indicated that mask making offered visual representations of the self-related to individual personhood, relationships, community, and society. Imagery themes referenced the injury, relational supports/losses, identity transitions/questions, cultural metaphors, existential reflections, and conflicted sense of service members, facilitating their recovery.
Population Studied	Active duty service members; N=370
Treatment	Art Therapy; Integrated medicine; Standalone treatment.
	Group art therapy sessions in week 1 of 4-week program medicine.
Study Design	Grounded theory study, thematic analysis.
Methods and Measures	Grounded theory analysis of content in masks and clinical notes created by art therapist. Measures: Images and clinical notes.
Status or Citation	 Walker, M., Kaimal, G., Gonzaga, A. M. L., Myers-Coffman, K. A., & DeGraba, T. J. (2017). Active duty military service members' visual representations of PTSD and TBI in masks. <i>International Journal of Qualitative Studies on Health and Well-being</i>, 12(1), 1267317. doi: 10.1080/17482631.2016.1267317 (Impact factor = 1.1)
Weblink	https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/17482631.2016.1267317

Authors/ Research Team	Walker, M. S., Kaimal, G., Koffman, R., & DeGraba, T. J. (2016) Melissa S. Walker, Girija Kaimal, Robert Koffman, Thomas J. DeGraba
Study Name	Art Therapy for PTSD and TBI: A Senior Active Duty Military Service Member's Therapeutic Journey
Abstract	Art therapy is increasingly being accepted as a form of complementary and integrative care for military veterans affected by trauma and injuries in the line of duty. Less is known, however, about the applications of art therapy for co-morbid traumatic brain injury (TBI) and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). In addition, most studies to date have focused on art therapy with veterans (former military service members) rather than with active duty service members. Furthermore, there are no studies that have examined the unique context of PTSD in senior military personnel. This case study presents the therapeutic process through art therapy in the case of a senior active duty military service member (with chronic PTSD and TBI) in the context of an integrated model of care that included medical and complementary therapies.
Population Studied	Senior active duty military service member; N=1
Treatment	Art Therapy; Integrated medicine, Standalone treatment. The patient underwent a series of treatments, including complementary and integrative therapies, and medical and psychiatric care.
Study Design	Case study.
Methods and Measures	Case analysis based on images and clinical notes. Measures: Images and clinical notes.
Status or Citation	Walker, M., Kaimal, G. Koffman, R., & DeGraba, T. J. (2016). Art therapy for PTSD and TBI: A senior active duty military service member's therapeutic journey. <i>The Arts in Psychotherapy 49</i> (2), 10-16. doi: 10.1016/j.aip.2016.05.015 (Impact factor = 1.4)
Weblink	https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0197455616300636

Authors/ Research Team	Walker, M. S., Stamper, A. M., Nathan, D. E., & Riedy, G. (2018) Melissa S. Walker, Adrienne M. Stamper, Dominic E. Nathan, Gerard Riedy
Study Name	Art Therapy and Underlying fMRI Brain Patterns in Military TBI: A Case Series
Abstract	TBI and PTSD are global issues and are often referred to as signature wounds of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Art therapy can provide unique insights into military service members' injuries and states of mind via externalization within an art product; however, interpretation of results is complex and subjective. Advance neuroimaging tools such as resting state fMRI can be employed to demonstrate objective measures of brain structure and activity. This case series highlights two distinct patient profiles, suggesting a relationship between resting state connectivity maps and dynamic thalamic connectivity (as well as PCL-C and NSI scores and brain scars) and the corresponding visual elements of masks made during art therapy treatment. Ultimately, this study indicates a need for future research examining potential neurological changes pre- and post-art therapy treatment.
Population Studied	Service members in treatment at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE); N=10
Treatment	Art Therapy; Integrated medicine; Standalone treatment; Group art therapy sessions in week 1 of 4-week NICoE program; Neuroimaging.
Study Design	Case series; Between-group comparisons of data on clinical symptoms, neuroimaging and visual themes in masks & correlational analysis.
Methods and Measures	Case series with correlational study of service member art therapy products and fMRI (thalamic and default mode network activity, brain scar totals) as well as PCL-M/NSI outcomes; Measures: Art therapy product images, NSI and PCL-M scores, fMRI neuroimaging.
Status or Citation	Walker, M. S., Stamper, A. M., Nathan, D. E., & Riedy, G. (2018). Art therapy and underlying fMRI brain patterns in military TBI: A case series. <i>International Journal of Art Therapy</i> . doi: 10.1080/17454832.2018.1473453
Weblink	https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/17454832.2018.1473453?scroll=top&need Access=true

Authors/ Research Team	Jones, J. P., Drass, J. M., & Kaimal, G. (2019) Jaqueline P. Jones, Jessica M. Drass, Girija Kaimal
Study Name	Portraits of Recovery: Collective Case Studies of Art Therapy Interventions for Military Service Members with PTS and TBI
Abstract	This paper will summarize a series of case examples of how art therapy helped active duty military service members address and manage symptoms related to traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress. The case examples will include short- and long-term art therapy strategies used in the integrated care setting as well as patient reported outcomes.
Population Studied	Active duty service members in art therapy treatment in an integrated care setting; N=4
Treatment	Art Therapy; Integrated medicine.
Study Design	Case summaries.
Methods and Measures	Includes case summaries describing range of art therapy approaches for service members with PTS and TBI.
Status or Citation	This manuscript is in preparation.
Weblink	

Authors/ Research Team	Kaimal, G., Walker, M. S., Herres, J. M., & Berberian, M. (2019) Girija Kaimal, Melissa S. Walker, Joanna M. Herres, Marygrace Berberian
Study Name	Examining Associations Between Montage Painting Imagery and Symptoms of Depression and Posttraumatic Stress Among Active-Duty Military Service Members
Abstract	This paper will provide an overview of the themes represented in the montage paintings created by service members as well as associations between visual imagery and standardized measures of depression and post-traumatic stress.
Population Studied	Service members in art therapy treatment at National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE); N=240
Treatment	Art Therapy; Integrated medicine.
Study Design	Between group comparisons of data on clinical symptoms and visual themes in montage painting imagery using ANCOVA & correlational analyses.
Methods and Measures	Associations between scores on the PTSD Checklist–Military (PCL-M) and the Patient Health Questionnaire-9 on visual themes in the montage paintings.Measures: Themes in montage paintings, PTSD Checklist–Military (PCL-M), the Patient Health Questionnaire-9.
Status or Citation	Submitted for publication.
Weblink	

Authors/ Research Team	Bradt, J., Biondo, J., & Vaudreuil, R. (in press) Joke Bradt, Jacelyn Biondo, Rebecca Vaudreuil
Study Name	Songs Created by Military Service Members in Music Therapy: A Retrospective Analysis
Abstract	A successful transition to civilian life is challenging for many service members returning from deployment. Psychological and physical injuries may hamper successful reintegration into home life and communities and, as a result, many service members report feeling lonely, isolated and misunderstood. This study analyzed 14 songs written by 11 active-duty service members with post-traumatic stress disorder, mild traumatic brain injury, and psychological health conditions, who received music therapy services at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence, a Directorate of Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in the United States of America. Service members wrote songs over the course of two or more individual music therapy sessions. Latent thematic analysis of the song lyrics yielded four main themes: (a) personal struggles and barriers to recovery, (b) moving forward, (c) relational challenges, and (d) positive relationships and support. The songs offer a window into service members' lived experiences of military service, injury, recovery, homecoming, and transition from active-duty. Songwriting enabled service members to share their thoughts, emotions, fears and hopes with family, friends and other providers, often for the first time, and as such played an important role in their personal growth and recovery process. This is the first study to examine the therapeutic benefits of songwriting in a military population.
Population Studied	Active duty service members in music therapy treatment at NICoE, N=11
Treatment	Music Therapy standalone; Each patient who wrote a song in music therapy received at least 2-3 individual music therapy sessions to complete songwriting/recording projects.
Study Design	Thematic analysis and correlational analyses.
Methods and Measures	Thematic analysis of songs written by service members and clinical notes of the songwriting sessions. Associations between identified themes and patient clinical and demographic characteristics will be examined. Measures: Not Applicable.
Status or Citation	Bradt, J., Biondo, J., & Vaudreuil, R. (in press). Songs created by military service members in music therapy: A Retrospective Analysis. <i>The Arts in Psychotherapy: An</i> <i>International Journal.</i>
Weblink	https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0197455618301916

Authors/ Research Team	Bronson, H., Vaudreuil, R., & Bradt, J. (2018) Hannah Bronson, Rebecca Vaudreuil, Joke Bradt
Study Name	Music Therapy Treatment of Active Duty Military: An Overview of Intensive Outpatient and Longitudinal Care Programs
Abstract	In recent years, there has been increased demand for music therapy services within military treatment facilities to treat combat-related injuries. This demand is partly due to increased research output related to music interventions in neuro-rehabilitation as well as an increased prevalence of signature injuries including traumatic brain injury and posttraumatic stress disorder for which interdisciplinary patient-centered care is recommended. The complexity of traumatic brain injury, posttraumatic stress, and military service itself presents challenges for music therapist when creating patient-centered program models. As military healthcare increases access to new treatments as a standard of care, it is important for music therapists to provide descriptions of effective treatment models in military settings. Outlining established music therapy models of care is essential to the successful addition of music therapy in the treatment of service members' complex injuries. This paper outlines current program models at two facilities, the National Intrepid Center of Excellence at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and Intrepid Spirit Center at Fort Belvoir.
Population Studied	Not applicable.
Treatment	Music Therapy; Integrated medicine; Standalone treatment.
Study Design	Clinical practice paper: Description of clinical practice.
Methods and Measures	Measures: Not applicable.
Status or Citation	Bronson, H., Vaudreuil, R., & Bradt, J. (2018). Music therapy treatment of active duty military: An overview of intensive outpatient and longitudinal care programs. <i>Music Therapy Perspectives</i> , <i>36</i> (2), 195-206. https://doi.org/10.1093/mtp/miy006
Weblink	https://academic.oup.com/mtp/advance-article-abstract/doi/10.1093/mtp/miy006/4945362

Authors/ Research Team	Vaudreuil, R., Avila, L., Bradt, J., & Pasquina, P. (2018) Rebecca Vaudreuil, Luis Avila, Joke Bradt, Paul Pasquina
Study Name	Music Therapy Applied to Complex Blast Injury in an Interdisciplinary Model: A Case Report
Abstract	 Purpose: Music therapy has a long history of treating the physiological, psychological, and neurological injuries of war. Recently, there has been an increase in the use of music therapy and other creative arts therapies in the care of combat injured service members returning to the United States from Iraq and Afghanistan, especially those with complex blast-related injuries. This case report describes the role of music therapy in the interdisciplinary rehabilitation of a severely injured service member. Methods: Music therapy was provided as stand-alone treatment and in co-treatment with speech language pathology, physical therapy, and occupational therapy. The report is based on clinical notes, self-reports by the patient and his wife, and interviews with rehabilitation team members. Results: In collaboration with other treatment disciplines, music therapy contributed to improvements in range of motion, functional use of bilateral upper extremities, strength endurance, breath support, articulation, task-attention, compensatory strategies, social integration, quality of life, and overall motivation in the recovery process. The inclusion of music therapy in rehabilitation was highly valued by the patient, his family, and the treatment team. Conclusions: Music therapy has optimized the rehabilitation of a service member through assisting the recovery process on a continuum from clinic to community.
Population Studied	Military service member in ongoing rehabilitation from complex blast injury; N=1
Treatment	Music Therapy; Integrated medicine, Standalone treatment. The patient receives ongoing treatment, including 2+ years of integrated and stand- alone music therapy services.
Study Design	Case report.
Methods and Measures	Music therapy was provided as stand-alone treatment and in co-treatment with speech language pathology, physical therapy, and occupational therapy. Measures: Clinical data, self-reports by patient and family, interviews with rehabilitation team members.
Status or Citation	Vaudreuil, R., Avila, L., Bradt, J., & Pasquina, P. (2018). Music therapy applied to complex blast injury in an interdisciplinary model: A case report. <i>The Journal of Disability and Rehabilitation</i> . doi: 10.1080/09638288.2018.1462412 (Impact factor = 1.8)
Weblink	https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09638288.2018.1462412

Authors/ Research Team	Bradt, J., Hughes, J., Bonavia, G., Vaudreuil, R., & McLaughlan, N. (2019) Joke Bradt, John Hughes, Grant Bonavia, Rebecca Vaudreuil, Nathan McLaughlan
Study Name	Impact of Music on Emotional Regulation for Service Members with PTSD (Grammy Foundation Study)
Abstract	 This exploratory study examines the impact of listening to music on cortical alpha power, cortical functional connectivity, and cortical volume in brain areas associated with emotional regulation in service members (SMs) with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). In this prospective, randomized controlled study, 20 SMs with PTSD are randomized to either an emotional regulation training (ERT) treatment arm or a non-ERT treatment arm. The ERT treatment arm consists of three music-based ERT training sessions. Participants in the non-ERT treatment arm do not receive ERT training. MEG, fMRI and MRI measurements are obtained at baseline and after 3 months. MEG activity is recorded while participants listen to various music conditions. At 1, 2, 3, 6, and 12 months, all participants will be asked to fill out a brief online survey to assess their continued use of music for emotional regulation.
Population Studied	Active duty military and veterans with PTSD diagnosis; N=20: 10 control, 10 experimenta
Treatment	Music Therapy; Music listening without ERT training (control group), Music therapy ERT training (experiential group); Each study participant, regardless of treatment allocation, receives one music consult session; participants assigned to the ERT treatment arm participate in three additional music therapy sessions following the consult session.
Study Design	Randomized controlled trial.
Methods and Measures	After the baseline neuroimaging recording sessions, participants are randomized to the emotional regulation training (ERT) group or the non-ERT group using computer- generated randomization scheme with block randomization. Participants assigned to the ERT group receive three training sessions with the NICoE music therapist, targeted at using music listening for emotional regulation. Participants assigned to the control group are told that music listening can help with emotional regulation but will not receive ERT. MEG and MRI are repeated with all subjects after 3 months. Study personnel involved with collecting and analyzing brain imaging data are not aware of the participant group assignment.
	Measures: Neuro-imaging: MEG, fMRI, MRI, and questionnaires related to music use and home practice.
Status or Citation	This study was granted approval by the WRNMMC IRB and will resume in 2019.
Weblink	

Authors/ Research Team	Bronson, H., Vaudreuil, R., & Bradt, J. (2019) Hannah Bronson, Rebecca Vaudreuil, Joke Bradt
Study Name	The Effects of Individual Music Therapy Sessions on Symptom Management inMilitary Service Members (working title)
Abstract	 This study is a secondary analysis of symptom management data that were collected as part of standard music therapy program evaluations at Intrepid Spirit Fort Belvoir and the National Intrepid Center of Excellence. Approximately 100 service members completed the Creative Forces Symptom Management evaluation form at the start and end of individual music therapy sessions between July 2016 and August 2017. This 10-item form uses 0-10 numeric rating scales to evaluate the impact of a single music therapy session on commonly encountered symptoms in service members, namely pain, stress, anxiety, fatigue, worries, physical tension, sadness, anger, ability to focus, and overall well-being. Paired t-tests will be used to analyze pre to post session changes in symptoms. The findings will be associated with clinical characteristics of the service members.
Population Studied	Active duty service members in music therapy treatment at Intrepid Spirit Fort Belvoir and the National Intrepid Center of Excellence; N=100
Treatment	Music Therapy standalone; Results will include a year's worth of evaluations, inclusive of July 1, 2016, through August 31, 2017.
Study Design	One group pretest posttest design.
Methods and Measures	During the past year, service members were asked to fill out the symptom assessment form at the start and end of the music therapy session. At this time, data on approximately 200 service members has been gathered. The research team will use paired t-tests to analyze pre- to post session changes in symptoms and will correlate changes in symptoms to clinical characteristics of the service members. Measures: Symptom Assessment Form included in the NEA Evaluation Toolkit.
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Status or Citation	Manuscript in progress.
Weblink	

Authors/ Research Team	Vaudreuil, R., Biondo, J., & Bradt, J. (2019) Rebecca Vaudreuil, Jacelyn Biondo, Joke Bradt
Study Name	Group Music Therapy with Active-Duty Service Members: Protocol, Evaluation, and Multi-Site Replication
Abstract	Based on the growing need for music therapy programming at military treatment facilities and clinics that specialize in rehabilitation of service members recovering from service- related injuries, this article describes a clinical music therapy group protocol and the findings of 201 post-session evaluations. In addition, we present clinical perspectives and recommendations of three music therapists who have facilitated this group protocol on military bases across the United States. The protocol is intended for an introductory music therapy session and, as such, introduces service members to various music therapy experiences, offers psychoeducation about the role of music therapy in their interdisciplinary care, and functions as an initial assessment of service members' responses to various receptive and interactive music experiences. The post-session evaluation data suggest that service members perceived the session as moderately to very helpful. Perceived benefits included the opportunity to express various emotions through music and increased awareness of somatic responses to music. A large number of requests for follow-up music therapy services following the introductory session suggest that the protocol is successful in facilitating understanding in service members regarding the potential treatment benefits of music therapy. Feedback from the music therapists indicated that the group protocol is a helpful initial experience for service members to acclimate to music therapy, and for music therapists to learn about their patients' specific needs – individually and in a group context.
Population Studied	Active duty service members in music therapy treatment at NICoE; N=201
Treatment	Music Therapy standalone; Each patient receives this session once. The authors will show a year's worth of evaluations inclusive of January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2016.
Study Design	Program evaluation.
Methods and Measures	 Session evaluation data from 201 service members will be analyzed. Descriptive statistics will be used to create summaries of impact in areas specified on the form. In addition, feedback from three clinicians who currently use the group protocol and the associated evaluation tool will be summarized. Based on evaluation data and clinician feedback, recommendations will be made for use of the protocol and evaluation form in military health settings. Measures: The Introduction to Music Therapy Group Session form, a self-report form included in the NEA evaluation toolkit.
Status or Citation	Submitted for publication.
Weblink	

Authors/ Research Team	Vaudreuil, R., Bronson, H., & Bradt, J. (2019) Rebecca Vaudreuil, Hannah Bronson, Joke Bradt
Study Name	Bridging the Clinic to Community: Music Performance as Social Transformation for Military Service Members
Abstract	The use of musical performance in music therapy with active duty military service members is discussed as a vehicle for social transformation and re-integration. The use of musical performance in music therapy is not without controversy. Therapy is considered a process, not a product, and essential components of this therapeutic process are confidentiality and privacy. However, others have argued that public performances can validate therapeutic changes in clients, give voice to clients' experiences, raise awareness of social issues within their community, transform perceptions of disability or illness in audience members, and provide opportunities to receive support and validation from the community. We discuss the potential of musical performances to contribute to individual development and rehabilitation in active duty service members as well as facilitate change at the community level. We illustrate this through three brief case reports of active duty service members who received music therapy services at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence on base at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in the USA as part of their treatment of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Traumatic Brain Injury, and other psychological health concerns. The service members selected, learned and refined songs over multiple music therapy sessions, created introductions to each song to share with the audience the meaning of each song and the benefits gained from working with these songs in therapy. The case reports also include excerpts of interviews conducted with these service members several months following their performances about their experiences of the performance themselves and the perceived impact on the community.
Population Studied	Active duty service members in music therapy treatment at NICoE; N=2
Treatment	Music Therapy standalone; at least two sessions with each patient.
Study Design	Case Report: Qualitative Research Study
Methods and Measures	Patient reports of song selection, symbolism, and performance experiences to enhance understanding of the impact of performance integrated into music therapy sessions and service member preparation for and participation in NICoE Creative Arts Cafe.Measures: Clinical commentary, patient interviews, documentation, performance observation
Status or Citation	The manuscript is under review in a scholarly journal.
Weblink	

Authors/ Research Team	Vaudreuil, R., Langston, D., O'Malley, A. M., Kass, S., Levy, C., & Magee, W. (2019) Rebecca Vaudreuil, Diane Langston., Ann Marie O'Malley, Sara Kass, Chuck Levy, Wendy Magee
Study Name	Implementing Music Therapy through Telehealth: Considerations for Military Populations (working title)
Abstract	This paper explores the field of telehealth, as implemented to facilitate the delivery of music therapy. Research regarding the use of telehealth in creative arts programming is predominantly focused on art and dance movement therapies and includes little information about music therapy and telehealth. This paper addresses the integration of telehealth technology in music therapy through the use of telehealth with other creative arts therapies. This paper reviews past and present utilization of clinical music therapy telehealth practices with military populations and informs discussion for future considerations of music therapy as an integrated part of creative arts therapies telehealth practices on a clinical to community continuum.
Population Studied	Veterans who transferred from the National Intrepid Center of Excellence and are in treatment through the Malcom Randall VA in Gainesville, FL.
Treatment	Music therapy; telehealth; individual and group sessions.
Study Design	Clinical practice paper with a focus on program development and program examples
Methods and Measures	Clinical observations, program review, program design, documentation, participant testimonials
Status or Citation	Manuscript in progress.
Weblink	

Vaudreuil, R., Nordstrom, M., Margulies, E., & Pasquina, P. (2019) Rebecca Vaudreuil, Michelle Nordstorm, Erick Margulies, Paul Pasquina
A Case Study Exploring the Intersection of Occupational Therapy, Music Therapy and Biofeedback for Treatment of Posttraumatic Stress
This paper investigates intervention implementation and co-treatment of Occupational Therapy, Animal-Assisted Therapy, and Music Therapy focusing on emotional regulation while following a patient who utilizes the emWave during therapy sessions.
Note: This paper is not based on the Creative Forces initiative and will be published by an Occupational Therapy Researcher at WRNMMC; however, a Creative Forces Music Therapist worked on this paper and makes mention of Creative Forces in the manuscript.
Case Study; N=1
Music Therapy; Integrated (Occupational Therapy, Music Therapy, Animal Assisted Therapy)
Case Study
Clinical co-treatment (OT/Music therapy), clinical notes/documentation, emWave frequency readings
Measures: Clinical documentation, heart rate variability readings
The study is complete, and the paper is currently in the editing process at WRNMMC.
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CREATIVE FORCES Therapeutic/Expressive Writing Published Research January 2019

Authors/ Research Team	Landless, B. M., Walker, M. S., & Kaimal, G. (2018) Bronwen M. Landless, Melissa S. Walker, Girija Kaimal
Study Name	Using Human and Computer-Based text Analysis of Clinical Notes to Understand Military Service Members' Experiences with Therapeutic Writing
Abstract	Background: Therapeutic writing interventions have been shown to improve both physical health and emotional well-being. This brief report examines the usefulness of clinical notes as a data source and presents two different analyses of individual clinical notes of therapeutic writing group sessions: analysis performed by a person and analysis by a computer-based program (Pennebaker, Booth, Boyd & Francis, 2015). The therapeutic writing sessions were offered during the second week of treatment at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE) as part of an integrative care model for service members (SMs) with traumatic brain injury and underlying psychological concerns to include post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Method: The apeutic writing sessions were facilitated in the art therapy studio at the NICoE. The sessions were documented in the military healthcare system's patient record application by the art therapist and art therapy interns at the NICoE. Clinical notes were informed by SM self-report surveys and clinician observations. Notes from May 2012 to 2015 and were pulled and coded manually for emerging themes, then separately analyzed by a computer software text content analysis program (Pennebaker et al., 2015). Results: Overall, SMs reported more positive than negative, neutral, or mixed emotions during and after the therapeutic writing process, and many described experiencing relief during and after sessions. SMs wrote on a wide range of topics. Most SMs kept their writing pieces, although some destroyed them or shared them with others, and a few SMs gifted the pieces. Computerized-based analysis (Pennebaker et al., 2015) indicated that work and social were the most prominent content theme areas. It also showed that positive emotions were more evident than negative emotions in the clinical notes and that the focus of the notes was primarily on the present rather than on the past or the future. Implications: Many SMs perceived the therapeutic writing experience as therapeutic, a relevant coping
Population Studied	Service members with posttraumatic stress disorder and/or traumatic brain injuries at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE); N=200
Treatment	Therapeutic/Expressive Writing; Integrated medicine; Standalone treatment. Therapeutic writing sessions were implemented and documented by the art therapist and art therapy interns at the NICoE.
Study Design	Qualitative (thematic analysis)
Methods and Measures	Methods: See above. Measures: Clinical notes, tallies of qualitative themes generated through LIWC
Status or Citation	Landless, B. M., Walker, M. S., & Kaimal, G. (2018). Using human and computer-based text analysis of clinical notes to understand military service members' experiences with therapeutic writing. <i>The Arts in Psychotherapy</i> . Advance online publication. doi: 10.1016/j.aip.2018.10.002 (Impact factor = 1.4)
Weblink	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aip.2018.10.002