



Women Veteran Focus Group



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- VA/DoD HEC WHWG sponsored a focus group of women Veterans at the 2017 Women Veteran Summit in Houston, TX
 - 20 women Veterans from the Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Navy and the Reserve participated
 - This purpose of the focus group was to gain insight into their health care needs as they transitioned from the military into Veteran status



Women Veteran Focus Group



- Major Findings

- Overwhelmingly the women Veterans did not know about the health care benefits and services VA offers
- They requested more assistance with the transition and translating their DoD health care to VA health care
- They recommended that TAP include a session dedicated to women's health at the VA



Women's Health Workshop for Transitioning Servicewomen



- VA and Airforce have created a women's health (WH) workshop for Active Duty Servicewomen prior to transition.
- Training outcomes of the WH workshop include:
 - Participants will be able to advocate for their own health care once they separate from the military
 - Participants will be able to see a place for themselves at the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) for their health care needs
 - Participants will consider VHA as a viable option for health care and know what services may be available to them
 - Participants will know how to enroll in VHA services
 - Participants will understand how some of the challenge with reintegration, and know which services VHA has to offer them
- The goal of the WH workshop is to increase awareness of gender specific services offered at VA and facilitate the timely enrollment and utilization of VA Health Care among recently transitioned servicewomen



Women's Health Workshop for Transitioning Servicewomen



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- **S.M.A.R.T. Goals Discussion:** Increase the rate of Active Duty Servicewomen who enroll in VA health care by 50% within 6 months of separation of military at sites completing the WH workshop program by Q4 FY19.
 - Risks
 - Enrollment: Will Servicewomen prioritize this activity and enroll voluntarily and be given protect time to attend by the service?



Women's Health Workshop for Transitioning Servicewomen



- Progress thus far
 - The WH workshop curriculum has been developed and has been presented to subject matter experts from the VA, DoD, and Air Force and to active duty servicewomen at two feedback sessions (Pentagon and Andrews AFB).
 - Participants in the feedback session rated course very highly in all aspects
 - Participants increased their 1) perception of VA being able to provide their health care needs, 2) likelihood of enrolling in VA health care and 3) information on how to enroll in VA health care
 - The TAP Interagency Workgroup has approved piloting this program
 - The curriculum committee of the TAP Interagency Workgroup has reviewed content and has no objections for full piloting
 - Five sites have agreed to participate in the pilot and they include MacDill AFB (Tampa, FL), Scott AFB (Belleville, IL), Joint Base Lewis-McCord (Tacoma, WA), Andrews AFB (NCR), Hill AFB (Ogden, UT)



Next Steps

- **Next Steps/Way Forward**

- Get final approval from the TAP Senior Steering Group
- Award contract for WH Workshop Implementation
- Rollout Women's Health Workshop to 5 pilot sites
 - Need at least 500 participants to show the effect of the training on the women Veteran population
 - Develop Pilot Evaluation Plan to track outcomes and improve quality of course

- **Points of Contact –**

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