WELLNESS: Research on Deployed Women's Health Issues

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Objectives

- Role of the Tri-Service Nursing Research Program (TSNRP) Women's Health Research Interest Group (WHRIG)
- Future Direction of the WHRIG
- Current Literature in Women's Health
- Future Research Ideas
- How to Get Involved

Military Women's Health Research Interest Group

TriService Nursing Research Program

LTC Lori Trego, CAPT Jacque Rychnovsky,
LTC Nancy Steele, Lt Col Candy Wilson

Research Interest Groups

Teams of military nurse scientists with mutual interests who are dedicated to establish and mature a salient program of research that aligns with a research priority of TSNRP

Purposes

- Facilitate scholarly interchange
- Nurture and support collaborative programs of military nursing research (TSNRP priorities)
- Produce research that narrows or closes validated research gaps and informs clinical practice

Focus Areas

- Form teams of nurse scientists with mutual interests
- Identify and validate research gaps in focused areas of interest
- Develop a research agenda for an area of interest
- Foster the conduct of research

Focus Areas, continued

- Develop an evidence base for an area of interest
- Produce programs of research to narrow or close gaps
- Increase visibility/awareness of special interest area
- Advance scholarship in areas of military nursing research

Military Women's Health Research Interest Group

The Women's Health Research Interest Group (WHRIG) was created several years ago by a group of military women's healthcare providers with the passion to improve the care of women who serve in the United States military.

Military Women's Health Research Interest Group

Women are serving in complex occupational specialties that sustain national policy and ensure combat effectiveness of our forces. The complexity of military jobs and increased deployments to combat operations has led to increased occupational and health risks for women.

The MWHRIG is aligning researchers with shared interests.

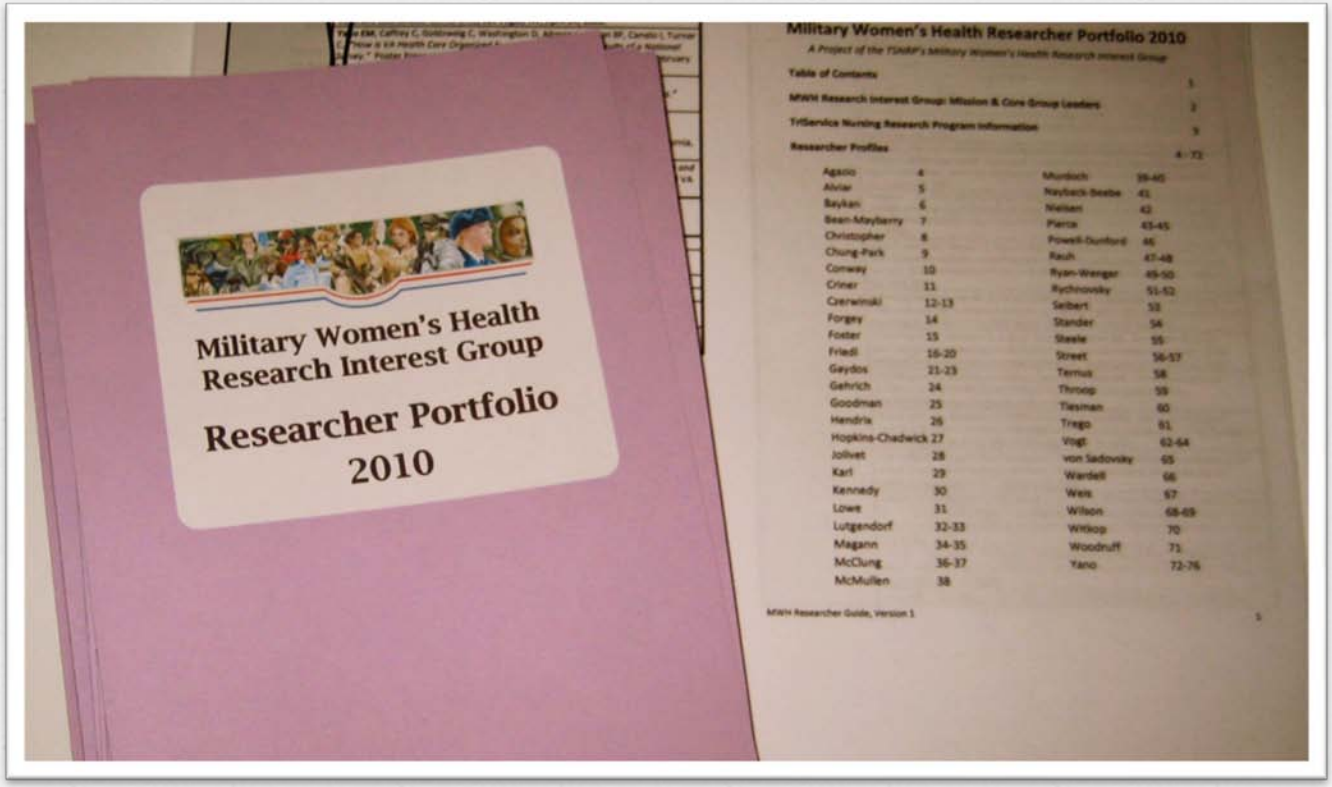
- Teleconferences (with call & notes)
- In-person team meetings
- Facebook and TSNRP website
- Researcher guide
- Reaching out to others in the field
- Mentoring

Military Women's Health Researcher Response Form

Military Women's Health Research Portfolio: A Project of the TriService Nursing Research Program Women's Health Research Interest Group

Researcher's Name (please include all titles)	
Current Affiliation/s (military branch and/or institution, company)	
E-mail Address	
Office Phone Number	
Military Women's Health Publications	

MWH Researcher Guide



MWH Facebook Page

Military Women's Health Facebook Page

facebook Search Military Women's Health Res...

Military Women's Health R... Timeline Now Highlights Admi

Now
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2012
2011
Joine

Military Women's Health Research Interest Group shared a link.
March 1

March is National Nutrition Month! We are excited to feature some of our portfolio researchers this month who are engaging in important work in military women's nutrition.

Today, we're proud to spotlight Dr. James McClung (nutrition biologist at the US Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine) and his research in nutrition, iron status, bone health, Vitamin D, stress fracture, menstrual cycle function, physical activity, and basic combat training.

Check out this abstract of his paper "Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of iron supplementation in female soldiers during military training: effects on iron status, physical performance, and mood."

Interested in networking/collaborating on nutrition work? Send us a message - we'd love to help connect you!

Randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled ... [Am J Clin Nutr. 2009] - PubMed - NCBI
www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

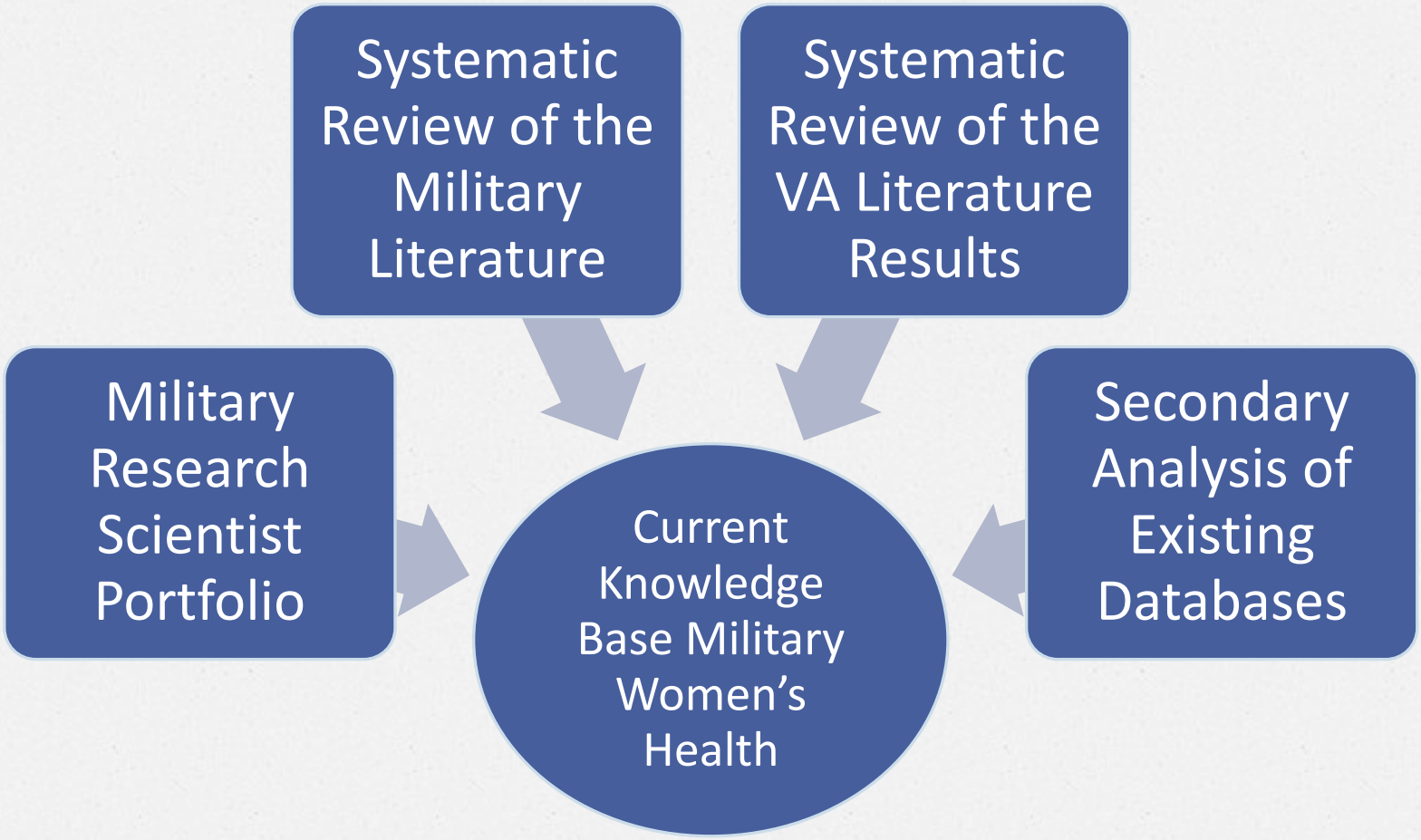
PubMed comprises more than 21 million citations for biomedical literature from MEDLINE, life science journals, and online books. Citations may include links to full-text content from PubMed Central and publisher web sites.

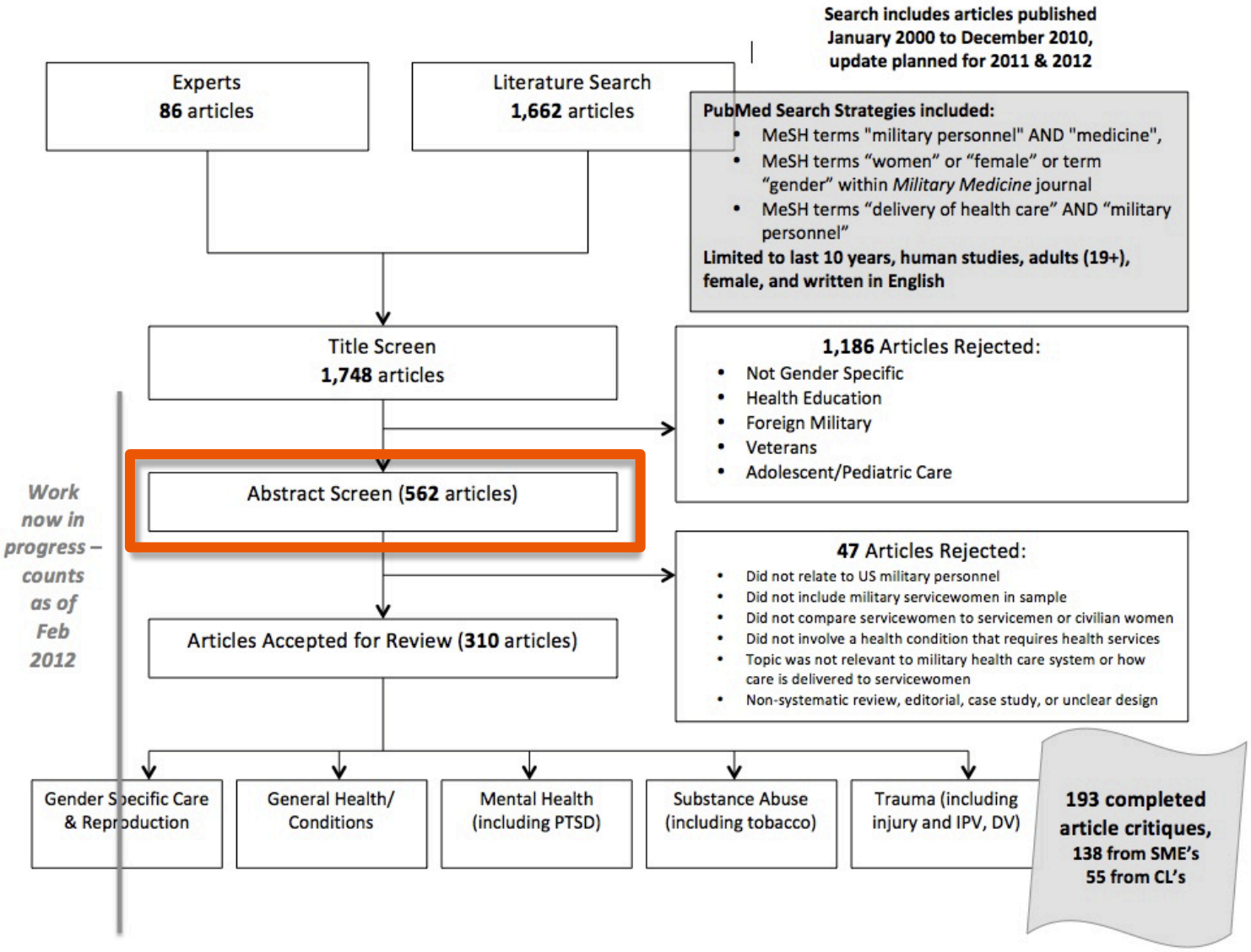
Like · Comment · Share

The MWHRIG is exploring the state of the science.

- Systematic reviews of the literature
- Set up an e-mail alert for new PubMed hits
- Looking at VA & civilian literature
- Utilization data
- Other relevant databases
- Identifying gaps to create topical research agendas

MWH's State of the Science




Search includes articles published January 2000 to December 2010, update planned for 2011 & 2012
Experts
86 articles
Literature Search
1,662 articles
PubMed Search Strategies included:
MeSH terms "military personnel" AND "medicine",
MeSH terms "women" or "female" or term "gender" within Military Medicine journal
MeSH terms "delivery of health care" AND "military personnel"
Limited to last 10 years, human studies, adults (19+), female, and written in English
Title Screen
1,748 articles
1,186 Articles Rejected:
Not Gender Specific
Health Education
Foreign Military
Veterans
Adolescent/Pediatric Care
Work now in progress – counts as of Feb 2012
Abstract Screen (562 articles)
47 Articles Rejected:
Did not relate to US military personnel
Did not include military servicewomen in sample
Did not compare servicewomen to servicemen or civilian women
Did not involve a health condition that requires health services
Topic was not relevant to military health care system or how care is delivered to servicewomen
Non-systematic review, editorial, case study, or unclear design
Articles Accepted for Review (310 articles)
Gender Specific Care & Reproduction
General Health/ Conditions
Mental Health (including PTSD)
Substance Abuse (including tobacco)
Trauma (including injury and IPV, DV)
193 completed article critiques,
138 from SME's
55 from CL's

Article #:
Reviewer:
Date: October 13, 2011
Author:
Title:

1. Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria:

A. Study relates to US military personnel:

Yes **No -> STOP**

Service, if known:

Army	Yes	No
Navy	Yes	No
Air Force	Yes	No
Marines	Yes	No
Coast Guard	Yes	No

B. Study includes women service members, compares men & women service members, compares military women with civilian women, or analyzes women separately

Yes **No -> STOP**

C. Study involves active duty/reservist/NG military eligible for healthcare in the MHS, and involves a health condition

Systematic Review of Military Women's Health Research: Abstract Screener

3. Setting of Research: Choose all that apply

Unknown
Not Applicable

Treatment Facility Setting:

Military Treatment Facility
Civilian Facility
Multi-site study

Deployment Setting (if applicable):

OEF/OIF
Bosnia
Persian Gulf/Gulf War
Vietnam
Not Specified
Other, Specify _____

Other Setting:

Field exercise/training
Workplace
Fleet
Other, Specify

5. Types of condition (s): Choose all that apply

Not applicable

Gender Specific Reproductive Care

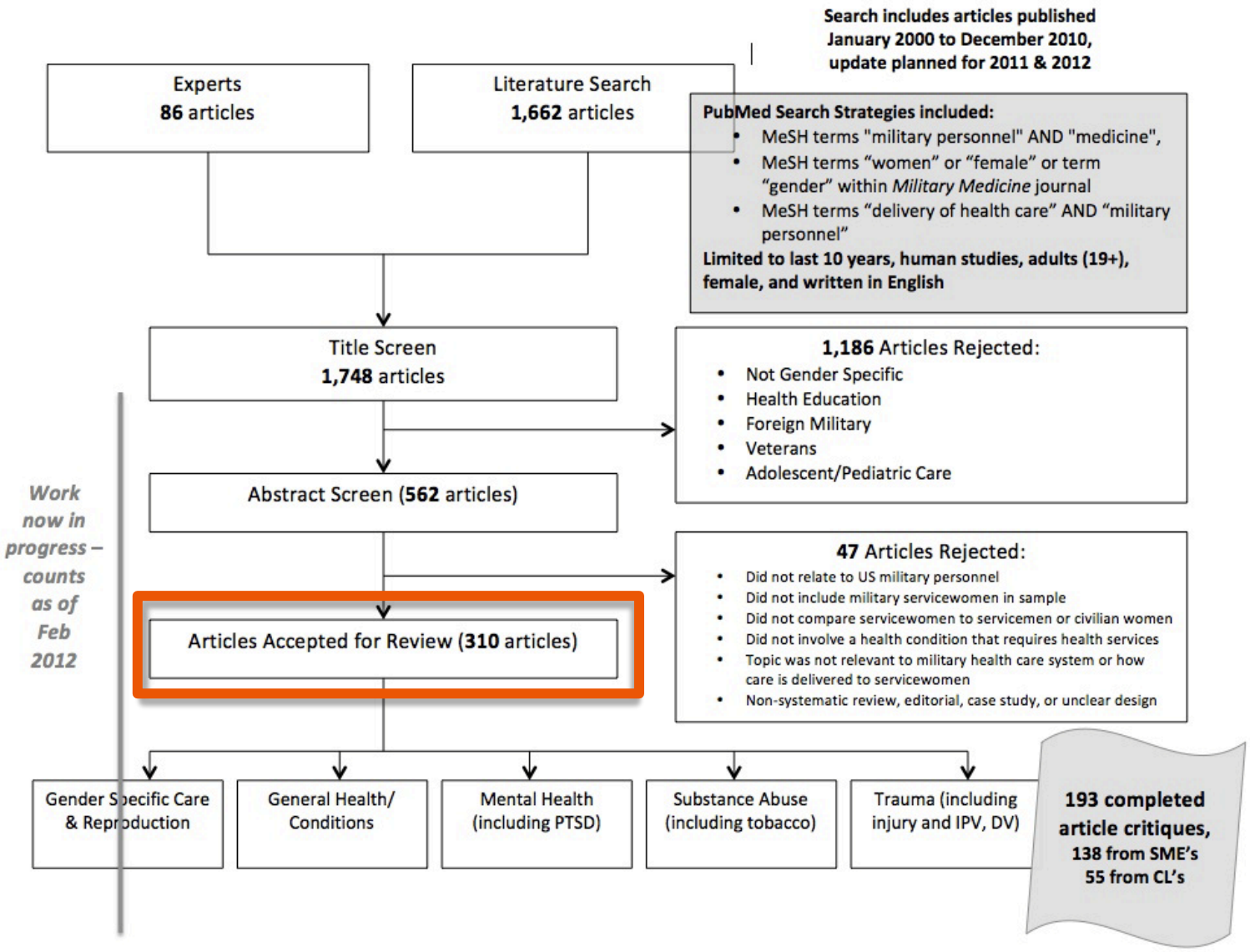
Breast Health
Cancers of the reproductive tract
Genitourinary
STD / STI
Obstetrical
Contraceptive care
Fertility
Menstrual cycle disorders
Menopause

General Conditions

Bone, joint, rheumatic
Cardiovascular disease
Endocrinology/thyroid
Gastrointestinal
Neurological (includes stroke)
Obesity
Other, specify _____

Psychiatric

Mood disorders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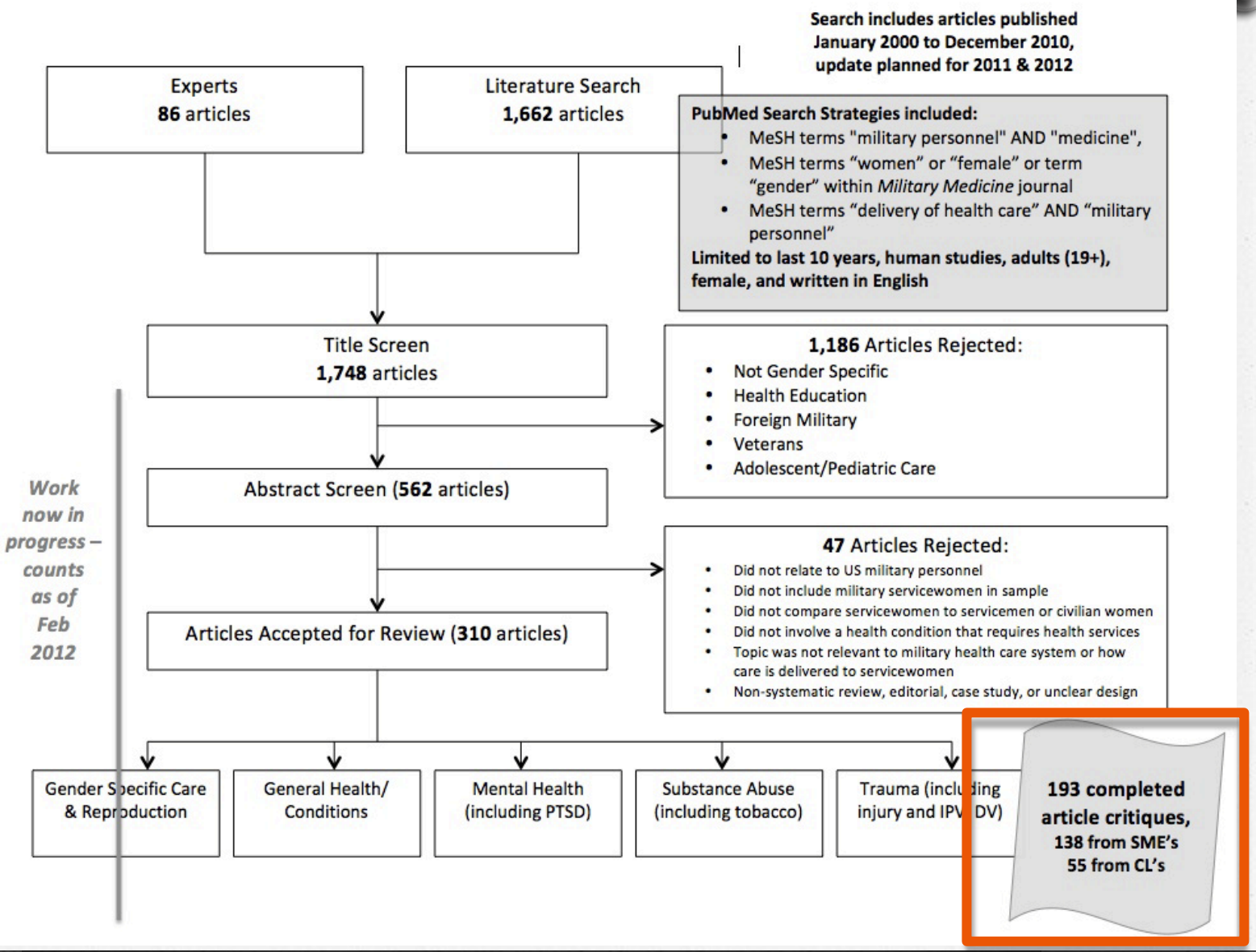
Article ID #: 104
Reviewer: Trego

Military Women's Health Research Critique Form

First Author	Albright	
Article Citation	Military Medicine, 172(5), 507-510.	
Brief Title	Utility of ultrasound in the combat theater: experiences of a gynecologist during OIF/OEF	
Study Question		
Study Design *(descriptive, experimental, etc.)*		
Sample	What was the sample size?	
	Is the sample patients or non-patients?	
	If patients, what was the male/female count?	
	What was the sampling method?	
	What was the response rate (if applicable)?	
Data Collection *What were the data collection strategies?*		
Findings *What were the results of the study?*		
Limitations *What does the author state as limitations?*		
Hierarchy of Evidence Rating System	☐ I	Evidence from a systematic review or meta-analysis of all relevant randomized controlled trials, or evidence-based clinical practice guidelines based on systematic reviews of RCT's — Strongest ↑
	☐ II	Evidence obtained from at least one well-designed RCT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VA's Literature Repository

Current Papers

- Wilson, C & Brothers, MD. (2010). Iron Deficiency in Women and Its Potential Impact on Military Effectiveness. *Nursing Clinics of North America, 45,* 95-108.

Current Papers

- Wilson, C, McClung, JP, Karl, JP, & Brother, MD (2011). Iron Status of Military Personnel Deployed to Afghanistan, *Military Medicine, 176,* 1421-1425

Current Papers

- Journal of Obstetric, Gynecologic & Neonatal Nursing (JOGNN) Editorial Series Mar/Apr 2012 dedicated to military authors.
  - Two papers on deployed women's health care.
  - Two papers on obstetric care in Military Treatment Facilities

Current Research

- Ryan-Wenger, Lowe, Wilson completing a TriService study looking at the education intervention for a self-diagnosis kit for common genitourinary symptoms.
- Wilson, Corrigan, Nelson, Reese, Almonte interviewing enlisted medical health care providers about caring for women in deployed settings.

The MWHRIG is proposing and carrying out new research.

Women's Health Intervention & FUD Studies

Pre-deployment Intervention

Feminine Hygiene Deployment Toolkit: "Just in Case" baggie, "Keep it Clean" baggie, and the Freshette

30 min hands-on with toolkit, models, & various types of menstrual cycle control methods.

Q&A with NP

Women are provided with device and teaching at pre-deployment brief

Collecting data on satisfaction with device, feasibility of use

The MWHRIG provides information for decision-makers.

- Resource for military briefs
- Deployed a subject matter expert in Deployed Women's Health
- Research Scientist on Army TSG Women's Health Task Force
- Working with the Veterans Administration
- Presented at Women's Research and Education Institute and National Training Summit on Women Veterans
- Working on an online repository
- TSNRP Newsletter articles

“I’d like to get involved!”

- “Like” our “Military Women’s Health Research Interest Group” on Facebook
- Request Military Women’s Health Researcher Guide

Military Women’s Health Researchers & Clinicians . . .

- Submit your profile for next edition of our researcher guide
- Be a subject matter expert reviewer

Wrap-up

- The Role of TSNRP Women's Health Research Interest Group (WHRIG)
- WHRIG Future Direction
- Current Literature in Women's Health by a Military Researcher
- Future Research Ideas
- How to Get Involved

Thank you for the
opportunity to join
you today!