Research Workgroup
Take-Homes
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Evidence for Added Value of Whole Person Measurements in Clinical Research</td>
<td>No reviews, but individual studies were identified that demonstrate added value of whole person measurements</td>
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<tr>
<td>How Commonly Whole Person Concepts are Addressed in Clinical Research</td>
<td>Infrequent use and used inconsistently across research topics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barriers and Facilitators to Use of Whole Person Measurements</td>
<td>No published reviews, but barriers and facilitators were discussed in many articles on use of measures</td>
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Background Review/Evidence Inventory

Very complicated to evaluate state of knowledge

Whole person measures is a very broad concept

Lack of shared terminology - Same concept but different names/different disciplines use different terms for concepts

Discussion about value of shifting from talking about whole person measures to talking about a “whole person measurement strategy”

We can't understand the whole person through any one measure, each measure addresses different aspects/dimension of the whole person.

If researchers apply a strategy of ensuring they systematically review and integrate measures of non-symptom factors (ideally that reflect domains of what matters for research participants in specific populations), then this can provide valuable insight into the whole person.
What Additional Research is Needed on Whole Person Measurements?

Evidence-Synthesis

- More targeted concepts than whole person measures
- Focus on what is known about use, added benefit, and barriers and facilitators
- Extent to which findings differ for at-risk/marginalized veteran populations

Research on Veteran perspective/unique concerns for at-risk/vulnerable populations

- Focus groups with Veterans about what matters to them
- Address changes over life span and during life transitions (e.g., military separation)

Test interventions to improve whole person/well-being outcomes
What Additional Research is Needed on Whole Person Measurements?

Examine whole person measurements as predictors, moderators, and mediators, as they relate to symptom/condition measures

- Predictors of mortality above and beyond symptom/condition-based measures
- Moderators of effectiveness of treatment
- Mediators of treatment impacts on symptom/condition-based measures

Examine sensitivity to change of these measures for treatment-outcomes context

Observational research examining temporal change in relationship between symptom-based measures and whole person measurements/functioning measures
What Can be Done to Encourage Research on Whole Person Measurements?

• Repository of relevant measures and articles
• METRIC-like center that provides resources on whole person measurement
  • Could include the repository
• RFAs focused on whole person measurement
• All RFAs/VA ORD policy encourage use and reporting of whole person measurements in research
• Education on these types of measures and their value in VA research training programs
Guiding Principles in Selecting Measures?

• Use a theoretical framework to select outcome
• Take a whole person measurement strategy to ensure all relevant dimensions of whole person are measured
• Consider what matters most to veterans in context of research question
• Consider relevance of measure to marginalized/at-risk veteran populations
• Use validated measures
• Identify benchmark for clinical significance
• Report whole person measurement findings in conjunction with symptoms/condition measures to better contextualize findings