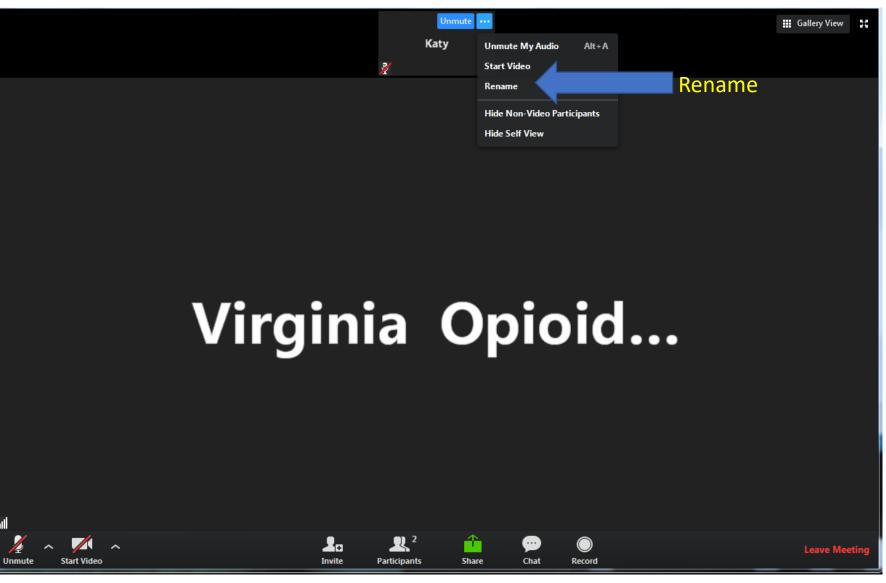


Virginia Opioid Addiction ECHO* Clinic March 18, 2022

*ECHO: Extension of Community Healthcare Outcomes



Helpful Reminders

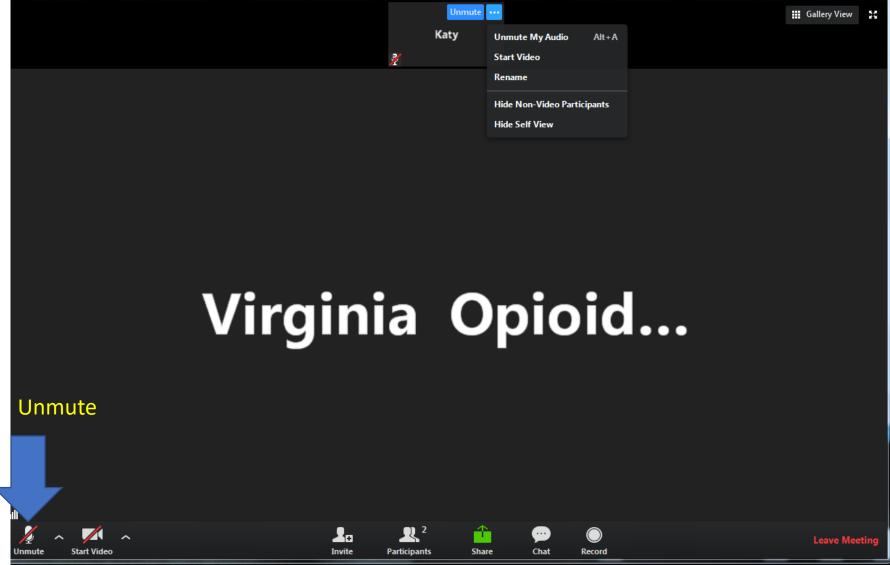




 Rename your Zoom screen, with your name and organization



Helpful Reminders

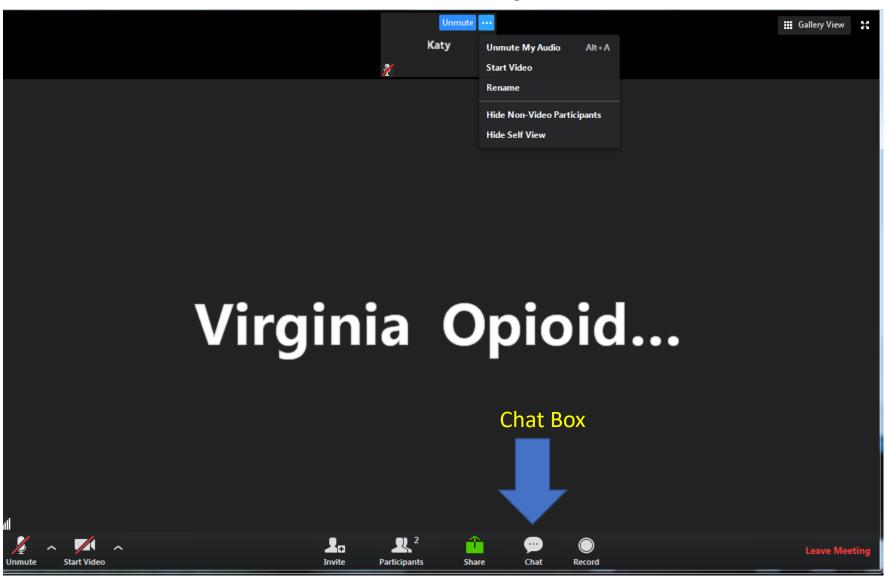




- You are all on mute please unmute to talk
- If joining by telephone audio only, *6 to mute and unmute



Helpful Reminders





- Please type your full name and organization into the chat box
- Use the chat function to speak with IT or ask questions



VCU Opioid Addiction ECHO Clinics











- Bi-Weekly 1 hour tele-ECHO Clinics
- Every tele-ECHO clinic includes a 30 minute didactic presentation followed by case discussions
- Didactic presentations are developed and delivered by inter-professional experts
- Website Link: <u>www.vcuhealth.org/echo</u>



Hub and Participant Introductions



VCU Team	
Clinical Director	Gerard Moeller, MD
Administrative Medical Director ECHO Hub	Vimal Mishra, MD, MMCi
Clinical Experts	Lori Keyser-Marcus, PhD Courtney Holmes, PhD Albert Arias, MD Megan Lemay, MD Katie Adams, PharmD
Didactic Presentation	Sarah Meshberg-Cohen, PhD
Program Manager	Bhakti Dave, MPH
Acute Telehealth Manager	Tamera Barnes, MD
IT Support	Vladimir Lavrentyev, MBA

- Name
- Organization

Reminder: Mute and Unmute screen to talk

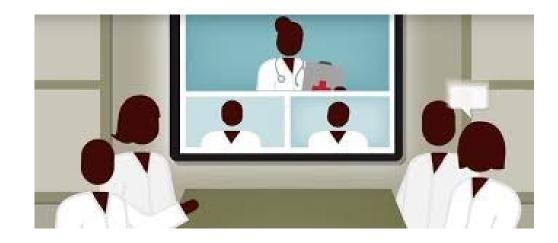
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Use chat function for Introduction



What to Expect



- I. Didactic Presentation
 - I. Sarah Meshberg-Cohen, PhD
- II. Case presentations
 - I. Case 1
 - I. Case summary
 - II. Clarifying questions
 - III. Recommendations
- III. Closing and questions



Lets get started!
Didactic Presentation









Bringing Evidence-Based Trauma Care into Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment

Sarah Meshberg-Cohen, PhD
VA CT Healthcare System, Department of Psychiatry, Yale School of Medicine

Conflicts of Interest & Support

No conflicts of interest to declare

Outline

- SUD & Trauma Comorbidity
- Treatment
- Current Research
- Written Exposure Therapy (WET)

Polling Question

- How many people have treated PTSD and SUD concurrently in their programs?
- How many people have provided either:
 - Cognitive Processing Therapy?
 - Prolonged Exposure?
 - Written Exposure Therapy?



DSM-5: Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)

- Exposure to actual or threatened death, serious injury, or sexual violence
- Intrusive Symptoms
- Persistent Avoidance of Reminders
- Negative Alterations in Cognition and Mood
- Arousal and Reactivity Symptoms
- PTSD (30 days)



Comorbid PTSD and SUD

- ➤ High rates of trauma exposure and PTSD among individuals with SUD
- ➤ Worse mental and physical health, including high rates of suicide and higher rates of return to use
- Among OEF/OIF veterans seeking VHA services as many as 63% of those diagnosed with a SUD also had a PTSD diagnosis ¹
- Significant rates of trauma among individuals with OUD (33%-41% with PTSD)²

¹Seal,, et al., Substance use disorders in Iraq and Afghanistan veterans in VA healthcare, 2001-2010: Implications for screening, diagnosis and treatment. Drug Alcohol Depend, 2011. 116(1-3): p. 93-101.

²Meshberg-Cohen, MacLean, Martin, Sofuoglu, Petrakis. Treatment outcomes in individuals diagnosed with comorbid opioid use disorder and posttraumatic stress disorder; A review et al. (2021). Addictive Behaviors. 107026.

Possible Pathways

- Drugs and alcohol may be used to self-medicate to avoid trauma reminders and related distress
- Lifestyle of someone with substance problems may predispose them to endure traumatic events^{1,2}
- Genetic influences may contribute to this high comorbidity³

¹Hien et al. Do treatment improvements in PTSD severity affect substance use outcomes? A secondary analysis from a randomized clinical trial in NIDA's Clinical Trials Network. *Am J Psychiatry*. 2010;167(1):95-101.

²Jacobsen et al. Substance use disorders in patients with posttraumatic stress disorder: a review of the literature. *Am J Psychiatry*. 2001;158(8):1184-1190.

³Xian H et al. Genetic and environmental influences on posttraumatic stress disorder, alcohol and drug dependence in twin pairs. Drug Alcohol Depend. 2000;61(1):95-102.

PTSD Treatment with SUD Populations

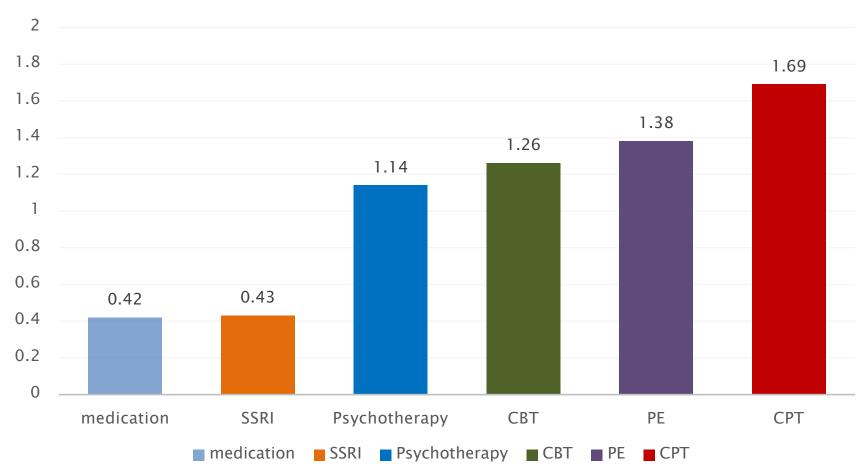
- Evidence that trauma treatments not only treat PTSD but may even improve SUD <u>treatment retention</u> and <u>substance use outcomes</u>.
- Only a small percentage of veterans receive an adequate dose of evidence-based psychotherapy (EBP) for PTSD due to low treatment engagement and high dropout.

Treatment of PTSD

- Psychotherapy seen as first-line treatment
- Focus is generally on the disseminated therapies, prolonged exposure (PE) and cognitive processing therapy (CPT)
- Also included in CPG: specific CBTs for PTSD, BEP, EMDR, Narrative Exposure Therapy

Watts et al., (2013). Meta-analysis of the efficacy of treatments for posttraumatic stress disorder. *The Journal of clinical psychiatry*, 74(6), 0-0.

Effects of treatment on PTSD severity



Jessica Hamblen, PhD (2017): The 2017 Revised Clinical Practice Guideline for PTSD: Recommendations for Psychotherapy **Slide shown in training

Barriers within SUD Clinics

- Several factors interfere with adequate access and engagement within SUD programs
- Length of protocol (e.g., 90 minute, 8-15 PE sessions, 60 minute, 12 CPT sessions)
- Sufficient training and experience among SUD providers
- Ability to provide these treatments:
 - heavy caseloads, administrative workload, and preparation time for these EBPs

Dissemination Barriers

- Medical records of OEF/OIF veterans with PTSD (n=255,968): 20% received at least one CPT or PE session, (average of 7.8 sessions)¹
- Utilization of EBPs by VA providers, clinicians reported providing relatively few hours of CPT or PE per week²
- Among veterans with and without comorbid AUD (49.3% AUD), patients attended an average of 8-9 CPT sessions, with 47% attending the full 12 CPT session³
 - No differences in completion rates between those with AUD

¹Maguen et al. (2018) Measuring Use of Evidence Based Psychotherapy for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder in a Large National Healthcare System. Adm Policy Ment Health, 45(4): p. 519-529.

²Finley et al. (2015). Utilization of evidence-based psychotherapies in Veterans Affairs posttraumatic stress disorder outpatient clinics. 12(1):73.

³Kaysen, et al. (2014), Cognitive processing therapy for veterans with comorbid PTSD and alcohol use disorders. Addict Behav, 39(2): p. 420-427.

It is imperative that we find trauma interventions that individuals can engage in during SUD treatment that can also be easily disseminated by addiction providers who might not necessarily specialize in PTSD

Impact on Buprenorphine Maintenance Retention

- Of 140 records examined, 67 (47.9%) had a PTSD diagnosis, but *only 21 (31.3%) were referred to trauma-focused treatment*
- Among those receiving PTSD treatment, 90.5% were on buprenorphine at 6-months compared to only 23.9% of those without PTSD treatment (*p*<.0001)
- As a comparator, among those without PTSD, 46.6% were retained in buprenorphine treatment

¹Meshberg-Cohen S, Black AC, DeViva JC, Petrakis IL, Rosen MI (2019). Trauma treatment for veterans in buprenorphine maintenance treatment for opioid use disorder. *Addictive Behaviors*, 89, 29-34.

Expressive Writing for Women in Residential SUD Treatment

- Women in SUD treatment (N=149) were randomized to either expressive writing (n=82) or a neutral topic (n=67)
- ▶ 94.6% completed all writing sessions
- Expressive writing participants had greater reductions in post-traumatic symptom severity and depression, when compared to control writing participants at 2-week follow-up¹

What can we do?

Increasing access to PTSD treatment by providing brief interventions in SUD settings is a good way to increase the number of people who get trauma treatment.

Written Exposure Therapy (WET) to Improve Outcomes among Veterans with Co-occurring PTSD and SUD

- Written Exposure Therapy (WET):
 - 5-session intervention effectively treats PTSD
 - Very little research looking at comorbid SUD and PTSD
- WET has several advantages over traditional therapies
 - 5 sessions vs 12 sessions
 - Lower dropout rates (31.7% CPT vs 6.3% WET)⁴
 - Minimal therapist training requirements
 - No outside assignments

⁴ Sloan, DM, BP Marx, DJ Lee, et al., *A Brief Exposure-Based Treatment vs Cognitive Processing Therapy for Posttraumatic Stress Disorder: A Randomized Noninferiority Clinical Trial.* JAMA Psychiatry, 2018. 75(3): p. 233-239.

Written Exposure Therapy (WET) to Improve Outcomes among Veterans with Co-occurring PTSD and SUD

- PTSD is common among those presenting with SUD
- Ideal for a busy outpatient SUD clinic
- High patient satisfaction
- Brief trauma treatment alongside the SUD treatment

WET Overview

Time Commitment:

- ▶ 60 mins for session 1
- ▶ 40 mins for Sessions 2-5

Measures:

- Subjective Units of Distress Scale (SUDS)
- PCL-5
- ▶ PHQ-9

Intervention:

▶ 30 min writing

- Instructions read verbatim
- Psychoeducation and introduction to WET
 - Explain what PTSD is, how it develops, and why repeatedly writing about trauma event in a particular manner is beneficial
- Psychoeducation includes a text to follow
 - Have them identify if symptoms are familiar

- SUDS
- > 30 minutes
- SUDS
- Check-in 10 mins (re: how the session went)
- Writing is left with provider
- Debrief, encourage approach (prompt reminding not to avoid)

- Review first writing session (prior to appt)
 - Evaluate whether they followed instruction
- Ask how things have gone since last session
- Provide feedback with recommendations for improving upon their writing
- Read writing instructions aloud
- Provide a copy of instructions
- SUDS
- 30 minutes allotted
- SUDS
- Check-in 10 minutes
- Debrief, encourage approach between sessions

- Review prior writing session (before appt)
 - Evaluate whether they followed instruction
- Ask how things have gone since last session
- Provide feedback with recommendations for improving upon their writing
- Read writing instructions aloud (*incorporates impact of the trauma)
- Provide a copy of instructions
- ▶ SUDS --30 minutes allotted --SUDS
- Check-in 10 minutes
- Debrief, encourage approach between sessions
- ▶ *By now, there should be a SUDS decrease

- Review prior writing session (before appt)
 - Evaluate whether they followed instruction
- Ask how things have gone since last session
- Provide feedback with recommendations for improving upon their writing
- Read writing instructions aloud (*incorporates most upsetting part –also how the trauma has impacted them)
- Provide a copy of instructions
- ▶ SUDS --30 minutes allotted --SUDS
- Check-in 10 minutes
- Debrief, encourage approach between sessions

- Review prior writing session (before appt)
- Ask how things have gone since last session
- Read writing instructions aloud (*incorporates wrap up & how experience is related to current and future)
- Provide a copy of instructions
- ▶ SUDS --30 minutes allotted --SUDS

Pilot Data: Written Exposure Therapy (WET) to Improve Outcomes among Veterans with Co-occurring PTSD and SUD

- Within 3.5 months, randomized SUD tx-seeking (n=12) with PTSD to either WET or a neutral topic
- Acceptable and Safe
- Decrease in PTSD sx among WET via PCL-5 (mean decrease
 11.3 points) vs Controls (mean decrease of 2.4 points)
- Average number of days over the past 30 days of substance use at baseline (WET: M=10.0 days; controls: M=6.3 days) decreased by follow-up (WET: M=2.3 days; controls: M=5.0 days)
- High satisfaction with WET using a standardized Client Satisfaction Questionnaire (ranges from 8-32), with WET M=24.8

Figure 1: PCL-5 baseline to follow-up

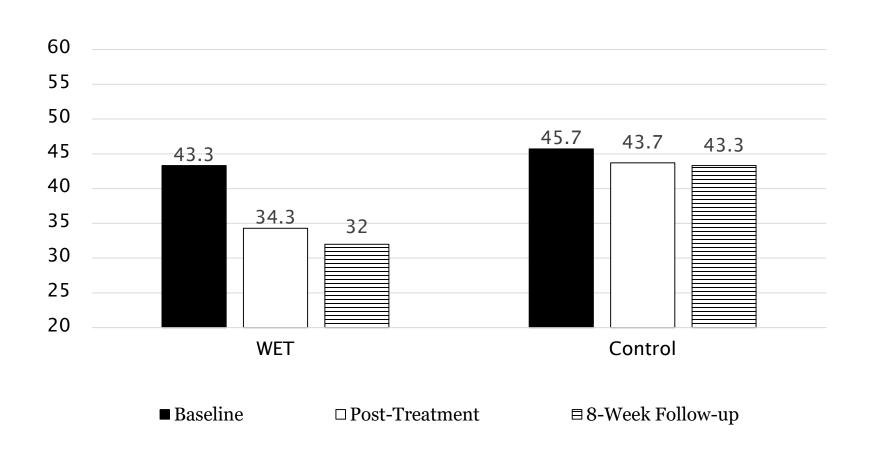
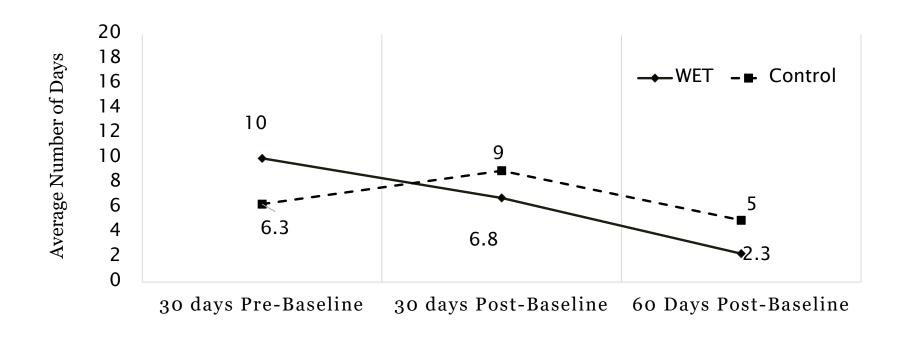


Figure 2. Timeline Follow-Back (Monthly)



ID: 43 y/o male Army veteran (1995-2020); 5 combat deployments, with h/o alcohol use disorder, PTSD, and depression. Presented with chief complaints of excessive alcohol use, increasing emotional volatility and numbing, homelessness, unemployment

- ► Heavy Alcohol use \rightarrow 6-9 drinks daily (6-pack + ~1/3 a fifth of whiskey)
- Multiple traumatic incident exposure throughout Army career.
 - Index trauma: Killing a civilian (Iraq, 2004-05)
- Impairment
 - Emotional "distraction", work-related impairment, cost, interpersonal connection
- Primary:
 - Alcohol Use Disorder
 - PTSD
- Goals
 - Alcohol → moderation
 - Trauma → symptom reduction

Current or Completed Psychotherapy Treatments

- No prior psychotherapy
- Stabilization + Social determinants of health
- COVID-19
 - Sessions conducted virtually → VVC
 - Pragmatic treatment barriers
- Written Exposure Therapy (WET)
 - Briefer EBP
 - Minimal materials → easy telehealth application
 - Less "homework" between sessions
 - Efficacy for SUD + PTSD
 - Index trauma: Accidentally killing a civilian (Iraq, 2004-05)

Written Exposure Therapy (WET): Session 1

- Psychoeducation
 - PTSD etiology
 - Role of avoidance → rationale for writing
- Conducted 30min of writing:
 - Had patient start at beginning of trauma, requested they provide specific situational, sensory, cognitive, and affective details
- SUDS Pre = 25; Post = 25
- Reviewed electronic copy of writing via MyHealtheVet

WET Writing Sample: Session 1

"It was hot that afternoon and I remember the thermometer reading 120... I was sitting in the truck next to my friend as we were heading off base. The weather was clear and when we got into town the streets were crowded. The car was quiet... Our gunner noticed a guy in one of the alleys and shouted at us. Suddenly, there were shots going everywhere. I grabbed my rifle and ducked behind the truck."

Written Exposure Therapy (WET): Session 2

- ▶ Reviewed writing/provided feedback → modeling
- ▶ Conducted 30min of writing \rightarrow noticeable SUDS/behavioral changes
- SUDS Pre = 10; SUDS Post = 50
- Encouraged approach during coming week

WET Writing Sample: Session 2

- "It was really hot that day and I could feel the sweat on my forehead. I had trouble sleeping the night before and woke up feeling groggy. When I went outside I saw the thermometer reading around 120 and I remember thinking "today is gonna suck...""
- "As we drove into town, things were a little more crowded than normal. I felt nervous like I knew something bad was gonna happen. My head was on a swivel..."
- "Our sergeant noticed a man in the one of the alleys of the building behind us pointing an RPG our way. Everyone started shouting. Explosions went off and we were getting shot at. My buddy next to me started screaming "shoot him, shoot him, shoot him!" and pointing ahead of me. I looked ahead and fired at the first guy I saw... Later found out that was the wrong guy. He'd just been some dude trying to get by and I'd murdered him."

Written Exposure Therapy (WET): Session 3

- Reviewed patient's writing \rightarrow provided feedback, reinforced trauma/detail inclusion
- Conducted 30min of writing
- SUDS Pre = 10; SUDS Post = 50
- \rightarrow Trauma event description \rightarrow impact on life meaning

WET Writing Sample: Session 3

- That evening when we got back after the firefight I went up to my squad-mate. The look on his face just killed me. He told me, 'who the hell were you aiming at?' I told him 'the dude you pointed at' and he'd said, 'Oh man, no. You didn't see the guy we were driving past with the grenade?' It hit me in the gut. I just kept thinking, 'I really f*cked up. I really f*cked this one up.'"
- "After that a lot of the Army lost it's shine. I hated myself. I'd murdered someone. It didn't make any sense. I couldn't bail, and I wanted to be there for the rest of my squad, but I knew that I couldn't control what happened. When I went home, I didn't want to get close to anyone. People can die whenever. Eventually they'd be gone."

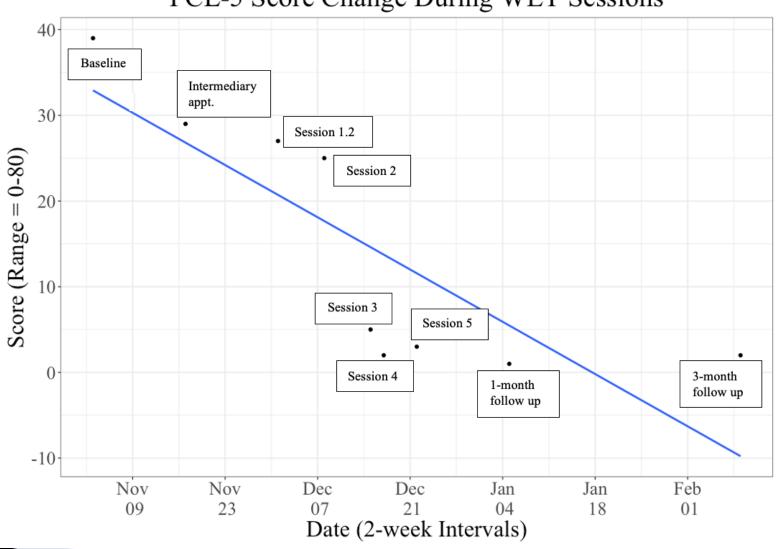
Written Exposure Therapy (WET): Sessions 4-5

- Reviewed patient's writing, ensured continued inclusion of detail, reflection on meaning of trauma
- Reduced arousal during session, greater coherence in writing
- SUDS Pre 4 = 7; SUDS Post 4 = 5
- SUDS Pre 5 = 5; SUDS Post 5 = 5
- Facilitated "wrap-up" and termination

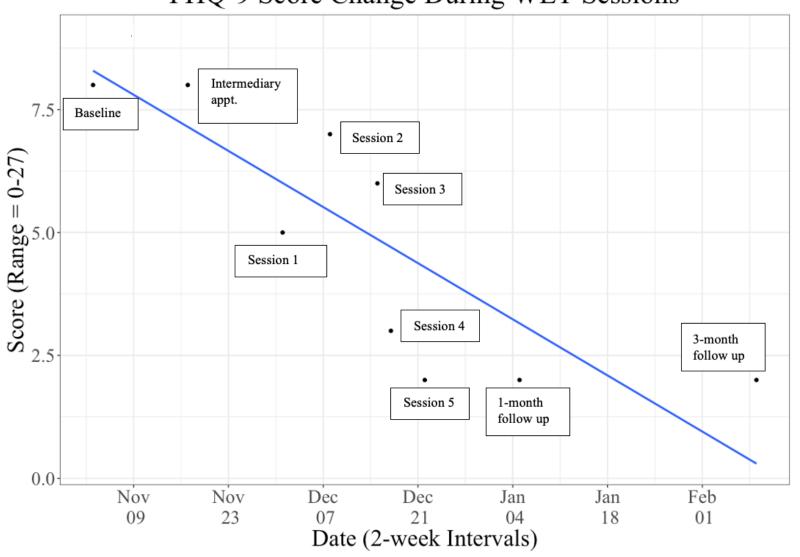
WET Writing Samples: Sessions 4-5

- "The more I write about this, the less I feel like it was my fault. Everything was crazy during that firefight and I was doing the same thing I always did and had always been asked to do. I feel really sad I shot him, but people do still care about me and I've done a lot since then to try and help people."
- "Thinking about how I've kept people at arms-length, it's not how I want to live my life and it hasn't helped me protect people, just keeps me lonely. My mom still reaches out. I know I have some control. I actually did this therapy didn't I?"

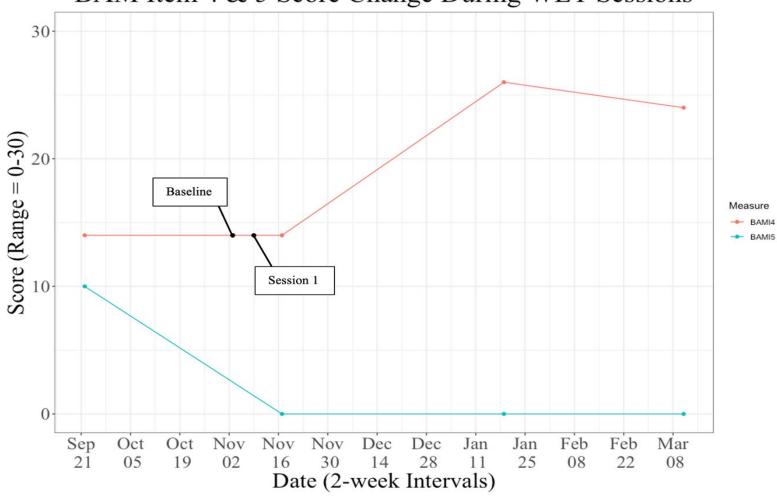
PCL-5 Score Change During WET Sessions



PHQ-9 Score Change During WET Sessions



BAM Item 4 & 5 Score Change During WET Sessions



Current Proposal

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the efficacy of WET among veterans with SUD/PTSD

- **Specific Aim 1:** Determine the utility of WET to improve trauma symptoms for veterans with SUD and PTSD who are receiving outpatient SUD treatment
- **Specific Aim 2:** Determine the utility of WET to improve SUD outcomes for veterans with comorbid PTSD.
- **Exploratory Aims:** Exploratory analysis will examine the association between Heart Rate Variability (HRV) and treatment outcomes. We will also examine whether change in HRV scores over time correlates with treatment outcomes (PTSD symptoms and days of substance use).

Other people involved:

- Ismene Petrakis, MD
- Jenelle Newcomb, BA
- Suzanne Spinola, PhD
- MacKenzie Peltier, PhD
- Minnah Farook, PhD
- Noah Wolkowicz, PhD
- R. Ross MacLean, PhD



Case Presentation #1



- 12:35-12:55 [20 min]
 - 5 min: Presentation
 - 2 min: Clarifying questions- Spokes
 - 2 min: Clarifying questions Hub
 - 2 min: Recommendations Spokes
 - 2 min: Recommendations Hub
 - 5 min: Summary Hub

Reminder: Mute and Unmute to talk

*6 for phone audio

Use chat function for questions







- Case studies
 - Submit: www.vcuhealth.org/echo
 - Receive feedback from participants and content experts
 - Earn \$100 for presenting



Thank You

The success of our telehealth program depends on our participants and those who submit case studies to be discussed during clinics. We recognize the following providers for their contributions:

Virginia Commonwealth University

- · Ademola Adetunji, NP from Fairfax County CSB
- · Tara Belfast-Hurd, MBA-PA from Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services
- · Michael Bohan, MD from Meridian Psychotherapy
- · Ramona Boyd, NP from Health Wagon
- . Diane Boyer, DNP from Region Ten CSB
- · Melissa Bradner, MD from VCU Health
- · Kayla Brandt, B.S. from Crossroads Community Service Board
- . Candace Fletcher, PharmD Candidate from Hopkins Medical Association
- · Susan Cecere, LPN from Hampton Newport News
- Kimberly Dexter, DNP from Hampton Newport News CSB
- . Shokoufeh Dianat, DO, MAS from Virginia League from Planned Parenthood
- Candace Fletcher, PharmD from Hopkins Medical Association
- · Michael Fox, DO from VCU Health
- . Shannon Garrett, FNP from West Grace Health Center
- LaShawna Giles, MSW from Hampton Newport News CSB
- Sharon Hardy, BSW, CSAC from Hampton-Newport News CSB
- Kara Howard, NP from Southwest Montana Community Health Center
- · Sunny Kim, NP from VCU Health
- · Heidi Kulberg, MD from Meridian Health
- Thokozeni Lipato, MD from VCU Health
- · Caitlin Martin, MD from VCU Health
- Jennifer Melilo, FNP from Chesapeake Integrated Behavioral Health
- Dawn Merritt, QMHP from Eastern Shore CSB
- Maureen Murphy-Ryan, MD from AppleGate Recovery
- Faisal Mohsin, MD from Hampton-Newport News CSB
- Jeromy Mullins, PharmD Candidate from Hopkins Medical Association
- . Stephanie Osler, LCSW from Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters
- . Davina Pavie, QMHP from Hanover County CSB
- . Winona Pearson, LMSW from Middle Peninsula Northern Neck CSB

- Jennifer Phelps, BS, LPN from Horizons Behavioral Health
- Crystal Phillips, PharmD from Appalachian College of Pharmacy
- Jashanda Poe, MA from Rappahannock Area CSB
- Tierra Ruffin, LPC from Hampton-Newport News CSB
- Manhal Saleeby, MD from VCU Health Community Memorial Hospital
- Jenny Sear-Cockram, NP from Chesterfield County Mental Health Support Services
- Elizabeth Signorelli-Moore, LPC from Region 1 CSB
- Amber Sission, QMHP from Eastern Shore CSB
- Daniel Spencer, MD from Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters
- Linda Southall, QMHP from Alleghany Highlands CSB
- · Heather Stone, PhD, LCSW from Central Virginia Health Services of Petersburg
- Cynthia Straub, FNP-C, ACHPN from Memorial Regional Medical Center
- Saba Suhail, MD from Ballad Health
- Michelle Tanner, LPC from Hanover County CSB
- Barbara Trandel, MD from Colonial Behavioral Health
- Bill Trost, MD from Danville-Pittsylvania Community Service
- Art Van Zee, MD from Stone Mountain Health Services
- Ashley Wilson, MD from VCU Health
- Sarah Woodhouse, MD from Chesterfield Mental Health
- Susan Mayorga, BA, CBIS from Community Health Center of the New River Valley
- Jordan Siebert, Peer Recovery Specialist from Daily Planet Health Services

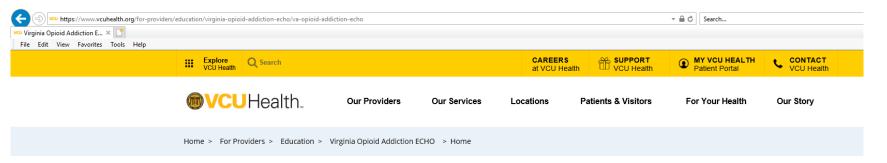


Claim Your CME and Provide Feedback



- www.vcuhealth.org/echo
- To claim CME credit for today's session
- Feedback
 - Overall feedback related to session content and flow?
 - Ideas for guest speakers?







Virginia Opioid Addiction ECHO



Welcome to the Virginia Opioid Addiction Extension for Community Health Outcomes or ECHO, a virtual network of health care experts and providers tackling the opioid crisis across Virginia. Register now for a



Network, Participate and Present

- · Engage in a collaborative community with your peers.
- · Listen, learn, and discuss didactic and case presentations in real-time.
- Take the opportunity to <u>submit your de-identified study</u> for feedback from a team of addiction specialists. We appreciate <u>those who have already provided case studies</u> for our clinics.
- Provide valuable feedback & claim CME credit if you participate in live clinic sessions.

Benefits

TeleECHO Clinic!

- · Improved patient outcomes.
- Continuing Medical Education Credits: This activity has been approved for *AMA PRA*Category 1 Credit™.









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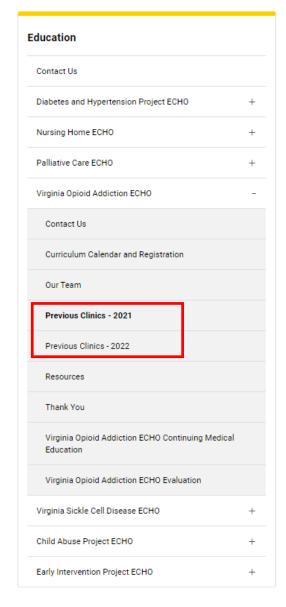




www.vcuhealth.org/echo

To view previously recorded clinics and claim credit





Previous Clinics - 2021

Review topics we covered in previous Virginia Opioid Addiction ECHO clinics.

January 15, Buprenorphine Taper

Presented by Masaru Nishiaoki, MD

- View Presentation
- View Video

January 29, Panel Discussion: COVID and Chronic Conditions

Panelists: Albert Arias, MD, Alex Krist, MD and Katherine Rose, MD

- View Presentation
- View Video

February 12, Grief Impacting Recovery

Presented by Courtney Holmes, PhD

- View Presentation
- Video Video

February 26, Virginia Drug Court System

Presented by Melanie Meadows

- View Presentation
- View Video

March 12, COVID and Recovery: Panel Discussion

Presented by Tom Bannard, MBA Omri Morris, CPRS Raymond Barnes, CPRS Erin Trinh, CPRS

- View Presentation
- View Video

March 26, Effects of Pharmacology on Cognitive Function

Presented by Gerry Moeller, MD

- View Presentation
- View Video
- View Resource

April 9, PropER Clinic and SUD Virtual Bridge Clinic: Linking Patients from ED to PCP and SUD Care

Presented by Taruna Aurora, MD and Brandon Wills, MD

- View Presentation
- View Video







VCU Virginia Opioid Addiction TeleECHO Clinics

Bi-Weekly Fridays - 12-1:00 pm

Mark Your Calendar --- Upcoming Sessions

April 1: Macrodosing for Buprenorphine Brandon Wills, MD

April 15: Home Induction in the Era of Fentanyl Theresa Davis, NP

April 29: The Bio-Psycho-Social Model: Addiction and Family Dynamics William Nicoll, MBA, LPC

Please refer and register at vcuhealth.org/echo





THANK YOU!

Reminder: Mute and Unmute to talk

*6 for phone audio

Use chat function for questions

