TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER

Canadian Institute for Public Safety Research and Treatment
CIPSRT

Institut canadien de recherche et de traitement en sécurité publique
ICRTSP
• A coast-to-coast team of Canadian researchers working with public safety personnel executives and key stakeholders on a long-term initiative to identify the tools required to support the recognition, prevention, and treatment of mental health concerns facing Canadian public safety personnel and their families.

• Working to support developing a national research strategy per the Prime Minister’s mandate to the Public Safety Minister
  – Work with provinces and territories and the Minister of Health to develop a coordinated national action plan on operational stress injuries, which disproportionately affect public safety personnel
• Public Safety Personnel (PSP)
  – Canadian Border Services
  – Canadian Security Intelligence Service
  – Correctional Officers
  – Communication Officers (emergency call center operators, call-takers, dispatchers)
  – Firefighters (including volunteers)
  – Municipal Police Officers
  – Paramedics, EMTs, EMS Personnel
  – RCMP
  – all team members who support all frontline efforts
    – (Parliamentary Report, October 2016)

• Unique Challenges for PSP
  – Relative to military
    • Deployment to “unsafe” zone
    • Deployment length
  – Relative to each other
    • Protection, Enforcement, Rehabilitation
    • Deployment, Exposure, Responsibility, Certainty
  – Relative to history
    • Increasingly required to fulfill multiple roles
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• Trauma
  – Direct or indirect exposure to actual or threatened death, injury, or sexual violence
  – Most PSP experience a potentially traumatic event within the first 12 months of service

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• Operational Stress Injuries (OSIs)
  – Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Adjustment Disorder, Depression, Substance Abuse, Panic Disorder, Chronic Pain, Insomnia

  – Highly comorbid

  – OSIs are “real”, substantial, and pervasive
    • highly visible priorities for mental health care
The Potential For Shared Processes

• Public Safety Steering Committee (PSSC)
  – Diverse national public safety leaders
• Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police
• Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs
• Canadian Association for Police Governance
• Canadian Police Association
• Correctional Service of Canada
• International Association of Firefighters
• Paramedic Association of Canada
• Paramedic Chiefs of Canada
• Royal Canadian Mounted Police
• Union of Solicitor General Employees
Mandate

• Public Safety Minister’s Round Table
• Recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee
• Public Safety Organizations

CIPSRT Research Team

☑ Scientific Director
  Dr. R. Nicholas Carleton, University of Regina

☑ Associate Director, Corrections Sector
  Dr. Rose Ricciardelli, Memorial University Newfoundland

☑ Associate Director, Fire Sector
  Dr. Heidi Cramm, Queen’s University

☑ Associate Director, Paramedic Sector
  Dr. Renee McPhee, Wilfrid Laurier University

☑ Associate Director, Police Sector
  Dr. Greg Anderson, Justice Institute of B.C.
The CIPSRT Blue Paper 2016
Peer Support and Crisis-Focused Psychological Intervention Programs in Canada First Responders

CIPSRT Prevalence Survey 2016
Assessing Operational Stress Injuries and Symptoms in Canadian First Responders and other Public Safety Personnel

Mental Disorder Symptoms among Public Safety Personnel in Canada

2017-12-11
CIPSRT New On-line Self Assessment Tools 2017:
Open access for all Public Safety Personnel via the CIPSRT Website

Select a Screening
- Anxiety (GAD-7)
- Depression (PHQ-9)
- Depression, Anxiety, Stress (DASS-21)
- PTSD (PCL-5)
- Panic Disorder (PDSS)
- Risky Alcohol Use (AUDIT)
- Social Anxiety Disorder (SADS)

Optional: You may select your field of work to have a more relevant comparison for your results. If you leave this unselected, your results will be compared with all public safety personnel.

ax1.cipsrt-icrtsp.ca

CIPSRT New On-line Self Assessment Tools 2017:
A simple first step to self-awareness and eventual care

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In Building a business case for funding CIPSRT, what are the key messages, by order of priority

1. Urgency to Act
2. Linked to “Global health-safe and secure Canada”, government priority
3. Economic Impacts
4. Vehicle exists (CIPSRT)
5. Innovation
What are the key issues in respect to knowledge synthesis?

1. Research regarding treatments, the effects of discipline, family and other social supports, critical incidents vs. cumulative exposure, vicarious trauma through secondary exposure.
2. Research regarding prevention, pre-disposition, resiliency
3. Research regarding stigma, cultural change, moral injury
4. Research regarding training, screening programs

What are the key issues in the health and wellbeing of PSP?

1. Need to develop key content on the following topics: stigma, resilience, best practices, standardized educational materials and training,
2. Need to evaluate best practice tools and behaviours (culture).
3. Need to centralize training/education programs and policies, and foster sharing and exchange.
4. Need to facilitate timely access to appropriate services.
5. Need to identify what has worked best for who (i.e. sector), and when was the training/education provided (i.e. what mode, timing, mechanism for delivery)
With no government funding, what could CIPSRT accomplish, by order of priority?

1. Research, within the funding available, focused on existing best practices and available case studies.
2. Information sharing, within the funding available focused on being a hub for information on existing research and resources, available to all PSP.
3. Advocacy through some major lobbying efforts to secure stabilized renewable funding.
4. CIPSRT team and sector building through networking, capacity building (mentorship).
5. Knowledge translation focused on adapting existing models, accessing existing data and identify opportunities for information exchange and sharing.

With unlimited funding, what could CIPSRT accomplish, by order of priority? How long would it take?

1. Vetting of treatment including: improved access to appropriate resources; streamlined process to find appropriate treatment; PSP and sector specific tool development.
2. Development of educational materials and training including training for middle managers aimed at reducing stigma and increasing public awareness; training for the next generation on mental health practitioners.
3. Research and analysis including: brain analysis (RET) and self-screening; embedded researchers, co-morbidity with the Prevalence study; exposure limits (critical events).
4. Continue to develop and build CIPSRT by increasing staff, developing, and executing a comprehensive strategic plan, continuing to grow and foster networking (national and international), delivering an effective organizational design.
Thank You!
Questions & Discussion

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