



North Carolina Institute of Medicine: Task Force Overview

NCIOM Task Force on Behavioral Health
Services for Military and their Families

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Overview

- Background on the North Carolina Institute of Medicine
- Task Force Process
- Charge to the Task Force



NC Institute of Medicine

- Quasi-state agency chartered in 1983 by the NC General Assembly to:
 - Be concerned with the health of the people of North Carolina
 - Monitor and study health matters
 - Respond authoritatively when found advisable
 - Respond to requests from outside sources for analysis and advice when this will aid in forming a basis for health policy decisions

NCGS §90-470





NCIOM Membership

- Members appointed by the Governor for 5-year terms
 - Includes representatives from government; the health professions; business and industry; the hospital, nursing facility, and insurance industries; the voluntary sector; faith communities; and the public at large
- Governed by 27 member board
 - Includes representatives from the health professions; academic health centers; NC AHEC Program; NC Hospital Association; NC Medical Society; NC Health Care Facilities Association; BCBSNC; NC Department of Health and Human Services; and other community and business organizations





NCIOM Studies

- NCIOM studies issues at the request of:
 - North Carolina General Assembly
 - North Carolina State Agencies
 - Health professional organizations
 - NCIOM Board
- Often work in partnership with other organizations to study health issues

● ● ● | Task Force Process

- NCIOM creates broad-based task forces to study health issues facing the state
 - Task Forces generally comprised of between 30-60 people
 - Task Forces are guided by co-chairs who run the meetings
 - Task Force members typically include representatives of state and local policy makers and agency officials, health professionals, insurers, business and community leaders, consumers and other interested individuals
 - Meetings are open to the public



● ● ● | Task Force Process (cont'd)

- Task Force work guided by a smaller steering committee
 - People with expertise or knowledge of the issue
 - Help shape the agenda and identify potential speakers
- Presentations
 - May include research summaries and/or statistics, descriptions of programs, challenges or barriers to best practices, national developments
 - Presenters may include task force members, researchers, national or state leaders, state health care professionals, consumers, or NCIOM staff

● ● ● | Task Force Process (cont'd)

○ NCIOM staff

- NCIOM staff will prepare agendas, invite speakers, gather information, and identify evidence-based studies (when available) to inform the Task Force's work
- Staff write first draft of the report

● ● ● | Task Force Process (cont'd)

- Task Forces generally run from 9-18 months
 - Approximately first two-thirds of meetings are for fact-finding, to identify the problem and identify potential solutions
 - Last third of meetings are to discuss and refine recommendations, review draft copies of the report
 - ***Task Force and Steering Committee members are encouraged to comment on written materials and recommendations throughout the process***

● ● ● | Task Force Process (cont'd)

- Task Force report
 - Report is circulated several times before being finalized
 - Task Force members may be asked to prioritize recommendations
 - Task Force members will take final vote on the recommendations and report
- NCIOM Board of Directors
 - Board members must review and approve the report before finalized
- Reports distributed widely
 - Generally also produce shorter 2-4 page Issue Brief



Recent NCIOM Studies

- Some recent studies include:
 - Prevention for the Health of North Carolina (2009)
 - Expanding Access to Health Care in North Carolina (2009)
 - Building a Recovery-Oriented System of Care (2009)
 - Successful Transitions for People with Developmental Disabilities (2009)





North Carolina Medical Journal

- NCIOM also publishes the *NC Medical Journal*
 - Each issue contains a special focus area with articles and commentaries discussing specific health issues
 - Typically, one issue of the *NC Medical Journal* will focus on a Task Force's work
 - Issue brief describes the Task Force's work and recommendations
 - *NC Medical Journal* circulated to more than 30,000 people across the state



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NCIOM Task Force on Behavioral Health Services for Military and Their Families

- The North Carolina General Assembly asked the NCIOM to convene a Task Force to study:
 - Adequacy of state funded mental health, developmental disabilities and substance abuse services available to active, reserve, National Guard members of the military, veterans, and their families
 - What services are currently available and the need for increased state services
 - Section 10.78(ff) of Session Law 2009-451; Sections 16, 19 of Session Law 2009-574, and Section



- ● ● | NCIOM Task Force on Behavioral Health Services for Military and Their Families
- United States Armed Forces include:
 - Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, National Guard, and Coast Guard
- We will focus on the needs of these service men and women, veterans, reservists, and their families

● ● ● | **Task Force Funding**

- Task Force funded through the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SAPTBG) through the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT)
 - Funded as part of the SAPTBG block grant that flows to the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services



Background Data: Military Presence in North Carolina

- North Carolina has the fourth largest number of military personnel in the country
 - Currently 120,000 active duty personnel based at one of the seven military bases or deployed overseas
 - North Carolina likely to receive an additional 25,000 active duty members by 2011
 - Another 25,000 soldiers, marines and airmen from North Carolina serve in the National Guard or Reserves
 - There are more than 100,000 children and adolescents of active members, National Guard and Reserves
 - There are also more than 770,000 veterans who live in North Carolina



Behavioral Health Needs of the Military

- Many of the active and returning veterans:
 - Report alcohol abuse or other substance abuse disorders
 - Experience post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or other mental health problems
 - Have traumatic brain injury (TBI)
- The high number of repeat deployments has exacerbated these problems
- Deployment and service in the military can also cause stress or behavioral health problems for the spouses and children at home



Interim and Final Report

- Required to report interim findings to the 2010 session and the final report to the 2011 session



Meeting Schedule

- Upcoming meeting dates include:
 - Wednesday, December 16, 2009
 - Friday, January 15, 2010
 - Thursday, February 18, 2010
 - Thursday, March 18, 2010
 - Thursday, April 22, 2010
 - Additional meeting dates will be scheduled if needed



Meeting Materials on NCIOM Website

- We know that Task Force members may have conflicts for some of the meetings
 - We post meeting summaries and all meeting presentations on our website:
www.nciom.org
 - Calendar and directions also available on the NCIOM website





For More Information

- Websites: www.nciom.org
www.ncmedicaljournal.com
- Key contacts:
 - Pam Silberman, JD, DrPH, President & CEO
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