**ST3–AP-FELL-EPA21 - Assessment and comprehensive management of a military or veteran patient with a psychiatric disorder**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of practice</th>
<th>Adult psychiatry</th>
<th>EPA identification</th>
<th>ST3-AP-FELL-EPA21</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stage of training</td>
<td>Stage 3 - Advanced</td>
<td>Version</td>
<td>1</td>
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The following EPA will be entrusted when your supervisor is confident that you can be trusted to perform the activity described at the required standard without more than distant (reactive) supervision. Your supervisor feels confident that you know when to ask for additional help and that you can be trusted to appropriately seek assistance in a timely manner.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>Description</td>
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<td>Maximum 150 words</td>
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The trainee should be able to assess current serving military members and/or veterans presenting with mental health problems, including mental disorder, and develop and implement a comprehensive management plan. This includes:

- Awareness of military culture relevant to assessment and management
- Taking a full military service history, including initial recruit training, postings and deployments
- Completing a thorough assessment, including the use of appropriate screening tests/symptom rating scales
- Developing a biopsychosocial management plan and communicating this to patient, family and referring health professional, including consideration of current fitness for work
- Initiation and monitoring of indicated management
- Liaison with other health professionals and other parties, with due regard to patient confidentiality and other ethical considerations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fellowship competencies</th>
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<tr>
<td>ME 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8</td>
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<tr>
<td>COM 1,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COL 1,2,3,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAN 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>HA 1,2</td>
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<td>SCH 1,2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PROF 1,2</td>
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Knowledge, skills and attitude required
The following lists are neither exhaustive nor prescriptive.

**Ability to apply an adequate knowledge base**
- Demonstrate knowledge of evidence-based interventions in military members/veterans presenting with mental health problems, including reference to relevant RANZCP-endorsed guidelines
• Detailed knowledge of effects of trauma on serving members and veterans, including protective factors, and other mental health conditions which may occur in serving members and veterans
• Detailed knowledge of international and local epidemiological data of mental health disorders and suicide in serving members and veterans
• Sophisticated understanding of the ethical issues that may arise in working with serving members

Skills
• Carry out a comprehensive biopsychosocial assessment of serving member/veteran including military service history, a careful risk assessment and mental state examination
• Demonstrate cultural competence in military culture
• Gather relevant collateral information with consent, considering what additional sources of collateral information may be relevant to a serving member’s assessment
• Conduct appropriate psychometrically validated screening tests/symptom rating scales relevant to the serving member/veteran’s presentation, or liaise with other health professionals regarding such screening tests/scales
• Conduct appropriate investigations, or liaise with other health professionals to ensure such investigations have been carried out relevant to the presenting problem, monitoring treatment, or comorbid medical conditions
• Devise a comprehensive formulation for the patient’s presentation, considering biological, psychological and social factors.
• Develop a comprehensive management plan, including consideration of fitness to work/deploy where relevant, and implement this, under supervision, with liaison with patient/family/referring health professional and members of multidisciplinary team
• Prescribe appropriate psychiatric medications, if indicated, including being aware of potential impact on fitness to work/deploy
• Demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of evidence-based psychological therapies used with current serving members/veterans (including those used for PTSD) and be able to discuss these in detail with patients, families and referring health professionals.
• Prepare a sufficiently detailed report for the referring health practitioner, with due regard to ethical considerations.

Attitude
• Collaborate effectively with patient, family and other health professionals/agencies to provide high quality care
• Practice ethically, considering issues around confidentiality/fitness to work/deploy in a military context
• Advocate on behalf of patients where indicated with other services/bodies
- Demonstrate a scholarly approach to the literature regarding the presentation and treatment of mental health conditions in this population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment method</th>
<th>Progressively assessed during individual and clinical supervision, including three appropriate WBAs.</th>
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| Suggested assessment method details | Case-based discussion  
Mini-Clinical Evaluation Exercise  
Observed Clinical Activity  
Professional presentation – for example, on PTSD, on military culture |

References


