

**The State of Women Veterans' Health Research: Results of a Systematic Literature Review
Evidence Tables**

Table 3e. Evidence Table of Health Services Research: <i>Health Status</i>						
Author	Women Veteran Specific?	Sample characteristics	Sample size [N]	Design	Main measures	Description
Grossman, 1997 (138)	Yes	Sample of female patients admitted to psych units of one VAMC from 4/92-4/93; compared to sample of male patients admitted over the same period	31 female patients; 31 male patients	Observ. Study- Assess risk or prognosis	Demographic characteristics; discharge diagnoses; results of urine toxicology screens	Evaluated differences in being diagnosed with PTSD or substance abuse disorders for inpatient men and women veterans. Women were significantly less likely to be diagnosed with PTSD than men. There were no gender differences in the diagnosis of psychotic disorders or personality disorders. Women were less likely to receive diagnoses of substance use disorders despite a suggestion of greater prevalence of substance use among women
Skinner, 1999 (88)	Yes	Random sample of women with an ambulatory visit between 7/1/94 and 6/30/95 at a large VA facility in the Boston area	719 women	All Other Observational	Health status as measured by SF-36; sociodemographic characteristics; military history; availability of social support; service-connected disability	Surveyed women veteran users of outpatient services in the Boston area. Compared results to data on male veterans from the Veterans' Health Study. Found that women veterans had lower scores than comparison groups, particularly in the areas of mental functioning.

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Zatzick, 1997 (77)	Yes	Nationally representative sample of Vietnam veterans (NVVRS)	432 Vietnam theater veterans (mostly nurses)	Observ. Study- Assess risk or prognosis	PTSD diagnosis; current medical or psychiatric co-morbidity; bed days; role functioning; subjective well-being; self-reported physical health status; current physical functioning; perpetration of violent acts	Evaluated the functioning and quality of life in women Vietnam veterans with and without PTSD. Veterans with PTSD were more likely to have poorer functioning in all domains except perpetration of violence. After adjusting for demographics and co-morbidities, PTSD was associated with an increased odds of bed days, poorer physical health and currently not working.
Ouimette, 2004 (78)	Yes	Sample of veterans from general medical and women's health clinics at the VA Palo Alto and Menlo Park facilities	52 male and 82 female veterans	Observ. Study- Assess risk or prognosis	PTSD symptoms, severity and diagnoses; other psychopathology; health conditions; HRQOL; health risk behaviors; demographics	Evaluated a sample of male and female patients from the general medical and women's health clinics at Palo Alto. Found that patients with PTSD were more likely to have circulatory and musculoskeletal disorders and had poorer health-related quality of life.

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Frayne, 2004 (81)	Yes	Random national sample of VA health enrollees, 1999-2000	30, 865 women veterans enrollees	Observ. Study- Assess risk or prognosis	Demographic variables; PTSD or depression diagnosis; medical conditions; physical health status	Evaluated the prevalence of medical conditions among women with a reported history of depression or PTSD and evaluated whether women with PTSD have more medical conditions and worse physical health status than those with or without depression. 90% of women with a history of PTSD reported at least one serious medical condition. Women with PTSD had more medical conditions and worse physical health status than women with depression alone or neither diagnosis.
Sadler, 2004 (54)	Yes	Random sample of women veterans from VA Comprehensive Women's Healthcare Center registries in Boston, Durham, Tampa, Minneapolis, Chicago and Los Angeles, stratified by region and era of service, 9/96 – 3/97	640 women veterans	Observ. Study- Assess risk or prognosis	Sociodemographic characteristics; military experiences particularly assault or other traumas; pre-military violence; current medical and mental health conditions; outpatient utilization; health status	Evaluated the relationship between outpatient utilization and health status in women with different types of military trauma. Women reporting repeated violence exposures during military service and significantly more outpatient visits than comparison groups as well as poorer health status and more reported childhood violence and post-military violence. In regression analysis, the type of violence was not a significant predictor of utilization and the greatest predictor was health status.

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Stein, 2004 (84)	Yes	All women seen in the VA San Diego Healthcare System primary care clinic in 1998	394 women veterans	Observ. Study- Assess risk or prognosis	Demographic variables; traumatic exposure; physical complaints; self-reported healthcare utilization; somatization; health anxiety	Evaluated the relationship between self-reported sexual assault and physical symptoms, somatization, health worries, health perception and healthcare utilization. 44.3% of subjects reported experiencing sexual assault. Women with a history of sexual assault were more likely to have physical symptoms and were more likely to have higher somatization scores. Women with a history of sexual assault were nearly twice as likely to have six or more outpatient visits.