Ms Andrea PHELPS  
A Phelps, J Cooper and K Densley.  
Australian Centre for Posttraumatic Mental Health, University of Melbourne.  

Using Mental Health Outcome Measures to Support Quality Assurance of DVA-Funded PTSD Programs in Hospitals  

Abstract:  
ACPMH has been responsible for accrediting the PTSD programs for veterans purchased by DVA since 1995. Over this period, 4194 veterans have been through the programs, with very good outcomes compared to international benchmarks. The last few years have seen an inevitable decline in the number of veterans going through the programs, with many of the Vietnam Veterans with PTSD already having done programs and there being no large cohort of veterans since that time. The programs have responded well to the challenges that this has brought, with no overall decline in treatment outcomes. New models of treatment that meet the changing conditions and specifically meet the needs of peacekeepers are needed to ensure that veterans continue to receive best practice treatment. In anticipation of this, ACPMH has evolved the quality assurance processes to be adaptable across a range of service settings as well as across a range of mental health conditions.