

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (UT Health San Antonio) and the STRONG STAR (South Texas Research Organizational Network Guiding Studies on Trauma and Resilience) Consortium are hiring several Clinical and Research Therapists to support DoD-funded studies and Texas state-funded programs using and investigating new and innovative psychological health treatments for active duty military personnel, veterans, and their families. Projects focus specifically on enhancing resiliency and addressing problems related to suicide risk, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), sleep disorders, chronic pain, substance use disorders, and tinnitus.

**Performance Location:** Positions are in-office at Fort Cavazos in Killeen, TX. STRONG STAR has a research and clinical training location at the Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center at Fort Cavazos (formerly designated Fort Hood) in Killeen, Texas. The location is supported by on-site licensed clinical psychologists and social workers who are faculty members in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at UT Health San Antonio to provide clinical supervision to meet licensure requirements for applicants working toward licensure. All positions are administrated through the Long School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, and Division of Behavioral Medicine. UT Health San Antonio offers exceptional health care and retirement benefits.

**To begin the application process for any of these positions, please send the following to Dr. Hannah Tyler at [TylerH@uthscsa.edu](mailto:TylerH@uthscsa.edu) and Rhonda Stafford at [StaffordR@uthscsa.edu](mailto:StaffordR@uthscsa.edu)**

**(1) CV or resume and (2) Statement of Interest**

***\*\*We are currently accepting applications for the following positions\*\****

**Psychology Postdoctoral Fellows, Licensed Professional Counselors and Licensed Master Social Worker (including those under supervision for licensure)**

Postdoctoral fellows, professional counselors and social workers will serve as therapists and independent evaluators for clinical programs and randomized clinical trials being conducted with active duty military personnel, veterans, and military families They will have the unique opportunity to work with and receive expert training and on-going supervision required to obtain licensure. Applicants must demonstrate the ability to perform the function of therapist to include evaluating, giving diagnostic impressions, and treating individuals and families experiencing behavioral health disorders, emotional stress, or family maladjustments. They will also perform crisis intervention as needed. Master's degree and licensed or under supervision for licensure required (e.g., LCSW, LPC, LMSW).

**Clinical Research Faculty**

We are seeking to fill two psychology faculty member appointments (Assistant to Associate Professor level) for full-time faculty positions at our Fort Cavazos location in Killeen, Texas. Applicants must have a doctoral degree in clinical or counseling psychology and be licensed or license eligible as a psychologist in the State of Texas. The doctoral degree and predoctoral internship must be from American Psychological Association-accredited programs. The positions will involve supporting all aspects of clinical research within the Division of Behavioral Medicine and STRONG STAR. These positions will involve serving as a research therapist, clinical supervisor, co-investigators, and educators. As investigators, the faculty members will provide support for ongoing research studies and collaborate on the development and submission of research grant applications as a co-investigator or principal investigator. As educators, the faculty members will assist in the training, supervision, and mentorship of postgraduates, graduate students, interns, residents, postdoctoral fellows, and junior faculty members. Preferred qualifications include experience in evidence-based treatments such as cognitive behavioral therapy and acceptance and commitment therapy.

***New and ongoing studies that these positions may support include:***

**Project Title: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia vs Brief Behavioral Therapy for Insomnia in Military Personnel with Postconcussive Symptoms following Mild TBI; PIs: Kristi Pruiksmas and Vincent Mysliwiec, UT Health San Antonio**

The overall objective is to determine if cognitive behavioral therapy for insomnia (CBT-I) and brief behavioral therapy for insomnia (BBT-I) can improve outcomes in service members with prolonged postconcussive symptoms following mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI) and to explore the impact of insomnia treatment (CBT-I or BBT-I) on prolonged postconcussive symptoms and on blood-based brain biomarkers levels of neuronal integrity and neuronal inflammation.

**Project Title: Assessment and Treatment of Chronic Anger and Aggression Following Military-Related Interpersonal and Institutional Betrayal: A Pilot Investigation; PIs: Drs. Vanessa Jacoby and Alan Peterson, UT Health San Antonio**

This is a pilot test of Countering Chronic Anger and Aggression Related to Trauma and Transgressions (CCAARTT), a transdiagnostic, transgression-focused intervention for military personnel who have experienced betrayals. CCAARTT directly targets reducing chronic anger/aggression and improving interpersonal relationships ( $N = 40$ ). One postdoctoral fellow will support the project at Fort Cavazos.

**Project Title: Strong Families | Strong Soldiers Support and Prevention Program; Project Directors: Dr. Vanessa Jacoby, UT Health San Antonio, Dr. Samantha Marasa, UT Health San Antonio**

The Strong Families Support and Prevention Program is funded by the Texas Department of Health and Human Services Commission and the Bob Woodruff Foundation to provide prevention services and evidence-based PTSD treatment to military service members, veterans, and their families. In July 2024 and in partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of Central Texas, our program will expand to offer broader mental health assessment and treatment services to both military and civilian families who are members of the Boys and Girls Club of Central Texas, with an emphasis on stress, trauma, and family transitions. One postdoctoral psychology fellow, professional counselor or social worker supports the project at Fort Cavazos. Two postdoctoral psychology fellows, professional counselors, or social workers support the project onsite at two Boys and Girls Club of Central Texas locations.

**Project Title: Implementing and Evaluating a Patient-Centered PTSD Treatment Program for Military Personnel; PIs: Dr. Alan Peterson, UT Health San Antonio, Dr. Vanessa Jacoby, UT Health San Antonio.**

This study is a partially randomized preference trial to examine the relationships between patient characteristics, treatment preferences, and treatment outcomes for active duty service members engaging in a shared decision-making preintervention followed by evidence-based treatment for PTSD. The study also aims to evaluate the impact of shared decision-making on PTSD treatment completion and PTSD symptom reduction for active duty military personnel. One postdoctoral psychology fellow, professional counselor or social worker will support the project at Fort Cavazos.

**Project MARCH: Multisite Advancement of Research on Chronic Posttraumatic Headache; PI: Donald McGeary, UT Health San Antonio**

Project MARCH (Multisite Advancement of Research on Chronic Posttraumatic Headache) is a multi-site randomized clinical trial including 4 DoD and 3 VA sites to evaluate the efficacy of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Posttraumatic Headache delivered in-person or via telehealth. Fort Cavazos is one of the recruitment sites for Project MARCH and it is supported by one postdoctoral fellow.

**Randomized Controlled Trial of Precision Vestibular Rehabilitation Military Personnel with mTBI; PI: Dr. Anthony Kontos, University of Pittsburgh**

The objective of this multi-site randomized clinical trial is to determine the efficacy of different Targeted Rehabilitation Exercises for Vestibular Symptoms and Impairment (T-REV) intensities and frequencies in military personnel and civilians with mTBI and vestibular symptoms. The Intrepid Spirit Center at Fort Cavazos is one of the recruitment sites for the project.

**Acceptance and Commitment Therapy Integrated Vestibular Rehabilitation (ACTIVE) for mTBI: A Randomized Controlled Trial; PI: Anthony Kontos, University of Pittsburgh**

Our overarching hypothesis is that a combined, brief (< 4 weeks) intervention involving both ACT and Integrated Vestibular rehabilitation (ACTIVE) will reduce symptoms, impairment, and functional limitations, and accelerate RTA among military service members and civilians following mTBI with vestibular symptoms/impairment compared to usual care vestibular rehabilitation (VESTIB CONTROL).

**Executive Functions, Brain Games, and Brain Stimulation: An RCT for Mild TBI, PI: Thomas Coyle, University of Texas San Antonio**

The objective of this project is to conduct a four-arm randomized clinical trial to evaluate the efficacy of two active interventions to improve cognitive functioning in 120 military service members and veterans with a history of mild traumatic brain injury and persistent postconcussive symptoms. The intervention arms will include (1) an evidence-based computer brain game designed to improve

cognitive performance, (2) transcranial electrical stimulation, (3) a combination of an evidence-based computer brain game and transcranial electrical stimulation, or (4) a control condition consisting of a non-evidence-based computer game and a placebo sham transcranial electrical stimulation.

**Ketamine and Crisis Response Planning as Rapid-Acting Interventions for Severe Suicide Risk: An Emergency Department Safety and Feasibility Trial, PI: Robert De Lorenzo, UT Health San Antonio**

The study will be a four-arm randomized clinical trial evaluate the efficacy of intramuscular ketamine and Crisis Response Planning used as monotherapies or in combination for the for the rapid reduction of suicidal ideation in 180 patients treated in an emergency department setting prior to a psychiatric hospitalization for suicide. The intervention arms will include (1) 1 mg/kg intramuscular ketamine alone, (2) Crisis Response Planning for suicide prevention alone, (3) the combination of intramuscular ketamine and Crisis Response Planning, or an intramuscular saline.

**A Randomized Clinical Trial Utilizing Crisis Response Planning for Suicide Prevention in Military Personnel with Traumatic Brain Injury, PIs: Hannah Tyler, UT Health San Antonio; Craig Bryan, The Ohio State University**

This project is a 2-armed randomized clinical trial (1) Cognitive Processing Therapy plus Crisis Response Training and (2) Cognitive Processing Therapy plus Safety Planning for the treatment of comorbid PTSD and suicide risk in 150 active duty military personnel and veterans.

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