INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DUTCH VETERANS HEALTH CARE

Amsterdam | 4, 5, 6 April 2018

Challenging Perspectives on Dutch Veterans Mental Health
Please join us on April 4-6, 2018 at the Marine Base in Amsterdam for the 1st International Conference on Dutch Veterans Health Care.
Families and the veterans support system are a cornerstone of veterans mental health

The impact of military life and experiences on the wellbeing of veterans and their families is a topic of great importance. A British, Canadian and Dutch keynote speaker (Prof. Nicola Fear, Dr. Heidi Cramm and Dr. Trudy Mooren) will outline their perspective on this and enabling us to be informed about opportunities to strengthen our system of care, cure and policy. Veterans’ partners and children will accompany the discussion.

The challenge of the USA on veterans mental health

One of the key notes (Prof. Robert Ursano, Center of Traumatic Stress Studies, Bethesda, USA) will address the challenges that the USA are facing in dealing with the large number of veterans that left active duty since their return home. The prevalence of PTSD in the USA is high. Why? Furthermore, we typically look at the USA for novel approaches to treatment and intervention. What can we learn? What are new insights? Any novel breakthroughs that are underway? Is there reason to be optimistic about resilience and positive psychology? These are some of the topics that will be addressed.

Is moral injury a new disorder?

There is a recent interest in moral injury. What is this and where does it come from? Dr. Sheila Frankfurt (Center of Excellence for Research on Returning War Veterans in Texas, USA) will review the current interest on this topic and discuss if it is similar or different than PTSD. Also will she mitigate the recent hype in the literature on the need for novel treatments. As for now, guilt and shame are recognized as drivers if PTSD become chronic and need to be addressed for healing.

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