



US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

# BLAST INJURY RESEARCH PROGRAM COORDINATING OFFICE

## Diagnostics

### Examination of the mTBI Atypical Symptom Scale and the Validity-10 Scale to Detect Symptom Exaggeration in US Military Service Members

Researchers at the DVBIC, WRNMMC, Center for Neuroscience and Regenerative Medicine, and USUHS examined the clinical utility of two validity scales intended for use with the Neurobehavioral Symptom Inventory (NSI) and the PTSD Checklist-Civilian version for potential use in assessing individuals with mTBI. The two validity scales, the Mild Brain Injury Atypical Symptoms scale and the Validity-10 scale, were administered to participants with mTBI. Participants were 63 military Service Members who experienced a TBI, and were divided into two groups receiving assessments. The results suggest strong support for the use of the Validity-10 as a tool to screen for symptom exaggeration on both the NSI and the PTSD Checklist-Civilian version. In contrast, the Mild Brain Injury Atypical Symptoms scale was not a reliable tool for screening, as it failed to identify the majority of people who exaggerated symptoms.