Education and Clinical Tools

Assessment of Sexual Health and Intimacy in TBI and Psychological Health Patients

The team of Licensed Clinical Social Workers who interact closely with patients at NICoE throughout their course of care identified the need for a more formalized program that would help Service Members and their families understand the impact of TBI/psychological health symptoms on their intimacy and sexual functioning. Clinicians at NICoE, in collaboration with the WRNMMC Sexual Health and Intimacy working group, are implementing educational offerings and couples intimacy assessments for patients and their significant others during their stay at NICoE. Since this collaborative program began, approximately 20% of all Service Members seen at NICoE have requested individual or couple intimacy assessments. Those who participated in the assessment have shared their appreciation for the NICoE staff who candidly and professionally addressed a topic that is oftentimes overlooked in a traditional medical model of care.