

# The R-SIS and Military Populations

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# Psychometric Properties

- ◉ 10-item scale useful for initial screening, clinical assessment and continuous tracking
  - > Likert response: 1-5 (never to always)
  - > Range: 10-50
- ◉ Takes only a couple of minutes to administer
- ◉ Advantages
  - > Quick
  - > Uniform factor structure
    - Helps identify those at risk
    - Changes during clinical care
- ◉ Sample: 3,072 Cases
  - > Regular Army, activated reserve, National Guard
  - > Behavioral health clinic computerized intake screening questionnaire, ABHC
  - > Divided the sample for EFA and CFA

# Exploratory Factor Analysis

- 1,272 (221 female, 1051 male)
- Mean age 28.6 (range: 18-58)
- Race
  - > 64.8% White, Non-Hispanic
  - > 13.2% African-American
  - > 3.8% Pacific Islander
  - > 8.8% Latino
  - > 8.6% Other

## ◎ Education

- › High School Graduate (or GED): 33.6%
- › Some college: 43.5%
- › Associate's degree or higher: 22.9%

## ◎ Military Service

- › Army: 99.2%
  - Time in service
    - Mean=6.7 years
    - Active duty: 86.7%
    - Reserves: 5.6%
    - National Guard: 7.5%

- ◉ Junior enlisted (E1-E4): 55%
- ◉ Senior enlisted (E5-E9): 36.3%
- ◉ Warrant and commissioned officers: 5.6%

# Exploratory Factor Analysis

- Two Factor Solution
- First Factor: 17.3% of variance
  - > *Suicidal desire*
- Second Factor: 15.1% of variance
  - > *Resolved plans and preparation*
  - > *Consistence with previous factor analyses of suicidal ideation scales*

# First Factor: Suicidal Desire

- ◉ I just wish my life would end
- ◉ I feel life just isn't worth living
- ◉ Life is so bad I feel like giving up
- ◉ It would be better for everyone involved if I were to die

# Second Factor: Resolved Plans and Preparation

- I have come close to taking my own life
- I have made attempts to kill myself
- I believe my life will end in suicide
- I have been thinking of ways to kill myself
- I feel there is no solution to my problems other than taking my own life
- I have told someone I want to kill myself

# Internal Consistency

- Chronbach's alpha: .91 for full scale
  - > Suicidal desire: .88
  - > Resolved plans and preparation: .89

# Confirmatory Factor Analysis

- Sample: 1,800
  - › 375 female, 1,425 male
- Mean age: 28.1, range: 17-61 years.
- Ethnicity:
  - › White, Non-Hispanic: 67%
  - › African-American: 13.2%
  - › Asian, Pacific-Islander: 3.8%
  - › Latino: 8.8%
  - › Other: 7%

# Results

- ◎ Good fit to data
  - > First Factor: 18.2% of variance
  - > Second Factor: 16.3% of variance
  - > Correlations between two factors: .84

# Construct Validity

- Correlations to BASIS-24 (all significant sy  $P < .001$ )
  - > Self-Harm Subscale: .83
  - > Depression: .24
  - > Relationships: -.27
  - > Emotional Lability: .30
  - > Psychosis: .30
  - > Substance abuse: .24

# Relationship to Suicide Attempt History

- No history: 2,951
- History of attempts: 121
- History mean SIS score: 23.19
- No-history SIS mean: 11.45
  - > Significant:  $p < .001$

# Relationship to Sleep Problems

- Self-reported sleep problems
- Sample
  - > 1,360 active duty, activated reserves and National Guard
  - > 260 female, 1,100 male
  - > Completed Automated Behavioral Health Clinic screening questionnaire (ABHC)

- Mean age: 27.46 (18-60)
- Ethnicity
  - > White, Non-Hispanic: 61.5%
  - > African-American: 11.4%
  - > Asian/Pacific Islander: 4.3%
  - > Latino: 10.9%
  - > Other: 7%

## ○ Education

- › High school diploma or GED: 33%
- › Some college: 45%
- › Associates degree or higher: 22%

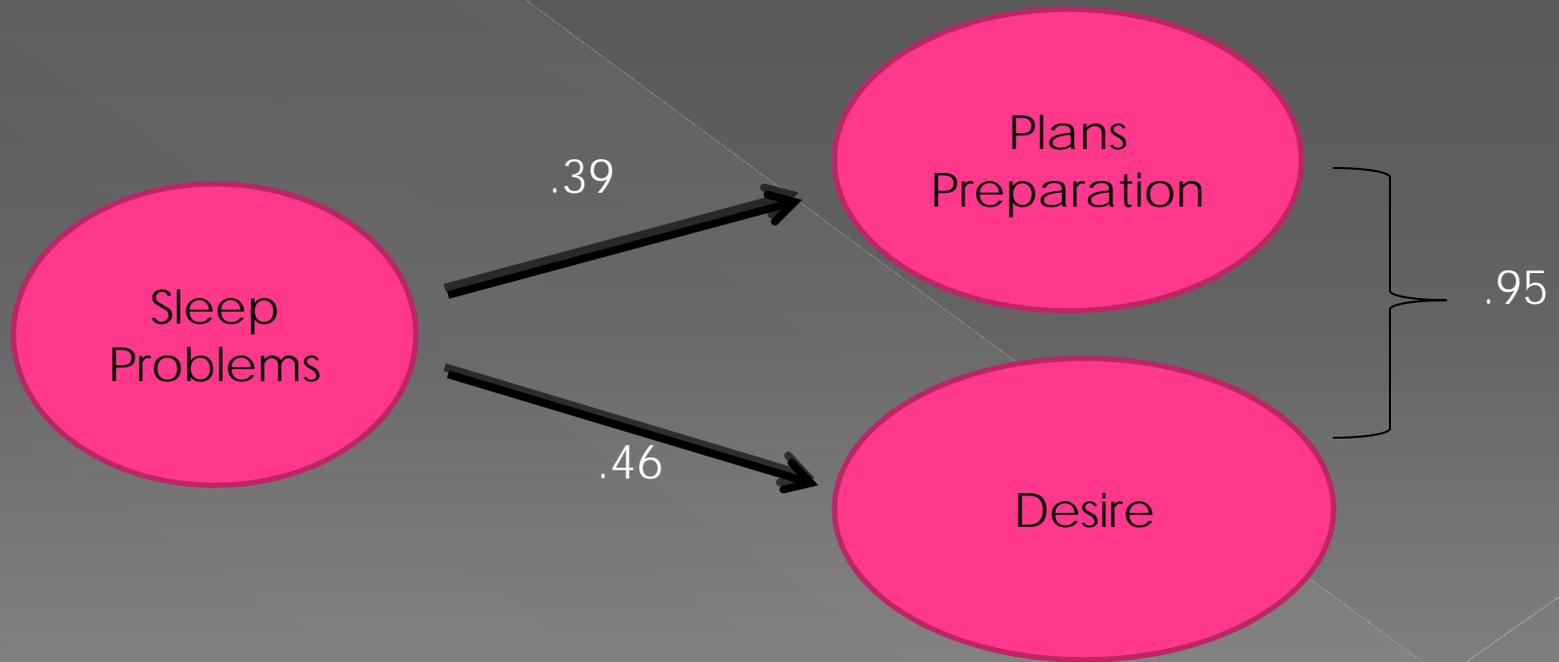
# Sleep Problems

- ◉ Emerging as a significant warning sign for suicide
- ◉ Assessed:
  - > *Over the last two weeks, how often have you been bothered by the following problems:*
    - *Trouble falling or staying asleep*
    - *Feeling tired or fatigued*
    - *Likert scale 1-5 (never to almost always)*

- ◎ SEM , LISREL 8.71

- > Good fit to the data, supported a two factor model of the SIS and the estimation of latent sleep problems

- Standardized path coefficients



# Relationship to previous attempts

## MANOVA

- > History of attempts (N=83)
- > Attempts, SIS and sleep items
- > Attempt history
  - More trouble sleeping,  $M=4.16$  (3.75)
  - Feeling more tired,  $M=4.29$  (3.75)
  - SIS scores,  $M=20.90$  (10.92)
  - $F(3,1355)=123.66, p<.01$