

## **Army National Guard (ARNG) Personnel Blast or Contaminant Tracker (PBCT)**

### **What is it?**

Personnel Blast Contaminant Tracker (PBCT) was originally developed by the Army National Guard to track Soldiers who are involved in a blast incident or exposed to possible contamination. In doing so, Soldiers are then recorded for potential medical treatment upon redeployment. This medical treatment includes but is not limited to possible mild Traumatic Brain Injury (mTBI) and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). The program is currently maintained by the Office of the Surgeon General (OTSG).

### **What has Army done?**

The ARNG has implemented data collection as a routine part of deployment. Incident reporting is handled in a professional manner with sensitivity to the risks of stigma. All deployed ARNG units collect and report data on all Soldiers exposed to a blast or contaminant. ARNG units can input this data into the Personnel Blast Contaminant Tracker (PBCT) module in the Medical Operational Data System (MODS).

### **What continued efforts does the Army have planned for the future?**

**OTSG is proposing to transform PBCT into a system referred to as mTBI Tracker.**

mTBI Tracker will serve as a reporting tool to inform stakeholders regarding Soldiers involved in events associated with PBCT. The new system will allow for Soldiers to be recorded in both garrison and deployed environments. Additionally, Army leadership will be provided a priority list of individuals who will require further monitoring for previous mTBI or exposure to concussive events. mTBI Tracker will serve as a registry should individuals with a history of multiple concussions and may develop neurological problems in the future. OTSG is awaiting final approval for the modifications.

### **Why is this important to the Army?**

Soldiers who leave the military might not have the same easy access to treatment and care as their active duty counterparts. Active Component Soldiers can typically get as-needed access to medical professionals familiar with blast-related problems and post-traumatic injuries. Reserve Component Soldiers are, in general, less likely to have the same level of professional help. The intent of this mTBI Tracker follow-up capability is to serve as a personnel recording system for all ARNG members involved in a blast incident or contaminant occurrence, even in the absence of immediate physical symptoms. If the exposure to a blast or contaminant has long term impacts to the Soldiers, data will be used for Line of Duty (LOD) benefits.

### **Resources:**

Medical Operational Data System Web site: <http://www.mods.army.mil/>