



South Central MIRECC Communiqué

A publication of the Mental Illness Research, Education, and Clinical Center

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“Closing the efficacy-effectiveness gap”

Gains from Participating in the MIRECC Clinical Partnership Program

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We applied for funding from the MIRECC Clinical Partnership Program because it presented a great opportunity for us to “walk the walk” to improve clinical care from the frontline perspective of clinical practice, rather than just “talking the talk” about the importance of clinical research. Clinician researchers are at risk of becoming an endangered species, probably largely due to the lack of “protected time” (coverage for duties other than research so that research can occur) and because of growing clinical demands.

When we received funding in 2003 for a Clinical Demonstration Project focused on increasing patient adherence to outpatient substance abuse treatment, we thought protected time was still a possibility. Although this did not occur for us, the MIRECC is considering feasibility of protecting clinician time in the future. Despite this difficulty, accomplishments through our project funding included enrollment of 272 chronic relapsing patients in a behavioral program designed to enhance aftercare retention and family participation. Preliminary findings indicate that 100% of the subjects utilized facility-supported housing, yet, even with residential support, some failed to complete intensive treatment prior to aftercare enrollment. Despite the project’s behavioral intervention, only 25-30% of the subjects enrolled in aftercare, 80-90% of whom dropped out immediately upon losing facility-supported housing. Only 1-2% of the subjects had any family or friend involvement in an aftercare-affiliated family group. Even with the high drop out rate, the intervention helped project staff accomplish a face-to-face visit with about 50% of the subjects at 5 to 7 months after study enrollment.

Staff benefits from the project included experiencing the success of provider phone reminders regarding follow-up as well as the success of appointments for follow-up scheduled at patient convenience (date, time, & location) coupled with patient reward for keeping the follow-up appointment. The project did not impact family attendance by rewarding the patient nor did the project impact aftercare attendance if VA-supported housing was no longer available. However, future patients may benefit from our plans to link follow-up phone calls and face-to-face visits with rewards, to increase provider availability at sites convenient to homeless patients (Drop-In Center), to directly reward patient-identified family/friends that attend family group, to link future access to facility-supported housing (“big carrot”) to the patient having kept a continuity of care agreement, and to collaborate with Primary Care providers that are likely to see patients on an on-going basis.

Thus, we learned a lot from the MIRECC Clinical Partnership Program, despite unexpected problems with implementation and unexpected results from our intervention. If the MIRECC is able to

support more Clinical Partnership projects in the future, we encourage interested clinician researchers to apply for funding. This innovative program provides a way for clinicians to be part of the solution for healthcare improvement, rather than being perceived as part of the problem and in constant need of external direction from outside experts. If we do not proactively participate in opportunities to “grow” improvements from the ground up, we will be at even greater risk for a never-ending sequence of top-down mandates instructing us how to care for patients. Rather than complaining about Performance Measures and Clinical Practice Guidelines, this program gives clinicians opportunity to participate in the process of establishing evidence-based best practices.



VISN 17 – SC MIRECC PTSD Conference in San Antonio April 24-25

The VA Employee Education System (EES), VISN 17, and the South Central MIRECC have announced a PTSD conference on “*Treating Our Returning Soldiers: What We Need to Know*” on **April 24-25, 2006, in San Antonio, TX**. The program will be held from 12:30 PM Monday through 12:30 PM Tuesday at the South Texas Veterans Health Care System auditorium, Room 222. The purpose of this conference is to discuss new models for treating combat-related stress in returning soldiers, present the latest information on medication management of returning veterans, and report on behavioral interventions for treating combat-related stress.

Presenters include Harold Kudler, MD (*Strategies in the Service of New Combat Veterans*, and *Psychopharmacology of PTSD in New Combat Veterans*), Terry Keane, PhD (*Recent Advances in Psychological Treatment of Combat-Related Disorders in Returning Veterans*), Kimberly Arlinghaus, MD (*Treatment of Traumatic Brain Injury in Recently Deployed Veterans*), Patricia Resick, PhD (*Treatment of Military Sexual Trauma*), a panel of clinicians from Brook Army Medical Center to discuss medical and psychological problems of recently deployed soldiers.

This program is accredited for all disciplines. To register for the conference, go to <http://vaww.sites.lrn.va.gov/registration/Default.asp?CourseID=654> or email Maricela Bustamante at Maricela.bustamante@lrn.va.gov. **Deadline for registration is April 17.**

After the Storms: Employee’s Guide to Managing Stress The Shreveport Experience

The fifth program in the series, *Social Support and Services for Employees: The Shreveport Experience*, will be rebroadcast only two more times: **April 3, 2006 at 8:00 AM ET and April 5 at 7:00 PM ET** on Channel 1, VA Knowledge Network and on the Content Delivery Network (CDN) at <http://vaww.vakncdn.lrn.va.gov/>. This program features Mr. Tyrone Humphrey, a displaced New Orleans employee, who lost his home during Hurricane Katrina. Mr. Humphrey talks about how he has managed to cope over the past six months. He is currently located at the Overton Brooks VA Medical Center in Shreveport. Two Shreveport employees, Ms. Harriet Cunningham, RN, and Ms. Kimberly Banks, RN, describe how their facility responded to the needs of displaced employees and how this experience has affected them. Following this presentation, Dr. Josef Ruzek, from the National Center for PTSD, makes general comments and notes the importance of social support for healthy coping.

This series is sponsored by the MIRECC, the South Central VA Health Care Network (SCVAHCN), and the SCVAHCN Mental Health Product Line, in collaboration with the National Centers for PTSD and VA Employee Education System (EES).

Last Call for Books

The MIRECC has a limited number of copies of these books that we are making available to VISN 16 mental health clinicians at no cost. If you would like a copy of one or both books, please email your request to Dr. Michael Kauth at Michael.kauth@med.va.gov. Include your complete postal address for shipping.

Traumatic Stress

Michelle Sherman, PhD, and DeAnne Sherman have published a book titled, *Finding My Way: A Teen's Guide to Living with a Parent Who Has Experienced Trauma*. This book is intended to provide adolescents with accurate information about traumatic stress, as well as to normalize stress reactions, encourage open communication, support healthy coping, and offer hope. For more information about this book, go to www.seedsofhopebooks.com or 800-901-3480.

Dr. Sherman is Co-Chair of the MIRECC Families Studies Team and Director of the Family Mental Health Program at the Oklahoma City VA Medical Center. She is also a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.

Depression

Maga Jackson-Triche, MD, Kenneth B. Wells, MD, MPH, & Katherine Minnium, MPH, co-authored a book in 2002 titled, *Beating Depression: The Journey to Hope*. Written for consumers, the book presents expert advice and guidance on how to find a mental health professional, what medications and psychotherapy approaches are available, as well as effective skills to manage depression. The forward is written by former First Lady Rossalyn Carter, and the book has received excellent reviews from both clinicians and consumers. For more information about this book, go to www.amazon.com.

Dr. Jackson-Triche is Site Coordinator for the New Orleans MIRECC office; Director of the Mental Health Product Line, New Orleans VA Medical Center; and Professor, Tulane University School of Medicine.

Fellowship Videoconference Series on Research & Methodology

The VA Special Fellowship Program in Advance Psychiatry and Psychology hosts a series of excellent videoconferences on research and methodology. The current series runs through June 2006. These programs are intended for junior investigators and research trainees. Non-MIRECC Fellows are welcome to attend. To join a videoconference, contact Dr. Ruth O'Hara, Director, Special Fellowship Hubsite, at roh@stanford.edu or 650-493-5000 x63620 *well in advance of the program* to determine how and where your local site can view the conference. You can also join the program on *audio-only* and follow the slides from your desktop.

April 5: Challenges in Implementing Novel Approaches in Mental Health Research

Time: 1:00 – 3:00pm EST, 12:00 – 2:00 pm CST, 11:00-1:00pm MST, 10:00am – 12:00pm PST

Presenters: Scott Cardin, Ph.D., MIRECC Psychology Fellow,
Houston VA, Baylor University

Eric Kuhn, Ph.D., MIRECC Psychology Fellow,

Palo Alto VA, University of California at San Diego

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April 19: Mental Health and Comorbidities: A Translational Research Model

Time: 1:00 – 3:00pm EST, 12:00 – 2:00 pm CST, 11:00-1:00pm MST, 10:00am – 12:00pm PST

Presenters: Tom Tomcho, Ph.D., MIRECC Psychology Fellow,
Philadelphia VA, University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia,
John Stricker, Ph.D., MIRECC Psychology Fellow,
San Diego VA, University of California at San Diego

May 3: Data Transformation Approaches and the Importance of Centering

Time: 1:00 – 3:00pm EST, 12:00 – 2:00 pm CST, 11:00-1:00pm MST, 10:00am – 12:00pm PST

Presenter: Helena Kraemer, Ph.D., Professor of Psychiatry and Biostatistics,
Department of Psychiatry, Stanford University

May 17: Behavioral Treatment Approaches in Mental Health: Examples from Smoking Cessation Programs

Time: 1:00 – 3:00pm EST, 12:00 – 2:00 pm CST, 11:00-1:00pm MST, 10:00am – 12:00pm PST

Presenters: Andrea Weinberger, MIRECC Psychology Fellow,
West Haven VA, Yale University
Jessica Cook, MIRECC Psychology Fellow,
Seattle VA, University of Washington

June 7: Time Analysis and the Limitations of Repeated Analysis of Variance

Time: 1:00 – 3:00pm EST, 12:00 – 2:00 pm CST, 11:00-1:00pm MST, 10:00am – 12:00pm PST

Presenter: Helena Kraemer, Ph.D., Professor of Psychiatry and Biostatistics,
Department of Psychiatry, Stanford University

EES LIVE SATELLITE BROADCAST

Wednesday, April 5, 2006, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m., ET, Channel 1

A live satellite broadcast titled, *Translating the Mental Health Strategic Plan into Action*, will address how the mental health strategic plan can be translated into action. For a description or the program, handouts, and rebroadcast schedule please go to:

http://vaww.sites.lrn.va.gov/vacatalog/cu_detail.asp?id=21206.

New MIRECC Grants and Presentations from June-December 2005

Below is a partial list of new grants and new presentations by South Central MIRECC personnel during the last half of 2005. MIRECC personnel are identified in bold text. For more information, please contact the principal author directly.

GRANTS

Edlund, M. (PI), Hudson, T. (Co-PI): *Mental Health Problems, Substance Abuse, and Opioids for Chronic Pain*. Submitted to VAMC on 12/13/2005, proposed project period 7/01/2006 – 6/30/2009, \$515,195.

Fischer, E. (PI), **Pyne, J.M.** (Co-I), McSweeney, J. (Co-I), Williams, K. (Co-I), Valenstein, M. (Co-I), Blow, F. (Co-I): *Shared Decision-Making in Schizophrenia: Extent, Nature, and Predictors*. Submitted to VA HSR&D on 12/15/2005, proposed project period 7/1/2006 – 6/30/2009, \$690,474.

Fortney, J. (PI): *Implementing Telemedicine-Based Collaborative Care for MDD in Contract CBOCs*. VISN 16 / HSR&D, Grant No. IMV04-360, 10/1/2005 - 9/30/2008, \$1,354,349.

Hudson, T. (PI), Martin, B. (Co-PI), Owen, R. (Co-I), Phillips, M. (Co-I), Steffick, D. (Co-I): *Evaluation of the Florida Medicaid behavioral pharmacy management program*. 4/1/2005 - 3/31/2007, \$490,803.

PRESENTATIONS

Bellack, A., **Kauth, M.R.**, & Murphy, F. *A proposed plan of action for implementing a recovery-based model in VA: Role of MIRECCs in evaluating and implementing change*. Panel presentation at the National MIRECC Conference, Risk, Rehabilitation and Recovery: Treating Mental Illness in the VA, New Orleans, LA, June 7, 2005.

Blevins, D., **Kauth, M.R.**, **Henderson, K.**, **Mukherjee, S.**, Cody, M., & **Sullivan, G.** *Planning effective educational interventions for clinicians in complex mental health service systems*. Presented at HSR&D National Meeting, Washington, DC, 2006.

Booth, B.M. (UAMS), Carlson, R. (Wright State University), Falck, R. (Wright State University), Wang, J. (Wright State University), & Leukefeld, C. (University of Kentucky). *Rural methamphetamine and cocaine users: mental health and criminal justice correlates*. Presented at Addictions Health Services Research Annual Meeting in Santa Monica, CA. Oct 25-26, 2005.

Combs, D.R., Nelson, A., Adams, S., **Sherman, M.D.** *Empirically supported treatments for schizophrenia*. Workshop presented at Oklahoma Psychological Association's conference: Enhancing Outcomes Through Evidence Based Practice. Oklahoma City, OK, October, 2005.

Cuellar, A.K., & Johnson, S.L. *Affective dysregulations: Reactions to criticism in bipolar disorder*. Poster presented at the 39th Annual Convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapy (AABT), Washington, DC, November 17-20, 2005.

Edlund, M.J. (UAMS Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare Systems), Sullivan, M. (University of Washington), Steffick, D. (UAMS and Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare Systems), & Harris, K. (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration). *Do users of regularly prescribed opioids have higher rates of substance abuse problems than non-users?* Presented at Addictions Health Services Research Annual Meeting in Santa Monica, CA. Oct 25-26, 2005.

Fortney, J., **Pyne, J.M.**, **Edlund, M.J.**, **Henderson, K.**, **Mittal, D.**, & Robinson, D. *Telemedicine intervention to improve depression care in rural CBOC*. Presented at the Academy Health Meetings, Boston, MA, June 26-28, 2005.

Fukui, T., **Tan, G.**, Hammond, C., Jensen, M.P., & Rahbar, M. *A brief hypnotic procedure to reduce pain and associated distress in chronic low back pain*. Paper presented at the 47th Annual Scientific Meeting and Workshops, American Society of Clinical Hypnosis, St. Louis, MO, 2005.

Fukui, T., **Tan, G.**, Hammond, C., Jensen, M.P., & Rahbar, M. *A brief hypnotic procedure to reduce pain and associated distress in chronic low back pain*. Paper presented at the 30th Annual Conference of the Biofeedback Society of Texas, Galveston, TX., 2004.

Hebert, R., & **Tan, G.** *Alpha phase synchrony in long-term practitioners of transcendental meditation*. Paper presented at the 36th Annual Conference of the Association of Applied Psychophysiology and Biofeedback, Austin TX, 2005.

Hebert, R., & **Tan, G.** *EEG phase synchronization and cortical integration among practitioners of transcendental meditation*. Paper presented at the 30th Annual Conference of the Biofeedback Society of Texas, Galveston, TX, 2004.

Kauth, M.R. *Psychosocial rehabilitation training in VISN 16 & 17*. Presentation at the National MIRECC Conference, Risk, Rehabilitation and Recovery: Treating Mental Illness in the VA, New Orleans, LA, June 7, 2005.

Kauth, M.R., Sullivan, G., & Henderson, K. *Frontline providers promote action agenda themes through clinical products*. Presentation at the VA Best Practices in Mental Healthcare Systems: Transforming the VA Action Agenda in VISN Initiatives, Mesa, AZ, September 8, 2005.

Kauth, M.R., Martone, L., Sullivan, G., & Henderson, K. *Psychosocial rehabilitation training program: A MIRECC-VISN 16 & 17 collaboration*. Poster presentation at the VA Best Practices in Mental Healthcare Systems: Transforming the VA Action Agenda in VISN Initiatives, Mesa, AZ, September 9, 2005.

Kern, R., **Snow, A.L.**, Burgess, D., Buffum, M., & Douglas, M. *Research Update: Recent findings and future directions*. Symposium participation at the Fourth National Pain Management/End of Life Conference, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, March 1-3, 2005.

Kraus, C., **Kunik, M.E.**, Rhoades, H., Novy, D.M., Wilson, N., **Stanley, M.A.** *Cross cultural differences in older adults with GAD*. Poster presented at the 39th Annual Convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapy (AABT), Washington, DC, November 17-20, 2005.

Kunik, M.E. *Challenges of conducting a multi-site study in bipolar elders*. Poster to be presented at the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry (AAGP), San Juan, Puerto Rico, March 10-13, 2006.

Kunik, M.E. *Workshop on mental health services research*, Singapore Mental Health Institute, Singapore, January 17-19, 2005.

Kunik, M.E., Roundy, K., Veazey, C., Soucek, J., Richardson, P., Wray, N.P., & **Stanley, M.A.** *Surprisingly high prevalence of depression and anxiety in older adults with COPD*. American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry 18th Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, March 3-6, 2005.

Mittal, D., Palmer, B., Dunn, L., Ghormley, C., Beck, C., **McCullough, L.**, Williams, D., **Blevins, D.**, & Jeste, D. *Deficit compensation enhanced consent procedure in mild Alzheimer's Disease*. Presented at ICGP Annual Meeting, November 4, 2005.

Newsome, M.R., Scheibel, R.S., Hunter, J.V., Wang, Z.J., & **Levin, H.S.** *Brain activation during working memory after traumatic brain injury in children: Preliminary data*. Symposium presentation at the 33rd Annual Meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, St. Louis, MO, February 2, 2005.

Nietert, P.J. (Medical University of South Carolina), French, M.T. (University of Miami), **Kirchner, J.** (UAMS and VA South Central MIRECC), & **Booth, B.M.** (University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences). Utilization and cost of mental health, substance abuse, and medical services among at-risk drinkers. Presented at Addictions Health Services Research Annual Meeting in Santa Monica, CA. Oct 25-26, 2005.

Pyne, J.M. (UAMS), **Booth, B.M.** (UAMS), Tripathi, S. (UAMS), Rapp, R. (Wright State University), French, M. (University of Miami), & McCollister, K. (University of Miami). Relationship between preference-weighted health-related quality of life and substance use severity. Presented at Addictions Health Services Research Annual Meeting in Santa Monica, CA. Oct 25-26, 2005.

Senior, A., **Kunik, M.E.**, Rhoades, H., Novy, D., & **Stanley, M.A.** *Psychometric properties of self-report measures administered over the telephone.* Poster presented at the 39th Annual Convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapy (AABT), Washington, DC, November 17-20, 2005.

Sherman, M.D. *Life After Military Deployment: Supporting Soldiers and their Families during the Transition.* Behavioral Medicine Teaching Conference, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, December, 2005.

Sherman, M.D. *Important issues in listening, understanding, and serving our returning soldiers and their families.* Keynote address at VA / MIRECC / DOD conference: Caring for Post-Deployment Soldiers and Their Families. Portland, Oregon, November, 2005.

Sherman, M.D. *Coping with the challenges and embracing the opportunities of reintegration.* Keynote address at VA / MIRECC / DOD conference: Life After Deployment: How Soldiers and Families Support Each Other in Transition. Portland, Oregon, November, 2005.

Snow, A.L. *Pain and discomfort in persons with dementia: New insights for intervention.* A Workshop at the 10th Annual Edna Gates Conference on Alzheimer's Care, Troy, MI, July 2005.

Snow, A.L. *Effective communication among staff, residents, and family.* Community Workshop on behalf of the Houston and Southeast Texas Alzheimer's Association Chapter, June 2005.

Snow, A.L. *The NOPPAIN and pain assessment in persons with dementia.* Presentation to the Baltimore VA GRECC and University of Maryland at Baltimore Department of Epidemiology, May 2005.

Snow, A.L. *Treatment of pain for geriatric and debilitated patients.* Presentation at the 5th Annual VA VISN 5 Pain Symposium, Baltimore, MD, May 2005.

Snow, A.L. *A pain management research agenda in nursing home residents with dementia: Assessment to intervention.* Presentation to the University of Alabama Center for Mental Health and Aging, April 2005.

Snow, A.L. *Pain screening, assessment, and management in nursing home residents with severe dementia.* Presentation to the Department of Public Health and Primary Care, University of Bergen, Norway, April 2005.

Snow, A.L. *Symptom assessment in persons with severe dementia: Pain as an example.* Presentation at the Dignity for the Frail Old Invited International Conference, Bergen, Norway, April 2005.

Snow, A.L. *A pain management research agenda in nursing home residents with dementia: Assessment to intervention.* Plenary Address, VA Health Services Research & Development Annual Career Development Awardees Conference, Baltimore, MD, February 16, 2005.

Stanley, M.A. *The nature and treatment of anxiety in later life: A focus on cognitive behavioral approaches.* In J. Stream (Chair), *Anxiety in older adults: Old dilemmas, new perspectives.* Symposium, American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry, San Diego, March 2005.

Taber, K.H., Shaw, J.B., **Loveland, K.A., Pearson, D.A.,** Lane, D.M., & Hayman, L.A. *Dilated Virchow-Robin spaces in the centrum semiovale in children with autism.* Paper presented to the 37th Annual Gatlinburg Conference on Research and Theory in Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities, San Diego, CA, March 2004.

Tan, G. *Catastrophizing and cranial electrotherapy stimulation in veterans with SCI-related pain.* Poster presented at the 51st Annual Conference of the American Paraplegia Society, Las Vegas, NV, 2005.

Tan, G. *How to assess outcomes of biofeedback interventions in pain management?* Paper presented at the 30th Annual Conference of the Biofeedback Society of Texas, Galveston, TX, 2004.

Tan, G., Fukui, T., & Burkett, V.S. *Biofeedback and hypnosis in pain management.* Paper presented at the 4th National Leadership Conference: Pain Management and End of Life Care, Ft. Lauderdale, FL, 2005.

Tan, G., Nguyen, Q., & Jensen, M.P. *Working towards evidence-based medicine: Validating measures for veterans suffering from chronic pain.* Poster presented at the 8th Annual VA Psychology Leadership Conference, Dallas-Ft. Worth, TX, 2005.

Teng, E.J., Bailey, S.D., Hamilton, J.D., Chaison, A.D., & **Dunn, N.J.** *A pilot study on the effectiveness of panic control treatment for veterans with co-morbid PTSD and panic disorder.* Poster presented at the 39th Annual Convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapy (AABT), Washington, DC, November 17-20, 2005.

Teng, E.J., Bailey, S.D., Hamilton, J.D., Chaison, A.D., & **Dunn, N.J.** *The effectiveness of cognitive behavior therapy for veterans with PTSD and panic disorder.* Poster presentation at the National MIRECC Conference, Risk, Rehabilitation and Recovery: Treating Mental Illness in the VA, New Orleans, LA, June 6, 2005.

Veazey, C., **Kunik, M.E.,** & **Stanley, M.A.** *Outcomes and future directions: Treating anxiety and depression in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.* Poster presented at the 39th Annual Convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapy (AABT), Washington, DC, November 17-20, 2005.

Wardell, D.W., **Tan, G.,** Rintala, D., & Duan, Z. *A pilot study of a bio-field therapy for chronic neuropathic pain in spinal cord injury.* Poster presented at the National Congress on the State of the Science in Nursing Research, Washington D.C, 2004.

Webb, S.A., Diefenbach, G., Novy, D.M., **Kunik, M.E.,** Wilson, N., Rhoades, H.N., & **Stanley, M.A.** *Utility of GAD-Q-IV to identify late-life GAD in a referred primary care sample.* Poster presented at the 39th Annual Convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapy (AABT), Washington, DC, November 17-20, 2005.



April Conference Calls 1-800-767-1750

Please note: The April 19th Program Assistant Conference Calls has been moved up to 1:30pm CST (in lieu of our regular 2:00pm). The dial-in number and access code will remain the same. The change is for April only.

- 3—Education Core, 2:00 PM CT, access code 16821#
- 3—Access Group, 2:00 PM CT, access code 97738#
- 5—Neuroimaging Group, 9:00 AM CT, access code 24394#
- 11—Directors Call, 3:00 PM CT, access code 19356#
- 12—Neuroimaging Group, 9:00 AM CT, access code 24394#
- 19—Neuroimaging Group, 9:00 AM CT, access code 24394#
- 19—Program Assistants, **1:30 PM CT**, access code 43593#
- 25—Substance Abuse Team, General, 1:00 PM CT, access code 23400#
- 25—Directors Call, 3:00 PM CT, access code 19356#
- 26—Neuroimaging Group, 9:00 AM CT, access code 24394#

The next issue of the *South Central MIRECC Communiqué* will be published May 1, 2006. Deadline for submission of items to the May newsletter is April 25. Urgent items may be submitted for publication in the *Communiqué Newsflash* at any time. Email items to the Editor, Michael R. Kauth, Ph.D., at Michael.Kauth@med.va.gov or FAX to (601) 364-1395.

South Central MIRECC Internet site: www.va.gov/scmirecc/

SC MIRECC intranet site: yaww.visn16.med.va.gov/mirecc.htm

National MIRECC Internet site: www.mirecc.med.va.gov