

## Did You Know Risk Assessment for WTU Soldiers

### What is risk assessment?

Each Soldier completes a physical and behavioral health risk assessment screening with their team of Cadre upon arrival at the [Warrior Transition Unit \(WTU\)](#). Cadre members screen Soldiers for high-risk behaviors through questions about their medical and psychological history. These Cadre members continue to monitor and perform risk assessments with their respective Soldiers throughout the Soldier's time at the WTU and help navigate the Soldier through the transition process.

### Who is involved in risk assessment?

The following Cadre members are typically involved in gathering risk assessment information:

- Medical provider (typically the Primary Care Manager (PCM))
- Nurse Case Manager (NCM)
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)
- Squad Leader (SL)

Medical providers, NCMs, LCSWs and SLs are each responsible for conducting a one-on-one evaluation of the Soldier's risk level, which is reported to the Company Commander to develop the Commander's Risk Assessment.

Once screening is complete, the Commander and Soldier's [Triad of Care](#) (SL, NCM and PCM) decide upon and carry out any further action.

### When are Soldiers assessed?

**24 Hour Screening Assessment:** The NCM, PCM and LCSW each complete an initial risk assessment screening (composed of fifty questions) within 24 hours of the Soldier's arrival at the WTU. This ensures that the Soldier remains safe until the formal intake appointments occur and that no emergent or urgent conditions are missed.

**Full Intake Assessment:** No later than five days after the Soldier's arrival, the PCM, NCM and LCSW conduct comprehensive intake evaluations. The information gathered at these visits builds upon the initial 24 hour screening assessment. The Commander uses this new information to update the Soldier's risk assessment and mitigation plan as appropriate.

**Regularly Scheduled Assessments:** The Company Commander and the interdisciplinary team review all WTU Soldier risk assessments and mitigation plans monthly and all high-risk Soldiers weekly. These reviews occur at the [Triad](#) meetings.

**Reassessments:** The process of risk assessment, mitigation and reassessment repeats whenever significant changes or new information about a Soldier occurs. The process continues as long as the Soldier remains in the WTU.

***Special Actions for Evaluations of High Risk:***

Any provider or Cadre who assesses a Soldier as high risk in any category will notify the Soldier's Company Commander within one hour. No later than 24 hours thereafter, the Company Commander will notify the Battalion Commander, or the first Lieutenant Colonel in the chain of command, of a new assessment of high risk. Cadre then work together to find the best way to support the Soldier and reduce risk.

**What types of questions should Soldiers expect during risk assessments?**

The risk assessment includes questions about a Soldier's physical and behavioral health, both previous and current. Topics include: substance use, legal or financial issues, domestic violence and mental health questions.

**Where can I find more information?**

- [WTC Risk Assessment Webpage](#)
- [MEDCOM Behavioral Health](#)
- [U.S. Army Public Health Command](#)
- [U.S. Preventative Services Task Force](#)
- [Find a Military Hospital or Clinic](#)
- [U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center U.S.](#)

**Events that cause consideration of immediate reassessment:**

- Broken relationships
- Pending Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) action
- Significant financial difficulties
- Alcohol and drug abuse/misuse
- Acting out behaviors
- Social withdrawal or isolation, giving away belongings
- Milestones (Medical Evaluation Board (MEB)/Physical Evaluation Board (PEB) results, pending separation from the Army)
- News of significant combat in the Soldier's unit, or anniversary of past action
- Change in level of behavioral health care
- Suicidal or homicidal thinking or statements