



Jo Terry President Chip Terry Fund





Trauma and its effect on first responders and their family

The Chip Terry Story

Three Primary Brain Regions Affected by **PTSD and Their Functions**

Prefrontal Cortex

- Abstract thinking
- Personality development
- Behavior regulation
- Planning
- Problem Solving

Amygdala

- Decision making
- Emotional memories
- Regulates behavior
- Initiates response to fear

Anatomy of the Brain



Hippocampus

- Memory consolidation
- Navigation and spatial memory
- Learning

Reactive Mode – increases stress hormones

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Results: Accelerates heartrate and respirations; converts glycogen to glucose for energy

Fight flee or freeze

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Responsible for restorative mode

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 Results: slows respiration and heart rate
 Feed/Breed/Rest

Effects of Stress Hormones

Weight gain Chronic fatigue Anxiety Depression Low libido Irritability Headaches

Gut issues Compromised immunity Heart Disease Diabetes Cancer

Normal Response to Trauma

Normal Response to Trauma

Threat:

- Limbic system takes control: reactive mode - Non-essential body/mind processes shut down - Sympathetic nervous system: fight or flight

Normal Response to Trauma

Threat:

Threat Ceases: - Parasympathetic nervous system: restorative mode - Reduces stress hormones - Brain shifts back to normal

- Limbic system takes control: reactive mode - Non-essential body/mind processes shut down - Sympathetic nervous system: fight or flight

PTSD Response to Trauma

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Threat:

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PTSD Response to Trauma

- Threat:
- Threat Ceases: occurs -

- Limbic system takes control: reactive mode - Non-essential body/mind processes shut down - Sympathetic nervous system: fight or flight

Shift from reactive to restorative mode never

Holds the individual in a constant reactive state



What is PTSD?

Civil War: Soldiers heart; exhaustion WWI: Shell shock WWII: Combat fatigue; Gross stress reaction

What is PISD?

Civil War: Soldiers heart; exhaustion WWI: Shell shock WWII: Combat fatigue; Gross stress reaction Today: Post-traumatic stress disorder

What is PISD?





What happens to the brain with PTSD? PTSD causes your brain to function in danger mode – high alert



What happens to the brain with PTSD? PTSD causes your brain to function in danger mode – high alert Amygdala enlarges – responsible for fight or flight



alert Amygdala enlarges – responsible for fight or flight Hippocampus shrinks – responsible for memory

PTSD causes your brain to function in danger mode – high



- alert
- Amygdala enlarges responsible for fight or flight Hippocampus shrinks – responsible for memory making and focus

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Results: The Thinking Center is under-activated

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Results: The Thinking Center is under-activated The Emotional Center is under-activated

PTSD causes your brain to function in danger mode – high



- alert
- Amygdala enlarges responsible for fight or flight Hippocampus shrinks – responsible for memory making and focus

Results: The Thinking Center is under-activated The Emotional Center is under-activated The Fear Center is OVER-activated

PTSD causes your brain to function in danger mode – high







Healthy vs Classic PTSD vs TBI vs Both









First Responder Stressors

- Chronic fatigue levels
- Exposure to mass violence and destruction
- Prolonged or failed rescue operations
- responders.
- Witnessing the death of a child

Cumulative stress because of repeated exposure to trauma Repeated exposure to death, dismembered body parts and human remains, which may include those of fellow first

Seeing a peer or partner killed or injured in the line of duty


-	Intrusive memories, dreams, or flashbacks of a specific incident
-	Refusing to talk about a traumatic event
-	Losing interest in activities
•	Avoiding places where a traumatic event occurred
-	Feelings of hopelessness, guilt, or low self-worth
-	Distancing themselves from others
-	Feeling tense or on-edge all the time
	Sleep disturbances



PTSD Symptoms

-	Intrusive memories, dreams, or flashbacks of a specific incident
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- Paranoia or overwhelming fear
- Irritability or aggressive outbursts
- Inability to focus
- Reduced work performance or missed days
- Increased alcohol or drug consumption
- Unreasonable reactions to average situations
- Risky, dangerous, or selfdestructive behavior

PTSD/Suicide Statistics for First Responders

PTSD/Suicide Statistics for First Responders

	FIRE FIGHTERS
PTSD	14.6 - 22%
DEPRESSION	11%
SUICIDAL THOUGHTS	46.8%

Heyman, Miriam, et al. "The Ruderman White Paper on Mental Health and Suicide of First Responders." Ruderman Family Foundation, Apr. 2018.

POLICE OFFICERS	GENERAL POPULATION
35%	6.8%
9 - 31%	6.7%
7.8%	UNKNOWN



Four Categories of PTSD

Intrusive Thoughts	Mood Alterations	Hypervigilance	Avoidance
Unwanted memories	Shame/Blame	Neurotic behavior	Withdrawal
Flashbacks	Argumentative	Irritable or aggressive	Re-routing
Nightmares	Persistent Negativity about self/world	Sleep disturbance	
	Diminished interest in activities/alienated	Self destructive	







Withdrawa

PTSD causes the brain to perceive threat where there is none Reactive mode -

PTSD causes the brain to perceive threat where there is none
Reactive mode

For an injured brain to heal, you must be in the parasympathetic nervous system
Restorative mode



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Flashbacks and nightmares
Attempt at healing



- PTSD causes the brain to perceive threat where there is none Reactive mode -
- system **Restorative mode** -
- Flashbacks and nightmares Attempt at healing -
- Therapists facilitate the healing process Open the mind to healing

For an injured brain to heal, you must be in the parasympathetic nervous







Exercise



Exercise
Talking



- Exercise
- Talking
- Meditation



- Exercise
- Talking
- Meditation
- Yoga



- Exercise
- Talking
- Meditation
- Yoga
- Active decompression



Common Evidence Based Treatments

- **Cognitive Behavioral Therapy**
- Cognitive Processing Therapy
- Prolonged Exposure
- (EMDR)

Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing



New Methods Being Researched Stellate Ganglion Blocks (SGB) Neuro Feedback Psychedelics- LSD, mushrooms Ketamine Injections

SGB: The Neck Jab



- Over 30 individuals
- Must be diagnosed with PTSD by a mental health clinician
- Reduction in anxiety, hypervigilance and anger

ONLY ON FOX19 NOW A BEHIND-THE-SCENES LOOK ON A NEW PROCEDURE FOR PATIENTS WITH PTSD



PTSD diagnostic tool developed by the National Center for PTSD

Published in 2013 and widely used in research and clinical settings

20 item questionnaire scored from 0 – 80 (the higher the score the greater the severity)

Scores from 40 – 59 indicate moderate severity





SGB Outcome Study

100 individuals were surveyed 67 responded Pre-intervention PCL-5 scores average: 54 Individuals were given 1 or 2 SGB over a period of 6 weeks and required to attend therapy with a clinically competent mental health professional Post-intervention PCL-5 scores were obtained 3 to 12 months after the last block.

Post Intervention PCL-5 score average: 25



BA in Music from NKU MA in Organizational Leadership Covington Firefighter from 1986 to 2012

Adjunct professor at UC Fire Science Program







Photo courtesy of Al McLaughlin











The Chip Terry Fund Outreach

Since 2018: 250 first responders assisted with inpatient and outpatient therapy, SGB, and referrals

Awareness and Prevention seminars Fundraisers

Resiliency programs





Ky Fire Commission \$1.25 Million

- To participate in the PTSD Reimbursement Program: Complete an Application (fillable PDF) -

 - Complete a Substitue W-9
 - Provide signed and dated Medical Diagnosis Certification Form (fillable PDF)
- Email forms to Delores Montgomery Collins

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