



Seattle Institute for Biomedical and Clinical Research

July - September 2020

SPOTLIGHT ON SCIENCE

MELANIE HARNED, PHD, ABPP



Melanie Harned, PhD, ABPP is a Psychologist at the VA Puget Sound, Seattle Division where she leads the Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) program for Veterans at high risk for suicide. She is also an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Washington (UW). She received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2002, completed a predoctoral internship at McLean Hospital/Harvard Medical School, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship focused on DBT clinical trials research at the University of Washington (UW). Prior to joining the VA Puget Sound in 2018, Dr. Harned worked as a Senior Research Scientist and the Director of Research at Dr. Marsha Linehan's Behavioral Research and Therapy Clinics at UW (2006-2018), Director of Research and Development for Behavioral Tech, LLC (2014-2017), and Director of Behavioral Tech Research, Inc. (2013-2016).

Dr. Harned is the developer of the DBT Prolonged Exposure (DBT PE) protocol and has received multiple grants from NIMH to develop and evaluate this approach to treating PTSD in high-risk and multi-diagnostic patients. She has also received multiple NIH grants to develop and evaluate technology-based methods for disseminating and implementing evidence-based psychotherapies into clinical practice. Her current NIMH grant is focused on developing pragmatic methods of assessing therapist adherence to DBT. In addition to her work at VA Puget Sound, she regularly provides training and consultation nationally and internationally in DBT and DBT PE.

COVID-19 GRANT PROPOSALS

As of June 19th, SIBCR has submitted the following COVID-19 related grant proposals:

- **Dr. David Au** – “SARS-CoV2 Epidemiology, Severity And Recovery: Effect of COPD and Social Determinants of Health (SEARCH Study)” – NIH
- **Dr. Edward Boyko** – “Health and Well-being of Service members, Veterans, and Military Spouses prior to and during the Course of the COVID-19 Pandemic” – DoD
- **Dr. Kristina Crothers** – “Is Tobacco Use Really Protective for COVID-19 Health Risks?” – PCORI
- **Dr. Elizabeth Rhea** – “Transport of SARS-CoV-2 across the blood-brain barrier in diabetes” – ADA
- **Dr. Andrew Saxon** – “COVID-19, heavy drinking and alcohol use disorders: a national study of Veterans Administration patients” – NIH
- **Dr. Erika Shearer** – “Telesupervision During COVID-19 Pandemic: A Quasi-Experimental Hybrid Implementation Effectiveness Trial” – PCORI
- **Dr. Debby Tsuang** – “Using technology to improve mental health in older African American Veterans during the COVID-19 pandemic” – PCORI
- **Dr. Sakeneh Zraika** – “Impact of COVID-19 on Pancreatic Islets” - ADA