# **SUPPORTING PROVIDERS** WHO SERVE VETERANS

Veterans are unique. Understanding their experiences and healthcare needs helps guide treatment and recovery.

### Veteran Suicide Risk Factors

- Psychiatric Conditions (PTSD) and TBI
- Experience of Suicidal Thoughts
- Unresolved Severe Chronic Pain
- A Non-suicidal Self-injury
- Access to Lethal Means
- Exposure to Suicide
- Combat Experience
- Sleep Disturbance
- Substance Abuse

Risk assessment

## IN THE UNITED STATES ...

SUICIDE RATES ARE

HIGHER FOR VETERANS

SUICIDE IS THE **th** LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH

# **Provider Experiences**

- Unfamiliar with nuanced needs of Veterans
- Limited exposure to Veterans at risk of suicide
- Unsure how to counsel on access to lethal means
- Concern for Veteran patient

**Provider support** 

Strategies for how to engage

after a suicide loss

SUICIDE RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTATION PROGRAM helps community and VA providers

Lethal means safety counseling

Conceptualization of suicide risk

#### **Benefits of SRM Consultation and Resources**

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**Veteran** gains an individualized, evidence-based risk management plan **Provider** feels supported and confident in their treatment decisions

#### Learn more at www.mirecc.va.gov/visn19/consult

## **REQUEST A**

**Best practices for documentation** 

**FREE CONSULT** 

Veterans at high risk

srmconsult@va.gov



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U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs