STPA Applied to Destructive Human Behaviors

Elizabeth White Baker, PhD SDM '22 Associate Professor, Information Systems Virginia Commonwealth University

Dale Russell, Ph.D. Director of Research Commander Surface Naval Force, Pacific Fleet Nancy Leveson John Thomas MIT







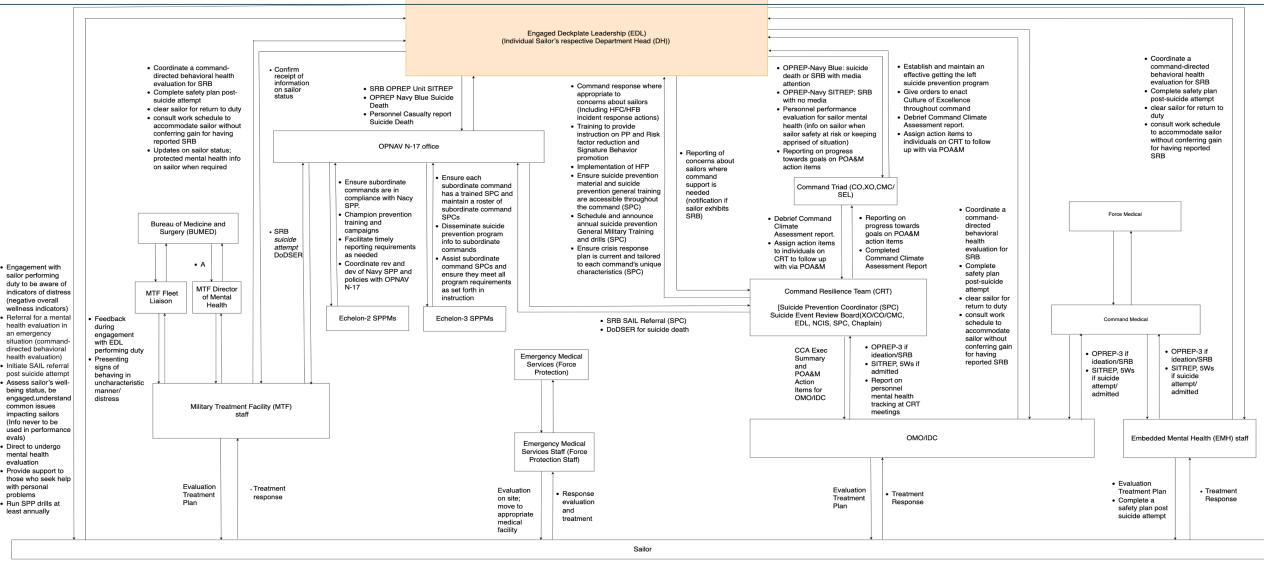
Motivation

- SURFOR has several efforts (e.g., Operational Surface Risk Indicators project) underway to leverage multisource data to better understand and predict outcomes of concern.
- Adding additional models to those already built can improve the capability to model risk:
 - These modeling approaches can address problems that cannot be analyzed with the data currently being collected: underreporting of incidents, and continuity of reporting when safety-related positions change
- Taking a step back and looking at Destructive Behaviors (DB) as part of the Navy's larger socio-technical system can provide insight into organizational and leadership factors that can influence DB:
 - While a significant departure from the typical analysis of DB
 - It *underpins DoD's Integrated Primary Prevention (IPP)* efforts by indicating where the protective factors at the organizational level and leadership level that can reduce DB, not only protective factors at individual Sailor level

Problem Statement

- How can we promote protective factors through our organizational structure and policies and our leadership actions?
 - How can we address the underreporting of incidents that might lead to DB?
 - How can we address the continuity of reporting when safetyrelated positions related to DB change?
- The project aims to identify loss scenarios that can arise from unsafe control actions in the system, providing amplified opportunity for DB to occur using STPA.
 - modeling and analyzing the controls (policy and leadership decision-making) over DB.
 - This analysis can lead to successful, systemic interventions to lower DB prevalence rates.

Suicide/SRB Control Structure



Key to Abbreviations on Control Structure

A: All of the items below are control actions from BUMED to MTF Director of Mental Health

evals)

· Develop treatment P&P from clinical practice guidelines for sailors who exhibit SRBs

· Develop P&P to ensure medical personnel execute suicide prevention responsibilities, including communicating and coordinating with Sailor's

command Ensure all MTFs maintain written suicide prevention protocols in acute care

areas and ERs

Ongoing – Takeaways

- Will be completed for Sexual Harassment/Assault, and Alcohol and Drug incidents, in addition to Suicide/SRB.
- It *underpins DoD's Integrated Primary Prevention (IPP)* efforts by identifying where the protective factors at the organizational and leadership levels can help reduce DB outcomes.
 - Underreporting: how do we account for the parts of the IPP that are not mandatory reporters before the DB escalates to "medical"? Why is buy-in by all warfighters essential?
 - *Continuity of Reporting:* Criticality of continuity demonstrated in the control structure
- Provides additional evidence of the successful application of STPA to illicit novel insights to improve the engineered environment that surrounds a particular process, such as engagement in destructive behaviors.

Questions and Answers

Contact Information:

Elizabeth White Baker bakerew@vcu.edu