

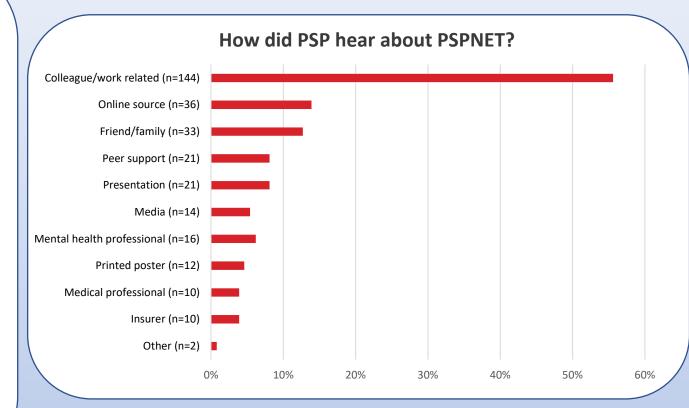
# Why do Public Safety Personnel Seek Tailored Internet-Delivered Cognitive Behavioural Therapy? An Observational Study of Treatment-Seekers



### Introduction

- Public safety personnel (PSP; e.g., border services, correctional workers, firefighters, paramedics, police officers, public safety communicators, search and rescue personnel) report high rates of mental health disorder symptoms and many barriers to accessing care.
- Internet-delivered cognitive behavioural therapy (ICBT) can help overcome barriers to mental healthcare, and recent studies have indicated that PSP are receptive to ICBT.
- The current study was designed to explore the mental health disorder symptoms, functioning, motivations, and treatment perceptions of PSP seeking tailored ICBT.

Caeleigh Landry, BA; Hugh McCall, MA; R. Nicholas Carleton, PhD; Heather Hadjistavropoulos, PhD



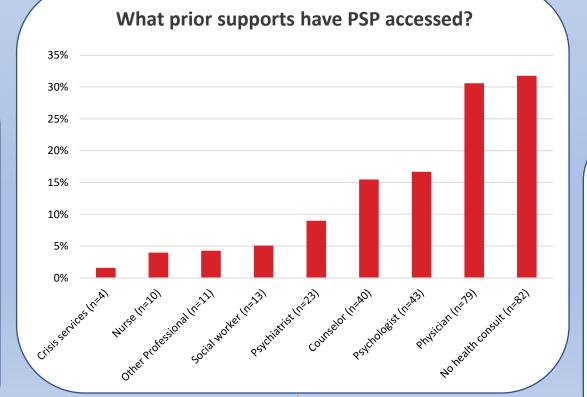


Sample: 180 PSP in Saskatchewan and Quebec.

#### **Measured Variables:**

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Posttraumatic stressdisorder
- Panic disorder
- Social anxiety
- Alcohol use disorder
- Drug use disorder
- Anger

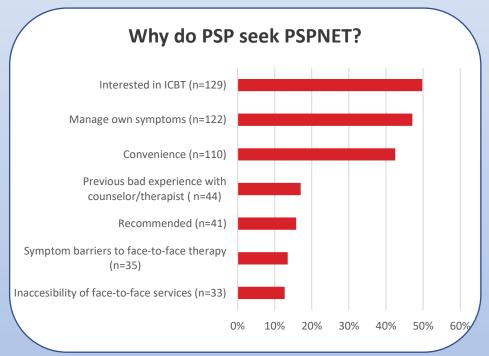
- Demographics
- Functioning
- Past treatments
- How clients heard about PSPNET
- Motivations for seeking ICBT
- Perceptions and expectations of ICBT



## CIPSRT Canadian Institute for Public Safety Research and Treatment CIPSRT ICRTSP Institut canadien de recherche et de traitement en sécurité publique

### Results

- Most (61%) reported elevated symptoms of anxiety, depression, and posttraumatic stress disorder.
- Most PSP (61%) indicated hearing about PSPNET from colleagues or other work-related sources.
- Most (92%) PSP reported feeling ICBT would be successful in improving their functioning.



### **Conclusions**

- PSP seek ICBT for diverse and often comorbid symptoms due to its convenience and an interest in managing their own symptoms
- Many PSP reported engaging in help-seeking behaviours prior to seeking ICBT, and most PSP reported hearing about PSPNET through work-related sources.
- The current results provide insights into factors related to ICBT treatment-seeking among PSP and can be helpful to all involved in the development, evaluation, or funding of mental health services for PSP.