



Center *for*  
Rural Health

University of North Dakota  
School of Medicine & Health Sciences

<http://medicine.nodak.edu/crh>

## NARCH Pilot Study: Mood Disorder Assessment Validation with Northern Plains Indians.

Jacqueline S. (Jacque) Gray, PhD

Angelique (Angie) Gillis, M.A.

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*Connecting resources and knowledge to strengthen  
the health of people in rural communities.*



### Center *for* Rural Health

- Established in 1980, at the University of North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences in Grand Forks, ND
- Focuses on:
  - Education, Training, and Awareness
  - Community Development & Technical Assistance
  - Native American Health
  - Rural Health Workforce
  - Rural Health Research
- Web site: <http://medicine.nodak.edu/crh>



## Background

- Mood disorders including depression & anxiety are among the major health problems of American Indians
- Clinical assessments for these disorders have not been validated with American Indians
- These disorders may have different symptoms in American Indians



## Background continued

There may be mediating factors including:

- Historical Trauma
- Cultural identification
- Quality of Life
- Socioeconomic Status
- Health Status



## Approval Process

- Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairs Health Board (AATCHB)– Resolution 11/06
- University of North Dakota Institutional Review Board (UND IRB) 3/07; 05/07
- Aberdeen Area IHS Institutional Review Board (AAIHS IRB) 3/07; 06/07
- Resolution from each participating tribe
- Letter from each Service Unit CEO



## Contacts with Tribes

- Service Unit CEO
  - Letter supporting research
- Tribal Health Directors
- Tribal Health Board/Committee
- Tribal Council
  - Resolution agreeing to participation



## Study Objectives

- Collect normative data on commonly used clinical mood disorder assessments
- Determine the validity of the measures to detect specific mood disorders in Northern Plains Indians
- Determine the reliability of the measures with Northern Plains Indians
- Assess differences between those using substances and those who are not.
- Determine if spiritual, traditional, and cultural practices may provide a protective factor.



## Mood Disorder Measures

- Beck Depression Inventory-II (BDI-II)
- Center for Epidemiological Studies-Depression Scale (CES-D)
- Tri-Ethnic Center for Research-Depression Scale (TEDS)
- Beck Hopelessness Scale (BHS)
- Beck Anxiety Inventory (BAI)
- Symptom Checklist-90-Revised (SCL-90-R)



## Other Measures

- Demographic/Health History Questions
- Substance use questions
- Northern Plains Bicultural Inventory-Revised (NPBI-R)
- Quality of Life Inventory (QOLI)
- Clinical Diagnosis Code (DSM-IV)  
Substance Use Subtle Screening Inventory-III (SASSI-3)
- Rumination Survey



## Participants

- Total of 600: 300 male, 300 female
- 3 Groups
  - Diagnosed as depressed by clinician
  - Diagnosed as anxious by clinician
  - No DSM-IV Diagnosis
- Each group
  - 100 male
  - 100 female



## Compensation/Benefits

- Participants - \$10 Wal-Mart or gas card.
- Tribes - \$5/participant
- Clinics - mood disorder assessment norm data for:
  - Aggregate Northern Plains Indians
  - Tribal specific data if it enough participants to maintain confidentiality
- Patients - better clinical assessment & treatment



## Training for American Indians

- University of North Dakota
  - Doctoral Graduate Research Assistant
    - ✓ Angie Gillis, MHA Nation, New Town, ND
  - INPSYDe Undergraduate research team
- Sinte Gleska University (Rosebud)
  - Counseling Master's Students
- Cankdeska Cikana Community College (Spirit Lake)
  - INBRE Research Program
  - UND Nursing Doctoral Student
    - ✓ Lori Brownshield, Fort Totten, ND



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For more information contact:

Jacque Gray, Ph.D.

Center for Rural Health

University of North Dakota

School of Medicine and Health Sciences

Grand Forks, ND 58202-9037



Tel: (701) 777-0582

Fax: (701) 777-6779



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