Investigator:	Bekh Bradley Phone: (404) 321-6111 ext. 5175 Email: Bekh.Bradley-Davino@va.gov
Primary Research Interest:	Psychology
Description of Research:	Dr. Bradley's research focuses on 3 Primary areas: 1) Psychological risk/resilience factors for PTSD following trauma exposure including genetic, environmental and GXE risk factors. 2) Understanding long-term psychobiological impact of early life abuse and other early life adverse events. 3) Program evaluation of and treatment outcome research focused on intervention related to psychological impact of trauma.
Relevance to VA:	Posttraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) has been estimated to develop in up to 20% of combat-exposed veterans. Across traumatized populations, PTSD is highly co-morbid with a number of physical, mental, and quality of life problems including, but not limited to: (1) substance abuse, (2) major depression, (3) suicide/suicide attempts, (4) work impairment, and (5) use of health care. Combat Veterans with PTSD are presenting in increasing frequencies to the Veteran's Health Administration (VHA) for health care, including PTSD treatment. However, not all veterans exposed to combat are equally likely to develop PTSD. The mechanisms involved in the differential risk for PTSD are among the most interesting and important facing our field. Understanding mechanisms underlying PTSD risk/resilience will inform the development of new PTSD treatments.