

Appendix D
Interview Protocol

Date: _____

Location: _____

Name of Interviewer: _____

Name of Interviewee: _____

Initial Interview:

After the demographic questionnaire, I will begin the interview with the following statement and questions: “You were chosen for this study because you are a female veteran living in a rural area of New England. Would you please describe in detail your experiences seeking mental health counseling services while you have been living in a rural area?” I will use prompts and probing questions to encourage participants to provide detailed information about their experiences.

After participants have responded to this first question, if they have not already discussed these areas, I will make these requests or ask them these additional questions. I will not make these requests or ask these questions if they have already been discussed by participants.

1. Do you currently live in the New England area?

2. How long have lived in this general area?

3. How far away is the closest health care facility for veterans?

4. If you have received mental health services as a veteran, how far did you have to travel to receive those services? Tell me about your experiences.
5. Do you feel that military cohesion ideas have kept you in any way from seeking mental health services? Why or why not?
6. What were your experiences with seeking treatment for mental health services since leaving military service?
7. Please describe your experience with the type of mental health services you were seeking and needing at this time?
8. Please describe your experience with any health insurance benefits you have used when seeking mental health services?
9. Please describe your level of satisfaction with your mental health needs being met or not met by the government services you have been provided?
10. Please discuss whether living in a rural area has had an impact on your seeking and receiving mental health services as a veteran? If so, how?

11. Do you have anything more to add about your seeking mental health services since you have been a veteran?