

21st APRIL 23-25, 1998
 Annual Sheraton Chicago Cityfront
 Meeting Chicago, Illinois

Deadline for receipt in National Office: *January 9, 1998*
 TYPE name, address and telephone number of author who
 should receive correspondence in box A and complete boxes B,
 C, D, E, F, G, H and I.

A. Name MARTIN DONOHUE M.D.
 Address _____

 Telephone _____

B. Payment (Payment must accompany this abstract)
 Check (\$60.00) # _____
 Credit Card Guarantee (\$60.00)
 American Express Visa Mastercard
 Cardholder's exact name: _____
 Credit Card No.: _____
 Expiration Date: _____
 Signature _____
 Purchase Order (\$85.00) # _____
 (Include copy with submission)

C. Consider for Associates Award
 D. Consider for Junior Faculty Award
 E. Do not consider for poster session
 F. Consider for poster session only

G. Name and Signature _____ (please type name) _____ (signature)

THE HEALTH EFFECTS OF WAR AND THE MEDICAL LITERATURE. MT Donohoe*, M Wang[#], and R Rouhbksh*. General Internal Medicine, Oregon Health Sciences University*, Portland, and Department of Surgery, University of Southern California[#], Los Angeles.

The medical and public health consequences of war are numerous and account for a great deal of suffering. Medical education has paid scant attention to these consequences, necessitating self-education for those who are interested, which often leads to a search for pertinent articles through a computerized database, such as Medline. Medline was searched to determine the number and types of articles available which pertained to war.

The Medline database covering July, 1994 through October, 1995 was searched by combining the keywords military, militarism, war, warfare, nuclear warfare/weapons, chemical warfare/weapons, biological warfare/weapons, holocaust, torture, human rights abuses, refugees, and peace. A classification system was constructed and all 1417 English language citations articles retrieved were grouped by content, as suggested by title, by two of the authors (MTD and MW). Agreement was greater than 95%. A subsample of abstracts and articles was checked to verify the accuracy of this method, which resulted in the reclassification of 10% of articles originally considered not to pertain to war and 5% of studies originally considered to cover military medicine and the war-related health problems of soldiers, as clinical studies of non-war-related health problems in soldiers and veterans.

Thirty-five percent of articles dealt with the effects of war on civilians, such as trauma, public health disturbances, torture, war crimes, and non-conventional methods of warfare; 20% covered military medicine and health problems specific to soldiers; 28% were not related to aggression between groups or nations, but instead related to "the war on tobacco," or other non-military uses of the term war; and 7% were studies of non-war-related health problems using soldiers or veterans as research subjects. Only 3% dealt with peace or the ethics of war. None focused on education surrounding war-related issues.

Less than 1/3 of articles found using a keyword search of the Medline database for articles relating to the health effects of war covered the effects on civilians. A very small number covered ethics and peacemaking, and none dealt specifically with war education for health professionals. Given the significant global morbidity and mortality resulting from militarization and war, war education is underemphasized in the medical literature, a finding which parallels its absence from most medical school curricula.

The margins of the abstract box are:
 Top: 4.25"
 Bottom: 1.75"
 Left: 1.25"
 Right: 1.25"

Abstract
 size
 6"
 5"
 Abstract
 fit ins

H. Check a single category

<input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Epidemiology/Clinical Research	<input type="checkbox"/> Prevention	<input type="checkbox"/> Special or Vulnerable Populations
<input type="checkbox"/> Medical Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Psychosocial/Behavioral Medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> Managed Care
<input type="checkbox"/> Medical Ethics/Qualitative Research	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision Analysis/Informatics/Cost Effectiveness	<input type="checkbox"/> Women's Health
<input type="checkbox"/> Health Services Research		<input type="checkbox"/> Community Health
<input type="checkbox"/> Geriatrics/Aging		<input type="checkbox"/> History & Philosophy of Medicine

I. Was outside private commercial or industrial support provided for this project? Yes No
 If yes, please include a letter providing details about the support.