INTRODUCTION
With the inception of the GI Bill, there has been an increased enrollment of veterans in colleges and universities. However, veterans’ adjustment to school is different than that of civilians.

• Concerns of PTSD, TBI, depression.
• Issues with memory, attention, concentration, and executive functions leave an impact on daily life.
• Most of the veterans have seen multiple deployments.
• Concerns of PTSD, TBI, depression.
• Issues with memory, attention, concentration, and executive functions leave an impact on daily life.

An RCT at the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center at Fort Carson, studied those with blast related TBI and concentration.

• With a more homogenous sample will give clearer understanding of the Interactive Metronome.

• Rehabilitative process and may be especially helpful for veterans.
• Based on our results and past studies, we believe that the Interactive Metronome is a valuable tool in the rehabilitation process and may be especially helpful for veterans.

MATERIALS & METHODS
Recruited veteran (prior Active Duty or contraction) students and employees from East Carolina University who self-identified as having problems with attention. Subjects were given the IM Home system after meeting with the PI and completing the COPM and D2.

The IM is a computerized program that operates on the theory of “training the brain to plan, sequence, and process information more effectively through repetition of interactive exercises.” It’s been shown to improve attention, motor planning, focus, and aggression.

RESULTS

Participant 1
Female, 55, Full Time University Employee, Government Contractor for 14 years. Has felt that in the last 3 years she’s been more forgetful, can’t remember names, last minute appointments, has to work harder at keeping attention.

Participant 2
Male, 28, Full Time Student, Employed Part Time, Prior Army for 5 years. Has noticed change in attention and more forgetfulness as time has gone on. Reports lapses of concentration while studying and in the classroom.

Participant 3
Male, 38, Full Time Student, Prior Marine Corps for 3 years. Wanted to improve attention, narrow focus. Has noticed that he less able to multitask and is more scattered.

DISCUSSION

• Through the COPM, we found that all participants rated their satisfaction with attention in school or work higher than before they started the IM.
• With minor exceptions, participants improved in their performance with the IM over 15 sessions.
• All participants were able to process more information in their post-test D2 Test of Attention. Although two of the three participants also showed an increase in percentage of errors, they all improved in the Concentration Performance measure. This measures the coordination of speed and accuracy of performance in the test.
• Two of the three participants felt that the IM helped with better attention, thus improving their school and work performance.
• Based on our results and past studies, we believe that the Interactive Metronome is a valuable tool in the rehabilitation process and may be especially helpful for veterans.
• Another large, longitudinal randomized control trial with a more homogenous sample will give clearer indications of the efficacy of the Interactive Metronome.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank my research advisor, Dr. Trujillo for the time and mentoring he has provided me in this process. Thank you to my advisory committee for helping me grow as a researcher and student.

Thank you to Interactive Metronome for providing our veterans with the equipment and support we needed to complete the project.