Objective:
This course will explain the background, history, methods and reasons for the creation and existence of the joint Department of Defense (DoD)/Veterans Affairs (VA) Vision Center of Excellence (VCE).
After many years and an extensive amount of service member ophthalmic casualties, Congress sought to create a unique Vision Center of Excellence to improve care for our injured service members and their families. This course will give an in depth perspective of the many programs and efforts to better the ophthalmic lives of active service members and those who have served.
Mission Statement:
The Vision Center of Excellence (VCE) mission is to lead and advocate for programs and initiatives to improve vision health, optimize readiness and enhance quality of life for Service members and Veterans

1. Disclosure and Disclaimer
2. Leadership
   a. Executive Director
   b. Interim Deputy Director
   a. Creation of 5 Centers of Excellence 2008
   b. NICoE, DCOE, HCE, ECoE, VCE
4. History and Creation of the Vision Center of Excellence
   a. Prevention, Diagnosis, Mitigation, Treatment and Rehabilitation of military eye injuries
   b. Collaborate to the maximum extent practicable with VA, institutions of higher learning and public and private entities
   c. Develop a tracking registry: injuries, treatments, outcomes
   d. Focus on post-TBI vision dysfunction
   e. Establish coordination of care and benefits between DoD and VA
5. Mission Statement of the VCE
   a. Department of Defense and the VA
6. Stakeholder Engagement
   a. Who are the VCE Stakeholders
   b. Service Members and Family Members
7. Contemporary War Casualties
   a. Current war casualties are driving changes in healthcare needs and changes in Research and Development (R&D)
8. Spectrum of Ocular Injuries
   a. Range from mild surface injury to blindness
b. Vision Dysfunction associated with traumatic brain injury

9. Continuum of Care
   a. Department of Defense medical care
   b. VA Medical care
   c. Visual rehabilitation

10. Initiatives
   a. Treatment
      i. World Wide Ocular Trauma Conference (WWOTC)
      ii. Committee on Tactical Combat Casualty Care (CoTCCC)
   b. Prevention
      i. Military Combat Eye Protection (MCEP)
      ii. Authorized Protective Eyewear List (APEL) and PEO Soldier
      iii. Contact Lens use in theater
      iv. Refractive Surgery
   c. Mitigation
      i. Rigid eye shield application for injured eye
         1. Education and Examples
      ii. *Shields Save Sight* campaign
         1. Protection
         2. Prevention
         3. Materials
   d. Rehabilitation
      i. Clinical recommendations
      ii. Blinded veterans association conference
      iii. VA Resources
         1. Blind Rehabilitation Centers
         2. Blind Rehabilitation Outpatient Specialists
         3. Visual Impairment Services and Centers
      iv. Assistive Technology
   e. Outreach and Social Media
      i. Podcasts
ii. Facebook and Twitter
iii. Website
iv. Frontlines on Eye Care

11. Locations
   a. Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Bethesda Maryland
   b. Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma Washington
   c. Crystal City, Virginia

12. Contact Information

13. Additional Resources and Questions