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Burnpit Registry



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THE INIM PRESENTS

THE GULF WAR WAR DISPATCH



NEWSLETTER UPDATE

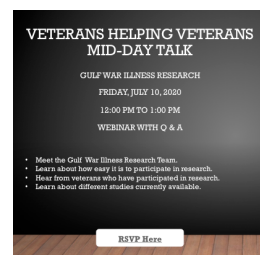
The Gulf War Dispatch will transition from a monthly to a quarterly release.

The next newsletter will be distributed October 2020.

Thank you!

RECAP - VETERANS HELPING VETERANS MID-DAY TALK: GULF WAR ILLNESS RESEARCH

On Friday, July 10, we hosted a free webinar - Veterans Helping Veterans Mid-Day Talk: Gulf War Illness Research.



If you didn't get a chance to join us, you can watch the recording on our YouTube channel by clicking the image.

CURRENT RESEARCH

Reboot Study: TNF & Glucocorticoid Antagonist For GWI Associated Multi-Symptom Disease Hemostasis Reset

This dosage finding study will evaluate the safety, effectiveness and biological response to two medications (TNF and Glucocorticoid receptor antagonists) in changing your bodies “sick response” of GWI into a more permanently healthy condition.

For more information, please contact us at **954-262-2870** or email **GWICTIC@nova.edu**.

CMI/GWI Survey Study

In this study, we are working to get a better understanding of veterans' unexplained illnesses around the country, as well as, creating a registry for future contact. The survey asks participants if they would like to be contacted regarding future research opportunities and findings. The institute will reach out ONLY to those who agree to be contacted regarding information about studies that are available to them both locally and nationally and invitations to online seminars and events in the participant's area.

CMI/GWI Survey Study link: <http://bit.ly/2NXzrh1>

CMI/GWI Survey Study Follow-Up!

Thank you to all those veterans who have participated in the CMI/GWI Survey Study! Due to your vital responses, a follow-up study is now available for you to participate in.

The follow-up study will allow our researchers to take a deeper look at your environmental exposures during the Gulf War; the health of your dependents and your symptoms and recovery from COVID-19, if you were exposed or infected. To participate in the CMI/GWI Survey Study Follow-Up, please click on the link below to participate.

CMI/GWI Survey Study Follow-Up link: <https://bit.ly/2ZDSfWH>

**You must complete the CMI/GWI Survey Study before participating in this follow-up study.*

Ongoing Gulf War Illness Research



Reboot Study: TNF & Glucocorticoid Antagonist For GWI Associated Multi-Symptom Disease Hemostasis Reset



CMI/GWI Survey Study

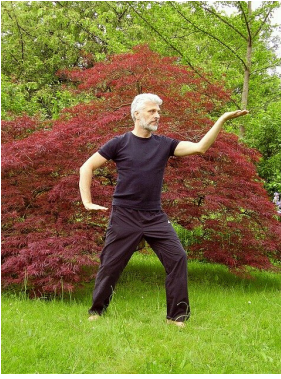


CMI/GWI Survey Study Follow-Up

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For more information on these studies, contact us at 305-575-7648 or VHAMIAGWI@va.gov, or visit our website:

<https://www.nova.edu/nim/research-studies/research-studies.html>

FREE RESOURCES



"T'AI CHI FOR VETERANS is a new Federal program from the Veterans Administration Community Care Network in collaboration with TaijiFit International enabling Veterans to participate in T'ai Chi classes, FREE OF CHARGE

T'ai Chi is an evidence-based, simple, and drug-free treatment for improved energy, balance, mental clarity, blood pressure, PTSD, depression, chronic pain, and so much more."

<https://www.taijifit.net/veteran-sign-up-page>

"Headspace is here to give you the tools and resources to look after your mind. And now, more than ever, it's time to support those who really need it. If you're unemployed, you can get a free year of Headspace Plus to help you get back on your feet."



"In response to the global impact of the coronavirus (COVID 19), we at DoYogaWithMe would like to help anyone who is experiencing hardship. Many people are quarantined and many others have lost loved ones.



To do our part, we are offering all current free members and new visitors 2 months of free access to our premium content."

The VA has many free mental health apps for Veterans like Mood Coach, COVID Coach, and Mindfulness Coach.



"WARRIOR STRONG, INC. Is offering free online fitness classes for veterans & their families!" Visit their website: <https://www.warriorstronginc.org>, and click: Online Fitness Classes and choose among their yoga and fitness videos.

Veterans Crisis Line

Call 1-800-273-TALK (8255) and press 1 or text to 838255

The Veterans Crisis Line is a free, confidential resource that connects veterans 24 hours a day, seven days a week with a trained responder. The service is available to all veterans, even if they are not registered with the VA or enrolled in VA healthcare. People who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have hearing loss can call 1-800-799-4889.

AIRBORNE HAZARDS AND OPEN BURN PIT REGISTRY



OEF/OIF/OND/OFS Veterans and Servicemembers who have deployed to the Southwest Asia theater of operations on or after August 2, 1990 as well as those who have deployed to Afghanistan or Djibouti after September 11, 2001 can use the registry questionnaire to report exposures to airborne hazards (such as smoke from burn pits, oil-well fires, or pollution during deployment), as well as other exposures and health concerns. VA will determine eligibility for the Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry based on deployment information from the Department of Defense (DoD).

To be eligible, you must be a Veteran or Servicemember who deployed to contingency operations in the Southwest Asia theater of operations at any time on or after August 2, 1990 (as defined in 38 CFR 3.317(e)(2)), or Afghanistan or Djibouti on or after September 11, 2001. These regions include the following countries, bodies of water, and the airspace above these locations:

· Iraq · Afghanistan · Kuwait · Saudi Arabia · Bahrain · Djibouti · Gulf of Aden · Gulf of Oman · Oman · Qatar · United Arab Emirates · Waters of the Persian Gulf, Waters of the Arabian Sea, Waters of the Red Sea

Why sign up?

1. Create a snapshot from which to identify changes in your health.
2. Print and use your completed questionnaire to discuss concerns with your provider.
3. Learn about follow-up care and VA benefits.

<https://veteran.mobilehealth.va.gov/AHBurnPitRegistry/#page/home>

VETERAN SPOTLIGHT

Kary L. McNeal, III

Operation Enduring Freedom/ Operation Iraqi Freedom Veteran

"I am my Brother's Keeper" – a phrase learned by Kary during his many years served in the United States Marine Corps that he continues to follow today.

Kary L. McNeal, III joined the Marine Corps out of High School because he has always had a duty to serve and defend those who could not defend themselves. During his time in the Marine Corps, Kary rose to the rank of Gunnery Sergeant and deployed to both Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom conflicts.



One of the phrases the Marine Corps and Kary holds dear is, "I am my Brother's Keeper" which had great meaning and value to Kary during combat operations. "We looked out for each other, no matter what our background. We were there to protect each other, accomplish our mission and return home to our families. It seemed like when we left our units, returned home and exited the service, so did this phrase".

Kary owns Aquatic Ventures in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. His dive shop certifies approximately 800 divers a year. After seeing how scuba diving benefited the divers he certified, he decided to use his experiences to reach out to our Veterans in an effort to reduce the number of Veteran suicides. He found that Scuba Diving helped in numerous ways. First, it helped bring Veterans out of isolation, as diving is a social sport. Second, it allowed divers to live in the moment with no concern for anything in the past or future. Living in the moment is exactly what Scuba Diving is, and it offers peace for the precious moments we are underwater which makes it a great treatment for PTSD. Third, it offers people confined to a wheelchair the ability to leave the chair behind.

Kary found a way to bring the phrase "I am my Brother's Keeper" back into play through his non-profit organization Dive4Vets, a foundation designed to introduce mentally and physically disabled veterans to scuba diving for its psychological and medically therapeutic benefit. Dive4Vets provides free training for combat-wounded Veterans to obtain their Open Water Diving Certification and assists in providing the Veteran with their own equipment. Dive4Vets also offers several events throughout the year, giving Veterans the opportunity to dive for free and experience the weightlessness and freedom that diving affords them.

On June 22, 2019 Dive4Vets received a great honor by being recognized with a Proclamation from Fort Lauderdale Mayor, Dean J. Trantalis. The Proclamation proclaimed June 22nd as Dive4Vets Day for the continued work Kary and his team do for combat wounded Veterans and their families in the area.