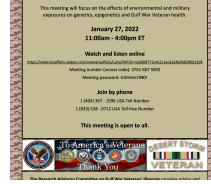




Current Research



2022 SHIELD Conference



RAC GWI Meeting



VA News Release

THE INIM PRESENTS

# THE GULF WAR DISPATCH



VISN 8 Lung Precision Oncology Program

## Did you know there are new screening guidelines for lung cancer ?

Lung cancer is the deadliest cancer among Veterans and the second most common cancer in men and women. Lung cancer screening and early detection saves lives.

- \* If found in its earliest stage, lung cancer can be treated
- \* A low-dose CT scan only takes a few minutes

When it comes to your health, knowledge is power.

Speak to your primary care doctor to find out if lung cancer screening is right for you.

### VA's New Lung Precision Oncology Program (LPOP)

Having supportive care is invaluable. Matching the best treatment to the individual is the system of excellence across the United States that fosters personalized care for Veterans.

# CURRENT RESEARCH

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

The Reboot Study, also known as the TNF & Glucocorticoid Antagonist For GWI Associated Multi-Symptom Disease Hemostasis Reset, is actively recruiting. The purpose of this study is to find the most effective dosing and duration regimen for etanercept and mifepristone in changing the body's "sick response" of GWI into a more permanently healthy condition.

This study takes place over 24 weeks - 7 in-person visits and 2 virtual/phone visits.

This study is currently enrolling male Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm Veterans with Gulf War Illness symptoms.

Locations: Nova Southeastern University's Davie Campus and Miami Veterans Affairs Healthcare System.

If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please email: [gwictic@nova.edu](mailto:gwictic@nova.edu) or call: 954-262-2870.

## **BBrain for GWI: Boston Biorepository, Recruitment and Integrative Network for GWI**

The goal of BBrain for GWI, also known as the Boston Biorepository, Recruitment, and Integrative Network for GWI, is to learn more about the ways that Gulf War illness affects veterans while establishing a central resource site for Gulf War researchers to further encourage collaboration and sharing of information.

Participating in the study would involve a one-day visit to one of the below clinical sites. At the visit, you will be asked to give blood samples, saliva samples, and take tests on memory, thinking skills, daily functioning, and behavior.

This study is currently recruiting Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm Veterans.

Locations: Boston University Medical Center, Miami VA Medical Center, Bronx VA Medical Center, and San Francisco VA Medical Center.

If you are interested in learning more about the study and seeing if you are eligible, please call 617-358-2230 or email [bbrain@bu.edu](mailto:bbrain@bu.edu). Travel reimbursement is also available.

## Ongoing Gulf War Illness Research



### **The Reboot Study**



### **BBrain for GWI**

***More Gulf War Illness  
research studies  
coming this year.  
Stay Tuned!***



For more information on these studies, contact our Gulf War Illness Research

Team at

305-575-7648 or

[VHAMIAGWI@va.gov](mailto:VHAMIAGWI@va.gov), or visit our website:

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

# Updates

Save the Date!

## 2022 SHIELD Conference



February 25, 2022 | 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EST  
via Zoom



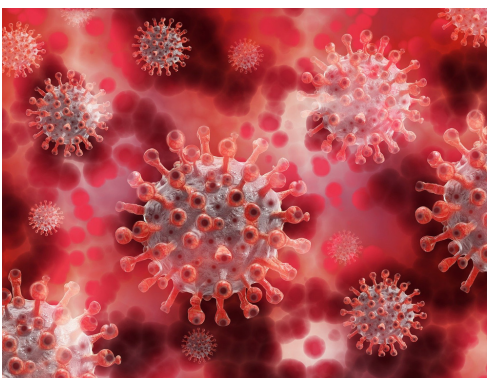
\*The appearance of U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) visual information does not imply or constitute DoD endorsement.

Institute for  
Neuro-Immune Medicine  
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY  
NSU  
Florida

The Institute for Neuro-Immune Medicine and GWICTIC will be hosting the 2022 Sustained Homeostatic Imbalance due to Environmental-exposure Linked to Deployment (SHIELD) Conference on Friday, February 25th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. EST. Registration link and details to be released shortly!

**Be sure to follow The Institute for Neuro-Immune Medicine and GWICTIC on social media for updates!**

## COVID UPP Study Launching



We are launching recruitment for the COVID UPP study for participants who receive care at Jackson Health, Baptist Health, Broward Health, and the Miami VA Healthcare System.

Email messages will be sent to individuals by these health systems that will ask them to consider partnering with us to answer survey questions every 3 months for 3 years.



# Gulf War Veteran Event

## Meeting of the Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses

This meeting will focus on the effects of environmental and military exposures on genetics, epigenetics and Gulf War Veteran health.

**January 27, 2022**  
**11:00am - 4:00pm ET**

### Watch and listen online

<https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/j.php?MTID=ma60df771e4c2c1ecda24b0b6290b32d4>

Meeting number (access code): 2761 607 5692

Meeting password: GWVets1990!

### Join by phone

1 (404) 397 - 1596 USA Toll Number

1 (833) 558 - 0712 USA Toll-free Number

**This meeting is open to all.**



The Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses provides advice and makes recommendations to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on proposed research studies, plans, and strategies related to understanding and treating the health consequences of military service in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during the 1990 - 1991 Gulf War.

## VA extends presumptive period for Persian Gulf War Veterans



VA has extended the presumptive period to December 31, 2026 for qualifying chronic disabilities rated 10% or more resulting from undiagnosed illnesses in Persian Gulf War Veterans to ensure benefits established by Congress are fairly administered.

Limiting entitlement to benefits due to the expiration of the presumptive period would be premature given that current studies remain inconclusive as to the cause and time of onset of illnesses suffered by Persian Gulf War Veterans.

VA presumes certain medically unexplained illnesses are related to Persian Gulf War service without regard to cause, including, chronic fatigue syndrome, fibromyalgia, functional gastrointestinal disorders. Also included are undiagnosed illnesses with symptoms that may include but are not limited to abnormal weight loss, cardiovascular disease, muscle and joint pain, headache, menstrual disorders, neurological and psychological problems, skin conditions, respiratory disorders and sleep disturbances.

Persian Gulf War Veterans who are experiencing any of the symptoms listed above and other unexplained medical issues are encouraged to file a compensation claim for them.

Link to file a compensation claim: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage>

To read the VA's Office of Media Relations announcement, visit:

<https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/96639/va-extends-presumptive-period-for-persian-gulf-war-veterans/>

## PUSHING FORWARD

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

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

We are working to get a better understanding of veterans' unexplained illnesses around the country as well as creating a registry for future contact with the CMI/GWI Survey Study. The survey offers participants with the opportunity to be contacted regarding local and national, and current and future research opportunities as well as invitations to online seminars and events. The institute will reach out ONLY to those who agree to be contacted.

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

Please, continue to share this study as well as all current and future research. Your role as a volunteer subject in clinical research is crucial in the pursuit for understanding that will help improve the health of future generations.

Thank you for your service and continued support.