This initial issue of the State Surgeon’s bulletin will summarize the recent issue of the Department of Veterans Affairs “Gulf War Newsletter” which can be found online in its entirety at www.publichealth.va.gov/docs/gulfwar/gulfwar-newsletter-feb201.pdf.

The issue covers the following topics:

- Committee Review
- Fibromyalgia
- Research Roundup
- Gulf War Registry
- Burn Pit Registry
- Camp Lejeune Presumptives
- WRIISC Introduction
- My HealtheVet

Independent Committee To Review Intergenerational Effects of Gulf War Service

The Health and Medicine Division (HMD) of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine is reviewing their research findings to determine if there is sufficient evidence whether there are health effects related to those who served during the first Gulf War that can be passed on to their offspring. These results will be released in 2019.

Fibromyalgia - What You Need to Know

This is a health condition which is characterized by unexplained pain which occurs throughout the body. Symptoms will include the following:

- At least three months of unexplained pain in the muscles, tendons, and other soft tissues
- Points on the neck, shoulders, back, hips, arms, or legs that are tender and hurt with pressure
- Additional health problems such as sleep disturbances, headaches, memory problems

Research Roundup

- CoQ10 in Gulf War Illness
- Complementary and Alternative Medicine for Sleep, Health Functioning, and Quality of Life in Veterans with Gulf War Veterans’ Illnesses
- Post-Exertional Malaise in Gulf War Illness: Brain, Autonomic and Behavioral Interactions
- WRIISC as a Model for Chronic Multi-Symptom Illness
- Gulf War Era Cohort and Biorepository

Gulf War Registry Health Exam

This examination is free for Veterans who served in the Gulf during Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, or New Dawn to learn about any possible health issues related to environmental exposures during their military service. Veterans will receive a comprehensive exam and a follow-up evaluation if the Veteran has health concerns or a change in their health status.

If interested, Veterans can contact their local VA Environmental Health Coordinator at http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/coordinators.asp. Additional information can be found at http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/gulfwar/benefits/registry-exam.asp

The purpose of the State Surgeon’s Bulletin is to provide information concerning Veterans’ health issues and will change with each edition.
Symptoms can be managed. This IS a presumptive illness for Gulf War Veterans.

How Many Gulf War Registry Exams Were Conducted?
Initial: 181,914 Follow-Up: 1,472
As of: 12/31/2016

To Request Gulf War Newsletter
Depart of Veterans Affairs, ATTN: Mailing List, 1615 Woodward St. Austin, TX 78772

Open Burn Pit Registry
The Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry is the Depart. of Veterans Affairs fasting growing registry.

It opened in June 2014 and since then more than 100,000 Veterans who have served in the Gulf War and served again in Southwest Asia have joined. It is estimated than three million men and women who served or are serving are eligible to join this registry. Veterans can enroll in the burn pit registry at the following:
https://veteran.mobilehealth.va.gov/AHBurnPitRegistry/

Additional information can be found at the following:
www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/burnpits/registry.asp
Agent Orange Registry Health Exam can be found at the following:

VA Announces Presumptive Conditions for Camp Lejeune Veterans
Due to contamination of two on-base water supply systems with contaminants used in the 1980’s at Camp Lejeune, NC the VA has established a presumption of a service connection if the veteran had served at the base between August 1st, 1953 and December 31st, 1987 and later developed one of the following conditions:
- Adult leukemia
- Aplastic anemia and other myelodysplastic syndromes
- Bladder cancer
- Kidney cancer
- Liver cancer
- Multiple myeloma
- Non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma
- Parkinson’s disease

For more information, go to http://www.benefits.va.gov/COMPENSATION/claims-postservice-exposures-camp-lejeune-water.asp

War Related Illness and Injury Study Center (WRIISC) Helping Veterans Live Better
This is a national VA post-deployment health resource which is dedicated to serving Veterans through their health care providers through clinical care, research, education, and risk communication.
For more information, see http://www.warrelatedillness.va.gov/clinical/index.asp

My HealtheVet www.myhealthevet.va.gov
Can be used to refill prescriptions, communicate with VA health care providers and view appointments.