

COMPENSATION & PENSION EXAM, TOXIC EXPOSURE SCREENING, AND REGISTRY EXAMS

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

With the new toxic exposure screening required by section 603 of the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022 (the PACT Act), Veterans may have some questions about which exams and screenings they need, when they need them, and what purposes these exams and screenings serve. This comparison chart breaks down some key differences:

EVALUATION TYPE	PURPOSE	DESCRIPTION
 Compensation and Pension (C&P) Exam	Part of the claim decision process to help determine service connection and rate a disability for purposes of compensation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Exams administered as part of the VBA claims process but performed by VHA or contracted providers. » Enrollment in VA care is not required to receive VA benefits, but the exams may provide a basis for eligibility to enroll in VA care.
 Toxic Exposure Screening	<p>Helps identify Veterans with exposure concerns and advises them how to connect with benefits, resources, and services.</p> <p>Not part of the VA benefits claims process.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » VA must offer the toxic exposure screening to all enrolled Veterans as required by section 603 of the PACT Act. » The screening will be repeated at least once every 5 years. » Screenings will take 5-10 minutes. » If a Veteran has exposure concerns, VA staff will provide them with additional information and resources and advise them on next steps.
 Registry Evaluation	Information collected is used for research and quality improvement purposes and is not for clinical care, nor to determine eligibility for health care or benefits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » VA has six registries: Agent Orange, Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pits, Depleted Uranium, Gulf War, Ionizing Radiation, and Toxic Embedded Fragments. » VA's health registry evaluations are free, voluntary medical assessments for Veterans who may have been exposed to certain environmental hazards during military service. » There is no requirement to be enrolled in VA health care or receive other VA benefits to participate in a registry. » Exams take approximately 60 minutes and are performed by a VA or military health provider. Veterans can contact the nearest local VA medical facility Environmental Health Coordinator about getting a registry evaluation.
 Million Veteran Program (MVP)	Information collected is used for research, not for clinical care or to determine eligibility for health care or benefits. No direct, in-person toxic exposure screening is involved.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » VA will use information to learn how genes, lifestyle, and military experiences and exposures affect health. » Participants provide informed consent, a blood sample, and secure access to their health records with MVP. » There is no requirement to be enrolled in VA health care to enroll in MVP. Participation is entirely voluntary. » Join online at mvp.va.gov or call 866-441-6075 to schedule an appointment.

For more information visit:

www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/

www.VA.gov/PACT

VA



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