Gulf War I Registry Examinations
The Atlanta VAMC Experience
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Gulf War Registry Exams

- Compensation and Pension/Special Exams Unit Section
- C & P exams
- Agent Orange Registry exams
- Gulf War Registry exams
- Military Separation exams
- Other exams
Gulf War Registry Exams

- Section Chief
- Examiners—MD’s, NP’s, Fellows, Residents
- Administrative staff
Gulf War I Era

- Desert Shield and Desert Storm
- U.S. deployed 697,000 military personnel
- Kuwait Theater
- Public Law 102-585—Gulf War Registry
## Gulf War I Veteran’s Demographics

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age (mean) in 1991 (years)</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caucasian</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enlisted</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Officer</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Army</td>
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<td>Navy</td>
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<td>Marines</td>
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<td>Air Force</td>
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<tr>
<td>Active duty</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserves or National Guard</td>
<td>17</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Gulf War I Registry Exams

• Per EAS registry, 3272 unique registry exams completed in Atlanta VAMC from 01/01/1990 to 12/31/2008
• Represents 3098 unique veterans—2692 males and 406 females
• For 2009, 19 exams for Gulf War I veterans completed to date
Gulf War I Registry Exams 1990-2008

- Atlanta
- VA Wide

The graph shows the number of registry exams conducted over the years. The data for VA Wide significantly exceeds that of Atlanta.
Atlanta Gulf War I Registry Exams 1990-1999
Atlanta Gulf War I Registry Exams for Two Decades

Decade 1: 2000
Decade 2: 1200
Atlanta Gulf War I Registry Exams 1990-2008

One Exam
Two Exams
Three Exams
Three Gulf War I Registry Exams

- 1990-1995
- 1996-2001
- 2002-2005
- 2006-2008
Gulf War I Registry Exams

Exposures

- Smoke from oil fires
- Diesel fumes
- Exposure to burning trash/feces
- Drank or consumed food contaminated with smoke, oil or other chemicals
- Unknown chemicals
- Bathed in contaminated water
- Drank contaminated water
Common Symptoms/Complaints in Male Veterans

- Depression
- Tremor
- Dyspnea
- Hair loss
- Diarrhea
- Dyspepsia
- Sleep dist
- Back pain
- Migraines
- HTN
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Arthralgia
- Rash
- PTSD
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Dyspepsia
- Sleep dist
- Back pain
- Migraines
- HTN
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Arthralgia
- Rash
- PTSD
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Dyspepsia
- Sleep dist
- Back pain
- Migraines
- HTN
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Arthralgia
- Rash
- PTSD
Common Symptoms/Complaints in Female Veterans

- Bloating
- Hair loss
- FMS
- Tremor
- Arthralgia
- Headaches
- Rash
- Fatigue
- HTN
- Back pain
- Migraines
Gulf War I Registry Exams

- PTSD
- Panic disorder
- Diverticulitis
- Migraine headaches
- Diabetes mellitus
- Sleep apnea
Gulf War I Registry Exams

- Coronary atherosclerotic heart disease
- Depressive disorder
- Benign prostate hypertrophy
- Hiatal hernia
- Bipolar disorder
- DJD of multiple joints
Gulf War I Registry Exams

- Complete Compensation and Pension claim if not already done
- Primary care follow up at the VAMC or with private provider
- As health condition changes, follow-up with another registry examination
Gulf War I Veterans and C & P examinations

- Exam specific requests seen in veteran who served in Gulf War
- Gulf War exam requests with symptom related complaints
Gulf War I Veterans and C & P Examinations

- Cough
- Dyspnea
- Fatigue
- Arthralgias
- Rash
- Chest pain
- Gastroenteritis
- MS
- Headaches
- Rhinitis/Sinusitis
- Back pain
- Sleep disorder
- FMS
- CFS
- Memory Loss
- Depression
Gulf War I Veterans and C & P Examinations

- Greater outreach and encouragement to complete Gulf War registry examinations
- Encouragement to complete C & P claims
- Awareness that the VAMC is available and ready to assist with healthcare needs
References

- EAS Registry reports and data, retrieved 02/09/2009
- Atlanta VAMC Gulf War Registry exam data, retrieved 02/09/2009
- IOM, Gulf War and Health, Volume I
- IOM, Gulf War and Health, Volume IV
- www.va.gov