

WHAT VA PROVIDERS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT VET-HOME



What is VET-HOME?

Veterans Exposure Team-Health Outcomes Military Exposures (VET-HOME) is a VA program serving Veterans with military environmental exposures. Its top priority is performing congressionally mandated telehealth registry evaluations for Veterans anywhere in the United States.

How do I reach VET-HOME?



Call toll-free:
833-633-8846 or
833-MEE-VTHM

*Press 1 if you are a Veteran
Press 2 if you are
a VA provider*



Hours:

9:00a.m. to 6:30p.m. ET



VET-HOME Portal:
vethome.va.gov

How does VET-HOME help VA providers?

VA providers can contact VET-HOME for information about:

- **Military environmental exposures** and how they relate to the health of Veterans
- Guidance on **diagnostic evaluations**
- VA's **environmental health registry program** and other exposure-related services

VA providers with clinical questions about military environmental exposures will be connected with a VET-HOME clinician. A VET-HOME clinician is a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner with special training in military environmental exposures. These VET-HOME clinicians are located throughout the United States.

VA providers whose patients have persistent, medically unexplained symptoms may consider placing an interfacility referral to the War Related Illness and Injury Study Center (WRIISC).

More information about WRIISC and the referral process is available here: warrelatedillness.va.gov/WARRELATEDILLNESS/referral/index.asp

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What are VA's environmental health registries?

VA's environmental health registries provide no-cost voluntary environmental exposure medical evaluations to eligible Veterans.

A registry evaluation is a thorough history and physical with special attention to symptoms and concerns potentially related to military environmental exposures; it does not include treatment or disability opinions.

Learn more about VA's environmental health registries at: <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/benefits/registry-evaluation.asp>.

Who can contact VET-HOME?

VET-HOME is available for Veterans and VA providers. VA providers are encouraged to share information about VET-HOME with their patients and colleagues wanting information about VA registry evaluations. Any Veteran eligible for an environmental health registry evaluation is encouraged to contact VET-HOME.

If I am a VA health care provider, can I expect any communication from VET-HOME about my patients?

All VET-HOME documentation will be entered into the electronic health record (CPRS or Cerner) at the Veteran's home VA facility. VET-HOME clinicians will also update the Veteran's problem list. In the event of any clinically significant abnormalities (such as a new cancer or critical labs), VET-HOME clinicians will contact the Veteran's primary care provider via closed-loop communication.

VA currently offers the following environmental health registries:

- [Agent Orange Registry](#)
- [Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry](#)
- [Gulf War Registry](#)
- [Ionizing Radiation Registry](#)
- [Depleted Uranium Follow-Up Program](#)
- [Toxic Embedded Fragment Surveillance Center](#)

Should I refer a Veteran to VET-HOME for treatment for a health-related issue?

Because VET-HOME clinicians do not follow Veterans over time, treatment is outside their scope. Veterans needing treatment of symptoms or conditions associated with military environmental exposures are encouraged to follow up with their primary care provider and/or appropriate specialist.

Will VET-HOME or registry exam participation help Veterans receive VA benefits?

Although registry evaluations can be used to support disability claims, they are separate and distinct from disability evaluations. As a Veterans Health Administration program, VET-HOME is not permitted to render opinions on causation for disability claims, which fall under the Veterans Benefits Administration's purview. Veterans with questions or concerns related to disability claims are encouraged to call 1-800-827-1000 or file a claim online at www.va.gov/disability.

Where can I find additional information online?

For additional information, visit the [VET-HOME web page](#).

For information about military environmental exposures, go to publichealth.va.gov/exposures/index.asp.

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