

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Karshi-Khanabad (K2) Legislation



Army troops follow an airman at Karshi-Khanabad Air Base
United States Air Force, photo by Tech. Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol

Presented by: William J Culpepper II, PhD, MA
Deputy Director, Epidemiology Program
Health Outcomes of Military Exposures, PCS, VHA

Date of briefing: 29 June 2023

National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) 2021

- Mandated DoD conduct epidemiologic study on health effects associated with deployment to K2
 - Contracted with Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory
 - Design & conduct an epidemiology study on health (morbidity) outcomes
 - Status
 - Funding in place & JHU Personnel hired
 - Secured credentials to access VHA data systems
 - Data requests submitted
 - Final report anticipated by DEC 2024

- Mandated VA contract with Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) to assess health effects of K-2
 - Contract ratified with ATSDR MAR 2021
 - ATSDR to re-evaluate samples collected during environmental site surveys
 - Completed - report on Contaminants of Concern at K2 report submitted to Congress JAN 2023
 - ATSDR assist with community forum meetings
 - Actively engaged in the planning and implementation
 - Final report on the health effects associated with K2 deployment due to Congress MAR 2030

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