

Table 5.

Resources and Benefits for Toxin-Related Exposures

Resource	Eligibility	Description	Contact
Screening for toxin-related exposures			
Veterans Affairs Toxic Exposure Screenings	All veterans enrolled in VA health care Required assessment through the PACT act	5 to 10-minute screening for toxic exposure concerns, repeated every 5 y Assessment helps connect the veteran with resources, benefits, and services Not part of the VA benefits process	Call your local VA and ask to be connected to the Toxic Exposures Navigator
Veterans Affairs Registry Evaluation	Free, voluntary medical assessments for those with exposure-related concerns You do not need to be enrolled in VA health care or receive VA benefits	Environmental Health Registries through the VA • Agent Orange Registry • Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry • Gulf War Registry (includes Operations Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn) • Ionizing Radiation Registry • Depleted Uranium Follow-Up Program • Toxic Embedded Fragment Surveillance Center Registries help Veterans and providers understand the possible consequences of toxic exposures Enrollment does not impact your health care or benefits	Contact your local VA environmental health coordinator
Galleri	Recommended for adults at an elevated risk of cancer Not recommended for adults <21 years old, those who are pregnant, or those actively receiving cancer treatment Available by prescription only Not specific to veterans, but the test is now covered for eligible beneficiaries through TRICARE (prior authorization required) Out of pocket cost is \$949	Blood tests designed to identify DNA shed by cancer cells to screen for cancer before symptoms develop Alerts if and where cancer signals are detected, then requires further workup to determine the type of cancer REFLECTIONS is an observational study in those who have taken the Galleri test, which shows promising results for early cancer detection in veterans	Visit www.galleri.com/contact or call 833-694-2553
The Veterans Exposure Team-Health Outcomes Military Exposures (VET-HOME)	All veterans enrolled in VA health care	Telehealth environmental exposure assessments and environmental health registry evaluations A physical examination or review of a prior physical examination Evaluation of symptoms or abnormalities that may be specific to toxic exposures	Call 833-633-VTHM (833-633-8846) or chat with a live VET-HOME agent on their portal
Diagnosis of toxin-related exposures			
Veterans Affairs Compensation and Pension Examination	After filing disability benefits claim, an examination may be requested if more information is needed to process the claim	Determines if a veteran has a service-connected disability Establishes a VA rating that determines enrollment in VA health care and payment	The VA will reach out to eligible veterans for schedule
War-Related Illness and Injury Study Center (WRIISC)	Must be enrolled in, and receiving, care through the VA Must have been deployed Referral required	Comprehensive, multidisciplinary evaluations for those with unexplained medical symptoms lasting >6 months Clinical expertise for deployment-related health concerns Meant to serve as a second opinion if the primary care workup is unrevealing	Available through the Washington, DC (1-800-722-8340); East Orange, NJ (1-800-248-8005); and Palo Alto, CA (1-888-482-4376) VA Health Centers
Post-Deployment Cardiopulmonary Evaluation Network (PDCEN)	Must be enrolled in, and receiving, care through the VA Must be enrolled in the Airborne Hazards and Burn Pit Registry Eligible veterans are selected through a review of the Registry	Specialized clinical evaluations and research for veterans experiencing unexplained respiratory symptoms through the Airborne Hazards and Burn Pits Center of Excellence	www.warrelatedillness.va.gov
Treatment of toxin-related exposure			
Veterans Affairs	Must meet minimum service requirement and discharge status Must be enrolled in VA health care	Provides coverage for necessary health care Can access providers outside of the VA through a community care referral if certain requirements are met, eg, the VA not providing that service	877-222-8387 if not yet registered with the VA

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Resource	Eligibility	Description	Contact
Fisher House	The commander or director of each medical center that Fisher House is associated with is responsible for determining eligibility Open to veterans of all eras	Provides lodging for veterans and their families receiving treatment for an illness, disease, or injury at military and VA medical centers free of charge Hero Miles Program uses donated frequent flier miles to allow family members to travel to their service member Hotels for Heroes program uses donated hotel points to allow family members to stay close to the treatment facility free of charge	888-294–8560 or www.fisherhouse.org
American Cancer Society Hope Lodge	Live >40 miles from treatment center Be in active treatment for cancer Referred by treatment facility	Provides housing and community for patients and caregivers receiving treatment for cancer	Complete form through American Cancer Society website or call 1–800-227-2345
Other resources			
CancerCare’s A Helping Hand	Not veteran specific	Online listing of financial resources and support programs for people with cancer	www.cancercare.org/helpinghand or call 800-813-4673
Semper Fi and America’s Fund	Reach out to case manager for eligibility	Support for wounded, ill, and injured service members and their families Financial support, housing assistance, transportation assistance, specialized and adaptive equipment, visiting nurse program, caregiver support, kids program, disaster relief program, Welcome Home Fund for Vietnam Veterans	Call 760-725-3680 or visit https://semperfund.org to fill out an application
American Cancer Society Road to Recovery	Not veteran specific Must be traveling to a cancer-related medical appointment	Provides free transportation services to cancer-related medical appointments	Call 1-800-227-2345
VA Veterans Transportation Service	Must be eligible for VA health care and have a VA-authorized appointment Eligibility depends on location	Provides transportation to VA or authorized non-VA appointments	Contact local VA
Resource	Description		Location
Clinician resources			
Provider Resources on Military Exposures	Comprehensive VA site for clinicians caring for veterans with deployment-related exposures. Includes clinical tools for diagnosis and treatment, health effects by exposure type, educational modules, registry enrollment guidance, risk communication strategies and VA benefits information.	https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/providers/index.asp	
War Related Illness and Injury Study Center	Provides specialized expertise for clinicians treating veterans with complex deployment-related concerns. The website features a core curriculum, military environmental exposures certification, live webinars, military exposure clinical briefs, recorded education, and podcasts with subject matter experts.	www.warrelatedillness.va.gov	
Toxic Exposure Research Working Group	A multiagency federal research consortium established under the PACT Act. Offers data, reports, and guidance that support clinical evaluation and policy-informed care.	https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposureresearch/partners.asp	