

Presentation 17 – Lea Steele

RAC Committee Business

April 8, 2005

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RAC Committee Business

- Appointments
- Future Meetings, Reports

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Future RAC Meetings

- Upcoming Meeting Topics
 - > Additional research related to Gulf War exposures
 - > GWI treatments research
 - > Special topics

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Next RAC Meeting

- Update from Dr. Concato re: AChE-R study
- Data presentation from Dr. Kang re: preliminary results of lifestyle, treatment questions from longitudinal survey

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Future RAC Meetings: Exposure Topics

- Outstanding items re: exposure topics already addressed
- Additional exposure topics: which are of interest?
 - > Jet fuel
 - > CARC paint
 - > Solvents
 - > Sand
- Overview/analysis of research relating to combinations of exposures
- Overview/comparison of evidence re: all Gulf War-related exposures

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Future RAC Meetings: GWV Treatments

- Detailed review of research studies on treatments for multisymptom illnesses
- Information from clinical practices that treat Gulf veterans' illnesses, other multisymptom illnesses

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Future RAC Meetings: Possible Special Topics

- Development of Gulf War veteran brain tissue bank
- What we know about diagnosed conditions in Gulf War veterans: Info from epi research, benefits information
- Possible links and insights into GWI research from what is known about etiology and treatment of neurodegenerative conditions
- Neuro-immune interactions potentially associated with GWI (e.g. autonomic regulation of inflammation)
- Methodological issues in GWI research: Standards of study design, GWI case definition, etc.

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Plans for 2005 Meetings, Next Committee Report

Sept 2005 Meeting

- Wrap-up of research on remaining exposure topics
- Review of treatment information
- Preliminary discussion of findings, recommendations on specific topics

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Plans for 2005 Meetings, Next Committee Report

Dec 2005 Meeting

- Clean up loose ends re: topics covered
- Review of VA GWI research program and progress
- Discussion of content, findings, and recommendations of 2006 RAC Report

Plans for 2005 Meetings, Next Committee Report

Early 2006

- Circulate draft 2006 RAC Report for review and comments

Future RAC Meetings, Report

- Questions?
- Suggestions?

RAC website: www.va.gov/rac-gwvi

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