

**Presentation 12 – William Goldberg**

# Gulf War Update



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# GULF WAR BIOREPOSITORY TRUST

## GW Biorepository Trust

### ■ Scope

- Brain
- Spinal Cord
- Blood/Serum
- Other organs if deemed appropriate

### ■ Purpose

- Tissue bank for the ALS Registry
- Tissue collection from Gulf War Veterans at VAMC's
- Collect high quality biological specimens linked to clinical information from consenting Gulf War era veterans and controls

## GW Biorespository Trust

### ■ Progress to date

- IRB approval obtained for the Biorespository Trust
- Project Coordinator hired
- IRB amendments submitted at Boston and Durham for collection of postmortem tissue and linkage to the ALS Registry
- Tissue collection procedures have been submitted to IRB for approval
- Specialized shipping services (24/7) established
- Specialized equipment for dissection of CNS tissue (brain & spinal cord) has been purchased
- In process of contracting with New York Brain bank to process ALS brains and Spinal Cord until site at Tucson is ready to take over
- In process of establishing a national network of pathologists and assistants



# PORTFOLIO UPDATE

## FY 06 Gulf War Portfolio

- ~ \$13.7 million for new and ongoing projects.
- 64 total projects supported in FY06
- 19 new projects initiated in FY06

