

Presentation 13 – RAC-GWVI Staff

RAC Committee Business

October 26, 2004

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RAC Committee Business

- Committee Report/ Media Contacts
- Future Meetings and Topics

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Release of Committee Report

- Process
- Current plans for press conference/publicity
- Handling media contacts

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Future RAC Meetings

- 2005 meetings to be scheduled within the month
- General Content of RAC Meetings
 - > Specific meeting topics
 - > Important breaking research/reports
 - > Update on VA GWI research activities
 - > Update on published research
 - > Discuss draft findings/recommendations

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Future RAC Meetings

- Upcoming Meeting Topics
 - > Additional research related to Gulf War exposures
 - > GWI treatments research
 - > Relevance of research on other multisymptom conditions to GWI
 - > Special topics

Future RAC Meetings: Exposure Topics

- Complete partially-covered exposure topics
 - > Vaccines
 - > DU
 - > Petroleum combustion products
- Additional exposure topics
 - > Individual topics (e.g. CARC paint, solvents, sand)
 - > Combinations of exposures
- Overview/comparison of evidence re: all Gulf War-related exposures

Future RAC Meetings: GWI Treatments

- Potential GWI pathogenic mechanisms amenable to treatment: Where should we be looking?
- Review of research studies on treatments for GWI and relevant conditions
- Information from clinicians treating GWI, similar conditions
- Methods for evaluation of treatment information and determining best next-step options

Future RAC Meetings: Multisymptom Illnesses

- Current research re: etiology, pathophysiology of CFS, FMS, MCS
- Objective markers associated with multisymptom illness
- Treatments for CFS, FMS, MCS, IBS
- Comparison of findings in GWI and “civilian” multisymptom conditions

Future RAC Meetings: Possible Special Topics

- Identifying "Biomarkers": Potential GWI mechanisms amenable to objective measure; potentially useful technologies
- What do we know about diagnosed conditions in Gulf War veterans (e.g. cancer, neuro diseases, hypothyroidism)?
- Research on neurological/systemic effects of inhaled exposures
- "Burning semen" and other GWI anomalous symptoms
- Methodological issues in GWI research: Standards of study design, GWI case definition, etc.
- Overview of relevant ALS research
- Development of Gulf War veteran brain tissue bank

Future RAC Meetings

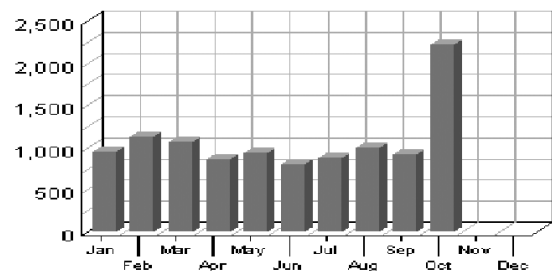
- Questions?
- Committee suggestions

Other Committee Matters

- RAC website: www.va.gov/rac-gwvi
 - > Report will be posted
 - > New pages: Info for Researchers, GWI-related Links, Media
 - > RAC Research Article Updates now posted
- RAC email: RAC@med.va.gov

Visits to RAC Website Jan. - Oct. 2004

Visits Trend



1. ■ Visits

