



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



Veterans Crisis Line **Public Fact Sheet**

Confidential help for Veterans and their families

The Veterans Crisis Line is a toll-free, confidential resource that connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) responders.

Veterans and their loved ones can call **1-800-273-8255 and Press 1**, chat online at www.VeteransCrisisLine.net, or send a text message to **838255** to receive free, confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, even if they are not registered with the Department of Veterans Affairs or enrolled in VA health care.

The professionals at the Veterans Crisis Line are specially trained and experienced in helping Veterans of all ages and circumstances—from Veterans coping with mental health issues that were never addressed to recent Veterans struggling with relationships or the transition back to civilian life. Veterans Crisis Line responders provide support when these and other issues—such as chronic pain, anxiety, depression, sleeplessness, anger, and even homelessness—reach a crisis point. Many of the responders are Veterans themselves and understand what Veterans and their families and friends have been through.

Since its launch in 2007, the Veterans Crisis Line has answered more than 650,000 calls and made more than 23,000 life-saving rescues. In 2009, the Veterans Crisis Line added an anonymous online chat service, which has helped more than 65,000 people. In November 2011, the Veterans Crisis Line introduced a text messaging service to provide another way for Veterans to connect with round-the-clock support.

In 2011, the National Veterans Suicide Prevention Hotline was renamed the Veterans Crisis Line to encourage Veterans and their families and friends, who may be the first to realize a Veteran is in emotional distress, to reach out for support when issues reach a crisis point, even if it is not a suicidal crisis.

VA is working to make sure that all Veterans and their loved ones are aware of the Veterans Crisis Line. To reach as many Veterans as possible, VA is coordinating with communities and partner groups nationwide, including community-based organizations, Veteran Service Organizations, and local health care providers, to let Veterans and their loved ones know that support is available whenever, if ever, they need it.

Whether you're a Veteran, or a friend or family member concerned about one, confidential assistance is only a call, click, or text away.

For more information about the Veterans Crisis Line, visit www.VeteransCrisisLine.net

For more information about VA's mental health resources, visit www.mentalhealth.va.gov

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..... Confidential chat at VeteransCrisisLine.net or text to **838255**





1. What is the title of the project?

Gulf War Era Cohort and Biorepository.

2. Who is sponsoring the project?

Department of Veterans Affairs Cooperative Studies Program.

3. What is its purpose?

To better understand the conditions that are affecting 1990-91 Gulf War Era Veterans and to improve the healthcare of all Veterans from this era.

4. Who is eligible to participate?

Any Veteran who was a member of the uniformed services during the 1990-91 Gulf War era is eligible to participate. It does not matter if you were deployed to the Persian Gulf area or served elsewhere, or if you are a current or past user of services provided by the VA.

5. What if I have questions?

You have the right to ask, and have answered, any questions you may have about this project. We encourage you to call the study staff at 1-855-493-8387 or 1-855-GWE-VETS.

6. What if I have questions about my rights as a participant?

If you have questions about your rights as a study participant, or you want to make sure this is a valid VA study, you may contact the VA Central Institutional Review Board (IRB). This is the Board that is responsible for overseeing the safety of human participants in this study. You may call the VA Central IRB toll free at 1-877-254-3130 if you have questions, complaints, or concerns about the study or if you would like to obtain information or offer input.

If you have any questions or comments, please call us at 1-855-493-8387 or 1-855-GWE-VETS between 10:00 am and 7:00 pm local time. We look forward to talking with you!

VA CONTACT INFORMATION

If you are experiencing emotional distress and would like to talk to a trained VA professional, call:

- 1-800-273-TALK (8255) and press 1
• Or send a text message to 838255
• Or visit the online chat at http://veteranscrisisline.net

Other contact information for U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs:

Websites you can visit:

"New to VA" websitehttp://www.va.gov/opa/newtova.asp
VA Health Care Benefits website www.va.gov/healthbenefits

Phone numbers you can call:

Helpline: Agent Orange and Gulf War800-749-8387
VA Benefits800-827-1000
VA Health Care Benefits877-222-8387
Education and Training888-442-4551
Telecommunication Device for the Deaf800-829-4833