

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY OFFICE OF THE SURGEON GENERAL 7700 ARLINGTON BOULEVARD FALLS CHURCH, VA 22042-5140

18 October 2017

Dear Veteran/Service Member,

If you volunteered as a medical research subject in U.S. Army chemical or biological substance testing from 1922 to 1975, including the receipt of medications or vaccines under the U.S. Army investigational drug review, you may be eligible for medical care through the Department of Defense for medical conditions related to your participation in this testing.

To apply for medical care under this program, please submit your application and supporting documentation to the Army Public Health Center, ATTN: Benefits Application Panel, 5158 Blackhawk Road, APG, MD 21010-5403. Please include:

- MEDCOM Form 840, Application for Medical Care (enclosed)
- Copies of documents issued by the military reflecting your participation in a U.S. Army chemical or biological substance testing program from 1922 to 1975
- A list of all medical conditions (diagnoses) that you believe are a direct result of your participation in one of these testing programs
- Any related Veterans Affairs' service connection decisions, if applicable

Before you apply, have your primary care manager enter a diagnosis in Section V of the application form, or attach supporting medical documentation to the application, for the conditions in which you are applying for medical care. Only diagnosed medical conditions will be considered.

If you are unable to pay for a medical examination to obtain a diagnosis for any medical condition to support your application for medical care, please contact the Army Medical Command Military Assistance Group (MMAG) at 1-800-984-8523. The Army will arrange an examination for you at the nearest military medical treatment facility; however, you will be responsible for transportation to and from this appointment.

If you have a medical condition(s) you believe was caused by your military service, you are also encouraged to file a claim with the Department of Veterans Affairs, if you have not done so already. More information is available at: <u>https://www.benefits.va.gov/BENEFITS/Applying.asp</u>. In the enclosures, you will also find information on how to acquire service medical records and how to apply for correction of your military records should you require these services.

Thank you for your service to our Nation. If you have any questions concerning your eligibility or need assistance completing the application packet, please contact the MMAG hotline at 1-800-984-8523. The hotline is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Sincerely,

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ERIC E. SHUPING Colonel, Medical Corps Director, Public Health Directorate

Enclosures: MEDCOM Form 840, Application for Medical Care Frequently Asked Questions