

Burn Pit and other Toxic Exposure

Presumptive Conditions

The VA has expanded benefits for Gulf War era and Post-9/11 Veterans based on the PACT Act. The conditions listed below are presumptive conditions related to burn pit and other toxic exposures for service in designated locations (see reverse side for exposure areas).

These cancers are now presumptive:

- Acute & Chronic leukemias (1/2025)
- Brain cancer
- Gastrointestinal cancer of any type
- Glioblastoma
- Head cancer of any type
- Kidney cancer
- Lymphoma of any type
- Melanoma
- Multiple myelomas (1/2025)
- Myelodysplastic syndromes (1/2025)
- Myelofibrosis (1/2025)
- Neck cancer of any type
- Pancreatic cancer
- Reproductive cancer of any type
- Respiratory (breathing related) cancer of any type
- Urinary bladder, ureter and related genitourinary cancers (1/2025)

These illnesses are now presumptive:

- Asthma that was diagnosed after service
- Chronic bronchitis
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
- Chronic rhinitis
- Chronic sinusitis
- Constrictive bronchiolitis or obliterative bronchiolitis
- Emphysema
- Granulomatous disease
- Interstitial lung disease (ILD)
- Pleuritis
- Pulmonary fibrosis
- Sarcoidosis

Gulf War Illnesses (includes service in most areas listed):

- Functional gastrointestinal disorders (e.g. IBS)
- Chronic fatigue syndrome
- Fibromyalgia

If you served in any of these locations and time periods, the VA determined that you had exposure to burn pits or other toxins. This is called having a presumption of exposure.

On or after September 11, 2001, in any of these locations:

- Afghanistan
- Djibouti
- Egypt
- Iraq
- Jordan
- Lebanon
- Syria
- Yemen
- Uzbekistan
- Airspace above these locations

On or after August 2, 1990, in any of these locations:

- Bahrain
- Iraq
- Kuwait
- Oman
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Somalia
- United Arab Emirates (UAE)
- Gulf of Aden
- Gulf of Oman
- Persian Gulf
- Arabian Sea
- Red Sea
- Air space above these locations

How to file or inquire about a VA service connected claim –

**CONTACT YOUR LOCAL COUNTY/TRIBAL VETERANS
SERVICE OFFICE (CVSO/TVSO)**

DANE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE
1709 ABERG AVENUE, SUITE 2
MADISON, WI 53704
608-266-4158



Outside Dane County: <http://wicvso.org/locate-your-cvso/>

Outside Wisconsin: https://www.nacvso.org/find_service_officers/state

Diseases Associated with Agent Orange Exposure

The US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) assumes certain diseases can be related to a veteran's qualifying military service. The VA calls these "presumptive diseases."

The VA recognizes certain cancers and other health problems as presumptive diseases associated with exposure to Agent Orange or other herbicides during military service. Veterans and their survivors may be eligible for benefits for these diseases.

- **AL Amyloidosis**
A rare disease caused when an abnormal protein, amyloid, enters tissues or organs
- **Bladder Cancer** A type of cancer that affects the bladder where urine is stored before it leaves the body. The most common type of bladder cancer starts in the cells that line the inside of the bladder. This is called urothelial or transitional cell carcinoma.
- **Chronic B-cell Leukemias**
A type of cancer which affects white blood cells
- **Chloracne (or similar acne form disease)**
A skin condition that occurs soon after exposure to chemicals and looks like common forms of acne seen in teenagers. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of exposure to herbicides.
- **Diabetes Mellitus Type 2**
A disease characterized by high blood sugar levels resulting from the body's inability to respond properly to the hormone insulin
- **Hodgkin's Disease**
A malignant lymphoma (cancer) characterized by progressive enlargement of the lymph nodes, liver, and spleen, and by progressive anemia
- **Hypertension – Newly added August 2022**
- **Hypothyroidism** A condition that causes the thyroid gland to not produce enough of certain important hormones. Hypothyroidism can cause health problems like obesity, joint pain, infertility, and heart disease.
- **Ischemic Heart Disease**
A disease characterized by a reduced supply of blood to the heart, that leads to chest pain
- **Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS) – Newly added August 2022**
- **Multiple Myeloma**
A cancer of plasma cells, a type of white blood cell in bone marrow
- **Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma**
A group of cancers that affect the lymph glands and other lymphatic tissue
- **Parkinson's Disease**
A progressive disorder of the nervous system that affects muscle movement
- **Parkinsonism** Any condition that causes a combination of abnormal movements. These include slow movements, trouble speaking, stiff muscles, or tremors. Tremors are rhythmic shaking movements in a part of the body caused by muscle contractions that you can't control.
- **Peripheral Neuropathy, Early-Onset**
Nervous system condition that causes numbness, tingling, and motor weakness. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of herbicide exposure.

(Updated 10/2022)

- **Porphyria Cutanea Tarda**
A disorder characterized by liver dysfunction and by thinning and blistering of the skin in sun-exposed areas. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of exposure to herbicides.
- **Prostate Cancer**
Cancer of the prostate; one of the most common cancers among men
- **Respiratory Cancers (includes lung cancer)**
Cancers of the lung, larynx, trachea, and bronchus
- **Soft Tissue Sarcomas (other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, or mesothelioma)**
A group of different types of cancers in body tissues such as muscle, fat, blood and lymph vessels, and connective tissues

Children with birth defects

VA presumes certain birth defects in children of Vietnam and Korea Veterans are associated with Veterans' qualifying military service; however, this is rather limited. Please contact your CVSO/TVSO for more info.

Veterans with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)

VA presumes Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), or also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, diagnosed in all Veterans who had 90 days or more continuous active military service is related to their service, although ALS is not related to Agent Orange exposure.

How to file or inquire about a VA service-connected claim?

LOCATE YOUR LOCAL COUNTY/TRIBAL VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE (CVSO/TVSO)

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1709 ABERG AVE – SUITE 2
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608-266-4158**



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Outside of Wisconsin: https://www.nacvso.org/find_service_officers/state

(Updated 10/2022)

Camp Lejeune – Contaminated Water Presumptive Conditions

As part of VA's ongoing commitment to provide quality care to Veterans, the Department of Veterans Affairs has established a presumption of service connection for eight diseases associated with exposure to contaminants in the water supply at Camp Lejeune, N.C. Active duty, reserve, and National Guard members who served at Camp Lejeune or MCAS New River, N.C. for a minimum of 30 days (cumulative) from August 1, 1953, through December 31, 1987, may be eligible for disability benefits.

The presumptive diseases are:

- Adult leukemia
- Aplastic anemia and other myelodysplastic syndromes
- Bladder cancer
- Kidney cancer
- Liver cancer
- Multiple myeloma
- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Parkinson's disease

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