



Volume 17

Winter 2015

SERV Study Newsletter

Survey of Experiences of Returning Veterans



Department of Veterans Affairs



SERV Study progress

New telephone extensions

The main number for the SERV Study is (203) 932-5711 extension 8634 or 8605

Thanks to all Veterans who have participated in the study so far— your input is extremely helpful to us. We have spoken to male and female Veterans of all ages and from all branches of military service. We now have 474 male and 205 female Veterans enrolled all 50 states. **We desperately need more female Veterans.** 36 month follow up surveys have begun and are going very well.

We have a raffle winner!

Congratulations to Benjamin from Indiana! His name was chosen from a random drawing on December 1st, 2014. He won a \$100 check to spend as he chooses. Our next drawing will take place on Monday, March 2nd, 2015. Good luck to all our Veteran participants! The winner will be notified by email and phone. ***Note that we are no longer allowed to issue Visa gift cards— your raffle winning will now be in the form of a check.***



Inside this issue:

SERV Study progress	1	Some of you may have been invited to participate in an online web survey involving Veterans' sexual health and well-being. Unfortunately, the payments for this project have been delayed as they come from a different funding source. We have not forgotten and are working on the problem. Those who have participated will be paid within a few months.
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Update on payments:

Other research opportunities

Survey of Veterans' Sexual Health and Well-Being: This is a web-based survey which has begun. (As mentioned on page 1, the \$15 payment for this has been delayed.)

Coming soon: Survey of Veterans' Gambling and Behavioral Functioning: This will also be a web-based survey composed of 20 questions. There will be no payment for this project, but we hope some of you will participate anyway.

Please do not feel obligated– your participation is voluntary and will have no effect on your regular participation in SERV.

For our 36 month participants: Some of you have been with us for 3 years now, and we are so grateful. We are not sure at this time if there will be a 42 month survey due to funding concerns. We will let you know either way, but THANK YOU for staying with us through the years. Your input is so valuable.

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Survey of Experiences of Returning Veterans

Miscellaneous

Long Term Follow Ups– After you have completed the 12-month follow up, you only need to receive calls every 6 months. Some changes with the 18-month and beyond: religious/spirituality questions are removed, and a few questions are added concerning exercise habits, PTSD diagnosis and complementary/alternative medicine. It is actually about 5 minutes shorter!

Response booklets– please have your booklet handy at the time of the interview. We know that our survey is a long one, and the booklet allows you to finish your telephone call more quickly and get on with your day.

BLUE Booklets: Baseline (first) interview only

YELLOW Booklets: 3-, 6-, 9-, and 12-month follow ups only

PINK Booklets: 18-, 24-, 30-, 36-month follow ups only

Useful links:

National Resource Directory:

www.nrd.gov

National PTSD website:

<http://www.ptsd.va.gov/>

PTSD Program Locator:

http://vaww1.va.gov/directory/guide/PTSD_flash.asp?isFlash=1

IAVA (Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America)

<http://iava.org>

For a VA facility near you:

<http://vaww1.va.gov/directory/guide/home.asp?isFlash=1>

We're on the web!

<http://www.mirecc.va.gov/visn1/serv/>