

# PACT Act Research Symposium for Veteran Health

May 3, 2023

## Welcome and Introduction (8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. MT)

- 8:00 - 8:15 **Michael T. Kilmer**, Director, VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System (ECHCS), Department of Veterans Affairs - **Welcome**
- 8:15 - 8:45 **Shilpa A. Rungta, MD, MBA**, Chief of Staff, VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System (ECHCS), Department of Veterans Affairs - **Welcome**
- 8:15 - 8:45 **Joseph Francis, MD**, Director, Analytics and Performance Integration, Department of Veterans Affairs - **PACT Act Impact...What Does the Future Hold? (virtual)**
- 8:45 - 9:00 **AnnaBelle Bryan, MS**, Director, Suicide and Trauma Reduction Initiative for Veterans (STRIVE), Clinical Research Manager, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health, Wexner Medical Center, The Ohio State University - **Integrity, Service, Excellence; A Veteran's Perspective**

## Session 1: Respiratory Health (9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. MT) Session Chair Silpa Krefft, MD, MPH

- 9:00 - 9:30 **Cecile S. Rose, MD, MPH**, Professor of Medicine, Director, Center for Deployment Lung Disease, National Jewish Health - **Keynote Address: LOOKING BACK, GOING FORWARD: Perspectives on Research in Deployment Related Respiratory Diseases**
- 9:30 - 9:45 **Gregory P. Downey, MD**, Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs, Professor, Division of Pulmonary, Critical Care and Sleep Medicine, Department of Medicine, National Jewish Health - **Respiratory Consequences of Exposure to Airborne Particulate Matter**
- 9:45 - 10:00 **Moumita Ghosh, PhD**, Associate Professor, Anschutz Medical Campus, University of Colorado
- 9:45 - 10:00 **Silpa Krefft, MD, MPH**, Staff Physician, Assistant Professor, Pulmonary and Critical Care, Site Director, VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System (ECHCS) Post-Deployment Cardiopulmonary Evaluation Network Center, Department of Veterans Affairs - **Current Clinical Research Studies in Post-Deployment Respiratory Health at the VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System**
- 10:00 - 10:30 **Morning Break**
- 10:30 - 10:45 **Erin K. Dursa, PhD, MPH**, Senior Epidemiologist, Office of Patient Care Services Health Outcomes Military Exposures (HOME), Department of Veterans Affairs - **Toxic Exposure and Health Outcomes in the 1990-1991 Gulf War Population: The HOME Gulf War Era Cohort Study (virtual)**
- 10:45 - 11:00 **Terra Vincent-Hall, PhD, DABT**, Senior Toxicologist, Exposure Science Program Health Outcomes Military Exposures, Department of Veterans Affairs - **Respiratory Outcomes Related to Occupational Jet Fuel Exposure in the Military (virtual)**
- 11:00 - 11:15 **Camilla A. Mauzy, PhD**, Senior Scientist, Air Force Research Laboratory, 711 Human Performance Wing, Department of the Air Force - **Toxicity Evaluation and Biomarker Identification in In vivo Exposures to Burn Pit Emissions and Respirable Sand from Afghanistan**
- 11:15 - 11:30 **Alison K. Bauer, PhD, ATSF**, Associate Professor, Department of Environmental & Occupational Health, Colorado School of Public Health, Anschutz Medical Campus, University of Colorado - **Workplace Exposures to Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) and Potential Mechanisms Driving Adverse Signaling Events in Lung**



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## Session 1: Respiratory Health (9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. MT) Session Chair Silpa Krefft, MD, MPH

11:30 - 11:45 **Jared Brown, PhD**, Professor, Director, Toxicology Graduate Program, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Skaggs School of Pharmacy, Anschutz Medical Campus, University of Colorado - **Role of Mast Cell Activation in Pulmonary Toxicity of Nitrogen Mustard**

11:45 - 12:00 **Tara Hendry-Hofer, MSN, RN**, Program Manager, TRIAD Research Laboratory, School of Medicine, Anschutz Medical Campus, University of Colorado - **Translational Research Models to Evaluate the Pathogenesis of Inhaled Toxic Chemicals**

12:00 - 12:30 **Respiratory Health Session Questions and Answers**

12:30 - 1:30 **Lunch**

## Session 2: Existing Data/Programs (1:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. MT) Session Chair Elizabeth Kovacs, PhD

1:30 - 1:45 **Anisa K. Moore, MD**, Director, Veterans Exposure Team-Health Outcomes Military Exposures (VET-HOME), Department of Veterans Affairs - **Introducing Veterans Exposure Team-Health Outcomes Military Exposures (VET-HOME): VA's New National Hub Serving Veterans with Military Environmental Exposures**

1:45 - 2:00 **Rudy Rull, PhD, MPH**, Principal Investigator, Millennium Cohort Study, Naval Health Research Center - **The Millennium Cohort Study: Opportunities for PACT Act Research**

2:00 - 2:15 **Aaron I. Schneiderman, PhD, MPH, RN**, Epidemiology Program Director, Department of Veterans Affairs - **PACT Act Research: Some Data Resources to Consider (virtual)**

2:15 - 2:30 **Anne N. Styka, MPH, PMP**, Senior Program Officer, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine **The National Academies' Role in Implementing the PACT Act**

2:30 - 2:45 **Existing Data/Programs Session Questions and Answers**

## Session 3: Mental Health (2:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. MT) Session Chair Andrew Hoisington, PhD, PE

2:45 - 3:15 **Lisa A. Brenner, PhD**, Clinical Research Psychologist, Director, Rocky Mountain Mental Illness Research, Education and Clinical Center, Department of Veterans Affairs - **Keynote Address: Exposures, Inflammation and Brain Health**

3:15 - 3:30 **Lindsay T. McDonald, PhD**, Research Health Scientist, Department of Veterans Affairs - **Psychological Stress is an Associated Health Risk to Toxic Military Exposures**

3:30 - 4:00 **Afternoon Break**

4:00 - 4:15 **Erika M. Manczak, PhD**, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Denver - **Air Pollution and Depressive Symptoms: Current Knowledge and Future Directions**

4:15 - 4:30 **Kathleen M. Flarity, PhD**, Deputy Director, Center for COMbat Medicine and BATtlefield (COMBAT) Research, School of Medicine, Anschutz Medical Campus, University of Colorado - **CU Center for COMBAT Research: Research in Mental Health, Resiliency and Psychological Readiness - Insights from a Veteran and Deployed Commander**

4:30 - 4:45 **Mental Health Session Questions and Answers**

4:45 - 5:00 **Closing Comments**

Scan or click the QR code for more details and speaker bios.

