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TITLE: Gulf War Illness – Evaluation of an innovative detoxification program

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14. ABSTRACT This project is to determine whether a widely used detoxification protocol that utilizes exercise, sauna therapy and crystalline niacin with supplements will reduce the symptoms of Gulf War Illness (GWI). The program will study 50 GWI veterans, with 25 serving as an initial control but then provided the detoxification program after a delay. All subjects will answer a questionnaire, be given a series of psychological and neurobehavioral tests, and provide blood samples for clinical chemistry analysis before and after undergoing the detoxification program. The GWI veterans will be studied at several time points, before the detoxification, immediately after and three months after completing the program. The goal of the study is to determine whether this method of detoxification results in reduction of the symptoms of GWI. Because of delays in obtaining human subjects approval this project has not yet begun. However all IRB approvals are in place, and now we await only the final DOD review and approval for beginning the study.					
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Progress to Date:

The study has not yet begun but progress has been made in surmounting several serious road blocks. The protocol and informed consent have just been approved by the Chesapeake IRB following extensive revision based on comments by DOD staff, and concurrence has been obtained from the IRBs of the three universities involved (the University at Albany, the University of Toronto and Sage Colleges). We have hired a Project Coordinator, and have developed all necessary recruitment materials, which have been approved by the Chesapeake IRB. The last of the modifications of our protocol, informed consent form and recruitment materials were forwarded to the DOD officials for their final review. In spite of significant delay we have not spent hardly any of the funds allocated to the study, and hope to request a no-cost extension to perform the study as originally proposed.

In spite of these delays, there have been no changes to the original Statement of Work.

Key Research Accomplishments: Because of the delays in beginning the project we have no accomplishments to report.

Reportable Outcomes: None at the present time.

Conclusion: We have finally overcome several obstacles and are now ready to begin this study, pending only final DOD review and approval.