

**CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:**

Veterans who DoD has identified as participants in Project 112, a comprehensive program of chemical and biological warfare vulnerability tests conducted to determine how to protect U.S. servicemembers against these health threats.

**CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

These records consist of: veteran's service number, social security number, name, address, date of birth, test dates, sex, race, marital status, combined degree of disability, VBA (Veterans Benefits Administration) diagnostic codes, disability rating, disability description, service-connection, outreach letter information, names of tests, substances potentially exposed to, means test indicator to determine a veterans eligibility for healthcare, indication for homelessness, purpose of visit, date of visit, and location of visit to VA, Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) number of the facility providing healthcare, name of facility visited, principal diagnosis, other diagnoses, medical procedures, indication of Agent Orange exposure and related information, exposure to nose/throat radium treatment administered by DoD, radiation exposure during military service indicator, major diagnostic category of the diagnostic related group, length of stay, self-reported exposure to ionizing radiation in Japan or through nuclear testing, Agent Orange related care provided during admission, patient exposed to environmental care, radiation treatment indicator, discharge date, and bedsection at discharge.

**AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:**

Title 38 United States Code, section 501.

**PURPOSE(S):**

The purpose of the Shipboard Hazard and Defense Integrated Database is to combine information about veterans who have been identified by DoD as P-112 participants from multiple VA databases into one database. The comprehensive information will be used to assess the needs of these veterans, to address their concerns of potential health risks, and to monitor VA's outreach efforts.

**ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND THE PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:**

To the extent that records contained in the system include information protected by 38 U.S.C. 7332 (such as medical treatment information related to drug abuse, alcoholism or alcohol abuse,

sickle cell anemia or infection with the human immunodeficiency virus), that information cannot be disclosed under a routine use unless there is also specific statutory authority permitting disclosure.

1. The record of an individual who is covered by this system may be disclosed to a member of Congress or staff person acting for the member when the member or staff person requests the record on behalf of, and at the written request of, that individual.

2. Disclosure of records covered by this system, as deemed necessary and proper to named individuals serving as accredited service organization representatives and other individuals named as approved agents or attorneys for a documented purpose and the period of time, to aid beneficiaries in the preparation and presentation of their cases during the verification and/or due process procedures and in the presentation and prosecution of claims under laws administered by VA.

3. A record containing the name(s) and address(es) of present or former members of the armed services and/or their dependents may be released from this system of records under certain circumstances:

(a) To any nonprofit organization if the release is directly connected with the conduct of programs and the utilization of benefits under Title 38, and

(b) To any criminal or civil law enforcement governmental agency or instrumentality charged under applicable law with the protection of the public health or safety if a qualified representative of such organization, agency or instrumentality has made a written request that such name(s) or address(es) be provided for a purpose authorized by law; provided, further, that the record(s) will not be used for any purpose other than that stated in the request and that the organization, agency or instrumentality is aware of the penalty provision of 38 U.S.C. 5701(f).

4. Disclosure may be made to the National Archives and Record Administration (NARA) in records management inspections conducted under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906.

5. Disclosure of information, excluding name and address (unless name and address are furnished by the requestor) for research purposes determined to be necessary and proper, to epidemiological and other research facilities approved by the Under Secretary for Health.

6. In order to conduct federal research necessary to accomplish a statutory

purpose of any agency, at the written request of the head of the agency, or designee of the head of that agency, the name(s) and address(es) of present or former personnel or the Armed Services and/or their dependents may be disclosed:

(a) To a federal department or agency or

(b) Directly to a contractor of a Federal department or agency. When a disclosure of this information is to be made directly to the contractor, VA may impose applicable conditions on the department, agency, and/or contractor to insure the appropriateness of the disclosure to the contractor.

7. In the event that a record maintained by VA to carry out its functions indicates a violation or potential violation of law, whether civil, criminal or regulatory in nature, and whether arising by general statute or particular program statute, or by regulation, rule or order issued pursuant thereto, information may be disclosed to the appropriate agency whether Federal, state, local or foreign, charged with the responsibility of investigating or prosecuting such violation or charged with enforcing or implementing the statute or rule, regulation or order issued pursuant thereto.

8. For program review purposes and the seeking of accreditation and/or certification, disclosure may be made to survey teams of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), College of American Pathologist, American Association of Blood Banks, and similar national accreditation agencies or boards with whom VA has a contract or agreement to conduct such reviews but only to the extent that the information is necessary and relevant to the review.

9. Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice (DOJ) or in a proceeding before a court, adjudicative body, or other administrative body before which VA, or any component thereof; or any employee of VA in his or her official capacity; where DOJ or VA has agreed to represent the employee or the U.S.; when VA determines that litigation is likely to affect it or any of its components, is a party to litigation, and has an interest in such litigation, and the use of such records by DOJ or VA is deemed by VA to be relevant and necessary to the litigation provided, however, that the disclosure is compatible with the purpose for which the records were collected.