

## Veterans' Diseases Associated with Agent Orange

The Department of Veterans Affairs assumes that certain diseases can be related to a Veteran's qualifying military service. We call these "presumptive diseases." VA has recognized certain health conditions as presumptive diseases associated with exposure to Agent Orange or other herbicides during military service (see back page for locations). 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

**Chronic B-cell Leukemias:** a type of cancer which affects white blood cells

**Chloracne:** (or similar acneiform 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:** blood pressure that consistently measures above normal

**Hypothyroidism:** A condition that causes the thyroid gland to not produce enough of certain important hormones.

**Ischemic Heart Disease:** a disease characterized by a reduced supply of blood to the heart, that leads to chest pain

**Monoclonal Gammopathy of Undertermined Significance (MGUS):** an abnormal protein formed within the blood producing tissue in the center of your bone marrow

**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

**Parkinsonism:** Any condition that causes a combination of abnormal movements including slow movements, trouble speaking, stiff muscles or tremors.

**Parkinson's Disease:** a progressive disorder of the nervous system that affects muscle movement

**Peripheral Neuropathy, Early-Onset:** a nervous system condition that causes numbness, tingling, and motor weakness. It must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of herbicide exposure, but can also be secondarily related if it is caused by service connected diabetes.

**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

See more at: <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/conditions/index.asp>

## Service Requirements for Presumption of Exposure

You have a 'presumption of exposure' if you meet at least one of these service requirements.

**Between January 9, 1962 and May 7, 1975, you must have served for any length of time in at least one of these locations:**

- In the Republic of Vietnam, **or**
- Aboard a U.S. military vessel that operated in the inland waterways of Vietnam, **or**
- On a vessel operating not more than 12 nautical miles seaward from the demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia, **or**
- On regular perimeter duty on the fenced-in perimeters of a U.S. Army installation in Thailand or a Royal Thai Air Force base. These bases include U-Tapao, Ubon, Nakhon Phanom, Udorn, Takhli, Korat, or Don Muang.

**Or at least one of these must be true:**

- You served in or near the Korean DMZ for any length of time between September 1, 1967 and August 31, 1971, **or**
- You served on active duty in a regular Air Force unit location where a C-123 aircraft with traces of Agent Orange was assigned, and had repeated contact with this aircraft due to your flight, ground, or medical duties, **or**
- You were involved in transporting, testing, storing, or other uses of Agent Orange during your military service, **or**
- You were assigned as a Reservist to certain flight, ground, or medical crew duties at one of the below locations.

**Eligible Reserve locations, time periods, and units include:**

- **Lockbourne/Rickenbacker Air Force Base** in Ohio, 1969 to 1986 (906th and 907th Tactical Air Groups or 355th and 356th Tactical Airlift Squadrons)
- **Westover Air Force Base** in Massachusetts, 1972 to 1982 (731st Tactical Air Squadron and 74th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, or 901st Organizational Maintenance Squadron)
- **Pittsburgh International Airport** in Pennsylvania, 1972 to 1982 (758th Airlift Squadron)

**\*\*\*5 New Presumptive Locations were added to the list in August 2022 by passage of the PACT Act:**

- Any U.S. or Royal Thai military base in Thailand from January 9, 1962 through June 30, 1976
- Laos from December 1, 1965 through September 30, 1969
- Cambodia at Mimot or Krek, Kampong Cham Province from April 16, 1969, through April 30, 1969
- Guam or American Samoa or in the territorial waters off of Guam or American Samoa from January 9, 1962 through July 30, 1980
- Johnston Atoll or on a ship that called at Johnston Atoll from January 1, 1972 through September 30, 1977