Presentation 10 – Stephen Fihn

Office of Research and Development

Gulf War Update

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FY 2004 RFA

- 69 LOIs submitted
- 49 proposals submitted
- Merit review conducted in September
  - Preparatory remarks from acting CRADO
- 14 studies approved for funding
  - Funding line at 22 instead of the more recent 17-19 (essentially funding contingency proposals)
- All proposals and critiques of "marginal" applications reviewed by acting CRADO

FY 2004 RFA

- Total Funding: $8,441,930
- Brain and Nervous System: 7
- Pyridostigmine Bromide: 1
- Symptoms and General Health: 2
- Diagnosis: 1
- Immune Function: 2
- Treatment: 1

FY 2004 RFA

Brain and Nervous System

- Blanchard, Melvin, M.D., St. Louis, MO, Evaluation of Stress Response Systems in Gulf War Veterans with CMI
- Yehuda, Rachel, Ph.D, Bronx, NY, Glucocorticoid responsivity in Gulf War Veterans
- Beck, Kevin, Ph.D., East Orange, NJ, Interoceptive stressor conditioning: A model Gulf War Illness

FY 2004 RFA

Brain and Nervous System (Cont)

- Greenwood, Beverley, Ph.D., FACC, Oklahoma City, OK, Autonomic System Changes Cause Intestinal Symptoms in Gulf War Veterans
- Yarowsky, Paul, Ph.D., Baltimore, MD, MRI tracking of stem cells for replacement therapy in ALS
- Weiner, Michael, MD, San Francisco, CA, Effects of Gulf War Illness on Brain Structure, Function and Metabolism

FY 2004 RFA

Brain and Nervous System (Cont)

- White, Roberta, Ph.D., Boston, MA, Structural MRI and cognitive correlates in Gulf War era veterans
- **Symptoms and General Health**
- Kang, Han, Ph.D., Washington, DC, Estimates of Cancer prevalence in Gulf Veterans Using State Registries
- Kang, Han, Ph.D., Washington, DC, Post War Mortality from Neurologic Diseases in Gulf Veterans, 1991-2004

FY 2004 RFA

Immune Function

- Enelow, Richard, M.D., West Haven, CT, Aberrant T Cell Responses to Multiple Immunizations
- Klimas, Nancy, M.D., Miami, FL, Patterns of Gene Expression in Gulf War Illness

FY 2004 RFA

Treatment

- Ciccone, Donald, Ph.D., East Orange, NJ, Telemedicine Intervention for Veterans with Gulf War Illness

Pyridostigmine Bromide

- Weaver, Shelley, Ph.D., East Orange, NJ, Early life determinants of vulnerability to pyridostigmine bromide

Diagnosis

- Murdoch, Maureen, MD, MPH, Minneapolis, MN, Sexual Assault Prevalence Among Male, PTSD-Disabled Gulf War Veterans

GWVI Program Manager

- VHA has authorized hiring action to proceed
- Goal is to hire an MD or PhD with substantial experience
- Incumbent will also manage the Deployment Health portfolio

GWVI RFAs

- Existing Deployment Health RFP dated October 2002 will be replaced later this fall with two separate RFPs for GWVI and for Deployment Health
- RFAs will be announced for special topics as necessary

Scientific Merit Review Board

- Six-eight members to be nominated this winter; will chair or serve on ad hoc subcommittees
- Will begin reviewing proposals beginning with the Spring 2005 merit review round