

THE INIM



· WINTER 2022 ·



COVID UPP Study Launching



We are launching recruitment for the COVID UPP study for participants who receive care at Jackson Health, Baptist Health, Broward Health, and the Miami VA Healthcare System. Email messages will be sent to individuals by these health systems that will ask them to consider partnering with us to answer survey questions every 3 months for 3 years.

VA extends presumptive period for Persian Gulf War Veterans

VA has extended the presumptive period to December 31, 2026 for qualifying chronic disabilities rated 10% or more resulting from undiagnosed illnesses in Persian Gulf War Veterans to ensure benefits established by Congress are fairly administered.



VA presumes certain medically unexplained illnesses are related to Persian Gulf War service without regard to cause, including, chronic fatigue syndrome, fibromyalgia, functional gastrointestinal disorders. Also included are undiagnosed illnesses with symptoms that may include but are not limited to abnormal weight loss, cardiovascular disease, muscle and joint pain, headache, menstrual disorders, neurological and psychological problems, skin conditions, respiratory disorders and sleep disturbances.

Persian Gulf War Veterans who are experiencing any of the symptoms listed above and other unexplained medical issues are encouraged to file a compensation claim for them.

Link to file a compensation claim: <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/homepage>

To read the VA's Office of Media Relations announcement, visit:

<https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/96639/va-extends-presumptive-period-for-persian-gulf-war-veterans/>

The clinic is now offering Traditional Chinese Medicine Services!

Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) practitioners use various mind and body practices as well as herbal products to address health problems such as:

- Pain
- Stress
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Irritable Bowel Syndrome
- Constipation
- Nausea
- Menopause
- Inflammation
- Weight Loss/Gain
- Insomnia

Services include:

• Acupuncture

Involves a very thin needles being inserted into the skin at targeted points on the body. Acupuncture stimulates a relaxation response in the body, regulating immune function & reducing symptoms. It has been approved by the World Health Organization (WHO) with clinical benefits to various diseases & syndromes.

• Cupping

A provider places cups on your back, stomach, arms, legs or other parts of your body and uses a vacuum or suction force pulls skin upward. Cupping regulates immune responses to inflammation and autoimmune disorders. Used for joint pains, myalgias, migraines, stress, anxiety, & improving circulation.

• Moxibustion

A form of a dried plant that is burned near the surface of the skin. It helps with aches and pains, warms the body, helps strengthen the immune system, and re-balance auto-immune diseases.

• Sound/Vibrational Therapy

Sound vibrations relax the mind & body. The vibrations promote circulation, energy flow, and rejuvenation.

• Chinese Herbs & Vitamin/Supplement Advice

The use of plants and natural substances for therapy or medicinal purposes.

• Breathing & Meditation Exercises

Meditation stimulates immune system brain-function regions, uniting the mind, body, and spirit into a powerful triad.

• Nutritional Medicine

Many medical conditions can be prevented or treated effectively with the use of dietary modifications and nutritional supplements.



What to Expect:

An initial consultation is the first step towards a treatment plan. The consultation is used to evaluate which TCM service is best for you. The number of treatments will depend on the condition being treated and its severity. In general, it's common to receive six to eight treatments.

If you are interested in these services or would like to learn more, please contact our Davie Clinic at: (954) 262-2850 or Kendall Clinic at: (305) 275-5460

Meet our TCM Provider

Dr. Jacqueline Junco is a medically trained doctor who is certified in Acupuncture, Chinese Herbology and Oriental Medicine from the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. Her knowledge of Western medicine and natural alternatives creates a powerful combination of modern technology and ancient therapies that are used to treat a vast majority of health conditions. Dr. Junco will be operating out of our Kendall and Davie Clinics.



Current Gulf War Illness Research Studies: Now recruiting!



The Reboot Study

The Reboot Study, also known as the TNF & Glucocorticoid Antagonist For GWI Associated Multi-Symptom Disease Hemostasis Reset, is actively recruiting. The purpose of this study is to find the most effective dosing and duration regimen for etanercept and mifepristone in changing the body's "sick response" of GWI into a more permanently healthy condition.

This study takes place over 24 weeks - 7 in-person visits and 2 virtual/phone visits.

This study is currently enrolling male Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm Veterans with Gulf War Illness symptoms.

Locations: Nova Southeastern University's Davie Campus and Miami Veterans Affairs Healthcare System.

If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please email: gwictic@nova.edu or call: 954-262-2870.

BBrain for GWI

The goal of BBrain for GWI, also known as the Boston Biorepository, Recruitment, and Integrative Network for GWI, is to learn more about the ways that Gulf War illness affects veterans while establishing a central resource site for Gulf War researchers to further encourage collaboration and sharing of information.

Participating in the study would involve a one-day visit to one of the below clinical sites. At the visit, you will be asked to give blood samples, saliva samples, and take tests on memory, thinking skills, daily functioning, and behavior.

This study is currently recruiting Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm Veterans.

Locations: Boston University Medical Center, Miami VA Medical Center, Bronx VA Medical Center, and San Francisco VA Medical Center.

If you are interested in learning more about the study and seeing if you are eligible, please call 617-358-2230 or email bbrain@bu.edu. Travel reimbursement is also available.

Save the Date!

2022 SHIELD Conference



**February 25, 2022 | 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. EST
via Zoom**



Institute for
Neuro-Immune Medicine
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY | **NSU**
Florida

The Institute for Neuro-Immune Medicine and GWICTIC will be hosting the 2022 Sustained Homeostatic Imbalance due to Environmental-exposure Linked to Deployment (SHIELD) Conference. Registration link and details to be released shortly!



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Your gift, no matter the amount, will help advance groundbreaking research and ensure that the INIM will continue to be a vital resource for our community.

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