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## **CDC FUNDS NEW STUDIES ADDRESSING THE HEALTH CONCERNS OF GULF WAR VETERANS**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Environmental Health (NCEIH), has funded two new cooperative agreements to conduct studies of illnesses among Persian Gulf War veterans. The institutions receiving the awards are Boston University School of Public Health and the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. Each institution will be funded \$600,000 per year for a three year study period. Funding was awarded on November 1st.

These two studies were selected from proposals submitted to CDC in response to a request for research addressing health concerns of Gulf War veterans. Two priority areas were identified: (1) research that enhances the understanding of conditions and symptoms reported to be more prevalent among Gulf War veterans, and (2) research that adds to the scientific knowledge needed to develop a case definition of illness among Gulf War veterans. A detailed scientific review by a panel of private, State, and Federal scientists was used to select these proposals.

The Boston University study, directed by Dr. David Ozonoff, will examine the physical basis for concentration and memory problems reported by some Gulf War veterans.

The University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-Robert Wood Johnson School of Medicine study directed by Dr. Howard Kippen, will examine different approaches for defining illness among Gulf War veterans.

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