

Wednesday, March 2, 2022

Exposure to specific environmental hazards

If you had contact with certain environmental hazards while serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other areas, you may have illnesses or other conditions believed to be caused by these toxic chemicals in the air, water, or soil. Find out if you can get disability compensation or benefits.

We've added 3 more presumptive conditions related to particulate matter exposure

The new presumptive conditions are **asthma**, **rhinitis**, and **sinusitis**. To be eligible for benefits, you must have gotten one of these conditions within 10 years of your separation from active military service.

This will expand benefits for Veterans who served in:

- Afghanistan, Djibouti, Syria, and Uzbekistan during the Persian Gulf War, from September 19, 2001, to the present, **or**
- Southwest Asia from August 2, 1990, to the present

If you have a pending claim for one or more of these conditions, you don't need to do anything. We'll send you a decision notice when we complete our review.