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RDT&E BUDGET ITEM JUSTIFICATION SHEET (R-2 Exhibit)									DATE February 2002	
APPROPRIATION/BUDGET ACTIVITY RDT&E/Defense-Wide/BA 3						R-1 ITEM NOMENCLATURE Cooperative DoD/VA Medical Research Program PE 0603738D8Z				

COST <i>(In Millions)</i>		FY 2001	FY2002	FY2003	FY2004	FY2005	FY2006	FY2007	Cost to Complete	Total Cost
Total Program Element (PE) Cost		0.991	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	Continuing	Continuing
Coop DoD/VA Medical/P464		0.991	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	Continuing	Continuing

(U) A. Mission Description and Budget Item Justification

(U) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ELEMENT

(U) Congress has added funding in this program element each year since 1987 but appropriated no funds for FY2002. Through FY 1998, the program was managed by the Veterans Administration. In accordance with the FY 1999 Defense Authorization Bill (H.R. 3616, Sec. 244), the Department of Defense now guides investment of these funds as executive agent. Coordination with the VA on research topics ensures that the program benefits the health of both active military forces and veterans. Research proposals are solicited from in-house DoD and VA investigators, and projects are selected for funding based on technical merit and relevance to the solicitation. Technical merit is determined through independent peer review by experts outside the DoD and VA. Projects are selected through independent peer review by intramural VA and DoD physicians and scientists. Funds support cooperative medical research in topics such as emerging infectious diseases, trauma, stress, and exercise physiology as well as other emerging medical issues of importance to DoD and VA.

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(U) **Project Number and Title: P464 Coop DoD/VA Medical**

(U) **PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PLANS**

(U) **FY 2001 Accomplishments:**

(U) The FY 2001 research program focused on two topics related to military health: post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and occupational lung disease. The first effort reflected agreement by the Departments of Defense and Veterans' Affairs to support research on PTSD, which has been found to affect personnel while still on active duty or after they leave military service. This research focuses on PTSD among women, addressing symptoms and health outcomes, etiology and contributing factors, effective preventive measures, and possible treatments. A research protocol involving two types of interventions has been approved and is being implemented. The second research effort focused on "Occupational Lung Disease/Review of Biopsies" as provided by Congress. This study is addressing the extent to which lung diseases, especially sarcoidosis, may have been misdiagnosed among Navy personnel and to evaluate the relationship between sarcoidosis and other lung diseases and service aboard Navy ships. In FY 2001, the project established an Independent External Scientific Advisory Committee with nationally-recognized members and a Public Policy Advisory Committee with community advocates. Consensus on central questions to be addressed and scientific approach were established. A proposal was developed and approved by the advisory committees, and case ascertainment and records review has begun. The general study design is to describe the patterns of sarcoidosis and other related lung disease in the Navy with regard to time, race, sex, occupation, and service aboard ship. A committee of clinical diagnostic experts will conduct a records

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review of a sample of cases and determine the certainty of diagnosis of sarcoidosis or other lung disease. When available, tissue samples will be examined for histologic diagnostic verification, and subjected to content analysis to determine the presence of minerals associated with lung disease. (\$ 0.991 million)

(U) <u>B. Program Change Summary</u>	<u>FY 2001</u>	<u>FY 2002</u>	<u>FY 2003</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Previous President's Budget Submit	0.000	0.000	0.000	
Delta	1.000	0.000	0.000	
FY 2002 Amended President's Budget Submission	0.991	0.000	0.000	Continuing
Appropriated Value	1.000	0.000	0.000	Continuing
Adjustments to Appropriated Value				
a. Congressionally Directed Undistributed Reduction	0.000	0.000	0.000	
b. Rescission/Below-threshold Reprogramming, Inflation Adjustment	-0.009	0.000	0.000	
c. Other	0.000	0.000	0.000	
Current FY 2003 Budget Submission	0.991	0.000	0.000	Continuing

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(U) **FY 2002 Plans:** Research will continue in FY 2002 using FY 2001 funds as follows: The PTSD study will begin patient treatment and data collection. The lung-disease study will continue analysis of data and tissue samples.

(U) **FY 2003 Plans:** N/A

Change Summary Explanation:

(U) **Funding:** Funding changes are the result of a below treshhold reprogramming. FY 2001 reductions reflect Section 8086 adjustments.

(U) **Schedule:** N/A

(U) **Technical:** N/A

(U) C. **Other Program Funding Summary Cost:** N/A

(U) D. **Acquisition Strategy:** N/A

(U) E. **Schedule Profile:** N/A

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