

PEASE HEALTH WORKING GROUP

MEETING MINUTES

DISCUSSION

- Introduction
- Recap on conference call regarding study request
 - Air Force is willing to review request for Pease health study
 - Deadline of 1/9/19 to submit formal request for study
 - Letter was drafted by committee members and revised by representatives from NGB
 - Letter will be presented for review on 1/11/2019
- NGB addresses revisions
 - Maj Paine
 - Changes on administrative aspects
 - Summarize in first paragraph
 - Take a look at rates of morbidity and mortality
 - Ask to review listening session concerns with link to video
 - Add contact information
 - Mindi Messner
 - Inquiry about higher incidence rates
 - Karla Armenti
 - States that this is implied with morbidity rates
 - Experts will decide proper parameters to study based on concerns
 - Pamela Bapp
 - Notes section removed regarding carcinogens
 - Maj Paine
 - Removed because there were no supporting studies listed
 - Wanted to specifically list chemicals of concern
 - Maj Brindisi
 - Heavy metals may be added
 - Karen Craver
 - List included, but not limited to
 - Use language to be all encompassing
 - Pamela Bapp
 - Many unknowns, important to be inclusive
 - Maj Brindisi
 - Final memo will include these changes
 - Some spelling errors to be corrected and language changes to be more inclusive
 - Chief Heiman will make changes and submit to Wing leadership

MEETING DETAILS

Date: 9 January 2019

Time: 1330

Location: JFHQ Concord, NH

Agenda:

- Review and approve meeting minutes
- Report back on action items
- Air Force Occupational Health Study
- Health Survey
- Discuss retiree input process
- Sub-committee structures
- Adjourn-

Attendees:

Maj Derek Brindisi
CMSgt Matthew Heiman
LtC Robert Piotrowski
TSgt Marc Fillion
SSgt Sarah Davidson
Karen Craver
Karla Armenti
William Gaudreau
Mindi Messner
Doris Brock
Pamela Bapp
Nancy Eaton
Kari Thurman
Kerry Holmes
Peter Clark

PHONE:

Brian Goetz from Portsmouth Water
Major Mark Paine, NGB
Mark Collins, Env Health VA
Judith Rees

January 9, 2019

- Action items from last meeting

1. Reopen blood testing

- State is not planning to reopen testing
- State is providing information to assist individuals in the process to do on their own
- Doris Brock submits formal request to be presented by Karen Craver to HHS for testing to be reopened
- HHS will provide formal response

2. Amanda not in attendance, BEE shop will follow up

3/5. William Gaudreau

- Informational page of how-to's on submitting claims
- New page will be added to website to assist veterans in process
 - Will include documents and links
 - Once running, VS will send link to workgroup
- Sent out first informational bulletin
 - New Name of Cancer registry "Pease Health Concerns Contact List"
 - Thanking those who attended listening session
 - Urging those on contact list to reach out to others who may be affected
 - Preparing second informational bulletin
 - Include two documents on Perfluorinated Chemicals (PFC) limits
- Karen
 - Asks to have Pease Health Working Group contacts added to distro list
- Doris Brock
 - Bonnie Rice is also sending out information to retiree group
 - Many places to receive information, we can merge information and advertise link for public access

4. Karla Armenti- Occ Health Physician Update

- Bob McClellan
 - Can consult as needed
- Looking for contacts for physician consultation

6. Karen Craver- Ask the Question

- Ask the Question Campaign
- Connected with Amy to provide information regarding campaign
- May be able to provide input for site
- Will try to get Amy XXX to attend next meeting

7. Maj Brindisi- baseline blood testing

- Baseline blood testing at Pease
 - Testing already in place for some shops on Occupational Health Program
 - Possibly pursue Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) for blood testing prior to military service
 - What is the blood being used for and how long is it saved
- LTC Piotrowski
 - What are we testing for?
 - What diseases are we looking to focus on?
 - Exposures and trending diseases affects the needed labs
- Mindi Messner

- Mentions that some people were unaware of PFC testing
- Asks how people were notified of testing
- Outreach seemed to be insufficient
- Can there be a baseline for PFCs for workers on base
- Karla Armenti
 - Asks what lab testing is currently in place for occupational health
- Brindisi
 - List of labs drawn will be provided, MDG testing protocols
 - Will need to follow up with MEPS protocol

8. Body burden testing

- Links sent in group email by Karla
- will resend to working group and OEHWG for review

13. SSgt Davidson- Shipyard

- Communicating health concerns with Shipyard
 - Lot of turnover for navy yard providers
 - May be most beneficial to create comprehensive memo to place in electronic medical records for all members on base
 - Will need further follow up
 - Health Survey
 - Doris Brock presents Health Survey
 - Summary data on 130 members who worked on Pease
 - Independent survey
 - Regarding concerned retirees
 - Created by Mindi Messner about a year ago – voluntary basis
 - Maj Brindisi
 - Suggests forwarding data onto USAFSAM to assist with Pease study
 - Will send survey to Maj Paine for review on Friday for request submission
 - Subcommittees
 - Maj Brindisi suggests committees
 - Communication Committee
 - Doris Brock volunteers to head
 - Gather contacts
 - Logistics to reach retirees
 - How to push information in an efficient and effective manner
 - Volunteers
 - Mindi Messner, William Gaudreau, Pamela Bapp
 - Patient Advocacy Committee
 - Gather information for provider pamphlet
 - Volunteers
 - Karla Armenti, Karen Craver, Doris Brock, LtC Piotrowski. Doris Brock
 - Suggestion for group interested in legislation
 - Not to be formal subcommittee
 - Information update group
 - CODEL will provide monthly update re: legislative actions
 - Maj Paine makes recommendations
 - Private entities that may be able to help push for legislation (i.e. retiree group)
 - Government/military pushing for policy change may cause issues down the line
- Ensure those advocating for legislation should be individuals and private groups, not a military organization itself

- Continued Discussion regarding education outreach
 - Educating individuals to help them then speak with healthcare providers
 - May be helped by the Ask the Question campaign
 - Doris Brock
 - This program may help people advocate for themselves
 - We still need to educate the providers
 - Providers must understand hazards, common diseases, important testing to be done
 - LtC Piotrowski
 - Important to establish specific information needed for providers to understand to improve quality of care
 - Karen Craver
 - Ask the Question Campaign
 - Aimed at providers
 - Helps guide care
 - Mindi Messner
 - Would members understand which chemicals they may have been exposed to throughout career
 - Chief Heiman
 - USAFSAM will be able to further breakdown substances of concern
 - Maj Brindisi
 - Request is not a standalone for provider information to diagnose patients
 - More information may be gathered by subcommittee for provider use
 - Karla Armenti
 - Suggests using literature as foundation for creating provider information
- Other follow-up.
 - Need to find original communications re: PFOA exposure and testing and determine how, when and where communications to personnel
 - Add to Pease website
 - Add to Medical records
 - Add to patient advocacy material
 - Add to Veteran Services communications
- Doris Brock
 - Found 2018 article on common exposures on military bases- distributed at meeting (see attached)
- Congressional Delegation Letter
 - Update
 - Response from Secretary of Defense stating they had received letter
 - Plan to give comprehensive response by February 2019
- Chief Heiman
 - Proposes next meeting to take place at Pease Headquarters
- Next meeting
 - February 13, 2019 at 1:30pm
 - Pease Headquarters

Meeting Minutes

For any questions or concerns regarding the information above, please contact
SSgt Sarah Davidson at sarah.e.davidson9.mil@mail.mil

DAVIDSON, SARAH E SSgt USAF ANG 157 MEDICAL GP/SGPM

Meeting Minutes

Pease Health Working Group