

## A few brief questions about the Millennium Cohort Study of health and well-being of military members past and present

1. Do you remember completing a questionnaire on military health (called the "Millennium Cohort Study") a few years ago? The survey asked many questions about any health issues you experienced in the military and possible effects you may have experienced, and was completed by mail or web.

- Yes  
 No → Skip to Question 3

2. (If yes) Was your general impression of that survey: favorable, unfavorable, or do you remember?

- Favorable  
 Unfavorable--If unfavorable, please tell us why:  
 Don't remember

3. Starting several months ago, we attempted to send emails to you about the new follow-up survey for this study. Do you remember receiving any email requests for completing this year's survey?

- Yes, remember receiving 1 or 2 emails  
 Yes, remember receiving 3 or more emails  
 No, do not remember receiving emails → Skip to Question 5

4. (If yes) Which one of these categories best describes your reaction to these emails:

- Read each of them carefully  
 Read one or more carefully, but ignored the rest  
 Ignored all of them and didn't read any of them carefully

5. We also sent a postal letter with a questionnaire to you. Do you recall receiving that in the mail?

- Yes, remember receiving letter and questionnaire in the mail  
 No, do not remember receiving letter and questionnaire in the mail

**6. Some people seem unsure who the Millennium Cohort Study emails and letters are coming from. We are wondering which of these groups you thought the emails and letter were coming from (check best answer).**

- The Department of Defense
- A specific branch of the military
- A nongovernmental organization
- Somewhere else
- Not sure

**7. We are interested in knowing of possible reasons that people may not have responded to the request to complete this year's survey. Please indicate if the reasons listed below was or was not a reason why you did not respond to the survey.**

	Yes, a reason	Not a reason
a. I thought the survey would be too long	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. I did not think my response would be very useful	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. I was concerned about confidentiality of my answers being adequately protected	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. I did not think the study was useful	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. I am no longer in the military	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. I was concerned about the legitimacy of the study and did not think it was really being done by the DoD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. I did not realize it was a follow-up of the same study I had responded to	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Please describe any other reasons that you may have decided not to respond to this year's survey:		

**8. Did the messages you received seem like they were requests to respond to a survey that was considered important to helping future members of the military or did it seem like just another survey?**

- Important to helping future members of the military
- Just another survey

**9. If you knew it was conducted by the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs, would you have been:**

- More likely to respond
- Less likely to respond
- It would have made no difference

**10. We first requested that you complete the survey on the Internet because that helps us complete the survey process more quickly. If we had sent you a postal mail questionnaire when we first contacted you, would you have been:**

More likely to answer the survey → why:

Less likely to answer the survey → why:

It would have made no difference in whether I responded

**11. We wonder whether sending a small gift (such as a \$5 gift card) with the request to answer the survey would have made you:**

- More likely to respond
- Less likely to respond
- It would have made no difference

**12. At the present time we are sending small gifts to people after they have completed the survey such as a hat, a commemorative coin, or a gift card for a store. Would knowing about this gift make you:**

- More likely to respond
- Less likely to respond
- It would have made no difference

**13. Please rate your overall general health:**

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

**14. Compared to three years ago, do you consider your overall health now to be:**

- Much better
- Somewhat better
- About the same
- Somewhat worse
- Much worse

**15. Thank you for answering these questions. Your participation is vital to helping the Department of Defense evaluate the long-term health of people who serve in the military. Do you have any additional thoughts, questions, or comments that you would like to share concerning this study?**

**Thank you very much for helping us out by answering this brief questionnaire. We would like you to know that the study is still going on. If you would like to complete this year's survey of the Millennium Cohort Study, we would welcome that. The Millennium Cohort Study was designed to understand changes that happen to military members over many years, information that seems critical to providing the best possible medical services to people during and after their years of military service. To complete the survey over the web, just go to [www.millenniumcohort.org](http://www.millenniumcohort.org) and enter your Subject ID found on the front of this questionnaire. If you would prefer a paper survey, just check this box and we'll get it in the mail for you.**

Yes, please send me the mail questionnaire

**PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT:**

You have rights under the Privacy Act. The following statement describes how that Act applies to this study:

**Authority:** Authority to request this information is granted under Title 5, U.S. Code 136, Department of Defense Regulations, Executive Order 9396, DoD RCS#DD-HA(AR)2106 (expires XX/XX/20XX), and OMB #0720-0029 (expires XX/XX/20XX). Personal identifiers will be used to link survey data with medical and other military records.

**Purpose:** Medical research information will be collected in a research project titled "Prospective Studies of U.S. Military Forces: The Millennium Cohort Study." The project objective is to enhance basic medical knowledge and to improve the treatment and prevention of illnesses that may be related to military service.

**Routine Uses:** The information provided in this questionnaire will be maintained in data files at the Deployment Health Research Department at the Naval Health Research Center and used only for medical research purposes. Use of these data may be granted to other federal and non-federal medical research agencies as approved by the Naval Health Research Center's Institutional Review Board. However, your personal identifiers will be protected. By signing the original consent form, you volunteered to disclose your information as identified above. If you do not agree to this disclosure, your failure will make the research less useful. The "Blanket Routine Uses" that appears at the beginning of the Department of Defense's compilation of medical databases also applies to this system. **Anonymity:** All responses will be held in confidence by the Deployment Health Research Department. Information you provide will be considered only when statistically summarized with the responses of others. Your personal identifiers (name, etc.) will only be used to link data sets and then the identifiers will be stripped from study data such that medical researchers cannot identify you individually. **Voluntary Disclosure:** Completion of the questionnaire is voluntary. Failure to respond to any of the questions will NOT result in any penalties except possible lack of representation of your views in the final results and outcomes.

**PUBLIC BURDEN STATEMENT:** The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services, Executive Services Directorate, Information Management Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, East Tower, Suite 02G09, Alexandria, VA 22350-3100 (0720-0029) Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

If you would like to contact the Millennium Cohort Study Team, please email us at: [milcohortinfo@med.navy.mil](mailto:milcohortinfo@med.navy.mil) or [info@millenniumcohort.org](mailto:info@millenniumcohort.org). Or call us at toll-free: 1-888-942-5222 or DSN: 553-7465. You can also use this contact information if you would like to withdraw from participating in this study.