

APPENDIX X

MAY 24-25, 1995

QUALITY REVIEW OF HEALTH EXAMINATION PROGRAM

Persian Gulf Registry Health Examination Program
 Quality Management/Self Assessment Monitor
 Pilot Test - Washington VAMC; May 24-25, 1995

Summary Analysis of Pilot Self Assessment Monitor Results:

A. Background: The medical records reviewed for the pilot study were chosen by Washington VAMC Medical Records personnel from a list of veterans who had received a Persian Gulf Registry Health Examination. The most physically accessible charts were collected for the reviewers. The Self-Assessment Monitor is provided in Attachment A.

N = 78 (72 Male, 6 Female) - The total number of Persian Gulf Registry Health Examinations completed at Washington VAMC as of MAY 25, 1995 is 873 (9% sample).

B. Standard Registry Exam:

- 1) Code Sheets: 75 of 78 charts contained Code Sheets (4% non-compliance)
- 2) History and Physical (SF88): 70 of 78 charts contained an SF88 (10% non-compliance)
- 3) CBC: 74 of 78 charts contained CBC test results (5% non-compliance)
- 4) Chemistries: 74 of 78 charts contained Chemistries (5% non-compliance)
- 5) Urinalysis: 72 of 78 charts contained Urinalysis (7% non-compliance)
- 6) Chest x-ray: 53 of 78 charts contained Chest x-ray results (32% non-compliance)
 - a. Of the 25 charts that were missing Chest x-ray results, 4 included follow-up letters indicating Chest x-rays were completed. One patient failed to show up for his appointment.
- 7) Follow-up Visit: 8 of 78 charts recorded a Follow-up Visit (92% non-compliance)
- 8) Follow-up Letter: 74 of 78 charts included a Follow-up Letter (5% non-compliance)

P. 2

Persian Gulf Registry Health Examination Program
Quality Management/Self Assessment Monitor
Pilot Test - Washington VAMC; May 24-25, 1995

C. Work-up For Common Complaints:

9) Patient Complaint - Persistent Diarrhea: 71 of 78 charts were N/A

a. Of the 7 "applicable" cases, 6 charts did not show that any of the Persistent Diarrhea procedures were completed; while one chart did show completion (**86% non-compliance**).

10) Memory Loss: 65 of 78 charts were N/A

a. In one of 13 "applicable" cases where the patient complained of memory loss a CT and Neurology consult were completed, and in one case a Neurology consult was recommended, but not scheduled or completed (**85% non-compliance**).

11) Shortness of Breath/Chronic Cough: 69 of 78 charts were N/A

a. Of the 9 "applicable" cases, 5 charts showed additional diagnostic procedures, i.e., Lung Exam, Pulmonary Function Test, Smoking History (**44% non-compliance**).

12) Follow-up Appointment Scheduled: 41 of 78 were N/A

a. 13 of 37 "applicable" cases showed a scheduled follow-up exam scheduled

b. 20 of 37 "applicable" cases showed no follow-up exam scheduled (**54% non-compliance**)

c. In 4 cases, the reviewer did not enter a code

D. Primary Care Team Assignment: 35 of 78 were N/A

a. Of the 43 "applicable" cases - each veteran who has been given a Registry examination receives a Primary Care Team Assignment. This information is not recorded in the patient chart, but is accessible by computer. The assignment is not recorded in the patient chart until the patient visits a clinic (**0% non-compliance**).

P. 3

Persian Gulf Registry Health Examination Program
Quality Management/Self Assessment Monitor
Pilot Test - Washington VAMC; May 24-25, 1995

E. Women Veterans:

13) None of the 6 female patient charts showed the completion of a Breast/Gynecology Exam (100% non-compliance).

Prepared: June 7, 1995

- v. GI consult Yes _____ No _____
- b. Memory Loss
- i. Mini-Mental Status Exam or other bedside memory test Yes _____ No _____
- ii. Additional Labs:
- Thyroid functions Yes _____ No _____
- VDRL(RPR) Yes _____ No _____
- B12 Yes _____ No _____
- Other(Neurology consult,CT/MRI) _____
- c. Shortness of Breath or Chronic Cough
- i. Lung exam recorded Yes _____ No _____
- ii. Pulmonary Function Test Yes _____ No _____
- iii. Smoking History Yes _____ No _____
- B. Follow-up Appointments
1. If the veteran was symptomatic at the time of completion of the Registry exam was a follow-up examination scheduled? Yes _____ No _____
2. Has the veteran been assigned to a primary care team? Yes _____ No _____

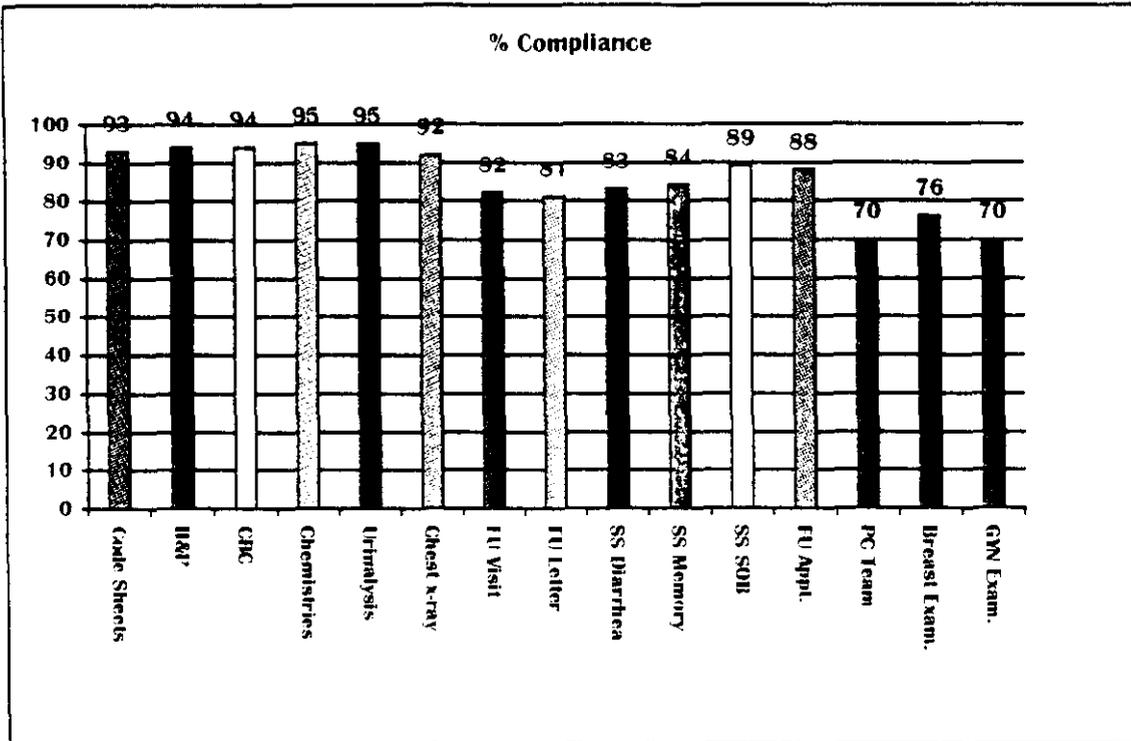
**Persian Gulf Registry Health Examination Program
Quality Management/Self Assessment Monitor**

Background/Purpose:

VHA Directive 10-95-114 required each VA medical center to use the Persian Gulf Registry Health Examination Program - Quality Management/Self Assessment Monitor to review at least a 10% sample of all Persian Gulf Registry physical examinations conducted from the inception of the program through December 1995.

Facilities recorded the results of their medical record reviews on Attachment B, Summary Analysis of Self Assessment Monitor Results, and submitted them to Environmental Agents Service (EAS). The information shown below represents a summary analysis of results submitted to EAS by 171 VA facilities during the initial monitoring period.

**SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF SELF ASSESSMENT MONITOR RESULTS
PROGRAM INCEPTION = DECEMBER 1995**



Reminders

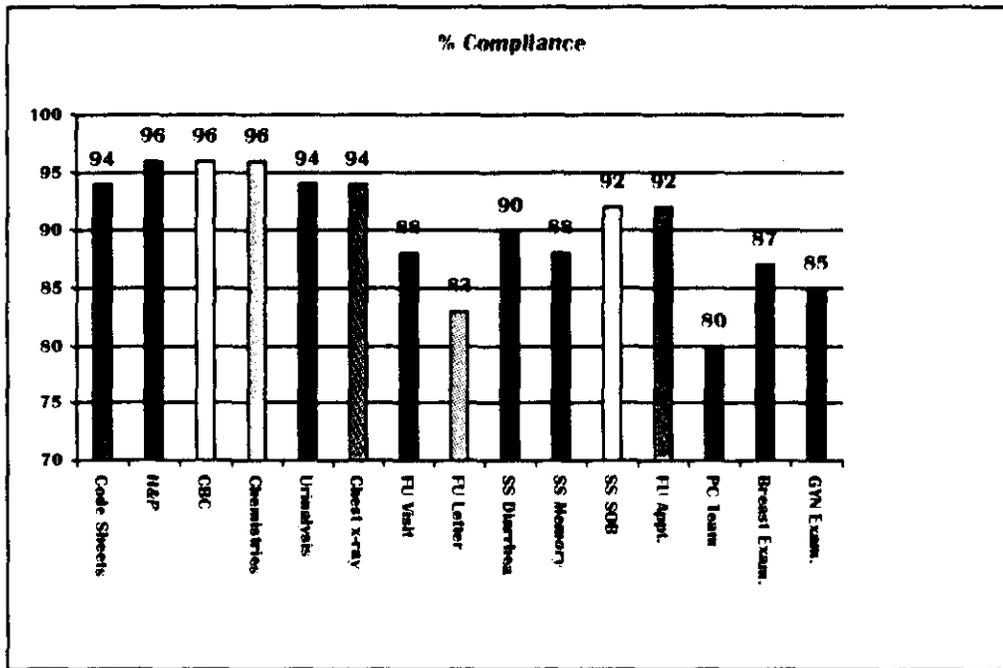
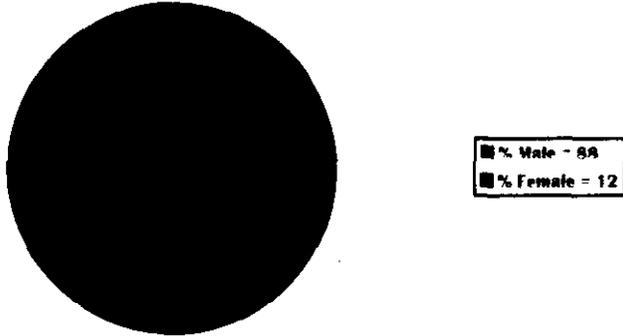
- 1) All women Persian Gulf veterans should be offered a breast examination and Pap smear.
- 2) Assign all Persian Gulf veterans who need follow-up to a Primary Care Team.
- 3) Use the Phase II Protocol for unexplained illnesses.
- 4) Subsequent reviews should be conducted on an annual basis hereafter, with results submitted to Environmental Agents Service (EAS) by October 1st of each year.

Persian Gulf Registry Health Examination Program
Quality Management/Self Assessment Monitor

Background/Purpose: VHA Directive 10-95 11.1 required each VA medical center to use the Persian Gulf Registry Health Examination Program - Quality Management/Self Assessment Monitor to review at least a 10% sample of all Persian Gulf Registry physical examinations conducted from January 1, 1996 through September 30, 1996.

Facilities recorded the results of their medical record reviews on Attachment B, Summary Analysis of Self Assessment Monitor Results, and submitted them to Environmental Agents Service (EAS). The information shown below represents a summary analysis of results submitted to EAS by 167 VA facilities during the 1996 monitoring period.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF SELF ASSESSMENT MONITOR RESULTS
JANUARY 1, 1996 ⇒ SEPTEMBER 30, 1996



Year-to-Year Percentage Compliance Comparison

	<u>→1995</u>	<u>1996</u>		<u>→1995</u>	<u>1996</u>
Code Sheets	93%	94%	SS Diarrhea	88%	90%
H&P	94%	96%	SS Memory	84%	88%
CBC	94%	96%	SS SOB	89%	92%
Chemistries	95%	96%	FU Appt.	88%	92%
Urinalysis	95%	94%	PC Team	70%	80%
Chest x-ray	92%	94%	Breast Exam.	76%	87%
FU Visit	82%	88%	GYN Exam.	70%	85%
FU Letter	81%	83%			