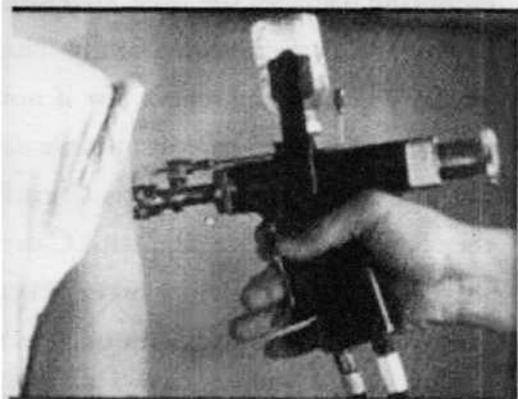

VETERANS
DID YOU RECEIVE
JET INJECTOR
INOCULATIONS?



YOU MAY BE
AT RISK OF
HEPATITIS C



Dear Friend,

Thank you for risking your life to serve our nation. I hope you find the following information helpful.

HEPATITIS C

Hepatitis C is a disease that affects and eventually damages the liver. Hepatitis C progresses asymptotically. The majority of patients report few if not any signs or symptoms. Most people do not know they have hepatitis C until they have a blood test. Hepatitis C can lead to cirrhosis, liver cancer, liver transplant, and a plethora of other hepatic manifestations.

**1 in 10 U.S. veterans are infected
with hepatitis C.**

Rates are highest (64%) amongst
Vietnam era veterans.

JET INJECTOR - HEPATITIS C RISK FACTOR

The Department of Defense used jet injectors to administer vaccinations to soldiers between 1952 and 2006. The jet injector was placed on a soldier's upper arm where it dispensed a high pressure fluid that penetrated the skin, mixing with bodily tissues and blood. At such high velocity the blood splashed back onto the injector nozzle and into the internal fluid pathway. This allowed for the cross-contamination of blood and blood-borne disease from one soldier to another.

The jet injector is a percutaneous (under the skin) procedure and is no different than the risks of injection drug use and tattooing..

The Board of Veterans Appeals has recognized the jet injector as a risk factor for hepatitis C in a substantial number of court cases.

THE EVIDENCE

“Despite the lack of any scientific evidence to document the transmission of the hepatitis C virus with airgun injectors, it is biologically plausible.”
-Department of Veterans Affairs, 2004



FORT CAMPBELL

Armed Forces 1998 site visit to MCRD Parris Island found, “Jet injector nozzle’s were frequently contaminated with blood, yet sterilization practices were frequently inadequate or not followed.”

THE RISKS

During the injection process did you observe:

- Blood on your arm?
- Blood on the arm of a comrade in front of you?
- and/or Blood on the jet injector?

Did you experience these breaches in safe injection practices by the vaccinator:

- Failure to hold your arm to receive the injection?
 - Failure to hold the jet injector at a 90 degree angle?
 - Failure to wipe the jet injector nozzle?
 - Failure to remove the jet injector from service once contaminated with blood?
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WHAT TO DO:

If you received inoculations by a jet injector get tested!

- If you have hepatitis C file a claim for compensation benefits. Visit the National Association of County Veterans Service Officers website www.nacvso.org and click on "Find a Service Officer."
- Seek routine medical care.
- Tell those most important to you.
- Educate yourself by visiting: www.jetinfectors.wordpress.com

www.hcvets.com

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www.jetinfectors.wordpress.com