MVP MATTERS

Updates from VA's Million Veteran Program (MVP)

MVP: Another chapter in VA's history of medical research

The history of the United States is full of wars fought and conflicts entered—meaning it's made up of the stories of service members, Veterans, and the people who support their efforts. The founding of the Department of Veterans Affairs is one of those stories. This July, VA celebrates its 94th birthday.

VA has grown substantially over the years. The Veterans Health Administration is now the largest integrated health care network in the United States, with 1,255 health care facilities serving 9 million enrolled Veterans each year. Since the beginning, research has been a core component of VA's work. VA conducted the first decisive trials of effective treatment for tuberculosis, developed the concept of CT scanning, demonstrated the relationship between smoking and lung cancer, and helped develop a practical, implantable cardiac pacemaker. In recent years, that research has reached new heights—thanks to more than a million Veterans who have joined MVP.

Founded in 2011, MVP's initial research studies focused on conditions like heart and kidney disease, posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD), Gulf War Illness, and substance use. Now, researchers use MVP data to study many health conditions, including:

- Traumatic brain injury (TBI)
- Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (ADRD)
- Cancers, like breast cancer & prostate cancer
- Heart disease
- Endometriosis
- Osteoarthritis
- Tinnitus
- Kidney disease
- Mental health conditions
- And more

The story of MVP's impact is still being written. Each year, researchers using MVP data are making groundbreaking discoveries in diverse populations—discoveries that will lead to better detection, prevention, and treatments for conditions that matter to Veterans like you. To learn more about MVP's research over the years, visit www.mvp.va.gov/pwa/science.

Did you know?

There are more than

450 centenarians enrolled in MVP.

A centenarian is a person who has reached the age of **100** years.

Many of MVP's centenarians served in **WWII**.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates there are **101,000** American centenarians in 2024.

America has the world's **2nd largest** population of centenarians.

"Thanks to the Veterans who signed up for this program, VA can better understand—and eventually treat—the health conditions that affect Veterans of all eras and backgrounds. This will help us improve health care and, ultimately, save lives, for Veterans and non-Veterans alike."

- Secretary of Veterans Affairs Denis McDonough

Why did you join MVP?

Email us at askMVP@va.gov for a chance to be featured in a future edition of MVP Matters! A member of our team may reach out to you.

Keep in touch!

Visit www.mvp.va.gov to read the latest research, access your MVP Dashboard, or join MVP today.

Questions? Call us at 866-441-6075.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs