

Mechanisms for Contacting VBDR and NCRP's Role

Isaf Al-Nabulsi, Ph.D.

Program Administrator

**Meeting of Veterans' Advisory
Board on Dose Reconstruction**

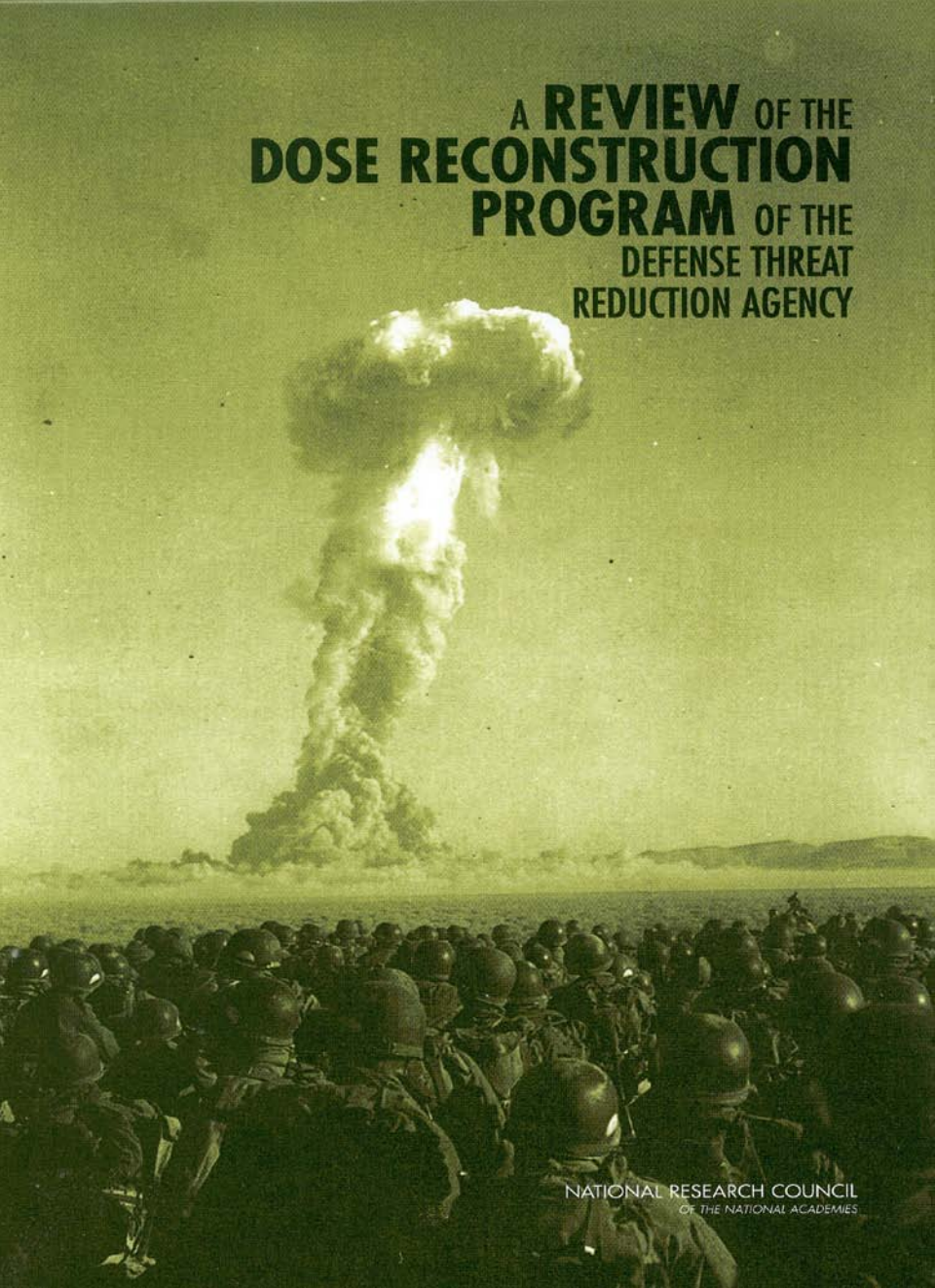
Tampa, Florida

August 18, 2005



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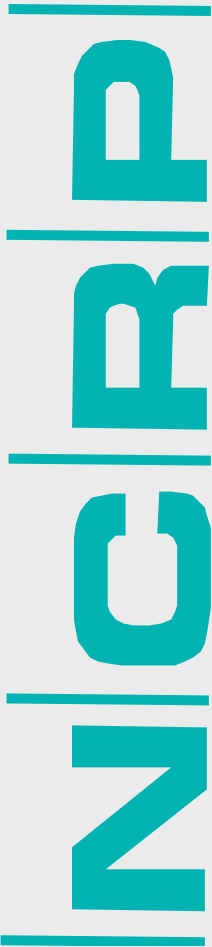
A REVIEW OF THE
DOSE RECONSTRUCTION
PROGRAM OF THE
DEFENSE THREAT
REDUCTION AGENCY



NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL
OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES

NCRP's Role in Supporting VBDR

- **NCRP asked by Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) in July, 2003, to assist with establishing and managing a new advisory board for its dose reconstruction program. A recommendation to establish the advisory board was contained in the National Research Council report on DTRA's dose reconstruction program.**
- **NCRP and DTRA signed the contract in September, 2004, for NCRP to provide technical and administrative support to the new Veterans' Advisory Board on Dose Reconstruction (VBDR).**



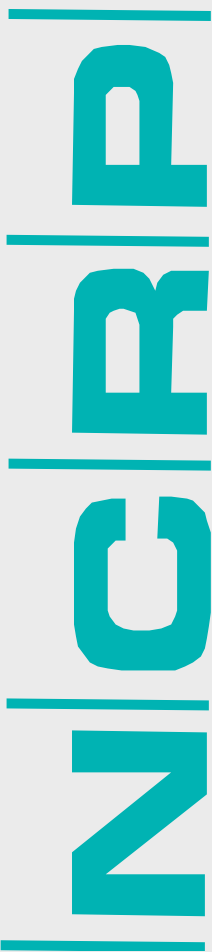
NCRP's Role in Supporting VBDR (con't.)

- **NCRP hired staff to assist VBDR**
 - (a) Dr. Isaf Al-Nabulsi: Program Manager**
 - (b) Ms. Melanie Heister: Senior Administrative Assistant**
 - (c) Mrs. Carlotta Teague (half-time): Secretarial/Clerical Assistant**
- **NCRP will assist DTRA in all aspects of facilitating the meetings and activities of VBDR, including arrangements for meeting locations, travel and lodging for VBDR members, correspondence and meeting minutes, maintenance of a VBDR Web site, replying to telephone inquiries or forwarding calls to Dr. Zimble, DTRA, VA and others as appropriate.**



NCRP's Role in Supporting VBDR (con't.)

- **NCRP will also provide technical assistance to VBDR:**
 - (a) Assist with identifying experts who can serve as consultants to VBDR and participate in special Board activities such as conducting audits of radiation dose reconstruction procedures**
 - (b) Gather information of importance for VBDR (e.g., via specialized literature searches)**
- **NCRP has or will be establishing scientific committees to prepare four technical reports that will be of value to the overall radiation dose reconstruction and claims compensation programs.**



NCRP's Role in Supporting VBDR (con't.)

- **Reports to be prepared and published over the coming 5-6 years are:**
 - (1) “Uncertainties in the Measurement and Dosimetry of External Radiation”**
 - (2) “Uncertainties in Internal Radiation Dosimetry”**
 - (3) “Fundamental Principles of Radiation Dose Reconstruction”**
 - (4) “Uncertainties in Radiation Risk Estimates and Probability of Disease Causation”**



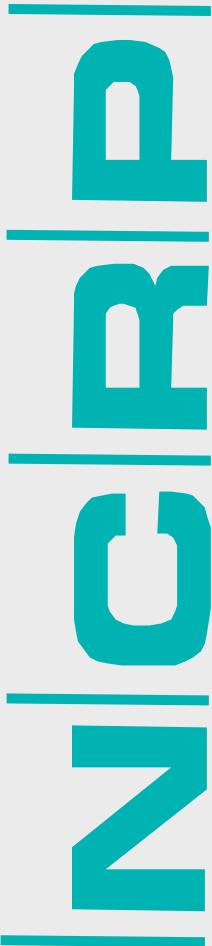
Responsibilities of the Advisory Board

The Board is required by Section 601 of Public Law 108-183 to:

- **Conduct periodic, random audits of dose reconstructions and decisions on claims for radiogenic diseases;**

Responsibilities of the Advisory Board (con't.)

- **Assist the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Defense Threat Reduction Agency in communicating to veterans information on the mission, procedures, and evidentiary requirements of the Dose Reconstruction Program; and**
- **Carry out such other activities with respect to the review and oversight of the Dose Reconstruction Program as the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs shall jointly specify.**



Responsibilities that the Advisory Board does not Have

- **Reviewing individual dose reconstruction cases for claimants.**
- **Serving as an appeals board for claimants.**
- **Helping a claimant with his/her claim.**
- **Changing or revising the provisions of the Radiation-Exposed Veterans' Compensation Act law.**



Where is the VBDR located?

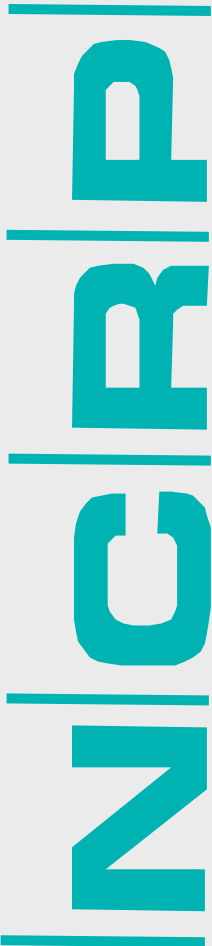
Administratively, the VBDR is located at:

**Veterans' Advisory Board on Dose
Reconstruction**

c/o NCRP

7910 Woodmont Ave., Suite 400

Bethesda, MD 20814-3095



How can I contact the VBDR?

- You can contact the VBDR through its toll-free line at 1-866-657-VBDR (8237).
- The VBDR website is <http://VBDR.org> or via e-mail at: pa@vbdr.org or aa@vbdr.org.

How can I follow the activities of the Board?

**You can follow the activities of
the Board by visiting VBDR
Web site at <http://VBDR.org>.**

Improving communications with veterans and resolving issues related to dose reconstruction and claims adjudication.

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**THE
VETERANS'
BENEFITS ACT
OF 2003**

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Veterans' Advisory Board on Dose Reconstruction (VBDR)

Welcome Message from Chairman James Zimble

Welcome to VBDR.org. The purpose of this site is to help atomic veterans and their families better understand the work of the [Veterans' Advisory Board on Dose Reconstruction](#) (VBDR) created under the Veterans' Benefits Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-183).



James A. Zimble, M.D.
Vice Admiral, USN, Ret.

[Our Charter >](#)

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[Frequently Asked Questions >](#)

History

Learn more about the [Veterans' Dose Reconstruction Program](#)

Resources & Info

Get [information and resources for veterans and their families](#) in our [Links](#) section

[DTRA Press Releases >](#)
<http://www.dtra.mil/>

Meeting Dates & Locations

[August 17-18, 2005
Tampa, Florida](#)

Hyatt Regency
211 North Tampa Street
Tampa, FL 33602

[VBDR.org >](#)

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