“Multi-modal MR (fMRI, MRS, ASL) Studies of Gulf War Illness”

Presented by:

Richard W. Briggs, PhD

Professor, Department of Radiology
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas, TX

Monday, January 7th, 2013, from 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
HPNP Building - Classroom 1101

Classroom is one floor up, on the east side of the HPNP lobby.

Learning Objectives:  At the conclusion of this presentation, participants should be able to:

1. List fMRI activity patterns to non-painful and painful thermal stimuli in well Gulf War veterans compared to those with Gulf War Illness (GWI), and identify how these brain activations are affected by coexisting PTSD and fibromyalgia and how they differ among the three major Haley syndromes.

2. Describe and design improved MR arterial spin labeling (ASL) methods for quantitative perfusion imaging of hippocampus; formulate a cholinergic challenge ASL perfusion test to preliminarily distinguish well Gulf War veterans from those with GWI and to tentatively assess membership in the 3 major Haley GWI syndromes.

3. Summarize the $^1$H MR spectroscopy (MRS) differences between well and ill Gulf War veterans; discuss the relative contributions of brain N-acetylaspartate, total creatine, and total choline and transverse relaxation time to metabolite ratio differences; critique the literature of MRS studies of GWI and recognize the importance of detailed case definitions in GWI.

Dr. Briggs has disclosed no relevant financial relationships. No one else in a position to control the content of this activity has any financial relationship(s) to disclose.

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