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Thank you, WTCHP STAC, for the opportunity to share my concerns to committee for review & to further analyze the needs of the 9/11 population affected by our toxic exposures at the WTC attack site on Twin Towers, NYC. Additionally, I gratefully support this committee's recommendation that uterine & endometrial cancers be added to the list of WTC certified conditions.

On 9/11/01, I was a perfectly healthy 41 y.o., only seeing a Primary Care Physician when needed, & on no "ZERO" medications. Now I write this comment as a currently 61 y.o. individual who over the last 20 years has experienced rapidly declining & ill health, beginning from 2002. I have over these 20 years been put on many medications, (some to deal with side effects of original medications) & am under the care of many specialist. The ONLY variable introduced at age 41, that altered the course of my future health, was that I volunteered at Ground Zero, after the 9/11 attacks on the WTC, where I was exposed, though I was told the quality of air around the site was safe.

While I am grateful for the health conditions since June 2002, that have been certified, for which our 9/11 population is receiving both monitoring & treatment coverage, there are additional conditions that warrant being evaluated for certification, for ALL in the population:

-VITILIGO*

Causes of VITILIGO* (Mayo Clinic) includes: A DISORDER of the IMMUNE SYSTEM (autoimmune condition) or A TRIGGER event, such as STRESS. *VITILIGO has been CERTIFIED for SOME members while not OTHER members, & this should be reviewed further, regarding how many members in the 9/11 population have been diagnosed with it. Certainly our exposures at Ground Zero meets the criteria of being a TRIGGER event of STRESS.

-IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME*

*This should be reviewed further regarding how many members in the 9/11 population have been diagnosed with it.

-FIBROMYALGIA*

*FIBROMYALGIA can sometimes be triggered by physically traumatic or emotional events; Prolonged psychological stress may also trigger the condition (Mayo Clinic). This cause certainly fits the criteria for psychological stress us responders/volunteers to the site of this terrorist attack in our city, & in the "new normal" created in the aftermath. *FIBROMYALGIA has

been CERTIFIED for SOME members while not OTHER members, & this should be reviewed further regarding how many other members in the 9/11 population have been diagnosed with it.

-CHRONIC FATIGUE IMMUNE DYSFUNCTION SYNDROME (CFID)*

Causes of CFID* (Mayo Clinic) includes: A slightly impaired IMMUNE SYSTEM; significant physical or EMOTIONAL trauma. *CFID should be reviewed further regarding how many other members in the 9/11 population have been diagnosed with it. Again, this "cause" certainly fits the criteria for psychological/emotional stress in our population of responders/volunteers to the site of a terrorist attack in my city, & in the "new normal" created in the aftermath.

-EARLY MENOPAUSE SYMPTOMS*

*Many women have experienced this, and it is not being evaluated nor noted in charts. This should be reviewed further regarding how many other female members in the 9/11 population have had this experience.

-VAGINAL/UTERINE FIBROIDS, for the obvious reasons, this should be reviewed further regarding how many other female members in the 9/11 population have had this experience.

-CENTRAL SEROUS RETINOPATHY (CRS) (Non-Diabetic Related)

Cortisol from stress can cause inflammation, leaking and hormone build up behind the eye(s); use of steroid treatments for lung disease post 9/11 can increase the potential for this. *CRS should be reviewed further regarding how many members in the 9/11 population have been diagnosed with it.

-TYPE 2 DIABETES*

Since 2015, studies are showing connections between endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDC's) and onset of Diabetes.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/more-evidence-chemicals-linked-obesity-diabetes-group-says-n434981>

*TYPE 2 DIABETES should be reviewed further regarding how many members in the 9/11 population have been diagnosed with it.

-HOSHIMOTO'S THYROID DISEASE*

A number of studies show that endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDC's)

have a high degree of structural similarity with the thyroid hormones, T3 & T4, thus competing with the hormones for the thyroid hormone receptor & transport proteins, having a thyroid-disrupting effect; reducing levels of thyroid hormone circulating.

Sources: (WHO, 2012)(UNEP/WHO, 2013)(Abdelouahab et al., 2008; Hagmar et al., 2001a; 2001b; Persky et al., 2001; Schell et al., 2008; Turyk, Anderson & Persky, 2007).

*HOSHIMOTOS should be reviewed further regarding how many members in the 9/11 population have been diagnosed with it.

Thank you for your time in reading my comments and in allowing me to advocate on my behalf and on behalf of others in our 9/11 population.

Denise