



9/11 and Beyond

Spring 2020

Registry Research Findings

Social Support and Experiencing Confusion or Memory Loss Among Enrollees*

The findings are based on enrollees' answers to the following question: "During the last 12 months, have you experienced confusion or memory loss, other than occasionally forgetting the name of someone you recently met?" About one in five enrollees between the ages of 36 and 64 responded "Yes."

We found that enrollees who had more social support were less likely to experience confusion or memory loss than enrollees who had less social support.



*Seil K, Yu S, Alper H. A Cognitive Reserve and Social Support-Focused Latent Class Analysis to Predict Self-Reported Confusion or Memory Loss Among Middle-Aged World Trade Center Health Registry Enrollees. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. 2019;16(8):1401. doi.org/10.3390/ijerph16081401

9/11-Related Adolescent Behavior and Adult Mental Health

This World Trade Center Health Registry (WTCHR) study investigated whether there is a relationship between 9/11-related



behavior problems in adolescents and their mental health conditions and substance use as adults. Watch our <u>video</u> to learn more.

The Art of Remembrance

9/11 Memorials From Around the World

In addition to the thousands of rescue and clean-up workers who toiled on the "pile" for months after the 9/11 disaster, almost 350 Search and Rescue dogs worked side by side with people in a desperate effort to recover victims. In West Orange, New Jersey, in a park that has a breathtaking view of Manhattan from across the Hudson River, sits a four-foot-tall bronze dog standing at the top of a 5,000-pound slab of granite and steel.



Jay Warren, a sculptor from Oregon, designed the statue of the dog, which was commemorated in the park's Essex County Eagle Rock Sept. 11 Memorial in 2016, and the statue and installation was paid for by corporate sponsors.

In a press release for the commemoration, Newark Public Safety Director Anthony Ambrose said, "Search dogs covered 16 acres of land at Ground Zero covered with metal and debris, and went where humans could not go. This is a fitting way to remember how many families gained some sort of closure because of the work by dogs."

Annual Report

This year, the WTCHR continued to study the long-term impacts of 9/11 and to link enrollees to care. The 2019 Annual Report shares new findings about the relationship between 9/11 and stroke, confusion and memory loss, pulmonary fibrosis, and early retirement. Download and read the <u>full PDF version of</u> <u>the report</u>.



Mail's Here 🖾 🕕 @

We welcome your letters and input! Please reach out to us at <u>wtchreletter@health.nyc.gov</u>.

"Hello,

This letter is just as much a 'thank you' note from me as it is from my wife.

Ever since 9/11 (I worked on the 'pile' for six months), I developed severe sleep apnea that not only kept me awake at night, but also my wife — I was pretty sure I had sleep apnea; however, it wasn't until I read your <u>sleep apnea</u> health handout that I decided to see my doctor. Yep, I have it, and it's being treated.

Both my wife and I thank you!"

— L. Lin, NYC

Need Care?

If you're a WTCHR enrollee and think you may have a 9/11-related health condition, email the Registry's Treatment Referral Program at trp@health.nyc.gov. When you reach out, one of our multilingual staff members will respond with questions about your health conditions. Depending on your needs, eligibility and how you were affected by 9/11, we will refer you to the WTC Health Program for Survivors or the WTC Health Program for Responders.

The Continued Health Impacts of 9/11



The Registry's <u>health materials</u> are one of our most popular sources of information. They describe symptoms and treatments for some of the 52 conditions (melanoma, sinusitis, etc.) covered by the WTC Health Program.

Wave 5 Survey Launched

The Registry's 2020 Health Survey (Wave 5) will continue to monitor the health of enrollees — now all adults — 19 to 20 years after 9/11. Enrollee responses will allow us to continue to track the health impacts of 9/11 and identify gaps in health care that affect survivors and responders. To learn more about why the Registry matters, watch Lucie's <u>video</u>.



Watch more Registry videos.

Resources

The federal <u>WTC Health Program</u> provides monitoring and treatment, including medications for physical and mental health conditions related to 9/11. Services are offered at no cost to you, no matter where you live now. Apply online at <u>cdc.</u> <u>gov/wtc</u> or call **888-982-4748** and we will mail you an application.

To find the this e-newsletter in English, Simplified Chinese, Spanish and Traditional Chinese, visit <u>nyc.gov/911health</u> and click on the **Research** tab, then <u>Publications</u>, and select **E-newsletter** from the drop-down to find PDFs.

To contact us about the Registry, email <u>wtchr@health.nyc.gov</u>.