



# Individual Longitudinal Exposure Record (ILER) Overview

## DoD and VASponsors:

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VA Health Outcomes of Military Exposures (HOME)

# Why ILER?

1 in 3

Veterans report “definite or probable exposure to environmental hazards”

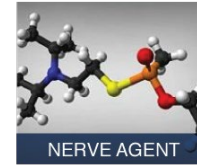
1 in 4

Veterans report “persistent major health concerns due to deployment exposures”

*Overarching Problem:*  
There is no standardized practice or procedure to identify, track, and monitor exposed Service Members and Veterans.



AGENT ORANGE



NERVE AGENT



SOLVENTS



DUST AND SAND



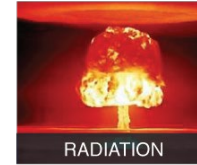
FUELS



PESTICIDES



DEPLETED URANIUM



RADIATION



VACCINES



OIL WELL FIRES



BURN PITS



ANTI-MALARIAL



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# What is ILER?

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- ILER is a web application that compiles, collates, and presents available occupational and environmental exposure information in an individual/ person-centric format
- ILER delivers the capability to:
  - Create a longitudinal (historic) record of service-related exposures
  - Improve the medical care for those who have exposure-related health outcomes
  - Research and support epidemiology studies of exposed cohorts
  - Create cohorts based on location, date, time, and exposure
  - Improve both medical surveillance and occupational environmental health surveillance by detecting emerging (latent) health conditions on personnel returning from deployment
  - Assist Veteran disability evaluations and benefits determination

ILER is intended to represent the complete record of service-related exposures and serve as an authoritative data source for all Occupational and Environmental Health Surveillance data to include hazardous OEH exposures to Service Members in theater and critical non-theater OEH exposures that impact Service Members and Veterans.



# ILER Key Functionality and Capabilities

## Key Functionality:

**Search by Individual** – View Individual Exposure Summary on the User Interface

**Search by Exposure** – View all documented exposure events develop cohorts based on exposure route and or type (i.e., Asbestos, Burn Pit Inhalation, Bacteriological, Chemical, Radiological, etc.)

**Search by Location** – View all documented exposure events in a location and develop cohorts based on key personnel attributes (i.e. by unit, by age, by gender, length of deployment, etc.)

**Search by Health Effects** – View and develop exposure related cohorts based on health outcomes and conditions.

**Ad Hoc Reporting** – Provides researcher access to backend supporting data to create custom reports and queries using an enterprise analytical tool (Business Objects)

## Key Capabilities:

**Health Care** - Improve the quality of information needed to facilitate quality, exposure-related health care

**Benefits** - Improve disability claim functions, increasing the accuracy and decreasing processing time of claims and benefits determinations. It will relieve the Veteran from “burden of proof” disability evaluations and benefits determinations

**Collaborations** - Increase transparency between VA, DoD, Congress, beneficiaries, and other stakeholders (such as Veterans Service Organizations)

**Research** - Provide a foundation for prospectively following exposed cohorts for long-term or latent health effects that could be attributable to exposures

**Registries** - Integrate the environmental health registries, including the Agent Orange Registry, Gulf War Registry, Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry, Ionizing Radiation Registry. The Toxic Embedded Fragment Surveillance Center and Depleted Uranium Follow-Up Program registries will not be included.



# ILER Technical Overview

## Recent Technical Achievements:

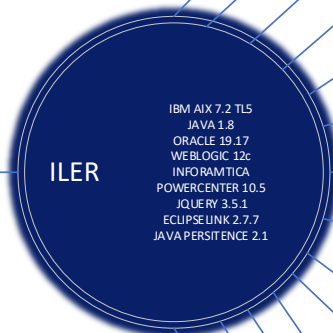
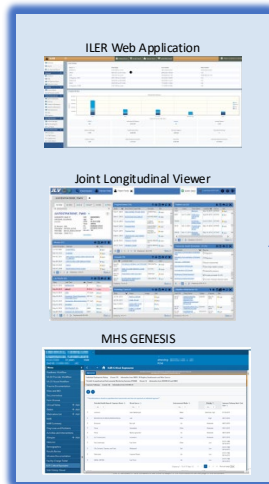
*Cohort Module*

*Ad Hoc (structured) Reporting*

*Direct interface with VA Registry Portal Registry*

*Adding four (4) data sources*

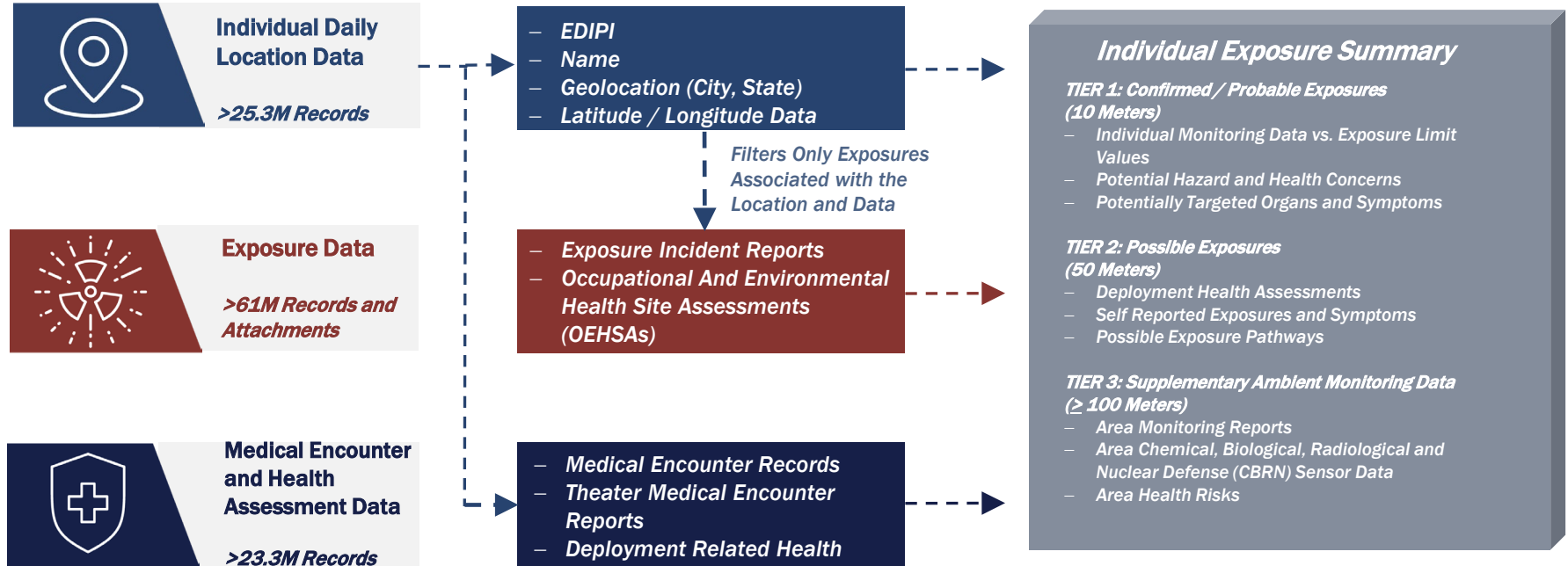
- VA Gulf War Registry
  - DOEHRS-Hearing Conservation (HC)
  - VA Agent Orange Registry
  - VA Ionizing Radiation Registry
  - Blast Overpressure Gauge Data
- *'Search by Health Effects' function*
  - *Interoperability with Joint Electronic Health Record*



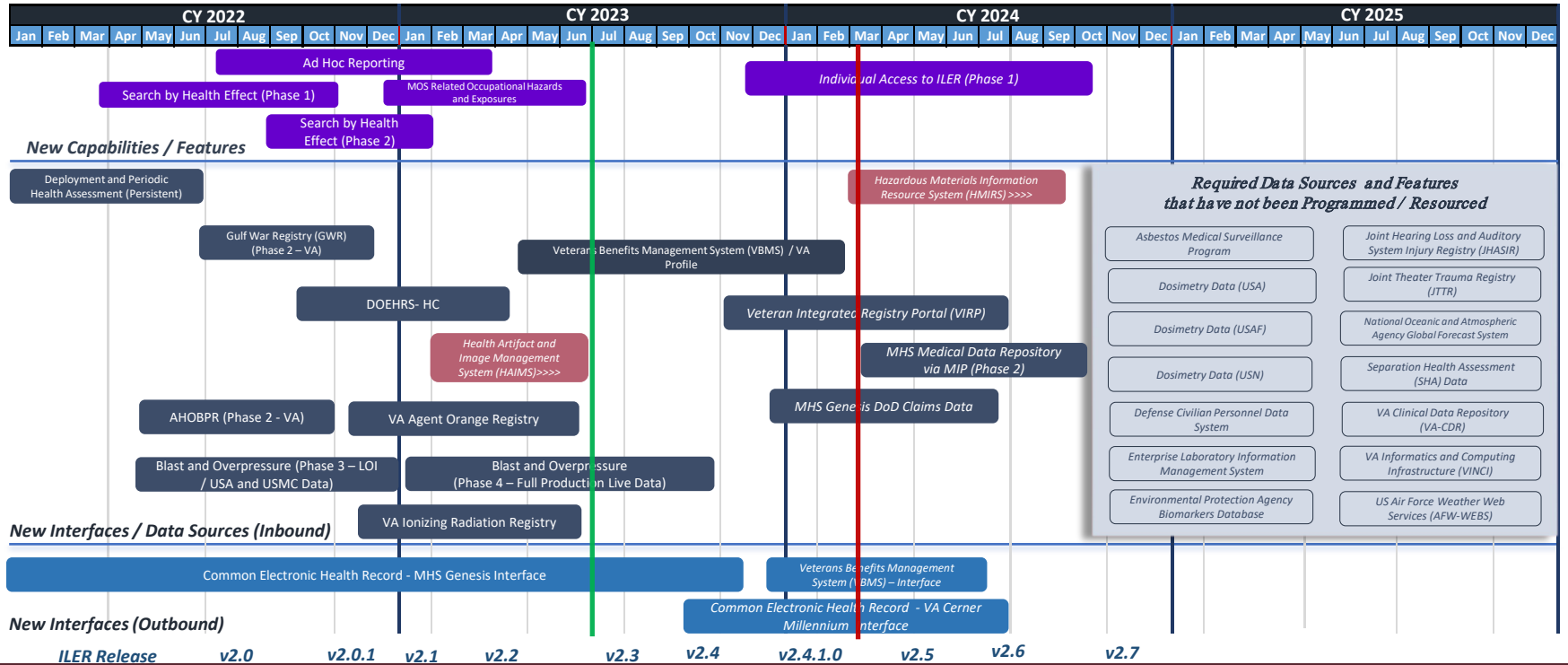
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# ILER Conceptual View



# ILER Development Roadmap as of 05 MAR 2024



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# Full Deployment Capability Does Not Equal "Done"

## Emerging Data Requirements and High Priority Sources:

- Air Force Weather Web Services
- Asbestos Medical Surveillance Program
- Enterprise Laboratory Information Management System
- Environmental Protection Agency Biomarkers Database
- enterprise Military Housing
- Defense Civilian Personnel Data System
- Dosimetry Data
- Hazardous Materials Information Resource System
- Health Artifact and Image Management System
- Joint Hearing Loss and Auditory System Injury Registry
- Joint Theater Trauma Record
- National Center for Health Statistics
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency Global Forecast System
- Occupational Ionizing Radiation Exposure Registries
- Pharmacy Data
- Purple Heart Citations
- Separation Health Assessments
- VA Clinical Data Repository
- VA Health Data Repository
- VA Compensation and Pension Records Interchange
- VA Computerized Patient Record System
- VA Virtual Lifetime Electronic Record





# ILER Contact Information

## ILER Account Requests:

- <https://iler.csd.disa.mil/iler/>

## For more information, contact:

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**MISSION CHECK...**

**...WHAT HAVE WE DONE FOR THEM TODAY?**



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# ILER in Legislation

- **White House Presidential Review Directive-5 (PRD-5), August 1998**, “A National Obligation: Planning for Health Preparedness and Readjustment of the Military, Veterans, and Their Families after Future Deployment” established the following goal and objective for the development of ILER:
  - Goal 1. The U.S. Government will have the capability to apply epidemiological research to determine whether deployment-related exposures are associated with post-deployment health outcomes.
  - Objective 1.2. Maintenance of the capability to identify and link exposure and health data by social security number and unit identification code
- NDAAFY18 Section 734, Longitudinal medical study on blast pressure exposure of members of the Armed Forces
- NDAAFY20 Section 705, Enhancement of recordkeeping with respect to exposure by members of the Armed Forces to certain occupational and environmental hazards while deployed overseas
- NDAAFY20 Section 742, Modification of requirements for longitudinal medical study on blast pressure exposure of members of the Armed Forces and collection of exposure information
- NDAAFY21 Section 9105, Access of veterans to Individual Longitudinal Exposure Record
- Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act of 2022
  - Sec. 202, Improvements to Ability of VA to Establish Presumptions of Service Connection Based on Toxic Exposure
  - Sec. 203, Reevaluation of Claims For Compensation Involving Presumptions of Service Connection
  - Sec. 303, Presumption of Toxic Exposures
  - Sec. 405, Improving Compensation for Disabilities Occurring in Persian Gulf War Veterans
  - Sec. 406, Presumption of Service Connection for Certain Diseases Associated with Exposures to Burn Pits and other Toxins
  - Sec. 501, Interagency Working Group on Toxic Exposures Research
  - Sec. 504, Study on Health Trends of post 9/11 Veterans
  - Sec. 802, GAO biennial study on ILER program.

