

REASONS FOR DECISION

1. Service connection for right supraglottic squamous cell carcinoma in situ.

Service connection may be granted for specific diseases or conditions which are presumed to have been caused by service if manifested to a compensable degree following military discharge. Although not shown in service, service connection for right supraglottic squamous cell carcinoma in situ has been granted on the basis of presumption.

Service treatment records show no evidence of treatment for or diagnosis of throat cancer. Service connection may also be granted on a presumptive basis for certain diseases (including respiratory cancers) associated with exposure to certain herbicide agents, even though there is no record of such disease during service. Review of service personnel records including 1969 Command History for USS Newport News and all deck logs of USS Newport News (CA-148) shows the ship participated in multiple operations including Sea Dragon, Ballistic Arch, Badger Catch, Hue City. The deck logs show the ship docked at DaNang harbor in October 1967 and was in the vicinity of the mouth of Cua Viet river while conducting naval gunfire support in April 1969. You contend that you were given temporary duty including personnel transport into the war zone on the beach of VietNam, also rescue and evacuation duty in VietNam which included wounded personnel. You also submitted photos of yourself carrying a stretcher to a rescue helicopter. Based on all evidence of record, we have conceded herbicide exposure. You are presumed to have been exposed to herbicides, including Agent Orange.