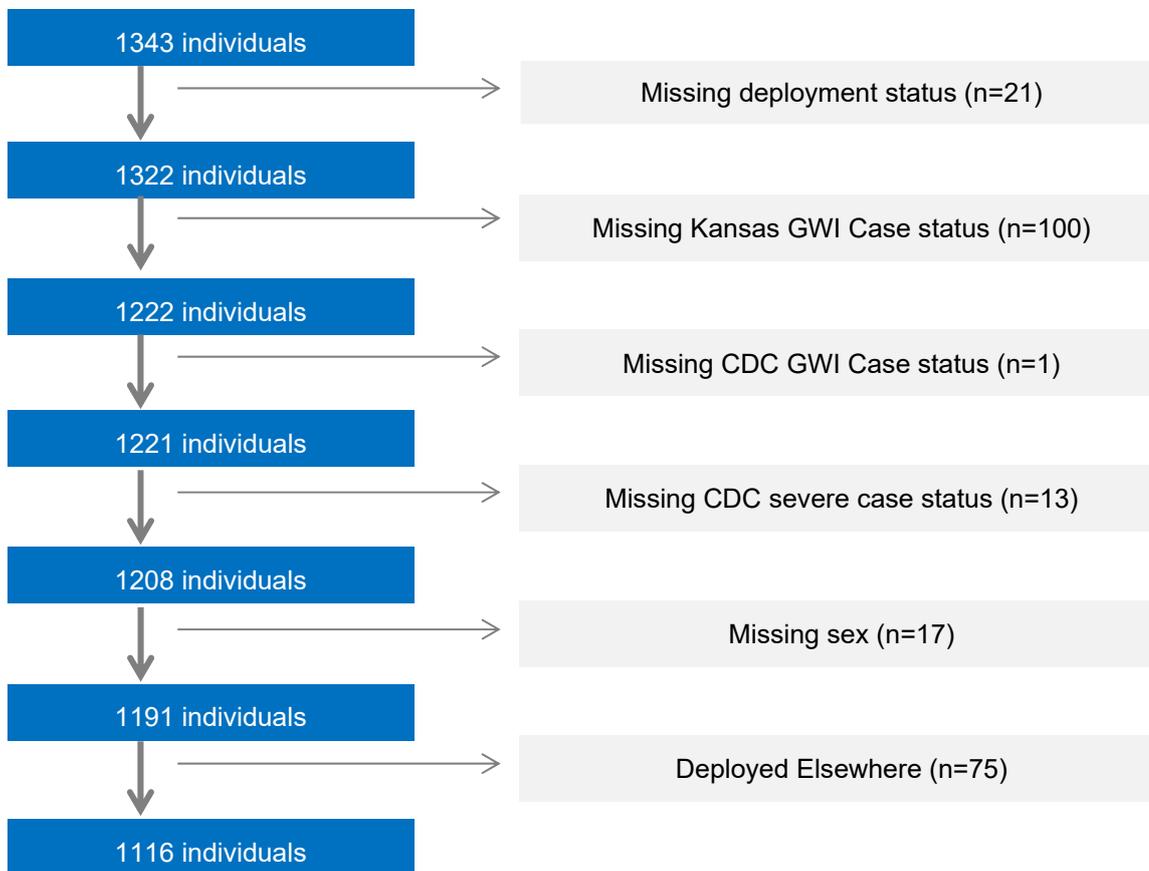




Figure S1. Sample Flow.



Reprinted from Life Sci, vol(278), Gulf War illness in the Gulf War Era Cohort and Biorepository: The Kansas and Centers for Disease Control definitions, Gifford, E.J., Vahey, J., Hauser, E.R., Sims, K.J., Efird, J.T., Dursa, E.K., Steele, L., Helmer, D.A. Provenzale, D., page no. 119454--, Copyright (2021), with permission from Elsevier.

Table S1. Symptoms in the Kansas Gulf War Illness Definition.

| Domain | Symptom |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Fatigue | Fatigue |
| | Feeling unwell after exercise |
| | Difficulty getting to or staying asleep Not feeling rested after sleep |
| Pain | Pain in joints |
| | Pain in muscles |
| | Body pain where you hurt all over |
| Neurological, Mood, or Cognitive | Difficulty remembering recent information |
| | Feeling irritable or having angry outbursts |
| | Numbness or tingling in extremities |
| | Headaches |
| | Eyes very sensitive to light |
| | Trouble finding words when speaking |
| Feeling down or depressed | |
| | Difficulty concentrating |

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| | Night sweats Feeling dizzy, lightheaded, or faint Low tolerance for heat or cold Symptoms in response to smells or chemicals Blurred or double vision Tremors or shaking |
| Gastro-intestinal | Diarrhea Nausea or upset stomach Abdominal pain or cramping |
| Respiratory | Difficulty breathing Frequent coughing without a cold Wheezing in chest |
| Skin | Skin rash Other skin problems |

Table S2. Symptoms in the CDC GWI Case Definition.

| Symptom Domain | Symptom |
|-----------------|--|
| Fatigue | Fatigue |
| Musculoskeletal | Pain in joints |
| | Pain in muscles |
| | Stiffness in joints |
| Mood–Cognition | Difficulty remembering recent information or difficulty concentrating ¹ |
| | Difficulty remembering recent information |
| | Difficulty concentrating |
| | Trouble finding words when speaking |
| | Feeling moody |
| | Feeling down or depressed |
| | Difficulty getting to or staying asleep ¹ |
| Feeling anxious | |

¹ The CDC GWI definition originally asked about Difficulty remembering recent information or difficulty concentrating. However, the GWEB included two separate items Difficulty remembering recent information and Difficulty concentrating. Responses were combined into 1 score. CDC = Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Table S3. Crosstabulation of Gulf War illness case status by Case Definitions.

| Kansas Category | Centers for Disease Control | | | | | | Total | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|------|------------------|-----|---------|------|-------|------|
| | Severe GWI | | GWI (Not Severe) | | Not GWI | | N | % |
| | n | % | n | % | n | % | | |
| KS Sym+/Dx- | 117 | 44.3 | NS | | Sup. | | 426 | 38.2 |
| KS Sym+/Dx+ | 145 | 54.9 | NS | | Sup. | | 345 | 30.9 |
| KS Sym-/Dx+ | NS | | NS | | 48 | 25.7 | 106 | 9.5 |
| KS Sym-/Dx- | Sup. | | NS | | 121 | 64.7 | 239 | 21.4 |
| Total | 264 | 100 | 665 | 100 | 187 | 100 | 1116 | 100 |

Note: Sym = symptom; Dx = diagnosis; CDC = Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; KS = Kansas; GWI = Gulf War illness. Sup. = suppressed cell size <11; NS = Not shown due to the disclosure concerns given the need to suppress cells with fewer than 11 observations.

Table S4. Multivariable regressions of Health-Related Outcomes by Kansas Gulf War Illness Status.

| Covariates | HRQOL | | | Other Indices of Health | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Physical | Mental | Sleep Disturbance | PTSD | Depression | Pain |
| | Beta (s.e.) | Beta (s.e.) | Beta (s.e.) | Beta (s.e.) | Beta (s.e.) | Beta (s.e.) |
| KS GWI status (ref: GWI) | | | | | | |
| Sym+/Dx+ | −4.583 ^a (0.826) | −3.923 ^a (0.903) | 1.367 ^c (0.654) | 7.100 ^a (1.204) | 2.357 ^a (0.438) | 0.585 ^b (0.186) |
| Sym−/Dx+ | 6.580 ^a (1.147) | 8.903 ^a (1.005) | −10.23 ^a (0.926) | −12.66 ^a (1.037) | −4.691 ^a (0.379) | −2.180 ^a (0.271) |
| Sym−/Dx− | 10.74 ^a (0.720) | 8.210 ^a (0.781) | −11.20 ^a (0.688) | −12.44 ^a (0.888) | −5.069 ^a (0.320) | −2.620 ^a (0.175) |
| Deployed (ref: not deployed) | −1.060 (0.713) | −2.648 ^a (0.730) | 2.204 ^a (0.596) | 4.445 ^a (0.950) | 1.458 ^a (0.334) | 0.399 ^c (0.165) |
| Age (at survey) | −0.125 ^b (0.0394) | 0.271 ^a (0.0420) | −0.160 ^a (0.0335) | −0.306 ^a (0.0509) | −0.102 ^a (0.0191) | −0.005 (0.010) |
| Female (ref: male) | −1.085 (0.770) | −2.217 ^b (0.847) | −0.225 (0.625) | 0.614 (1.067) | 0.823 ^c (0.389) | 0.332 (0.174) |
| Race/ethnicity (ref: White, non-Hispanic) | | | | | | |
| Black, non-Hispanic | −1.726 ^c (0.854) | −2.020 ^c (0.938) | 0.536 (0.689) | 4.734 ^a (1.257) | 0.673 (0.433) | 0.983 ^a (0.207) |
| Hispanic | −1.179 (1.125) | −2.774 ^c (1.186) | 0.956 (0.858) | 5.241 ^a (1.569) | 1.569 ^b (0.579) | 0.712 ^c (0.289) |
| Other | −2.573 ^c (1.237) | −2.706 (1.586) | 2.140 (1.107) | 7.347 ^a (2.183) | 1.898 ^c (0.805) | 0.981 ^b (0.305) |
| Missing or Unknown | −1.435 (2.113) | −6.888 ^a (1.961) | −2.416 (1.850) | 9.757 ^c (3.796) | 2.324 (1.291) | 0.698 (0.526) |
| Income (ref: \$100,000+) | | | | | | |
| <\$30,000 | −4.445 ^a (1.188) | −7.513 ^a (1.282) | 3.233 ^a (0.957) | 9.383 ^a (1.711) | 3.247 ^a (0.594) | 0.925 ^a (0.271) |
| \$30,000–\$59,999 | −2.193 ^c (0.918) | −3.707 ^a (0.977) | 1.584 ^c (0.759) | 5.925 ^a (1.261) | 1.918 ^a (0.449) | 0.621 ^b (0.214) |
| \$60,000–\$99,999 | −1.136 (0.789) | −2.472 ^b (0.853) | 0.877 (0.662) | 2.694 ^b (1.009) | 1.068 ^b (0.367) | 0.171 (0.183) |
| Unknown | −3.527 ^b (1.360) | −2.371 (1.610) | 1.258 (1.024) | 2.970 (1.906) | 1.209 (0.693) | 0.312 (0.327) |
| Education (ref: Master's, Professional, or Doctorate's degree) | | | | | | |
| <Associates degree | −2.947 ^c (1.323) | 2.011 (1.461) | −0.209 (1.082) | −0.222 (1.954) | −0.578 (0.672) | −0.005 (0.322) |
| Bachelor's or Associate's degree | −1.805 ^c (0.734) | 1.103 (0.851) | 0.945 (0.657) | −0.625 (1.013) | 0.118 (0.373) | 0.220 (0.182) |
| Unknown | −1.726 (1.985) | 1.430 (2.576) | −0.207 (2.054) | 2.233 (3.409) | 0.0216 (1.358) | 0.601 (0.560) |

| Military Component (ref: Active Duty) | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Active Duty & Reserves | 1.032 (0.796) | -0.407 (0.829) | -1.188 (0.666) | 0.594 (1.083) | -0.361 (0.389) | -0.066 (0.178) |
| Reserves | 2.755 ^b (0.846) | 0.648 (0.877) | -1.037 (0.710) | -2.550 ^c (1.078) | -0.956 ^c (0.387) | -0.180 (0.204) |
| Military Branch (ref: Army) | | | | | | |
| Navy | 2.245 ^b (0.870) | 0.0293 (1.005) | -1.399 (0.745) | -1.906 (1.172) | -0.401 (0.432) | -0.428 ^c (0.203) |
| Airforce | 3.333 ^b (1.012) | -0.666 (1.043) | -0.902 (0.841) | -3.004 ^c (1.338) | -0.329 (0.481) | -0.799 ^b (0.245) |
| Marines | 2.309 ^c (0.956) | -0.954 (1.052) | -0.468 (0.872) | -0.947 (1.266) | -0.323 (0.470) | -0.354 (0.234) |
| National Guard | 0.669 (1.094) | -2.147 (1.165) | 0.290 (0.908) | 0.615 (1.599) | 0.646 (0.568) | -0.031 (0.258) |
| Other | -0.195 (1.427) | -3.555 ^c (1.569) | 2.297 ^c (1.121) | 2.647 (2.095) | 0.965 (0.795) | 0.452 (0.321) |
| Constant | 49.80 ^a (2.313) | 35.85 ^a (2.574) | 62.76 ^a (2.007) | 45.37 ^a (3.021) | 10.40 ^a (1.147) | 3.826 ^a (0.567) |
| Observations | 1109 | 1106 | 1076 | 1096 | 1096 | 1100 |
| R-squared | 0.342 | 0.298 | 0.388 | 0.397 | 0.383 | 0.342 |

Note: a $p < 0.001$, b $p < 0.01$, c $p < 0.05$. s.e. = robust standard error; Sym = symptom; Dx = Diagnosis.

Table S5. Multivariable regressions of Health-Related Outcomes by CDC Gulf War Illness Status.

| Covariates | HRQOL | | Other Indices of Health | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Physical | Mental | Sleep Disturbance | PTSD | Depression | Pain |
| | Beta (s.e.) | Beta (s.e.) | Beta (s.e.) | Beta (s.e.) | Beta (s.e.) | Beta (s.e.) |
| CDC GWI status (ref: CDC severe) | | | | | | |
| CDC mild-to-moderate GWI | 12.59 ^a (0.786) | 12.07 ^a (0.856) | -9.854 ^a (0.621) | -21.85 ^a (1.093) | -7.896 ^a (0.390) | -2.685 ^a (0.178) |
| Noncase | 19.42 ^a (0.946) | 19.50 ^a (0.937) | -19.26 ^a (0.822) | -31.48 ^a (1.155) | -11.81 ^a (0.404) | -4.757 ^a (0.220) |
| Deployed (ref: not deployed) | -0.403 (0.717) | -1.886 ^b (0.700) | 1.876 ^b (0.593) | 2.966 ^a (0.822) | 0.924 ^b (0.303) | 0.270 (0.161) |
| Age (at survey) | -0.204 ^a (0.039) | 0.214 ^a (0.038) | -0.133 ^a (0.031) | -0.204 ^a (0.043) | -0.0630 ^a (0.016) | 0.007 (0.009) |
| Female (ref: male) | -0.163 (0.753) | -1.151 (0.826) | -1.113 (0.620) | -1.319 (0.981) | 0.210 (0.360) | 0.108 (0.166) |
| Race/ethnicity (ref: White, non-Hispanic) | | | | | | |
| Black, non-Hispanic | -1.439 (0.816) | -1.550 (0.900) | 0.245 (0.692) | 3.684 ^b (1.157) | 0.364 (0.388) | 0.903 ^a (0.203) |
| Hispanic | 0.760 (1.064) | -0.669 (1.069) | -0.507 (0.841) | 1.126 (1.240) | 0.153 (0.481) | 0.305 (0.270) |

| | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Other | −0.161 (1.182) | −0.290 (1.319) | 0.150 (0.947) | 2.928 (1.656) | 0.373 (0.618) | 0.440 (0.295) |
| Missing or Unknown | −1.675 (1.977) | −6.655 ^a (1.821) | −2.256 (1.599) | 8.393 ^c (3.585) | 2.266 (1.276) | 0.713 (0.475) |
| Income (ref: \$100,000+) | | | | | | |
| <\$30,000 | −4.333 ^a (1.153) | −7.174 ^a (1.254) | 3.235 ^a (0.916) | 8.423 ^a (1.436) | 2.910 ^a (0.535) | 0.881 ^a (0.253) |
| \$30,000-\$59,999 | −2.489 ^b (0.869) | −3.636 ^a (0.981) | 1.607 ^c (0.713) | 5.734 ^a (1.166) | 1.822 ^a (0.407) | 0.605 ^b (0.203) |
| \$60,000-\$99,999 | −0.801 (0.762) | −1.908 ^c (0.808) | 0.228 (0.661) | 1.795 ^c (0.910) | 0.735 ^c (0.319) | 0.023 (0.176) |
| Unknown | −3.115 ^c (1.417) | −1.722 (1.379) | 0.610 (1.015) | 1.890 (1.562) | 0.819 (0.581) | 0.154 (0.301) |
| Education (ref: Master's, Professional, or Doctorate's degree) | | | | | | |
| <Associate's degree | −3.724 ^b (1.274) | 1.725 (1.350) | 0.148 (0.987) | 0.442 (1.695) | −0.298 (0.560) | 0.0908 (0.315) |
| Bachelor's or Associate's degree | −1.971 ^b (0.746) | 1.229 (0.791) | 0.862 (0.632) | −0.859 (0.872) | 0.0780 (0.314) | 0.240 (0.180) |
| Unknown | −2.052 (1.899) | 1.331 (2.132) | 0.185 (1.871) | 1.955 (2.721) | 0.287 (1.316) | 0.650 (0.497) |
| Military Component (ref: Active Duty) | | | | | | |
| Active Duty & Reserves | 1.255 (0.762) | −0.310 (0.758) | −1.194 (0.622) | 0.277 (0.925) | −0.436 (0.324) | −0.086 (0.170) |
| Reserves | 2.454 ^b (0.849) | 0.114 (0.904) | −0.717 (0.671) | −1.609 (1.032) | −0.630 (0.370) | −0.091 (0.200) |
| Military Branch (ref: Army) | | | | | | |
| Navy | 2.084 ^c (0.827) | −0.334 (0.941) | −1.048 (0.732) | −1.314 (1.031) | −0.155 (0.374) | −0.346 (0.196) |
| Airforce | 2.611 ^b (0.974) | −1.426 (0.997) | −0.132 (0.804) | −1.743 (1.084) | 0.147 (0.426) | −0.613 ^b (0.229) |
| Marines | 2.420 ^c (0.961) | −0.943 (0.970) | −0.150 (0.794) | −0.845 (1.138) | −0.230 (0.370) | −0.341 (0.229) |
| National Guard | 0.314 (1.066) | −2.489 ^c (1.115) | 0.809 (0.861) | 1.100 (1.352) | 0.863 (0.498) | 0.063 (0.235) |
| Other | −0.195 (1.331) | −3.586 ^b (1.330) | 2.261 ^c (1.074) | 2.989 (1.671) | 1.057 (0.629) | 0.426 (0.291) |
| Constant | 44.03 ^a (2.399) | 28.51 ^a (2.427) | 68.18 ^a (1.983) | 59.16 ^a (2.805) | 15.03 ^a (1.028) | 5.183 ^a (0.547) |
| Observations | 1109 | 1106 | 1076 | 1096 | 1096 | 1100 |
| R-squared | 0.382 | 0.377 | 0.444 | 0.540 | 0.529 | 0.403 |

Note: a $p < 0.001$, b $p < 0.01$, c $p < 0.05$. s.e. = robust standard error; Sym = symptom; Dx = Diagnosis; ref = omitted reference category.

Table S6. Linear Combination Tests of Regression Coefficients for Gulf War Case Status Subtypes

| Kansas (Supplements Table A3) | | | CDC (Supplements Table A4) | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|-----------|----------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Dependent Variable | p-Value | F or chi2 | | p-Value | F or chi2 |
| Physical component score | | | Physical component score | | |
| KS noncase (1): Sym+/Dx+ = | <0.001 | 86.872 | GWI mild-to-moderate = | <0.001 | 88.504 |
| KS noncase (2): Sym-/Dx+ | | | Noncase | | |
| KS noncase (1): Sym+/Dx+ = | <0.001 | 349.619 | | | |
| KS noncase (3): Sym-/Dx- | | | | | |
| KS noncase (2): Sym-/Dx+ = | <0.001 | 14.553 | | | |
| KS noncase (3): Sym-/Dx- | | | | | |
| Mental component score | | | Mental component score | | |
| KS noncase (1): Sym+/Dx+ = | <0.001 | 147.975 | GWI mild-to-moderate = | <0.001 | 129.507 |
| KS noncase (2): Sym-/Dx+ | | | Noncase | | |
| KS noncase (1): Sym+/Dx+ = | <0.001 | 184.702 | | | |
| KS noncase (3): Sym-/Dx- | | | | | |
| KS noncase (2): Sym-/Dx+ = | 0.454 | 0.561 | | | |
| KS noncase (3): Sym-/Dx- | | | | | |
| KS noncase (1): Sym+/Dx+ = | 0.213 | 1.556 | | | |
| KS noncase (2): Sym-/Dx+ | | | | | |
| Sleep | | | Sleep | | |
| KS noncase (1): Sym+/Dx+ = | <0.001 | 155.810 | GWI mild-to-moderate = | <0.001 | 207.884 |
| KS noncase (2): Sym-/Dx+ | | | Noncase | | |
| KS noncase (1): Sym+/Dx+ = | <0.001 | 284.561 | | | |
| KS noncase (3): Sym-/Dx- | | | | | |
| KS noncase (2): Sym-/Dx+ = | 0.298 | 1.082 | | | |
| KS noncase (3): Sym-/Dx- | | | | | |
| PTSD | | | PTSD | | |
| KS noncase (1): Sym+/Dx+ = | <0.001 | 287.289 | GWI mild-to-moderate = | <0.001 | 196.831 |
| KS noncase (2): Sym-/Dx+ | | | Noncase | | |
| KS noncase (1): Sym+/Dx+ = | <0.001 | 313.586 | | | |
| KS noncase (3): Sym-/Dx- | | | | | |
| KS noncase (2): Sym-/Dx+ = | 0.796 | 0.067 | | | |
| KS noncase (3): Sym-/Dx- | | | | | |
| Depression | | | Depression | | |
| KS noncase (1): Sym+/Dx+ = | <0.001 | 280.703 | GWI mild-to-moderate = | <0.001 | 278.111 |
| KS noncase (2): Sym-/Dx+ | | | Noncase | | |
| KS noncase (1): Sym+/Dx+ = | <0.001 | 358.574 | | | |
| KS noncase (3): Sym-/Dx- | | | | | |
| KS noncase (2): Sym-/Dx+ = | 0.213 | 1.556 | | | |
| KS noncase (3): Sym-/Dx- | | | | | |
| Pain | | | Pain | | |
| KS noncase (1): Sym+/Dx+ = | <0.001 | 97.276 | GWI mild-to-moderate = | <0.001 | 144.648 |
| KS noncase (2): Sym-/Dx+ | | | Noncase | | |
| KS noncase (1): Sym+/Dx+ = | <0.001 | 268.0571 | | | |
| KS noncase (3): Sym-/Dx- | | | | | |
| KS noncase (2): Sym-/Dx+ = | 0.0977 | 2.747 | | | |
| KS noncase (3): Sym-/Dx- | | | | | |

Note: Sym = symptom; Dx = diagnosis.

Table S7. Proportion of GWECB Veterans meeting Depression, Post-Traumatic Stress, and Pain cutoff points by GWI Case Status.

| Outcome | Total | Kansas | | | | | | | | CDC | | | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--|----------|--|----------|--|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|
| | | KS GWI: Sym+/Dx- (n = 426) | | | KS noncase (1): Sym+/Dx+ (n = 345) | | KS noncase (2): Sym-/Dx+ (n = 106) | | KS noncase (3): Sym-/Dx- (n = 239) | | Severe GWI (n = 264) | | Mild-to Moderate GWI (n = 665) | | Noncase (n = 187) | |
| | | Unadj % | Unadj % | Adj % | Unadj % | Adj % | Unadj % | Adj % | Unadj % | Adj % | Unadj % | Adj % | Unadj % | Adj % | Unadj % | Adj % |
| PTSD | 21.5 | 23.8 | 18.5 | 39.8 | 32.3 | Sup. | Sup. | Sup. | Sup. | 64.6 | 54.9 | 10.2 | 8.4 | Sup. | Sup. | |
| | (19.1, 24.1) | (19.8, 28.1) | (14.4, 22.6) | (34.6, 45.3) | (26.6, 37.9) | Sup. | Sup. | Sup. | Sup. | (58.5, 70.4) | (47.3, 62.5) | (8.0, 12.8) | (6.1, 10.6) | Sup. | Sup. | |
| Depression | 28.6 | 32.5 | 28.8 | 51.3 | 46.9 | Sup. | Sup. | Sup. | Sup. | 79.5 | 76.4 | 16.2 | 15.3 | Sup. | Sup. | |
| | (26.0, 31.4) | (28.1, 37.2) | (24.1, 33.5) | (45.9, 56.8) | (40.9, 52.9) | Sup. | Sup. | Sup. | Sup. | (74.1, 84.3) | (70.4, 82.4) | (13.4, 19.2) | (12.4, 18.1) | Sup. | Sup. | |
| Severe Pain | 22.8 | 25.3 | 21.6 | 40.0 | 33.4 | Sup. | Sup. | Sup. | Sup. | 60.3 | 53.0 | 13.5 | 12.5 | Sup. | Sup. | |
| | (20.4, 25.4) | (21.2, 29.7) | (17.3, 25.8) | (34.8, 45.4) | (27.8, 39.0) | Sup. | Sup. | Sup. | Sup. | (54.1, 66.3) | (45.9, 60.1) | (11.0, 16.4) | (9.8, 15.2) | Sup. | Sup. | |

Note: All values were suppressed due to fewer than 11 people in cell sizes for (a) Sym-/Dx+, (b) Sym-/Dx-, and (c) CDC noncases. Chi square tests are all significant $p < 0.001$; for comparisons across groups; CDC = Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Sup. = suppressed; Sym = symptom; Dx = diagnosis.

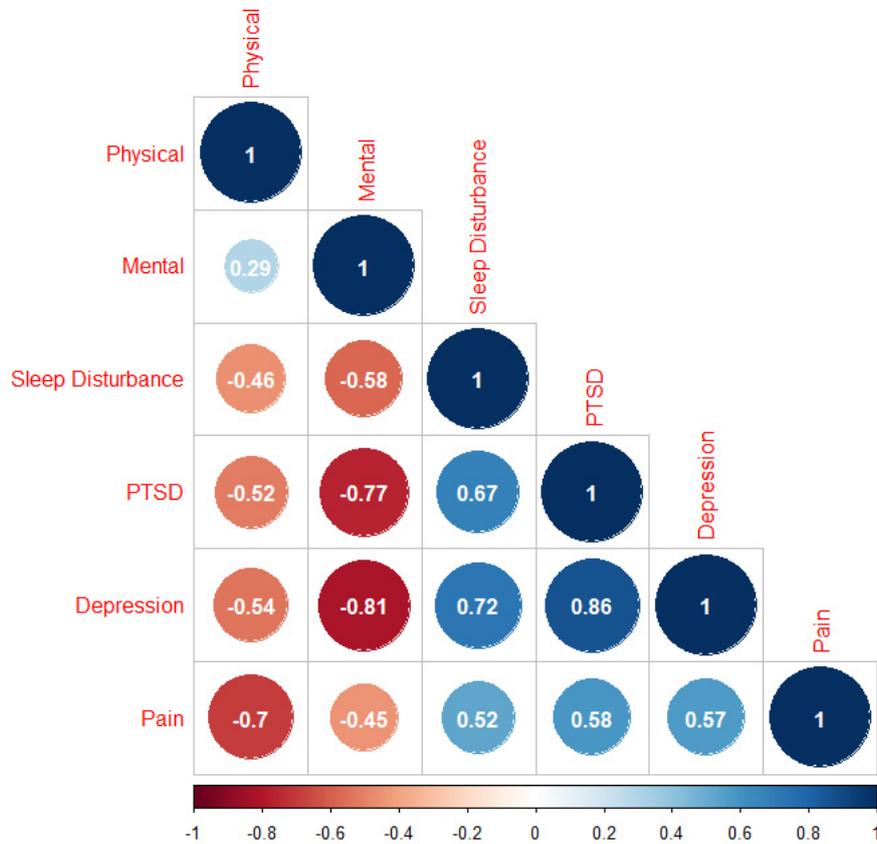


Figure S2. Association of mental and physical health related quality of life measures, depression, post-traumatic stress, sleep disturbance and pain, pairwise Pearson correlations; PTSD = post-traumatic stress disorder; All correlations statistically significant at $p < 0.001$.