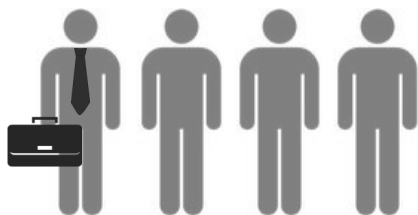


# 2017 Focus Group Summary

A key part of the management of the Vietnam-Era Twin (VET) Registry is to ensure retention of members like you. To this end, the Seattle Epidemiologic Research & Information Center (ERIC) holds in-person focus groups to get direct feedback from Registry members. So far, 56 members have participated in the focus groups. Below is a summary of the 2017 focus group findings.

## WHO ATTENDED THE FOCUS GROUPS?

The 2017 focus group was held in Torrance, CA. VET Registry members who lived within 50 miles of the focus group location were invited to participate.



- 11 members of the Vietnam-Era Twin Registry came to the Torrance group.
- Members attended both with their twin and without.
- Most of the members who attended the group are now retired.

## WHY DID MEMBERS CHOOSE TO ATTEND?

The members who attended the focus groups understood that the research they were participating in could benefit other Veterans. Members also wanted the chance to meet each other.

*“We just want to serve and help others. That’s why we do it.”*

*“We are loyal. Hopefully, what they learn will make it easier for other Vets.”*

## WHAT DID WE LEARN ABOUT YOU?

The VET Registry was interested in learning about what types of research members were willing to participate in. Members who attended the group were willing to participate in most types of research (paper survey, or in person visit), but were least interested in web-based surveys.



## WHAT MEMBERS WANT TO KNOW?

Members indicated they wanted to know more about other members (how many are there?) and to hear from the VET Registry more often.

- There are **14,760 twins in the Registry (~7,000 twin pairs)**, as well as 2,251 offspring of the twins and 1,336 mothers of the offspring.
- The VET Registry is increasing the frequency of its newsletters; the next one will come out before the end of the year.

Members were also very interested in learning more about the research that they had contributed to. The VET Registry will work on distributing this information to members.

**Thank you!** Thank you for your continued membership in the VET Registry. If you have any questions about this or other Registry studies, you may reach us toll-free at **1-866-774-9647**.