

From: [REDACTED] >  
Sent: Thursday, May 17, 2018 12:07 PM  
To: CDC NIOSH WTC <[wtc@cdc.gov](mailto:wtc@cdc.gov)>  
Subject: New Petition for Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)

To Whom It May Concern at the WTC Health Program:

My name is [REDACTED]. I moved to [REDACTED] about two years ago so my current address is [REDACTED]. At the time of 9-11-01 I was [REDACTED] old living alone with my dog on the LES of downtown Manhattan. On the morning of 9-11-01 I was called to attend Grand Jury Duty at 100 Centre Street, which I did show up to be told by a security guard that it was cancelled and the area was being evacuated. I then started to walk towards the subway stop I wanted to take 3 stops to get back to my LES apartment. However, that was when the first tower fell; I ran, hid under a building but was then told I was going the wrong way by another calm security guard that came out of nowhere near the Catholic Church and he then told me to go in the other direction to run from the cloud of dust and then he seemed to disappear into thin air. By the time I ran home through Chinatown the toxic smoke was already trailing down my street and did so for over two months straight, my dog was hiding and shaking under a pillow because we lived close enough that she heard the tower fall and that was when my world changed forever. I would within a week get really sick with the worst bronchitis of my life from the toxic air that the EPA lied and said it was safe so Wall Street could get back to work, [REDACTED] and currently have that certified through the WTC Health Program, along with [REDACTED] and in the process of getting [REDACTED] certified [REDACTED] but have a few other conditions I know are related to 9-11-01 such as my, [REDACTED] and **Irritable Bowel Syndrome (IBS)**.

As mentioned above **IBS** is the condition I am petitioning today to be covered by the WTC Health Program. See the link to a **peer reviewed** study that shows the role in environmental pollution and **IBS** (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4616213/>) and it states in the study that **GERD** is a symptom of **IBS**, so since **GERD** is already covered by the WTC Health Program, we must cover the **ROOT CAUSE** of it which is damage to our guts/**IBS**. As a [REDACTED] adjunct professor and as a board member of [REDACTED] I research the effects of toxins on early development and have come across numerous studies and information how the toxins that were in the air on and after 9-11 can have a negative impact on one's health, specifically how it has affects our guts and since our immune systems are in our gut, in order to prevent worse diseases like cancer we must **FIRST** fix our guts. Unfortunately since we breathed in all the chemicals on and after 9-11-01 it is important that the main way to fix our guts is **NOT** by pumping us with more chemicals like the ones in many prescription drugs. I have been paying out of pocket to fix my gut for years and it has become a financial burden on me since [REDACTED] renders me from working full-time. You can see from one of my attached health records the [REDACTED] take and there are some of the other supplements I take that are not listed such as my [REDACTED] and most recently I had to add a [REDACTED] to the list of supplements I pay out of pocket monthly.

Because my **IBS** symptoms can be caused by my chemical/food sensitivities/intolerances I can't take most drugs and need to buy supplements that are either organic or non-gmo and eat a high priced diet that is mostly organic and non-gmo. If I do not do this I almost always get IBS symptoms and [REDACTED] symptoms will act up shortly after. I was not diagnosed for many years with IBS but I can recall after I finally recovered from that bronchitis I had directly after 9-11-01 I started sneezing often, especially around dust, my stomach seem to hurt after almost every meal and I had issues in the bathroom. I would

even sometimes throw up if I ate something that had too many preservatives, GMOS and chemicals in them. Sometimes I will have these crazy sneezing attacks, followed by a dry cough and [REDACTED] and even IBS symptoms all at the same time so it is pretty obvious my issues are all connected and they all stem from the loss of good gut bacteria from the toxic 9-11 air.

As I am looking at your petition process for **IBS**, on your website I am a little frustrated because when I first checked your website I noticed all the petitions that you denied are for Finding of Insufficient Evidence, but where are you looking for this evidence? I see it states on the website the medical basis may be demonstrated by a reference to a peer-reviewed, published, epidemiologic study about the health condition among 9/11-exposed populations or to clinical case reports of health conditions in WTC responders or survivors. Well I easily found this study as it related to neuropathy which is denied more than once on your website:

*Neuropathic Symptoms in World Trade Center Disaster Survivors and Responders.*

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26618530> Why is this information not being used and why are you denying neuropathy when it clearly states, “This study provides evidence that exposure to WTC dust is associated with neuropathic symptoms.” What is the CDC doing over there to help make sure the 9-11 community does not get worse illnesses and cancer? I am asking you to please reconsider covering all forms of **neuropathy** not just when people get it from chemo or GERD medications. I heard there is another study going on about this now so please look at it and reconsider.

It seems like you’re just denying everything because you do not want to be responsible for having to fund more money for this program and if you do then you make sure to try to pump the 9-11 community with ONLY dangerous pharmaceuticals that have numerous chemicals in them. We have enough chemicals already in our bodies so more can just throw us over the edge. I also fill out any survey I have ever received from the WTC Health Registry about my health and not once have I ever been contacted to be part of a study or had any knowledge of any studies doctors are doing on the WTC community. Furthermore, I would like to know who funds these studies because if it is the usual Pharmaceutical/Biotech companies funding a health study I know they often come out bias and encourage prescriptions as the quick fix to every health problem. I am thinking that is the case considering the head of the CDC had to resign recently because of her investments in Pharmaceutical and Tobacco companies. (<http://www.latimes.com/nation/nationnow/la-na-brenda-fitzgerald-20180131-story.html>)

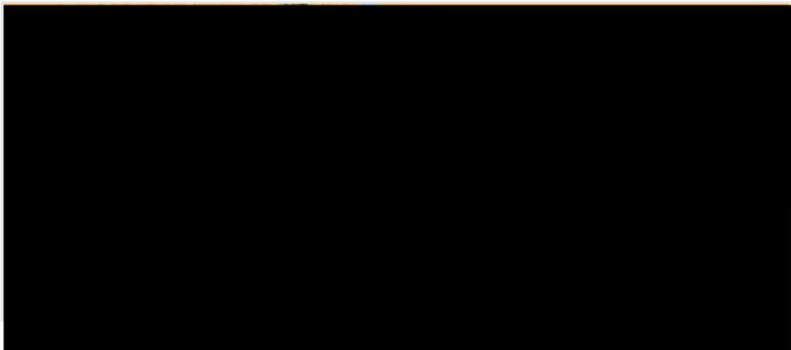
I am offering up my time to be part of any INDEPENDENT study not bought and paid for by the above mentioned. I am praying, asking and petitioning for the WTC to not only add **IBS** to the list of covered conditions but to also cover preventative care, holistic care to realize pumping the 9-11 community with more toxins that are in pills are one of the reasons so many are getting more illnesses on top of the ones they already have and this approach to the WTC healthcare program needs to change. An example of this is how GERD medications can cause B-12 deficiencies, which can lead to neuropathy, which can lead to autoimmune diseases such as thyroid conditions that your program does not cover. It just seems to me that you’re ignoring all the obvious 9-11 conditions and not caring that what is currently being done is not working when almost 100 first responders and survivors have died of cancer since 9-11-17.

I am suggesting not only to add **IBS** as a covered conditions, but that your program gives health-flex spending cards because many I know in the community from my Facebook Groups can’t hack the pills and need natural treatments, but we all have to pay out of pocket for them just to stay alive, while going into debt. This is not fair and shows us that another government agency is failing us. It started with the

CIA and FBI when they did not do everything in their power to beef up national security at the WTC and change the weak immigration laws after the first attack on it, when it was stated that they would try to attack it again. Then the EPA failed us by saying the air was safe 3 days after 9-11 when it was not and the Whistleblower at the EPA was later fired and rehired over this lie and now the CDC is failing us by insufficient evidence on adding other illnesses, when clearly there is evidence. Please do not put a price tag on our lives and help us stay alive by covering more illnesses and helping us be able to pay for preventative, safer and more natural care!

Lastly, I could send you some more links to more studies about IBS, the gut and toxins. I have even more saved, but I am sure it will not matter because you're probably being told to continue to deny new illnesses no matter how many studies or information we provide you with. IBS is discussed on a quiz on your website in a scenario in this question so you obviously know that many in the 9-11 community have this. [https://www.cdc.gov/wtc/training\\_advances\\_3.html](https://www.cdc.gov/wtc/training_advances_3.html)

However, I do want you to look at the link between gut health and MS, which should also be a covered WTC conditions and gut health and toxins, but that will be in another petition. I am just putting it in here because it deals with gut health and **IBS** happens when our gut health is off balance. <https://www.forbes.com/forbes/welcome/?toURL=https://www.forbes.com/sites/victoriaforster/2018/05/16/researchers-uncover-gut-bacterias-potential-role-in-multiple-sclerosis/&refURL=https://www.facebook.com/&referrer=https://www.facebook.com/> This link if you scroll down discusses heavy metal toxins and IBS: [Karuna Health Care - Irritable Bowel Syndrome](#) These links again just show that your program needs to help us fix our guts first and not kill even more of our good gut bacteria by providing us with even more chemicals in treatments and pills. That is called sick care, not health care so I am asking you to do the right thing this time please and help save more lives instead of just trying to save money.

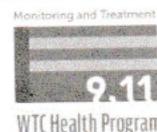


Thank you for your time.



PS Attached below is the Petition form and one of my health records. I have a more recent one, but I did not want to send it though email, but please contact me if you need it. Thanks.

## Petition for the Addition of a New WTC-Related Health Condition for Coverage under the World Trade Center (WTC) Health Program



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

### General Instructions

Any interested party may petition the WTC Program Administrator to add a condition to the List of WTC-Related Health Conditions (List) in 42 C.F.R. Part 88 (see <http://www.cdc.gov/wtc/faq.html#hlthcond> for the complete list).

Please use this form to petition the Administrator to add a health condition (any recognized medical condition requiring treatment or medication) to the List. Please use a separate form for each health condition.

Use of this petition *form* is voluntary, but any petition must include all of the information identified below, as required by 42 C.F.R. Part 88. Petitions that do not provide the required information will not be considered by the WTC Program Administrator. Additional supporting materials may be submitted and are encouraged.

Please note, however, the petition and all supporting materials submitted to the WTC Health Program are part of the public record and may be subject to public disclosure. Personal information will be redacted prior to public disclosure.

Please TYPE or PRINT all information clearly on the form.

If you need more space to provide the required information, please attach additional pages to this form.

Mail or email this form to: World Trade Center Health Program  
395 E. Street, S.W., Suite 9200  
Washington, D.C. 20201  
WTC@cdc.gov

Public reporting burden of this collection of information is estimated to average 40 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to CDC/ATSDR Information Collection Review Office, 1600 Clifton Road NE, MS D-74, Atlanta, Georgia 30333; ATTN: PRA (0920-0929).

**A. Interested Party Information**

**A1. Do you represent an organization (are you submitting this petition on behalf of an organization)?**

Yes (Go to A2)  No (Go to A3)

**A2. Organization Information:**

Name of organization

**A3. Name of Individual Petitioner or Organization Representative:**

First name

Last name

Position, if representative of organization

**A4.**

Street

City

State

Zip code

**A5. Telephone Number:**

**A6. Email Address:**

**B. Proposed WTC-Related Health Condition Information**

**B1. Health Condition Information:**

Irritable Bowel Syndrome

Name of health condition you wish to petition to add to the list of covered conditions

If the name of the condition is not known, please provide a description of the condition or the name of the diagnosis provided by a physician or other healthcare provider.

**C. Basis for Proposing that the Condition Be Added to the List of WTC-Related Health Conditions**

**C1. Describe the reasons the WTC Program Administrator should consider the addition of this health condition. Explain how the health condition you are proposing relates to the exposures that may have occurred from the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Your explanation must include a medical basis for the relationship/association between the 9/11 exposure and the proposed health condition. The medical basis may be demonstrated by reference to a peer-reviewed, published, epidemiologic study about the health condition among 9/11 exposed populations or to clinical case reports of health conditions in WTC responders or survivors. First-hand accounts or anecdotal evidence may not be sufficient to establish medical basis. If you need more space, please attach additional pages to this form.**

Please  
See attached Word Document!

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## DIAGNOSES

The information listed below appears in your medical records. It may not be complete and accurate depending on when a last review and update was done. We appreciate your assistance with updating your information. Please send a message to your provider if you have questions about your diagnoses list.

**Please contact your provider's office if you need assistance.**

Report a Diagnosis

Category	Diagnosis	Status	Onset	Updated
Diagnosis of	SCREENING MAMMOGRAM NEC	ACTIVE		5/3/2016
Diagnosis of	FIBROCYSTIC BREAST DISEASE	ACTIVE		5/3/2016
Diagnosis of	DEVIATED SEPTUM	ACTIVE		12/1/2014
Diagnosis of	FOOD INTOLERANCE	ACTIVE		8/29/2014
Diagnosis of	GASTROESOPHAGEAL REFLUX DISEASE	ACTIVE		5/3/2012
Diagnosis of	BACK PAIN, CHRONIC	ACTIVE		4/11/2012
Diagnosis of	IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME	ACTIVE		8/23/2010