



US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

BLAST INJURY RESEARCH PROGRAM COORDINATING OFFICE

Aeromedical Evacuation

Evaluation of the Aeromedical Evacuation in Rat Blast Models of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Polytrauma

Research at the Naval Medical Research Center (NMRC) includes assessing appropriate timing for altitude transport of casualties based on physiology, regional organ perfusion, inflammatory markers, tissue damage, and mortality in rat blast polytrauma models. Investigations include evaluating the effects of low atmospheric pressure associated with aeromedical evacuation during either standard (three days after injury) or delayed (day seven-14) transport of injured rats. Additional research efforts will evaluate adverse effects of exposure to environmental stressors associated with aeromedical evacuation (e.g., vibration) on TBI/polytrauma casualties.

