



# THE INIM



• SPRING 2021 •

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN  
UNIVERSITY



## INIM COVID-19 Update

The Institute for Neuro-Immune Medicine is taking actions to prevent and slow the spread of COVID-19, while continuing to offer care and resources to our community. We want to thank each and every one of you for your patience and understanding during this uncertain time.

We have begun seeing patients at our Davie and Kendall clinics on a case by case basis and will continue to conduct Telehealth appointments.

Continue to visit our website and check our social media channels for ongoing updates.

**BE A SMART SHARK.**

- MAINTAIN PHYSICAL DISTANCE.** Handshakes and hugs aren't a good idea, but a wave and a "Fins Up!" are!
- USE A FACE COVERING.** Cover your mouth and nose and avoid touching your face.
- WASH YOUR HANDS, PLEASE.** Spend at least 20 seconds and use plenty of soap and water.
- DON'T FEEL WELL? STAY HOME.** Monitor your symptoms and call your doctor early on.
- KEEP IT CLEAN.** Clean and disinfect all surfaces and objects you frequently touch.
- STAY INFORMED.** Visit [nova.edu/coronavirus](http://nova.edu/coronavirus) and [cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov) for updates and to keep yourself safe.

NSU Florida

### The Clinic will now offer traditional Chinese medicine services!

Traditional Chinese medicine practitioners use various mind and body practices as well as herbal products to address health problems.

Services include:

- Acupuncture
- Cupping
- Moxibustion
- Sound/Vibrational Therapy
- Chinese Herbs & Vitamin/Supplement Advice
- Breathing & Mindfulness Exercises
- Meditation Techniques
- Nutritional Medicine

If you are interested in these services or would like to learn more, please contact our clinic at: 954-262-2850

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# - WEBINAR RECAP -

## MOVING FORWARD - OPERATION DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM 30TH ANNIVERSARY

On Wednesday, February 24, we hosted a free webinar, Moving Forward - Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm 30th Anniversary. The event celebrated the 30th anniversary of the end of Operation Desert Storm and allowed attendees to listen in on a researcher presentation about Gulf War Illness "What We've Done and Where We're Going."

### Speakers:

**Nancy Klimas, MD**  
Director, INIM  
Director, Clinical Immunology Research, Miami VAMC

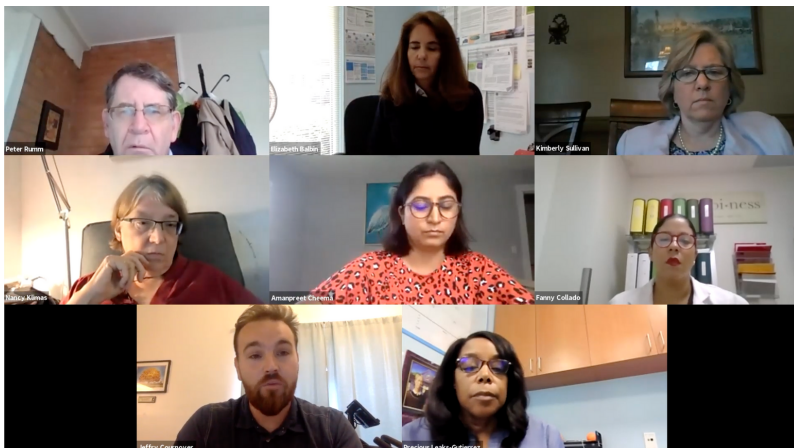
**Amanpreet Cheema, PhD**  
Program Director of GWICTIC Research Operations  
Assistant Professor, INIM, NSU

**Fanny Collado, RN**  
Clinical Operation Nurse Executive, INIM &  
Miami VAMC

**Kimberly Sullivan, PhD**  
Research Assistant Professor, Environmental Health,  
Boston University School of Public Health.

**Peter Rumm, MD, MPH, FACPM,**  
Director, Pre-911 Era Environmental Health Services in VA Post-Deployment Health Services.

**Stephen Hunt, MD**  
National Director, VA Post-Deployment Integrated Care Initiative (PDICI), Clinical Professor of Medicine, Occupational and Environmental Medicine Program, University of Washington School of Medicine.



Missed the event or want to rewatch?  
Visit: [https://youtu.be/zQBe\\_gulGmg](https://youtu.be/zQBe_gulGmg)

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



We are excited to welcome Annette Fornos, MD, IFMCP! Dr. Fornos is board certified in Internal Medicine and certified in Functional Medicine by the Institute for Functional Medicine. She has been brought on as an Assistant Professor at KPCOM and will be an additional practitioner of Functional Medicine in our clinic.

Dr. Fornos attended the University of Miami's Miller School of Medicine and went on to complete her residency at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Before joining our group, she was an Assistant Professor at the University Of Miami's Miller School of Medicine. Dr. Fornos will be seeing patients in our clinic, but is also interested in both research and education.

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Congratulations to our DO research fellows, Melanie Perez and Oskar Zarnowski, on winning third place in NSU's Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine's Office of Graduate Medical Education's Scientific Research Poster Competition!

## Transcriptional changes in peripheral blood mononuclear cells of men with Gulf War Illness in response to stress/exercise

Melanie Perez, OMS3; Oskar Zarnowski, OMS3; Derek Van Booven, MS; Leonor Sarria, MS; Fanny Collado, RN; Kyle Hansotia; Sean Reigle; Tali Finger; MaryAnn Fletcher, PhD; Nancy G. Klimas, MD; Lubov Nathanson, PhD.





# Recent Publications

## Ocular manifestations and biomarkers of Gulf War Illness in US veterans

- Baksh, B.S., Zayan, K., Goldhardt, R. *Sci Rep* 11, 6548 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-86061-0>

## Sex-Based Differences in Plasma Autoantibodies to Central Nervous System Proteins in Gulf War Veterans versus Healthy and Symptomatic Controls.

- Abou-Donia MB, Kregel MH, Lapadula ES, Zundel CG, LeClair J, Massaro J, Quinn E, Conboy LA, Kokkotou E, Nguyen DD, Abreu M, Klimas NG, Sullivan K. *Brain Sci.* 2021 Jan 23;11(2):148. doi: 10.3390/brainsci11020148.

## INPP4B protects from metabolic syndrome and associated disorders

- Zhang M, Ceyhan Y, Kaftanovskaya EM, Vasquez JL, Vacher J, Knop FK, Nathanson L, AgoulNIK AI, Ittmann MM, AgoulNIK IU. *Commun Biol.* 2021 Mar 26;4(1):416. doi: 10.1038/s42003-021-01940-6. PMID: 33772116.

# INIM JOINS THE LONG COVID ALLIANCE



The INIM is pleased to announce that we have joined the Long COVID Alliance of patient-advocates, scientists, disease experts, and drug developers to collaborate and share collective knowledge to educate policy makers and accelerate research to transform our understanding of post-viral illness.

## Alliance Priorities:

- Building an effective space for public and private partners from many disciplines to collaborate
- Facilitating data harmonization
- Leveraging existing post-viral disease knowledge and infrastructure to find answers
- Ensuring meaningful patient participation
- Expediting public-private partnerships
- Providing expert guidance and resources to media and policy makers
- Creating a platform for thought leaders
- Connecting policy makers with patients and scientists

To learn more about the Long COVID Alliance, visit <https://longcovidalliance.org>.



**Follow us and subscribe to  
hear the exciting  
announcement we have in  
store for you this May!**

Sign up for emails to stay updated with the INIM on new research, institute updates, upcoming events, and much more!

**SIGN UP**

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