### Current Research Suggests

- A large number of combat Veterans have had NDEs or similar events
- Veterans' healthcare providers know almost nothing about these experiences
- Healthcare professionals overwhelmingly want training about these Veterans' care issues

#### Why Most Healthcare Providers Don't Know about NDEs

- Veterans hide their NDEs for fear of being misunderstood or misdiagnosed
- Most healthcare professionals don't ask Veterans about NDEs
- NDEs may occur with PTS and/or TBI (traumatic brain injury) and may be mistaken for these other conditions

### Groundbreaking Veterans' NDE Video



- Features healthcare professionals, and Veterans
- Recognizes NDEs as a Veterans' care issue
- Helps fill a Gap of Care for Veterans
- Addresses needs of Veterans' organizations, individual Veterans, and their families

## Trailer/Preview available at www.IANDS.org/vetvideo



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# *Understanding* Veterans' Near-Death Experiences





**IANDS** is the informational and networking center in the field of near-death studies, the first organization in the world devoted to explorong near-death and similar experiences.

A Near-Death Experience, or NDE, is a profound psychological event that may occur to a person close to death or in a situation of physical or emotional crisis. Being in a life-threatening situation does not, by itself, constitute an NDE. NDE is a recognizable pattern of perceptions which transcend ordinary experience. NDEs happen to people in all walks of life and are fairly common. They do not indicate mental illness.

<u>To Order</u> "Understanding Veterans' NDE" DVD or To Donate to Help Promote this Video for Veterans Who have had NDEs Contact

> IANDS.org/vetvideo IANDS: 919-383-7940

#### Potential Benefits of NDE Training for Veterans

- Fills a gap in Veterans' care
- Provides information and reassurance about NDEs
- Educates about possible aftereffects
- Protects Veterans from potential psychological harm
- Helps relieve Veterans' anxieties
- Reassures families
- Helps avoid misdiagnosis
- Distinguishes NDE from PTSD & TBI
- May reduce need for medication
- Provides healthcare professionals with a response protocol for NDEs and related events
- Saves expense for unneeded treatment
- Increases Veterans' satisfaction with care provided

# Aftereffects of NDEs

Veteran NDErs can suffer from feelings of alienation and depression, especially if they feel compelled to hide their experiences, not wanting to risk ridicule, judgment and lack of understanding by others.

Evidence suggests that non-disclosure of significant personal experiences increases physical and psychological stress. This stress adds to the physical and emotional challenges caused by events that originally led to the neardeath experience itself. Thus, misunderstood and unprocessed NDEs may be traumatizing, compounding the effects of physical injuries, as well as PTS and TBI, and magnifying feelings of confusion, fear, and isolation. Without help Veterans may suffer these aftereffects for a lifetime.

For more information on aftereffects visit <u>http://iands.org/ndes/about-ndes/</u> common-aftereffects.html