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Primary Research Interest:	Other
Description of Research:	My project objectives are to: 1) elucidate the molecular mechanisms of chronic alcohol-induced alveolar macrophage oxidative stress which lead to phagocytic dysfunction, and 2) investigate therapeutic strategies to mitigate alcohol-induced lung immune dysregulation.
Relevance to VA:	In critically ill patients, chronic alcohol misuse increases the risk for developing respiratory infections and Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) by 2-4-fold. Of the 27 million veterans in the US, 55% consume alcohol and 29% report binge or heavy alcohol use. Thus, millions of veterans are have an increased risk of lung infections and ARDS due to alcohol misuse. A better understanding of the relationship between alcohol misuse and altered lung cell function may permit targeted strategies to attenuate lung derangements.