

DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY



Making the World Safer

Nuclear Test Personnel Review (NTPR) Dose Reconstruction Activities

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Veterans' Advisory Board on Dose Reconstruction

17 Aug 2005

1600-1630

Briefing Outline

- The Team
 - The Process
 - Timelines
 - Closing
-
- Projected briefing time: 25 minutes





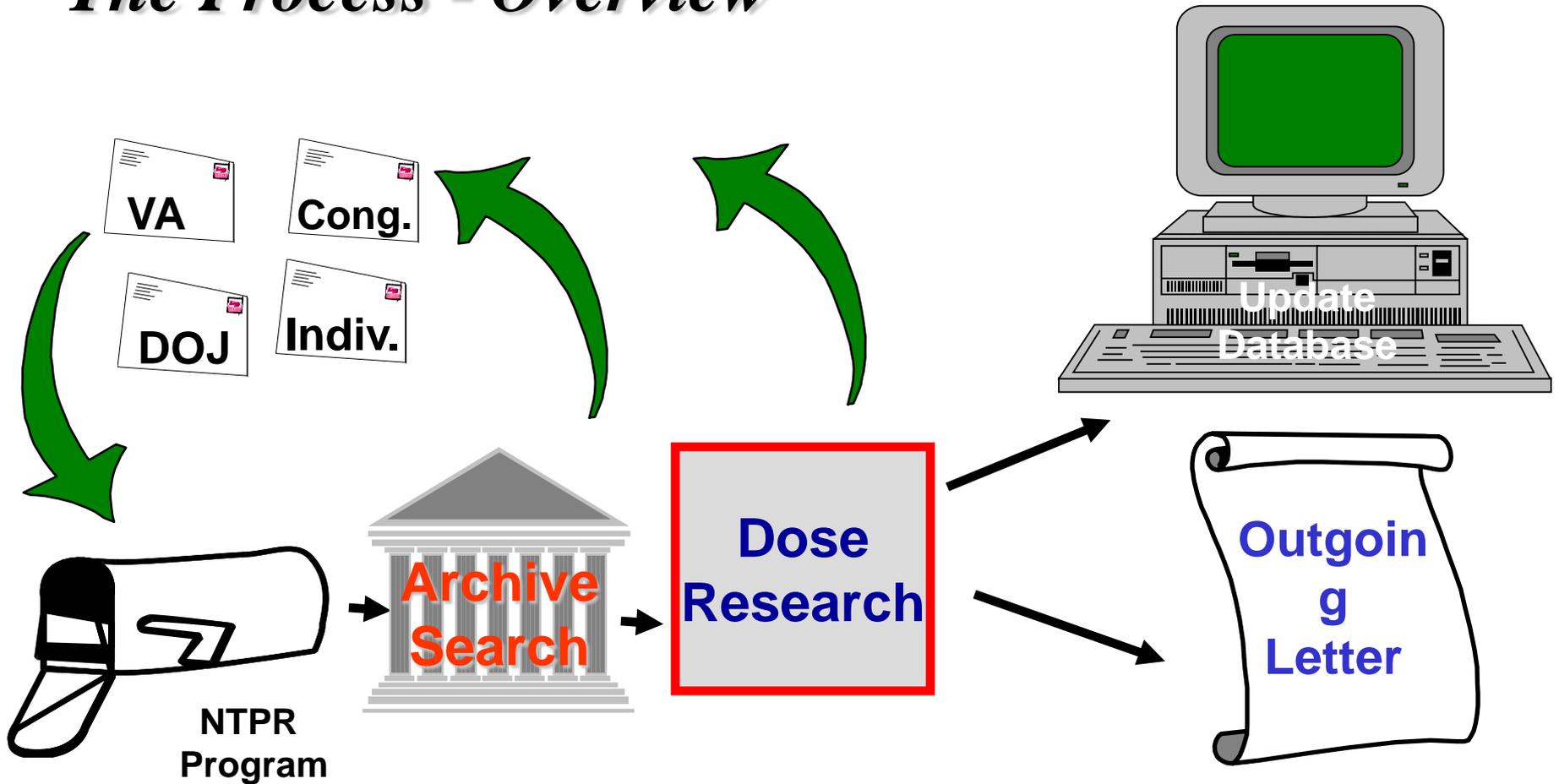
The Team - Integrated Product Teams (IPTs)

- Communications and Outreach Services Team
- Research and Documentation Team
- Dose Assessment Team
- Program Support Team
- Information Resources Management Team
- Program Quality Management Team
- Program Management

The Team – Veteran Assistance Services

- Communications, outreach, and hotline support operations
- Archival research and claims documentation
- Radiation exposure assessments and dose reconstructions
- Administrative services
- Information technology support operations
- Program management services

The Process - Overview





The Process - Initial Processing

- Key Actions
 - Mail received at DTRA and transported to contractor's site
 - Database review and entries
 - Letter and questionnaire to veteran drafted for Program Manager review
 - Letter signed out by Government representative

- Key Factors
 - Adequate information provided
 - Correct enclosures



The Process - Historical Research

- Key Actions
 - Identify and analyze key research issues
 - Determine location of records and documents
 - Review and abstract key information
 - Prepare findings and conclusions
 - Prepare case for dose assessment

- Key Factors
 - Availability of records
 - Responsive reply from veteran

The Process - Research and Documentation

- Analyze inquiry
- Identify required records for research
- Retrieve and review source documents
- Abstract and analyze information and data
- Collect additional information via personal calls and questionnaires, as applicable
- Determine participation and dose status
- Consolidate and convey results to inquirers

The Process - Personal Activity Source Documents

Service Records

Medical Records

Morning Reports

Operation Orders

Operation Plans

Operation Message Traffic

Final Operational Reports

Special Orders

Temporary Duty Orders

Reassignment Orders

Personnel Rosters

Unit Rosters

Movement Orders

Flight Logs

Station Lists

Unit Diaries

War Diaries

Unit Histories

Deck Logs

Daily Diaries

Ship Movement Reports

Muster Rolls

Agency/Unit Memos

Weapon Test Reports

Dosimetry Records

Questionnaires

Personal Statements

Personal Papers

Diving Records

Oral Histories



The Process - Key Repositories

- National Personnel Records Center, St. Louis, MO
- National Archives, Washington, DC & College Park, MD
- NTPR Resource Center, Reston, VA
- Military Services Historical Centers, Washington, DC
- Dept. of Energy Records Collections, Las Vegas, NV
- Washington National Records Center, Suitland, MD
- Federal Archives and Records Center, San Bruno, CA
- Defense Technical Information Center, Alexandria, VA

The Process – Military Service Contacts

- Army Surgeon General's Office - Office of Preventive Medicine
 - Army & National Guard
- Officer in Charge (OIC), Naval Dosimetry Center, Bethesda, MD
 - Navy, Marine Corps, & Coast Guard
- Air Force Medical Support Agency – Chief, Radiation Protection Division

The Process - Key Information Collected

- Personnel Identification, Activity, Location
- Unit Identification, Activity, Location
- Weather
- Terrain
- Fallout Intensity and Duration
- Field Radiation Surveys
- Shot-Specific Radiochemical Data
- Personnel Exposure Data
- Post-Test Site Project Identification



The Process - Veteran Questionnaire

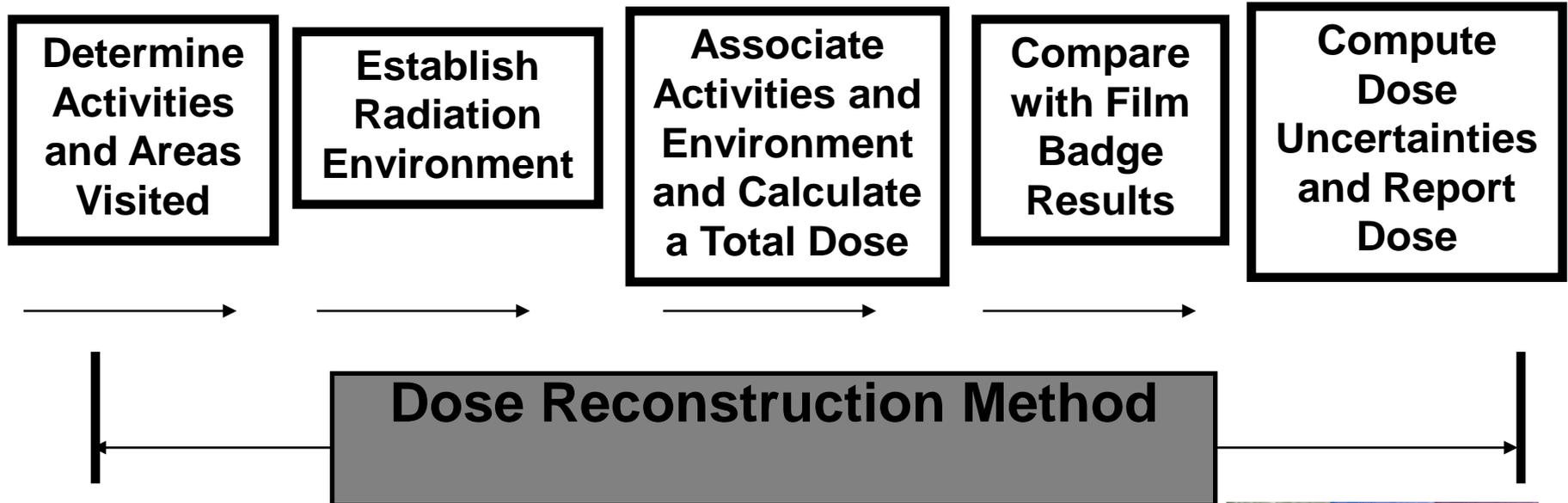
- We request that veteran return the questionnaire within 30 days
- If no response after 30 days, we follow-up with a call
- After 60 days, proceed with case – dose analyst will address questions during interview process
- Average return time is 35-40 days

The Process - Dose Assessment: Triage

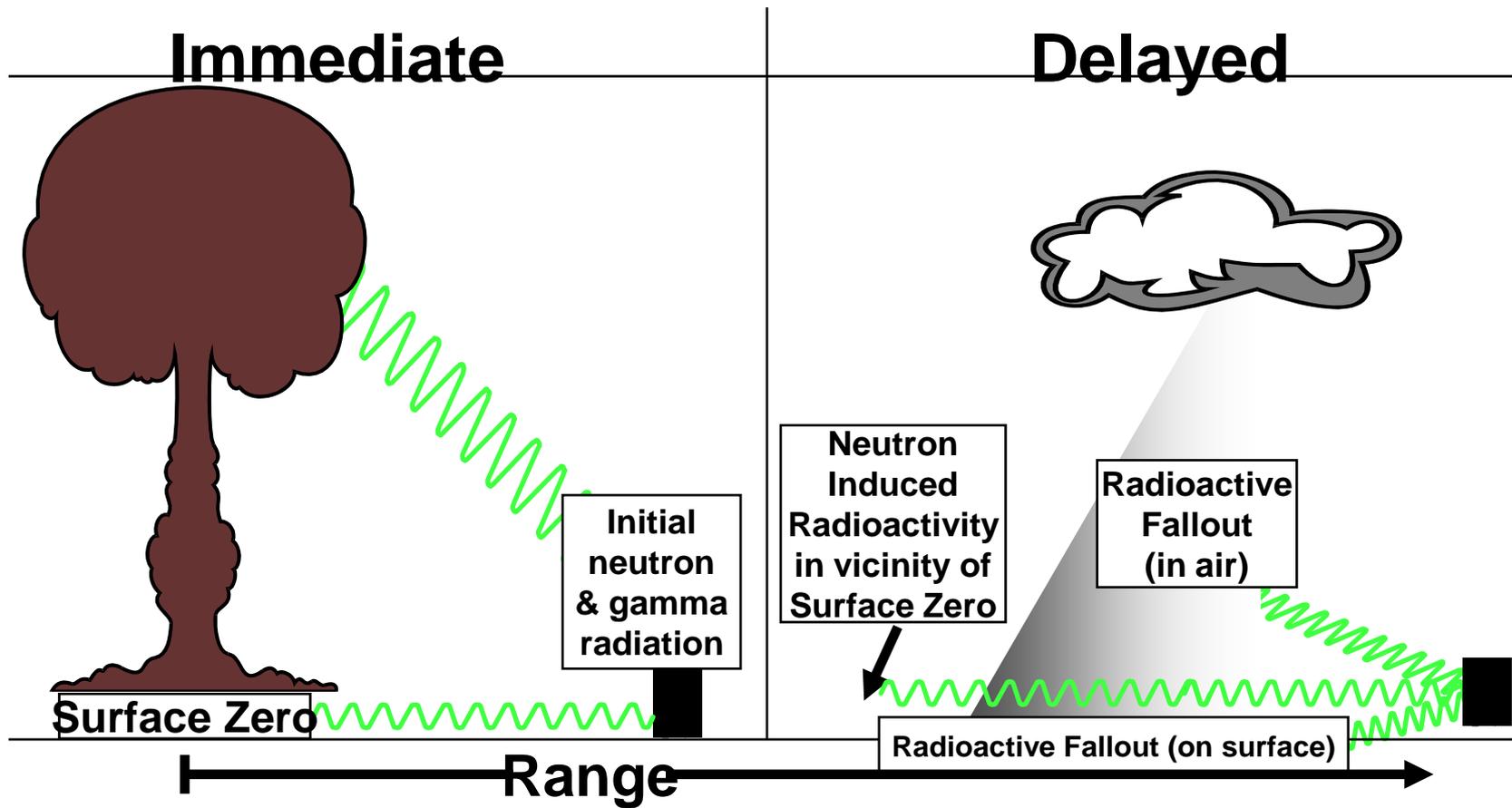
- Key Actions
 - Review VA letter and veteran input
 - Review all supporting documents in case file
 - Check database summary information
 - Check for film badge data
 - Prepare Triage Report
 - Coordinate findings and conclusions with Research & Development team
- Key Factors
 - Availability of records
 - Availability of film badge data

The Process - What is a Dose Reconstruction?

A scientific estimate of total dose received from personnel activities in a defined radiological environment



The Process - Radiological Environment



The Process – Developing the SPARE

- Key Actions
 - Review file, evaluate supporting documentation and identify gaps
 - Request dosimetry evaluation as needed
 - Consult all related historical records, documents, and reports
 - Prepare for and conduct participant interview
 - Determine potential sources and types of radiation and residual radiation
 - Develop scenario of participation and radiation exposure (SPARE)
 - Quality assurance and quality control reviews
 - DTRA review and approval
 - SPARE to veteran for review and input
- Key Factors
 - Scenario complexities
 - Responsive reply from veteran
 - Veteran agreement / disagreement with SPARE
 - Complete documentation available

The Process - Veteran Interaction with SPARE

- 30 days to return
- After 30 days, follow-up call
- After 60 days, second follow-up call
- After 90 days, DTRA letter on follow-up

The Process – Developing the RDA

- Key Actions

- Calculate external dose
- Calculate internal dose
- Evaluate uncertainties
- Determine upper bound
- Prepare Radiation Dose Assessment (RDA) Report
- Quality assurance and quality control reviews

- Key Factors

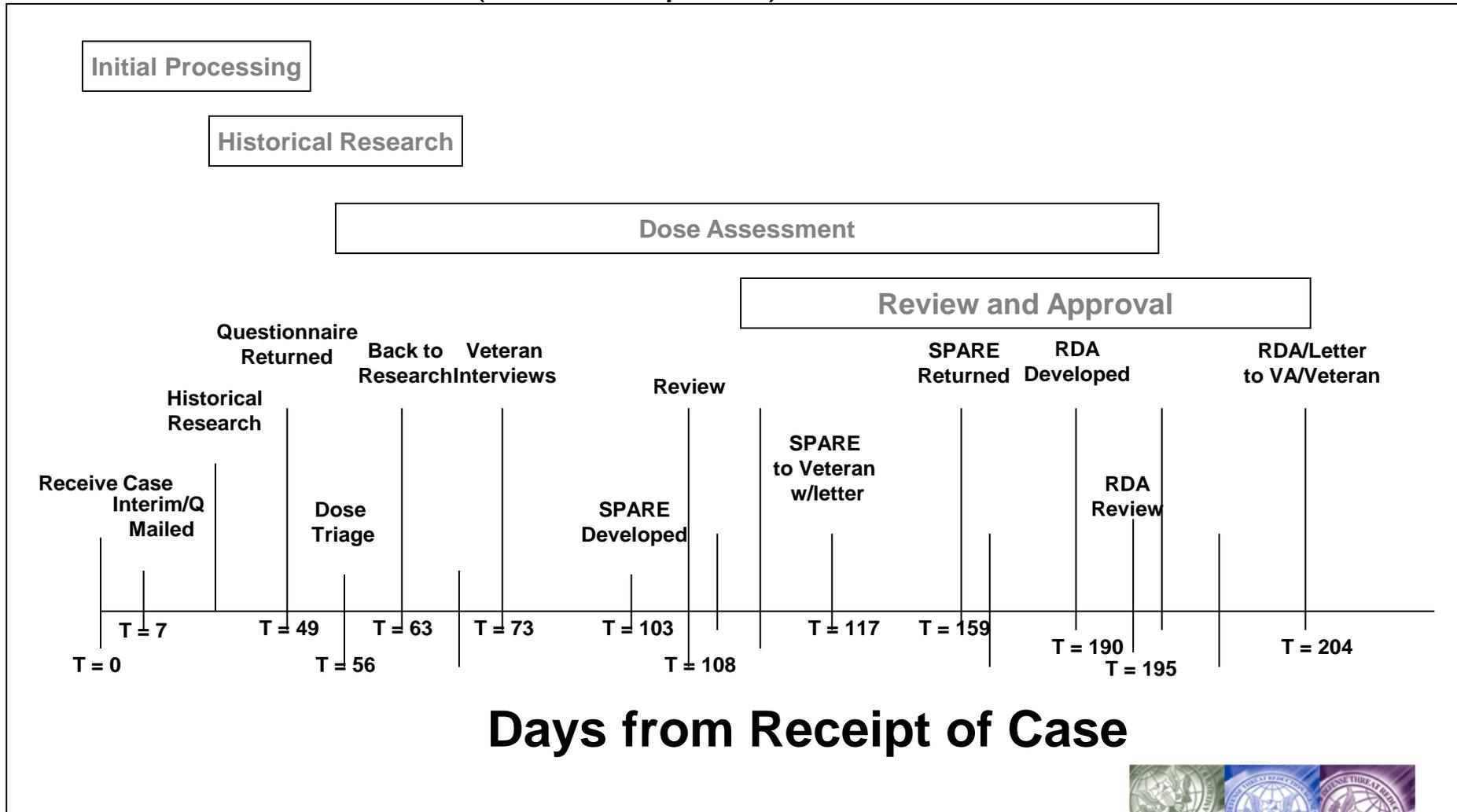
- Availability of radiation data
- Approved dose calculation methodologies
- Approved technical approach to address SPARE issues

The Process - Final Processing

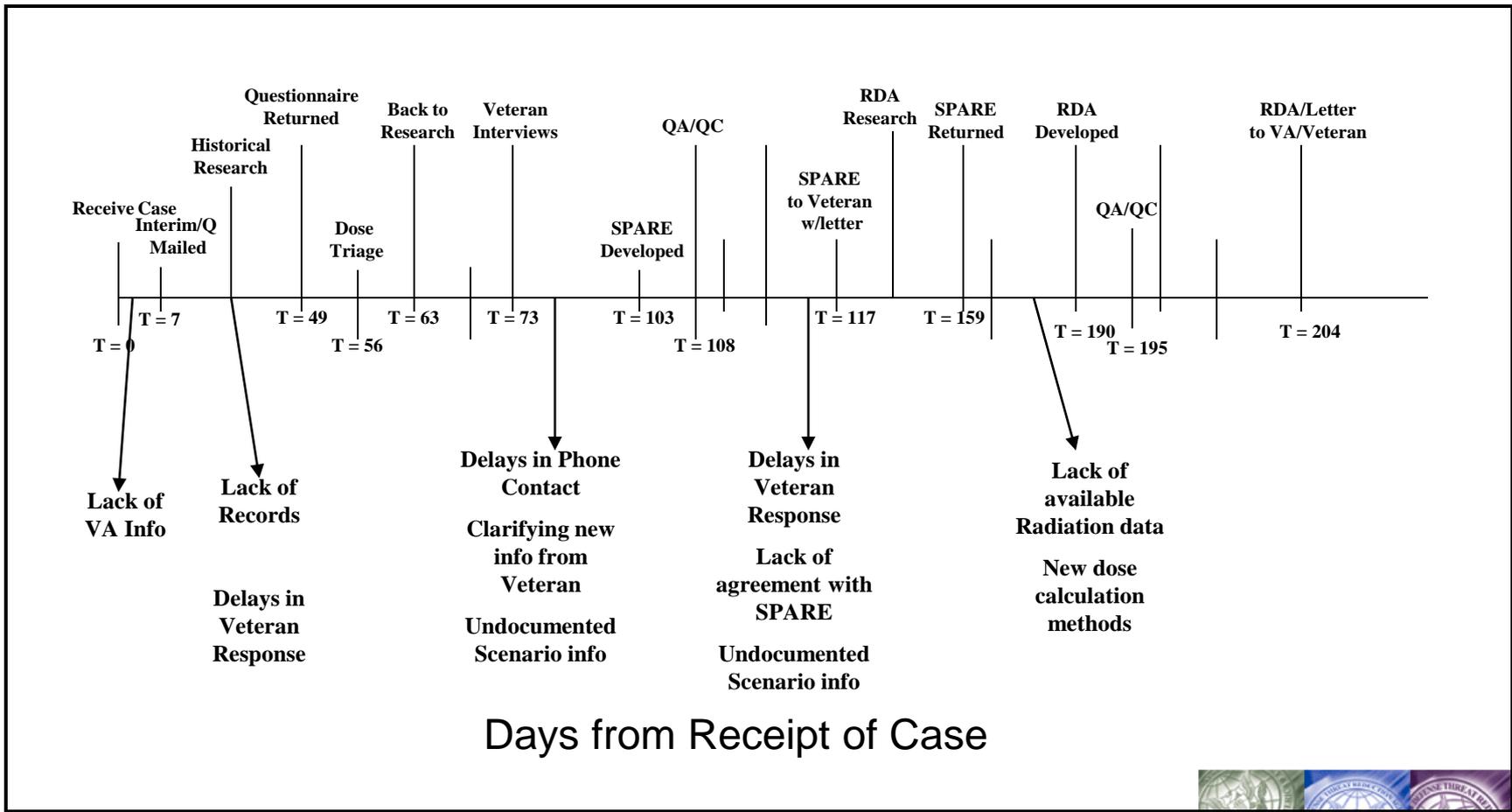
- Key Actions
 - DTRA final review of RDA
 - DTRA approves and signs final letter and packet to VA and veteran
 - Database and microfilm updates
- Key Factors
 - Smooth review

Timelines - VA Non-Presumptive Case

(Dose Required)



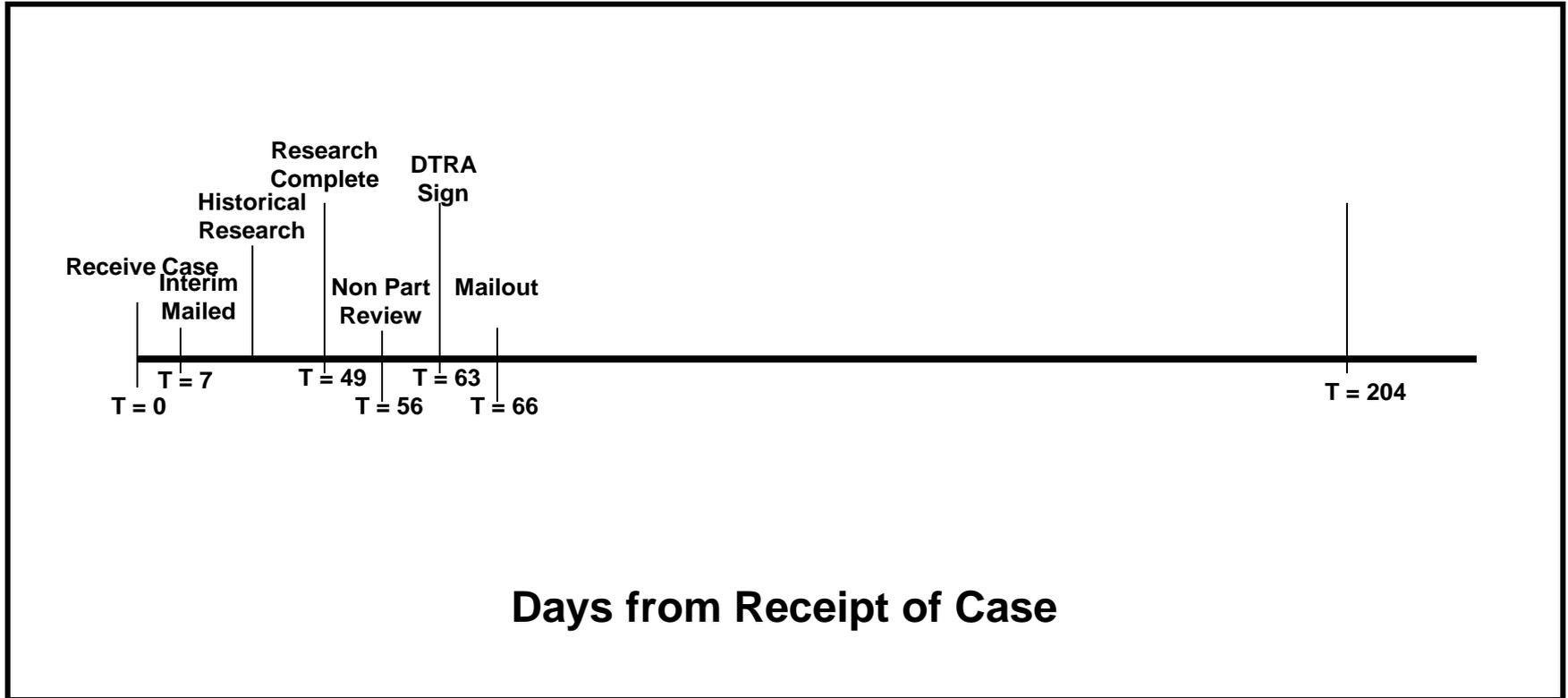
Timelines - VA Non-Presumptive Case Delays



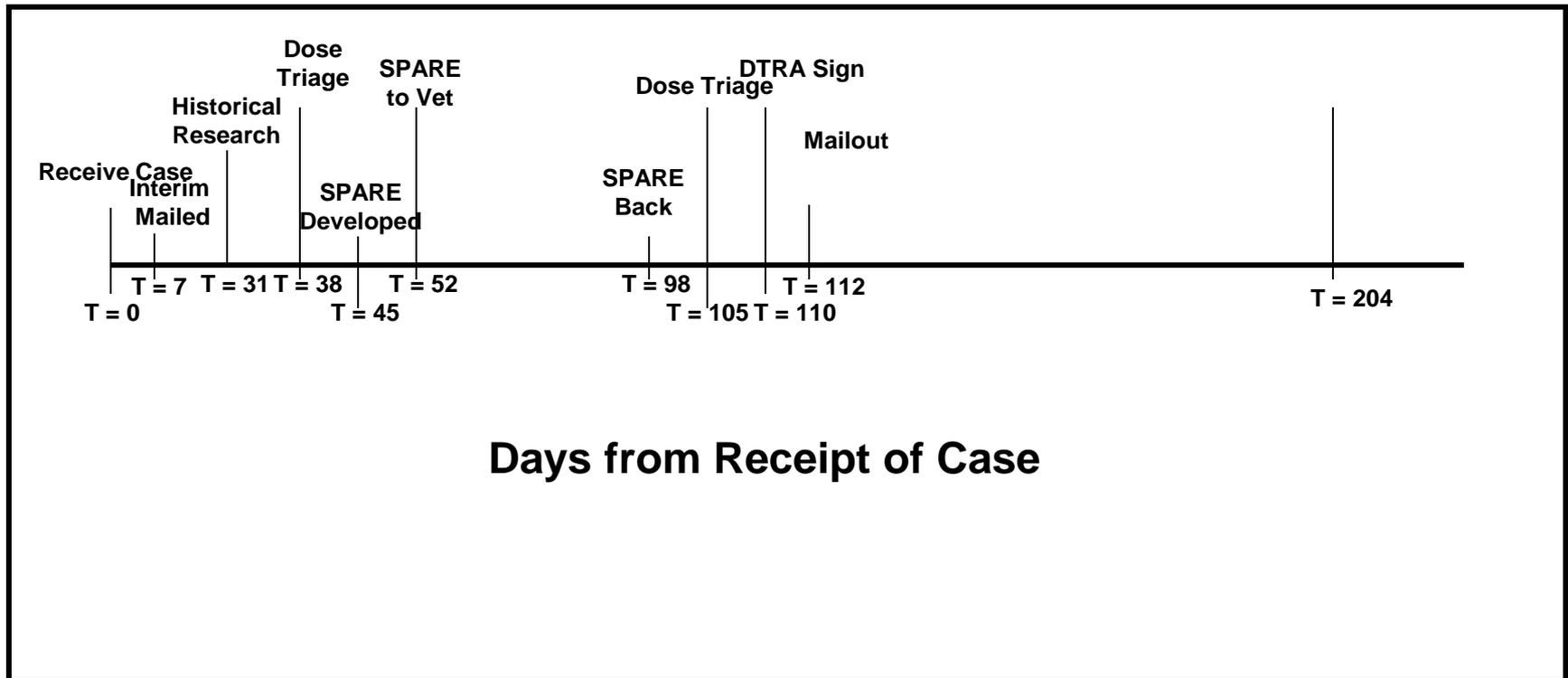
Days from Receipt of Case



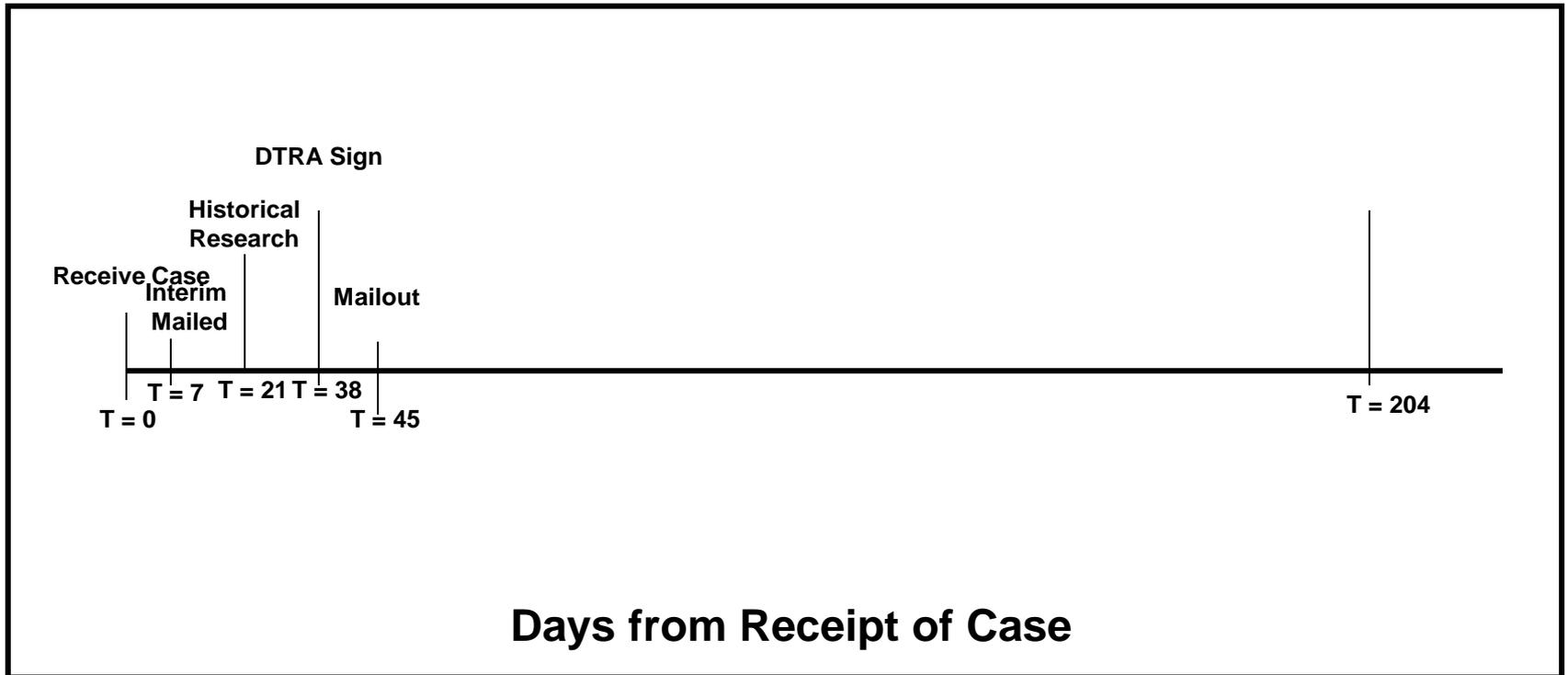
Timelines - VA Non-Participant Case Processing



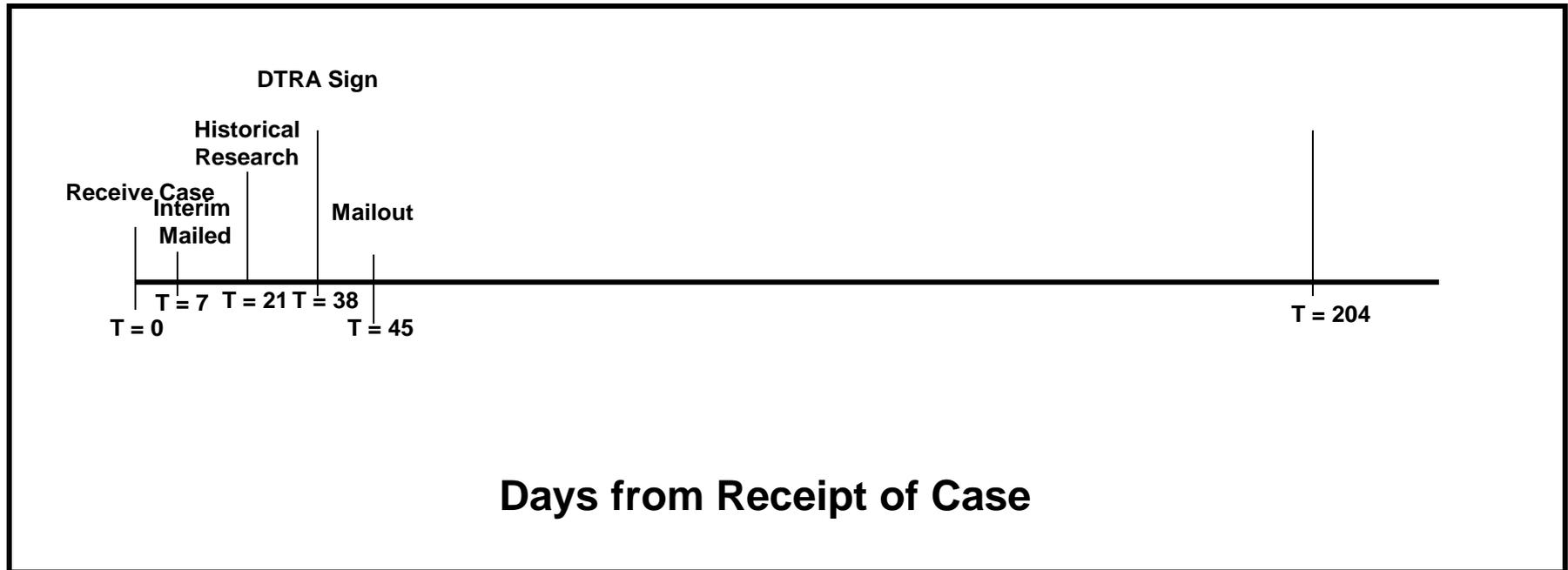
Timelines - VA H/N Dose Reconstruction Template Case Processing



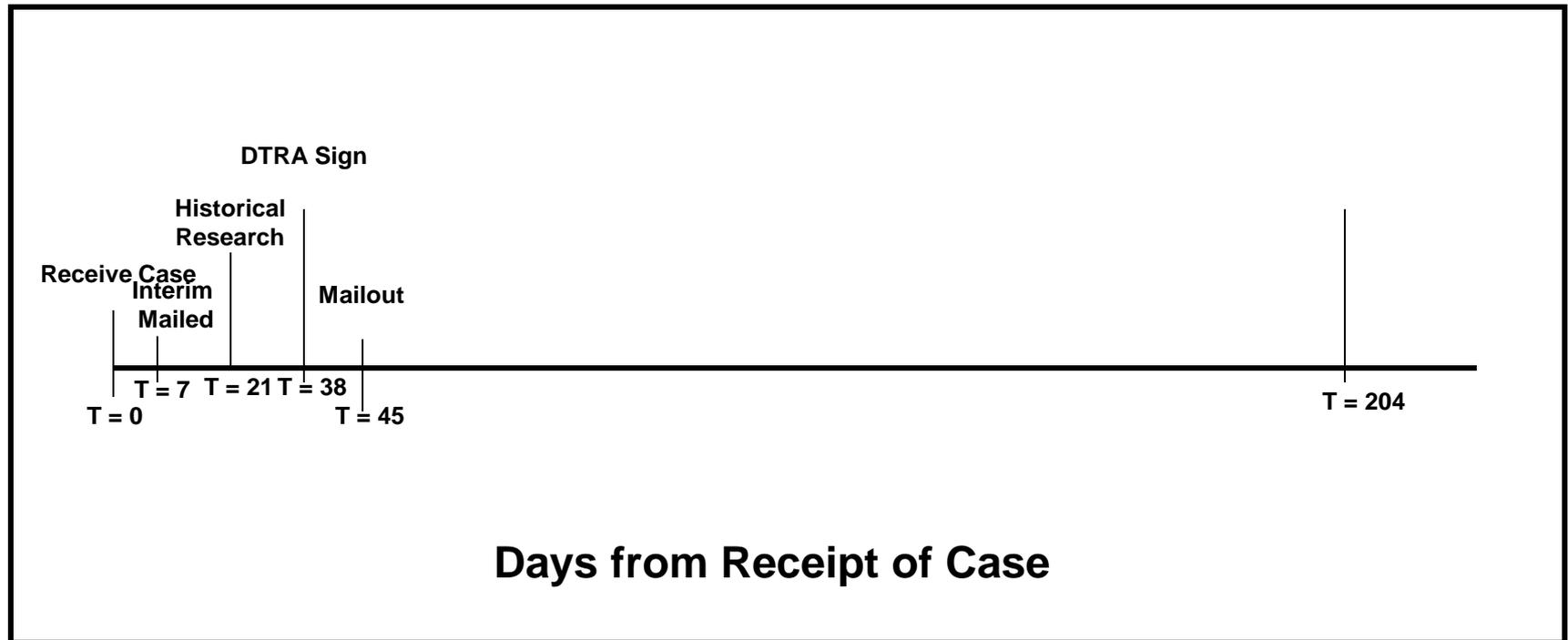
Timelines - VA Presumptive Case Processing



Timelines - DOJ Case Processing



Timelines - Personal Case Processing



Closing

NTPR is making new efforts to facilitate the dose reconstruction process, reduce delays, shorten timelines, and eliminate the case backlog:

- Dose reconstruction Process Action Team is examining all facets of the process
- Implementing dose reconstruction templates where appropriate
- Aggressive follow-up by veteran outreach staff