



Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs Funding for FY2018

Members of Congress are frequently lobbied to add funding to annual defense appropriation legislation for certain medical research programs on a wide variety of diseases and topics. In addressing annual appropriations bills, many Members frequently wish to know enacted levels for such funding under the *Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs* (CDMRP).

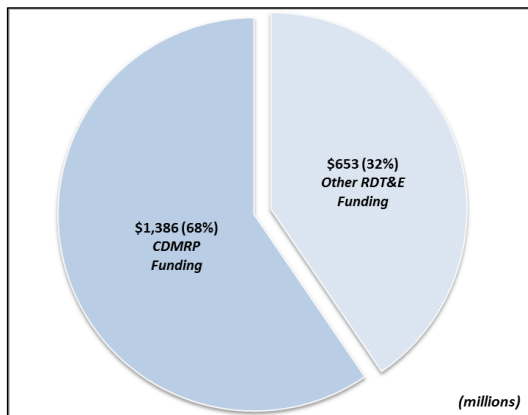
CDMRP Administration and Funding

The CDMRP is a congressional appropriation to the Department of Defense (DOD) explicitly for biomedical research in specific, congressionally identified health matters. The U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC) administers the CDMRP and is responsible for awarding and managing competitive grants.

Congress usually inserts CDMRP funding in the Defense Health Program’s Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) account in the annual DOD appropriation. CDMRP funding is not part of the President’s budget request for overall RDT&E. Congressional documents accompanying the annual defense appropriation act (i.e., conference reports or explanatory statements) identify the specific research areas.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (P.L. 115-91), inserted \$1.38 billion into the RDT&E account for CDMRP. This amount comprised 68% of the overall Defense Health Program’s RDT&E appropriation. Biomedical research conducted by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency or other military research agencies is not reflected in this account.

Figure 1. Total Defense Health Program RDT&E Appropriation, FY2018



Source: U.S. Congress, House Committee on Appropriations, Explanatory Statement to P.L. 115-91, 115th Cong., 2018.

Funding amounts for specific medical research areas are listed below.

Table I. CDMRP Funding, FY2018
(in millions of dollars)

Program Title	FY2018
Peer Reviewed Alcohol and Substance Abuse Research	4.0
Peer Reviewed Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Research	10.0
Peer Reviewed Alzheimer Research	15.0
Peer Reviewed Autism Research	7.5
Peer Reviewed Bone Marrow Failure Research	3.0
Peer Reviewed Breast Cancer Research	130.0
Peer Reviewed Cancer Research	80.0
Peer Reviewed Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy Research	3.2
Peer Reviewed Epilepsy Research	7.5
Peer Reviewed Gulf War Illness Research	21.0
Peer Reviewed Hearing Restoration Research	10.0
Peer Reviewed Kidney Cancer Research	15.0
Peer Reviewed Lung Cancer Research	14.0
Peer Reviewed Lupus Research	5.0
Peer Reviewed Medical Research	330.0
Peer Reviewed Multiple Sclerosis Research	6.0
Peer Reviewed Orthopedic Research	30.0
Peer Reviewed Ovarian Cancer Research	20.0
Peer Reviewed Prostate Cancer Research	100.0
Peer Reviewed Spinal Cord Injury Research	30.0
Peer Reviewed Reconstructive Transplant Research	12.0
Peer Reviewed Tick-Borne Disease Research	5.0
Peer Reviewed Traumatic Brain Injury and Psychological Health Research	125.0
Peer Reviewed Tuberos Sclerosis Complex Research	6.0
Peer Reviewed Vision Research	15.0
Global HIV/AIDS Prevention	8.0
HIV/AIDS Program Increase	12.9
Joint Warfighter Medical Research	50.0
Orthotics and Prosthetics Outcomes Research	10.0
Trauma Clinical Research Program	10.0
Restore Core Program Funding	291
TOTAL	1,386.1

Source: U.S. Congress, House Committee on Appropriations, Explanatory Statement to P.L. 115-91, 115th Cong., 2018.

CDMRP Funding Requests

Members may request funding for medical research during the annual defense appropriations process. The appropriations committees typically send Members a

memorandum with instructions for submitting requests. Both House and Senate committee reports may specify associated funding levels, with the conference committee resolving differences.

The medical research programs funded under the CDMRP are not static. Funding may be provided for conditions not funded in previous years. For example, funding for tick-borne disease research was provided in FY2016-FY2018, but no associated funds were provided in FY2015.

Program Announcements and Awards

CDMRP issues program announcements to alert researchers to grant opportunities. The program announcements include detailed descriptions of funding mechanisms, evaluation criteria, submission requirements, and deadlines. Program announcements may be downloaded from the Grants.gov website, or the CDMRP website (<http://cdmrp.army.mil/>).

Grant awards and related publications may be searched or downloaded from a database available at the CDMRP website. In addition, the CDMRP website provides links to brochures about individual research programs providing more detailed information. Annual reports may be accessed through the CDMRP website as well.

Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program

The program with the highest annual funding level under the CDMRP is generally the *Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program* (PRMRP).

PRMRP funding supports grants for medical research on a number of specified conditions or treatment modalities. The annual list of eligible conditions or treatments typically includes a few changes from year to year as medical research priorities shift.

For example, research on *burn pit exposure* was eligible for funding in FY2017 and FY2018, but was not eligible for funding in FY2016. Nevertheless, an investigator interested in burn pit exposure-related research could have submitted FY2016 grant applications for related eligible topics such as respiratory health, constrictive bronchiolitis, and pulmonary fibrosis.

FY2018 PRMRP Funding

For FY2018, the Explanatory Statement to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (see page H2383 of the March 22, 2018 *Congressional Record*) specified:

The agreement provides \$330,000,000 for a peer-reviewed medical research program. The Secretary of Defense, in conjunction with the Service Surgeons General, is directed to select medical research projects of clear scientific merit and direct relevance to military health...The additional funding provided under the peer-reviewed medical research program shall be devoted only to the purposes listed above.

Table 2 lists all 52 conditions or treatments eligible for FY2018 PRMRP funding.

Table 2. PRMRP-Eligible Conditions or Treatments, FY2018

Acute Lung Injury	Lung Injury
Antimicrobial Resistance	Malaria
Arthritis	Metals Toxicology
Burn Pit Exposure	Mitochondrial Disease
Cardiomyopathy	Musculoskeletal Disorders
Cerebellar Ataxia	Myotonic Dystrophy
Chronic Migraine and Post-Traumatic Headache	Non-Opioid Pain Management
Chronic Pain Management	Nutrition Optimization
Congenital Heart Disease	Pancreatitis
Constrictive Bronchiolitis	Pathogen-Inactivated Blood Products
Diabetes	Post-Traumatic Osteoarthritis
Dystonia	Pressure Ulcers
Eating Disorders	Pulmonary Fibrosis
Emerging Infectious Diseases	Respiratory Health
Endometriosis	Rett Syndrome
Epidermolysis Bullosa	Rheumatoid Arthritis
Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis	Scleroderma
Fragile X	Sleep Disorders
Frontotemporal Degeneration	Spinal Muscular Atrophy
Guillain-Barre Syndrome	Sustained-Released Drug Delivery
Hepatitis B and C	Tinnitus
Hereditary Angioedema	Tissue Regeneration
Hydrocephalus	Tuberculosis
Immunomonitoring of Intestinal Transplants	Vaccine Development for Infectious Disease
Inflammatory Bowel Diseases	Vascular Malformations
Interstitial Cystitis	Women's Heart Disease

Source: U.S. Congress, House Committee on Appropriations, *Explanatory Statement to P.L. 115-91, 115th Cong., 2018.*

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