

# Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs Funding for FY2023

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 seek information on enacted levels for such funding under the *Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs* (CDMRP).

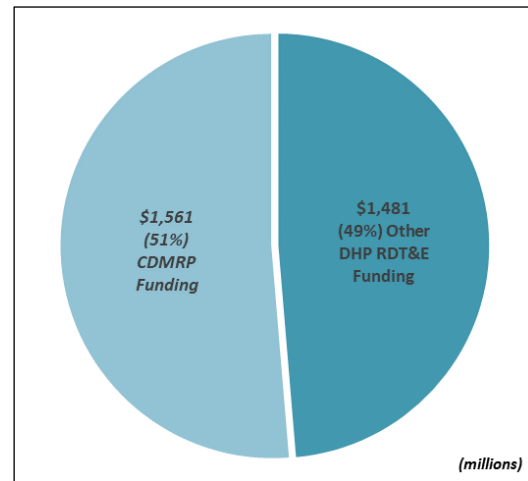
## CDMRP Administration and Funding

The CDMRP is a Department of Defense (DOD) program that receives congressional appropriations explicitly for biomedical research in specific, congressionally identified health matters. As such, it is not part of the President’s budget request for the DOD. The U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command (USAMRDC), with oversight from the Defense Health Agency, administers the CDMRP and is responsible for awarding and managing competitive grants.

Congress usually inserts CDMRP funding as *Undistributed Medical Research* in the Defense Health Program’s Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) account in the annual DOD appropriation. Congressional documents accompanying the annual defense appropriation act (i.e., conference reports or explanatory statements) identify the specific research areas for a given fiscal year.

The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 (P.L. 117-328) inserted \$1.561 billion into the RDT&E account for CDMRP. This amount comprises 51% of the overall Defense Health Program’s RDT&E appropriation, as reflected in **Figure 1**. Biomedical research conducted by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency or other military research agencies is not included in this account.

**Figure 1. Total Defense Health Program (DHP) RDT&E Appropriation, FY2023**



**Source:** Explanatory Statement accompanying P.L. 117-328, *Congressional Record*, December 20, 2022, pp. S8257-S8258.

**Figure 2** lists the FY2023 CDMRP funding amounts for specific medical research areas.

**Figure 2. CDMRP Funding, FY2023**

(in millions of dollars)

Program Title	FY2023
Alcohol and Substance Use Disorders	4
Alzheimer’s Disease	15
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis	40
Autism	15
Bone Marrow Failure Disease	7.5
Breast Cancer	150
Chronic Pain Management	15
Combat Readiness Medical	5
Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy	10
Epilepsy	12
Global HIV/AIDS Prevention	12
Hearing Restoration	5
HIV/AIDS Research Program Increase	20
Joint Warfighter Medical	25
Kidney Cancer	50
Lung Cancer	25
Lupus	10
Melanoma	40
Military Burn	10
Multiple Sclerosis	20
Neurofibromatosis	25
Orthotics and Prosthetics Outcomes	15
Ovarian Cancer	45
Pancreatic Cancer	15
Parkinson’s Disease	16
Peer-Reviewed Cancer	130
Peer-Reviewed Medical	370
Peer-Reviewed Orthopedic	30
Prostate Cancer	110
Rare Cancers	17.5
Reconstructive Transplant	12
Spinal Cord Injury	40
Tick-Borne Disease	7
Toxic Exposures	30
Trauma Clinical	5
Traumatic Brain Injury and Psychological Health	175
Tuberous Sclerosis	8
Vision	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,561</b>

Source: Explanatory Statement accompanying P.L. 117-328, *Congressional Record*, December 20, 2022, pp. S8257-S8258.

**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 funding associated with certain research. A conference committee typically resolves any differences between the committee reports.

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-FY2020, but no associated funds were provided in FY2015.

**Program Announcements and Awards**

USAMRDC issues periodic program announcements to alert researchers of CDMRP grant opportunities. The program announcements include detailed descriptions of funding mechanisms, evaluation criteria, submission requirements, and deadlines. Program announcements are listed on the Grants.gov website, or the CDMRP website (<http://cdmrp.army.mil>). The CDMRP website also includes information on awarded grants and other resources such as related publications, brochures about individual research programs, and annual reports.

**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). For FY2023, \$370 million was appropriated for the PRMRP.

PRMRP funding supports grants for medical research on a number of conditions or treatment modalities that are of “clear scientific merit and direct relevance to military health.” Congress specifies an annual list of eligible conditions or treatments that 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-FY2021, 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.

**Table 1** lists all 50 conditions or treatments eligible for FY2023 PRMRP funding.

**Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program**

Similar to PRMRP, Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP) funding supports grants for medical research on various cancers and related treatments. For FY2023, \$130 million was appropriated for the PRCRP, separate from other CDMRP funding for breast, kidney, lung, melanoma, ovarian, pancreatic, prostate, and rare cancers.

**Table 2** lists all 20 cancers and treatments eligible for FY2023 PRCRP funding.

**Table 1. PRMRP-Eligible Conditions, FY2023**

Advanced Proteomics	Lymphedema
Arthritis	Malaria
Celiac Disease	Maternal Mental Health
Dystonia	Mitochondrial Disease
Eating Disorders	Chronic Fatigue Disease
Eczema	Myotonic Dystrophy
Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome	Nephrotic Syndrome
Emerging Viral Diseases	Neuroactive Steroids
Endometriosis	Non-opioid Pain Management

Epidermolysis Bullosa	Orthopedics
Familial Hypercholesterolemia	Pancreatitis
Fibrous Dysplasia	Peripheral Neuropathy
Focal Segmental	Polycystic Kidney Disease
Food Allergies	Pressure Ulcers
Fragile X	Pulmonary Fibrosis
Frontotemporal Degeneration	Respiratory Health
Guillain-Barre Syndrome	Rheumatoid Arthritis
Hemorrhage Control	Scleroderma
Hepatitis B	Sickle Cell Disease
Hereditary Ataxia	Sleep Disorders
Hydrocephalus	Suicide Prevention
Hypercholesterolemia	Trauma
Inflammatory Bowel Disease	Tuberculosis
Interstitial Cystitis	Vascular Malformations
Lymphatic Disease	Von Hippel-Lindau Disease

**Source:** Explanatory Statement accompanying P.L. 117-328, *Congressional Record*, December 20, 2022, p. S8258.

Blood Cancers	Metastatic Cancers
Brain Cancer	Myeloma
Colorectal Cancer	Neuroblastoma
Endometrial Cancer	Pediatric Brain Tumors
Esophageal Cancer	Pediatric, Adolescent, and Young Adult Cancers
Germ Cell Cancers	Sarcoma
Head and Neck Cancer	Stomach Cancer
Liver Cancer	Thyroid Cancer
Lymphoma	Von Hippel-Lindau Disease

**Source:** Explanatory Statement accompanying P.L. 117-328, *Congressional Record*, December 20, 2022, p. S8258.

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**IF10349**

**Table 2. PRCRP-Eligible Cancer Topics, FY2023**

Bladder Cancer	Mesothelioma
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