



Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs Funding for FY2026

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, 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), which is “using a secondary Department of War designation” under Executive Order 14347 dated September 5, 2025, program that receives congressional appropriations explicitly for biomedical research in specific, congressionally identified health matters. As such, it has not been part of the President’s budget request for 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 typically inserts CDMRP funding as *Undistributed Medical Research* in the Defense Health Program’s Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (DHP RDT&E) account in the annual DOD appropriation. Congressional documents accompanying the annual defense appropriation act (i.e., conference report or explanatory statement) typically identify the specific research areas for a given fiscal year.

Division A, Title VI, of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (P.L. 119-75), inserted \$1.27 billion into the RDT&E account for CDMRP. This amount comprises 51% of the overall DHP RDT&E, 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.

Table 1 lists the FY2026 CDMRP funding amounts for specific medical research areas.

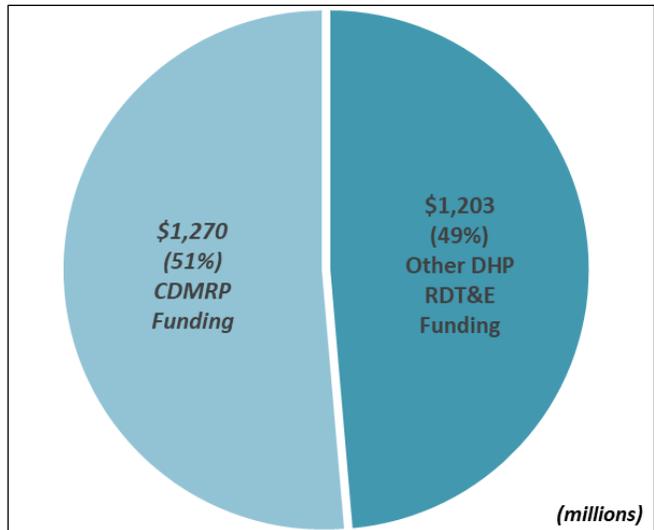
CDMRP Funding Requests

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. An exchange of amendments between the houses (or 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.

Figure 1. Total DHP RDT&E Appropriation, FY2026



Source: CRS analysis of Division A, Title VI, of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (P.L. 119-75).

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. The CDMRP website (<https://cdmrp.health.mil>) also lists program announcements, information on awarded grants and other resources such as related publications, brochures about individual research programs, and annual reports.

Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program

Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP) funding supports grants for medical research on various cancers and related treatments. For FY2026, Congress appropriated \$165 million for the PRCRP, separate from other CDMRP funding for breast, glioblastoma, kidney, lung, melanoma, ovarian, pancreatic, prostate, and rare cancers..

Table 2 lists 20 cancers and treatments eligible for FY2026 PRCRP funding.

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 FY2026, Congress appropriated \$370 million 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. **Table 3** lists 52 conditions or treatments eligible for FY2026 PRMRP funding.

Table 1. CDMRP Funding, FY2026

(in millions of dollars)

Program Title	FY2026
Alcohol and Substance Abuse Disorders	\$4.0
Alzheimer’s	\$15.0
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis	\$40.0
Arthritis	\$10.0
Autism	\$8.0
Bone Marrow Failure	\$7.5
Breast Cancer	\$145.0
Combat Readiness-Medical	\$5.0
Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy	\$12.5
Epilepsy	\$12.0
Hearing Restoration	\$5.0
Joint Warfighter Medical	\$10.0
Kidney Cancer	\$15.0
Lung Cancer	\$20.0
Lupus	\$10.0
Melanoma	\$40.0
Military Burn	\$10.0
Multiple Sclerosis	\$15.0
Neurofibromatosis	\$25.0
Ovarian Cancer	\$50.0
Pancreatic Cancer	\$20.0
Parkinson’s	\$16.0
Peer-reviewed Cancer	\$165.0
Peer-reviewed Medical	\$370.0
Peer-reviewed Orthopedic	\$20.0
Prostate Cancer	\$75.0
Rare Cancers	\$17.5
Reconstructive Transplant	\$12.0
Spinal Cord	\$33.0
Tickborne Disease	\$7.0
Toxic Exposures	\$15.0
Traumatic Brain Injury/Psychological Health	\$40.5
Tuberous Sclerosis Complex	\$10.0
Vision	\$10.0
TOTAL	\$1,270.0

Source: Explanatory Statement (pp. H1569-H1570) accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (P.L. 119-75).

Table 2. PRCRP-Eligible Cancer Topics, FY2026

Bladder Cancer	Mesothelioma
Blood Cancers	Metastatic Cancers
Brain Cancer	Myeloma
Colorectal Cancer	Neuroblastoma
Endometrial Cancer	Neuroendocrine Tumors
Esophageal Cancer	Pediatric, Adolescent, and Young Adult Cancers
Germ Cell Cancers	Pediatric Brain Tumors
Glioblastoma	Sarcoma
Liver Cancer	Stomach Cancer
Lymphoma	Thyroid Cancer

Source: Explanatory Statement (p. H1571) accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (P.L. 119-75).

Table 3. PRMRP-Eligible Conditions, FY2026

Angelman Syndrome	Intranasal Ketamine Anesthetics
Ataxias	Maternal Mental Health
Burn Pit Exposure	Mitochondrial Disease
Celiac Disease	Musculoskeletal Health
Congenital Cytomegalovirus	Myotonic Dystrophy
Dystonia	Pancreatitis
Eating Disorders	Peripheral Neuropathy
Eczema	Polycystic Kidney Disease
Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
Endometriosis	Prader-Willi Syndrome
Fibrous Dysplasia	Proteomics
Food Allergies	Pulmonary Fibrosis
Fragile X	Respiratory Health
Frontotemporal Degeneration	Rett Syndrome
Gambling Addiction	Sarcoidosis
Hepatitis B	Scleroderma
Hermansky-Pudlack Syndrome	Sickle Cell Disease
Hydrocephalus	Sleep Disorders
Hypoxia	Spinal Muscular Atrophy
Hypertropic Dyschromia	Suicide Prevention
Inflammatory Bowel Disease	Tuberculosis
Interstitial Cystitis	Von Hippel-Lindau Disease
Accelerated Aging Processes Associated with Military Service	Infertility Associated with Military Aviators/Aviation Personnel
Brain Injury Impact on Cardiac Health	Myalgic Encephalomyelitis / Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
Facioscapulohumeral Muscular Dystrophy	Orthotics and Prosthetics Outcomes
Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia	
Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS) & Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with Streptococcus (PANDAS)	

Source: Explanatory Statement (p. H1571) accompanying the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2026 (P.L. 119-75).

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