

Department of Defense Research Program Priority Brief



Provide \$20 Million to Create a Colorectal Cancer Research Program within the Department of Defense (DoD) Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP)



People are dying and promising research is being left on the table.

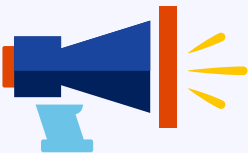


The impact of colorectal cancer in the military

- * Colorectal cancer diagnoses are increasing in young people. Those born in 1990 — a key age group for those in active duty — have double the risk of colon cancer and quadruple the risk of rectal cancer compared with adults born in 1950.
- * Currently colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death for men and women combined, and the only top 5 cancer killer not to have its own research program within the DoD Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP).
- * For the past 10 years colorectal cancer has been eligible for funding through the Peer-Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP), competing against over a dozen other cancers for funding and without a strategic plan to guide investment.

Why is a colorectal cancer research program needed?

- * By 2030, colorectal cancer is projected to be the number one cancer killer for those ages 20-49.
- * To make meaningful progress in the fight against colorectal cancer and address the increase in colorectal cancer diagnoses among young people, we need a dedicated, strategic approach and funding stream.



We are leaving good science on the table!

In FY19, the PRCRP received 74 colorectal cancer applications and in FY20, they received 60 colorectal cancer applications.

Of that, in both years, 27 were deemed “highly meritorious,” but only 11 were funded.



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