

FIGHT CRC POLICY PRIORITIES

COLORECTAL CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM

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

What is the CDMRP?



The CDMRP is a program operated within the Department of Defense to conduct medical research on topics and diseases identified by Congress.



The CDMRP fills research gaps by funding projects other agencies will not, especially high impact, high risk, and high gain projects.



The CDMRP is unique because it funds the full research continuum from development, basic, translational to clinical research, and it uses a two-tier formal review that includes consumer (often patient) advocates.

Why This Is Important



Currently colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death for men and women and the only top 5 cancer killer not to have its own research program within the DoD 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 with an overall funding rate of 9.6%.



We are leaving good science on the table. In FY21, the DoD received 52 colorectal cancer applications. Of those 21 scored in the outstanding to excellent range, but only 5 projects were funded.



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.

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.