

# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE COLORECTAL CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM

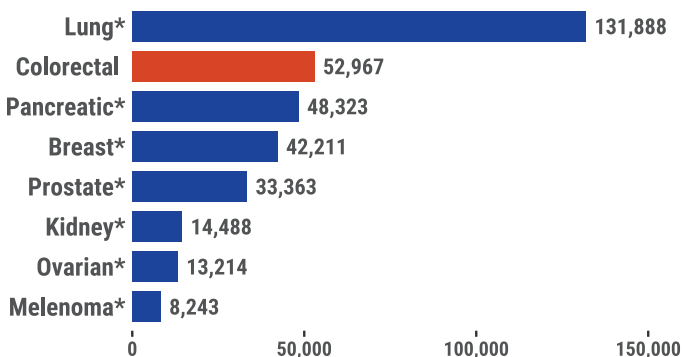


**SIGN A LETTER IN SUPPORT OF PROVIDING \$20 MILLION TO CREATE A COLORECTAL CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM (CDMRP)**

## A LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death for men and women combined, and it is increasing in young people. It is now the leading cause of cancer death in men under age 50 and the second in women under 50.

### Top Cancer Killers in the United States



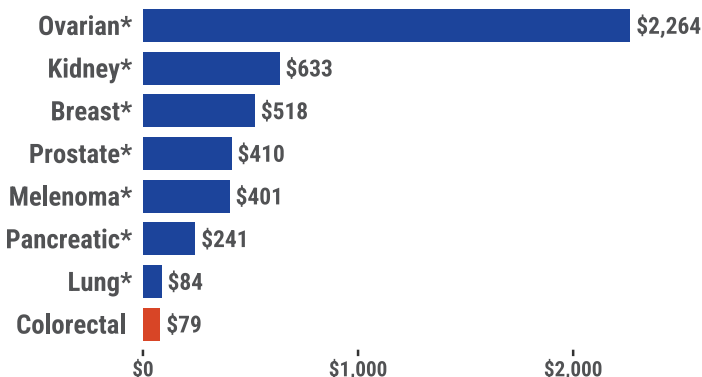
\*Standalone CDMRP Research Program. Data Source: CDC Cancer Statistics.

## LEFT BEHIND BY PROGRESS

While other cancers have seen major advancements in therapies and treatments, colorectal cancer patients today are still receiving many of the same drugs that were used in the 1980s. Federal research dollars are disproportionately low for this disease, despite its significant burden.

There has been an alarming rise in the rates of younger adults diagnosed with colorectal cancer and we still don't know why. We need dedicated funding streams to investigate the causes behind these trends.

### DOD Research Dollars Per Cancer Diagnosis

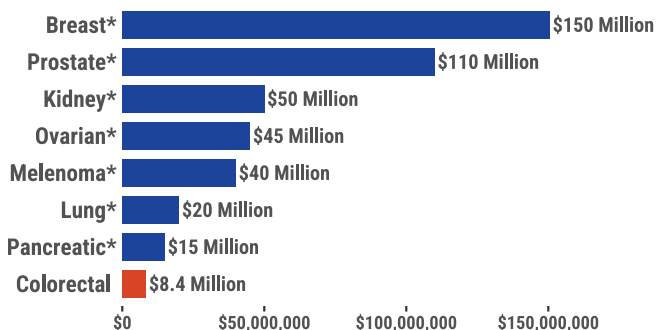


\*Standalone CDMRP Research Program. Data Sources: Estimated Incidence data from ACS Cancer Statistics 2022, 2022 CDMRP Funding levels from CDMRP Annual Reports, 2022 PRCRP Funding levels from DOD Annual PRCRP Reports to Congress.

## YOUNGER ADULTS AT RISK

Colorectal cancer is on the rise in younger adults. Those born in the 1990's, a key age group for active-duty military - have double the risk of colon cancer and four times the risk of rectal cancer compared with adults born in 1950s.

### DOD CDMRP Research Funding by Cancer Type

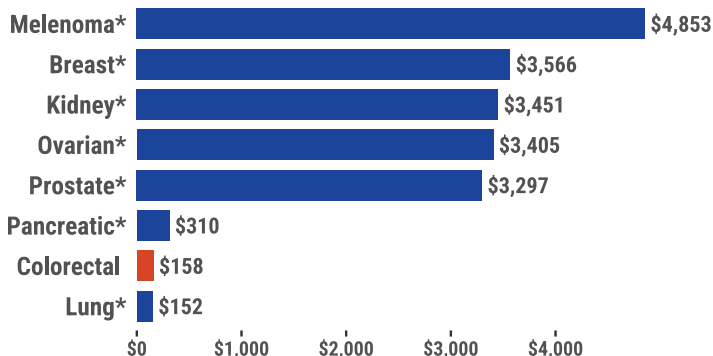


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## LEFT BEHIND BY PROGRESS

- Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. but federal investments into colorectal cancer research fall far behind many cancers with a lower burden.
- Colorectal cancer is the only top 5 cancer killer without its own dedicated research program within the CDMRP.

### DOD Research Dollars Per Cancer Death



\*Standalone CDMRP Research Program. Data Sources: 2022 mortality data from CDC Cancer Statistics, 2022 CDMRP Funding levels from CDMRP Annual Reports, 2022 PRCRP Funding levels from DOD Annual PRCRP Reports to Congress.

**FIGHT COLORECTAL CANCER™**

# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE COLORECTAL CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM



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CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD)  
CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM (CDMRP)**

## WHAT IS THE CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM (CDMRP)?

The CDMRP is a research initiative within the Department of Defense that addresses medical challenges identified by Congress.

- The CDMRP fills critical research gaps by funding projects other agencies often overlook, particularly high-impact, high-risk, and high-reward projects.

### CDMRP'S UNIQUE APPROACH:

- Focuses on solutions that lead to cures or significantly improve patient outcomes.
- Includes consumer advocates throughout the process
- Supports both established scientists and the next generation of researchers.

### LIMITED ACCESS FOR COLORECTAL CANCER

Colorectal cancer has been eligible for funding through a program within the CDMRP called the Peer-Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP) since FY10, but it must compete against as many as 20 other cancers for a share of limited funding.

#### GOOD SCIENCE IS BEING LEFT ON THE TABLE

**In 2023, 15 Colorectal Cancer PRCRP research applications that were deemed  
"Outstanding" or "Excellent" went unfunded due to budget constraints.**



**THE BURDEN OF COLORECTAL CANCER IS INCREASING,  
AND WE DON'T KNOW WHY.**

**THE TIME TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT IS NOW.**

**FIGHT COLORECTAL CANCER™**