The views expressed in this presentation are those of the author and may not reflect the official policy or position of the Department of the Army, Department of Defense, or the U.S. Government.

Mark Clayton, Ph.D.
CDR, US Public Health Service
Deputy Director for Grants Management

The Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
Outline

◆ Overview of the CDMRP
◆ CDMRP Funding Opportunities
◆ Application Submission Process
◆ Application Review Process
◆ Other DoD Funding Opportunities
WHO is the CDMRP?

Department of Defense

Department of the Army

Army Medical Command

Medical Research and Materiel Command

Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
Overview of the CDMRP
About CDMRP

**CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAMS:**
- Manages extramural research programs directed by Congress
- Started in 1992 with Breast Cancer, now 27 programs
- Congress specifies disease area, CDMRP determines research strategy and competitively selects the best projects
- Unique public/private partnership encompassing the military, scientists, disease survivors, consumers, and policy makers
- Funds high-impact, innovative medical research to find cures, reduce the incidence of disease and injury, improve survival, and enhance the quality of life for those affected

- **DoD PROGRAMS:**
  - Manage extramural and intramural portfolios for Program Area Directorates (PADs) / Joint Program Committees (JPCs) advancing their missions

- **DIRECTOR:**
  - Col Wanda Salzer

**Congressional Programs**
- Alcohol and Substance Abuse Disorders
- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis
- Autism
- Bone Marrow Failure
- Breast Cancer
- Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy
- Epilepsy
- Gulf War Illness
- Joint Warfighter Medical
- Lung Cancer
- Military Burn
- Multiple Sclerosis
- Neurofibromatosis
- Neurotoxin Exposure Treatment Parkinson’s
- Orthotics and Prosthetics Outcomes
- Ovarian Cancer
- Peer Reviewed Alzheimer’s
- Peer Reviewed Cancer
- Peer Reviewed Medical
- Peer Reviewed Orthopaedic
- Prostate Cancer
- Reconstructive Transplant
- Spinal Cord Injury
- Tick-Borne Disease
- Trauma Clinical
- Tuberous Sclerosis Complex
- Vision

**DoD Programs**
- Defense Medical R & D
- Defense Medical R & D Restoral
- Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury

**Flowchart:**
- Vision Setting
- Program Announcement Release
- Congressional Appropriations
- Pre-Application Receipt
- Pre-Application Screening & Invitation
- Application Receipt
- Programmatic Review
- Funding Recommendation
- Approval Authority Decision
- Awards Management 1-7 Years
- Negotiations
# FY16 Funding

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<tr>
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<td>Autism</td>
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<td>Epilepsy</td>
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<td>Lung Cancer</td>
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<td>Military Burn</td>
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<td>Multiple Sclerosis</td>
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<td>Programs Managed on behalf of Others:</td>
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<td>Orthotics and Prosthetics Outcomes</td>
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<td>Defense Medical R&amp;D Restoral*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ovarian Cancer</td>
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<td>Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury*</td>
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* CDMRP is assisting with the management of a specified portion of a larger appropriation(s)  

**TOTAL** = **$1.468B**
FY16 Topic Areas for Peer Reviewed Cancer Research

- Bladder Cancer
- Colorectal Cancer
- Kidney Cancer
- Immunotherapy
- Listeria Vaccine for Cancer
- Liver Cancer
- Lymphoma
- Melanoma and other skin cancers
- Mesothelioma
- Neuroblastoma
- Pancreatic Cancer
- Pediatric Brain Tumors
- Stomach Cancer

Applicants must address at least one of the Topic Areas as directed by Congress.
FY16 Topic Areas for Peer Reviewed Medical Research

- Acute Lung Injury
- Antimicrobial Resistance
- Chronic Migraine and Post-Traumatic Headache
- Congenital Heart Disease
- Constrictive Bronchiolitis
- Diabetes
- Dystonia
- Emerging Infectious Diseases
- Focal Segmental Glomerulosclerosis
- Fragile X Syndrome
- Hepatitis B
- Hereditary Angiodema
- Hydrocephalus
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease
- Influenza
- Integrative Medicine
- Interstitial Cystitis
- Lupus
- Malaria
- Metals Toxicology
- Mitochondrial Disease
- Nanomaterials for Bone Regeneration
- Non-Opioid Pain Management
- Pancreatitis
- Pathogen-Inactivated Dried Plasma
- Polycystic Kidney Disease
- Post-Traumatic Osteoarthritis
- Psychotropic Medications
- Pulmonary Fibrosis
- Respiratory Health
- Rett Syndrome
- Rheumatoid Arthritis
- Scleroderma
- Sleep Disorders
- Tinnitus
- Tuberculosis
- Vaccine Development for Infectious Diseases
- Vascular Malformation
- Women’s Heart Disease

Applicants must address at least one of the Topic Areas as directed by Congress.
As directed by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, the Defense Health Agency (DHA) Research, Development, and Acquisition (RDA) Directorate has oversight for all Defense Health Programs (DHP) Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) appropriations

- **DHA RDA Directorate Vision:** Advance collaborative, innovative medical research and development to improve military community health and save lives on and off the battlefield.
- Joint, integrated focus includes Army, Navy, and Air Force
- Six core research program areas exist within the DHA RDA Directorate

**CDMRP provides program and award management support to the DHA RDA Directorate**

- DHP Congressional Special Interest programs
- DHP Core research areas (Defense Medical Research and Development)
Each funding opportunity is made available through a Program Announcement (PA) or Program-specific Broad Agency Announcement (BAA)

Numerous types of award mechanisms:
- Tailored to the goals of each program
- May vary from year to year

Pre-announcement release (CDMRP website and email blast)

Funding Opportunity Postings:
- Grants.gov
- CDMRP website (current and archived PAs)
- CDMRP eBRAP System (current PAs)
- FedBizOps (BAA, SBIRs, and STTRs)
Funding Opportunities on Grants.gov

Search for funding opportunities through “Search Grants”

Find Open Grant Opportunities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Opportunity Number</th>
<th>Opportunity Title</th>
<th>Agency</th>
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<tr>
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<td>National Institute of Food and Agriculture</td>
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<td>P15AS00070</td>
<td>Survey of the Fauna of Seacage Springs in National Capital Parks East</td>
<td>National Park Service</td>
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<td>NPS-N01P15AC00329</td>
<td>National Park Service-Complete NAGPRA Summary Lists</td>
<td>National Park Service</td>
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<td>PAR-15-146</td>
<td>Countermeasures Against Chemical Threats (CounterACT) Research Centers of Excellence (US4)</td>
<td>National Institutes of Health</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Program Announcements on Grants.gov

Search Grants by CFDA# 12.420 for USAMRMC opportunities
Funding Opportunities on the CDMRP Website

Visit Us At:
http://cdmrp.army.mil
Funding Opportunities on eBRAP

Visit the Electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal (eBRAP) at: https://ebrap.org
CDMRP Application Submission Process
eBRAP (https://ebrap.org)

CDMRP uses the Electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal (eBRAP) to process electronic application submissions

◆ Enables communication with the worldwide research community

◆ Provides web-based accessibility for research community
  ❖ eBRAP requires log-in username and password

◆ Computer-automated processes streamlines workflow for pre-application and full application retrieval and processing

◆ Enables researchers to review and modify Grants.gov application components during the verification period specified in the Program Announcement (PA) or Broad Area Announcement (BAA)
Subscribe to email notifications in eBRAP

Select the Programs you want to receive email notices about.
Register on eBRAP

◆ User Registration
  ❖ Principal Investigators (PI)
  ❖ Business Officials (BO)
  ❖ Account Administrators
  ❖ Authorized Organizational Representatives (AOR)

◆ During registration, the PI must request to be affiliated with his/her organization
  ❖ If the organization listed is not registered, the PI must invite the AOR to register the organization
STEP 1: Pre-Application submission in eBRAP *(required!)*

- **Type of pre-application depends on the award mechanism**
  - Letter of Intent: will not be reviewed; no invitation will be required for application submission
  - Preproposal: will be reviewed; invitation is required for application submission

- **Follow Tabs 2-5 in any order**
- **Pre-application is submitted by the PI in Tab 6**
- **Pre-application submission is MANDATORY and must be ON TIME**

- **Tips for success!**
  - Read the Program Announcement carefully
  - Choose the correct funding opportunity and “option”
  - Check spelling of names and emails
  - Start the process early to allow time to resolve issues
Pre-Application Files in eBRAP

- Specified in Announcement
- Page and/or text field limits
- Real-time auto-compliance
- Auto-email notification

You may get a FREE copy of the Adobe® Reader® to view the PDF on this page.
STEP 2:

- If the pre-application was a pre-proposal, an invitation is required
- Sponsored Program Office *(or equivalent)* submits through Grants.gov
- Submissions must be on time; no grace period
- Adhere strictly to the Announcement requirements
Application Verification in eBRAP

**STEP 3:**

- **Review & Modify Full Application**
  - Auto-email notification after eBRAP has processed the Grants.gov application
  - Review and modify allowable components – not Project Narrative or Budget
  - Affiliation with organization is required

- **Verification Period**
  - Auto-email notification after eBRAP has processed the Grants.gov application

- **Tips for success!**
  - Choose correct Grants.gov application package
  - Check spelling of names and emails; must match those in pre-application
  - Include eBRAP log number
Pitfalls to Avoid in Application Submission

- Do not include Programmatic Panel members for the program and fiscal year to which you are applying
- Do not exceed the page limits; check files after creating PDF version
- Do not miss the submission deadline
  - Grants.gov validation may take up to 72 hours
  - System-to-system submissions are sometimes problematic
  - Application verification in eBRAP is possible before the deadline
- Submit the correct Project Narrative and Budget – these components cannot be modified during the verification period in eBRAP
CDMRP Application Review Processes

CDMRP Goal:
Provide a fair and thorough review for every application
Goal of the Two-Tier Review Process

Mission: Responsibly manage collaborative research that discovers, develops, and delivers health care solutions for Service Members, Veterans and the American public.

Peer Review
- Criterion-based evaluation of full proposal
- Determination of “absolute” scientific merit
- Outcome: Written critique and scores for individual criteria and overall merit
  - No standing peer review panels
  - No contact between reviewers and applicants

Partnership

Programmatic Review
- Comparison among proposals of high scientific merit
- Determination of adherence to intent and program relevance
- Outcome: Funding recommendations
  - No “pay line” (portfolio balance)
  - Funds obligated up front; no out-year budget commitments (but milestones imposed)
  - No continuation funding
First Tier: Peer Review

◆ How the evaluation process works
  ❖ Technical merit assessment based on an ideal application
  ❖ Criteria-based evaluation of entire application

◆ Peer Reviewers
  ❖ Panels comprised of scientific and consumer reviewers
  ❖ No standing panels
  ❖ Reviewers recruited based on expertise needed
  ❖ Identities are not made known to applicants; contact between applicants and reviewers not permitted

◆ Outcome: Summary Statement
Second Tier: Programmatic Review

◆ How the evaluation process works
  - Comparison-based
  - Strong scientific merit
  - Adherence to award mechanism’s intent
  - Potential for impact
  - Program relevance
  - Consideration of portfolio composition

◆ Programmatic reviewers
  - Programmatic Panel (or equivalent)
  - Ad hoc reviewers

◆ Outcome: Funding recommendations
Strategies for Success

◆ Propose solutions to important problems: IMPACT
◆ Identify gap(s) that will be filled: INNOVATION
◆ Align the proposed work with guidance from the Program Announcement: RELEVANCE
◆ Justify a technically sound plan with clear approaches for contingencies: FEASIBILITY
  ▶ Include evidence of appropriate EXPERTISE (collaboration, consultants, etc.)
  ▶ Ensure the study is APPROPRIATELY POWERED for the proposed research outcome
  ▶ Explain the proposed work with CLARITY and UNBURDENED by jargon
  ▶ Demonstrate AVAILABILITY and ACCESS to critical resources, reagents, and/or subject populations
  ▶ Respect the different audiences of the technical and public abstracts and COMMUNICATE effectively
  ▶ Don’t break the rules for deadlines or requirements – BE COMPLIANT
Questions on CDMRP Application Submission or Review?
Other DoD Funding Opportunities
◆ Broad Agency Announcement (BAA)
  ❖ FY16 BAA, posted 1 October 2015
  ❖ Continuously open through 30 September 2016
  ❖ Announcement lists topic areas of current interest
◆ Postings
  ❖ USAMRAA: http://www.usamraa.army.mil/
  ❖ Grants.gov: http://www.grants.gov (F.O. Number W81XWH-16-R-BAA1)
◆ Process
  ❖ Pre-applications submitted to eBRAP.org
  ❖ Full Applications are invited only; submitted through Grants.gov
  ❖ Full Applications undergo external peer review
Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs

- Goal to utilize unique features of small businesses to provide innovation for U.S. Army’s mission and needs
- https://www.armysbir.army.mil
- https://www.dodsbir.net
- SBIR must involve small business
- STTR requires partnership of small business with universities, federally funded R&D centers, and other non-profit research institutions
- Multiple SBIR solicitations throughout the year
  - USAMRMC releases about 20 topics each year and in FY14 awarded 56 phase I and 27 phase II SBIR contracts
  - Topics change with every solicitation