Joint Warfighter Medical Research Program

Vision
Move military relevant medical solutions forward in the acquisition life-cycle to meet the needs of Service Members and other military health system beneficiaries

Mission
Accelerate research and development projects that have the potential to close high priority Department of Defense medical capability gaps

Program History
The Joint Warfighter Medical Research Program (JWMRP) provides the DoD with a powerful tool for advancing previously funded Congressional Special Interest (CSI) medical R&D projects that address military medical requirements of the Services while complementing and enhancing DMRDP. JWMRP leverages the efforts of industry and academia for projects that show promise in closing identified military medical capability gaps and provides the funding to move these products through the developmental process.

Each year, a broad spectrum of research projects are considered for funding under JWMRP. The projects align to the six JPC/PAD scientific domains represented in DMRDP, including Medical Simulation and Information Sciences, Military Infectious Diseases, Military Operational Medicine, Combat Casualty Care, Radiation Health Effects, and Clinical and Rehabilitative Medicine.

Congress first appropriated $50M for JWMRP in FY12 and again in FY13; later doubling the appropriation to $100M in FY14, followed by $50M in FY15, FY16, and FY17. Because the overall goal of the program is to deliver a product for the DoD, the ratio of funding allocation over the past 4 years has intentionally reduced the percentage of funds directed toward early technology development and increased the proportion of funding for advanced technology development initiatives. A total of 28 projects were funded through the FY12 JWMRP, 35 projects for the FY13 program, 46 projects for the FY14 program, 30 projects for the FY15 program and 34 projects for the FY16 program. The graph on the next page depicts the program investments for FY16.

JWMRP is a dynamic program that facilitates the maturation of previous congressionally funded research efforts that demonstrate the potential to close identified military medical capability gaps. By focusing on both early and advanced technology development, JWMRP provides a pathway to transition products to military healthcare providers and the warfighter.
Research and Product Development Efforts Funded by the JWMRP Include:

- A focused effort on improving cognitive and functional deficits after TBI using virtual technology.
- Ultra wide-band wearable ultrasound probe for battlefield use.
- Phase II b clinical trial for a Norovirus vaccine.
- Phase II Malaria clinical trial with the first live attenuated vaccine against protozoal disease in humans.
- Development and clinical trial of a food supplement to prevent travelers’ diarrhea.
- Development of a lyophilized injectable for point-of-care therapeutic for post-traumatic osteoarthritis.
- Development of Passive Physiological Monitoring System during Medical Evacuation.
- Device development of the Transportable Pathogen Reduction and Blood Safety System.
- Development of a non-electric, disposable IV infusion pump.
- Pivotal study on the regulatory approval pathway for a drug to treat acute radiation sickness.
- Accelerating the development of the opioid Sufentanil for pain treatment.
- Development of electronic capture and seamless communication of point-of-injury information using ultra-wide-band technology integrated with the Nett Warrior Platform.
- Development of bioengineered corneas for transplantation.
- Light-Activated Sealing to improve outcomes following penetrating bowel trauma.
- Non-Invasive Intracranial Pressure Assessment Using a Compact Portable Monitor.