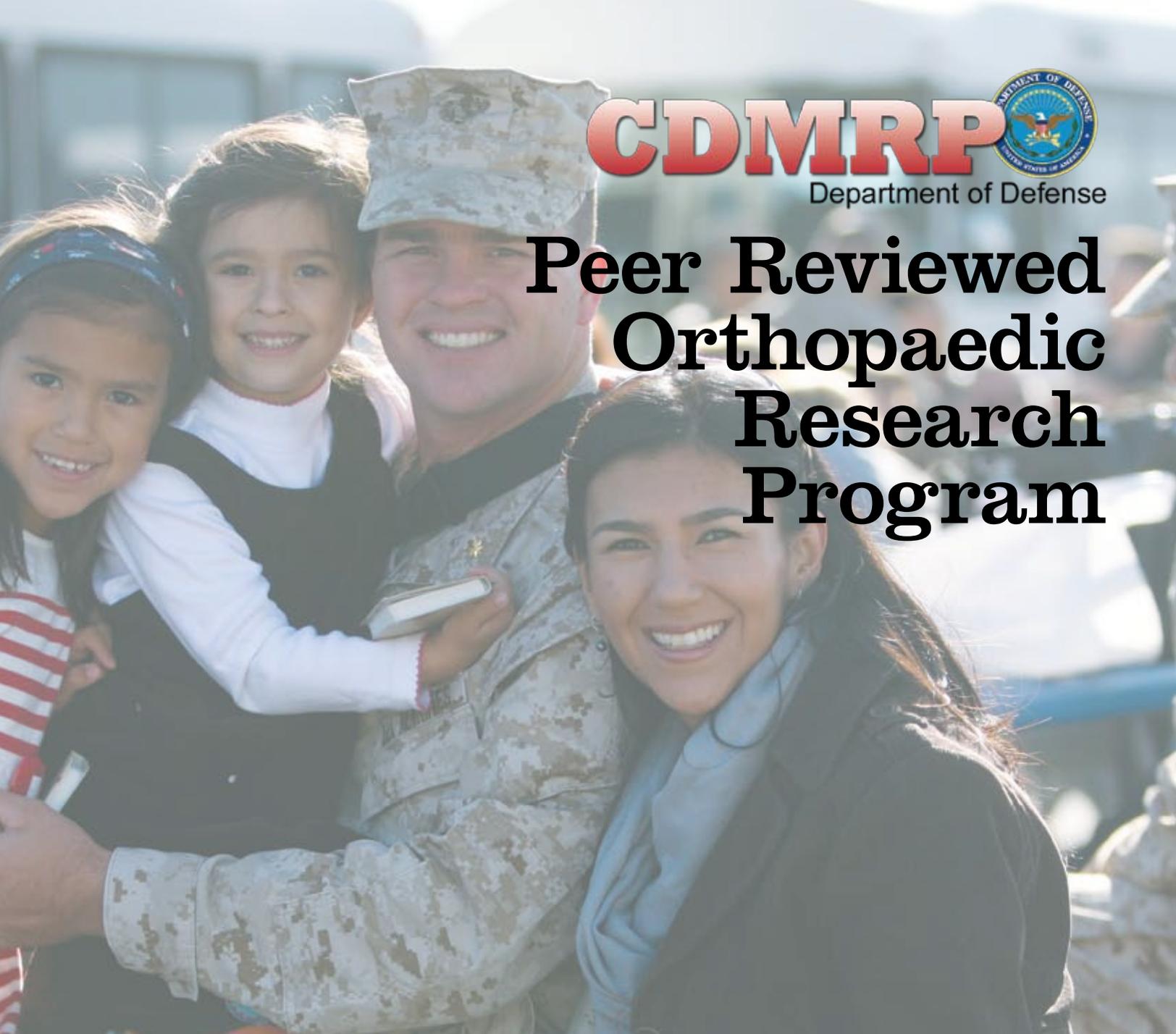


# Peer Reviewed Orthopaedic Research Program





“Orthopaedic injuries and diseases have changed the lives of many. Being a consumer Integration Panel member has given me the opportunity to advocate for fellow severely injured service members as well as those with life-altering disabilities.”

**Mr. Jose Ramos**  
**Disabled Sports USA**  
**Integration Panel**  
**Member**

# Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs

## History

The Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) was born from a powerful grassroots effort led by the breast cancer advocacy community that resulted in a congressional appropriation of funds for breast cancer research. The CDMRP was created as an office within the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC) in fiscal year 1993 (FY93) to manage these funds, initiating a unique partnership between the public, Congress, and the military. Having grown to encompass multiple targeted research programs, the CDMRP has received nearly \$5.4 billion in appropriations since its inception in FY93 through FY09. Funds for the CDMRP are added by Congress to the Department of Defense budget annually, where support for individual research programs such as the Peer Reviewed Orthopaedic Research Program (PRORP) is allocated via specific guidance from Congress.

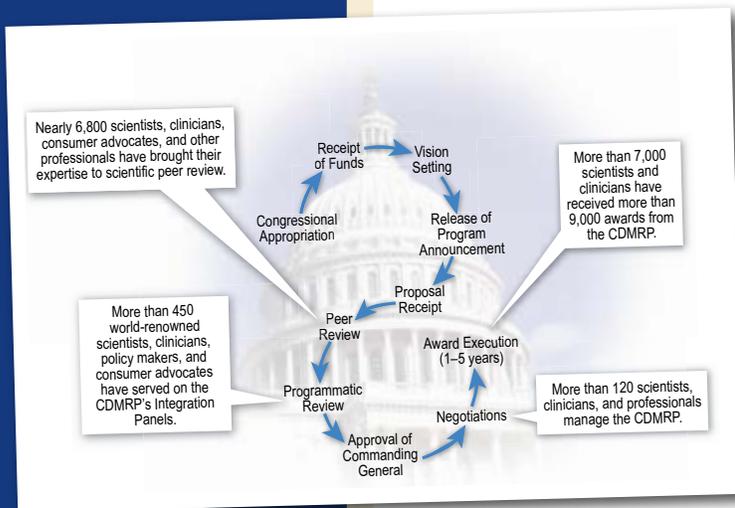
## Proposal Review

The CDMRP program management cycle includes a two-tier review process recommended by the National Academy of Sciences’ Institute of Medicine. Each level of review is conducted by panels composed of scientists and clinicians—subject matter experts—and consumers. The first tier of evaluation is an external scientific peer review of applications against established criteria for determining scientific merit. The second tier is a programmatic review conducted by members of the Integration Panel, who compare submissions and make funding recommendations based on relative scientific merit, portfolio balance, and relevance to program goals.

## Consumer Advocacy Participation

A unique aspect of the CDMRP is the active participation of consumer representatives throughout the program’s annual cycle.

Consumers work collaboratively with leading scientists and clinicians in setting program priorities, reviewing proposals, and making funding recommendations. From a unique perspective gained through personal experience—as someone with an orthopaedic injury or as someone providing direct supportive care to the injured—a consumer brings a sense of urgency and focus to all levels of decision making. Consumers evaluate proposals based on the potential impact and benefit to the patient population, encouraging funding recommendations that reflect the concerns of patients, their families, and the clinicians who treat them.



# Peer Reviewed Orthopaedic Research Program

A large majority of combat injuries are musculoskeletal, including soft tissue wounds and bone fractures. The PRORP was established by Congress in FY09 to support military-relevant, peer-reviewed orthopaedic research. The FY09 congressional appropriations bills Public Laws 110-329 and 111-32 provided \$61 million (M) and \$51M, respectively, for a total appropriation of \$112M for execution by USAMRMC. A total of \$22.5M has been appropriated for the PRORP in FY10.

The PRORP challenges the scientific community to design innovative research that will foster new directions for and address neglected issues in the field of medical research focused on combat-relevant orthopaedic problems. FY09 program announcements targeted proposals in the following priority research areas:

## Acute Care of Battle Injuries Roles II and III

- Enhancement of the tissue environment for healing
- Prevention of complications
- Development of in vivo translational models for the acute injury environment

## Definitive Care of Battle Injuries

- Restoration of joint function
- Treatment of orthopaedic injuries and sequelae of the spine not related to spinal cord injury
- Restoration of function
- Acceleration of healing

## Rehabilitation

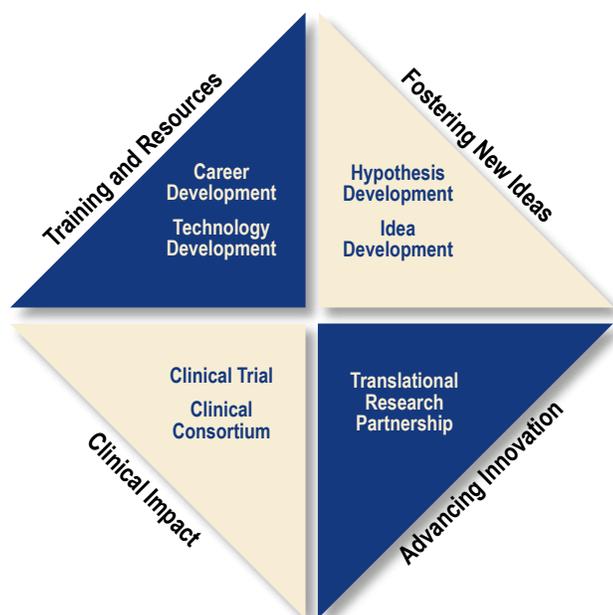
- Evaluation of clinical efficacy of new technologies
- Evaluation of clinical outcomes of rehabilitation strategies, prosthetics, and/or orthotics
- Evidence-based rehabilitation strategies for warriors in transition with orthopaedic injuries

## Prosthetics and Orthotics

- Maintenance/enhancement of long-term socket performance/fit
- Solution of critical issues in osseointegration

## FY09 Investment Strategy:

By offering a variety of award mechanisms, the PRORP plans to fund a broad research portfolio of basic, translational, and clinical studies.



“The burden of injury related to orthopaedic trauma in the current wars has challenged surgeons and rehabilitation experts throughout the military system. Our courageous Warriors demand the best possible functional outcomes, and the Peer Reviewed Orthopaedic Research Program represents the most significant funding of objective scientific progress to optimize these outcomes in the entire history of orthopaedics.”

**COL James Ficke**  
Brooke Army Medical Center  
Integration Panel Chair

## VISION

Provide all Warriors affected by orthopaedic injuries sustained in the defense of our Constitution the opportunity for optimal recovery and restoration of function.

## MISSION

Address the leading burden of injury and loss of fitness for military duty by funding innovative, high-impact, clinically relevant research to advance treatment and rapid rehabilitation from musculoskeletal injuries sustained during combat or combat-related activities.





*Derek McGinnis, Integration Panel Member, American Pain Foundation*

For more information, visit

***<http://cdmrp.army.mil>***

or contact us at:

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