



**Department of Defense**

**Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs**

**Annual Report**

**September 30, 2006**

**U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command**

Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
US ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH AND MATERIEL COMMAND  
504 SCOTT STREET  
FORT DETRICK, MD 21702-5012

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

September 30, 2006

Office of the Commanding General

Dear Colleagues:

The US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC) is the Army's and the joint military force's medical materiel developer and logistician. The Command ensures optimal health and readiness of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coastguardsmen through programs in medical research and development, medical logistics and acquisition management, medical information systems, and advanced technologies to improve health and health care for the military team. The Command is striving to realize its charge to serve as the backbone of joint military medical research and medical logistics.

In this role, the USAMRMC has been entrusted to manage several congressionally mandated biomedical research initiatives through the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP). Established in fiscal year 1993 to manage the newly created Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program, the CDMRP has grown to include peer-reviewed research programs in prostate and ovarian cancers; neurofibromatosis; chronic myelogenous leukemia; tuberous sclerosis complex; military health; Gulf War illnesses; and other specified areas.

This 2006 Annual Report summarizes the history, management strategies, research programs, and accomplishments of the CDMRP. The CDMRP arose from a unique partnership among the government, military, and American public. Its continued success is due to the maintenance of this partnership as well as the establishment of new collaborations with other funding agencies, scientists and clinicians, and consumer advocates. Without these partnerships, the CDMRP's war against disease would be a losing one. As described in this report, the CDMRP supports innovative research at the individual and team level, recruits and trains new investigators of diverse backgrounds, and fosters the development of products and technologies to improve clinical care and public health. By working together, we can lead the nation's research effort to improve health, eradicate disease, and improve the readiness of the warfighter for the benefit of the United States.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric B. Schoomaker".

Eric B. Schoomaker, M.D., Ph.D.  
Major General, US Army  
Commanding General



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
US ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH AND MATERIEL COMMAND  
1077 PATCHEL STREET  
FORT DETRICK, MD 21702-5012

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September 30, 2006

## Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs

Dear Colleagues:

I feel privileged to be part of our nation's effort to eradicate cancer and other diseases. We, at the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP), have become a leader in funding innovative, scientifically meritorious research in cancer, neurofibromatosis, tuberous sclerosis complex, chronic myelogenous leukemia, and other diseases. The CDMRP was created in response to the efforts of a national grassroots campaign by breast cancer advocacy groups that led to a congressional appropriation of \$25 million in fiscal year 1992 (FY92) for breast cancer research. Since then, the CDMRP has managed 73 programs totaling \$3.8 billion in congressional appropriations.

Our vision is to find and fund the best research to eradicate diseases and support the warfighter for the benefit of the American public. To meet this vision, we have adopted a multipronged approach to eliminate human diseases. The CDMRP seeks to complement other funding agencies by identifying and funding targeted research that addresses novel or underinvestigated areas. We aim to train and recruit the best and the brightest investigators. We encourage the development of critical research resources, and we promote clinical research to advance patient care.

While great progress has been made in the fight against cancer, I recognize the continued need for additional research. However, I firmly believe that we are making a difference in this war. We are partnering with the best people to cure disease. We are gaining new knowledge and technology every day. We are building resources to provide a foundation for future research. We are upholding the highest standards of ethics in all of our practices. We are shaping tomorrow. Together, we will succeed.

I would like to express my sincerest appreciation and gratitude to the following individuals for their participation in the CDMRP:

- Disease survivors, family members, and consumer advocates whose courage and commitment led to the creation of these programs. They continue to infuse the CDMRP with passion, inspiration, and vision.
- The scientists and clinicians funded by the CDMRP who are dedicated to improving the health and quality of life of all people. They are our greatest hope for preventing, controlling, and curing disease.

- The scientists, clinicians, and consumer advocates who have served on the CDMRP's Integration Panels (i.e., advisory committees) and have crafted comprehensive programs over the past 14 years.
- Members of the CDMRP's peer review panels, who have met the daunting task of reviewing more than 39,000 proposals since FY93. Without their expertise and perseverance, our vision of finding and funding the best research would not be realized.
- The many members of the Department of Defense, the US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, the CDMRP Program Management Teams, and support staff whose constant enthusiasm and diligence sustain the research programs on a daily basis.

I am grateful for the integrity, vision, and devotion shown by these dedicated individuals. They have crafted innovative and vital programs that continue to forge new pathways in the management and execution of biomedical research.

Sincerely,



Janet R. Harris, Ph.D., R.N.  
Colonel, US Army Nurse Corps  
Director

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