



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, 2007

Office of the Director

Dear Colleagues:

The vision of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC) is to deliver the highest quality medical knowledge and material to enhance, protect, treat, and heal members of our military worldwide. To achieve this ambitious goal, the Command supports programs in medical research and development, medical logistics and acquisition management, medical information systems, and advanced technologies.

Partnerships with other military and government agencies, academia, and private industry are critical to the success of the Command's mission. The Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP), which has operated under the USAMRMC's stewardship since its establishment in 1993, exemplifies the power and promise of such partnerships. The CDMRP represents a unique alliance among the government, military, and the public that is charged with finding and funding the best research to eradicate diseases and support the warfighter for the benefit of all Americans. Initially focused on breast cancer, the CDMRP has grown since its inception to include peer-reviewed, congressionally mandated research programs in prostate cancer, neurofibromatosis, ovarian cancer, military health, chronic myelogenous leukemia, tuberous sclerosis complex, Gulf War illnesses, autism spectrum disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, and other specified areas.

This 2007 Annual Report summarizes the history, business practices, research programs, and accomplishments of the CDMRP. The CDMRP's achievements can be attributed to an unwavering dedication to its mission while maintaining the flexibility to adapt to emerging priorities, implement novel programs and processes, and establish new partnerships with the scientific community, other funding agencies, and consumer advocates. This report describes the CDMRP's successes in supporting the translation of promising research from the laboratory into the clinic, fostering the exploration of innovative ideas, and promoting the recruitment and training of the next generation of investigators. The CDMRP's

commitment to excellence in both science and management ensures that the program will continue to make great strides toward the ultimate goal of conquering disease.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William H. Howell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" and last name "Howell" clearly distinguishable.

William H. Howell  
Director, USAMRMC



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

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ATTENTION OF:

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## Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs

Dear Colleagues:

It is an honor to share the groundbreaking developments of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) with you as we continue to strive toward the eradication, prevention, and treatment of cancer, neurofibromatosis, autism spectrum disorder, Gulf War illnesses, post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, and other diseases. Fifteen years ago, the CDMRP was created in response to a grassroots campaign by breast cancer advocacy groups. Their dedication and persistence to ending breast cancer led to a congressional appropriation of \$25 million (M) in 1992 for breast cancer research. Since then, the CDMRP has managed \$4.36 billion and 81 programs. Fiscal year 2007 (FY07) turned into the most highly funded year in CDMRP history with a total of \$591.2M in funding for 34 programs.

The CDMRP is a recognized leader for funding innovative and scientifically meritorious research. 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 fulfill our vision, the CDMRP seeks to sponsor novel, high impact, and cutting-edge research that will lead to the advancement of patient care. We identify and target original and underinvestigated areas of research that will aid us as we work toward eliminating human diseases. Our programs seek out the best and brightest investigators to strengthen the scientific community. We encourage the development of essential research resources and promote clinical research. Our partnerships with the consumer and scientific communities as well as with the military and government are facilitating our ability to effectively address critical health issues.

Despite the successes we have seen over the past 15 years, I recognize the urgent and continued need for additional research. Nonetheless, I firmly believe that we are making a difference on these warfronts. By thinking outside the box, we are building a foundation of resources for future research. We are upholding the highest standards of ethics in all of our practices. Together, we are shaping tomorrow and will ultimately succeed in our mission.

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 devoted 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 15 years.
- Members of the CDMRP's peer review panels, who have met the daunting task of reviewing more than 44,000 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 U.S. 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 commitment shown by these remarkable individuals. They have crafted pioneering and vital programs that continue to forge new pathways in the management and execution of biomedical research. I am proud to say that the CDMRP is well-recognized for its achievements, and I look forward to the future accomplishments of our research programs.

Sincerely,



Janet R. Harris, Ph.D., R.N.  
Colonel, U.S. Army Nurse Corps  
Director, CDMRP