

Press Release for Personal Use  
Re: Consumer Participation on Scientific Peer Review Panels

For Immediate Press Release:

**SCIENTIFIC PEER REVIEW OF CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS' PEER REVIEWED CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

The Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs' (CDMRP), Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP) consumer advocate Denise Leprine recently participated in the evaluation of research applications submitted to the PRCRP. Denise Leprine was nominated for participation in the program by Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer. As a consumer reviewer, she was a full voting member, (along with prominent scientists) at meetings to help determine how the \$110 million appropriated by Congress for Fiscal Year 2020 will be spent on cancer research.

Consumer reviewers are asked to represent the collective view of patients by preparing comments on the impact of the research on issues such as diagnosis, treatment, and quality of life. When commenting on serving as a consumer reviewer, Denise said that, "To be a consumer advocate on the PRCRP panel was an honor and privilege. I found it to be encouraging, inspiring and hopeful to work along with Scientists and Doctors to review and evaluate research applications with intentions to prevent, detect, identify new treatments that will impact patients overall quality of life and survivorship! I am grateful for the opportunity."

Consumer advocates and scientists have worked together in this unique partnership to evaluate the merit of research applications since FY09. COL Sarah B. Goldman, Director of the CDMRP, expressed her appreciation for the consumer advocates' hard work. "Integrating consumer perspectives into our decision-making process brings energy and focus to our research programs. Patients, caregivers, family members, and advocates help us keep our efforts centered around what is truly important to those impacted. We very much value this critical input from our consumers who help ensure that CDMRP's work remains critical and relevant," she said.

Scientists applying propose to support and promote high-impact research for cancer prevention, detection, treatment, quality of life and survivorship, and decreasing the burden of cancer on Service members, their families and the American public. The PRCRP fills important gaps not addressed by other funding agencies by supporting groundbreaking research while encouraging out-of-the-box thinking.

More information about the CDMRP's PRCRP is available at the website:  
<https://cdmrp.army.mil/prcrp/default>.

Optional: Attached is a recent digital photograph provided by <(Fill in name, telephone, email, and postal mail address)> that may be used in conjunction with this press release.

---

**Media Contact:**

Kate Poindexter  
Public Affairs Specialist  
Ripple Effect  
Supporting the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs,  
USAMRDC  
301-619-7783  
[Kathleen.poindexter.ctr@mail.mil](mailto:Kathleen.poindexter.ctr@mail.mil)