

**Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations Submission Information  
Stomach Cancer Research**

**Department of Defense:  
Inclusion of Stomach Cancer in the Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program**

Question	Answer
Request Type	Report Language
Subcommittee /Agency/Account	<u>Subcommittee</u> : Defense <u>Agency</u> : Department of Defense <u>Account</u> : Defense Health Program
Description of Request	Maintain stomach cancer as eligible for research funding under the Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP).
Proposed Language for Fiscal Year 2024 Submission	The funds provided in the Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program are directed to be used to conduct research in the following areas: stomach cancer...
Justification	<p>Military service members are exposed to environments that put them at increased risk of certain cancers, including stomach cancer. Other cancers may affect the military in that a diagnosis will impact mission-readiness. The PRCRP was established in 2009 and supports military relevant research into specifically designated cancers. Stomach cancer was first included in the PRCRP in FY 2015.</p> <p>The Department of Veterans Affairs considers stomach cancer to be a service connected malignancy for service members who experienced hazardous exposure to ionizing radiation. Additionally, due to past and present deployments, service members and Veterans may have an increased risk of stomach cancer, especially if diagnosed with <i>H. pylori</i>. Studies suggest the risk of <i>H. pylori</i> infection increases among military personnel during long-term deployment. This is significant because, according to the National Cancer Institute, infection with <i>H. pylori</i> is the primary identified cause of stomach cancer.</p> <p>There is a paucity of effective treatments for stomach cancer and diagnosis often occurs at late stage. The PRCRP offers an important opportunity to study diseases like stomach cancer that are not well understood, have few treatment options, and for which military service confers a higher risk.</p>

<p>Fiscal Year 2023  Joint Explanatory Statement  H.R.2617 - Consolidated  Appropriations Act, 2023  Public Law No: 117-328</p>	<p><b>PEER-REVIEWED CANCER REARCH PROGRAM</b></p> <p>The agreement provides \$130,000,000 for the peer-reviewed cancer research program to research cancers not addressed in the breast, pancreatic, prostate, ovarian, kidney, lung, melanoma, and rare cancer research programs.</p> <p>The funds provided in the peer-reviewed cancer research program are directed to be used to conduct research in the following areas: bladder cancer; blood cancers; brain cancer; colorectal cancer; endometrial cancer; esophageal cancer; germ cell cancers; head and neck cancer; liver cancer; lymphoma; mesothelioma; metastatic cancers; myeloma; neuroblastoma; pediatric brain tumors; pediatric, adolescent, and young adult cancers; sarcoma; stomach cancer; thyroid cancer; and Von Hippel-Lindau syndrome malignancies (excluding cancers of the kidney and pancreas).</p> <p>The peer-reviewed cancer research program shall be used only for the purposes listed above. The inclusion of the individual rare cancer research program shall not prohibit the peer-reviewed cancer research program from funding the above-mentioned cancers or cancer subtypes that may be rare by definition. The report directed under this heading in House Report 117-88 is still required to be provided not later than 12 months after the enactment of this Act.</p>
<p>Fiscal Year 2023  <b>Senate</b>  Explanatory Statement for the  Department of Defense  Appropriations Bill, 2023  <a href="https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/DEFF Y23RPT.pdf">https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/DEFF Y23RPT.pdf</a></p>	<p><b>PEER-REVIEWED CANCER REARCH PROGRAM</b></p> <p>The Committee recommends \$130,000,000 for the peer-reviewed breast cancer research program, \$75,000,000 for the peer-reviewed prostate cancer research program, \$40,000,000 for a peer-reviewed melanoma re- search program, \$15,000,000 for the peer-reviewed ovarian cancer research program, \$17,500,000 for a peer-reviewed rare cancers research program, and \$130,000,000 for the peer-reviewed cancer research program that would research cancers not addressed in the aforementioned programs currently executed by the Department of Defense.</p> <p>The funds provided in the peer-reviewed cancer research program are directed to be used to conduct research in the following areas: bladder cancer; blood cancers; brain cancer; endometrial cancer; esophageal cancer; colorectal cancer; kidney cancer; liver cancer; lung cancer; lymphoma; mesothelioma; metastatic cancer; myeloma; neuroblastoma; pancreatic cancer; pediatric brain tumors; pediatric, adolescent, and young adult cancers; stomach cancer; and Von Hippel-Lindau syndrome.</p> <p>The funds provided under the peer-reviewed cancer research program shall be used only for the purposes listed above. The Committee directs the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) to provide a report not later than 18 months after the enactment of this act to the congressional defense committees on the status of the peer-reviewed cancer research program. For each research area, the report should include the funding amount awarded, the progress of the research, and the relevance of the research to servicemembers.</p>

Fiscal Year 2023

**House**

Explanatory Statement for the  
Department of Defense  
Appropriations Bill, 2023  
Report 117-388

<https://www.congress.gov/117/crpt/hrpt388/CRPT-117hrpt388.pdf>

**PEER-REVIEWED CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM**

The Committee recommends \$150,000,000 for the peer-reviewed breast cancer research program, \$110,000,000 for the peer-reviewed prostate cancer research program, \$45,000,000 for the peer-reviewed ovarian cancer research program, \$50,000,000 for the peer-reviewed kidney cancer research program, \$25,000,000 for the peer-reviewed lung cancer research program, \$15,000,000 for the peer-reviewed pancreatic cancer research program, \$17,500,000 for the peer-reviewed rare cancer research program, and \$130,000,000 for the peer-reviewed cancer research program that would research cancers not addressed in the aforementioned programs currently executed by the Department of Defense.

The funds provided in the peer-reviewed cancer research program are directed to be used to conduct research in the following areas: bladder cancer; blood cancers; brain cancer; colorectal cancer; endometrial cancer; esophageal cancer; germ cell cancers; head and neck cancer; liver cancer; lymphoma; mesothelioma; metastatic cancers; myeloma; neuroblastoma; pediatric brain tumors; pediatric, adolescent, and young adult cancers; sarcoma; stomach cancer; thyroid cancer; and Von Hippel-Lindau syndrome malignancies (excluding cancers of the kidney and pancreas). The inclusion of the individual rare cancer research program shall not prohibit the peer-reviewed cancer research program from funding the previously mentioned cancers or cancer subtypes that may be rare by definition.

The funds provided under the peer-reviewed cancer research program shall be used only for the purposes listed above. The Committee directs the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs to provide a report not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act to the congressional defense committees on the status of the peer-reviewed cancer research program. For each research area, the report shall include the funding amount awarded, the progress of the research, and the relevance of the research to servicemembers and their families.

The Committee commends the Department of Defense for ensuring that projects funded through the various peer-reviewed cancer research programs maintain a focus on issues of significance to military populations and the warfighter. This includes promoting collaborative research proposals between Department of Defense researchers and non-military research institutions. These collaborations leverage the knowledge, infrastructure, and access to clinical populations that the partners bring to the research effort. Additionally, promoting these collaborations provides a valuable recruitment and retention incentive for military medical and research personnel. The Committee encourages the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs to continue to emphasize the importance of these collaborations between military and non-military researchers throughout the peer-review process.