

PANCREATIC CANCER PATIENTS ARE COUNTING ON YOU

Increase Funding for the Pancreatic Cancer Research Program at the DoD to \$20 million

PANCREATIC
CANCER
ACTION
NETWORK

WHY IS THIS URGENT?

Pancreatic cancer is the world's toughest cancer.

- The **five-year survival rate** for pancreatic cancer is just **12%**.¹
- Pancreatic cancer is the **3rd leading cause of cancer-related deaths** in the U.S., and it's projected to move to 2nd by 2030.^{1,2}
- In 2023, an estimated 64,050 Americans will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and **50,550 will die from the disease**.¹

“It is a major milestone for our field to have achieved a new federal research program that is dedicating funds annually to pancreatic cancer. More resources equal more researchers who tackle this deadly disease from more angles.”

Ingunn Stromnes, PhD, assistant professor in the department of microbiology and immunology at the University of Minnesota

WHY DoD?

Increasing funding for the Pancreatic Cancer Research Program at the DoD is an opportunity to quickly and dramatically impact patient outcomes.

Research shows that within a cohort of U.S. veterans, there is direct evidence for increased risk of death from pancreatic cancer. Veterans often have known risk factors for pancreatic cancer, including environmental exposure, other medical conditions such as diabetes and obesity, and lifestyle factors such as smoking.^{3,4} The Pancreatic Cancer Research Program is dedicated specifically to pancreatic cancer and is part of the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program managed by the DoD.

WHY INCREASE THE FUNDING?

Congressional funding for the Pancreatic Cancer Research Program at the DoD is not keeping pace with the tremendous need indicated by the scientific community.

In FY21, **277 researchers** applied and **14 grants** were funded out of the \$15 million appropriated for the Program. Increasing the investment to \$20 million will provide the opportunity for more meritorious research to be funded that could lead to breakthroughs for patients.^{5*}

*These numbers reflect recommendations only.

The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN) urges the 118th Congress to invest \$20 million in the Pancreatic Cancer Research Program at the DoD in FY24 to ensure patients live longer and better lives.

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1. American Cancer Society, Cancer Facts and Figures, 1999-2023.

2. Rahib, et al. Estimated Projection of US Cancer Incidence and Death to 2040. JAMA Netw Open. 2021;4(4):e214708.

3. Barone, et al. Environmental risk factors for pancreatic cancer: an update. Arch Toxicol 90: 2617-2642, 2016.

4. Kang, et al. HealthVIEWS: Mortality Study of Female US Vietnam Era Veterans, 1965-2010, Am J. Epidemiol 179: 721-30, 2014.

5. Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) Pancreatic Cancer Research Program, FY21 Award Applications Recommended for Funding [accessed May 2022].