URGENT REQUEST:
SUPPORT A DEDICATED PANCREATIC CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM AT THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

We urge the 116th Congress to support a dedicated pancreatic cancer research program for $10 million in the Department of Defense’s (DoD) Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP).

WHY IS THIS URGENT?

- Pancreatic cancer is the world’s toughest cancer.
- The five-year survival rate for pancreatic cancer is just 9 percent.¹
- Currently, pancreatic cancer is the 3rd leading cause of cancer-related death in the U.S., and it is projected to become 2nd around 2020.¹,²
- In 2019, an estimated 56,770 Americans will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and 45,750 will die from the disease.¹

WHY SUPPORT A DEDICATED PANCREATIC CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM?

- CDMRP has separate research programs for breast, kidney, prostate, ovarian and lung cancers. Pancreatic cancer kills more Americans than breast, kidney, prostate or ovarian cancers.
- Pancreatic cancer has been included as part of a group of other cancers in the CDMRP’s Peer-Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP) since 2011. But, since that time, it has only received about 1 percent of the total CDMRP cancer investment.
- CDMRP funds “high impact, high risk, and high gain projects” and targets “critical gaps.” A pancreatic cancer research program is a prime opportunity to quickly and dramatically impact patient outcomes.

PANCREATIC CANCER AND VETERANS:

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 lifestyle factors such as smoking and obesity.³,⁴

Since 2011, pancreatic cancer has only received 1 percent of the total cancer investment by CDMRP.

Five-Year Relative Survival Rates¹

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cancer Site</th>
<th>Five-Year Survival Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pancreas</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lung</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ovary</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidney</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breast</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prostate</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>