



## DoD CDMRP FY2020 Request Cancers in Children, Adolescents and Young Adults Peer-Review Research

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The Department of Defense (“DoD”) Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program’s (“CDMRP”) mission is to target critical gaps and transform healthcare through groundbreaking biomedical research in response to its stakeholders—the American public, the military and Congress.

- The National Institute of Health (“NIH”) defines adolescent and young adults (“AYA”) as persons between the ages of 15-39 years old.
  - According to the NIH, the #1 disease killer of AYA and pediatric citizens is cancer.
  - Of the active military, 86% is 39 years old or younger and half of those are 25 years old or younger. In addition, more than 50% of the active AYA military are married and/or have children.
  - According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the AYA and pediatric populations comprise 53% of the American public.
  - According to the NIH, each year around 70,000 AYAs and 15,000 children are diagnosed with cancer. AYA and pediatric cancers are significantly under-researched, leading to poor outcomes including high morbidity and mortality.
  - The NIH says for AYAs and children fighting cancer, there is a need for basic science, epidemiology, clinical trials and psychosocial care to improve survival rates.
- The DoD CDMRP is in the unique position to make a groundbreaking transformation in healthcare for 86% of our nation’s active military forces and 53% of the American population, filling the critical gap by investing in research for cancers that specifically affect AYAs and children.
  - The FY2019 CDMRP budget was \$1.5 billion and included \$284 million for individual cancer research topics, including breast, lung, kidney, melanoma, ovarian and prostate cancers. The average age of diagnosis is 65 years old.
  - AYAs and children get different cancers than older adults.
  - Currently the CDMRP does not have a program for cancers in children, adolescents and young adults.
  - The NIH states that AYA and pediatric cancers differ in type and biological behavior from cancers diagnosed in older adults, yet when it comes to cancer research, this population has fallen through the cracks.

**Program Title:**

Cancers in Children, Adolescents and Young Adults Peer-Review Research

**Funding Request:**

\$30 million

**Bill:**

Department of Defense Appropriations Act, FY2020 under the Defense Health Program in Research, Development, Test and Evaluation

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For additional information or to become a sponsor, please contact:

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