

PEER REVIEWED ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH PROGRAM



MISSION: Fund impactful, solution-oriented research to address critical needs and improve quality of life for Service Members, Veterans, their Families and the public who are living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias

**Congressional Appropriations
FY11-FY24:
\$198M total**



"I have immense gratitude for the clinicians and scientists who have dedicated their

professional lives to this essential work. I am proud of the small part that I am able to play as a reviewer who can speak to the potential impact that a positive study outcome may have for persons living with a diagnosis, caregivers and families. I am honored to be a PRARP reviewer and look forward to the next opportunity to raise my voice for those walking the journey of a life lived with dementia."

*Katie Brandt,
Massachusetts General Hospital,
FY21 and FY23 Consumer Peer Reviewer*

SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM¹

Alzheimer's disease and dementia in the U.S.

- **7th** leading cause of death
- **1 in 9 Americans, or 6.9 million people, over the age of 65** are living with Alzheimer's disease today



Per year:

- Alzheimer's disease costs **exceed \$360B**
- **48%** of people *caring for* individuals with **dementia** are spouses or family members; unpaid caregiving accounts for **\$250B**



RELEVANCE TO MILITARY HEALTH



Service Members face an elevated risk of developing Alzheimer's disease or related dementias compared to the general public²



Service Members with a TBI are 2-8X more likely to develop Alzheimer's disease and related dementias than those without a TBI diagnosis²



More than 492,000 Service Members received a TBI diagnosis over a 24-year period³

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Reduce health disparities in Alzheimer's disease and related dementias study populations
- Improve quality of life for people living with a dementia diagnosis, their families, caregivers and communities
- Improve diagnosis and prognosis now
- Reduce risk and prevent Alzheimer's disease and related dementias
- Understand mechanisms, pathways, risk factors and causes of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias

¹ Alzheimer's Association. Alzheimers Dement, 20, no. 5, 2024.

² Powell WR., et al. Alzheimers Dement, 20, no. 2, 2023: 1468-1474.

³ <https://health.mil/Military-Health-Topics/Centers-of-Excellence/Traumatic-Brain-Injury-Center-of-Excellence/DOD-TBI-wWorldwide-Number>



For more information, visit: <https://cdmrp.health.mil/prarp>

PROGRAM IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

TRANSFORMATIVE RESEARCH INVESTMENTS, FY11-FY22

DIAGNOSIS & PROGNOSIS
\$40.9M • 40 Awards

EXAMPLE: A novel, scalable and cost-effective **tool for minimally invasive tests** for acute, substitute and **chronic biomarkers**. Combined with other factors, this tool **could improve early detection** of TBI and Alzheimer's disease.

EPIDEMIOLOGY & RISK FACTORS
\$27M • 20 Awards

EXAMPLE: Analyzed genetic and socioeconomic data to examine **how specific risk factors**, including traumatic brain injury, sex, race, ethnicity and socioeconomic status, contribute to **developing cognitive decline and dementia** in Veterans and civilians.

QUALITY OF LIFE
\$26.1M • 31 Awards

EXAMPLE: A **clinical trial** testing how **self-management skills** of coping, stress management, and problem solving for individuals living with moderate-to-severe TBI, chronic mild TBI and dementia diagnoses **improve self-efficacy and quality of life**.

FOUNDATIONAL SCIENCE
\$54.2M • 77 Awards

EXAMPLE: A **bioanalytical study** to understand how lipid metabolism plays a role in brain function and to identify potential targets for developing **future treatments**.

SUPPORTING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Maximizing translational and impact potential of PRARP-funded research

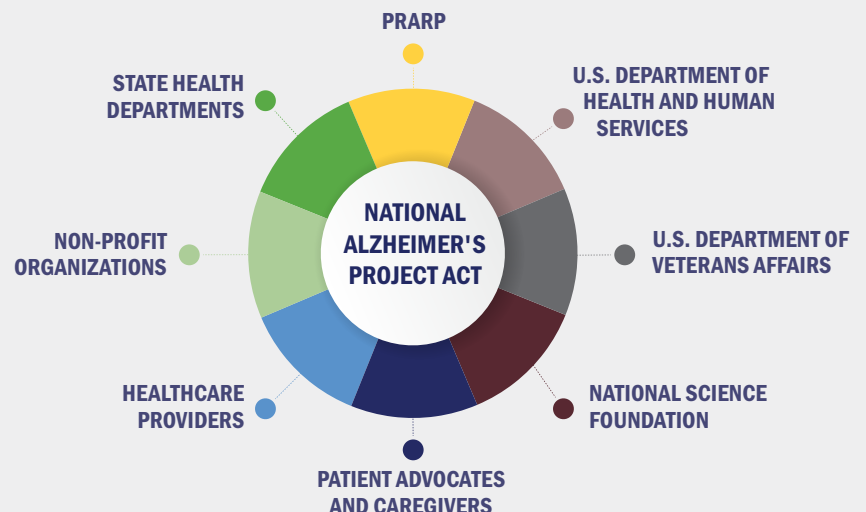
- The PRARP encourages all investigators to consider *equitable partnerships between researchers and community members and representatives*
- The PRARP **requires** community engagement and collaboration for all clinical research



COLLABORATION – THE NATIONAL ALZHEIMER'S PROJECT ACT

A federal and community-driven collaboration in which the PRARP participates and coordinates across federal agencies to maximize research impact for Alzheimer's disease and related dementias

- Accelerate the development of treatments to improve early diagnosis and care coordination
- Reduce ethnic and racial disparities in rates of disease
- Participate in international efforts to fight these conditions



Point of Contact: CDMRP Public Affairs

usarmy.detrick.medcom-cdmrp.mbx.cdmrp-public-affairs@health.mil