OVARIAN CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM

CDMRP
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED
MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS

MISSION: To support patient-centered research to prevent, detect, treat and cure ovarian cancer to enhance the well-being of Service Members, Veterans, retirees, their Family members and all women impacted by this disease

Congressional Appropriations FY97-FY24:
$541.5M total

"The front-line treatments that saved my life were [in] clinical trials when a friend was diagnosed with ovarian cancer 28 years ago. It is a privilege and an honor to serve and support the ranks of scientists who are tirelessly searching for treatments that will better all who suffer from ovarian cancer. I do so in remembrance of my friend who served before me and lost the battle."

Mary Beth Mudrick, Foundation for Women's Cancer, FY18-FY20 and FY22-FY23 Consumer Peer Reviewer

SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

Ovarian Cancer:

5th **leading cause** of *cancer-related deaths* in women[1]

- **Diagnosed** in nearly 314,000 women globally[2]
- Responsible for **207,000 deaths** each year[2]

- Globally, 5-year survival rates vary by country, from 50% to **30% or even lower**.[3]
- By 2045, deaths will increase by **117.8%** in low-income countries compared to **31.4%** in high-income countries.[4]

RELEVANCE TO MILITARY HEALTH

17% of the active-duty population are female[5]

2013-2022 Military Health System Medical Encounters for Ovarian/Fallopian/Peritoneal Cancers[6]

Patients	Out-Patient Encounters	Hospital Bed Days
685 Service Members	2,562 Service Members	352 Service Members
57,814 Other DOD Beneficiaries	391,044 Other DOD Beneficiaries	80,601 Other DOD Beneficiaries

PROGRAM PRIORITIES

- Understand basic biology and etiology
- Develop novel therapeutic strategies for treatment
- Investigate innovative approaches for ovarian cancer prevention
- Address health disparities
- Improve precision medicine
- Identify and develop new strategies for screening, early-stage detection, accurate diagnosis and prognosis
- Identify and implement strategies to improve survivorship and quality of life

[1] https://www.cancer.org/cancer/types/ovarian-cancer/about/key-statistics.html
[2] https://igcs.org/world-ovarian-cancer-day/
[3] Allemani C et al. Lancet 391, no. 10125, 2018:1023–1075.
[4] International Agency for Research on Cancer, World Health Organization, "Cancer Tomorrow."
[5] Department of Defense. 2022. n.d. Department of Defense Releases Annual Demographics Report – Upward Trend in Number of Women Serving Continues.
[6] Defense Medical Surveillance System. The Armed Forces Health Surveillance Branch, Defense Health Agency, Silver Spring, Maryland, 2013-2022, January 2024.

For more information, visit: https://cdmrp.health.mil/ocrp

PROGRAM IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

Ovarian Cancer Academies – Challenging New Research Areas, Fostering Collaboration, Retaining Researchers, Developing Careers

The OCRP founded two synergistic and collaborative learning academies to advance basic, translational and clinical research in ovarian cancer through development of next-generation, talented early-career investigators who are committed to ovarian cancer research. Each academy brings together early-career investigators, mentors and academy leadership.

Ovarian Cancer Clinical Trial Academy – focused on clinical research and executing clinical trials in the ovarian cancer research field

- Leadership awarded in FY23
- First cohort of scholars awarded in FY24

– New in FY23 –

Ovarian Cancer Research Academy – focused on basic and translational research needs in ovarian cancer

– 15 years –
of continued OCRP investment
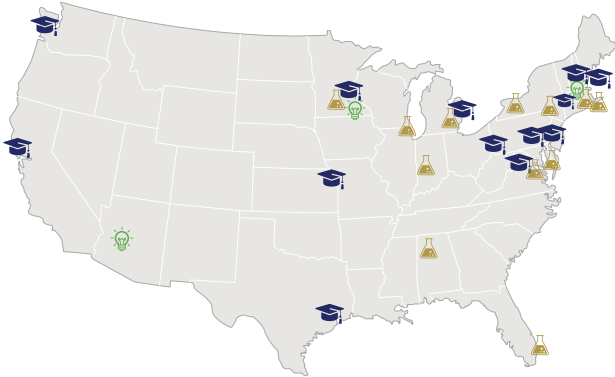
Academy Early-Career Investigators

Graduate
21 Completed Awards
$23.46M
Funds Invested

Current
15 Awards
$14.85M
Funds Invested

New
4 Awards
$4.81M
Funds Invested

Lausanne, Switzerland

Sydney, Australia

995 Publications

412 Presentations

260 Grants Received

13 Patents Issued

>$100M Funding Obtained

RESEARCH BREAKTHROUGHS - MAKING A DIFFERENCE

High-impact outcomes of OCRP-funded research include:

- **Rucaparib** – an FDA-approved therapeutic to treat recurrent ovarian cancer in adults who previously received chemotherapy treatment

- **Falloposcope** – a minimally invasive technology for advanced optical imaging of the fallopian tubes for early ovarian cancer detection

- **BROCA Test** – an algorithm to assess ovarian cancer risk in women carrying the BRCA1 gene to predict chemotherapy response and to improve overall survival

- **Association of PTSD and Ovarian Cancer** – PTSD is a strong risk factor for ovarian cancer