# PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAM



**MISSION:** Fund research that will eliminate death and suffering from prostate cancer and enhance the well-being of Service Members and their Families, Veterans and all the patients and caregivers who are experiencing the impact of the disease.

Congressional Appropriations FY97-FY24:

\$2.37B total



"When I had a prostate cancer recurrence 18 years ago, I knew that my disease was terminal and that there were only

three FDA-approved drugs that could possibly extend my life and help maintain a decent quality of life, as well as a few radio-pharmaceutical types of drugs that would only make me feel even sicker. I also knew that these drugs would not work forever. Thanks to cutting-edge research in prostate cancer, much of which has been led by the innovative nature of the PCRP, I remain, 18 years later, alive and healthy, being a productive member of my community. Not only am I still contributing to society, I also have a constantly growing list of available new drugs and treatments which provide me with optimism about my future."

Joel Nowak, Cancer ABCs, Inc., FY14-FY24 Programmatic Panel Member



## **SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM**

Estimated **299,010** new diagnoses and **35,250** deaths from prostate cancer in 2024<sup>1</sup>





Relatively slow-growing; <15% present the rapidly growing, aggressive form<sup>2</sup>



Available treatments can result in **urinary**, **bowel** and **sexual dysfunction**<sup>3</sup>

Significant population disparities in incidence and

in incidence and mortality rates<sup>4</sup>



## **RELEVANCE TO MILITARY HEALTH**

MHS Medical Encounters for Prostate Cancer, 2013-2022<sup>5</sup>

	Average Patients per Year	Out-Patient Encounters	Hospital Bed Days
Service Members	227	12,556	965
Other DOD Beneficiaries	72,617	3.54 million	108,689

### PROGRAM PRIORITIES

The PCRP remains focused on addressing the knowledge, research and clinical gaps that continue to make prostate cancer a global health issue

- Improve quality of life for those impacted by prostate cancer
- Define the biology of progression to lethal prostate cancer
- Develop new or improved therapies for lethal prostate cancer
- Advance health equity and reduce disparities
- <sup>1</sup> American Cancer Society, Cancer Facts & Figures, 2024.
- <sup>2</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Prostate Cancer Incidence by Age and Stage at Diagnosis, United States—2001–2019. USCS Data Brief, no. 34. Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, US Department of Health and Human Services; 2023.
- <sup>3</sup> American Society of Clinical Oncology. 2023. Prostate Cancer: Types of Treatment 2022. Alexandria, VA. December 14, 2022.
- <sup>4</sup> Giaquinto AN, et al. *CA Cancer J Clin* 72, no.3, 2022:202-229.
- Military Health System (MHS) data from the Defense Medical Surveillance System, 2010-2022. The Armed Forces Health Surveillance Division, Defense Health Agency (DHA), Silver Spring, Maryland, January 2024.

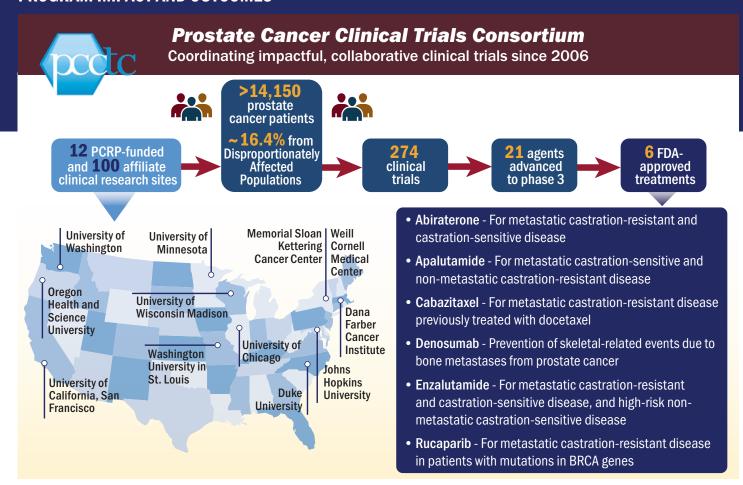








## PROGRAM IMPACT AND OUTCOMES



# **Improving Health Equity and Patient Outcomes**

Health Equity Research and Outcomes Improvement Consortium Awards combine the expertise of research scientists, clinicians and integrated members of the patient population to improve quality of life and/or equitable access to quality health care and reduce disparities.

## iCCare for Black Men Consortium

- **iCCaRE**
- Includes Black men from the U.S., of African and Caribbean descent, and Africa
- · Identifies social and biological factors affecting patient outcomes
- Develops technology to improve patient care and quality of life

## PCaPH Africa1K Consortium

- Conducts community education and training through local outreach
- Creates biorepositories across southern and eastern African nations
- Assesses hormones, genomes and environmental exposures to understand impact on incidence and disease progression

## **IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE**

The PCRP seeks to accelerate advancements for patient care into widespread acceptance and routine practice.

#### New in FY24, the Implementation Science Award will

- Bridge gaps among research, clinical practice and health policy
- Improve patient outreach, outcomes and effectiveness of care
- Foster engagement with patient communities