

FIGHT COLORECTAL CANCER

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ISSUE:

INVEST IN COLORECTAL CANCER RESEARCH

Ask: Appropriate funding for 21st Century Cures as part of the FY 2017 federal budget and increase funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to \$34.5 billion, including \$5.9 billion for the National Cancer Institute (NCI) for FY 2017.

The 21st Century Cures Act, when funded, will play a vital role in the development of new treatments and cures for cancer and other diseases. This legislation gives hope to the cancer community. It provides \$4.8 billion over 10 years for medical research, ensuring funds for the Cancer Moonshot Initiative, the Precision Medicine Initiative and substantial increases to current NIH funding levels.

We also request increases in funding to the NIH and NCI for both FY 2017 and FY 2018. While the funding for 21st Century Cures is significant, it should supplement increases in funding through the appropriations process for these institutions.

Ask: Fund the DoD PRCRP at \$60 million for FY 2017. Ensure colorectal cancer research continues to be included as eligible for funding under this program.

In FY 2016 the Defense Appropriations Act provided \$50 million to the Department of Defense's Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP) to support innovative, high-impact cancer research. The PRCRP funds research for 11 different cancer types, including colorectal cancer. These grants are focused on militarily-relevant risk factors associated with cancer. The grants also apply to gaps in cancer prevention, screening, early detection, diagnosis, treatment and/or survivorship -- issues that may affect the general population but have a particularly profound impact on the health and well-being of military service members, veterans and their beneficiaries. The PRCRP funds high-risk, high-reward science that is not funded by NIH.

From 2009 to 2015, the PRCRP funded over \$14 million in colorectal cancer research.

Eligibility of colorectal cancer to receive research funding under the PRCRP is not guaranteed - Congress specifies which cancers are included. Each year Fight CRC works with legislative offices to ensure that members of Congress request to appropriators that colorectal cancer remain included.

For more information, please email Advocate@FightCRC.org

