

April XX, 2013

The Honorable C.W. Young Chairman Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515
The Honorable Peter J. Visclosky Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515
Dear Chairman Young and Ranking Member Visclosky:

We respectfully request your assist for the Peer-Reviewed Neurotoxin Exposure Treatment Parkinson's Research (NETPR) program.

We are requesting \$16 million for the NETPR program at the U.S. Army Telemedicine & Advanced Technology Research Center beneath the United States Army Medical Research and Materiel Command for fiscal yr (FY) 2014 (RDT&E, Medical Advanced Technology).

As you would possibly be aware, our active responsibility service personnel are routinely exposed to a variety of toxins and different exterior stressors, similar to head trauma, that will lead to the event of Parkinson's illness.

NETPR funded grants establish the consequences of environmental and operational hazards and present the premise for strategies to maintain and enhance the health and performance of our active obligations soldiers and our veterans.

This forward-looking analysis provides the Department of Defense (DoD) with innovations in materiel design, avoidance protocols for pointless harmful exposures, and neuroprotective medicine to stop damage in the first place.

For instance, the NETPR program supplied the unique foundation for the present DoD program in traumatic brain injury (TBI), together with preliminary analysis efforts on biomarkers of head damage; considerably superior understanding of the biochemical foundation of melancholy affecting troopers and Parkinson's patients alike; and is providing the genetic foundation for neurodegenerative disease threat to the getting older veteran as a consequence of military risk components, such as TBI and neurotoxic chemical exposure.

It is estimated that almost eighty,000 veterans have Parkinson's disease and that the economic burden of Parkinson's illness is at least \$14.4 billion a yr in the U.S.

The prevalence of Parkinson's is anticipated to more than double by the 12 months 2040. We urge the Subcommittee to continue to support this progressive and dual-use research program, which is relevant to the warfighter in addition to the larger Parkinson's illness group.

We recognize your consideration of this request to provide the NETPR program with \$16 million in FY 14. Should the Subcommittee have questions regarding this request, please contact Elizabeth Darnall with the workplace of Representative Maloney, Jamie Tricarico with the office of Representative King, or Erika Appel with the workplace of Representative Van Hollen. Sincerely,