

Press Release for Personal Use

Re: Consumer Participation on Scientific Peer Review Panels

For Immediate Press Release:

SCIENTIFIC PEER REVIEW OF CONGRESSIONALLY DIRECTED MEDICAL RESEARCH PROGRAMS' PEER REVIEWED ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH PROGRAM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

The Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs' (CDMRP), Peer Reviewed Alzheimer's Research Program (PRARP) consumer advocate Jeff Borghoff recently participated in the evaluation of research applications submitted to the PRARP. Jeff Borghoff was nominated for participation in the program by the Alzheimer's Association Greater New Jersey chapter. As a consumer reviewer, he was a full voting member, (along with prominent scientists) at meetings to help determine how the \$15 million appropriated by Congress for Fiscal Year 2020 will be spent on Alzheimer's research.

Consumer reviewers are asked to represent the collective view of patients by preparing comments on the impact of the research on issues such as diagnosis, treatment, and quality of life. When commenting on serving as a consumer reviewer, Jeff Borghoff said that, "allowing those of us living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias to participate in the consumer review process adds unique perspectives and value."

Consumer advocates and scientists have worked together in this unique partnership to evaluate the merit of research applications since FY11. COL Sarah B. Goldman, Director of the CDMRP, expressed her appreciation for the consumer advocates' hard work. "Integrating consumer perspectives into our decision-making process brings energy and focus to our research programs. Patients, caregivers, family members, and advocates help us keep our efforts centered around what is truly important to those impacted. We very much value this critical input from our consumers who help ensure that CDMRP's work remains critical and relevant," she said.

Scientists applying propose to conduct innovative research focused on understanding the association between traumatic brain injury and Alzheimer's disease/Alzheimer's disease related dementias, and reducing the burden on affected individuals and caregivers, especially in the military and Veteran communities. The PRARP fills important gaps not addressed by other funding agencies by supporting groundbreaking research while encouraging out-of-the-box thinking.

More information about the CDMRP's PRARP is available at the website:
<https://cdmrp.army.mil/prarp/default>

Optional: Attached is a recent digital photograph provided by Jeff Borghoff that may be used in conjunction with this press release.

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