#### I. OVERVIEW OF THE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

**Program Announcement for the Department of Defense** 

**Defense Health Program** 

**Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs** 

Joint Program Committee 8 / Clinical and Rehabilitative Medicine Research Program

## Psychological Health/Traumatic Brain Injury Research Program

## Complex Traumatic Brain Injury Rehabilitation Research Clinical Research Award

**Announcement Type: Initial** 

Funding Opportunity Number: W81XWH-18-CTRR-CRA

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 12.420 Military Medical Research and Development

#### SUBMISSION AND REVIEW DATES AND TIMES

- **Pre-Application Submission Deadline:** 5:00 p.m. Eastern time (ET), September 24, 2018
- Invitation to Submit an Application: October 2018
- **Application Submission Deadline:** 11:59 p.m. ET, December 17, 2018
- End of Application Verification Period: 5:00 p.m. ET, December 20, 2018
- **Peer Review:** February 2019
- **Programmatic Review:** April 2019

This Program Announcement must be read in conjunction with the General Application Instructions, version 20180329. The General Applications Instructions document is available for downloading from the Grants.gov funding opportunity announcement by selecting the "Package" tab, clicking "Preview," and then selecting "Download Instructions."

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# II. DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

New for 2018: Application submission by extramural organizations through Grants.gov requires use of the Workspace interface, which separates the application package into individual forms. Applicants must create a Workspace in Grants.gov, complete the required forms, and submit their application Workspace package.

#### **II.A. Program Description**

Applications to the Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury Research Program (PH/TBIRP) are being solicited for the Defense Health Agency (DHA) J9, Research and Development Directorate, by the U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity (USAMRAA) using delegated authority provided by United States Code, Title 10, Section 2358 (10 USC 2358). As directed by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (OASD[HA]), the DHA manages the Defense Health Program (DHP) Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) appropriation. The U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC) Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) provides execution management support for DHP research program areas, including the Joint Program Committee 8/Clinical and Rehabilitative Medicine Research Program (JPC-8/CRMRP). The execution management agent for this Program Announcement is the CDMRP with strategic oversight from the JPC-8/CRMRP. The PH/TBIRP was established by Congress in FY07 in response to the devastating impact of traumatic brain injury (TBI) and psychological health (PH) issues, including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), on our deployed Service members in Iraq and Afghanistan. The PH/TBIRP mission is to establish, fund, and integrate both individual and multiagency research efforts that will lead to improved prevention, detection, and treatment of PH issues and TBI. The vision of the PH/TBIRP is to prevent, mitigate, and treat the effects of traumatic stress and TBI on function, wellness, and overall quality of life for Service members as well as their caregivers and families.

The JPC-8/CRMRP seeks to implement long-term strategies to develop knowledge and materiel products to reconstruct, rehabilitate, and provide definitive care for injured Service members. The ultimate goal is to return Service members to duty and improve their quality of life. Additional information about the JPC-8/CRMRP can be found at <a href="https://crmrp.amedd.army.mil/">https://crmrp.amedd.army.mil/</a>.

Through the Complex TBI Rehabilitation Research (CTRR) initiative, the PH/TBIRP and JPC-8/CRMRP seek innovative rehabilitation research that has the potential to make a significant impact on improving the health and well-being of military Service members, Veterans, and other individuals with TBI. The programs challenge the clinical and scientific communities to design innovative research that will foster new directions for, and address neglected issues in, the field of TBI rehabilitation research. Applications from investigators within the military Services, and applications involving multidisciplinary collaborations among academia, industry, the military Services, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), and other Federal Government agencies are highly encouraged.

#### II.A.1. FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR-CRA Focus Areas

To meet the intent of the award mechanism, applications must be responsive to one or more of the following FY18 PH/TBIRP Complex TBI Rehabilitation Research – Clinical Research Award (CTRR-CRA) focus areas:

- 1. Rehabilitation Outcome Measure Development: Development and validation of clinical outcome measure(s) assessing everyday cognition such as focused attention, executive function, cognitive endurance, memory, and listening in complex environments. Instruments developed should demonstrate acceptable ecological validity; exhibit strong test psychometrics (e.g., reliability, validity, responsiveness to change); be clinically feasible (i.e., cost effective, time appropriate, space appropriate); and allow for repeated test administration to support serial measurement of cognitive performance without appreciable learning effects.
- 2. Practice Analysis: Identification of effective treatment ingredients (e.g., clinician actions, treatment characteristics, or provisioned material) within a prescribed cognitive rehabilitation intervention for the optimal treatment of post-concussive cognitive deficits or functional limitations. Little is known about the key characteristics, facets, or treatment parameters that drive optimal cognitive rehabilitation outcomes in Warfighters and relevant cohorts. Cognitive rehabilitation providers commonly prescribe interventions that target (1) nervous system function with an aim to drive neuroplastic change; (2) compensatory strategies to augment Activities of Daily Living (ADL); (3) behavioral patterns (i.e., changing actions or habits). This focus area covers systematic analysis of manualized, currently validated, reliable, and efficacious cognitive rehabilitation interventions in Warfighters or a comparable population. Treatment ingredients may include but are not limited to human factors analysis, physical exercise parameters, instructional content or details, opportunities for practice, intervention timing or duration, and effects of constructive feedback. Systematic analysis and characterization of interventions by frequency, intensity, or type will also be considered under this focus area.
- 3. Mechanisms of Recovery: Clinical research in human subjects that measures behavioral and physiological responses to cognitive rehabilitation (including but not limited to remediation of attentional difficulties, impaired memory or new learning strategies, executive dysfunction, or cognitive communication difficulties) with the intent to better understand how rehabilitation remediates cognitive or executive function deficits. Proposals responding to this focus area should demonstrate how expected findings will inform therapeutic exercise/cognitive rehabilitation prescription patterns. Proposals that address performance and outcomes associated with standard of care cognitive rehabilitation interventions in Service members and Veteran populations are highly encouraged.
- **4. Ecological Assessment:** Investigation of outcome measures focused on military-specific tasks that inform return-to-duty/participation decisions in patients with TBI and co-morbid post-concussive sequelae. Competitive proposals will propose solutions that demonstrate a balance of sensitivity, strong test psychometrics, and ecological validity while remaining clinically feasible.

- Sensitivity of a measure may be enhanced with the use of appropriate technology or novel approaches to discriminate duty limiting from non-duty limiting performance, cognitive function, dynamic stability, or activity tolerance during exertion.
- The strong test psychometrics criterion should include a plan to deliver a reliable, valid, and responsive instrument that can be used effectively by a professional provider in a deployed environment.
- Ecological validity implies an instrument that approximates real-world, Warfighterrelevant vocational demands while probing known TBI-related vulnerabilities. Proposed
  solution sets must be clinically feasible for use in an austere environment. This implies a
  technology level that can be either ruggedized or tailored for use in an operational
  environment; a solution set that can be reasonably administered by a trained provider
  within the context of a typical medical encounter; and within the space limitations of a
  small to moderate clinical space.
- Proposed solutions should address a plan for scalability and potential for future use across the force.

#### II.A.2. Award History

The PH/TBIRP CTRR-CRA mechanism was first offered in FY17. Since then, 26 CTRR-CRA applications have been received, and 4 have been recommended for funding.

#### **II.B.** Award Information

The FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR-CRA is intended to support clinical research focused on understanding the clinical sequelae and mechanisms of recovery associated with TBI and TBI rehabilitation interventions. The overarching goals of this award are to address TBI-related impairments and deficits, including multimodal, and cognitive dysfunction to (1) develop and validate rehabilitation outcome measures; (2) systematically analyze standard of care cognitive interventions to identify optimal treatment ingredients; and (3) improve clinician-driven assessment strategies to guide return-to-duty decision making.

The FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR-CRA seeks research to develop and validate novel outcome measures that will characterize and track functional cognitive performance in Service members and relevant populations with cognitive dysfunction following TBI; and to identify key treatment ingredients to optimize cognitive rehabilitation following TBI, as consistent with the mission of the JPC-8/CRMRP.

The proposed research must be relevant to active duty Service members, Veterans, and their beneficiaries. It is expected that any research findings will also provide benefit to the general population.

The FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR-CRA mechanism supports applied and translational clinical research to advance the development of knowledge and material products for rehabilitation and restoration of function following TBI. Applicants should explain how their work will inform the

development, refinement, and/or revision of existing standards of care, clinical recommendations, or guidelines.

TBI is defined as being caused by (1) a direct blow or impact to the head, (2) a penetrating head injury, or (3) an exposure to external forces such as blast waves that disrupt the function of the brain. Not all blows to the head or exposure to external forces result in a TBI. The severity of TBI may range from "mild," a brief change in mental status or consciousness, to "severe," an extended period of unconsciousness or confusion after the injury. Classification of TBI severity can be found in Table 1 of the VA/DoD Clinical Practice Guideline for the Management of Concussion-Mild Traumatic Brain Injury.

The anticipated total (direct + indirect) costs budgeted for the entire period of performance for an FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR-CRA will not exceed **\$2.0 million (M)**. Refer to Section II.D.5, Funding Restrictions, for detailed funding information.

The FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR-CRA mechanism supports clinical research but not clinical trials. Supported research can include preclinical studies using human subjects or samples and observational or mechanistic clinical research studies. For more information on clinical trials and clinical research, a Human Subject Resource Document is provided at <a href="https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm">https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm</a>.

An <u>observational study</u> is a type of clinical study in which individuals are observed or certain outcomes are measured. No attempt is made to affect the outcome. For example, observational studies can include performance-based assessments under resting and physiologically perturbed conditions, such as cardiac stress or cognitive performance tests. These types of studies are not considered clinical trials. A <u>mechanistic study</u> includes studies designed to understand a biological or behavioral process, the pathophysiology, or the mechanism of action of potential interventions relevant to TBI rehabilitation.

Clinical trials are not supported by this mechanism. A <u>clinical trial</u> is defined as a prospective accrual of human subjects where an intervention (e.g., device, drug, biologic, surgical procedure, rehabilitative modality, behavioral intervention, or other) is tested on a human subject for a measurable outcome with respect to safety, effectiveness, and/or efficacy. This outcome represents a direct effect on the human subject of that intervention or interaction. Investigators seeking funding for a clinical trial should apply to the FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR – Clinical Trial Award (W81XWH-18-CTRR-CTA).

Studies involving animal research do not meet the intent of this award mechanism.

**Preliminary Data:** Applications must include preliminary data and/or published data from the literature that are relevant to complex TBI and support the rationale for the proposed research project.

Research Involving Human Anatomical Substances, Human Subjects, or Human Cadavers: All Department of Defense (DoD)-funded research involving new and ongoing research with human anatomical substances, human subjects, or human cadavers must be reviewed and approved by the USAMRMC Office of Research Protections (ORP), Human Research Protection Office (HRPO), prior to research implementation. This administrative

review requirement is in addition to the local Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Ethics Committee (EC) review. Local IRB/EC approval at the time of submission is *not* required. The HRPO is mandated to comply with specific laws and requirements governing all research involving human anatomical substances, human subjects, or human cadavers that is supported by the DoD. These laws and requirements will necessitate information in addition to that supplied to the IRB/EC. Allow a minimum of 2 to 3 months for HRPO regulatory review and approval processes. Additional time for regulatory reviews may be needed for clinical studies taking place in international settings. When possible, protocols should be written for research with human subjects and/or human anatomical substances that are specific to the DoD-supported effort outlined in the submitted application as a stand-alone study. Submission to HRPO of protocols involving more than the scope of work in the DoD-funded award will require HRPO review of the entire protocol (DoD and non-DoD funded). DoD human subjects protection requirements may be applied to non-DoD funded work and necessitate extensive revisions to the protocol. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, and the Human Subject Resource Document available on the electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal (eBRAP) "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/ Program.htm) for additional information.

**Federal Interagency TBI Research (FITBIR) Informatics System:** For studies that will enroll TBI subjects, the DoD requires that awardees make data available to the TBI research community by depositing de-identified research data into the FITBIR Informatics System on a quarterly basis. The FITBIR Informatics System is a free resource to the TBI community designed to accelerate comparative effectiveness research on brain injury diagnosis and treatment. Data reporting to FITBIR is an opportunity for investigators to facilitate their own research and collaborate with others doing similar research. While use of FITBIR presents no direct cost to the user, a *project estimation tool* (<a href="https://fitbir.nih.gov/jsp/contribute/fitbircosts.jsp">https://fitbir.nih.gov/jsp/contribute/fitbircosts.jsp</a>) is available to help estimate indirect costs and manpower needs associated with data submission.

To contribute to FITBIR, researchers should contact the FITBIR Operations Center ahead of time to arrange for data entry support and to ensure all data have been made compatible with the system. FITBIR guidance and policies, as well as the considerable advantages of FITBIR use to the researcher, are detailed at FITBIR: Federal Interagency Traumatic Brain Injury Research Informatics System (<a href="http://fitbir.nih.gov/">http://fitbir.nih.gov/</a>).

- Global Unique Identifier (GUID): FITBIR encourages collaboration between laboratories, as well as interconnectivity with other informatics platforms. Such community-wide sharing requires common data definitions and standards. FITBIR allows for de-identification and storage of data (medical imaging clinical assessment, environmental and behavioral history, etc.) of various types (text, numeric, image, time series, etc.). Use of the FITBIR GUID system facilitates repeated and multi-user access to data without the need to personally identify data sources. In order to generate a GUID for a subject, the following personally identifiable information (PII) *must be collected in the proposed research:* 
  - o Complete legal given (first) name of subject a birth
  - Complete legal additional name of subject at birth (if subject has a middle name)

- Complete legal family (last) name of subject at birth
- Day of birth
- Month of birth
- Year of birth
- Name of city/municipality in which subject was born
- o Country of birth

Note that this PII is never sent to the FITBIR system. PII cannot be extracted from the GUID. Information on GUID compliance with HIPAA regulations can be found at <a href="https://fitbir.nih.gov/content/global-unique-identifier">https://fitbir.nih.gov/content/global-unique-identifier</a>.

• Common Data Elements (CDEs): Data elements must be reported using the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) TBI CDEs or entered into the FITBIR data dictionary as new, unique data elements (UDEs). For the most current version of the NINDS TBI CDEs, see <a href="http://www.commondataelements.ninds.nih.gov">http://www.commondataelements.ninds.nih.gov</a>. Assistance will be available to help the researchers map their study variables to specific CDEs and ensure the formats of the CDEs collected are compatible with the FITBIR Informatics System. Use of the TBI CDEs is required wherever possible in an effort to create standardized definitions and guidelines about the kinds of data to collect and the data collection methods that should be used in clinical studies of TBI. Use of UDEs is strongly discouraged and subject to program approval.

**TBI Outcomes Reporting:** PIs are highly encouraged to use the Neurobehavioral Symptom Inventory (NSI), a measure of post-TBI symptom severity, and the Patient Global Impression of Change (PGIC), a global outcome measure of patient experience of care. The NSI and PGIC achieved unanimous concurrence by DoD and VA TBI stakeholders in September 2013 as core TBI outcome measures. More information on the NSI and PGIC is available at the respective links below:

NSI: <a href="http://dvbic.dcoe.mil/sites/default/files/DVBIC">http://dvbic.dcoe.mil/sites/default/files/DVBIC</a> - NSI Information Paper Final.pdf

PGIC: http://dvbic.dcoe.mil/sites/default/files/DVBIC\_-\_PGIC\_Information\_Paper\_Final.pdf

Use of DoD or VA Resources: If the proposed research involves access to active duty military patient populations and/or DoD resources or databases, the application must describe the access at the time of submission and a plan for maintaining access as needed throughout the proposed research. Access to target active duty military patient population(s) and/or DoD resource(s) or database(s) should be confirmed by including a letter of support signed by the lowest-ranking person with approval authority.

If the proposed research involves access to VA patient populations, VA study resources and databases, and/or VA research space and equipment, VA PIs must have a plan for obtaining and maintaining access throughout the proposed research. Access to VA patients, resources, and/or VA research space should be confirmed by including a letter of support from the VA Facility

Director(s) or individual designated by the VA Facility Director(s), such as the Associate Chief of Staff for Research and Development (ACOS/R&D) or Clinical Service Chief. If appropriate, the application should identify the VA-affiliated non-profit corporation (NPC) as the applicant institution for VA PIs. If the VA NPC is not identified as the applicant institution for administering the funds, the application should include a letter from the VA ACOS/R&D confirming this arrangement and identifying the institution that will administer the funds associated with the proposed research.

Access to certain DoD or VA patient populations, resources, or databases may only be obtained by collaboration with a DoD or VA investigator who has a substantial role in the research and may not be available to a non-DoD or non-VA investigator if the resource is restricted to DoD or VA personnel. Investigators should be aware of which resources are available to them if the proposed research involves a non-DoD or non-VA investigator collaborating with the DoD and/or VA. If access cannot be confirmed at the time of application submission, the Government reserves the right to withdraw or revoke funding until the PI has demonstrated support for and access to the relevant population(s) and/or resource(s). Refer to Section II.D.2.b.ii, Full Application Submission Components, for detailed information.

**Military Relevance:** PIs are encouraged to integrate and/or align their research projects with DoD and/or VA research laboratories and programs. Collaboration with the DoD and/or VA is also encouraged. A list of websites that may be useful in identifying additional information about ongoing DoD and VA areas of research interest or potential opportunities for collaboration can be found in Appendix 2.

The types of awards made under the Program Announcement will be assistance agreements (grants or cooperative agreements). The level of involvement on the part of the Department of Defense (DoD) during project performance is the key factor in determining whether to award a grant or cooperative agreement.

Extramural Organizations: An assistance agreement (grant or cooperative agreement) is appropriate when the Federal Government transfers a "thing of value" to a "state, local government," or "other recipient" to carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by a law of the United States, instead of acquiring property or service for the direct benefit and use of the U.S. Government. An assistance agreement can take the form of a grant or cooperative agreement. If "no substantial involvement" on the part of the funding agency is anticipated, a grant award will be made (31 USC 6304). Conversely, if substantial involvement on the part of the funding agency is anticipated, a cooperative agreement will be made (31 USC 6305) and the award will identify the specific substantial involvement. Substantial involvement may include collaboration, participation, or intervention in the research to be performed under the award. The award type, along with the start date, will be determined during the negotiation process.

The CDMRP intends that information, data, and research resources generated under awards funded by this Program Announcement be made available to the research community (which includes both scientific and consumer advocacy communities) and to the public at large. For additional guidance, refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, Section K.

Awards will be made no later than September 30, 2019. For additional information refer to Section II.F.1, Federal Award Notices.

#### **II.C.** Eligibility Information

#### **II.C.1.** Eligible Applicants

## II.C.1.a. Organization: All organizations, including international organizations, are eligible to apply.

Government Agencies Within the United States: Local, state, and Federal Government agencies are eligible to the extent that applications do not overlap with their fully funded internal programs. Such agencies are required to explain how their applications do not overlap with their internal programs.

As applications for this Program Announcement may be submitted by extramural and intramural organizations, these terms are defined below.

**Extramural Organization:** An eligible non-DoD organization. Examples of extramural organizations include academic institutions, biotechnology companies, foundations, Government, and research institutes.

**Intramural DoD Organization:** A DoD laboratory, DoD military treatment facility, and/or DoD activity embedded within a civilian medical center.

*Note:* Applications from an intramural DoD organization or from an extramural Federal organization may be submitted through a research foundation.

The USAMRAA makes awards to eligible organizations, not to individuals.

#### **II.C.1.b.** Principal Investigator

Independent investigators at all academic levels (or equivalent) are eligible.

An eligible PI, regardless of ethnicity, nationality, or citizenship status, must be employed by, or affiliated with, an eligible organization.

The CDMRP encourages all PIs to participate in a digital identifier initiative through Open Researcher and Contributor ID, Inc. (ORCID). Registration for a unique ORCID identifier can be done online at <a href="http://orcid.org/">http://orcid.org/</a>.

#### **II.C.2.** Cost Sharing

Cost sharing/matching is not an eligibility requirement.

#### II.C.3. Other

Organizations must be able to access **.gov** and **.mil** websites in order to fulfill the financial and technical deliverable requirements of the award and submit invoices for payment.

There are no limitations on the number of applications for which an investigator may be named as a PI.

For general information on required qualifications for award recipients, refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 3.

Refer to <u>Section II.H.2</u>, <u>Administrative Actions</u>, for a list of administrative actions that may be taken if a pre-application or application does not meet the administrative, eligibility, or ethical requirements defined in this Program Announcement.

### **II.D.** Application and Submission Information

**Extramural Submission** is defined as an application submitted by an organization to Grants.gov.

*Intramural DoD Submission* is defined as an application submitted by a DoD organization to eBRAP.

#### **II.D.1.** Address to Request Application Package

eBRAP is a multifunctional web-based system that allows PIs to submit their pre-applications electronically through a secure connection, to view and edit the content of their pre-applications and full applications, to receive communications from the CDMRP, and to submit documentation during award negotiations and period of performance.

**Extramural Submissions:** Pre-application content and forms must be accessed and submitted at eBRAP.org. Full application packages must be accessed and submitted at Grants.gov.

*Intramural DoD Submissions:* Pre-application content and forms and full application packages must be accessed and submitted at <u>eBRAP.org</u>.

Contact information for the CDMRP Help Desk and the Grants.gov Contact Center can be found in <u>Section II.G</u>, <u>Federal Awarding Agency Contacts</u>.

#### **II.D.2.** Content and Form of the Application Submission

Submission is a two-step process requiring both *pre-application* and *full application* as indicated below. The submission process should be started early to avoid missing deadlines. There are no grace periods.

**Pre-Application Submission:** All pre-applications for both extramural and intramural organizations must be submitted through eBRAP (<a href="https://eBRAP.org/">https://eBRAP.org/</a>).

**Full Application Submission:** Full applications must be submitted through the online portals as described below.

*Submitting Extramural Organizations:* Full applications from extramural organizations must be submitted through a Grants.gov Workspace. Applications submitted by extramural organizations (e.g., research foundations) on behalf of intramural DoD or other Federal

organizations or investigators will be considered extramural submissions. Applications from extramural organizations, including non-DoD Federal organizations, received through eBRAP will be withdrawn. See definitions in <u>Section II.C.1</u>, <u>Eligible Applicants</u>.

Submitting Intramural DoD Organizations: Intramural DoD organizations may submit full applications to either eBRAP or Grants.gov. Intramural DoD organizations that are unable to submit to Grants.gov should submit through eBRAP. Intramural DoD organizations with the capability to submit through Grants.gov may submit following the instructions for extramural submissions through Grants.gov or may submit to eBRAP.

For Both Extramural and Intramural Applicants: A key feature of eBRAP is the ability of an organization's representatives and PIs to view and modify the full application submissions associated with them. eBRAP will validate full application files against the specific Program Announcement requirements, and discrepancies will be noted in an email to the PI and in the "Full Application Files" tab in eBRAP. It is the applicant's responsibility to review all application components for accuracy as well as ensure proper ordering as specified in this Program Announcement.

The application title, eBRAP log number, and all information for the PI, Business Official(s), performing organization, and contracting organization must be consistent throughout the entire pre-application and full application submission process. Inconsistencies may delay application processing and limit or negate the ability to view, modify, and verify the application in eBRAP. If any changes need to be made, the applicant should contact the CDMRP Help Desk at <a href="help@eBRAP.org">help@eBRAP.org</a> or 301-682-5507 prior to the application submission deadline.

#### II.D.2.a. Step 1: Pre-Application Submission Content

During the pre-application process, each submission is assigned a unique log number by eBRAP. This unique eBRAP log number is required during the full application submission process.

To begin the pre-application process, first select whether the submitting organization is extramural or intramural, then confirm your selection or cancel. **Incorrect selection of extramural or intramural submission type will delay processing.** 

If an error has been made in the selection of extramural versus intramural and the pre-application submission deadline has passed, the PI or Business Official must contact the CDMRP Help Desk at help@eBRAP.org or 301-682-5507 to request a change in designation.

All pre-application components must be submitted by the PI through eBRAP (<a href="https://eBRAP.org/">https://eBRAP.org/</a>). Because the invitation to submit an application is based on the contents of the pre-application, investigators should not change the title or research objectives after the pre-application is submitted.

Applicant organizations and associated PIs identified in the pre-application should be the same as those intended for the subsequent application submission. If any changes are necessary after submission of the pre-application, the PI must contact the CDMRP Help Desk at help@eBRAP.org or 301-682-5507.

PIs with an ORCID identifier should enter that information in the appropriate field in the "My Profile" tab in the "Account Information" section of eBRAP.

The pre-application consists of the following components, which are organized in eBRAP by separate tabs (refer to the General Application Instructions, Section II.B, for additional information on pre-application submission):

#### • Tab 1 – Application Information

Submission of application information includes assignment of primary and secondary research classification codes, which may be found at <a href="https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm">https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm</a>. Note that the codes have recently been revised. Applicants are strongly encouraged to review and confirm the codes prior to making their selection.

#### • Tab 2 – Application Contacts

Enter contact information for the PI. Enter the organization's Business Official responsible for sponsored program administration (the "person to be contacted on matters involving this application" in Block 5 of the Grants.gov SF424 (R&R) Form). The Business Official must be either selected from the eBRAP list or invited in order for the pre-application to be submitted.

Select the performing organization (site at which the PI will perform the proposed work) and the contracting organization (organization submitting on behalf of the PI, which corresponds to Block 5 on the Grants.gov SF424 (R&R) Form), and click on "Add Organizations to this Pre-application." The organization(s) must be either selected from the eBRAP drop-down list or invited in order for the pre-application to be submitted.

It is recommended that PIs identify an Alternate Submitter in the event that assistance with pre-application submission is needed.

#### Tab 3 – Collaborators and Key Personnel

Enter the name, organization, and role of all collaborators and key personnel associated with the application.

<u>FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR Programmatic Panel members</u> should not be involved in any preapplication or application. For questions related to panel members and pre-applications or applications, refer to <u>Section II.H.2.c, Withdrawal</u>, or contact the CDMRP Help Desk at <u>help@eBRAP.org</u> or 301-682-5507.

To preserve the integrity of its peer and programmatic review processes, the CDMRP discourages inclusion of any employee of its review contractors having any role in preapplication or application preparation, research, or other duties for submitted pre-applications or applications. For FY18, the identities of the peer review contractor and the programmatic review contractor may be found at the CDMRP website (<a href="http://cdmrp.army.mil/about/2tierRevProcess">http://cdmrp.army.mil/about/2tierRevProcess</a>). Pre-applications or applications that include names of personnel from either of these companies will be administratively withdrawn unless plans to manage

conflicts of interest (COIs) are provided and deemed appropriate by the Grants Officer. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 3, for detailed information.

#### • Tab 4 – Conflicts of Interest

List all individuals other than collaborators and key personnel who may have a COI in the review of the application (including those with whom the PI has a personal or professional relationship). Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 3, Section C, for further information regarding COIs.

### • Tab 5 – Pre-Application Files

Note: Upload documents as individual PDF files unless otherwise noted. eBRAP will not allow a file to be uploaded if the number of pages exceeds the limit specified below.

• Preproposal Narrative (three-page limit): The Preproposal Narrative page limit applies to text and non-text elements (e.g., figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, drawings) used to describe the project. Inclusion of URLs that provide additional information to expand the Preproposal Narrative and could confer an unfair competitive advantage is prohibited and may result in administrative withdrawal of the pre-application.

The Preproposal Narrative should include the following:

- **Alignment:** Note specifically which of the FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR-CRA focus area(s) the proposed work addresses.
- Objective/Hypothesis and Rationale: State the hypothesis to be tested or the objective to be reached. State the ideas and reasoning on which the proposed clinical research study is based. Briefly describe how the preliminary data and rationale support the research idea. State how this project meets the intent of the award mechanism.
- Research Strategy: Clearly describe the clinical research study being proposed.
   Concisely state the project's objectives, specific aims, and ultimate endpoints. As applicable, briefly describe the proposed recruitment strategies and methods, how they will accomplish the project's aims, and the outcome measures that will be used.
- Research Team: Provide a description of the research team that clearly demonstrates the appropriate background and expertise to accomplish the proposed work.
- Impact and Military Benefit: Describe how the proposed work will impact healthcare needs for military Service members, Veterans, and other individuals recovering from TBI in conjunction with symptoms associated with cognitive or multimodal dysfunction. If applicable, describe how the proposed work will inform return-to-duty decision making.
- Estimated total budget

- Pre-Application Supporting Documentation: The items to be included as supporting documentation for the pre-application *must be uploaded as individual files* and are limited to the following:
  - References Cited (one-page limit): List the references cited (including URLs if available) in the Preproposal Narrative using a standard reference format that includes the full citation (i.e., author[s], year published, reference title, and reference source, including volume, chapter, page numbers, and publisher, as appropriate).
  - List of Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Symbols: Provide a list of abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols used in the Preproposal Narrative.
  - Key Personnel Biographical Sketches (six-page limit per individual): All biographical sketches should be uploaded as a single combined file. Biographical sketches of the PI and key personnel should be used to demonstrate background and expertise through education, positions, publications, and previous work accomplished.
  - Quad Chart: Provide a Quad Chart for the proposed project. The Quad Chart template is a one-page PowerPoint file that must be downloaded from eBRAP at <a href="https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm">https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm</a>, completed and saved as a PDF file using Adobe Acrobat Reader.

#### • Tab 6 – Submit Pre-Application

This tab must be completed for the pre-application to be accepted and processed.

#### **Pre-Application Screening**

#### • Pre-Application Screening Criteria

To determine the technical merits of the pre-application and the relevance to the mission of the DHP and the JPC-8/CRMRP, pre-applications will be screened based on the following criteria:

- Alignment: How well the project addresses at least one of the FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR-CRA focus areas.
- Objective/Hypothesis and Rationale: How well the objective/hypothesis is stated and supported through preliminary data, scientific rationale, and referenced literature.
- Research Strategy: To what degree the rationale, objectives, and specific aims support
  the research idea. How well the outcome measures and endpoints are defined and are
  appropriate for the proposed study. Whether the proposed recruitment strategies (if
  applicable) and methodology are appropriate for accomplishing the research aims.
- Research Team: Whether the qualifications and expertise of the PI and key personnel are appropriate to perform the proposed research.

 Impact and Military Benefit: To what degree the proposed work will impact healthcare needs for military Service members, Veterans, and other individuals recovering from TBI in conjunction with symptoms associated with cognitive or multimodal dysfunction. If applicable, to what degree the proposed work will inform return-to-duty decision making.

#### Notification of Pre-Application Screening Results

Following the pre-application screening, PIs will be notified as to whether or not they are invited to submit applications; however, they will not receive feedback (e.g., a critique of strengths and weaknesses) on their pre-application. The estimated timeframe for notification of invitation to submit an application is indicated in <a href="Section I, Overview of the Funding Opportunity">Section I, Overview of the Funding Opportunity</a>. Invitations to submit a full application are based on the Pre-Application Screening Criteria listed above.

#### **II.D.2.b.** Step 2: Full Application Submission Content

Applications will not be accepted unless the PI has received notification of invitation.

All contributors and administrators to the application must use matching compatible versions of Adobe software when editing and preparing application components. The use of different software versions will result in corruption of the submitted file. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III, for details on compatible Adobe software.

The CDMRP cannot make allowances/exceptions to its policies for submission problems encountered by the applicant organization using system-to-system interfaces with Grants.gov.

Each application submission must include the completed full application package for this Program Announcement. The full application package is submitted by the Authorized Organizational Representative through Grants.gov (<a href="http://www.grants.gov/">http://www.grants.gov/</a>) for extramural organizations or through eBRAP (<a href="https://ebrap.org/">https://ebrap.org/</a>) for intramural organizations. See Table 1 below for more specific guidelines.

#### II.D.2.b.i. Full Application Guidelines

Extramural organizations must submit full applications through Grants.gov. Applicants must create a Grants.gov Workspace for submission, which allows the application components to be completed online and routed through the applicant organization for review prior to submission. Applicants may choose to download and save individual PDF forms rather than filling out webforms in the Workspace. A compatible version of Adobe Reader **must** be used to view, complete, and submit an application package consisting of PDF forms. If more than one person is entering text into an application package, the *same version* of Adobe Reader software should be used by each person. Check the version number of the Adobe software on each user's computer to make sure the versions match. Using different versions of Adobe Reader may cause submission and/or save errors – even if each version is individually compatible with Grants.gov. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III, and the "Apply For Grants" page of Grants.gov (<a href="https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-for-grants.html">https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/apply-for-grants.html</a>) for further information about the Grants.gov Workspace submission process. Submissions of extramural applications through eBRAP may be withdrawn.

Table 1. Full Application Submission Guidelines

Extramural Submissions	Intramural DoD Submissions			
Application Package Location				
Download application package components for W81XWH-18-CTRR-CRA from Grants.gov (http://www.grants.gov) and create a Grants.gov Workspace. The Workspace allows online completion of the application components and routing of the application package through the applicant organization for review prior to submission.	Download application package components for W81XWH-18-CTRR-CRA from eBRAP ( <a href="https://ebrap.org">https://ebrap.org</a> ).			
Full Application Package Components				
SF424 (R&R) Application for Federal Assistance Form: Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.1, for detailed information.	Tab 1 – Summary: Provide a summary of the application information.  Tab 2 – Application Contacts: This tab will be pre-populated by eBRAP; add Authorized Organizational Representative.			
Descriptions of each required file can be found under Full Application Submission Components:  • Attachments • Research & Related Personal Data • Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded) • Research & Related Budget • Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form • R&R Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form (if applicable)	Tab 3 – Full Application Files: Upload files under each Application Component in eBRAP. Descriptions of each required file can be found under Full Application Submission Components:  • Attachments • Key Personnel • Budget • Performance Sites  Tab 4 – Application and Budget Data: Review and edit proposed project start date, proposed end date, and budget data pre-populated from the Budget Form.			
Application Pacl	Application Package Submission			
Create a Grants.gov Workspace. Add participants (investigators and Business Officials) to the Workspace, complete all required forms, and check for errors before submission. Submit a Grants.gov Workspace Package. An application may be submitted through Workspace by clicking the "Sign and Submit" button on the "Manage Workspace" page, under the "Forms" tab. Grants.gov recommends submission of the application package at least 24-48 hours prior to the close date to allow time to	Submit package components to eBRAP (https://ebrap.org).  Tab 5 – Submit/Request Approval Full Application: After all components are uploaded and prior to the full application submission deadline, enter your password in the space provided next to "Enter Your Password Here" and press the "Submit Full Application" button. eBRAP will notify your Resource Manager/Comptroller/Task Area Manager or equivalent Business Official by email.			

<del>_</del>				
Extramural Submissions	Intramural DoD Submissions			
correct any potential technical issues that may disrupt the application submission.  Note: If either the Project Narrative or the budget fails eBRAP validation or if the Project Narrative or the budget needs to be modified, an updated Grants.gov application package must be submitted via Grants.gov as a "Changed/Corrected Application" with the previous Grants.gov Tracking ID prior to the application submission deadline.				
Application Verification Period				
The full application package submitted to Grants.gov may be viewed and modified in eBRAP until the end of the application verification period. During the application verification period, the full application package, with the exception of the Project Narrative and Budget Form, may be modified.	After eBRAP has processed the full application, the organizational Resource Manager/Comptroller/ Task Area Manager or equivalent Business Official and PI will receive email notification of this status and will be able to view and modify application components in eBRAP. During the application verification period, the full application package, with the exception of the Project Narrative and Budget Form, may be modified. Your Resource Manager/Comptroller/Task Area Manager or equivalent Business Official should log into eBRAP to review and to approve prior to the application verification deadline.			
Further In	formation			
Tracking a Grants.gov Workspace Package. After successfully submitting a Workspace package, a Grants.gov Tracking Number is automatically assigned to the package. The number will be listed on the "Confirmation" page that is generated after submission. Refer to the General Application Instructions,	Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV, for further information regarding eBRAP requirements.			

Application viewing, modification, and verification in eBRAP are strongly recommended, but not required. *The Project Narrative and Budget cannot be changed after the application submission deadline.* Prior to the full application deadline, a corrected or modified full application package may be submitted. Other application components may be changed until the end of the application verification period. Verify that subaward budget(s) and budget justification forms are present in eBRAP during the application verification period. If these components are missing, upload them to eBRAP before the end of the application verification

Section III, for further information regarding

Grants.gov requirements.

period. After the end of the application verification period, the full application cannot be modified.

Material submitted after the end of the application verification period, unless specifically requested by the Government, will not be forwarded for processing.

The full application package must be submitted using the unique eBRAP log number to avoid delays in application processing.

#### II.D.2.b.ii. Full Application Submission Components

• Extramural Applications Only

**SF424** (**R&R**) **Application for Federal Assistance Form:** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.1, for detailed information.

• Extramural and Intramural Applications

#### **Attachments:**

Each attachment to the full application components must be uploaded as an individual file in the format specified and in accordance with the formatting guidelines listed in the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4.

For all attachments, ensure that the file names are consistent with the guidance. Attachments will be rejected if the file names are longer than 50 characters or have incorrect file names that contain characters other than the following: A-Z, a-z, 0-9, underscore, hyphen, space, and period. In addition, there are file size limits that may apply in some circumstances. Individual attachments may not exceed 20 MB, and the file size for the entire full application package may not exceed 200 MB.

• Attachment 1: Project Narrative (15-page limit): Upload as "ProjectNarrative.pdf". The page limit of the Project Narrative applies to text and non-text elements (e.g., figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, drawings) used to describe the project. Inclusion of URLs that provide additional information to expand the Project Narrative and could confer an unfair competitive advantage is prohibited and may result in administrative withdrawal of the application.

Describe the proposed project in detail using the outline below.

Background: State the relevance of the research to at least one of the FY18
 PH/TBIRP CTRR-CRA focus areas and explain the applicability of the proposed findings. Present the ideas and reasoning behind the proposed work. Describe previous experience and expertise of the investigators that are most pertinent to this project. Include preliminary and/or published data that are relevant to complex TBI and the proposed research project.

 Objectives/Specific Aims/Hypotheses: Provide a description of the purpose and objectives of the study with detailed specific aims and/or study questions/hypotheses.

#### – Research Strategy:

- Describe the experimental design, methods, and analyses, including appropriate randomization, blinding, and controls, in sufficient detail for scientific peer review. If any biological material will be used in the proposed studies, the name, definition, pathological classification, and source of the material must be provided. Address potential problem areas and present alternative methods and approaches.
- Provide a well-developed, well-integrated research strategy that supports the translational feasibility and promise of the approach detailed in the Transition Plan (see Attachment 12).
- Define the specific study outcomes and how they will be measured. Describe
  how data will be collected, handled, and analyzed in a manner that is consistent
  with the study objectives.
- As applicable, specify and justify the FITBIR CDEs to be used.
- Describe multidisciplinary collaboration, integration, and/or alignment with military and/or VA research laboratories and programs, if applicable.
- As appropriate, include a brief description of the plan for the recruitment of subjects or the acquisition of samples and/or data. Full information should be provided in <u>Attachment 6: Human Subject Recruitment and Safety Procedures</u>. Specify the approximate number of human subjects to be enrolled. If multiple study sites are to be involved, state the approximate number to be enrolled at each site. Demonstrate that the sample size is appropriate and sufficient to meet the objectives of the study.
  - ❖ If human subjects or human anatomical samples will be used, define the target population with regard to injury severity. Refer to the definitions of TBI severity in Table 1 of the <u>VA/DoD Clinical Practice Guideline for the Management of Concussion-Mild Traumatic Brain Injury.</u>
- Statistical and Data Analysis Plan: Describe the statistical model and data analysis plan with respect to the study objectives. Specify the approximate number of human subjects to be enrolled, if applicable. If multiple study sites are involved, state the approximate number to be enrolled at each site. Include a complete power analysis to demonstrate that the sample size is appropriate to meet the objectives of the study. If a subpopulation of a recruited sample population will be used for analysis, complete a statistical analysis to ensure appropriate power can be achieved within the subpopulation study.

• Attachment 2: Supporting Documentation: Combine and upload as a single file named "Support.pdf". Start each document on a new page. If documents are scanned to PDF, the lowest resolution (100 to 150 dpi) should be used. The Supporting Documentation attachment should not include additional information such as figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, or drawings. These items should be included in the Project Narrative.

There are no page limits for any of these components unless otherwise noted. Include only those components described below; inclusion of items not requested or viewed as an extension of the Project Narrative will result in the removal of those items or may result in administrative withdrawal of the application.

- References Cited: List the references cited (including URLs, if available) in the Project Narrative using a standard reference format that includes the full citation (i.e., author[s], year published, title of reference, source of reference, volume, chapter, page numbers, and publisher, as appropriate).
- List of Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Symbols: Provide a list of abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols.
- Facilities, Existing Equipment, and Other Resources: Describe the facilities and equipment available for performance of the proposed project and any additional facilities or equipment proposed for acquisition at no cost to the award. Indicate whether or not Government-furnished facilities or equipment are proposed for use. If so, reference should be made to the original or present Government award under which the facilities or equipment items are now accountable. There is no form for this information.
- Publications and/or Patents: Include a list of relevant publication URLs and/or patent abstracts. If publications are not publicly available, then copies of up to five published manuscripts may be included in Attachment 2. Extra items will not be reviewed.
- Letters of Organizational Support: Provide a letter (or letters, if applicable) signed by the Department Chair or appropriate organization official, confirming the laboratory space, equipment, and other resources available for the project. Letters of support not requested in the Program Announcement, such as those from members of Congress, do not impact application review or funding decisions.
- Letters of Collaboration (if applicable): Provide a signed letter from each collaborating individual or organization that will demonstrate that the PI has the support or resources necessary for the proposed work. If an investigator at an intramural organization is named as a collaborator on an application submitted through an extramural organization, the application must include a letter from the collaborator's Commander or Commanding Officer at the intramural organization that authorizes the collaborator's involvement.

- Letters of Commitment (if applicable): If the proposed study involves use of a
  commercially produced investigational drug, device, or biologic, provide a letter of
  commitment from the commercial entity indicating availability of the product for the
  duration of the study, support for the proposed phase of research, and support for the
  indication to be tested.
- Intellectual Property: Information can be found in Code of Federal Regulations, Title 2, Part 200.315 (2 CFR 200.315), "Intangible Property."
  - Intellectual and Material Property Plan (if applicable): Provide a plan for resolving intellectual and material property issues among participating organizations.
- Data and Research Resources Sharing Plan: Describe how data and resources generated during the performance of the project will be shared with the research community.
  - If applicable, describe the plan to make data available to the TBI research community through the FITBIR Informatics System. If an alternative datasharing vehicle will be employed, provide a justification for its use.
  - Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, Section K, for more information about the CDMRP expectations for making data and research resources publicly available. Additionally, the Government reserves the right to identify repositories for submission of data for archive. Any costs associated with submission will be addressed during award negotiations.
- Use of DoD Resources (if applicable): Provide a letter of support signed by the lowest-ranking person with approval authority confirming access to active duty military patient populations and/or DoD resources or databases.
- Use of VA Resources (if applicable): Provide a letter of support from the VA Facility Director(s) or individual designated by the VA Facility Director(s), such as the ACOS/R&D or Clinical Service Chief confirming access to VA patients, resources, and/or VA research space. For VA PIs, if the VA NPC is not identified as the applicant institution for administering the funds, include a letter from the VA ACOS/R&D confirming this arrangement and identifying the institution that will administer the funds associated with the proposed research.
- Quad Chart: Provide a Quad Chart for the proposed project. The format for the quad chart is available on the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page at <a href="https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm">https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm</a>.
- Attachment 3: Technical Abstract (one-page limit): Upload as "TechAbs.pdf". The technical abstract is used by all reviewers. Abstracts of all funded research projects will be posted publicly. *Do not include proprietary or confidential information.* Use only characters available on a standard QWERTY keyboard. Spell out all Greek letters, other non-English letters, and symbols. Graphics are not allowed.

Technical abstracts should be written using the outline below. The technical abstract should provide an appropriate description of the project's key aspects; clarity and completeness within the space limits of the technical abstract are highly important.

- Background: State how the proposed research addresses one or more of the FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR-CRA focus areas. Present the ideas and rationale supporting the proposed research project.
- Objective/Hypothesis: State the concept/question to be tested. Provide evidence or rationale that supports the objective/hypothesis.
- Specific Aims: State the specific aims of the study.
- Study Design: Briefly describe the study design, including appropriate controls.
- Impact/Military Benefit: Briefly explain how the proposed project will have an immediate or potential long-term impact on the health and well-being of military Service members, Veterans, and other individuals living with complex TBI.
- Attachment 4: Lay Abstract (one-page limit): Upload as "LayAbs.pdf". The lay abstract is used by all reviewers. Abstracts of all funded research projects will be posted publicly. Do not include proprietary or confidential information. Use only characters available on a standard QWERTY keyboard. Spell out all Greek letters, other non-English letters, and symbols. Graphics are not allowed.

Lay abstracts should be written using the outline below. *Do not duplicate the technical abstract.* 

- Describe the objectives and rationale for the application in a manner that will be readily understood by readers without a background in science or medicine.
- Describe the ultimate applicability and potential impact of the research.
  - What types of patients will it help, and how will it help them? Include the current available statistics to the related injury/condition.
  - What are the potential clinical applications, benefits, and risks?
  - What is the projected timeline it may take to achieve the expected patient-related outcome?
  - What are the likely contributions of the proposed research project to advancing the field of complex TBI?
- Briefly describe how the proposed project will benefit military Service members,
   Veterans, and other individuals living with complex TBI.
- Attachment 5: Statement of Work (SOW) (three-page limit): Upload as "SOW.pdf".
   The suggested SOW format and examples specific to different types of research projects

are available on the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (<a href="https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm">https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm</a>). For the CTRR-CRA mechanism, use the SOW format example titled, "SOW for Clinical Research (Including Trials, Special Populations)." The SOW must be in PDF format prior to attaching.

The SOW should include a list of major tasks that support the proposed specific aims, followed by a series of subtasks outlined related to the major tasks and milestones within the period of performance. The SOW should describe only the work for which funding is being requested by this application and, as applicable, should also:

- Include the name(s) of the key personnel and contact information for each study site/ subaward site.
- Indicate the number (and type, if applicable) of research subjects (animal or human) and/or human anatomical samples projected or required for each task and at each site.
   Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, for additional information regarding regulatory requirements.
- For studies with prospective accrual of human subjects, indicate quarterly enrollment targets.
- Identify cell line(s) and commercial or organizational source(s) to be used.
- If applicable, indicate timelines required for regulatory approvals relevant to human subjects research (e.g., Investigational New Drug and Investigational Device Exemption applications) by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or other Government agency.
- Briefly state the methods to be used.
- Attachment 6: Human Subject Recruitment and Safety Procedures (no page limit):
   Upload as "HumSubProc.pdf". The Human Subject Recruitment and Safety Procedures attachment should include the components listed below, as appropriate.
  - Study Population: Describe the target population (to whom the study findings will be generalized) and the nature, approximate number, and pertinent demographic characteristics of the accessible population at the study site(s) (population from whom the sample will be recruited/drawn). Demonstrate that the research team has access to the proposed study population. Furthermore, discuss past efforts in recruiting human subjects from the target population for previous clinical research studies (if applicable). Address any potential barriers to accrual and plans for addressing unanticipated delays. Include justification of any age, race, ethnicity, or sex limitations provided. For clinical research studies proposing to include military personnel, refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, for more information.
  - Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria: List the inclusion and exclusion criteria for the proposed clinical research study. Inclusion/exclusion criteria should take into

consideration the specific risk profile of the studies to be conducted and the standard of care for that patient population. Provide detailed justification for exclusions.

- Inclusion of Women and Minorities in Study: Consistent with the Belmont Report, "Ethical Principles and Guidelines for the Protection of Human Subjects," and Congressional legislation, special attention is given to inclusion of women and/or minorities in studies funded or supported by the USAMRMC. This policy is intended to promote equity both in assuming the burdens and in receiving the benefits of human subjects research. Include an appropriate justification if women and/or minorities will be excluded from the clinical research study.
- Description of the Recruitment Process: Explain methods for identification of potential human subjects (e.g., medical record review, obtaining sampling lists, healthcare provider identification).
  - Describe the recruitment process in detail. Address who will identify potential human subjects, who will recruit them, and what methods will be used to recruit them.
  - If human subjects will be compensated for participation in the study, include a detailed description of and justification for the compensation plan.
  - Describe the recruitment and advertisement materials. The recruitment materials should not be coercive or offer undue inducements and should accurately reflect the study.
- Description of the Informed Consent Process: Specifically describe the plan for obtaining informed consent from human subjects.
  - For the proposed clinical research study, provide a draft, in English, of the Informed Consent Form.
  - Identify who is responsible for explaining the study, answering questions, and obtaining informed consent. Include a plan for ensuring that human subjects' questions will be addressed during the consent process and throughout the study.
  - Include information regarding the timing and location of the consent process.
  - Address issues relevant to the mental capacity of the potential human subject (e.g., altered capacity due to administration of any mind-altering substances such as tranquilizers, conscious sedation or anesthesia, brain injury, stress/life situations, or human subject age), if applicable.
  - Address how privacy and time for decision making will be provided and whether
    or not the potential human subject will be allowed to discuss the study with
    anyone before making a decision.

- Consider the need for obtaining ongoing consent or for re-assessing capacity over the course of a long-term study and describe any relevant procedures to assure continued consent.
- Describe the plan for the consent of the individual's Legally Authorized Representative (LAR) to be obtained prior to the human subject's participation in the study. State law defines who may act as the LAR. The local IRB of record should be consulted for guidance regarding who can serve as LAR for research at the study site. Note: The PI must describe a clear intent to benefit for human subjects who cannot give their own consent to participate in the proposed clinical research study to be in compliance with 10 USC 980 (<a href="http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2011-title10/pdf/USCODE-2011-title10-subtitleA-partII-chap49-sec980.pdf">http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2011-title10/pdf/USCODE-2011-title10-subtitleA-partII-chap49-sec980.pdf</a>). If applicable, refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, for more information.
- Assent: If minors or other populations that cannot provide informed consent are included in the proposed clinical research study, a plan to obtain assent (agreement) from those with capacity to provide it, or a justification for a waiver of assent, should be provided. PIs should consult with their local IRB to identify the conditions necessary for obtaining assent.
- Screening Procedures: List and describe any evaluations (e.g., laboratory procedures, history, or physical examination) that are required to determine eligibility/suitability for study participation and the diagnostic criteria for entry. Note that some screening procedures may require a separate consent or a two-stage consent process.

#### Risks/Benefits Assessment:

• Foreseeable risks: Clearly identify all study risks, including potential safety concerns and adverse events. Study risks include any risks that the human subject is subjected to as a result of participation in the clinical research study. Consider psychological, legal, social, and economic risks as well as physical risks. If the risks are unknown, this should be stated. If applicable, any potential risk to the study personnel should be identified.

#### Risk management and emergency response:

- Describe how safety surveillance and reporting to the IRB and FDA (if applicable) will be managed and conducted.
- Describe all safety measures to minimize and/or eliminate risks to human subjects and study personnel or to manage unpreventable risks.
- Discuss the overall plan for provision of emergency care or treatment for an adverse event for study-related injuries, to include who will be responsible for the cost of such care.

- ❖ Address any special precautions to be taken by the human subjects before, during, and after the study (e.g., medication washout periods, dietary restrictions, hydration, fasting, pregnancy prevention).
- ❖ If the IRB determines that a study presents greater-than-minimal risk to human subjects, the DoD requires an independent research monitor with expertise consistent with the nature of risk(s) identified within the research protocol. If applicable, refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 1, for more information on study reporting authorities and responsibilities of the research monitor.
- Potential benefits: Describe known and potential benefits of the study to the human subjects who will participate in the study. Articulate the importance of the knowledge to be gained as a result of the proposed research. Discuss why the potential risks to human subjects are reasonable in relation to the anticipated benefits to the human subjects and others that may be expected to result.
- Attachment 7: Data Management (no page limit): Upload as "Data\_Manage.pdf". The Data Management attachment should include the components listed below.
  - Data Management: Describe all methods used for data collection to include the following:
    - **Identifiers:** Describe the unique identifiers or specific code system to be used to identify human subjects, if applicable.

#### Confidentiality:

- ❖ Explain measures taken to protect the privacy of human subjects and maintain confidentiality of study data. Strategies to protect the privacy and confidentiality of study records, particularly those containing identifying information, should be addressed.
- Address who will have access to study records, data, and specimens, including an acknowledgment that representatives of the DoD are eligible to review study records.
- ❖ Address requirements for reporting sensitive information to state or local authorities.
- Data capture, verification, and disposition: Describe how data will be captured and verified. Describe where data (both electronic and hard copy) will be stored, who will keep the data, how the data will be stored, the process for locking the database at study completion, and the length of time data will be stored. Describe the proposed database, how it will be developed and validated, and its capability to safeguard and maintain the integrity of the data. Describe the database lock process. For FDA-regulated studies, compliance with 21 CFR 11 and appropriate

- data standards (such as those established by the Clinical Data Interchange Standards Consortium) are required.
- **Data reporting:** Describe how data will be reported and how it will be assured that the documentation will support a regulatory filing with the FDA, if applicable.
- Sharing study results: In cases where the human subject could possibly benefit medically or otherwise from the information, explain whether or not the results of screening and/or study participation will be shared with human subjects or their primary care provider, to include results from any screening or diagnostic tests performed as part of the study.

#### Laboratory Evaluations:

- Specimens to be collected, schedule, and amount: All specimens that will be
  collected for study purposes must be clearly stated. The collection schedule and
  amount of material collected must also be clearly described.
- Evaluations to be made: Describe all evaluations that will be made for study purposes. Explain how the results of laboratory evaluations will be used to meet the objectives of the study (or to monitor safety of human subjects).
- Storage: Describe specimen storage, to include location of storage, how long specimens will be stored, any special conditions required, labeling, and specimen disposition. Outline the plan to store specimens for future use to include considerations for informed consent and providing human subjects with an opportunity to decline participation in the study.
- Labs performing evaluations and special precautions: Identify the laboratory performing each evaluation, the applicable quality standard, and any special precautions that should be taken in handling the samples. Special precautions that should be taken by the human subject before, during, or after the laboratory procedure should be clearly defined. If transport of samples is required, describe provisions for ensuring proper storage during transport.
- Attachment 8: Study Personnel and Organization (no page limit): Start each
  document on a new page. Combine into one document and upload as "Personnel.pdf".
  The Study Personnel and Organization attachment should include the components listed
  below.
  - Organizational Chart: Provide an organizational chart that identifies key members of the study team and provides an outline of the governing structure for multi-institutional studies. Identify collaborating organizations, centers, and/or departments and name each person's position on the project. Include any separate laboratory or testing centers. Identify the data and clinical coordinating center(s) and note any involvement from Contract Research Organizations, as appropriate. Identify and provide justification for the inclusion of international sites, as appropriate. If

applicable, identify the FDA regulatory sponsor and any external consultants or other experts who will assist with FDA applications. While there is no specified format for this information, a table(s) or diagram is recommended. Note: This item may be made available for programmatic review.

- Study Personnel Description: Briefly describe the roles of the individuals listed in the organizational chart on the project. Describe relevant experience and qualifications that demonstrate appropriate expertise for the given role, including previous interactions with the FDA, if applicable. An external research monitor (if applicable) and study coordinator(s) should be included.
- Study Management Plan: Provide a plan for ensuring the standardization of procedures among staff and across sites (if applicable). If the proposed clinical research study is multi-institutional, clearly describe the multi-institutional structure governing the research protocol(s) across all participating institutions. Provide a regulatory submission plan for the master protocol and master consent form by the lead organization; include a single IRB/EC pathway whenever possible. If applicable, describe how communication and data transfer between the collaborating institutions will occur, as well as how data, specimens, and/or imaging products obtained during the study will be handled and shared.
- Attachment 9: Surveys, Questionnaires, and Other Data Collection Instruments, if applicable (no page limit): Upload as "Surveys.pdf". The Surveys, Questionnaires, and Other Data Collection Instruments attachment should include a copy of the most recent version of surveys, questionnaires, data collection forms, rating scales, interview guides, or other instruments. For each instrument, describe how the information collected is related to the objectives of the study. Describe how and when the instrument(s) will be administered. Describe how the instrument(s) will be adapted to the subject population, if applicable.
- Attachment 10: Impact and Military Benefit Statement (two-page limit): Upload as "Impact.pdf". Describe the short- and long-term impact of this study on the field of complex TBI research, patient care, and/or quality of life, including an assessment of the likelihood that a successful outcome of the proposed research project will lead to a practical application in individuals recovering from military-relevant injuries and diseases incident to military service as well as injuries and diseases occurring in the general public. Address the impact on one or more of the FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR-CRA focus areas. Although not all-inclusive, the following are examples of ways in which research projects may have an impact, if successful:
  - The proposed research has the potential to advance the field of complex TBI research.
  - The proposed research will contribute to the development or validation of evidencebased policy or guidelines for patient evaluation and care and/or informs return-toduty decision making.
  - The proposed research will address relevant controversies or treatment issues.

- The proposed research addresses potential issues that might limit the impact of the findings.
- If an active duty military, Veteran, or military family member population(s) will be used in the proposed research project, the proposed research will describe the population(s), the appropriateness of the population(s) for the proposed research, and the feasibility of using the population. If a non-military population will be used for the proposed research project, explain how the results will be relevant to active duty military, Veteran, or military family member population(s).
- Attachment 11: Regulatory Strategy (no page limit): If submitting multiple documents, start each document on a new page. Combine and upload as a single file named "Regulatory.pdf". Include the components listed below and provide supporting documentation as applicable.
  - State the product/intervention name.

## For products/interventions that do not require regulation by the FDA or an international regulatory agency:

Describe the rationale for why the product/intervention is exempt from FDA oversight. Provide a copy of the confirmation in writing from the IRB of record, the FDA, or the international regulatory agency for clinical trials conducted at an international site(s) that the proposed investigational drug/agent/device is exempt or the proposed investigational device qualifies for an abbreviated IDE.

#### For products that require regulation by the FDA:

- State whether the product is FDA approved, licensed, or cleared, and marketed in the U.S.
- If the product is marketed in the U.S., state the product label indication. State whether the proposed research involves a change to the approved label indication for the route of administration, dosage level, and/or subject population. Indicate whether the proposed research involves a change that increases the risks associated with using the product. State whether the product is being promoted for an off-label use (where promotion involves the sale of a marketed product).
- If the product is not currently FDA approved, licensed, or cleared, state the planned indication/use. Indicate whether the product would be classified as a drug, device, biologic, or combination product. Indicate whether the FDA has confirmed the proposed classification. Identify the regulatory sponsor. Include a signed sponsor commitment letter acknowledging the regulatory sponsor's understanding of all sponsor responsibilities and commitment to oversee execution of the study.
- Attachment 12: Transition Plan (three-page limit): Upload as "Transition.pdf".
   Describe/discuss the methods and strategies proposed to move the intervention to the next phase of development (clinical trials, commercialization, and/or delivery to the civilian or

military market) after successful completion of the award. Applicants are encouraged to work with their organization's Technology Transfer Office (or equivalent) to develop the transition plan. Pls are encouraged to explore developing relationships with industry and/or other funding agencies to facilitate moving the product into the next phase of development. The post-award transition plan should include the components listed below.

- Details of the funding strategy to transition to the next level of development and/or commercialization (e.g., specific industry partners, specific funding opportunities to be applied for). Include a description of collaborations and other resources that will be used to provide continuity of development.
- For Knowledge Products, a description of collaborations and other resources that will be used to provide continuity of development, including proposed development or modification of clinical practice guidelines and recommendations, provider training materials, patient brochures, and other clinical support tools, scientific journal publications, models, simulations, and applications. A "Knowledge Product" is a non-materiel product that addresses an identified need, topic area, or capability gap, is based on current evidence and research, aims to transition into medical practice, training, tools, or to support materiel solutions (systems to develop, acquire, provide, and sustain medical solutions and capabilities), and educates or impacts behavior throughout the continuum of care, including primary prevention of negative outcomes.
- A brief schedule and milestones for transitioning the intervention to the next phase of development (i.e., next-phase clinical trials, commercialization, delivery to the military or civilian market, incorporation into clinical practice, and/or approval by the FDA).
- Ownership rights/access to the intellectual property necessary for the development and/or commercialization of products or technologies supported with this award and the Government's ability to access such products or technologies in the future.
- A risk analysis for cost, schedule, manufacturability, and sustainability.
- Attachment 13: Representations, if applicable (extramural submissions only):
   Upload as "MandatoryReps.pdf". All extramural applicants must complete and submit the Required Representations template available on eBRAP (<a href="https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm">https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm</a>). For more information, see the General Application Instructions, Appendix 5, Section B, Representations.
- Attachment 14: DoD Military Budget Form(s), if applicable: Upload as "MFBudget.pdf". If a military facility (Military Health System facility, research laboratory, medical treatment facility, dental treatment facility, or a DoD activity embedded with a civilian medical center) will be a collaborator in performance of the project, complete the DoD Military Budget Form, available for download on the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (<a href="https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/">https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/</a>

<u>Program.htm</u>), including a budget justification, for each military facility as instructed. The costs per year should be included on the Grants.gov Research and Related Budget form under subaward costs. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.7, for detailed information.

#### Extramural and Intramural Applications

To evaluate compliance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 USC A§1681 et seq.), the DoD is collecting certain demographic and career information to be able to assess the success rates of women who are proposed for key roles in applications in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) disciplines. To enable this assessment, each application must include the following forms completed as indicated.

**Research & Related Personal Data:** For extramural submissions (via Grants.gov), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.3, and for intramural submissions (via eBRAP), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.2, for detailed information.

**Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded):** For extramural submissions (via Grants.gov), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.4, and for intramural submissions (via eBRAP), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.2, for detailed information.

- o PI Biographical Sketch (six-page limit): Upload as "Biosketch\_LastName.pdf". The suggested biographical sketch format is available on the "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (<a href="https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm">https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm</a>) in eBRAP. The National Institutes of Health Biographical Sketch may also be used. All biographical sketches should be submitted in the PDF format that is not editable.
- PI Previous/Current/Pending Support (no page limit): Upload as "Support\_LastName.pdf".
- Key Personnel Biographical Sketches (six-page limit each): Upload as "Biosketch\_LastName.pdf".
- Key Personnel Previous/Current/Pending Support (no page limit): Upload as "Support LastName.pdf".

**Research & Related Budget:** For extramural submissions (via Grants.gov), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.4, and for intramural submissions (via eBRAP), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.3, for detailed information.

**Budget Justification (no page limit):** Upload as "BudgetJustification.pdf". The budget justification for the entire period of performance must be uploaded to the Research & Related Budget after completion of the budget for Period 1.

**Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form:** For extramural submissions (via Grants.gov), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.5, and for intramural submissions (via eBRAP), refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.4, for detailed information.

#### Extramural Applications Only

**R&R Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form (if applicable):** Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.6, for detailed information.

Extramural Subaward: Complete the Research & Related Subaward Budget Form through Grants.gov. (Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.6, for detailed information.) Verify subaward budget(s) and budget justification forms are present in eBRAP during the application verification period. If these components are missing, upload them to eBRAP before the end of the application verification period.

**Intramural DoD Collaborator(s):** Complete the DoD Military Budget Form and upload to Grants.gov attachment form as Attachment 14. (Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.7, for detailed information.) Intramural DoD Collaborator(s) costs per year should be included on the Grants.gov Research and Related Budget form under subaward costs.

#### Extramural Applications Only

#### **R&R Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form:**

- Extramural Subaward: Complete the R&R Subaward Budget Form through Grants.gov. (Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.6, for detailed information.)
- o **Intramural DoD Collaborator(s):** Complete the DoD Military Budget Form and upload to Grants.gov attachment form as Attachment 14. (Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section IV.A.3, for detailed information.)

## II.D.3. Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number and System for Award Management (SAM)

Applicant organizations and all subrecipient organizations must have a DUNS number to submit applications to Grants.gov. The applicant organization must also be registered in the Entity Management functional area of the SAM with an "Active" status to submit applications through the Grants.gov portal. Verify the status of the applicant's organization's Entity registration in SAM well in advance of the application submission deadline. Allow several weeks to complete the entire SAM registration process. If an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements at the time the Federal awarding agency is ready to make a Federal award, the Federal awarding agency may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a Federal award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal award to another applicant. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III, for further information regarding Grants.gov requirements.

New Requirement: In March 2018, the General Services Administration (GSA) implemented fraud prevention security measures in the SAM that require every new contractor registrant to provide a written (hard copy), notarized letter confirming the entity's Administrator authorized to register the entity in the SAM database or to make changes to its registration. Effective April 29, 2018, the notarized letter process is now mandatory on all *current* registrants at SAM who have a requirement to update data on their SAM record. The notarized letter is mandatory and is required before the GSA Federal Service Desk (FSD) will activate the entity's registration. The Office of the Secretary of Defense and GSA realize the length of time needed to transmit, receive, process, and approve the notarized letters presents a significant impact on the ability of the contracting activity to make timely awards, but these steps must be taken to mitigate fraud concern. Notarized letters are required for all new and existing SAM-registered entities. The notarized letters must be postal service mailed (not emailed or faxed) to the "Federal Service Desk" and must contain the information outlined in the SAM-posted Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) at <a href="https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/organization/federal-acquisition-">https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/organization/federal-acquisition-</a> service/office-of-systems-management/integrated-award-environment-iae/sam-update. Instructions for domestic entities and instructions for international entities with embedded templates for use are also provided within the SAM Update notice with frequently asked questions at https://www.gsa.gov/about-us/organization/federal-acquisition-service/office-ofsystems-management/integrated-award-environment-iae/sam-update.

#### II.D.4. Submission Dates and Times

All submission dates and times are indicated in <u>Section I, Overview of the Funding Opportunity</u>. Pre-application and application submissions are required. The pre-application and application submission process should be started early to avoid missing deadlines. There are no grace periods. Failure to meet either of these deadlines will result in submission rejection.

#### **Applicant Verification of Full Application Submission in eBRAP**

Following retrieval and processing of the full application, eBRAP will notify the organizational representatives and PI by email to log into eBRAP to review, modify, and verify the full application submission. eBRAP will validate retrieved files against the specific Program Announcement requirements and discrepancies will be noted in both the email and in the "Full Application Files" tab in eBRAP. eBRAP does not confirm the accuracy of file content. It is the applicant's responsibility to review all application components and ensure proper ordering as specified in the Program Announcement. *If either the Project Narrative or the budget fails eBRAP validation or needs to be modified, an updated full application package must be submitted prior to the application submission deadline*. The Project Narrative and Budget Form cannot be changed after the application submission deadline.

*Extramural Submission:* The full application package submitted to Grants.gov may be viewed and modified in eBRAP until the end of the application verification period. During the application verification period, the full application package, *with the exception of the Project Narrative and Budget Form*, may be modified.

*Intramural DoD Submission:* After eBRAP has processed the full application, the organizational Resource Manager/Comptroller/Task Area Manager or equivalent Business

Official and PI(s) will receive email notification of the status and will be able to view and modify application components in eBRAP. During the application verification period, the full application package, *with the exception of the Project Narrative and Budget Form*, may be modified. The Resource Manager/Comptroller/Task Area Manager or equivalent Business Official should log into eBRAP to review and to approve prior to the application verification deadline.

*For All Submissions:* Verify that subaward budget(s) with budget justification are present in eBRAP during the application verification period. If these components are missing, upload them to eBRAP before the end of the application verification period.

#### **II.D.5.** Funding Restrictions

The maximum period of performance is 3 years.

The anticipated **total** (**direct** + **indirect**) costs budgeted for the entire period of performance will not exceed \$2.0M. If indirect cost rates have been negotiated, indirect costs are to be budgeted in accordance with the organization's negotiated rate. No budget will be approved by the Government exceeding \$2.0M total costs or using an indirect cost rate exceeding the organization's negotiated rate.

All direct and indirect costs of any subaward or contract must be included in the total direct costs of the primary award.

The applicant may request the entire maximum funding amount for a project that may have a period of performance less than the maximum 3 years.

For this award mechanism, direct costs must be requested for:

- Travel costs for the PI(s) to present project information or disseminate project results at one DoD PH/TBIRP CTRR In-Progress Review meeting during the period of performance. For planning purposes, it should be assumed that the meeting will be held in the National Capital Area. These travel costs are in addition to those allowed for annual scientific/technical meetings.
- Travel costs for the PI(s) to present project information or disseminate project results at one DoD-sponsored scientific meeting (e.g., Military Health System Research Symposium) during the period of performance. These travel costs are in addition to those allowed for annual scientific/technical meetings.

For this award mechanism, direct costs may be requested for (not all-inclusive):

- Salary
- Research supplies
- Equipment

- Research-related subject costs
- Clinical research costs (clinical trials are not supported by this Program Announcement)
- Support for multidisciplinary collaborations, including travel
- Travel costs for one investigator to travel to one scientific/technical meeting per year, in addition to the required meetings described above, to present project information from the FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR-CRA

Awards made to extramural organizations will consist solely of assistance agreements (grants and cooperative agreements). For extramural awards with an intragovernmental component, direct transfer of funds from an extramural award recipient to a DoD or other Federal agency is not allowed except under very limited circumstances. Funding to intramural DoD and other Federal agencies will be managed through a direct fund transfer. Intramural applicants are responsible for coordinating through their agency's procedures the use of contractual or assistance funding awards or other appropriate agreements to support extramural collaborators.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.4, for budget regulations and instructions for the Research & Related Budget. For Federal agencies or organizations collaborating with Federal agencies, budget restrictions apply as are noted in the General Application Instructions, Section III.A.4.

The JPC-8/CRMRP expects to allot approximately \$4.0M of the FY18 PH/TBIRP appropriation to fund approximately two CTRR-CRA applications, depending on the quality and number of applications received. Funding of applications received in response to this Program Announcement is contingent upon the availability of Federal funds for this program.

Funds to be obligated on any award resulting from this funding opportunity will be available for use for a limited time period based on the fiscal year of the funds. The time is considered when establishing the award's period of performance. It is anticipated that awards made from this funding opportunity will be funded with FY18 funds, which will expire for use on September 30, 2024.

#### **II.D.6.** Other Submission Requirements

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 4, for detailed formatting guidelines.

## **II.E.** Application Review Information

#### II.E.1. Criteria

#### II.E.1.a. Peer Review

To determine technical merit, all applications will be evaluated according to the following scored criteria, which are listed in decreasing order of importance:

# Research Strategy and Feasibility

- How well the preliminary data and scientific rationale support the research project.
- To what extent the anticipated outcomes will support the translation of promising research findings into a product for clinical application or inform clinical treatment decisions.
- How well the hypothesis or objective(s) and specific aims are developed.
- How well the experimental design, methods, data collection procedures, and analyses are developed and support completion of the proposed aims.
- The degree to which the endpoints and expected outcomes are specific and measurable.
- As applicable, how well the study (or studies) is designed to achieve reproducible and rigorous results, including controls, sample size estimation, blinding, randomization, and data handling.
- To what extent the proposed research project is feasible as described.
- How well the application acknowledges potential challenges and addresses alternative strategies.
- Whether the research can be completed within the proposed period of performance.
- How well the application addresses the availability of and demonstrates access to human subjects, data, or samples for the proposed research and for research with human subjects, how well the application addresses the prospect of their participation.
- How well the application identifies possible delays (e.g., slow accrual, attrition) and presents adequate contingency plans to resolve them.

# • Impact and Military Benefit

- How well the proposed research project addresses one or more of the FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR-CRA focus areas.
- How effective the proposed research project will be in making important contributions toward the goal of advancing complex TBI research and/or patient care.
- How well the proposed research project addresses a critical problem in complex TBI research, patient care, and/or quality of life.
- How relevant the anticipated outcomes of the proposed research are to military Service members and Veterans recovering from military-relevant injuries and disease incident to military service.

- The potential immediate and/or long-term benefits of the proposed research on the health and well-being of Service members, Veterans, and/or their families or communities.
- o If applicable, how well the results of the research will inform return-to-duty decision making for active duty Service members.

### Transition Plan and Regulatory Strategy

- How well the application provides sufficient evidence that the research is ready to move into the proposed stage of research.
- How well the project will translate promising, well-founded basic or clinical research findings into clinical applications for individuals living with, or populations at risk for, complex TBI.
- Whether the funding strategy described to bring the outcome(s) to the next level of development and/or delivery to the military or civilian market is appropriate.
- Whether appropriate collaborations and other resources for providing continuity of development are established and/or well described.
- How appropriate the schedule and milestones are for bringing the outcome(s) to the next level of development.
- If applicable, how well-developed the risk analysis is for cost, schedule, manufacturability, and sustainability.
- o If applicable, how well the application identifies intellectual property ownership, describes an appropriate intellectual and material property plan among participating organizations (if applicable), and addresses any potential impact of intellectual property issues on product development and subsequent Government access to products supported by this Program Announcement.
- o If applicable, whether data will be appropriately reported and documented to support a regulatory filing with the FDA.

# • Statistical and Data Analysis Plan

- To what degree the statistical model and data analysis plan are suitable for the planned study.
- How adequate the statistical plan, including sample size projections and power analysis, is for the study and all proposed correlative studies.
- If applicable, whether the statistical plan compensates for the use of a subpopulation of a recruited sample population to ensure appropriate power can be achieved within the subpopulation study.

#### Personnel

- How appropriate the study team's background and expertise are to accomplishing the proposed work (e.g., experience with military populations and duty requirements, statistical expertise, expertise with TBI, and clinical research studies).
- How appropriate the levels of effort by the PI and other key personnel are to ensuring success of this project.
- If applicable, the extent to which multidisciplinary collaborations strengthen the proposed research project.

In addition, the following unscored criteria will also contribute to the overall evaluation of the application:

### Budget

- Whether the **total (direct + indirect)** maximum costs are equal to or less than the allowable total maximum costs as published in the Program Announcement.
- Whether the budget is appropriate for the proposed research.

### • Ethical Considerations

- How the level of risk to human subjects is minimized and how the safety monitoring and reporting plan is appropriate for the level of risk.
- How well the evidence shows that the procedures are consistent with sound research design and, when appropriate, that these procedures are already in use for diagnostic or treatment purposes.
- The degree to which privacy issues are appropriately considered.
- The degree to which the process for seeking informed consent is appropriate and whether safeguards are in place for vulnerable populations.

#### Environment

- The degree to which the scientific environment, clinical setting, and accessibility of institutional resources support the clinical research study at each participating center or institution (including collaborative arrangements).
- Whether there is evidence for appropriate institutional commitment from each participating institution.
- If applicable, the degree to which the intellectual and material property plan is appropriate.

# • Application Presentation

• To what extent the writing, clarity, and presentation of the application components influence the review.

# **II.E.1.b.** Programmatic Review

To make funding recommendations and select the application(s) that, individually or collectively, will best achieve the program objectives, the following criteria are used by programmatic reviewers:

- Ratings and evaluations of the peer reviewers
- Relevance to the mission of the DHP, JPC-8/CRMRP, and PH/TBIRP, as evidenced by the following:
  - Adherence to the intent of the award mechanism and alignment with the FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR-CRA focus areas
  - Program portfolio composition
  - Relative impact and military relevance

### **II.E.2.** Application Review and Selection Process

All applications are evaluated by scientists, clinicians, and consumers in a two-tier review process. The first tier is peer review of applications against established criteria for determining technical merit. Each application is evaluated for its own merit, independent of other applications. The second tier is a programmatic review that makes recommendations for funding to the Commanding General, USAMRMC, on behalf of the DHA and the OASD(HA), based on technical merit, the relevance to the mission of the DHP, JPC-8/CRMRP, and PH/TBIRP, the specific intent of the award mechanism, and to other specified evaluation criteria in the Program Announcement. Programmatic review is a comparison-based process in which applications with scientific and technical merit compete in a common pool. *The highest-scoring applications from the first tier of review are not automatically recommended for funding. Funding recommendations depend on various factors as described in Section II.E.1.b, Programmatic Review.* Additional information about the two-tier process used by the CDMRP can be found at http://cdmrp.army.mil/about/fundingprocess.

All CDMRP review processes are conducted confidentially to maintain the integrity of the merit-based selection process. Panel members sign a statement that application and evaluation information will not be disclosed outside the panel. Violations of confidentiality can result in the dissolving of a panel(s) and other corrective actions. In addition, personnel at the applicant or collaborating organizations are prohibited from contacting persons involved in the review and approval process to gain protected evaluation information or to influence the evaluation process. Violations of these prohibitions will result in the administrative withdrawal of the organization's application. Violations by panel members or applicants that compromise the confidentiality of the review and approval process may also result in suspension or debarment from Federal

awards. Furthermore, the unauthorized disclosure of confidential information of one party to another third party is a crime in accordance with 18 USC 1905.

# **II.E.3.** Integrity and Performance Information

Prior to making an assistance agreement award where the Federal share is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, as defined in 2 CFR 200.88, over the period of performance, the Federal awarding agency is required to review and consider any information about the applicant that is available in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS).

An applicant organization may review FAPIIS, accessible through SAM, and submit comments to FAPIIS on any information about the organization that a Federal awarding agency previously entered and is currently available in FAPIIS.

The Federal awarding agency will consider any comments by the applicant, in addition to other information in the designated integrity and performance system, in making a judgment about the applicant's integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards when determining a recipient's qualification prior to award, according to the qualification standards of the Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations (DoDGARs), Section 22.415.

# **II.E.4.** Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates

All application review dates and times are indicated in <u>Section I, Overview of the Funding Opportunity</u>.

Each PI and organization will receive email notification of posting of the funding recommendation in eBRAP. Each PI will receive a peer review summary statement on the strengths and weaknesses of the application.

# **II.F. Federal Award Administration Information**

### **II.F.1. Federal Award Notices**

Awards made with FY18 funds will be made no later than September 30, 2019. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, for additional award administration information.

After email notification of application review results through eBRAP, and if selected for funding, a representative from the USAMRAA will contact the business official authorized to negotiate on behalf of the PI's organization.

Only an appointed USAMRAA Grants Officer may obligate the Government to the expenditure of funds. No commitment on the part of the Government should be inferred from discussions with any other individual. The award document signed by the Grants Officer is the official authorizing document.

*Federal Organizations:* Awards to Federal Government organizations (to include intramural DoD organizations) will be executed through the Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request

(MIPR) or Funding Authorization Document (FAD) process. Transfer of funds is contingent upon appropriate safety and administrative approvals. Intramural applicants and collaborators are reminded to coordinate receipt and commitment of funds through their respective Resource Manager/Task Area Manager/Comptroller or equivalent Business Official.

After email notification of application review results through eBRAP, and if selected for funding, a representative from the CDMRP will contact the business official authorized to negotiate on behalf of the PI's organization.

# II.F.1.a. PI Changes and Award Transfers

Unless otherwise restricted, changes in PI or organization will be allowed at the discretion of the USAMRAA Grants Officer, provided that the intent of the award mechanism is met. An organizational transfer of an award will not be allowed in the last year of the (original) period of performance or any extension thereof.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, Section B, for general information on organization or PI changes.

# II.F.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

If additional conference travel is proposed, prior to the re-budgeting and in advance of incurring travel costs, the Grants Officer should be consulted to determine the reasonableness of the expense in accordance with 2 CFR 200.407.

For this award mechanism, direct costs must be requested for:

- Travel costs for the PI(s) to present project information or disseminate project results at one DoD PH/TBIRP CTRR In-Progress Review meeting during the period of performance. For planning purposes, it should be assumed that the meeting will be held in the National Capital Area. These travel costs are in addition to those allowed for annual scientific/technical meetings.
- Travel costs for the PI(s) to present project information or disseminate project results at one DoD-sponsored scientific meeting (e.g., Military Health System Research Symposium) during the period of performance. These travel costs are in addition to those allowed for annual scientific/technical meetings.

Applicable requirements in the DoDGARs found in 32 CFR, Chapter 1, Subchapter C, and 2 CFR, Chapter XI, apply to grants and cooperative agreements resulting from this Program Announcement.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, for general information regarding administrative requirements.

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 5, for general information regarding national policy requirements.

Refer to full text of the <u>USAMRAA General Research Terms</u> and <u>Conditions</u> with <u>Institutions</u> of <u>Higher Education</u>, <u>Hospitals</u>, and <u>Non-Profit Organizations</u>: Addendum to the DoD R&D Terms and Conditions and the <u>USAMRAA General Research Terms</u> and <u>Conditions</u> with <u>For-Profit Organizations</u> for further information.

# II.F.3. Reporting

Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 2, Section A, for general information on reporting requirements. If there are technical reporting requirement delinquencies for any existing USAMRAA-sponsored awards at the applicant organization, no new awards will be issued to the applicant organization until all delinquent reports have been submitted.

Annual progress reports as well as a final progress report will be required. Quarterly technical progress reports and quad charts will be required. In addition to written progress reports, inperson presentations may be requested. For format examples, refer to the eBRAP "Funding Opportunities & Forms" web page (<a href="https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm">https://ebrap.org/eBRAP/public/Program.htm</a>).

Awards resulting from this Program Announcement will incorporate additional reporting requirements related to recipient integrity and performance matters. Recipient organizations that have Federal contract, grant, and cooperative agreement awards with a cumulative total value greater than \$10,000,000 are required to provide information to FAPIIS about certain civil, criminal, and administrative proceedings that reached final disposition within the most recent 5-year period and that were connected with performance of a Federal award. Recipients are required to disclose, semiannually, information about criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings as specified in the applicable Terms and Conditions (see General Application Instructions, Section III.A.4).

# **II.G. Federal Awarding Agency Contacts**

# **II.G.1. CDMRP Help Desk**

Questions related to Program Announcement content or submission requirements as well as questions related to the pre-application or intramural application submission through eBRAP should be directed to the CDMRP Help Desk, which is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET. Response times may vary depending upon the volume of inquiries.

Phone: 301-682-5507

Email: <a href="mailto:help@eBRAP.org">help@eBRAP.org</a>

# **II.G.2.** Grants.gov Contact Center

Questions related to extramural application submission through Grants.gov portal should be directed to the Grants.gov Contact Center, which is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

(closed on U.S. Federal holidays). Note that the CDMRP Help Desk is unable to provide technical assistance with Grants.gov submission.

Phone: 800-518-4726; International 1-606-545-5035

Email: <a href="mailto:support@grants.gov">support@grants.gov</a>

Sign up on Grants.gov for "send me change notification emails" by following the link on the "Synopsis" page for the Program Announcement or by responding to the prompt provided by Grants.gov when first downloading the Grants.gov application package. If the Grants.gov application package is updated or changed, the original version of the application package may not be accepted by Grants.gov.

# **II.H.** Other Information

# **II.H.1. Program Announcement and General Application Instructions Versions**

Questions related to this Program Announcement should refer to the Program name, the Program Announcement name, and the Program Announcement version code 20180329h. The Program Announcement numeric version code will match the General Applications Instructions version code 20180329.

#### **II.H.2.** Administrative Actions

After receipt of pre-applications or applications, the following administrative actions may occur:

# II.H.2.a. Rejection

The following will result in administrative rejection of the pre-application:

- Preproposal Narrative exceeds page limit.
- Preproposal Narrative is missing.

The following will result in administrative rejection of the application:

- Submission of an application for which a letter of invitation was not received.
- Project Narrative exceeds page limit.
- Project Narrative is missing.
- Budget is missing.
- Human Subject Recruitment and Safety Procedures (Attachment 6) is missing.
- Data Management (Attachment 7) is missing.

- Regulatory Strategy (Attachment 11) is missing.
- Transition Plan (Attachment 12) is missing.

### II.H.2.b. Modification

- Pages exceeding the specific limits will be removed prior to review for all documents other than the Preproposal Narrative and Project Narrative.
- Documents not requested will be removed.

### II.H.2.c. Withdrawal

The following may result in administrative withdrawal of the pre-application or application:

- An FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR Programmatic Panel member is named as being involved in the
  research proposed or is found to have assisted in the pre-application or application processes
  including, but not limited to, concept design, application development, budget preparation, and
  the development of any supporting documentation. A list of the FY18 PH/TBIRP CTRR
  Programmatic Panel members can be found at <a href="http://cdmrp.army.mil/phtbi/panels/panels18">http://cdmrp.army.mil/phtbi/panels/panels18</a> ctrra.
- The application fails to conform to this Program Announcement description.
- Inclusion of URLs, with the exception of links in References Cited and Publication and/or Patent Abstract sections.
- Page size is larger than 8.5 inches x 11.0 inches (approximately 21.59 cm x 27.94 cm).
- To preserve the integrity of its peer and programmatic review processes, the CDMRP discourages inclusion of any employee of its review contractors having any role in the preparation, research or other duties for submitted applications. For FY18, the identities of the peer review contractor and the programmatic review contractor may be found at the CDMRP website (<a href="http://cdmrp.army.mil/about/2tierRevProcess">http://cdmrp.army.mil/about/2tierRevProcess</a>). Applications that include names of personnel from either of these companies will be administratively withdrawn unless plans to manage COIs are provided and deemed appropriate by the Grants Officer. Refer to the General Application Instructions, Appendix 3, for detailed information.
- Personnel from applicant or collaborating organizations are found to have contacted persons involved in the review or approval process to gain protected evaluation information or to influence the evaluation process.
- Applications from extramural organizations, including non-DoD Federal agencies, received through eBRAP may be withdrawn.
- Applications submitted by an intramural DoD organization may be withdrawn if the
  intramural organization cannot coordinate the use of contractual, assistance, or other
  appropriate agreements to provide funds to extramural collaborators.

- The application proposes preclinical animal research.
- The application proposes a clinical trial.

# II.H.2.d. Withhold

Applications that appear to involve research misconduct will be administratively withheld from further consideration pending organizational investigation. The organization will be required to provide the findings of the investigation to the USAMRAA Grants Officer for a determination of the final disposition of the application.

# II.H.3. Application Submission Checklist

<b>Application Components</b>	Action	Completed
SF424 (R&R) Application for Federal Assistance (Extramural submissions only)	Complete form as instructed.	
Summary (Tab 1) and Application Contacts (Tab 2) (Intramural submissions only)	Complete these tabs as instructed.	
Attachments	Project Narrative: Upload as Attachment 1 with file name "ProjectNarrative.pdf".	
	Supporting Documentation: Upload as Attachment 2 with file name "Support.pdf".	
	Technical Abstract: Upload as Attachment 3 with file name "TechAbs.pdf".	
	Lay Abstract: Upload as Attachment 4 with file name "LayAbs.pdf".	
	Statement of Work: Upload as Attachment 5 with file name "SOW.pdf".	
	Human Subject Recruitment and Safety Procedures: Upload as Attachment 6 with file name "HumSubProc.pdf".	
	Data Management: Upload as Attachment 7 with file name "Data_Manage.pdf".	
	Study Personnel and Organization: Upload as Attachment 8 with file name "Personnel.pdf".	
	Surveys, Questionnaires, and Other Data Collection Instruments: Upload as Attachment 9 with file name "Surveys.pdf" if	
	applicable.  Impact and Military Benefit Statement: Upload as Attachment 10 with file name "Impact.pdf".	
	Regulatory Strategy: Upload as Attachment 11 with file name	
	"Regulatory.pdf".  Transition Plan: Upload as Attachment 12	
	with file name "Transition.pdf".  Representations (Extramural Submissions only): Upload as Attachment 13 with file	
	name "MandatoryReps.pdf" if applicable.  DoD Military Budget Form(s): Upload as	
	Attachment 14 with file name "MFBudget.pdf" if applicable.	

<b>Application Components</b>	Action	Completed
Research & Related Personal Data	Complete form as instructed.	
Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)	Attach PI Biographical Sketch (Biosketch_LastName.pdf) to the appropriate field.	
	Attach PI Previous/Current/Pending Support (Support_LastName.pdf) to the appropriate field.	
	Attach Biographical Sketch (Biosketch_LastName.pdf) for each senior/key person to the appropriate field.	
	Attach Previous/Current/Pending (Support_LastName.pdf) for each senior/key person to the appropriate field.	
Research & Related Budget	Complete as instructed. Attach Budget	
(Extramural submissions	Justification (BudgetJustification.pdf) to the	
only)	appropriate field.	
Budget (Intramural	Complete the DoD Military Budget Form and	
submissions only)	justification.	
Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form	Complete form as instructed.	
R&R Subaward Budget Attachment(s) Form, if applicable	Complete form as instructed.	

# **APPENDIX 1: ACRONYM LIST**

ACOS/R&D Associate Chief of Staff for Research and Development

ADL Activities of Daily Living
CDEs Common Data Elements

CDMRP Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs

CFR Code of Federal Regulations

COI Conflict of Interest

CPG Clinical Practice Guideline

CRMRP Clinical and Rehabilitative Medicine Research Program

CTRR-CRA Complex TBI Rehabilitation Research – Clinical Research Award

DHA Defense Health Agency
DHP Defense Health Program
DoD Department of Defense

DoDGARs Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations

DUNS Data Universal Numbering System

eBRAP Electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal

EC Ethics Committee
ET Eastern Time

FAD Funding Authorization Document

FAPIIS Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System

FAQs Frequently Asked Questions

FDA U.S. Food and Drug Administration

FITBIR Federal Interagency Traumatic Brain Injury Research Informatics System

FSD Federal Service Desk

FY Fiscal Year

GCP Good Clinical Practice
GLP Good Laboratory Practice
GMP Good Manufacturing Practice
GSA General Services Administration

GUID Global Unique Identifier

HRPO Human Research Protection Office

ICH E6 International Conference on Harmonisation of Technical Requirements for

Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use

IDE Investigational Device Exemption

IND Investigational New Drug
IRB Institutional Review Board

JPC-8 Joint Program Committee 8

LAR Legally Authorized Representative

M Million

MIPR Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request

NIH National Institutes of Health

NINDS National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

NPC Non-Profit Corporation

NSI Neurobehavioral Symptom Inventory

OASD(HA) Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs

ORCID Open Researcher and Contributor ID, Inc.

ORP Office of Research Protections

PGIC Patient Global Impression of Change

PH Psychological Health

PH/TBIRP Psychological Health/Traumatic Brain Injury Research Program

PI Principal Investigator

PII Personally Identifiable Information
PTSD Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

RDT&E Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation

RM Resource Manager

SAM System for Award Management

SOW Statement of Work

STEM Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics

TBI Traumatic Brain Injury
UDEs Unique Data Elements

USAMMDA U.S. Army Medical Materiel Development Activity
USAMRAA U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity
USAMRMC U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command

USC United States Code

VA Department of Veterans Affairs

#### APPENDIX 2: DOD AND VA WEBSITES

PIs are encouraged to integrate and/or align their research projects with DoD and/or VA research laboratories and programs. Collaboration with DoD and/or VA investigators is also encouraged. Below is a list of websites that may be useful in identifying additional information about DoD and VA areas of research interest, ongoing research or potential opportunities for collaboration.

Air Force Office of Scientific Research <a href="http://www.wpafb.af.mil/afrl/afosr/">http://www.wpafb.af.mil/afrl/afosr/</a>

Air Force Research Laboratory <a href="http://www.wpafb.af.mil/afrl">http://www.wpafb.af.mil/afrl</a>

Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute

http://www.usuhs.edu/afrri/

Clinical and Rehabilitative Medicine Research Program

https://crmrp.amedd.army.mil

Combat Casualty Care Research Program

https://ccc.amedd.army.mil

Congressionally Directed Medical Research

**Programs** 

http://cdmrp.army.mil

Defense Advanced Research Projects

Agency

http://www.darpa.mil/

Defense Health Agency https://health.mil/dha

**Defense Technical Information Center** 

http://www.dtic.mil

Defense Threat Reduction Agency

http://www.dtra.mil/

Military Health System Research

**Symposium** 

 $\underline{https://mhsrs.amedd.army.mil/SitePages/Ho}$ 

me.aspx

Military Infectious Diseases Research

Program

https://midrp.amedd.army.mil

Military Operational Medicine Research

Program

https://momrp.amedd.army.mil

Naval Health Research Center

http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nhrc

Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery

http://www.med.navy.mil/

Naval Medical Research Center www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmrc

Navy and Marine Corps Public Health

Center

http://www.nmcphc.med.navy.mil/

Office of Naval Research http://www.onr.navy.mil/

Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for

Acquisition, Technology and Logistics

http://www.acq.osd.mil/

Telemedicine and Advanced Technology

Research Center <a href="http://www.tatrc.org/">http://www.tatrc.org/</a>

Uniformed Services University of the Health

Sciences

http://www.usuhs.edu/research

U.S. Army Aeromedical Research

Laboratory

www.usaarl.army.mil

U.S. Army Center for Environmental Health Research

http://usacehr.amedd.army.mil

U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research <a href="http://www.usaisr.amedd.army.mil/">http://www.usaisr.amedd.army.mil/</a>

U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine http://www.usariem.army.mil/

U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases http://www.usamriid.army.mil/

U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command <a href="http://mrmc.amedd.army.mil">http://mrmc.amedd.army.mil</a>

U.S. Army Research Laboratory <a href="http://www.arl.army.mil">http://www.arl.army.mil</a>

U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command <a href="https://www.army.mil/rdecom">www.army.mil/rdecom</a>

U.S. Army Resiliency Directorate <a href="http://www.army.mil/readyandresilient/">http://www.army.mil/readyandresilient/</a>

U.S. Department of Defense Blast Injury Research Program https://blastinjuryresearch.amedd.army.mil/

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Research and Development <a href="http://www.research.va.gov">http://www.research.va.gov</a>

U.S. Naval Research Laboratory <a href="http://www.nrl.navy.mil">http://www.nrl.navy.mil</a>

Walter Reed Army Institute of Research <a href="http://www.wrair.army.mil/">http://www.wrair.army.mil/</a>