

GENERAL DYNAMICS

Information Technology

CONSUMER REVIEWER NOMINATION FORM

To complete and print this fillable form, you will need to use the latest version of Adobe Acrobat® Reader®.

Acrobat Reader is available for free and can be downloaded from the following website: <https://www.adobe.com>

This nomination form is only accepted in electronic format.

Program Eligibility

The Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) welcomes patients, survivors, family members, and advocates to play a pivotal role in the future of biomedical research funding. To transform healthcare for our Service members and the American public, the CDMRP looks to those who have the most experience, who understand the effects of a disease, an injury, or a condition - the individuals (consumers) living with breast cancer, orthopaedic injury, parkinson's disease, etc. By integrating patients, survivors, family members and/or care takers into the scientific review process, the CDMRP is able to enrich the scientific review with personal perspective, passion, and a sense of urgency that ensures the human dimension is incorporated in the research focus.

Eligibility requires you meet the following criteria:

- Either be living with the disease, injury, or condition yourself, or be a family member or caregiver/care partner of someone affected by a disease, injury, or condition related to a funded program
- Meet the program-specific consumer eligibility requirements found on the CDMRP website: https://cdmrp.health.mil/cwg/program_requirements
- Be recommended by an advocacy organization based on your active involvement in advocacy, outreach, or educational initiatives
- Possess at least a high school diploma or equivalent (higher education is not required) and be fluent in reading, writing, and speaking English
- Have a solid understanding of basic computer and web browser functions, along with a computer equipped with a working camera and audio tools for video conferencing
- Be interested in expanding your scientific knowledge about your disease/ injury or condition
- Commit to advocating for the perspectives of the entire affected community, rather than solely sharing your personal viewpoint
- Participate fully in the peer review meeting, typically a 1-2 day video conference lasting up to 8 hours each day

About "GDIT"

General Dynamics Information Technology (GDIT) has been contracted by The Defense Health Agency to recruit service members, veterans, healthcare practitioners, and members of the public to serve as "consumer reviewers" on peer-reviewed panels evaluating biomedical research grant applications. While GDIT supports the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP), it does not conduct research itself. Instead, GDIT's role in the peer-review process includes recruiting expert panel members, training reviewers, managing pre-meeting critiques, facilitating the meetings, and delivering scores and summary statements for the next phase of CDMRP's evaluation process.

"Consumer reviewers" bring their lived experiences and perspectives to the panel as lay experts on their disease, injury, or condition. Working alongside scientific and medical professionals, they provide essential input to ensure that the research grant applications selected for funding have the greatest potential impact on service members, veterans, and the broader public.

Those chosen to serve as consumer reviewers are engaged by GDIT as paid consultants and are required to adhere to nondisclosure and confidentiality agreements as panel members.

Consumer reviewer selection is a **multistep process**. The selection process includes submission of this electronic nomination form, a current resume, and a written recommendation from an advocacy organization familiar with your advocacy work. Once these items are received, a telephone interview will be conducted with GDIT staff.

The number of consumers required each year is dependent upon the number of research applications received; participation cannot be guaranteed. Once you are approved to serve, whether you are assigned **this year** or not, your name will remain on our consumer listing, and you will be contacted each year to determine your availability to serve.

Please contact the GDIT staff listed at the end of this form if you have questions about completing the nomination form.

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Last Name:		First Name:		M.I.:	
Primary Email Address:					
Preferred Phone:		Secondary Phone:			
Address:					
City:		State:		Zip Code:	
Highest Level of Education Attained:	Current Occupation:				
Ethnicity:		Race:		Year of Birth:	

If Military, which branch:		
Rank:		Military Service:

For which program are you qualified:	
Are you a survivor/patient? Yes No	
Are you a family member, caregiver/care partner of a patient? Yes No	

NOMINATING ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Nominating Organization:				
Nominator's Name:		Title:		
Primary Email Address:				
Preferred Phone:		Secondary Phone:		
Address:				
City:		State:		Zip Code:

PERSONAL STATEMENT

- A. Please provide a brief overview of your journey with the disease, injury, and/or condition, including diagnosis date(s), and indicate if you are currently receiving treatment and type of treatment(s).
- B. Describe your activities as an active advocate with the advocacy organization that nominated you. If you are involved in other related organizations, please detail your involvement with those organizations.

- C. How would you advocate for others with this disease, injury, or condition and act as a representative for the broader community?
- D. How do you stay informed and updated about scientific advancements and progress in treatments for your condition or disease?
- E. If you have participated in any form of application or technical review, how does that experience prepare you to contribute to a scientific review panel?

If you have not participated in any application or technical review roles, what motivates you to serve on these scientific review panels?

- F. You may be asked to provide feedback on scientific applications that involve unfamiliar topics or scientific theories, such as cell biology, molecular biology, or pathobiology. How will you approach preparing for this task?

G. How would you approach reviewing research that challenges your personal ideas, values, or beliefs? For instance, would you feel comfortable evaluating studies involving animals, human subjects, or stem cell research?

H. If you have served as a consumer advocate, patient advocate, or lived experience representative on any research application, proposal, or research team, please provide the name of the researcher and organization, the date(s) of your involvement, and a description of your role.

Submission Instructions

Directions: A completed packet comprises 3 items:

- 1. Completed electronic nomination form**
- 2. Current resume**
- 3. Letter of nomination**

A letter of nomination from your advocacy organization is required to complete your nomination packet. The letter of nomination must be on letterhead and written by staff familiar with your service.

Please identify if your letter will be:

GDIT employees are not responsible for notifying nominees if packets are incomplete or missing attachments. It is the nominee's responsibility to ensure all attachments are submitted.

You will be notified by email when a completed packet is received. GDIT will process packets as received, and staff will contact you to arrange a telephone interview. Time between receipt of packet and contact by a GDIT employee can be up to 4 weeks.

**Send all documents via email, as
attachments to: Elena.Joos@GDIT.com**

If you have any questions, please contact
Elena Joos, Consumer Reviewer Administrator
at 301-835-4051

