Renew Funding for Defense Department Research on Chronic Migraine and Post-traumatic Headaches

- Concussion or mild traumatic brain injuries are the signature injuries of the Iraq/Afghanistan conflicts. Chronic headache and migraine are the cardinal symptoms of such injuries.

- More than 500,000 American youth sustain concussions playing football in the US annually.

- 4% of American civilians have headaches more than 4 hours, at least 15 days per month.

- Headache disorders, including migraine, result in more than $31B in economic costs in the US annually, exceeding the annual US costs of epilepsy, asthma and ovarian cancer combined.

- Migraine causes nearly the same number of lost years of healthy life in the US annually as multiple sclerosis, epilepsy, ovarian cancer, sexually transmitted diseases, and tuberculosis combined,... whereas combined NIH research funding on these diseases totals >46 times that for migraine ($929M vs. $20M, in 2014).

- NIH funding for all research on headache disorders was <0.08% of the 2014 NIH budget ($24M).

- Since 2010, more than $10M in vital research funding has been directed towards “Chronic Migraine and Post-Traumatic Headache” within the Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program.

Request: Renew Funding of Research on “Chronic Migraine and/or Post-traumatic Headaches” in the Department of Defense Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program

- Please contact Senator Thad Cochran’s staff to request FY2017 Defense Appropriations Report Language to include ‘Chronic Migraine and/or Post-Traumatic Headache’ as an eligible research topic area under the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP), Peer Reviewed Medical Research Program. This is a programmatic request.

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