The Department of Defense (DoD) supports research and development (R&D) for infectious diseases and other health conditions that pose a risk to US national security and service members stationed abroad.

While DoD research foremost aims to protect service members overseas from local diseases, it also helps generate vaccines, drugs, and other health tools to combat diseases that are endemic in the world’s poorest places.

DoD research is also unique in spanning across all stages of R&D, from basic research to late-stage clinical development, making it the only US agency that can advance a single technology from early research to end-stage product.

**DoD R&D success stories:** Saving lives, saving money

- **EBOLA**
  - Development of the VSV-ZEBOV Ebola vaccine candidate, which provided 100 percent protection against the virus in late-stage clinical trials.

- **CAPACITY BUILDING**
  - Operates a network of overseas labs and medical research facilities, which provide bases for infectious disease R&D, disease surveillance, and capacity building in partner nations.

- **CLEAN WATER**
  - Development of technology used in a water chlorinator device, which gives low-resource communities access to safe, affordable drinking water using only table salt, water, and a rechargeable battery.

- **DIARRHEAL DISEASE**
  - Development of affordable vaccines against E. coli and Shigella, which together cause one-third of the nearly 600,000 annual child deaths from diarrheal disease worldwide.

- **HIV/AIDS**
  - Funded the RV144 HIV/AIDS vaccine clinical study, the largest HIV/AIDS vaccine trial in history and the first to show that a safe and effective HIV/AIDS vaccine is possible.

- **MALARIA**
  - Development of every antimalarial drug approved by the Food and Drug Administration and the world’s first approved malaria vaccine, which is undergoing pilot implementation in sub-Saharan Africa.

**Impact of Investment**

DoD support has helped advance:

- 13 new global health technologies since 2000
- 18 promising products into late-stage development

**R&D Investment by Health Area**

- Ebola/ VHF: 41%
- HIV/AIDS: 23%
- Malaria: 24%
- Other neglected diseases: 12%
- Diarrheal disease: 13%
- 2015 data. Abbreviations: VHFs: viral hemorrhagic fevers.