



## THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

February 7, 2017

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Majority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear President Trump, Speaker Ryan, Leader McConnell, Leader Pelosi, and Leader Schumer:

As the new Administration and 115<sup>th</sup> Congress begin, the 260 undersigned members of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research urge you to enact without further delay a final fiscal year (FY) 2017 spending package that includes the Senate Appropriations Committee-approved \$34.1 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and to ensure that NIH remains a priority in FY 2018 and beyond. The Ad Hoc Group is a coalition of patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry, dedicated to enhancing the federal investment in biomedical, behavioral, social, and population-based research supported by NIH.

As you know, a robust, reliable investment in scientific discovery is crucial to improve patients' health, strengthen the economy in the near- and long-term, and maintain the U.S.'s global preeminence in medical innovation. Through NIH, the federal government plays an irreplaceable

role in supporting biomedical research that is inherently inefficient for industry to conduct but is essential to inform our fundamental understanding of medicine. More than 80 percent of the NIH's budget supports research in all 50 states and D.C., as well as U.S. territories, at medical schools, teaching hospitals, universities, and research institutes, which often are among the largest employers in their respective communities. The attached fact sheet details the return on investment of NIH funding, as well as polling data demonstrating the public's strong support for sustaining this investment.

We are grateful Congress recently took important steps to help NIH regain some of its lost purchasing power after years of stagnant funding, by providing real funding growth over inflation for NIH in FY 2016 and by approving the *21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act* with near-unanimous margins. A flat FY 2017 appropriation threatens to undermine these key efforts. The budget ambiguity resulting from the current continuing resolution leaves the agency and researchers in limbo; worse, the prospect of a flat or reduced final budget not only would delay progress, but also could serve to discourage the next generation of researchers from careers in science.

We are committed to working with you to continue the longstanding, bipartisan tradition of enhancing the federal investment in medical discovery toward our mutual goal of advancing the health and well-being of the American people. To ensure America's continued leadership in an increasingly competitive innovation economy and alleviate suffering for millions of patients awaiting the promise of a healthier tomorrow, we must prioritize a budget trajectory for NIH that advances sustainable, predictable growth. We urge you to approve an FY 2017 appropriation of \$34.1 billion for NIH without further delay and to ensure that NIH remains a top priority in FY 2018 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine and Health  
Academic Pediatric Association  
Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research  
Academy of Neurology  
AcademyHealth  
ACT for NIH: Advancing Cures Today  
Adult Congenital Heart Association  
Alliance for Aging Research  
Alpha-1 Foundation  
Alzheimer's Association  
American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry  
American Academy of Dermatology Association  
American Academy of Neurology  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Anthropological Association  
American Association for Cancer Research

American Association for Dental Research  
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy  
American Association of Geographers  
American Association of Immunologists  
American Association of Neurological Surgeons  
American Association of Neuromuscular & Electrodiagnostic Medicine  
American Brain Coalition  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American College of Cardiology  
American College of Neuropsychopharmacology  
American College of Radiology  
American College of Rheumatology  
American Epilepsy Society  
American Gastroenterological Association  
American Heart Association  
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering  
American Liver Foundation  
American Lung Association  
American Pancreatic Association  
American Pediatric Society  
American Physiological Society  
American Psychological Association  
American Psychosomatic Society  
American Society for Cell Biology  
American Society for Investigative Pathology  
American Society for Microbiology  
American Society for Nutrition  
American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics  
American Society for Reproductive Medicine  
American Society of Clinical Oncology  
American Society of Hematology  
American Society of Nephrology  
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology  
American Society of Transplantation  
American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene  
American Sociological Association  
American Statistical Association  
American Thoracic Society  
American Urogynecologic Society  
American Urological Association  
American Veterinary Medical Association  
Arizona State University  
Association for Applied Psychophysiology and Biofeedback

Association for Clinical and Translational Science  
Association for Psychological Science  
Association for Research in Otolaryngology (ARO)  
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology  
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries  
Association of American Cancer Institutes  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of American Universities  
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges  
Association of Black Cardiologists  
Association of Independent Research Institutes  
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs  
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools (AMHPS)  
Association of Pathology Chairs  
Association of Population Centers  
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities  
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health  
AVAC  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Beaumont Health  
Benign Essential Blepharospasm Research Foundation (BEBRF)  
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston  
Beyond Celiac  
Biophysical Society  
Boston University School of Medicine  
Case Western Reserve University  
Cedars-Sinai  
Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University  
Childhood Brain Tumor Foundation  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation  
Coalition for Clinical and Translational Science  
Coalition for Enhancing Diversity in Science  
Coalition for the Life Sciences  
Coalition to Promote Research  
Cognitive Science Society  
Columbia University  
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals  
Congress of Neurological Surgeons  
Consortium of Social Science Associations  
Cooley's Anemia Foundation  
Cornell University  
Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation  
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA  
Deadliest Cancers Coalition

Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer  
Digestive Disease National Coalition  
Duke Health  
Duke University School of Medicine  
Dystonia Advocacy Network (DAN)  
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation  
East Carolina University - The Brody School of Medicine  
Eastern Virginia Medical School  
Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation  
Emory University  
Endocrine Society  
Epilepsy Foundation  
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology  
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences  
FRAXA Research Foundation  
Friends of National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research  
Friends of NIH Behavioral and Social Sciences Research  
GBS|CIDP Foundation International  
Harvard University  
Heart Failure Society of America  
Hepatitis B Foundation  
Hepatitis Foundation International  
HIV Medicine Association  
Indiana University  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
International Essential Tremor Foundation  
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders  
International Myeloma Foundation  
Interstitial Cystitis Association  
Jeffrey Modell Foundation  
Johns Hopkins University  
Lancaster General Health/Penn Medicine  
Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University  
LSU Health-New Orleans  
Lupus Foundation of America  
Lupus Research Alliance  
March of Dimes  
Mayo Clinic  
Medical College of Wisconsin  
Medical Library Association  
Medical University of South Carolina  
Meharry Medical College  
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center  
METAvivor  
Michigan State University  
Morehouse School of Medicine

Movers & Shakers Parkinson Advocacy and Education Organization  
Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA)  
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Alopecia Areata Foundation  
National Association for Biomedical Research (NABR)  
National Coalition for Cancer Research (NCCR)  
National Fragile X Foundation  
National Hemophilia Foundation  
National Kidney Foundation  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society  
National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)  
National Pancreas Foundation  
National Spasmodic Dysphonia Association (NSDA)  
National Spasmodic Torticollis Association  
NephCure Kidney International  
New York Medical College  
Northeast Ohio Medical University  
Northeastern University  
NYU Langone Medical Center  
ONE MIND  
Oregon Health & Science University  
Organic Acidemia Association  
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network  
Patrick Risha CTE Awareness Foundation  
Pediatric Policy Council  
Penn Medicine  
Penn State University  
PKD Foundation  
Population Association of America  
Project Inform  
Pulmonary Hypertension Association  
Renal Physicians Association  
Research!America  
Robert Larner, M.D. College of Medicine at the University of Vermont  
Scleroderma Foundation  
Simon Foundation  
Sleep Research Society  
Society for Investigative Dermatology  
Society for Neuroscience  
Society for Pediatric Research  
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI)  
Society of Behavioral Medicine  
Society of Biological Psychiatry  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Society of Gynecologic Oncology

ST/Dystonia, Inc.  
Stanford University School of Medicine  
Stony Brook Medicine  
Texas A&M University Health Science Center  
The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration  
The Clinical Research Forum  
The Huntington's Disease Society of America  
The Marfan Foundation  
The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research  
The Obesity Society  
The Simon Foundation for Continence  
The Society for Research in Child Development  
The University of Arizona  
Tufts University  
Tulane University  
Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing, and Allied Health  
U.S. Hereditary Angioedema Association  
UC Davis Health  
Unite 2 Fight Paralysis  
United Ostomy Associations of America, Inc  
University of Alabama at Birmingham Health System  
University of California System  
University of California, San Francisco  
University of Central Florida  
University of Chicago Medical Center  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus  
University of Colorado Boulder  
University of Connecticut  
University of Delaware  
University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine  
University of Illinois College of Medicine  
University of Iowa Health Care  
University of Kansas Medical Center  
University of Maryland School of Medicine  
University of Massachusetts Medical School  
University of Michigan  
University of Missouri System  
University of Nebraska Medical Center  
University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Rochester  
University of South Alabama Health System  
University of South Carolina  
University of Tennessee Health Science Center  
University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center  
University of Virginia  
University of Virginia School of Medicine  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin - Madison  
University of Pittsburgh  
UsAgainstAlzheimer's  
Vanderbilt University  
Washington State University  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Weill Cornell Medicine  
West Virginia University School of Medicine  
Western Michigan University Homer Stryker MD School of Medicine  
Yale University

cc: The Honorable Tom Price, M.D., Secretary-Designate of Health and Human Services  
The Honorable Mick Mulvaney, White House Office of Management and Budget  
Director-designate



## Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research Fact Sheet on NIH

February 2017

**The partnership between the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and America's scientific research community is a national investment in improving health and quality of life, and strengthening the nation's economy.** The nation's longstanding, bipartisan commitment to NIH has established the United States as the world leader in medical research and innovation.

As the primary federal agency responsible for conducting and supporting medical research, NIH-funded research drives scientific innovation and develops new and better diagnostics, prevention strategies, and more effective treatments. This work – **conducted at more than 2,500 universities, medical schools, teaching hospitals, and research institutions in all 50 states** – yields life-changing benefits for every American.

### **AMERICANS OVERWHELMINGLY SUPPORT MEDICAL RESEARCH**

The dual opportunity to improve both the nation's physical and fiscal health has led Americans overwhelmingly to support investments in medical research. In a June 2016 poll of registered voters in 12 battleground states sponsored jointly by the Galen Institute and Center Forward:

- **91%** expressed support for sustaining **both public and private sector investments** in medical research;
- **88%** agreed that policies should facilitate **new partnerships among government, industry, and academic stakeholders**; and
- **65%** indicated that support for medical discoveries should be a **priority for the President in his first 100 days** in office, and **78%** indicated it should be a **priority for Congress**.

### **NIH-FUNDED RESEARCH REACHES EVERY AMERICAN**

The nation invests less than \$100 per person annually for all the research conducted and supported by NIH, yet the return on investment has been spectacular. Over the last 40 years:

- life expectancy for the average American has increased by eight years;
- deaths from heart disease, cancer, stroke, diabetes, unintentional injuries, and numerous other conditions have declined; and
- quality of life for millions of Americans has been improving through medical innovations such as cochlear implants and hearing aids, a better understanding of opportunities to prevent and treat addiction, and promising therapies to potentially restore vision or relieve symptoms of Parkinson's disease, among other examples.

### **NIH-FUNDED RESEARCH BENEFITS THE ECONOMY**

Through NIH, the federal government plays an irreplaceable role in supporting biomedical research that is inherently inefficient for industry to conduct but is essential to inform our fundamental understanding of medicine. Once such efforts show potential, the private sector is incentivized to invest in research and development to bring new products to market. Thus, the ongoing pursuit of improved health through medical research also yields dividends for the nation's economic strength by creating high-paying, skilled jobs, new products, and improved technologies. In fact, the federal investment in NIH:

- **catalyzes additional investment from the private sector** of \$8.38 for every \$1 increase in public basic research after 8 years, and \$2.35 for every \$1 increase in public clinical research after 3 years;
- stimulated an estimated **\$60 billion in new economic activity** and supported over **350,000 jobs** nationwide in 2015; and
- has led to billions in societal savings generated by a healthier population, such as the **\$37.1 billion in net economic gain** afforded by an NIH-funded clinical trial on postmenopausal hormone therapy published in 2002.