



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 115th 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 *21st 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.