HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE
NATIONAL LIBRARY
OF MEDICINE

1. Understand NLM’s work providing 200+ biomedical databases

   - **MedlinePlus**: Free, trustworthy health information for the public. [medlineplus.gov](http://medlineplus.gov)
   - **PubMed**: The home page of research for health professionals. [pubmed.gov](http://pubmed.gov)
   - **PMC**: Free public access to federally-funded research. [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc](http://ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc)
   - **NIH/NLM/NNLM**: A national network of locally-relevant health information. [nnlm.gov](http://nnlm.gov)

   - **ClinicalTrials.gov**: World’s largest clinical trial registry and results database. [clinicaltrials.gov](http://clinicaltrials.gov)

2. Recognize NLM’s local, regional, and national impact

   Accelerate scientific discovery and innovation by supporting public access legislation.
Support NLM’s mission to improve global health through data-driven discovery and information access.

Increase NLM funding levels to at least $479.7 million in Fiscal Year 2021, a 5% ($22.7 million) increase.

Increase NIH funding levels to at least $44.7 billion in Fiscal Year 2021, a 7.2% ($3 billion) increase, including dedicated funding provided to the NIH through the 21st Century Cures Act.

Empower and improve the health outcomes in your community by funding NLM training and outreach programs.
The National Library of Medicine: A Platform for Biomedical Discovery and Data-Powered Health

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) plays an essential role in catalyzing basic biomedical science and data-driven discovery through its cutting-edge research, information systems, collections, and training programs. NLM acquires, organizes, curates, and delivers up-to-date biomedical information across the United States and around the globe, and its electronic information sources are used millions of times each day. NLM makes research results available for translation into new treatments, products, and practices; provides decision support for health professionals and patients; and aids disaster and emergency preparedness and response. In partnership with other parts of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and other federal agencies, NLM is a key link in the chain that translates biomedical research into practice, making the results of research readily available worldwide. The NLM Strategic Plan 2017-2027, A Platform for Biomedical Discovery and Data-Powered Health, positions NLM as a platform for biomedical discovery and data-powered health through the provision of tools for data-driven research, reaching more people in more ways through enhanced dissemination and engagement pathways, and building a workforce for data-driven research and health.

Because NLM is an investment in good health; because its resources serve the public, care providers, and researchers; and because NLM is a leader in global disaster preparedness and response support, the Medical Library Association (MLA) and Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL) urge Congress to increase funding levels to at least $479.7 million (+22.7 million), a 5 percent increase for NLM in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, and to increase NIH funding levels to at least $44.7 billion (+$3 billion), a 7.2 percent increase, including dedicated funding provided through the 21st Century Cures Act.

NLM Resources Serve the Public, Care Providers, and Researchers

NLM makes almost 300 databases and online services freely available through libraries and to anyone with Internet access. These resources support health care, public health, disease prevention and wellness, biomedical research, and innovation. They can be accessed at https://www.nlm.nih.gov/.

NLM’s most heavily used resources are:

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<tr>
<th>NLM Website</th>
<th>Key Statistic</th>
<th>Other Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>MedlinePlus</td>
<td>More than 695 million pageviews</td>
<td>• Consumer health information</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>from 300 million users annually</td>
<td>• More than 1,000 health topics in English and Spanish and more than 130 lab test pages</td>
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<td>• MedlinePlus Connect links to consumer information from patients’ EHRs. NLM fulfilled more than 252 million queries.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pubmed.gov</td>
<td>More than 30 million journal</td>
<td>• Citations from MEDLINE, life science journals, and online books</td>
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<td></td>
<td>citations</td>
<td>• Searched by 2.9 million users each day</td>
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| ![PMC](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc)        | Free access to more than 5.5 million articles on PubMed Central               | • On a typical day, more than 2.5 million users access more than 5 million articles  
  • Congressionally mandated NIH public access policy has added 1 million articles, which have been viewed more than 1 billion times  
  • Supports public access policies of 10 other Federal agencies  
  • Coordinates with publishers and authors to make supporting datasets available or discoverable directly from the literature. |
| ![NNLM](https://nnlm.gov)                        | 7,186 members in communities nationwide                                      | • Trains medical librarians, health professionals, and the general public to use NLM resources and services  
  • Outreach to public libraries, secondary schools, senior centers, etc., and underserved populations  
  • Collaboration with NIH’s All of Us Research Program™ initiative to engage local communities, raise awareness, and improve health literacy. |
| ![ClinicalTrials.gov](https://clinicaltrials.gov) | 318,000 clinical studies in all 50 states and in 208 countries                | • World’s largest clinical trial registry and results database  
  • Results posted for more than 39,000 studies  
  • More than 168,000 different users each day |
| ![dbGaP](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gap)       | More than 1,200 studies involving more than 2 million people                  | • Connects genomic data with physical characteristic and clinical information  
  • Provides access to summary-level genomic results from most NIH-supported genomic studies. |
| ![Genetics Home Reference](https://ghr.nlm.nih.gov) | 2.1 million visitors per month                                                | • Consumer-friendly health information  
  • Basics of human genetics  
  • Information on more than 1,300 genetic conditions and 1,400 genes |

The Medical Library Association (MLA) is a nonprofit, educational organization with 3,500 health sciences information professional members worldwide. Founded in 1898, MLA provides lifelong educational opportunities, supports a knowledgebase of health information research, and works with a global network of partners to promote the importance of quality information for improved health to the health care community and the public.

The Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL) supports academic health sciences libraries and directors in advancing the patient care, research, education, and community service missions of academic health centers through visionary executive leadership and expertise in health information, scholarly communication, and knowledge management.
The National Library of Medicine (NLM), a leader in research in biomedical informatics and data science, is the world’s largest biomedical library and one of the 27 Institutes and Centers at NIH. NLM conducts and supports research in methods for recording, storing, retrieving, preserving, and communicating health information. NLM’s research and information services support scientific discovery, health care, and public health.

**NLM Extramural Research Program**

The NLM’s Extramural Program offers grants for research projects and research training in biomedical informatics and data science. NLM-funded researchers tested methods to capture, analyze, integrate, and curate biomedical data. Funded projects included analytics for microbiome data, high-fidelity curation of gene-drug-phenotyping relationships, and a data science-enabled approach to better manage aspects of women’s health.

**NLM Extramural Research Program**

- **Natural language processing to locate and identify viruses that pose public health threats:** The addition of more precise geospatial information can enable health agencies to better target areas that represent the greatest public health risk.

- **Applied machine learning to patient data in electronic health records:** Supports ‘patient matching’ that allows a clinician to explore effective treatments for other similar patients, supporting decisions at the point of clinical care.

- **NLM supports research training in biomedical informatics and data science at 16 university-based programs, 200 trainees per year:** Many of NLM’s predoctoral and postdoctoral training programs expand outreach to other NIH training programs, involve partnerships with minority-serving organizations, and provide experiences for high-school and undergraduate students from underrepresented groups.

**NLM Extramural Research Program**

- **FY’17-’19 Extramural Funding**
  - ↑ budget by $8.8M
  - 60% growth in funding
  - Almost doubled number of grants

  **FY’19**
  - Funded 177 awards

**NLM Intramural Research Program**

NLM’s Intramural Research Program conducts research in biomedical informatics and computational biology. Areas of focus include: natural language processing, image processing, evolutionary genomics, health information standards and discovery, and more.

**NLM Intramural Research Program**

- **Enhancing machine learning/image processing to screen for cervical cancer and assist in early treatment.**

- **Developing and applying new methods of computational biology to advance the understanding of evolutionary genomics.**
Harnessing the Power of PubMed Central to Enable Data Science Research: NLM used PubMed Central, a digital archive of peer-reviewed biomedical and life sciences journal literature, to expand access to full-text articles related to coronavirus, in response to calls on the global publishing community to make all COVID-19-related research publications and data immediately available to the public in forms that support automated text-mining.

Creation of the COVID-19 Open Research Dataset: CORD-19 is a free and growing resource launched with more than 29,000 scholarly articles about COVID-19 and the coronavirus family of viruses. CORD-19 represents the most extensive machine-readable coronavirus literature collection available for text mining to date.

Rapid, free access to sequence data, clinical trials, and curated research literature: NLM made SARS-COV-2 gene data freely available through GenBank, created custom searches for COVID-19 information in ClinicalTrials.gov and PubMed, and created LitCovid, a curated literature hub for tracking up-to-date scientific information about COVID-19.