



THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

The Ad Hoc Group Fiscal Year 2022 Recommendation

The 361 undersigned members of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, which represents patient groups, scientific societies, research and academic institutions, health professionals, educators, and industry, are grateful to Congress for making meaningful, reliable annual funding support for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) a key national priority. NIH-funded biomedical, behavioral, social, and population-based research not only has improved our understanding of fundamental life and health sciences but also has prepared us to combat unprecedented health threats, including the COVID-19 pandemic, and promoted development of ever-evolving medical advances. We are immensely grateful to the leaders of the Senate and House Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittees over the last six years, who have worked together in driving Congress to provide strong bipartisan investments in the agency after over a decade of effectively flat budgets.

For fiscal year (FY) 2022, the Ad Hoc Group recommends a program level of at least \$46.111 billion, a \$3.177 billion increase over the comparable FY 2021 funding level for the NIH, which would allow for the NIH's base budget to keep pace with the biomedical research and development price index (BRDPI) and allow meaningful growth of 5%.

Over the years, distinguished leaders and experts in medical research have recommended a sustained funding approach that allows real growth through increases that exceed inflation by 4-6%.^{1,2} For example, Congress has heard testimony in the past from NIH Director Francis Collins, MD, PhD, about how “a stable trajectory of inflation plus 5% for multiple years in a row”³ would optimally support the medical research enterprise in advancing discovery and improving health. This proposed funding level also is consistent with the recent report from the American Academy of Arts and Sciences recommending a sustained real growth rate of *at least* 4% for basic research across the federal government, with commensurate growth in applied research investment trajectories, in order to maintain U.S. research and development leadership internationally.⁴ As the world's premier public funder of medical research, the NIH is an important factor in that international leadership. Strong growth above BRDPI for the NIH provides critical support for additional research across the agency's diverse areas of study, conducted nationwide and through the NIH's 27 individual Institutes and Centers.

To achieve this important priority, it will be essential to maximize the nation's commitment to discretionary spending programs and ensure a funding allocation for the Labor-HHS Subcommittee that allows for the necessary investment in NIH and other

¹ Loscalzo, J. (2006). The NIH Budget and the Future of Biomedical Research. *N Engl J Med*, 354(16), 1665-1667. <https://doi.org/10.1056/NEJMp068050>

² Heinig, S. J., Krakower, J. Y., Dickler, H. B., & Korn, D. (2007). Sustaining the Engine of U.S. Biomedical Discovery. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 357(10), 1042-1047. doi:10.1056/nejmsb071774

³ Senate Committee on Appropriations. (2016 April). *Hearing on FY2017 National Institutes of Health Budget Request* [Video]. <https://www.appropriations.senate.gov/hearings/hearing-on-fy2017-national-institutes-of-health-budget-request>

⁴ Augustine, N., & Lane, N., et al. (2020). (rep.). *The Perils of Complacency America at a Tipping Point in Science & Engineering* (pp. 1-55). Cambridge, MA: American Academy of Arts and Sciences. <https://www.amacad.org/publication/perils-of-complacency>

agencies that promote the health of our nation. The extraordinarily tight budget caps Congress faced in FY 2021 led to the smallest investment in base growth at the agency in six years. The global COVID-19 pandemic has illustrated the value of the nation's longstanding commitment to NIH, the need to remain vigilant in providing robust support for fundamental research as we do not know when or from where the next threat will come, and the consequences of underinvestment in key public health priorities. We urge Congress to avoid underinvestments that would put the pace of medical research, the career trajectories of students and early-career investigators, and hope for patients and their families at risk. To fully harness novel research tools and partnerships against existing threats and in preparation for the next pandemic, we instead must continue the forward momentum of above-inflation investments in the NIH.

In addition to strong growth in the NIH's base budget, emergency supplemental funding continues to be necessary to support COVID-19-related expenses associated with both pandemic- and non-pandemic research and the research workforce pipeline. NIH-funded research has been critical to combatting the COVID-19 pandemic through the development of diagnostics, treatments, and vaccines. The incredible pace of scientific advancements, particularly the rapid development of the SARS-CoV-2 mRNA vaccines that have received emergency use authorization from the Food and Drug Administration to date, has been possible because of decades of NIH-funded basic research in a variety of areas,^{5,6,7} supplemented by emergency funding over the last year. Many NIH-funded projects across a wide range of patient priorities, however, were disrupted as a result of the public health emergency, and additional resources are needed to allow pre-pandemic research to recover and to support the next generation of scientists. Therefore, we also urge expeditious approval of emergency funding for NIH to mitigate the impact of the public health emergency on our nation's research enterprise.

In sum, the NIH plays an instrumental role in funding basic, translational, and clinical research nationwide, and facilitating the translation of this knowledge into better health for patients. The agency has proven its value, yet again, during the pandemic, and has demonstrated an indisputable, outsized return on the nation's past long-term research investments. In addition to promoting the population's health, medical research supported by NIH serves as a major economic engine for the nation, with its multiplicative effect in local economies by generating over 475,000 jobs and \$81 billion in new economic activity in FY 2019.⁸

We must ensure robust funding for NIH in FY 2022 to continue making scientific advances and providing hope for millions of people. Continuing this longstanding bipartisan commitment will be key both in battling against infectious diseases like the novel coronavirus, which can damage lives and our economy in the future, and also against all of the other diseases, conditions, and maladies that afflict the people of our country, where the NIH has been at the forefront in driving progress.

⁵ Ball, P. (2020). The Lightning-Fast Quest for COVID Vaccines — and What It Means for Other Diseases. *Nature*, 589, 16-18. <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-03626-1>

⁶ Garde, D. and Saltzman, J. (2020, November 10) The Story of mRNA: How a Once-dismissed Idea Became a Leading Technology in the Covid Vaccine Race." *STAT*. <https://www.statnews.com/2020/11/10/the-story-of-mrna-how-a-once-dismissed-idea-became-a-leading-technology-in-the-covid-vaccine-race/>

⁷ Neergaard, L. (2020, December 7). Years of research laid groundwork for speedy COVID-19 vaccines. *Associated Press*. <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/health/years-of-research-laid-groundwork-for-speedy-covid-19-vaccines>

⁸ United for Medical Research. (2020 February). *NIH's Role In Sustaining The U.S. Economy*. <https://www.unitedformedicalresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/NIHs-Role-in-Sustaining-the-US-Economy-FY19-FINAL-2.13.2020.pdf>

361 Signatories as of 02.05.21

AAWR: Association for Women in Radiology

Academic Consortium for Integrative Medicine & Health

Academic Pediatric Association

Academy for Eating Disorders

Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research

ACT for NIH

Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM)

Alliance for Aging Research

Alpha-1 Foundation

ALS Association

Alzheimer's Association and Alzheimer's Impact Movement

Alzheimer's Foundation of America

American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology

American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine

American Academy of Neurology

American Academy of Pediatrics

American Academy of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation

American Academy of Sleep Medicine

American Association for Cancer Research

American Association for Dental Research

American Association of Chairs of Departments of Psychiatry

American Association of Colleges of Nursing

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy

American Association of Directors of Psychiatric Residency Training

American Association of Immunologists

American Association of Neurological Surgeons

American Association of Neuromuscular & Electrodiagnostic Medicine

American Association of Physicists in Medicine

American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AAIDD)

American Brain Coalition

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN)

American College of Academic Addiction Medicine

American College of Cardiology

American College of Clinical Pharmacology®

American College of Neuropsychopharmacology

American College of Nuclear Medicine

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

American College of Physicians

American College of Radiology

American College of Rheumatology

American Council on Education

American Gastroenterological Association

American Geriatrics Society

American Headache Society

American Heart Association (AHA)

American Institute for Cancer Research

American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering

American Institute of Ultrasound in Medicine

American Liver Foundation
American Lung Association
American Massage Therapy Association
American Neurological Association
American Pediatric Society
American Physiological Society
American Psychological Association
AMERICAN ROENTGEN RAY SOCIETY
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
American Society for Investigative Pathology
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Nutrition
American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics
American Society for Radiation Oncology
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Society for Transplantation and Cellular Therapy
American Society for Virology
American Society of Anesthesiologists
American Society of Emergency Radiology
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Human Genetics
American Society of Nephrology
American Society of Neuroradiology
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT)
American Society of Transplantation (AST)
American Surgical Association
American Thoracic Society
American Urogynecologic Society
American Urological Association
American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA)
Anxiety and Depression Association of America
Associated Medical Schools of New York
Association for Clinical and Translational Science
Association for Clinical Oncology
Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
Association for Psychological Science
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)
Association of Academic Health Centers
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL)
Association of Academic Psychiatrists
Association of American Cancer Institutes
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of American Universities
Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges
Association of Anatomy, Cell Biology and Neurobiology Chairs (AACBNC)
Association of Bioethics Program Directors
Association of Black Cardiologists
Association of Chairs of Departments of Physiology

Association of Independent Research Institutes
Association of Medical and Graduate Departments of Biochemistry (AMGDB)
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools, Inc.
Association of Pathology Chairs
Association of Population Centers
Association of Psychologists in Academic Health Centers
Association of Public & Land-Grant Universities
Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO)
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health
Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology
Association of University Radiologists
Atrium Health
Autism Speaks
AVAC
Biomedical Engineering Society
Biophysical Society
Boston University
Bridge the Gap- Syngap Education and Research Foundation
Brown University
Caltech
Carle Illinois College of Medicine
Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
CDH International
Cedars-Sinai
Child Neurology Foundation
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta
Children's Hospital Los Angeles
Children's Hospital Association
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Children's Mercy Research Institute, Kansas City, MO
ChristianaCare
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
Clinical Research Forum
Coalition for Clinical and Translational Science
Coalition for the Life Sciences
College on Problems of Drug Dependence
Columbia University
COMBINEDBrain
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals
Congress of Neurological Surgeons
Consortium of Social Science Associations
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Coriell Institute for Medical Research
Cornell University
Council of Graduate Schools
Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology
Council on Social Work Education
Cure Alzheimer's Fund

CURE Epilepsy
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health
Deadliest Cancers Coalition
Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer
Dementia Society of America
Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Dravet Syndrome Foundation
Drexel University
Duke Health
Duke University
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
East Carolina University
ECAN Esophageal Cancer Action Network, Inc.
Emory University
Empowering Epilepsy
Endocrine Society
Epilepsy Foundation
Eye Bank Association of America
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Federation of Association in Behavioral and Brain Sciences (FABBS)
Fight Colorectal Cancer
Florida State University
Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research
Fox Chase Cancer Center
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Friends of NICHD
Friends of NIDA
Friends of NIMH
GBS|CIDP Foundation International
Global Health Technologies Coalition
Global Liver Institute
GO2 Foundation for Lung Cancer
Harvard University
Henry Ford Health System
Hepatitis B Foundation
HIV Medicine Association
I AM ALS
Indiana University
Infectious Diseases Society of America
International Essential Tremor Foundation
International Foundation for CDKL5 Research
International Foundation for Gastrointestinal Disorders
International Myeloma Foundation
International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine
International Society for Stem Cell Research
Interstitial Cystitis Association
JDRF

Jeffrey Modell Foundation
John & Amy Mewhiney Cancer Foundation
Johns Hopkins University
KidneyCAN
Lennox-Gastaut Syndrome (LGS) Foundation
Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University
Lupus Foundation of America
Lymphatic Education & Research Network
March of Dimes
Mass General Brigham
Mayo Clinic
Medical College of Wisconsin
Medical Image Perception Society
Medical Library Association
Memorial Sloan Kettering
MemorialCare Health System
Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation
METAvivor
Michelson Center for Public Policy
Michelson Medical Research Foundation
Michigan State University
Moffitt Cancer Center
Morehouse School of Medicine
Muscular Dystrophy Association
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Council for Diversity in the Health Professions
National Eczema Association
National Fragile X Foundation
National Kidney Foundation
National Pancreas Foundation
National Psoriasis Foundation
Nationwide Children's Hospital
NEC Society
NephCure Kidney International
New York Medical College
New York State Academic Dental Centers
NorCal CarciNET Community
North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
North American Society of Cardiovascular Imaging
North American Vascular Biology Organization
Northeastern University
NYU Langone Health
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
PATH Decision Support Software, LLC
Patient Services, Inc.
Pediatric Policy Council
Penn State University
Personalized Medicine Coalition

Population Association of America
Project Sleep
Prostate Cancer Foundation
Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Radiological Society of North America
Rare Epilepsy Network (REN)
Research to Prevent Blindness
Research!America
RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association
Restless Legs Syndrome Foundation
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Scleroderma Foundation
Seattle Children's
Shock Society
Sjögren's Foundation
SLC6A1 Connect
Sleep Research Society
Society for Academic Emergency Medicine
Society for Advanced Body Imaging (SABI)
Society for Assisted Reproductive Technology (SART)
Society for Birth Defects Research and Prevention
Society for Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance
Society for Imaging Informatics in Medicine
Society for Male Reproduction and Urology (SMRU)
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility (SREI)
Society for Reproductive Investigation
Society for Women's Health Research
Society of Abdominal Radiology
Society of Academic Associations of Anesthesiology and Perioperative Medicine (SAAAPM)
Society of Chairs of Academic Radiology Departments
Society of General Internal Medicine
Society of Gynecologic Oncology
Society of Interventional Radiology Foundation
Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging
Society of Radiologists in Ultrasound
Society of Reproductive Biologists Technologists (SRBT)
Society of Skeletal Radiology
Society of Thoracic Radiology
Society of Toxicology
Society of University Surgeons
Stanford University
Temple University
Texas A&M Health
The Academy for Professionalism in Health Care (APHC)
The Association of University Professors of Neurology (AUPN)
The George Washington University

The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center
The Society for Pediatric Radiology
The Society for Pediatric Radiology Research and Education Foundation
The Society for Reproductive Surgeons (SRS)
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Thomas Jefferson University
Treatment Action Group
Triage Cancer
Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance
Tufts Medical Center
Tulane University
UC San Diego
UC San Francisco
UCLA
United for Charitable Assistance
United for Medical Research
United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation
University of California System
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 Florida
University of Hawaii - John A. Burns School of Medicine
University of Hawai'i System
University of Illinois College of Medicine
University of Iowa
University of Iowa Health Care
University of Kansas
University of Maryland, Baltimore
University of Massachusetts Medical School
University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine
University of Michigan
University of Nebraska Medical Center
University of New Mexico
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rochester
University of Southern California
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
University of Utah
University of Virginia School of Medicine
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health
US Hereditary Angioedema Association
USF Health Morsani College of Medicine

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UTHealth | The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
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UW Medicine
Vanderbilt University
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Washington State University
Washington University in St. Louis
West Virginia University
World Molecular Imaging Society
Yale University