



## THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

March 26, 2012

The Honorable Dennis Rehberg  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Rehberg, Chairman Harkin, Rep. DeLauro, and Senator Shelby:

The 212 undersigned members of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, a coalition of patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry, write to respectfully request that the National Institutes of Health (NIH) be recognized as a critical national priority and strongly urge the Congress to provide it with at least \$32 billion in funding in the FY 2013 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill.

This funding recommendation represents the minimum investment necessary to avoid further loss of promising research and at the same time allows the NIH's budget to keep pace with biomedical inflation. After nearly a decade of budgets below biomedical inflation, NIH's inflation-adjusted funding is close to 20 percent lower today than in FY 2003. Accordingly, NIH's ability to sustain current research capacity and encourage promising new areas of science is significantly limited. Even before adjusting for inflation, enacted spending bills in recent years have imposed cuts on the NIH budget. More distressing, the looming sequestration mandated by the Budget Control Act threatens to continue this trend with further cuts estimated between 8 and 10 percent in FY 2013 alone.

The broad portfolio of research supported by NIH is essential for improving our basic understanding of diseases. The research supported by the agency provides a significant source of new innovations in health care. It is the kind of investment that the private sector cannot undertake alone. Additional cuts to the NIH budget unquestionably will slow the discovery of new technologies and therapeutics and could impede our ability to respond quickly to new health threats. It is imperative that we provide the necessary resources to the nation's researchers to permit them to continue to understand, cure, prevent, and alleviate diseases, including some of this nation's most debilitating and costly conditions.

Several recent studies have concluded that federal support for medical research is a major force in the economic health of communities across the nation. It is critically important that the nation continue to capitalize on previous investments to drive research progress, train the next generation of scientists, create new jobs, promote economic growth, and maintain leadership in the global innovation economy—particularly as other countries increase their investments in scientific research.

Most important, a failure to maintain and strengthen NIH's ability to support the groundbreaking work of researchers across the country carries a palpable human toll, denying hope to the millions of patients awaiting the possibility of a healthier tomorrow.

The Ad Hoc Group strongly recommends that the FY 2013 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill uphold its longstanding legacy of bipartisan support for NIH by providing funding of no less than \$32 billion.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association  
AcademyHealth  
Academy of Radiology Research  
Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University  
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM)  
Alliance for Aging Research  
Alpha-1 Association  
Alpha-1 Foundation  
Alzheimer's Association  
American Academy of Neurology  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Association for Cancer Research  
American Association for Dental Research  
American Association for Laboratory Animal Science  
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases  
American Association of Anatomists  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy  
American Association of Immunologists  
American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS)  
American Brain Coalition  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American College of Neuropsychopharmacology  
American College of Rheumatology  
American College of Sports Medicine  
American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer  
The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Diabetes Association  
American Gastroenterological Association  
American Heart Association

American Pediatric Society  
American Physical Therapy Association (APTA)  
American Physiological Society  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB)  
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research  
The American Society for Cell Biology  
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy  
American Society for Microbiology  
American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics  
American Society for Radiation Oncology  
American Society for Reproductive Medicine  
American Society of Clinical Oncology  
American Society of Hematology  
American Society of Human Genetics  
The American Society of Nephrology  
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology  
American Sociological Association  
American Thoracic Society  
American Tinnitus Association  
American Urogynecologic Society  
Arizona State University  
Arthritis Foundation  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America  
Associated Medical Schools of New York (AMSNY)  
Association for Psychological Science  
The Association for Research in Vision & Ophthalmology (ARVO)  
Association of Academic Health Centers  
Association of American Cancer Institutes  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of American Universities  
Association of Independent Research Institutes  
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs  
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools  
Association of Population Centers  
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU)  
Baylor College of Medicine  
Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network (BCAN)  
Biophysical Society  
Biotechnology Industry Organization  
Brigham and Women's Hospital  
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center  
Charlene Miers Foundation for Cancer Research  
Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science  
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute  
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation  
City of Hope  
Coalition for Health Funding  
Coalition for Imaging and Bioengineering Research

Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Sciences Research  
(CAHT-BSSR)  
Coalition for the Life Sciences  
Coalition to Promote Research (CPR)  
The College on Problems of Drug Dependence  
Columbia University  
Consortium of Academic Health Centers for Integrative Medicine  
Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)  
Cooley's Anemia Foundation  
COPD Foundation  
Cornell University  
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation  
Digestive Disease National Coalition  
Duke University School of Medicine  
The Endocrine Society  
EPSCoR/IDeA Coalition  
EPSCoR/IDeA Foundation  
FasterCures  
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology  
Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences  
Fight Colorectal Cancer  
FRAXA Research Foundation  
Friends of Cancer Research  
Friends of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development  
Friends of the National Institute on Aging  
Friends of the National Institute on Drug Abuse  
GAPPS  
Genetics Society of America  
The Gerontological Society of America  
Harvard University  
Health Sciences South Carolina  
HIV Medicine Association  
Human Factors and Ergonomics Society  
Huntington's Disease Society of America (HDSA)  
Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA)  
Intercultural Cancer Council Caucus  
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders  
Interstitial Cystitis Association  
JDRF  
Jeffrey Modell Foundation  
Johns Hopkins University  
Joint Advocacy Coalition of the Association for Clinical Research Training, the Association for  
Patient-Oriented Research, the Clinical Research Forum, and the Society for Clinical and  
Translational Science  
Le Bonheur Children's Hospital  
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
Life Technologies  
Lupus Foundation of America  
The Lupus Research Institute

March of Dimes  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
McLean Hospital  
Medical College of Wisconsin  
Meharry Medical College  
Melanoma Research Alliance  
Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation  
Michigan State University  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
The Mount Sinai Medical Center  
National AHEC Organization  
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Association for Biomedical Research  
National Brain Tumor Society  
National Council for Diversity in the Health Professions  
National Fragile X Foundation  
The National Infertility Association  
National Kidney Foundation  
National Marfan Foundation  
National Primate Research Centers  
National Psoriasis Foundation  
National Women's Health Network  
NephCure Foundation  
The New York Stem Cell Foundation  
North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition  
Northeastern University  
NYU Langone Medical Center  
The Ohio State University  
The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center  
One Voice Against Cancer  
Oregon Health & Science University  
Ovarian Cancer National Alliance  
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network  
Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy  
Parkinson's Action Network (PAN)  
Partners HealthCare  
Penn Medicine  
Penn State College of Medicine  
Population Association of America  
Prevent Blindness America  
Pulmonary Hypertension Association  
Research!America  
The Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital  
Scleroderma Foundation  
Sleep Research Society  
Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics  
Society for Investigative Dermatology  
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine  
Society for Neuroscience

Society for Pediatric Research  
Society for Women's Health Research  
Society of Behavioral Medicine  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Society of Gynecologic Oncology  
Society of Hospital Medicine  
Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital  
Spina Bifida Association  
Trisomy 18 Foundation  
Tufts University  
Tulane University  
Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing, and Allied Health  
Unite 2 Fight Paralysis  
The United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation  
University at Buffalo  
University of California System  
The University of Chicago Medical Center  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus  
University of Illinois  
University of Massachusetts Medical School  
University of Michigan Medical School  
University of Rochester  
University of South Florida-USF Health  
University of Texas System  
University of Utah Health Sciences  
University of Virginia  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
US Hereditary Angioedema Association  
UTHealth | The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston  
Vanderbilt University  
Wake Forest School of Medicine  
Washington University in St. Louis