

February 11, 2013

Dear Representative:

The undersigned organizations and institutions, which represent patients, scientists, health care providers, and industry, are gravely concerned about the impact of continued cuts, including sequestration, funding shortfalls in fiscal years 2013 and 2014, and the threat of additional cuts to offset the debt ceiling, on medical research supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the subsequent negative consequences for the health of all Americans.

At a time when we should be investing more in medical research, we have continued to shrink our investment to a point where we are sacrificing real opportunities for discovery of new innovations and medical advances. Declining funding also is eroding our position as the world leader in research and discovery. The NIH serves to improve the health and quality of life for all Americans and spur job creation and economic growth. There is no doubt; the impact of the proposed cut on NIH-funded research will be immediate and devastating. The Senate Budget Committee estimates that sequestration would result in a 5.1 percent reduction in FY 2013 discretionary spending. In a recent interview, NIH Director Francis Collins, M.D., Ph.D., described the impact of sequestration as a "profound and devastating" blow at a time of unprecedented scientific opportunity. Sequestration will come at the end of a decade that has seen the NIH budget fall by nearly 20 percent after inflation, and on top of an estimated \$900 billion in spending cuts mandated by the Budget Control Act over the next ten years. The impact of sequestration would be exacerbated because it would occur in the middle of the fiscal year, forcing researchers to immediately incur drastic budget cuts and abandon potentially life-enhancing research.

The undersigned groups and institutions also are concerned that continued cuts will negatively affect job creation and seriously jeopardize America's leadership in medical research. An analysis released in April 2012 by the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) notes that that biomedical research enterprise supports a significant workforce, such that, "the impact on employment and local economies will be immediate and severe." A March 2012 report from United for Medical Research estimates a 7.8 percent reduction in the NIH budget will "result in 33,000 fewer jobs across the U.S. and a \$4.5 billion decrease in economic activity." In May 2012, Research!America warned that sequestration will negatively impact U.S. competitiveness just as other nations are aggressively boosting their investments in research and development.

If we are to address the health challenges of an aging and increasingly diverse population, and remain a vibrant force in the global economy, America needs more investment in medical research, not less. We respectfully urge Congress and the Administration to work together on a solution that preserves the nation's investment in medical research and the health of the American people.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association
AcademyHealth
Academy of Radiology Research
Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research
Adult Congenital Heart Association
AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth and Families
The AIDS Institute
Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University and Montefiore Medical Center
Alliance for Aging Research

Alpha-1 Association
Alpha-1 Foundation
American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry
American Academy of Neurology
American Academy of Pediatrics
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 Multi Sensory Environments
American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
American Brain Coalition
American Chemical Society
American College of Cardiology
American College of Neuropsychopharmacology
American College of Radiology (ACR)
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Federation for Aging Research
American Gastroenterological Association
American Geriatrics Society
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
American Neurological Association
American Pediatric Society
American Physiological Society
American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
The American Society for Cell Biology
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
American Society for Microbiology
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 - AST
The American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene
American Sociological Association
American Thoracic Society
American Tinnitus Association
American Urogynecologic Society
Arthritis Foundation
Associated Medical Schools of New York (AMSNY)
Association for Applied Psychophysiology & Biofeedback
Association for Clinical Research Training
The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration
Association for Patient-Oriented Research

Association for Prevention Teaching and Research
Association for Psychological Science
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology
Association of Academic Health Centers
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries
Association of American Cancer Institutes
Association of American Geographers
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 Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Schools of Public Health
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
AVAC: Global Advocacy for HIV Prevention
Baylor College of Medicine
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston
Biophysical Society
Boonshoft School of Medicine of Wright State University
Boston University
Brigham and Women's Hospital
BrightFocus Foundation
Brown University
CADASIL Together We Have Hope Non-Profit Organization
Case Western Reserve University
Cedars-Sinai Health System
Central Michigan University College of Medicine
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
Child Neurology Society
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
City of Hope
Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Clinical Research Forum
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)
College on Problems of Drug Dependence
Columbia University Medical Center
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals
The Consortium of Academic Centers for Integrative Medicine
Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
COPD Foundation
Cornell University
Council on Governmental Relations
Creighton University
Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America
Cure Alzheimer's Fund

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Drexel University College of Medicine
Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative
Duke University School of Medicine
Emory University
The Endocrine Society
Epilepsy Foundation
EPSCoR/IDeA Foundation
Exceptional Parent
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB)
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences
Foundation for Biomedical Research
Foundation for Integrative AIDS Research (FIAR)
Friends of NIDA
Friends Research Institute, Inc.
GBS/CIDP Foundation International
Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth
Genetics Society of America (GSA)
The Gerontological Society of America
Health Sciences South Carolina
Heart Rhythm Society
Hepatitis B Foundation
Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine
HIV Medicine Association
HIV Prevention Justice Alliance (HIV PJA)
Infectious Diseases Society of America
International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI)
International Cancer Advocacy Network (ICAN)
International Essential Tremor Foundation
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders
International Rectal Microbicide Advocates
Interstitial Cystitis Association
Intracranial Hypertension Research Foundation
JDRF
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
Joint Advocacy Coalition of ACRT, APOR, CRF, & SCTS
Le Bonheur Children's Hospital
Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine
Lupus Foundation of America
Lupus Research Institute
March of Dimes
Massachusetts General Hospital
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society
Mayo Clinic
McLean Hospital
MdDS Balance Disorder Foundation
Medical College of Wisconsin

Medical Library Association
Medical University of South Carolina College of Medicine
Medicines for Malaria Venture – MMV
Meharry Medical College
Melanoma Research Alliance
The Methodist Hospital System
The MetroHealth System
Michigan State University
Morehouse School of Medicine
The Mount Sinai Medical Center
National Academy of Neuropsychology
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Area Health Education Center Organization
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors
National Marfan Foundation
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)
National Osteoporosis Foundation
National Primate Research Centers
National Women's Health Network
NephCure Foundation
Northeastern University
NYU Langone Medical Center
The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center
Oregon Health & Science University
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
Parkinson's Action Network
Partners HealthCare
Penn Medicine
Penn State College of Medicine
Population Association of America/Association of Population Centers
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Project Inform
Prostate Cancer Foundation
Research!America
The Research Institute of Nationwide Children's Hospital
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Hartford, CT
Saint Louis University
San Francisco AIDS Foundation
Scleroderma Foundation
SIU School of Medicine
Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation
Sleep Research Society
Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology
Society for Clinical and Translational Science
Society for Computers in Psychology (SCiP)
Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Neuroscience

Society for Pediatric Research
Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)
Society for Psychophysiological Research (SPR)
Society for Research in Psychopathology
Society for Women's Health Research (SWHR)
Society of Biological Psychiatry
Society of Gynecologic Oncology
Society of Hospital Medicine
Society of Mathematical Psychology
Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology
Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital
St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center
Stanford University School of Medicine
Stony Brook University
Stony Brook University School of Medicine
SUNY Upstate Medical University
Temple University School of Medicine
Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine
Treatment Action Group (TAG)
Tufts Medical Center
Tufts University
Tufts University School of Medicine
Tulane University
Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing & Allied Health
UNC School of Medicine
Unite 2 Fight Paralysis
United for Medical Research
University at Buffalo
The University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of California, Irvine
University of California, San Francisco
University of Illinois Chicago College of Medicine
The University of Iowa
University of Kentucky
University of Maryland
University of Massachusetts Medical School
University of Michigan Medical School
University of Minnesota Medical School
University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine
University of Nebraska Medical Center
University of New Mexico
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine
University of Rochester
University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry
University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine
University of Tennessee
University of Vermont College of Medicine
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

University Professors of Neurology
US Hereditary Angioedema Association
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Wake Forest School of Medicine
Washington University in St. Louis
Wayne State University School of Medicine
Western Michigan University School of Medicine
Yale School of Medicine