



## THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

July 18, 2011

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20050

Dear President Obama:

On behalf of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, a coalition of more than 300 patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry, I write to respectfully request that the National Institutes of Health (NIH) be recognized as an urgent national priority during deficit reduction negotiations. These are difficult times for our nation and for people all around the globe, and, as your administration consistently has acknowledged, sustaining the commitment to science is the key to a better future.

The foundation of scientific knowledge built through NIH-funded research across the country drives medical innovation that improves health and quality of life through new and better diagnostics, improved prevention strategies, and more effective treatments. These discoveries have contributed to increased and improved life expectancy over the past century, and continue to create promising new research opportunities in areas ranging from genetics to behavioral research, offering hope to the millions of patients awaiting the possibility of a healthier tomorrow.

Further, NIH-supported research contributes to the nation's economic strength by catalyzing private sector growth and creating skilled, high-paying jobs; new products and industries; and improved technologies. As you know, it is critically important that the nation continue to capitalize on the momentum of 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 continue to increase their investments in scientific research.

In this challenging budget environment, we recognize the painful decisions that must be made to secure the nation's fiscal stability. However, it is imperative that such efforts be grounded in the goal of promoting the prosperity and well-being of the American people. Especially in times like these, continuing the nation's commitment to medical research through NIH is essential to ensuring the health of Americans across the country and to maintaining American leadership in an increasingly competitive global scientific arena. The Ad Hoc Group strongly recommends that any deficit reduction negotiations uphold the longstanding legacy of bipartisan support for the health and economic benefits afforded by an unwavering commitment to NIH.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David B. Moore'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

David B. Moore  
Executive Director