



## THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

**For Immediate Release**  
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### **Ad Hoc Group Statement on President's FY 2021 Budget Proposal**

**February 10, 2020** – *The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research issued the following statement in response to the proposed \$38.7 billion program level for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in the President's fiscal year (FY) 2021 budget request released February 10:*

At a time when medical research is yielding breakthroughs once considered impossible, the President's budget request for the NIH would devastate the agency's ability to pursue promising new science to improve and save lives. The President's proposal to cut funding for the NIH by \$3 billion, more than 7 percent below current levels, would erode the incredible progress toward developing new preventive interventions, diagnostics, treatments, and cures for patients nationwide while also threatening our narrowing competitive edge in an increasingly innovation-based international marketplace.

Thankfully, despite recent White House budget requests, lawmakers on both sides of the aisle have made meaningful, reliable funding for NIH a key national priority. This noteworthy investment has helped to increase the pace of biomedical research, reenergize existing and aspiring scientists nationwide, and restore hope for patients and their families. Patient advocates and researchers will once again work with Congress to support the needed steady growth in funding for NIH in FY 2021 and reject the unfounded proposed funding levels that dismiss the value of biomedical research and the hope it brings to the American people. Over 330 organizations and institutions in the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research [recommend a funding level of \\$44.7 billion for NIH for FY 2021.](#)

For the United States to take full advantage of today's unprecedented scientific opportunity, renew our global leadership in science and technology, and strengthen our national security, our federal investment in medical research must reflect meaningful, reliable funding increases above inflation within the base NIH budget. We must maintain the forward momentum that Congress has driven over the past five years. The Ad Hoc Group looks forward to continuing to work with lawmakers to realize this vision and to ensure better health for patients in FY 2021 and beyond.

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*The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research is a coalition of over 330 patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry. The Ad Hoc Group has one mission: to enhance the federal investment in biomedical, behavioral, social, and population-based research by increasing the funding for the National Institutes of Health.*