



## THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

### *The Ad Hoc Group Fiscal Year 2022 Recommendation*

The 365 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%.<sup>1,2</sup> 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”<sup>3</sup> 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.<sup>4</sup> 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**

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<sup>1</sup> 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>

<sup>2</sup> 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

<sup>3</sup> 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>

<sup>4</sup> 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,<sup>5,6,7</sup> 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.<sup>8</sup>

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.

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<sup>5</sup> 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>

<sup>6</sup> 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/>

<sup>7</sup> 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>

<sup>8</sup> 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>

### **365 Signatories as of 05.06.21**

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 Physiatrists  
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  
GenTAC Alliance  
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  
Loeys-Dietz Syndrome Foundation  
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 Marfan Foundation  
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 VEDS Movement  
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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Washington State University  
Washington University in St. Louis  
West Virginia University  
World Molecular Imaging Society  
Yale University