The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research and Coalition for Health Funding invite you to please join us for a virtual briefing series for Congressional staff and coalition members.

**Medical Research & COVID-19: Updates from NIH’s Institutes & Centers**

NIH-supported medical research across country is a key tool in battling COVID-19 and its wide-ranging effects. This series will feature discussions with directors of NIH’s institutes and centers about how research to date and ongoing work can inform our response to the virus, as well as the impact the pandemic is having on existing research across the agency’s broad portfolio.

The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD) supports research in the normal and disordered processes of hearing, balance, taste, smell, voice, speech, and language. Up to 80% of COVID-19 patients report a loss of taste or smell, and NIDCD research is investigating the underlying biology of these symptoms, developing new smell and taste tests to screen for COVID-19, and more. Please join us for a virtual briefing with NIDCD Director Debara Tucci, MD, MS, MBA, at 1pm EST on Thursday, May 13. Please register here by Wednesday, May 12.

Additional upcoming events in the virtual briefing series:

*National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB)*
**Date:** Tuesday, May 25, 1pm EST
**Guest speaker:** Bruce Tromberg, Ph.D., Director, NIBIB
**RSVP:** To receive Zoom information, please register here by Monday, May 24.

Recordings and materials from previous events in this series are available here.

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This briefing series is co-hosted by the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, a coalition of nearly 400 patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry that support enhancing the federal investment in the biomedical, behavioral, and population-based research conducted and supported by the NIH, and the Coalition for Health Funding, the oldest and largest nonprofit alliance working to preserve and strengthen public health investments in the best interest of all Americans with member organizations representing more than 100 million patients and consumers, health providers, professionals, and researchers.