

Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up – May 15, 2017

Each week, the Ad Hoc Group Weekly Round Up will feature hashtags and/or tweets (follow us at [@fundNIH](#)) suggested by members of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) advocacy community. We encourage all readers who are active on social media to use these messages, and welcome suggestions from the community for future issues of the Weekly Round-Up. Here's this week's featured tweet:

United for Medical Research (@UMR4NIH)

New data shows negative economic impact in every state of proposed FY18 skinny budget cuts to NIH
<http://www.unitedformedicalresearch.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/FY2018-Budget-Cuts-and-NIH-Economic-Impact-FINAL-5.10.17.pdf>

1. House Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee Holds Hearing on NIH

The House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee [will hold](#) a hearing on the NIH on Wednesday, May 17 at 10 am in 2358-C Rayburn. NIH Director Francis Collins, MD, PhD, is scheduled to testify and will be accompanied by five institute directors. The hearing will be webcast from the Appropriations Subcommittee [webpage](#).

2. White House Met with NIH, Stakeholders to Discuss Biomedical Research

On Monday, May 8, the White House hosted a meeting to discuss biomedicine and medical research. In his daily press [briefing](#), White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer recapped the meeting and stated, “Key leaders from government, the private sector and academia discussed the United States’ comprehensive biomedical landscape and further educated White House staff, including assistants to the President, Ivanka Trump and Reed Cordish, on this important topic.” Vice President Mike Pence, Health and Human Services Secretary Tom Price, MD, Veterans Affairs Secretary David Shulkin, MD also attended on behalf of the Trump Administration. Spicer described the United States’s position as a leader in research saying, “This investment is dependent on the NIH and the important research it funds. In order to maintain our international leadership in biomedicine, we must strengthen the partnerships between government agencies, investors, academics, the bio-pharma industry and research foundations. This meeting was an important step in reinforcing that essential cooperation.”

3. Ad Hoc Group Joins Letter in Support of Labor-HHS-Ed 302(b) Allocation

The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research [joined](#) nearly 800 organizations on a letter urging the leadership of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees “to increase the fiscal year (FY) 2018 302(b) subcommittee allocation” for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies. The letter was coordinated by the Coalition for Health Funding, Committee for Education Funding, and the Campaign to Invest in America’s Workforce. It expresses concern that inadequate funding levels limit appropriators’ ability to fully support the wide range of programs under the Labor-HHS Appropriations Subcommittee’s jurisdiction, saying, “Despite Labor-HHS’s profound impact on health and well-being, child development, educational and skills attainment, and productivity, its programs and services continue to be short-changed in the annual appropriations process.”

4. United for Medical Research Releases Economic Impact Report on Proposed FY18 NIH Cuts

On May 11, United for Medical Research [released](#) a report detailing the impact of the proposed fiscal year 2018 budget cuts on the NIH. The summary states, “If the cuts to the National Institutes of Health’s budget proposed by the White House in March are adopted for fiscal year 2018, new data from United for

Medical Research shows that there could be a loss of nearly 90,000 jobs and \$15 billion in economic activity compared to 2016. NIH-funded research, conducted at academic and medical institutions in communities in every state in the nation, is an engine for medical progress and economic growth. In 2016, NIH research directly and indirectly supported 380,000 jobs across the United States and contributed \$65 billion in economic activity.”

5. ASM Congressional Briefing on Vaccines

On Tuesday, May 16, at 9 am in 562 Dirksen Senate Office Building, the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) will host a congressional briefing titled, Vaccines: Healthcare’s First Line of Defense. Speakers include Nancy Messonnier, MD, director for the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Bruce G. Gellin, MD, MPH, president, Global Immunization, Sabin Vaccine Institute; and Paul A. Offit, MD, Maurice R. Hilleman Professor of Vaccinology, Professor of Pediatrics at the Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Division of Infectious Diseases, The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. To register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/congressional-briefing-tickets-33623890963>

6. National Women's Health Empowerment Summit

Co-sponsored by American Heart Association and WomenHeart, the Coalition for Women’s Health Equity will convene a Women’s Health Empowerment Summit on May 17 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Newseum (555 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC) in Washington, DC. The summit will explore the rapidly changing legislative landscape and set advocacy priorities through briefings from government and policy experts. It will include testimonials from patients and medical professionals that will highlight the need to align mobilization efforts. For more information and to register, visit https://secure2.convio.net/wzoa/site/Ticketing?view=Tickets&id=103550&s_src=womensSummit-inlineReg&s_subsrc=advocacy

7. Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation Reception with Congressional Crohn’s and Colitis Caucus

The Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation invites you to a reception on Capitol Hill on May 17 from 5:30 to 7pm. Senators Thad Cochran (R-MS) and Roy Blunt (R-MO) will be honored at the event for their steadfast support of federal medical research funding at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Department of Defense (DOD). The reception will be held in G-50 of the Senate Dirksen Office Building. Refreshments and hors d’oeuvres will be served. Flyer attached.

8. Reminder of Upcoming Senate Labor-HHS Subcommittee Deadline

The Senate Subcommittee deadline to submit outside witness testimony related to FY 2018 appropriations is close of business on June 2. All testimony must be in accordance with the [guidelines](#) set out by the subcommittee.

9. NIH to Hold Council of Councils Meeting in May

The NIH [published](#) a Federal Register Notice regarding a May 26 Council of Councils meeting. The meeting will begin at 8:15 am at the NIH in Building 21, C Wing, 6th floor, Conference Room 10. Among other topics queued up for the meeting, agenda items for the open sessions include a discussion of the history of the Knockout Mouse Program (KOMP), background on the NIH and federal budget process, progress and plans at the National Institute on Aging (NIA), and the Common Fund Diversity Program. The open session will be videocast and can be accessed from the NIH Videocasting and Podcasting Web site <http://videocast.nih.gov>.

10. NIH to Hold Advisory Committee to the Director Meeting in June

Through a [Federal Register Notice](#), the NIH announced an Advisory Committee to the Director (ACD) meeting, scheduled for June 8 from 9 am to 5:30 pm and June 9 from 9 am to 1 pm. The agenda includes the NIH Director's report and the ACD working group reports, among other business. The meeting will take place at National Institutes of Health, Porter Neuroscience Research Center, Building 35, Room 640, 35 Convent Drive in Bethesda, MD. More information will be made available on the ACD website: <https://acd.od.nih.gov/>

11. Research!America Congressional Briefing: Innovation Intersection

On June 12, Research!America will [host](#) a congressional briefing titled, "Innovation Intersection" from noon to 1:00 pm. Experts from across the medical research continuum will focus on the development phase of the discovery, development and delivery continuum, exploring who, what, why and how of clinical research that is pivotal to delivering safe and effective medical innovations to patients. Panelists include John Hubbard, Ph.D., FCP, chairman of Association of Clinical Research Organizations (ACRO), and president and CEO, Bioclinica; Victor J. Dzau, M.D., president of National Academy of Medicine; Patty Fritz, MS, vice president of US Corporate Affairs, UCB Inc.; Sudip S. Parikh, Ph.D., senior vice president and managing director, DIA. The panel will be moderated by Eleanor Perfetto, Ph.D., MS, senior vice president of Strategic Initiatives at the National Health Council. The briefing will take place in SVC 201. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP by filling out this [form](#).

12. Research!America Congressional Briefing on Migraine

On June 15, Research!America will [host](#) a congressional briefing titled, "The Value of Research and Prevention in Addressing the Societal Burden of Migraine." During this Capitol Hill briefing, a moderated panel will discuss the debilitating impact of migraines on health, the economy and society. Speakers include: Walter Koroshetz, M.D., director, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS); Mary Franklin, executive director, National Headache Foundation; Brian Gifford, Ph.D., director, research and measurement, Integrated Benefits Institute; Jaime Sanders, The Migraine Diva; and Amaal J. Starling, M.D., assistant professor of neurology, Mayo Clinic. The briefing will be held from noon to 1 pm in 2043 Rayburn House Office Building. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP by filling out this [form](#).

13. Golden Goose Awards

The [Golden Goose Awards](#) celebrate the stories of how basic research delivers major societal impacts – from NIH-funded [massages for baby rats](#) that changed how we treat premature babies (and saved billions in health care costs) to the once canceled NIH-funded [adolescent health study](#) that informs everything from school curricula to public health programs. Each year, three teams of researchers are showcased through written stories and documentary videos, and honored with an award ceremony in Washington, DC each fall. The award depends on the support of partners in the science community, and more than twenty different organizations in our community and beyond contribute each year. Attached are the 2017 Golden Goose Award Sponsorship opportunities (also on the Golden Goose Awards [website](#)). The deadline for sponsoring is Sept 6, 2017.

Please Note: If you have information of interest to the NIH advocacy community that you would like to share with the Ad Hoc Group, please forward it to Joe Bañez at jbanez@aamc.org or Tannaz Rasouli at trasouli@aamc.org.