



## THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

November 1, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Boehner  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable David Obey  
Chair, Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-  
Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington DC 20515

The Honorable Todd Tiahrt  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Labor-  
HHS-Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chair, Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-  
Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Labor-  
HHS-Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Speaker, Leaders, Chairmen and Ranking Members:

The undersigned patient groups, scientific and medical societies, research institutions and industry organizations, which are members of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, thank you for your longstanding leadership on behalf of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). We respectfully urge you to continue that support by finalizing the FY 2011 Labor-Health and Human Services-Education (Labor-HHS) appropriations bill without delay. The proposed \$1 billion increase for the NIH will sustain the pace of progress in the fight against many of our most serious diseases, create new scientific opportunities, support high-technology, and result in high-wage jobs in all 50 states.

A long-term, continuing resolution (CR) will slow research progress and squander invaluable scientific opportunities, to the detriment of our nation's health and our ability to maintain leadership in the global innovation economy. Recent investments have created dramatic new research opportunities in areas ranging from genetics to behavioral research, spurring advancements and precipitating the promise of personalized medicine that will yield far-reaching health and economic benefits. A few examples of opportunities that have the potential to be lost or significantly delayed under a long-term CR include:

- The initiation of 30 new drug trials to find novel therapies for cancer, which claims the lives of 500,000 Americans annually;
- A new initiative to identify biomarkers and drug targets for lung diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder, which is the fourth leading cause of death in the U.S., leading to more than 120,000 annual fatalities;
- The development of models to show the interactions between infectious agents and their hosts, disease spread, prediction systems and response strategies. The models will be useful to policymakers, public health workers and other researchers who want to better understand and respond to emerging infectious diseases; and
- Continued work on the development of an "artificial pancreas" through initiatives funding small business research to develop new therapeutics and monitoring technologies, as well as clinical research, an effort which could impact the nearly 24 million Americans struggling with diabetes.

It is critically important that we continue to capitalize on the momentum of previous investments to drive research progress, train the next generation of scientists, create jobs, and promote industry growth. The undersigned organizations strongly support the \$1 billion increase proposed by the President and passed by the House and Senate Labor-HHS appropriations subcommittees. We hope that you can help ensure the nation does not lose the health and economic benefits of our extraordinary investments in biomedical research, and that Congress takes the next crucial step towards a course of sustained NIH funding by passing the FY 2011 Labor-HHS appropriations bill. We look forward to working with you to continue to improve the health of the American people through medical research.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association  
Academy of Radiology Research  
Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research  
AIDS Action Baltimore  
AIDS Alliance for Children, Youth & Families  
The AIDS Institute  
AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition (ATAC)  
Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine  
Alliance for Aging Research  
Alpha-1 Association  
Alpha-1 Foundation  
Alzheimer's Association

amfAR, the Foundation for AIDS Research  
The American Academy of HIV Medicine  
American Academy of Neurology  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Association for Cancer Research  
American Association for Dental Research  
American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases  
American Association of Anatomists  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine  
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons  
American Brain Coalition  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American Chemical Society  
American College of Radiology  
The American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists  
American Dental Association  
American Diabetes Association  
American Heart Association  
American Lung Association  
American Neurological Association  
American Osteopathic Association  
American Pediatric Society  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Psychological Association  
American Physiological Society  
American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology  
The American Society for Cell Biology  
American Society for Microbiology  
American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics  
American Society of Clinical Oncology  
American Society of Hematology  
American Society of Human Genetics  
American Society of Nephrology  
American Society of Neurorehabilitation  
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology  
American Society of Plant Biologists  
American Sociological Association  
American Statistical Association  
American Thoracic Society  
American Tinnitus Association  
Arthritis Foundation  
Association for Clinical Research Training  
Association for Patient-Oriented Research  
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)  
Association of Academic Health Science Libraries

Association of American Cancer Institutes  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
Association of American Universities  
Association of Independent Research Institutes  
Association of Medical School Pediatric Department Chairs (AMSPDC)  
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools  
Association of Professors of Medicine  
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities  
Association of Specialty Professors  
Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)  
AVAC: Global Advocacy for HIV Prevention  
Biophysical Society  
BJC HealthCare  
Brown University  
California Institute of Technology  
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center  
Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science  
The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation  
Cleveland Clinic  
Clinical Research Forum  
Coalition for Health Services Research  
Coalition for Imaging and Bioengineering Research  
Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Science Research (CAHT-BSSR)  
Coalition for the Life Sciences  
Coalition of Heritable Disorders of Connective Tissue  
Coalition to Protect Research (CPR)  
College on Problems of Drug Dependence  
Columbia University  
Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals  
COPD Foundation  
Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)  
Cooley's Anemia Foundation  
Cornell University  
Council on Social Work Education  
Creighton University  
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America  
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation  
Digestive Disease National Coalition  
Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi)  
Duke University School of Medicine  
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation  
Emory University  
The Endocrine Society  
Epilepsy Foundation

FasterCures  
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB)  
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences  
Florida Atlantic University  
Friends of NIDA  
Genetic Alliance  
Harvard University  
Health Sciences South Carolina  
HealthHIV  
HIV Medicine Association  
Howard University Health Sciences  
Indiana University  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
International Essential Tremor Foundation  
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders  
Interstitial Cystitis Association  
Intracranial Hypertension Research Foundation  
Jeffrey Modell Foundation  
Johns Hopkins University  
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation  
Latino Commission on AIDS, New York, NY  
Lupus Research Institute  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
March of Dimes Foundation  
Mayo Clinic  
McLean Hospital  
Medical Library Association  
Medicines for Malaria Venture  
Meharry Medical College  
The MetroHealth System  
Michigan State University  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
Mount Sinai Medical Center  
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research (NAEVR)  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Association of Medical Minority Educators (NAMME)  
The National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA)  
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD)  
National Brain Tumor Society  
National Endowment for Alzheimer's Research (NEAR)  
National Health Council  
National Lung Cancer Partnership  
National Marfan Foundation  
National Osteoporosis Foundation  
National Primate Research Centers

National Psoriasis Foundation  
Neurofibromatosis MIDWEST  
Neurofibromatosis, Inc.  
Neurofibromatosis, Inc., Northeast  
NephCure Foundation  
New York Medical College  
The New York Stem Cell Foundation  
New York University  
Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy  
Northeastern University  
NYU Langone Medical Center  
The Ohio State University  
OhioHealth  
OraSure Technologies, Inc  
Oregon Health & Science University  
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN)  
Parkinson's Action Network  
Partners HealthCare  
Penn Medicine  
Penn State College of Medicine  
PKD Foundation  
Pulmonary Hypertension Association  
PXE International  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
Sarcoma Foundation of America  
Scleroderma Foundation  
Society for Clinical and Translational Science  
Society for Investigative Dermatology  
Society for Neuroscience  
Society for Pediatric Research  
Society for Women's Health Research  
Society of Behavioral Medicine  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Spaulding Rehabilitation Network  
Stanford University  
Stony Brook University Medical Center  
Syracuse University  
Treatment Action Group (TAG)  
Tulane University  
Unite 2 Fight Paralysis  
University of California System  
University of California Berkeley  
University of California Davis  
University of California Irvine  
University of California Los Angeles  
University of California Merced

University of California Riverside  
University of California San Diego  
University of California San Francisco  
University of California Santa Barbara  
University of California Santa Cruz  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Colorado Denver  
University of Houston  
University of Illinois  
University of Iowa  
University of Kansas  
University of Michigan Health System  
University of Michigan Medical School  
University of Minnesota  
University of Nebraska Medical Center  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Rochester  
University of Southern California  
University of South Florida-USF Health  
University of Texas System  
University of Virginia  
University of Washington  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
U.S. Hereditary Angioedema Association  
Vanderbilt University  
Washington University in St. Louis  
Weill Cornell Medical College