



THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

December 11, 2012

Dear Representative:

The undersigned members of the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, which represents patients, scientists, and health care providers, are gravely concerned about the impact of continued cuts, including sequestration, on medical research supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the subsequent negative consequences for the health of all Americans.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has estimated that sequestration will reduce non-defense discretionary spending in FY 2013 by 8.2 percent. For NIH, this will represent a \$2.5 billion reduction. At a time when we should be investing more in this agency, which spurs job creation and economic growth, the impact of an 8.2 percent cut on NIH-funded research will be immediate and devastating. Testifying March 28 before the Senate Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee, NIH Director Francis Collins stated that sequestration will force NIH to fund approximately 2,300 fewer research grants in FY 2013, representing one quarter of new and competing grants the agency expects to fund. As a result, he indicated, success rates for new applications and competing renewals will fall “to historically low levels.”

On June 21, before the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health, Dr. Collins characterized the magnitude of sequestration on NIH research: “With \$2.4 billion being removed from the budget, there'd be no way to actually spare any field of medical research from at least some degree of cut.”

Even more troubling is that sequestration will come at the end of a decade that has seen the NIH budget fall by nearly 20 percent after inflation, and on top of an additional \$900 billion in discretionary spending cuts mandated by the BCA over the next decade.

The Ad Hoc Group and its members also are concerned that continued cuts will negatively affect job creation and seriously jeopardize America's leadership in medical research. An analysis released in April by the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) states, “Since at least 75 percent of the grant budgets are for salaries, the impact on employment and local economies will be immediate and

severe.” A March report from United for Medical Research estimates a 7.8 percent reduction in the NIH budget will “result in 33,000 fewer jobs across the U.S. and a \$4.5 billion decrease in economic activity.” In May, Research!America warned that sequestration will negatively impact U.S. competitiveness just as other nations are aggressively boosting their investments in research and development.

If we are to address the health challenges of an aging and increasingly diverse population, and remain a vibrant force in the global economy, America needs more investment in medical research, not less. The members of the Ad Hoc Group urge Congress and the Administration to work together on a solution that avoids sequestration and the devastating impact of across-the-board cuts.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association
Academy of Radiology Research and the Coalition for Imaging and Bioengineering Research
AIDS Action Baltimore, Inc.
The AIDS Institute
Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University and Montefiore Medical Center
Alliance for Aging Research
Alpha-1 Association
Alpha-1 Foundation
American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology
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 Pharmacy
American Association of Immunologists
American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AAOMS)
American Brain Coalition
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Chemical Society
American College of Cardiology
American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Federation for Aging Research (AFAR)
American Heart Association
American Lung Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Pediatric Society
American Physiological Society
American Podiatric Medical Association

American Psychiatric Association
American Psychological Association
American Society for Bone and Mineral Research
The American Society for Cell Biology
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
American Society for Microbiology
American Society for Nutrition (ASN)
American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics
American Society for Reproductive Medicine
American Society of Clinical Oncology
American Society of Hematology
American Society of Nephrology
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology
American Sociological Association
American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)
American Thoracic Society
American Tinnitus Association
American Urogynecologic Society
amfAR, the Foundation for AIDS Research
The Arthritis Foundation
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA)
Associated Medical Schools of New York (AMSNY)
Association for Clinical and Translational Science
Association for Clinical Research Training
Association for Patient-Oriented Research
The Association for Psychological Science
Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries
Association of America and Association of Population Centers
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
Association of Minority Health Professions Schools
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Association of Schools of Public Health
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
AVAC:Global Advocacy for HIV Prevention
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Biophysical Society
BJC HealthCare
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Cedars-Sinai Health System
Cerebral Palsy International Research Foundation
Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute
City of Hope
Clinical Research Forum
Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Sciences
Research (CAHT-BSSR)
Coalition for the Life Sciences
Coalition to Promote Research (CPR)
Columbia University
Cooley's Anemia Foundation
Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)
COPD Foundation
Cornell University
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America
Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Duke University School of Medicine
Dystonia Medical Research Foundation
The Endocrine Society
Emory University
FasterCures
Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology
Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences
Fight Colorectal Cancer
First Candle/SIDS Alliance
Food Allergy, Research and Education
Friends of the National Institute on Aging
Friends of the NICHD
Genetics Society of America (GSA)
Georgetown University Medical Center
Georgia Health Sciences University
Gerontological Society of America
Global Alliance to Prevent Prematurity and Stillbirth, an initiative of Seattle Children's
Health and Medicine Counsel of Washington
Heart Rhythm Society
Hepatitis B Foundation
HIV Medicine Association
Infectious Diseases Society of America
International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders
Interstitial Cystitis Association
JDRF
Jeffrey Modell Foundation
Johns Hopkins University
Joint Advocacy Coalition of ACRT, APOR, CRF, and SCTS
Le Bonheur Children's Hospital
Lupus Foundation of America

March of Dimes
Massachusetts General Hospital
Mayo Clinic
McLean Hospital
Medical College of Wisconsin
Medical Library Association
Meharry Medical College
Melanoma Research Alliance
Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation
The MetroHealth System
Michigan State University
Morehouse School of Medicine
The Mount Sinai Medical Center
National AHEC Organization
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Council for Diversity in the Health Professions
National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS)
The National Fragile X Foundation
National Kidney Foundation
National Marfan Foundation
National Osteoporosis Foundation
National Primate Research Centers
National Women's Health Network
NephCure Foundation
New York University
North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition
NYU Langone Medical Center
Oakland University
Oregon Health & Science University
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
Parkinson's Action Network
Partners HealthCare
Penn Medicine
Preeclampsia Foundation
Population Association of America/Association of Population Centers
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
Research!America
The Research Institute at Nationwide Children's Hospital
Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Hartford Connecticut
Saint Louis University
Scleroderma Foundation
Sjogren's Syndrome Foundation
Sleep Research Society
Society for Clinical and Translational Science
Society for Investigative Dermatology

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine
Society for Neuroscience
Society for Women's Health Research
Society of Behavioral Medicine
Society of General Internal Medicine
Society of Gynecologic Oncology
Society of Hospital Medicine
The Society of Toxicology
Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital
Spina Bifida Association
Stanford University School of Medicine
St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center
Tulane University
Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing, and Allied Health
Unite 2 Fight Paralysis
United for Medical Research
University at Buffalo
University of California, San Francisco
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
University of Massachusetts Medical School
University of Minnesota
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Rhode Island
University of Rochester
The University of Texas System
University of Washington
US Hereditary Angioedema Association
UTHealth | The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
UW-Madison
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University
Washington University in St. Louis