



## 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