



THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

January 18, 2024

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan Collins
Vice Chair
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Granger, Chairwoman Murray, Ranking Member DeLauro, and Vice Chair Collins:

On behalf of the nearly 400 organizations representing patients, clinicians, scientists, educators, academic and research institutions, and industry in the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, I write to urge that the National Institutes of Health (NIH) receive no less than \$47.7 billion in the final FY 2024 spending bill. This amount, which S. 2624 recommends, will ensure the country continues to advance new cures and other medical interventions, develop the next generation of medical researchers, spur local and regional economic growth, and accelerate our global competitiveness.

NIH-supported research in nearly every congressional district nationwide is one of the country's greatest assets in combatting debilitating health challenges that affect patients, families, and communities from urban centers to rural frontiers. To maximize the opportunities that medical research provides to improve health – from potential breakthroughs in treating cancer, Alzheimer's disease, and other devastating diagnoses to harnessing the potential of artificial intelligence, immunotherapy, and precision medicine against the full range of health threats— we must continue predictable, robust growth in NIH investment.

The framework approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee continues Congress's longstanding bipartisan commitment to medical research. Particularly in the context of the current constrained fiscal environment, we are grateful that S. 2624 invests in the NIH by reversing scheduled cuts to funding from the 21st Century Cures Act, and that funding for the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) supplements NIH's base. Even at the Senate Committee-approved funding level, promising research proposals will far exceed the resources available to support such important work. Accordingly, we are concerned that providing any less than the Senate Committee-approved level would slow momentum dramatically and reverse recent progress in restoring NIH's inflation-adjusted purchasing power.

We simply cannot afford to take our medical research enterprise backwards. From both a health and fiscal perspective, expanding the NIH's capacity to support fundamental science broadly across the agency and across the full range of scientific disciplines is an urgent national priority.

As you develop the final FY 2024 spending bill, the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research urges you to take a bipartisan approach to completing FY 2024 appropriations in a timely manner and with robust investment in the NIH. Please reject damaging cuts and arbitrary restrictions on the nation's medical research enterprise by providing at least \$47.7 billion for NIH's base, in addition to funding for ARPA-H.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tannaz Rasouli'.

Tannaz Rasouli
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Robert Aderholt
The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito