

January 29, 2024

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

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

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

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

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

As the House and Senate negotiate final Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) funding levels, the undersigned organizations write to urge you to ensure that the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) receives the boosted funding needed to meet its critical, multi-faceted mission.

The scope of NIAID's work is broad: NIAID funding supports 1,300 researchers across the United States who are working to overcome threats such as Valley fever, sepsis, antimicrobial resistance, autoimmune disease, and radiation exposure, as well as end epidemics, including HIV and viral hepatitis, among many other pressing health concerns. Infections frequently complicate other types of medical care, including organ transplantation, cancer treatment, cesarean sections, hip and knee replacements, and other surgeries, making infectious disease research essential to the very foundation of health care. The research NIAID supports has yielded remarkable results. Some notable examples include:

- NIAID-funded research led to the development of antiretroviral agents that are highly effective at suppressing HIV to undetectable levels in the body keeping people with HIV healthy and stopping HIV transmission. These drugs can also be used to prevent HIV infection in those at elevated risk of acquiring HIV. Further, Protease inhibitors used in HIV treatment contributed to the development of direct-acting antivirals that cure hepatitis C.
- NIAID-supported basic and clinical research contributed significantly to developing the first-ever Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccine for adults aged 60+. This vaccine is projected to prevent 160,000 hospitalizations and 10,000 deaths annually and save up to \$4.0 billion in healthcare costs.
- NIAID-funded research played an important role in the development of the revolutionary asthma drug mepolizumab, which has significantly improved treatment for the twenty million adults and 5 million children with asthma, reducing childhood asthma attacks by 27%.

- NIAID-funded researchers identified a gut bacteria linked to rheumatoid arthritis, opening new treatment pathways for 1.3 million affected adults.
- NIAID played an important role in a public-private partnership that developed the pioneering drug, teplizumab. This drug is capable of delaying diabetes onset by two years after a single treatment, benefiting 200,000 U.S. children.
- NIAID is supporting clinical research on a vaccine to prevent Dengue fever. The incidence of Dengue, which can cause debilitating symptoms and in extreme cases, death, is exploding in the Americas and mosquitoes carrying the virus are spreading more widely in the U.S.
- NIAID-funded research led to the development of new antibiotics to treat multi-drug resistant tuberculosis and supported clinical trials to prove the efficacy of antibiotic regimens that can cure tuberculosis in as little as 4 months.

In addition to specific research achievements, every year NIAID funding is critical to training the next generation of researchers needed to confront emerging health threats. This is a small subset of NIAID's contributions to the health and well-being of Americans and people across the globe. We need the progress NIAID seeds to secure our nation against infectious threats and reduce the deadly toll of infectious and chronic diseases.

We appreciate your continuing efforts, and those of your respective staff members, to complete the FY24 appropriations process. Thank you for considering our request that you assure robust funding for NIAID, and please call on our organizations if additional information about the significance of NIAID-funded research would prove useful.

AdvaMedDx  
 AIDS Action Baltimore  
 AIDS Foundation Chicago  
 Alliance for Aging Research  
 American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology  
 American Academy of HIV Medicine  
 American Diabetes Association  
 American Institute of Biological Sciences  
 American Society for Microbiology  
 American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene  
 American Thoracic Society  
 APLA Health  
 AVAC  
 Bravo Victor US  
 Camenzind Solutions LLC  
 Chalk Talk Science  
 Coalition for the Life Sciences  
 Cystic Fibrosis Foundation  
 Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation

FAPP Research Working Group  
Georgia AIDS Coalition  
HealthHIV  
HIV + Hepatitis Policy Institute  
HIV Medicine Association  
HIV Medicine Association  
Infectious Disease Society of America  
International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI)  
Johns Hopkins University  
La Jolla Institute for Immunology  
Latino Commission on AIDS  
Lupus Research Alliance  
National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD)  
National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research  
National Coalition for LGBTQ Health  
National Minority AIDS Council  
Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society  
Peggy Lillis Foundation  
PrEP4ALL  
TB Alliance  
The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO)  
Treatment Action Group (TAG)  
University of Alabama, Birmingham Heersink School of Medicine  
University of Washington School of Medicine

Individual Signatories:

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Daniel Bausch, Tulane University  
Sandra Weller, University of Connecticut school of medicine  
Angela Sy, University of Hawaii

CC:

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

