February 11, 2013

Dear Representative:

The undersigned organizations and institutions, which represent patients, scientists, health care providers, and industry, are gravely concerned about the impact of continued cuts, including sequestration, funding shortfalls in fiscal years 2013 and 2014, and the threat of additional cuts to offset the debt ceiling, on medical research supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the subsequent negative consequences for the health of all Americans.

At a time when we should be investing more in medical research, we have continued to shrink our investment to a point where we are sacrificing real opportunities for discovery of new innovations and medical advances. Declining funding also is eroding our position as the world leader in research and discovery. The NIH serves to improve the health and quality of life for all Americans and spur job creation and economic growth. There is no doubt; the impact of the proposed cut on NIH-funded research will be immediate and devastating. The Senate Budget Committee estimates that sequestration would result in a 5.1 percent reduction in FY 2013 discretionary spending. In a recent interview, NIH Director Francis Collins, M.D., Ph.D., described the impact of sequestration as a "profound and devastating" blow at a time of unprecedented scientific opportunity. 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 estimated \$900 billion in spending cuts mandated by the Budget Control Act over the next ten years. The impact of sequestration would be exacerbated because it would occur in the middle of the fiscal year, forcing researchers to immediately incur drastic budget cuts and abandon potentially life-enhancing research.

The undersigned groups and institutions 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 2012 by the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) notes that that biomedical research enterprise supports a significant workforce, such that, "the impact on employment and local economies will be immediate and severe." A March 2012 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 2012, 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. We respectfully urge Congress and the Administration to work together on a solution that preserves the nation's investment in medical research and the health of the American people.

Sincerely,

Academic Pediatric Association
AcademyHealth
Academy of Radiology Research
Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research
Adult Congenital Heart Association
AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth and Families
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 Child & Adolescent Psychiatry

American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry

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 Colleges of Nursing

American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy

American Association of Multi Sensory Environments

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

American Brain Coalition

American Chemical Society

American College of Cardiology

American College of Neuropsychopharmacology

American College of Radiology (ACR)

American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists

American Federation for Aging Research

American Gastroenterological Association

American Geriatrics Society

American Heart Association

American Lung Association

American Neurological Association

American Pediatric Society

American Physiological Society

American Psychiatric Association

American Psychological Association

The American Society for Cell Biology

American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

American Society for Microbiology

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 Society of Transplantation - AST

The American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

American Sociological Association

American Thoracic Society

American Tinnitus Association

American Urogynecologic Society

Arthritis Foundation

Associated Medical Schools of New York (AMSNY)

Association for Applied Psychophysiology & Biofeedback

Association for Clinical Research Training

The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration

Association for Patient-Oriented Research

Association for Prevention Teaching and Research

Association for Psychological Science

Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology

Association of Academic Health Centers

Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries

Association of American Cancer Institutes

Association of American Geographers

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

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America

AVAC: Global Advocacy for HIV Prevention

Baylor College of Medicine

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston

Biophysical Society

Boonshoft School of Medicine of Wright State University

Boston University

Brigham and Women's Hospital

BrightFocus Foundation

Brown University

CADASIL Together We Have Hope Non-Profit Organization

Case Western Reserve University

Cedars-Sinai Health System

Central Michigan University College of Medicine

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science

Child Neurology Society

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Research Institute

Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation

City of Hope

Cleveland Clinic Foundation

Clinical Research Forum

Coalition for Imaging and Bioengineering Research

Coalition for the Advancement of Health Through Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (CAHT-BSSR)

Coalition for the Life Sciences

Coalition to Promote Research (CPR)

College on Problems of Drug Dependence

Columbia University Medical Center

Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals

The Consortium of Academic Centers for Integrative Medicine

Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA)

Cooley's Anemia Foundation

COPD Foundation

Cornell University

Council on Governmental Relations

Creighton University

Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America

Cure Alzheimer's Fund

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA

Digestive Disease National Coalition

Drexel University College of Medicine

Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative

Duke University School of Medicine

Emory University

The Endocrine Society

Epilepsy Foundation

EPSCoR/IDeA Foundation

Exceptional Parent

Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB)

Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences

Foundation for Biomedical Research

Foundation for Integrative AIDS Research (FIAR)

Friends of NIDA

Friends Research Institute, Inc.

GBS/CIDP Foundation International

Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth

Genetics Society of America (GSA)

The Gerontological Society of America

Health Sciences South Carolina

Heart Rhythm Society

Hepatitis B Foundation

Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine

HIV Medicine Association

HIV Prevention Justice Alliance (HIV PJA)

Infectious Diseases Society of America

International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI)

International Cancer Advocacy Network (ICAN)

International Essential Tremor Foundation

International Foundation for Functional Gastrointestinal Disorders

International Rectal Microbicide Advocates

Interstitial Cystitis Association

Intracranial Hypertension Research Foundation

JDRF

Jeffrey Modell Foundation

Joint Advocacy Coalition of ACRT, APOR, CRF, & SCTS

Le Bonheur Children's Hospital

Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine

Lupus Foundation of America

Lupus Research Institute

March of Dimes

Massachusetts General Hospital

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society

Mayo Clinic

McLean Hospital

MdDS Balance Disorder Foundation

Medical College of Wisconsin

Medical Library Association

Medical University of South Carolina College of Medicine

Medicines for Malaria Venture - MMV

Meharry Medical College

Melanoma Research Alliance

The Methodist Hospital System

The MetroHealth System

Michigan State University

Morehouse School of Medicine

The Mount Sinai Medical Center

National Academy of Neuropsychology

National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research

National Alliance on Mental Illness

National Alopecia Areata Foundation

National Area Health Education Center Organization

National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors

National Marfan Foundation

National Multiple Sclerosis Society

National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)

National Osteoporosis Foundation

National Primate Research Centers

National Women's Health Network

NephCure Foundation

Northeastern University

NYU Langone Medical Center

The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

Oregon Health & Science University

Pancreatic Cancer Action Network

Parkinson's Action Network

Partners HealthCare

Penn Medicine

Penn State College of Medicine

Population Association of America/Association of Population Centers

Pulmonary Hypertension Association

Project Inform

Prostate Cancer Foundation

Research! America

The Research Institute of Nationwide Children's Hospital

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Hartford, CT

Saint Louis University

San Francisco AIDS Foundation

Scleroderma Foundation

SIU School of Medicine

Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation

Sleep Research Society

Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology

Society for Clinical and Translational Science

Society for Computers in Psychology (SCiP)

Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine

Society for Neuroscience

Society for Pediatric Research

Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP)

Society for Psychophysiological Research (SPR)

Society for Research in Psychopathology

Society for Women's Health Research (SWHR)

Society of Biological Psychiatry

Society of Gynecologic Oncology

Society of Hospital Medicine

Society of Mathematical Psychology

Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology

Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital

St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center

Stanford University School of Medicine

Stony Brook University

Stony Brook University School of Medicine

SUNY Upstate Medical University

Temple University School of Medicine

Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine

Treatment Action Group (TAG)

Tufts Medical Center

Tufts University

Tufts University School of Medicine

Tulane University

Tuskegee University College of Veterinary Medicine, Nursing & Allied Health

UNC School of Medicine

Unite 2 Fight Paralysis

United for Medical Research

University at Buffalo

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

University of California, Irvine

University of California, San Francisco

University of Illinois Chicago College of Medicine

The University of Iowa

University of Kentucky

University of Maryland

University of Massachusetts Medical School

University of Michigan Medical School

University of Minnesota Medical School

University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine

University of Nebraska Medical Center

University of New Mexico

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

University of Rochester

University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry

University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine

University of Tennessee

University of Vermont College of Medicine

University of Washington

University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health

University Professors of Neurology
US Hereditary Angioedema Association
Vanderbilt University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Wake Forest School of Medicine
Washington University in St. Louis
Wayne State University School of Medicine
Western Michigan University School of Medicine
Yale School of Medicine