

HHS NEWS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
Elaine Baldwin
(301) 496-5717

HHS Secretary Otis R. Bowen, M.D., today announced the award of \$18.6 million in cooperative agreements for research on AIDS treatment, basic studies and outreach. Seventeen Clinical Studies Groups will be established in 10 states and the District of Columbia by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. The total projected funding for the groups is approximately \$100 million for 1987 through 1992.

In announcing the awards, Dr. Bowen said, "Everyone is keenly aware that AIDS is an enormous and growing problem, demanding strenuous effort and creative solutions. This initiative is another example of how America's scientific talent is being mobilized to combat AIDS."

Through the clinical studies groups, NIAID can extend access to clinical trials of promising AIDS therapies to patients in a much wider geographic area than is now possible. The CSG clinical trials will be coordinated with the institute's existing 19 AIDS Treatment Evaluation Units, which were established in 1986 and early 1987.

"This program is generated by an exciting, innovative concept," NIAID Director Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., said. "We are attracting top-notch scientists into the field and we are facilitating partnerships between basic scientists and those doing clinical research on AIDS.

(More)

We anticipate new and imaginative approaches to treatment and other problems posed by the complexities of the disease and the virus that causes it. In addition, through their outreach efforts the CSGs will perform research into methods of communicating health care information to other health care professionals and to the patient populations they serve.

"We are making a concerted effort to include in our clinical trials all groups at risk for AIDS, particularly hemophiliacs and children born to infected mothers. Through the CSGs we will develop leadership among a wide range of health care professionals who serve all the populations in which AIDS is spreading most rapidly; for example, blacks, Hispanics, intravenous drug users, bisexuals and homosexuals."

The principal investigators of the CSGs are: Alan G. Barbour, M.D., University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio; Neil R. Blacklow, M.D., University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester; Edward M. Connor, M.D., New Jersey Medical School, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Newark; M. Elaine Eyster, M.D., Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, Pa.; Robert J. Fass, M.D., Ohio State University Medical Center, Columbus; Peter T. Frame, M.D., University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Cincinnati, Ohio; David J. Gocke, M.D., Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Piscataway; Michael H. Grieco, M.D., St. Luke's/Roosevelt Institute for Health Sciences, New York, N. Y.; Robert Jones, M.D., Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, Ind.; Michael M. Lederman, M.D., Case Western Reserve School of Medicine, Cleveland, Ohio; Stanley M. Lemon, M.D., University of North Carolina School of Medicine, Chapel Hill; Kenneth McIntosh, M.D., Children's Hospital, Boston, Mass., Henry W. Murray, Cornell University Medical College, New York, N. Y.; John P. Phair, M.D., Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, Ill.; Lee Ratner, M.D., Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, Mo.; Richard C. Schulof, M.D., George Washington University, Washington, D. C.; and Roy T. Steigbigel, M.D., State University of New York at Stony Brook School of Medicine, Stony Brook.

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