DIRECTOR'S

STATUS REPORT

TO COUNCIL

May 2006

National Institute on Aging

DIRECTOR'S STATUS REPORT

National Institute on Aging

May 2006

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BUDGET and APPROPRIATIONS

Status of FY 2006, 2007, and 2008 Budgets for NIA

FY2006

On December 30, after three continuing resolutions, the FY 2006 appropriations bill for the NIH (P.L. 107-360) was signed into law. For NIH as a whole, after the 1 percent across-the-board reduction, the appropriations provide $28.4 billion. For the NIA, the FY 2006 appropriation is $1.047 billion, including $9.4 million targeted for roadmap activities. This represents a decrease of $5.4 million or 0.5 percent from FY 2005.

The NIH policy for research project grant (RPG) funding is to reduce all non-competing awards by 2.35 percent from committed levels and to provide no increase over FY 2005 in the average cost of competing awards. Except for RPGs, research careers, and research management and support (RMS), all mechanisms are reduced by approximately 1.1 percent. In-house activities supported by RMS are provided a 0.5 percent increase over the comparable FY 2005 level to partially defray the cost of mandatory increases such as the pay raise.

In FY 2006, the NIA estimates support of 1,486 RPGs, including 429 new and competing awards. Support levels for other funding mechanisms include 77 research centers for $82.8 million; 242 other research grants, including 210 research career awards, for a total of $34.7 million; 589 full-time training positions for $22.1 million, and a total of $65.1 million for research and development contracts

FY 2007

The FY 2007 President's budget was released to the public on February 7, 2006. The President's request for NIH is $28.5 billion, the same level as for FY 2006. FY 2007 research initiatives for the NIH include increases as follows: +$113 million for the NIH Roadmap for Biomedical Research, +$40 million for the new NIH Genes Health and Environment Initiative, +$110 million for biodefense, and +$15 million for a new "Pathway to Independence Program" to provide increased support for new investigators.

The FY 2007 budget request for the NIA is $1.040 billion, a decrease of $6.8 million or 0.6 percent from the FY 2006 comparable estimate. The NIA FY2007 Congressional Justification can be viewed at http://www.nia.nih.gov/AboutNIA/BudgetRequests/.

For the NIA, the FY 2007 request will allow for 1,518 total research project grants (RPGs), excluding awards to small businesses. Of the total number of RPGs to receive support, 424 new and competing projects will be awarded, compared to 429 new and competing projects in FY 2006. Average costs for both competing and non-competing RPGs are projected at the FY 2006 dollar levels.

The FY 2007 estimate includes a total of $117.5 million for research centers and other research grants, approximately the same amount as in the FY 2006 level. For research training, the FY 2007 budget request includes $22.0 million to support 586 trainees. Stipends for pre-doctoral recipients of these awards will remain at the FY 2006 level. The R&D contract mechanism will be supported at a level of $68.3 million, an increase of $3.2 million or 0.5 percent over FY 2006.

Increases in the R&D contract mechanism will provide for the NIH Genes, Health, and Environment Initiative and the Neuroscience Blueprint.

A table of the FY 2007 NIA Budget by funding mechanism, together with some graphic displays, is included on the following pages. Please note that the FY 2005 column of these charts has been adjusted for comparability to the FY 2006 and 2007 levels for the funding of scientific review and evaluation grants that will be supported from the Research Management and Support funding mechanism rather than other research grants beginning in FY 2006.

FY 2008

Preliminary work on the budget for FY 2008 has begun using the FY 2007 President's budget request as the base. After intermediate stages of review, the President's budget request for FY 2008 will be presented to Congress in February 2007, at which time it will become available to the public.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

National Institute on Aging

Budget Mechanism - Total

MECHANISM	FY 2005 Actual		FY 2006 Appropriation		FY 2007 Estimate	
Research Grants:	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
Research Projects:						
Noncompeting	1,086	$535,182,000	1,057	$507,451,000	1,094	$502,093,000
Administrative supplements	(118)	15,171,000	(116)	13,079,000	(114)	7,150,000
Competing:						
Renewal	98	56,788,000	112	64,590,000	111	63,950,000
New	275	71,749,000	314	81,534,000	310	80,408,000
Supplements	3	466,000	3	464,000	3	464,000
Subtotal, competing	376	129,003,000	429	146,588,000	424	144,822,000
Subtotal, RPGs	1,462	679,356,000	1,486	667,118,000	1,518	654,065,000
SBIR/STTR	81	25,115,000	81	24,988,000	81	24,813,000
Subtotal, RPGs	1,543	704,471,000	1,567	692,106,000	1,599	678,878,000
Research Centers:						
Specialized/comprehensive	77	82,702,000	77	81,792,000	77	81,383,000
Clinical research	0	0	0	0	0	0
Biotechnology	0	0	0	0	0	0
Comparative medicine	0	1,043,000	0	1,032,000	0	1,027,000
Research Centers in Minority Institutions	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal, Centers	77	83,745,000	77	82,824,000	77	82,410,000
Other Research:						
Research careers	199	25,791,000	210	27,485,000	215	27,978,000
Cancer education	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cooperative clinical research	2	994,000	2	983,000	2	978,000
Biomedical research support	0	0	0	0	0	0
Minority biomedical research support	0	1,338,000	0	1,323,000	0	1,316,000
Other	29	4,140,000	30	4,886,000	30	4,862,000
Subtotal, Other Research	230	32,263,000	242	34,677,000	247	35,134,000
Total Research Grants	1,850	820,479,000	1,886	809,607,000	1,923	796,422,000
Research Training:	FTTPs		FTTPs		FTTPs	
Individual awards	52	2,276,000	49	2,251,000	49	2,240,000
Institutional awards	560	20,088,000	540	19,867,000	537	19,768,000
Total, Training	612	22,364,000	589	22,118,000	586	22,008,000
Research & development contracts	147	62,336,000	132	65,090,000	132	68,329,000
(SBIR/STTR)	(0)	(57,000)	(0)	(57,000)	(0)	(57,000)
	FTEs		FTEs		FTEs	
Intramural research	244	102,805,000	250	102,678,000	252	102,165,000
Research management and support	122	37,355,000	124	37,785,000	124	38,352,000
NIH Roadmap for Medical Research	0	6,651,000	0	9,353,000	0	12,552,000
Total, NIA	366	1,051,990,000	374	1,046,631,000	376	1,039,828,000
(Clinical Trials)		(73,164,000)		(72,600,000)		(71,900,000)

(For information, contact Ms. Donna Casady, BO, 301-496-9147)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

I. Significant Legislative/Executive Action

A. FY 2006 Appropriation for NIH/NIA – On December 30, the FY 2006 NIH appropriations bill was signed into law (P.L. 107-360). This law provides $28.4 billion for NIH, after a 1% across-the-board reduction. The NIA appropriation for this fiscal year is $1.047 billion, including $9.4 million for roadmap activities.

B. The FY 2007 President's Budget – The President's NIH budget request for FY 2007 is $28.5 billion or the same as the request for FY 2006. The FY 2007 budget request for NIA is $1.040 billion, a decrease of 0.6% from the FY 2006 comparable estimate. On April 6, Dr. Elias Zerhouni testified at the House Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on the FY 2007 NIH appropriation. In March, the Senate and House passed Budget Resolution measures. The Senate measure included an amendment sponsored by Senators Arlen Specter (R-Pa.) and Tom Harkin (D-Iowa) that would add $7 billion to programs under the jurisdiction of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education and Related Agencies. In this amendment, NIH would receive approximately $1 billion. A conference committee will have to reconcile the two very different House and Senate Budget Resolutions.

II. Newly Introduced Legislation

A. On October 27, Senators Joseph Lieberman (D-CT) and Orrin Hatch (R-UT) introduced **S. 1929, the FairCare Act**. A recent NIA-funded study finding published in the New England Journal of Medicine was cited in the bill introductory remarks. The cited study reported that fewer than 55% of all patients receive the appropriate medical care. This measure remains in committee.

B. On November 16, Senators Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Blanche Lincoln (D-AR), reintroduced **S. 2010, the Elder Justice Act**. This bill or a similar measure is expected to be included with the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act for floor debate in 2006.

III. Congressional Briefings and Hearings

A. On March 7, at the request of Representative Patrick Kennedy (D-RI), Drs. Richard Hodes, Director, NIA, and Story Landis, Director, NINDS, briefed the Congressman on the Cognitive and Emotional Health/Healthy Brain Project. Dr. Molly Wagster, Program Director, Neuroscience & Neuropsychology of Aging Program, NIA, also attended.

B. On April 20, at the request of the majority staff of the Senate HELP committee, Dr. Sid Stahl, Behavioral and Social Research Program, provided a presentation on elder abuse/mistreatment research at the NIA.

(For information, contact Dr. Tamara Jones, NIA/OD, Ph: 401-451-8835)

STAFF CHANGES

Dr. Felipe Sierra has been selected for the position of Director of the Biology of Aging Program (BAP). A native of Chile, he brings to the position a broad background in both academia and industry, both domestically and internationally, in the field of molecular/cellular biology of aging. He began his research at Nestlé in Switzerland and subsequently held several faculty appointments both in the US and in Chile. He joined the Biology of Aging Program of the NIA in February 2002 as a Health Science Administrator in charge of the Cell Structure and Function portfolio.

Dr. David Reiss of George Washington University Medical Center has joined the Behavioral and social Research Program (BSR) on an Interagency Personnel Agreement (IPA). Dr. Reiss is Professor of Psychology and, since 1994, is the Vivian Gill Distinguished Research Professor (Psychiatry, Psychology and Medicine). Among his many accomplishments in research and public service, he has received a MERIT award from National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), chaired the Family Research Consortium for NIMH, chaired the Committee on Prevention for the American Psychological Association (APA), and served on the Institute of Medicine's Board of Neuroscience and Behavioral Health,. He will help BSR review portfolios and plan new directions in behavioral genetics and genomics, and family systems and aging during his assignment period of March through September 2006.

Dr. Frank Bellino, Deputy Director of the Biology of Aging Program (BAP), plans to retire in June. He joined the NIA in 1991 after a year on the NIH Grants Associates program. He has been the program administrator for the Endocrinology and Physiology programs in BAP since that time and was selected for the Deputy Director position in 2000. Dr. Bellino has served two terms as Acting Director, BAP.

Dr. Gerald Medoff, Clinical Director of the National Institute on Aging, has returned to seeing patients and teaching at Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, MO.

Dr. Eric H. Westin, Deputy Clinical Director and Staff Clinician, National Institute on Aging, has accepted a position with Lilly Corporate Center in Indianapolis, IN.

INSTITUTE-SPONSORED MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES, AND PUBLIC INFORMATION ACTIVITIES

I. Meetings Held

Meeting of the NIA Exercise and Physical Activity Task Force - The NIA has held a series of advisory meetings and conference calls (September 14, 2005 and January 30-31, 2006) of the Task Force to update the NIA *Exercise Guide*. The first version of the *Guide* was targeted to healthy older adults, with an interest in beginning an exercise routine. The NIA would like the updated version of the *Guide* to appeal to a broader base of older adults, including those who are relatively sedentary and those with chronic conditions. To date, Task Force Members have made a number of recommendations for updating and improving the *Guide*, and the meetings have been used to review new information to be included in the revision and to identify further information to fill existing gaps. New information will focus on: (1) strategies for overcoming

perceived barriers to exercise, (2) factors to consider when determining an appropriate starting point and progression of exercises, (3) suggested modifications to exercises so that individuals with chronic disease can exercise safely, and (4) ways of tailoring the exercise/physical activity recommendations in the *Guide* to personal preferences in order to maintain a physically active lifestyle. NIA's Office of Communications and Public Liaison (OCPL) recently hired a writer for the updated *Guide* and efforts are underway to develop the updated draft of the *Guide*. (For information, contact Dr. Chhanda Dutta, GCG, Ph: 301-435-3048 and Ms. Karen Pocinki, OCPL, Ph: 301-496-1752.)

National Academies of Science Expert Meeting on the Future of the National Long-Term Care Survey - This advisory meeting on the future of the National Long-Term Care Survey (NLTCS) convened at The National Academies of Science in Washington, D.C., on February 14, 2006. The meeting was organized as a follow-up to the October 7, 2005, expert meeting held at NAS to review data needs for disability policy and research for the future. A copy of the October 7, 2005, meeting summary is available at http://www.nia.nih.gov/ResearchInformation/ExtramuralPrograms/BehavioralAndSocialResearch/ConferencesAndWorkshops.htm. The February 14 meeting addressed in more detail alternative scientific priorities for future rounds of the NLTCS and different design options. NIA staff announced that the NLTCS Data Monitoring Board would discuss the points raised at this meeting and that NIA may consider issuing an RFA for the next round of the survey. (For information, contact Dr. Richard Suzman or Ms. Georgeanne Patmios, 301-496-3138.)

NIA and NICHD Workshop on Factors in Youth that Protect Against Aging Processes - This exploratory meeting was held by the NIA and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) on March 22-24, 2006, in Potomac, MD. The goal of this multidisciplinary meeting was to discuss potential strategies for the identification of possible juvenile protective factors and determine the beneficial and adverse effects on aging from altering the timing and duration of such juvenile factors. Briefly, the significance of physiologic events occurring during childhood growth and development (i.e., period of life from birth to maturation) to adult health is poorly understood. In this context, there is no obvious physiologic deterioration for many physiologic traits before maturity, suggesting that there could be protective factors operating in youth that diminish or disappear following the attainment of maturity. The topics discussed at the meeting included comparative biology and evolutionary theories, genetics and epigenetics, immunology, endocrinology, cardiovascular factors, brain plasticity, and biochemical mechanisms of cellular damage and repair. The characterization of events occurring during childhood growth and development and identification of pre- and post-maturational changes in various physiologic systems could lead to the discovery of events that initiate aging (i.e., deleterious) changes after maturation. Future interventions targeted towards the modification of such events could protect against certain aging changes/ processes in later life and thereby lead to healthy aging. (For information, contact Dr. Chhanda Dutta, GCG, Ph: 301-435-3048.)

Neuroimaging in Sleep Research – This exploratory workshop, co-sponsored by NIA and the Trans-NIH Sleep Research Coordinating Committee, ORWH, and the Office of Rare Diseases, was held March 29-30, 2006, in Bethesda, MD. There have been less than two dozen studies published on the use of neuroimaging technologies in sleep research, with the largest proportion being done within the last five years. Unlike the traditional EEG technologies, neuroimaging provides better spatial resolution and can provide evidence of functional neuroanatomy needed to

allow us to elucidate the brain functions that give rise to and are impacted by sleep. This conference (1) reviewed what is known about neuroimaging in sleep deprivation and individual sleep disorders; (2) reviewed emerging neuroimaging technologies used in other domains that may now be ready for addressing relevant questions related to sleep problems and sleep disorders; and (3) discussed what is needed to stimulate new research related to neuroimaging to fill gaps in knowledge regarding sleep problems and sleep disorders. (For information, contact Dr. Andrew A. Monjan, NNA, Ph: 301-496-9350).

Neuroeconomics and Aging - A two-day meeting on Neuroeconomics and Aging was held March 31-April 1, 2006, at Stanford University in Palo Alto, CA. This exploratory workshop was organized around presentations by prominent aging researchers in the areas of decision science, economics, cognitive and affective neuroscience, and emotion and personality psychology, in order to stimulate discussion of how to fruitfully apply a neuroeconomics perspective to issues of relevance to aging. This exploratory workshop had two aims: (1) to bring a diverse group of researchers up-to-date on aging-specific topics within the represented disciplines, and (2) to help BSR develop multi-level economic research aimed at understanding how older adults negotiate important life decisions in areas such as retirement and healthcare management. The workshop built on the two recent teleconferences on Neuroeconomics held by BSR/NNA in August, 2005, which explored opportunities for and obstacles to the development of an integrative research program in the neuroeconomics of aging, and had emphasized the need to develop a common language for researchers in these areas to facilitate progress in the field. (For information, contact Drs. Lis Nielsen, Jeff Elias, or John Phillips at 301-496-3131.)

Stem Cells and Aging - This meeting for grantees of the NIA RFAs promoting research in the biology of stem cells in aging was an exploratory workshop held April 30 to May 2, 2006, in Potomac, MD. The meeting brought together investigators funded through these RFAs, other NIA-funded investigators, and NIH-supported prominent scientists whose recent work has attracted considerable attention in the literature, including scientists who should be encouraged to apply their expertise to aging research. This workshop was a combined effort of the NIA Stem Cell Working Group. The goals of the meeting were (1) to promote information exchange across different biological systems (e.g., immunity and neurobiology) and stimulate interactions that may lead to new collaborations, (2) to bring in other fields of investigation that appear to play prominent roles in stem cell biology and where there is emerging evidence of potential roles in aging (specifically, hypoxia and cell therapies), and (3) to update NIA staff on current research issues to be considered for future initiatives in stem cell research. (For information, contact Dr. Ron Kohanski, BAP, Ph: 301/402-0836).

Nuclear Receptors and Aging - This exploratory workshop was held May 9-10, 2006, in Potomac, MD. Workshop presentations focused on the Nuclear Receptor Signaling Atlas (NURSA) project, co-funded by the NIA in partnership with NIDDK and NCI, and various topic areas that involved aging and age-related diseases, including (1) the role of the nuclear receptor (NR) homologue, daf-12, and it's activating ligand in lifespan extension in *C. elegans*; (2) the roles of NRs in aging liver, kidney, prostate, and progeroid syndromes; (3) the role of NRs in caloric restriction and activation of NRs as caloric restriction mimetics; and (4) the role of steroid hormone receptors in aging. Information obtained in this workshop will be used in the development of an initiative for better understanding the roles of NRs in the aging process and in the initiation and progression of age-related diseases. (For information, contact Dr. Frank Bellino, BAP, Ph: 301/496-6402).

II. Meetings Planned

Minority Research in the Basic Biology of Aging - The Biology of Aging Program (BAP) will hold an exploratory workshop on this topic on May 30-31, 2006, in Bethesda, MD. The goal of the workshop is to orient young investigators coming from a diverse background about funding opportunities and issues of interest to BAP. The targeted population consists of individuals who have already trained with BAP-funded investigators and/or whose mentors have successfully applied to PA-05-015 (NIH Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research). The long-term goal is to have these under-represented faculty/students go on to apply for R03, R21 and R01 grant awards on biology of aging-related topics. (For information, contact Dr. Felipe Sierra, BAP, Ph: 301/496-6402).

Exploring the Links Between Obesity and Alzheimer's Disease – This exploratory workshop, co-sponsored by the Neuroscience and Neuropsychology of Aging Program, NIA; the Geriatrics and Clinical Gerontology Program, NIA; and by the Office of Dietary Supplements, OD/NIH; will take place June 20-21, 2006, in Bethesda, MD. The two-day multidisciplinary workshop will examine how obesity and other components of metabolic syndrome influence cognitive function, normal brain aging and the transition between normal and pathological brain aging characteristic of Alzheimer's dementia. The participants will critically appraise the present state of knowledge on these subjects and discuss newly emerging avenues of research that would enhance our understanding of processes that may initiate AD pathogenesis. New therapeutic opportunities for the prevention and treatment of Alzheimer's dementia will also be discussed. In addition to 21 speakers, the workshop will convene about 35 guests from all NIA programs, other NIH ICs, and several relevant organizations such as the Alzheimer's Association, the Institute for the Study of Aging, the American Diabetes Association and the Food and Drug Administration. The Alzheimer Research Forum (Alzforum) at http://www.alzforum.org/ will provide coverage of the workshop for the greater extramural community. (For information, contact Dr. Suzana Petanceska, NNA, Ph: 301-496-9350).

Neuroeconomics and Aging – The Behavorial and Social Research (BSR) Program is co-sponsoring with the National Science Foundation a one-day seminar on Neuroeconomics and Aging, to be included in the Stanford Summer School in Neuroeconomics in July 2006 at Stanford University in Palo Alto, CA. The goal for this exploratory seminar is to expose junior researchers to research issues of relevance to aging in Neuroeconomics, through lectures and discussions with prominent experts in the field and with NIA program staff, as well as to consider future research directions. The seminar is a part of a high-priority BSR initiative in Neuroeconomics, an exciting new interdisciplinary field that merges neuroscience, psychology, and economics. A number of core faculty at the Summer School have participated in NIA teleconferences on Neuroeconomics and Aging held in August 2005, and in a Workshop on Neuroeconomics and Aging held at Stanford University on March 31-April 1, 2006. The subject area also relates to other BSR initiatives in decision making and retirement. (For information, contact Drs. Lis Nielsen, Jeff Elias, John Phillips at 301-496-3136.)

Working Group on Decision Making - A Working Group on Decision Making with an emphasis on the cognitive and affective factors in aging that affect decision making and risk taking will be held August 16-17, 2006, in Bethesda, MD. This exploratory meeting will focus on physiological reward mechanisms and decision making, working memory restrictions on

decision making, risk taking and financial decision making, managerial decision making, and the development of hierarchical cognitive models in decision making. The utility of research in the specific areas of research for application to wide areas of decision making will be a focus of the presentations. The format will include investigators who are both advanced in their fields and those in the earlier years of their careers. This meeting is one in a continuing series of meetings on Decision Making that have been held since August 2005. (For information, contact Dr. Jeffrey Elias at 301-496-3136.)

Data Review Committee Meeting - The NACA Committee that reviewed the BSR program considered data collection as one of its principal infrastructure investments "one of the stellar achievements of BSR over the last decade." But the size of the investment, the need to support a growing array of interdisciplinary studies in aging, and the changing technology and environment for data collection and archiving, all raise new issues for BSR that call for more intensive review than the NACA Committee could provide during its comprehensive review. BSR has convened a special ad hoc committee to review BSR data collection, archiving and dissemination, the likely future needs for data infrastructure for behavioral and social research on aging, and to help assess priorities. The committee will address such issues as: (1) Is there unnecessary overlap in these investments? (2) Are the data being placed in the public domain in a timely fashion? (3)Are there major gaps to be filled, created by the data needs of emerging sub-fields and interdisciplinary research, or new opportunities created by improvements in measurement and analytic methods? The advisory meeting is planned for summer 2006. A website for collecting background materials for the Committee's use is available at http://www.roseliassociates.com/BSR-Panel.htm. (For information, contact Dr. John Haaga at 301-496-3136.)

Functional Decline of the Aging Respiratory System - An exploratory workshop on Functional Decline of the Aging Respiratory System is currently being planned for September 2006 in Potomac, MD. The purpose of the workshop is to bring together investigators with expertise in lung function and chronic diseases of the respiratory system to discuss recent findings on how aging affects these processes. The workshop will help to identify important gaps in knowledge which will aid in focusing future research efforts. The workshop is also expected to promote interaction between basic and clinical researchers working in these different areas of research. A report of the meeting will be made available to NIA staff. (For information, contact Dr. Ronald Kohanski, BAP, Ph: 301/402-0836).

Research Opportunities for Interventions Targeting Menopausal Symptoms - The National Institute on Aging (GCG) in collaboration with other NIH institutes and offices is convening an advisory think-tank panel to (1) review the statement of the independent panel of the March 2005 NIH State-of-the-Science (SoS) Conference on Management of Menopause-Related Symptoms and (2) make recommendations as to the next steps to be undertaken by the NIH with respect to identifying priorities and promoting new opportunities for research. Such priorities and opportunities would be focused on developing and/or testing current or new interventions to reduce the burden of a number of menopause-related symptoms (to be identified by the panel). The think-tank will be comprised of a panel of seven to nine investigators with expertise in reproductive endocrinology; the epidemiology of, and mechanisms responsible for, menopause-related symptoms; quality of life issues; management of menopause-related symptoms; complementary and alternative medicine; and clinical trials design and methodology. The panel

will be convened July 11-12, 2006, and again in the fall 2006. (For information, contact Dr. Sherry Sherman, GCG, Ph: 301-435-3048)

Unexplained Anemia in the Elderly (UAE): Clinical Trials Opportunities - An advisory workshop on unexplained anemia in the elderly is scheduled for October 5-6, 2006 in Bethesda, Maryland. The purpose of this workshop will be to review such important issues as prevalence and causes of UAE, the implications of co-morbid conditions in the elderly with UAE in selecting study populations, current clinical practice in diagnosis of UAE, available and potential options for its treatment, and design considerations for possible future clinical trials. A research initiative may be published as a result of this workshop. (Contact: Dr. Sergei Romashkan, GCG, Ph: 301-435-3047)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Staff Awards

- **Dr. Suresh Poosala**, NIA Animal Program Director, received the NIA Merit Award on February 24, 2006, at the NIA Animal Users Group Meeting. The award was in recognition of Dr. Poosala's reorganization of the Comparative Medicine Section, eradication of infection within the animal colony, and in management of the growth of the NIA animal facilities.

- **Dr. Weidong Wang,** Senior Investigator, Transcription Remodeling and Regulation Section, of the Intramural Research Program, received the prestigious Award of Merit from the Fanconi Anemia Research Fund (FARF). The award was presented on September 30, 2005, at the Fanconi Anemia (FA) Scientific Symposium in Geneva, for his groundbreaking work on this genetic disorder that involves a DNA repair lesion and increased risk of cancer and affects approximately one in every 300,000 children. Dr. Wang's discovery of a new gene, *FANCM,* that plays a role in the development of Fanconi Anemia (FA) could lead to insights about age-related conditions including ovarian and pancreatic cancers, as well as leukemia. Discovery of this gene and its protein provides a potential target for the development of drugs that can prevent or alleviate FA and a variety of cancers, according to Dr. Wang's findings published in the September 2005 issue of *Nature Genetics* (Meetei, A.R., et al.: A human ortholog of archaeal DNA repair protein Hef is defective in Fanconi Anemia complementation group M. *Nat. Genet.* 37[9]: 921-922, 2005). This is the third FA gene and protein combination identified in the last three years by Dr. Wang and his colleagues.

- **Ms. Georgeanne Patmios** was honored with an NIA Director's Award in December 2005.

New Publications funded by NIA/BSR:

- *Multiple Origins, Uncertain Destinies: Hispanics and the American Future*, published by the National Academies of Science.
  Given current demographic trends, nearly one in five U.S. residents will be of Hispanic origin by 2025. This report describes how Hispanics are transforming the country as they disperse geographically. It considers their roles in schools, in the labor market, in the health care system, and in U.S. politics. The book looks carefully at the diverse populations encompassed by the term Hispanic, representing immigrants and their children and grandchildren from nearly two dozen Spanish-speaking countries. It describes the trajectory of the younger generations and established residents, and it projects long-term trends in

population aging, social disparities, and social mobility that have shaped and will shape the Hispanic experience.

- *Hispanics and the Future of America*, published by the National Academies of Science. This report is a companion volume to the above publication, detailing the analyses that underlie much of the discussion.
- *65+ in the United States: 2005*, published by the U.S. Census Bureau. This report is updated and revised from an earlier version issued in 1996. This revision updates nearly all of the data from the previous report, incorporates Census 2000 data, and includes new national projections and new survey data. The revision also incorporates data and analytical findings from other federal agencies and researchers in the field of aging studies.
- *The Future of Human Life Expectancy: Have We Reached the Ceiling or Is the Sky the Limit?* published by the Population Reference Bureau. A March 2006 issue in the NIA-funded series "Research Highlights in the Demography and Economics of Aging." After remaining fairly constant for most of human history, life expectancy has nearly doubled in the past century. This publication reviews various diverging opinions of researchers as to whether these increases will continue or whether human longevity is approaching its limit.
- *Living Arrangements of Older Persons Around the World*, published by the United Nations/Department of Economic and Social Affairs/Population Division. Populations everywhere are growing older, and the number of persons aged 60 years or over is expected nearly to triple by 2050, and those who attain old age are living longer. Families comprising three or even four generations have become common. This publication, comparing data for more than 130 countries, is the first global survey and analysis of patterns and trends in the living arrangements of older persons.

(For information, contact Ms. Georgeanne Patmios, GSR, 301-402-8788)

News Releases

Sixteen press releases and notes were distributed, generating 320 clips in print and internet outlets, reaching nearly 190 million people. (For information, contact Ms. Vicky Cahan, OCPL, Ph. 301-496-1752.)

News Events

The NIA and the U.S. Bureau of the Census held a joint media telebriefing on March 9, 2006, to announce a major new report on aging, *65+ in the United States: 2005.* The briefing featured statements and responses to media questions with Dr. Richard Hodes, Director of the NIA; Louis Kincannon, Director, U.S. Census Bureau; Dr. Richard Suzman, Director, Behavioral and Social Research Program, NIA; and Dr. Victoria Velkoff, Chief, Aging Studies Branch, U.S. Census Bureau. Over 50 journalists participated in the hour-long briefing. (For information, contact Ms. Vicky Cahan, OCPL, Ph. 301-496-1752.)

Publications

The following new publications were printed:

- *So Far Away: Twenty Questions for Long-Distance Caregivers*
- *There's No Place Like Home* Tip Sheet
- *Bound for Your Good Health*, a collection of Age Pages
- *Connections* Vol. 13, No. 3-4
- *Understanding Alzheimer's Disease* (Easy to Read)
- *Understanding Memory Loss* (Easy to Read)

The following publications were updated or reprinted:

- Age Page reprints*: Constipation, Medicines, Exercise, Cancer and Older People, Prostate Problems, A Good Night's Sleep, Preventing Falls*
- *Acute Hospitalization and Alzheimer's Disease*
- *Hospitalization Happens*
- *ADEAR Publications List*
- *AD Medications Fact Sheets* (English and Spanish)
- *Spanish Caregiver Guide* – updated and reprinted

(For information, contact Ms. Vicky Cahan, OCPL, Ph. 301-496-1752.)

Meetings and Exhibits

- NIA and ADEAR publications were distributed at the White House Conference on Aging, American Society of Hematology, Telemundo's Feria de la Familia, National Association of Geriatric Care Managers Conference, Maplewood Park Place, NIA Regional Meeting (Texas Tech), NCOA/ASA Joint Conference on Aging, National Hispanic Medical Association, and ADC/ADCS meetings.
- NIA took the lead in coordinating NIH's contributions to Brain Awareness Week (March 15-16) this year. This annual program is designed for middle school students. OCPL staff developed a short film describing Alzheimer's disease and offering suggestions on how to behave around a family member with AD that was presented during the program.
- Following a successful pilot project in 2004, the NIA Vital Visionaries project has been expanded to include five museums/medical schools nationwide. A training program for all participants was held in November 2005.

(For information, contact Ms. Vicky Cahan, OCPL, Ph. 301-496-1752.)

Web

- NIA Publications and Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral Center Web sites were redesigned and integrated fully into NIA main Web site.
- The following new topics were added to NIHSeniorHealth: COPD, heart failure, and osteoporosis. This brings the total number of topics available to 26.

(For information, contact Ms. Vicky Cahan, OCPL, Ph. 301-496-1752.)

Awards

- The following NIA publications and press releases won awards from the National Association of Government Communicators – *Working with Your Older Patient: A Clinician's Handbook*; *Aging Hearts and Arteries: A Scientific Quest*; *Can Alzheimer's Disease be Prevented?* and *Diet, Exercise, Stimulating Environment Help Old Dogs Learn*.
- NIA publications won several NIH Plain Language awards -- *Safe Use of Medicines: Take Your Medicines the Right Way - Each Day* (outstanding); *Working with Your Older Patient: A Clinician's Handbook* (excellent); and *Aging Hearts & Arteries: A Scientific Quest, Shingles Age Page, There's No Place Like Home - For Growing Old: Tips From the National Institute on Aging*.

(For information, contact Ms. Vicky Cahan, OCPL, Ph. 301-496-1752.)

New Notices and Initiatives Relevant to
National Institute on Aging (NIA)

Excerpts from the NIH GUIDE- from December 20, 2005 – April 19, 2006
Includes Notices and Initiatives (Requests for Applications (RFAs) and Program Announcements (PAs), published since January 2006
Council presentation of the Director's Status Report (DSR) to the National Advisory Council on Aging (NACA). Also check our
NIA website for "Funding Opportunities" at:
http://www.nia.nih.gov/GrantsAndTraining/FundingOpportunities/CurrentFundingOpportunities.htm
(Shown here are selected Notices and Initiatives relevant to NIA/National Institutes of Health/DHHS).

NOTICES ISSUED BY NIA
(Notices are sorted by release date. Most recent Notices are at the top of this list.)

#	Announcement Number	Issuing Organization	Release Date	Opening Date (SF424 Only)	Expiration Date	Activity Code(s)	Title
1	NOT-AG-06-008	NIA	03/17/2006	n/a	n/a		Request for Proposal: AG-260-06-01 NIH Toolbox for Assessment of Neurological and Behavioral Function
2	NOT-AG-06-007	NIA	03/10/2006	n/a	n/a		Change in Expiration Dates for PA-05-036 and PA-05-136
3	NOT-AG-06-006	NIA	02/23/2006	n/a	n/a		Announcing the NIA Primate Aging Database
4	NOT-AG-06-003	NIA	01/26/2006	n/a	n/a		Expert Meeting on the Future of the National Long-Term Care Survey: Data Needs for Disability Policy Making and Research for the Future
5	NOT-AG-06-005	NIA	01/24/2006	n/a	n/a		Change in Expiration Date of PA-05-136
6	NOT-AG-06-004	NIA	01/23/2006	n/a	n/a		Change in Expiration Date of Program Announcement PA-03-167

7	NOT-AG-06-001	NIA	01/13/2006	n/a	n/a		NIA Intervention Testing Program Solicits Proposals for Compounds to Test for Anti-Aging Activity in Mice
8	NOT-AG-06-002	NIA	01/12/2006	n/a	n/a		Change in Status of Program Announcement PA-05-036 - Retirement Economics

NOTICES ISSUED BY NIH (Central)
(Notices are sorted by release date. Most recent Notices are at the top of this list.)

#	Announcement Number	Issuing Organization	Release Date	Opening Date (SF424 Only)	Expiration Date	Activity Code(s)	Title
1	NOT-OD-06-060	NIH	04/13/2006	n/a	n/a		Clarification of Submission Dates for the Pilot Study to Shorten the Review Cycle for New Investigator R01 Applications
2	NOT-OD-06-054	NIH	04/07/2006	n/a	n/a		NIH Announces Change in Business Process: Replacing Principal Investigator Signature on Grant Applications, Progress Reports, and Prior Approval Requests with an Institutional Compliance Requirement
3	NOT-OD-06-055	NIH	04/07/2006	n/a	n/a		NIH/AHRQ Announce Change in Business Process Concerning eRA Commons Verifications of Electronically Submitted Applications
4	NOT-OD-06-056	NIH	04/07/2006	n/a	n/a		NIH Announces Interim Changes to the PHS398 Application and Instructions
5	NOT-OD-06-057	NIH	04/07/2006	n/a	n/a		NIH Announces Changes to the SF424 (R&R) Instructions
6	NOT-OD-06-058	NIH	04/07/2006	n/a	n/a		NIH Announces Interim Changes to the PHS2590 Noncompeting Progress Report Forms and Instructions
	NOT-OD-06-053	NIH	03/28/2006	n/a	n/a		Clarification of Instructions

7							Regarding Inclusion of Publications as Appendix Materials
8	NOT-OD-06-052	NIH	03/23/2006	n/a	n/a		Guidance on Use of Telecommunications for IACUC Meetings under the PHS Policy on Humane Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
9	NOT-OD-06-050	NIH	03/16/2006	n/a	n/a		Change in Time of Submission/Receipt of NIH Electronic Grant Applications to Grants.gov
10	NOT-OD-06-051	NIH	03/16/2006	n/a	n/a		Updated Instructions Regarding Inclusion of Publications as Appendix Materials
11	NOT-OD-06-049	NIH	03/15/2006	n/a	n/a		Extension of the Expiration Date of the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Institutional Research Training Grant Funding Opportunity Announcement
12	NOT-OD-06-048	NIH	03/14/2006	n/a	n/a		May 1, 2006 Submission Date for AIDS and AIDS-related R03 and R21 Applications
13	NOT-OD-06-047	NIH	03/03/2006	n/a	n/a		Updates to NIH's Electronic Application Submission Program Available Through Listserv Subscription
14	NOT-OD-06-046	NIH	03/02/2006	n/a	n/a		Change in Funding Opportunity Announcements That Use R03, R21, R33, and R34 Grant Mechanisms: Transition to Electronic Submission Using SF424 (R&R) Grant Application Package
15	NOT-OD-06-043	NIH	02/27/2006	n/a	n/a		Notice of Intent to Publish: Program Announcements on Research on Ethical Issues in Human Subjects Research
16	NOT-OD-06-044	NIH	02/27/2006	n/a	n/a		Extension of Expiration Date for Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Individual Pre-doctoral

							Fellowship Program (F31) Announcements PA-00-068 and PA-00-069
17	NOT-OD-06-045	NIH	02/27/2006	n/a	n/a		Extension of Expiration Date for the Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Individual Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (F32) Announcement PA-03-067
18	NOT-OD-06-041	NIH	02/24/2006	n/a	n/a		April SCAW Advanced IACUC Workshop in Davis, California
19	NOT-OD-06-040	NIH	02/23/2006	n/a	n/a		Extension of Deadline for NOT-OD-06-011, Request for Information on New Standards for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals
20	NOT-OD-06-035	NIH	02/07/2006	n/a	n/a		NIH Adjusts Timeline for Electronic Application Submission to Provide Additional Time Before the R01 Transition
21	NOT-OD-06-036	NIH	02/07/2006	n/a	n/a		Establishment of Multiple Principal Investigator Awards for the Support of Team Science Projects
22	NOT-OD-06-034	NIH	02/01/2006	n/a	n/a		April IACUC 101 and 201 Workshops in Richmond, Virginia
23	NOT-OD-06-033	NIH	01/23/2006	n/a	n/a		Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Grant Programs
24	NOT-OD-06-032	NIH	01/13/2006	n/a	n/a		NIH Office of Extramural Research Announces the NIH Extramural Nexus Bimonthly Update
25	NOT-RM-06-010	NIH	01/13/2006	n/a	n/a		NIH Roadmap Nanomedicine Development Centers Informational Meeting in Bethesda, MD on January 27, 2006
26	NOT-OD-06-030	NIH	01/12/2006	n/a	n/a		Notice of Legislative Mandates Contained in the FY 2006 Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

							Appropriations Act P.L. 109-149; Signed December 30, 2005
27	NOT-OD-06-031	NIH	01/12/2006	n/a	n/a		Salary Limitation on Grants, Cooperative Agreements, and Contracts
28	NOT-OD-06-025	NIH	01/09/2006	n/a	n/a		NIH Financial Policy for Grant Awards – FY 2006
29	NOT-OD-06-026	NIH	01/09/2006	n/a	n/a		Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Stipend and Other Budgetary Levels Effective for Fiscal Year 2006
30	NOT-OD-06-027	NIH	01/06/2006	n/a	n/a		March IACUC 101 and PRIMR/ARENA Annual IACUC Meeting in Boston
31	NOT-OD-06-024	NIH	12/29/2005	n/a	n/a		Extension of Expiration Date for NIH National Research Service Award Institutional Research Training Grants (T32) Program Announcement
32	NOT-OD-06-022	NIH	12/22/2005	n/a	n/a		Announcing Availability of Pre-registration for the NIH Regional Seminars on Program Funding and Grants Administration

NOTICES ISSUED BY OTHER INSTITUTES/CENTERS AT NIH (with NIA involvement)
(Notices are sorted by release date. Most recent Notices are at the top of this list.)

#	Announcement Number	Issuing Organization	Release Date	Opening Date (SF424 Only)	Expiration Date	Activity Code(s)	Title
1	NOT-EY-06-001	NEI	03/08/2006	n/a	n/a		Notice of National Eye Institute Plans for Transition of Support for the Small Grant (R03) and Exploratory/Developmental Grant (R21) Mechanisms
2	NOT-DA-06-009	NIDA	02/24/2006	n/a	n/a		Notice to Extend Deadline to March 3, 2006 to Respond to Request for Information (RFI): Nomination of Knockout Mice for Deposition in Public Repositories
3	NOT-EB-06-006	NIBIB	02/03/2006	n/a	n/a		Extension of Bioengineering Research Grant (BRG) Program Announcement (PA-02-011)

4	NOT-DA-06-008	NIDA	01/31/2006	n/a	n/a		Request for Information (RFI): Nomination of Knockout Mice for Deposition in Public Repositories
5	NOT-MH-05-024	NIMH	12/29/2005	n/a	n/a		Clarification to RFA-MH-06-007: Development of Recombinase-Expressing ("Driver") Mouse Lines for Studying the Nervous System (U01)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES – RFAs and PAs –issued by NIA
(Notices are sorted by release date. Most recent notices are at the top of this list.)

#	Announcement Number	Issuing Organization	Release Date	Opening Date (SF424 Only)	Expiration Date	Activity Code(s)	Title
1	PAS-06-261	NIA	03/24/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2009	R21	Grants for Alzheimer's Disease Drug Discovery (R21)

An important part of the AD Prevention Initiative is to quicken the pace for translating basic science findings into clinical trials to evaluate treatment and prevention strategies. This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) focuses on AD drug discovery while companion FOAs are targeted to AD drug development and AD pilot clinical trials. The objective of this solicitation is to stimulate preclinical research in the discovery, design, development and testing of novel compounds aimed at slowing, halting, or, if possible, reversing the progressive decline in cognitive function and modifying the behavioral symptoms in Alzheimer's disease as well as delaying the onset of or preventing AD. This initiative is intended to stimulate basic research and development efforts. The goal is not to duplicate or compete with pharmaceutical companies but to encourage, complement, and accelerate the process of discovering new, innovative, and effective compounds for the prevention and treatment of the cognitive impairment and behavioral symptoms associated with Alzheimer's disease.

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2	PA-06-138	NIA	03/17/2006	05/02/2006	09/02/2008	R21	The Secretory Pattern of Senescent Cells (R21)

The main objective of this FOA is to encourage applications that will seek to identify changes in the secretory characteristics of fibroblasts and other cell types as a function of senescence, both in vivo and in vitro. In addition, this FOA seeks applications that aim to establish the effect of senescent cells on their immediate environment, by virtue of the changes in their pattern of secretion of bioactive molecules.

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3	PA-06-240	NIA	03/17/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2009	R03	Ancillary Studies to the AD Neuroimaging Initiative (R03)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites research grant applications for ancillary studies to the Alzheimer 's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative (ADNI), a multi-site, longitudinal, prospective, naturalistic study of normal cognitive aging, mild cognitive impairment (MCI), and early Alzheimer's disease (AD). The ADNI is collecting, processing, and storing serial blood, cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), and urine samples in the three groups for analyses for potential biomarkers of disease progression, including genomic, proteomic, and metabolomic markers that can be correlated with clinical, neuropsychological, and imaging data. Immortalized cell lines will also be established. The ancillary studies may propose and measure potential biomarkers, or offer new approaches to analyzing the dataset (e.g., image processing techniques, statistical analysis), or

develop parallel neuroimaging studies with a different sample but with a subset of the measures used in the ADNI protocol, or propose autopsy studies.

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4	PA-06-241	NIA	03/17/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2009	R21	Ancillary Studies to the AD Neuroimaging Initiative (R21)

The purpose of this FOA is to invite research grant applications for ancillary studies to the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative (ADNI). The purpose of the ADNI is to develop a multi-site, longitudinal, prospective, naturalistic study of normal cognitive aging, mild cognitive impairment (MCI), and early Alzheimer's disease (AD) as a public domain research resource to facilitate the scientific evaluation of neuroimaging (magnetic resonance imaging [MRI], positron emission tomography [PET]), and other biomarkers for the onset and progression of MCI and AD. The ADNI will collect, process, and store serial blood, CSF, and urine samples in the three groups of subjects for analyses for potential biomarkers of disease progression, including genomic, proteomic, and metabolomic markers that can be correlated with clinical, neuropsychological, and imaging data. Immortalized cell lines will also be established.

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5	PA-06-242	NIA	03/17/2006	05/02/2006	03/02/2009	R21	Aging Musculoskeletal and Skin Extracellular Matrix (R21)

The objective of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to solicit grant applications for basic research projects to investigate how changes in the extracellular matrix with age affect the function of the tissues of the musculoskeletal system and skin. Projects are encouraged that determine how cellular aging processes lead to altered matrix production and maintenance, and how aging-related altered matrix composition and organization affect the function of these tissues.

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6	PA-06-137	NIA	03/10/2006	05/02/2006	09/02/2008	R21	Testing Stem Cell Therapy in Mouse Models of Premature Aging (R21)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) encourages applications that test stem cell therapy in mouse models of accelerated aging, defined as mouse strains in which a genetic or other manipulation results in a shortened lifespan, and an accelerated appearance of a significant subset of age-related pathologies. The purpose is to use these models of accelerated aging to test whether stem cells extend the lifespan and/or reduce age-related pathology. Several mouse models of accelerated aging have been described, and these include models of human progerias, as well as mice with altered activity of specific regulatory pathways such as p53, and which result in shortened lifespans accompanied by an earlier appearance of not just one, but a significant subset of age-related diseases.

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7	PA-06-235	NIA	03/10/2006	05/02/2006	03/02/2009	R03	Retirement Economics (R03)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) encompasses research on the work and retirement decisions that people make at older ages and the health and economic circumstances of individuals as they evolve before retirement, at the time that work transitions take place, and throughout retirement. It is about the complex interrelationships between work, economic circumstances, public policy, health, and other aspects of later life.

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8	PA-06-236	NIA	03/10/2006	05/02/2006	03/02/2009	R21	Retirement Economics (R21)

The research objectives of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) include, but are not limited to: (1) the determinants of retirement behavior, (2) the variation in work patterns in later life, (3) the evolution of health and economic circumstances of individuals through retirement and into later life, (4) time use and life satisfaction before and during retirement, (5) the implications of retirement trends, (6) retirement expectations, (7) international comparisons of retirement and (8) the development of innovative retirement modeling techniques.

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9	PA-06-102	NIA	03/03/2006	05/02/2006	11/02/2007	R03	Sociobehavioral Data Analysis and Archiving in Aging (R03)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), issued by the National Institute on Aging (NIA) is seeking small grant (R03) applications to: 1) stimulate and facilitate data archiving and secondary analyses of data related to caregiving, cognition, demography, economics, epidemiology, behavioral genetics and other behavioral research on aging; 2) provide support for preliminary projects using secondary analysis that could lead to subsequent applications for other research project grant award mechanisms; 3) provide support for rapid analyses of new databases and experimental modules for purposes such as informing the design and content of future study waves; 4) provide support for the development, enhancement and assembly of new databases from existing data; and 5) provide support for pilot research on under-utilized databases.

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10	PAS-06-130	NIA	01/25/2006	03/01/2006	04/02/2008	R43, R44	Applications of Imaging and Sensor Technologies for Clinical Aging Research (SBIR [R43/R44])

This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) solicits Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant applications from small business concerns (SBCs) for the development and validation of new or improved imaging and sensor technologies that will enhance opportunities to address key research questions about human aging. Such imaging and sensor technologies could be crucial for studies to elucidate the processes and mechanisms of human aging, to characterize physiologic aging changes over the life span, and to characterize physiologic, pathologic, and functional abnormalities in old age.

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11	PAS-06-131	NIA	01/25/2006	03/01/2006	04/02/2008	R41, R42	Applications of Imaging and Sensor Technologies for Clinical Aging Research (STTR [R41/R42])

This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) solicits Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grant applications from small business concerns (SBCs) for the development and validation of new or improved imaging and sensor technologies that will enhance opportunities to address key research questions about human aging. Such imaging and sensor technologies could be crucial for studies to elucidate the processes and mechanisms of human aging, to characterize physiologic aging changes over the life span, and to characterize physiologic, pathologic, and functional abnormalities in old age.

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12	PAR-06-117	NIA	01/11/2006	02/15/2006	03/16/2008	R36	Aging Research Dissertation Awards to Increase Diversity (R36)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) issued by the National Institute on Aging (NIA), National Institutes of Health (NIH), publicizes the availability of dissertation awards in aging research to increase the diversity of the research workforce. The goals of NIH supported research are to advance our understanding of biological systems, to improve the control of disease, and to enhance health.

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FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES – Other RFAs AND PAs with NIA involvement, but issued by NIH or other Institutes at NIH (Notices are sorted by release date. Most recent notices are at the top of this list.)

#	Announcement Number	Issuing Organization	Release Date	Opening Date (SF424 Only)	Expiration Date	Activity Code(s)	Title
1	PA-06-343	OBSSR	04/14/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2008	R21	Methodology And Measurement In The Behavioral And Social Sciences (R21)

The goal of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to encourage research that will improve the quality and scientific power of data collected in the behavioral and social sciences, relevant to the missions of the participating NIH Institutes and Centers. The behavioral and social sciences offer significant fundamental insights into the comprehensive understanding of human health, including disease etiology and treatment, and the promotion of health and well-being.

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2	PA-06-344	OBSSR	04/14/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2008	R03	Methodology And Measurement In The Behavioral And Social Sciences (R03)

The goal of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to encourage research that will improve the quality and scientific power of data collected in the behavioral and social sciences, relevant to the missions of the participating NIH Institutes and Centers. The behavioral and social sciences offer significant fundamental insights into the comprehensive understanding of human health, including disease etiology and treatment, and the promotion of health and well-being.

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3	RFA-HD-06-007	NICHD	04/14/2006	n/a	12/14/2006	R24	Global Partnerships for Social Science AIDS Research (R24)

This RFA calls for collaborative applications between U.S. (or other developed country) institutions and institutions in countries hard hit by the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The initiative is designed to enhance capabilities for rigorous behavioral and social science research in relation to HIV/AIDS within these countries.

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4	PA-06-292	NCI	03/29/2006	05/02/2006	11/02/2007	R21	Research on the Economics of Diet, Activity, and Energy Balance (R21)

Obesity has become a major focus of public health efforts at the national, State, and local levels. The major focus of this FOA is to solicit projects that enhance the state-of-the-science on the causes of obesity and to inform Federal decision making on effective public health interventions for reducing the rate of obesity in the United States. Research strategies that nest economic analysis within a broader interdisciplinary context of other social and behavioral sciences as well as the epidemiological, bio-statistical, medical, and biological disciplines relevant to public health policy are especially encouraged.

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5	PA-06-282	NCI	03/28/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2008	R21	Stem Cells and Cancer (R21)

Stem cells play a crucial role in all aspects of biology from the development of early embryos to the repair and maintenance of adult tissues. Embryonic stem cells can give rise to all the tissue types in the adult organism. Adult stem cells residing in a number of adult tissues are important to tissue self renewal and repair. These somatic stem cells are unique among adult cells, in that they can undergo self renewal divisions, although they have a limited capacity for multi-lineage differentiation. Examples of such stem cells are the hematopoietic stem cells that are crucial to the success of bone marrow transplantation in the therapy of cancer.

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6	PA-06-278	NIMH	03/24/2006	05/02/2006	07/02/2009	R21	Neurotechnology Research, Development, and Enhancement (R21)

The brain and behavioral sciences are advancing rapidly, improving understanding of healthy brain function and offering promise to the millions suffering from brain disorders of all types. This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for Exploratory/Developmental (R21) grant applications seeks to enable neuroscience and behavioral research by soliciting research and development of novel, or significant enhancement of existing, tools and approaches to be used in brain and behavioral research.

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7	PA-06-279	NIMH	03/24/2006	n/a	07/02/2009	R01	Neurotechnology Research, Development, And Enhancement (R01)

The brain and behavioral sciences are advancing rapidly, improving understanding of healthy brain function and offering promise to the millions suffering from brain disorders of all types. This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) seeks to enable neuroscience and behavioral research by soliciting research and development of novel, or significant enhancement of existing, tools and approaches to be used in brain and behavioral research.

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8	PAS-06-265	NINDS	03/24/2006	05/02/2006	08/02/2007	R21	Genetics and Pathobiology of Vascular Cognitive Impairment (R21)

The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) with set-aside funds is to invite applications to study the biological basis of vascular cognitive impairment (VCI). VCI causes a burden of illness similar to that caused by Alzheimer's disease (AD), but has been far less well-studied.

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9	PA-06-254	NIDDK	03/17/2006	n/a	03/02/2009	R01	Basic Research in the Bladder and Lower Urinary Tract (R01)

Disorders of the urinary bladder and associated structures including urinary incontinence, chronic pelvic pain, urinary tract infections (UTIs), interstitial cystitis (IC), vesicoureteral reflux, and dysfunctional bladder emptying are a major cause of morbidity and impaired quality of life. The goal of the NIDDK, NCI, NIA, and ORWH in developing this funding opportunity is to promote high-quality, basic research that will lead to important discoveries relevant to bladder and lower urinary tract biology.

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10	PA-06-255	NIDDK	03/17/2006	05/02/2006	03/02/2009	R21	Basic Research in the Bladder and Lower Urinary Tract (R21)

The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and the National Institute on Aging (NIA), in cooperation with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH), invite applications for research studies which focus on basic cellular, molecular, genetic and developmental mechanisms of the normal and abnormal function of the bladder and lower urinary tract. An important goal of this initiative is to attract new and established investigators from a variety of basic science research areas to apply their knowledge, skills, and tools to

studies of the bladder and lower urinary tract. This funding opportunity encourages basic cellular, molecular, developmental and genetic research relevant to the bladder and lower urinary tract. Basic research studies that address age and gender differences in bladder and lower urinary tract function are also encouraged.

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11	PA-06-238	NHLBI	03/16/2006	05/02/2006	06/01/2008	R21	Research on Sleep and Sleep Disorders (R21)

Therapy for a number of sleep disorders remains suboptimal, and the research workforce addressing sleep science is insufficient. The NHLBI, National Center on Sleep Disorders Research, and co-sponsoring member Institutes and Centers of the Trans-NIH Sleep Research Coordinating Committee therefore invite submission of grant applications proposing research to advance biomedical knowledge related to sleep or sleep disorders, improve understanding of the neurobiology or functions of sleep over the life-span, enhance timely diagnosis and effective treatment for individuals affected by sleep-related disorders, or implement and evaluate innovative community-based public health education and intervention programs.

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12	PA-06-233	OBSSR	03/10/2006	05/02/2006	02/01/2009	R03	Research on Social Work Practice and Concepts in Health (R03)

This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) issued by the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research solicits Small Research Grant (R03) applications from organizations/institutions that propose to develop empirical research on social work practice, concepts, and theory as these relate to the NIH public health goal of improving health outcomes for persons with medical and behavioral disorders and conditions.

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13	PA-06-234	OBSSR	03/10/2006	05/02/2006	02/01/2009	R21	Research on Social Work Practice and Concepts in Health (R21)

The ultimate goal of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to encourage the development of empirical research on social work practice, concepts and theory as these relate to the NIH public health goal of improving health outcomes for persons with medical and behavioral disorders and conditions. The Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), via this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) encourages innovative, theory-driven empirical research on social work practice, concepts and theory as these relate to the NIH public health goal of improving health outcomes for persons with medical and behavioral disorders and conditions.

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14	PAR-06-227	NINDS	03/09/2006	n/a	08/15/2008	F05	International Neuroscience Fellowship (F05)

The goal of this International Neuroscience Fellowship Program is to provide a unique opportunity to qualified foreign neuroscientists, at junior or mid-career level, to receive one to two years of research training in the United States (U.S.). The mission of the NIH Neuroscience Institutes is to reduce the burden of illness in the nervous system - a burden borne by every age group, by every segment of society, by people all over the world – and to enhance understanding of links between the nervous system, behavior, and health. The objective of INF is to prepare awardees for future leadership positions in research, academia or public health institutions in their home country.

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15	PAS-06-207	NINDS	03/09/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2008	R03	Interactions Between Stem and Progenitor Cells and the Microenvironment (R03)

The objective of this initiative is to promote a thorough exploration and characterization of the bi-directional communication between multipotent cells and the three-dimensional local milieu or niche that they encounter in vivo under normal and compromised states, such as with aging or following injury, disease or drug exposure. This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) with Set-Aside is intended to promote studies that establish and identify the nature and action of microenvironmental cues in the nervous system that regulate stem cell fate. This FOA specifically targets cellular, molecular and genetic mechanisms that act in vivo to influence stem cell survival, homing/migration, adhesion, differentiation, plasticity and tumorigenicity in both the central and peripheral nervous systems. Applications that only propose in vitro studies will not be responsive to this initiative.

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16	PAS-06-208	NINDS	03/09/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2008	R21	Interactions Between Stem and Progenitor Cells and the Microenvironment (R21)

The objective of this initiative is to promote a thorough exploration and characterization of the bi-directional communication between multipotent cells and the three-dimensional local milieu or niche that they encounter in vivo under normal and compromised states, such as with aging or following injury, disease or drug exposure. Of particular interest is the rigorous characterization of how interactions with localized cues in space and time regulate stem cell survival, migration, replication and 'plasticity' in the nervous system and other parts of the body.

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17	PAS-06-204	NINDS	03/08/2006	05/02/2006	07/02/2006	R21	Gene Discovery for Complex Neurological and Neurobehavioral Disorders (R21)

The goal of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to promote the identification of susceptibility genes for complex neurological and neurobehavioral disorders. For this FOA, complex disorders are defined as those caused by the interaction of multiple genes, or by a combination of genetic and environmental risk factors. Many of these disorders are relatively common and clinically heterogeneous. Projects focusing on any phase of the gene discovery process, from initial patient ascertainment to positional cloning, are appropriate. Novel approaches, including the use of intermediate phenotypes that potentially underlie complex disorders, are also encouraged.

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18	PAS-06-200	NINDS	03/07/2006	05/02/2006	03/02/2007	R21	Neurovascular Mechanisms of Brain Function and Disease (R21)

The goal of this Program Announcement with set-aside funds (PAS) is to invite applications for studying the integration of neurobiological and cerebrovascular mechanisms in the adult, aged and pediatric brain in health and disease. This PAS encourages studies focused on improving our understanding of the dynamic interactions within the neurovascular unit (NVU), a construct consisting of brain microvascular endothelium, glia, neurons and the extracellular matrix that maintains spatial relations among them.

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19	PA-06-136	NHLBI	03/03/2006	05/02/2006	03/02/2009	R21	Nutrition and Diet in the Causation, Prevention, and Management of Heart Failure (R21)

The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to encourage submission of investigator-initiated research applications on the role of nutrition and diet in the causation, prevention, and treatment of cardiomyopathies and heart failure. Basic, translational, and applied interdisciplinary research applications with rigorous hypothesis-testing designs for projects in animals or humans are of interest. The overall goal is to develop a satisfactory science base for preventive approaches in high-risk individuals and for rational nutritional management of patients in various stages of heart failure.

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20	PA-06-192	NINDS	03/03/2006	05/02/2006	07/02/2008	R03	Mechanisms of Transmission and Dissemination of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs) (R03)

The objective of this announcement is to encourage investigator-initiated research grant applications to study the mechanisms of transmission and dissemination of transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs).

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21	PA-06-193	NINDS	03/03/2006	05/02/2006	07/02/2008	R21	Mechanisms of Transmission and Dissemination of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs) (R21)

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) encourages investigator-initiated research grant applications to study the mechanisms of transmission and dissemination of transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs). TSEs or “prion diseases” are neurodegenerative disorders that can lead to dementia, motor dysfunction and eventually death. Iatrogenic transmission of prion disease has been reported (transplantation of cadaveric cornea or dura mater, or injection of cadaveric human growth hormone); As an Exploratory/Developmental mechanism, the R21 Grant is intended to support projects that: 1) assess the feasibility of a novel avenue of investigation 2) involve high risk experiments that could lead to a breakthrough in a particular field or 3) demonstrate the feasibility of new technologies that could have major impact in a specific area.

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22	PA-06-194	NINDS	03/03/2006	05/02/2006	11/02/2008	R03	Research On The Cognitive Sequelae Of Parkinson's Disease (R03)

Under this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA), the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), the National Institute on Aging (NIA), and the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) invite research grant applications that address the underlying neurobiological mechanisms associated with the cognitive impairment in Parkinson's disease (PD), that address the development of clinical interventions and therapeutics for cognitive impairment in PD, or that promote improved clinical diagnosis or treatment of cognitive impairment in PD. A goal of this PA is to begin a process where basic and clinical scientists from various disciplines can overcome barriers to cross-disciplinary and biobehavioral research and examine all aspects of cognition in the context of the diagnosis and treatment of Parkinson's disease. The goals of NIH supported research are to advance our understanding of biological systems, to improve the control of disease, and to enhance health. In their written critiques, reviewers will be asked to comment on each of the following criteria in order to judge the likelihood that the proposed research will have a substantial impact on the pursuit of these goals.

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23	PA-06-195	NINDS	03/03/2006	05/02/2006	11/02/2008	R21	Research on the Cognitive Sequelae of Parkinson's Disease (R21)

Under this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA),the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), the National Institute on Aging (NIA), and the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) invite research grant applications that address the underlying neurobiological mechanisms associated with the cognitive impairment in Parkinson's disease (PD), that address the development of clinical interventions and therapeutics for cognitive impairment in PD, or that promote improved clinical diagnosis or treatment of cognitive impairment in PD. A goal of this PA is to begin a process where basic and clinical scientists from various disciplines can overcome barriers to cross-disciplinary and biobehavioral research and examine all aspects of cognition in the context of the diagnosis and treatment of Parkinson's disease.

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24	PA-06-198	NINDS	03/03/2006	05/02/2006	07/02/2007	R21	Characterization, Behavior and Plasticity of Pluripotent Stem Cells (R21)

Stem cells appear to possess great plasticity, but the cellular mechanisms regulating their behavior and fate are not understood. If these mechanisms can be harnessed to obtain cells specifically required for therapy, diagnosis or drug discovery, it may be possible to restore function to tissues and organ systems that have been compromised by congenital disorders, developmental malfunction, age, injury, disease or drug exposure. This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is intended to promote studies of stem cell biology and the regulation and control of stem cells in the nervous system. Research efforts on characteristics that distinguish between different types of stem cells and the cellular, molecular and genetic mechanisms that influence their lineage choices are particularly relevant, as are studies that explore the long-term fates of stem cell-derived populations in animal models.

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25	PA-06-144	NIDDK	03/02/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2009	R21	Long-Term Weight Maintenance: Basic and Clinical Studies (R21)

The goal of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to invite research applications investigating basic and clinical aspects of long-term weight maintenance. Applications investigating mechanisms underlying weight stability and/or weight regain after intentional weight loss, as well as clinical studies investigating the role of behavioral, nutritional, exercise, or other interventions in enhancing long-term weight maintenance will be supported. Collaborations between basic and clinical researchers are particularly encouraged under this solicitation. This funding opportunity invites research applications investigating the factors involved in long-term weight stability and/or weight regain after intentional weight loss, including studies in both animals and humans.

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26	PA-06-145	NIDDK	03/02/2006	n/a	03/02/2009	R01	Long-Term Weight Maintenance: Basic and Clinical Studies(R01)

The goal of this funding opportunity is to invite research applications investigating basic and clinical aspects of long-term weight maintenance. Applications investigating mechanisms underlying weight stability and/or weight regain after intentional weight loss, as well as clinical studies investigating the role of behavioral, nutritional, exercise, or other interventions in enhancing long-term weight maintenance will be supported. Collaborations between basic and clinical researchers are particularly encouraged under this solicitation. This funding opportunity invites research applications investigating the factors involved in long-term weight stability and/or weight regain after intentional weight loss, including studies in both animals and humans.

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27	PA-06-148	NIDDK	03/02/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2009	R21	Pilot and Feasibility Program Related to the Kidney (R21)

The primary intent of this initiative is to foster the development of high-risk pilot and feasibility research by newly independent or established investigators, to develop new ideas sufficiently to allow for subsequent submission of R01 applications focusing on research problems relevant to the study of both acute and chronic kidney diseases, and their complications, in both the adult and pediatric populations.

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28	PA-06-167	NIDDK	03/02/2006	n/a	03/02/2009	R01	Ubiquitin and Ubiquitin-Like Modifications Regulating Disease Processes (R01)

This funding opportunity is intended to stimulate novel and productive research focused on the involvement of ubiquitin and ubiquitin-like modifications in normal physiology and in disease processes of interest to the NIDDK, NIA, and NCI. Areas of interest for NIDDK include research on cell types of the kidney, pancreas, liver, gastrointestinal tract, and blood; diseases such as diabetes, obesity, and other metabolic and nutritional disorders; as well as hematologic, urologic and kidney diseases. Areas of interest for NIA include research on a variety of cellular, tissue and animal models of aging. Areas of interest for NCI include the identification of genes, proteins, and

signaling networks responsible for the cancer phenotype; investigation of aberrantly modified processes that promote cell proliferation or inhibit cell death; and the exploration of molecular events that determine tumor cell survival and progression. Examples that illustrate possible areas of research are presented below. They are intended only to provide a broad direction for research and should be considered illustrative and not restrictive.

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29	PA-06-168	NIDDK	03/02/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2009	R21	Ubiquitin and Ubiquitin-Like Modifications Regulating Disease Processes (R21)

This funding opportunity is intended to stimulate novel and productive research focused on the involvement of ubiquitin and ubiquitin-like modifications in normal physiology and in disease processes of interest to the NIDDK, NIA, and NCI. Areas of interest for NIDDK include research on cell types of the kidney, pancreas, liver, gastrointestinal tract, and blood; diseases such as diabetes, obesity, and other metabolic and nutritional disorders; as well as hematologic, urologic and kidney diseases. Areas of interest for NIA include research on a variety of cellular, tissue and animal models of aging. Areas of interest for NCI include the identification of genes, proteins, and signaling networks responsible for the cancer phenotype; investigation of aberrantly modified processes that promote cell proliferation or inhibit cell death; and the exploration of molecular events that determine tumor cell survival and progression.

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30	PA-06-173	NIDDK	03/02/2006	n/a	03/02/2009	R01	Diet Composition and Energy Balance (R01)

The goal of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to invite research applications investigating the role of diet composition in energy balance, including studies in both animals and humans. Both short and longer-term studies would be encouraged, ranging from basic studies investigating the impact of micro-or macronutrient composition on appetite, metabolism, and energy expenditure through clinical studies evaluating the efficacy of diets differing in micro- or macronutrient composition, absorption, dietary variety, or energy density for weight loss or weight maintenance.

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31	PA-06-174	NIDDK	03/02/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2009	R21	Diet Composition and Energy Balance (R21)

The goal of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to invite research applications investigating the role of diet composition in energy balance, including studies in both animals and humans. Both short and longer-term studies would be encouraged, ranging from basic studies investigating the impact of micro-or macronutrient composition on appetite, metabolism, and energy expenditure through clinical studies evaluating the efficacy of diets differing in micro- or macronutrient composition, absorption, dietary variety, or energy density for weight loss or weight maintenance.

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32	PA-06-175	NIDDK	03/02/2006	n/a	05/02/2009	R01	Insulin Signaling And Receptor Cross-Talk (R01)

This funding opportunity solicits investigator-initiated research projects that will define the mechanistic basis of crosstalk between the insulin receptor signaling pathway and other signaling pathways, with the goal of defining how insulin action is influenced by the complex microenvironment found in insulin responsive tissues.

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33	PA-06-176	NIDDK	03/02/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2009	R21	Insulin Signaling and Receptor Cross-Talk (R21)

This funding opportunity solicits investigator-initiated research projects that will define the mechanistic basis of crosstalk between the insulin receptor signaling pathway and other signaling pathways, with the goal of defining how insulin action is influenced by the complex microenvironment found in insulin responsive tissues.

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34	PA-06-180	NIH	03/02/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2009	R03	NIH Small Research Grant Program (**Parent R03**)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications for small research projects that can be carried out in a short period of time with limited resources. Individual Institutes/Centers (ICs) have used the small grant program (R03) to provide limited support for specialized purposes. For some ICs, R03 awards have been available only through Requests for Applications (RFAs) and specific Program Announcements (PAs). To allow for unsolicited R03 applications, the NIH has standardized the small grant application characteristics, requirements, preparation, and review procedures. The goals of NIH-supported research are to advance our understanding of biological systems, improve the control of disease, and enhance health. In the written critiques, reviewers will be asked to discuss the following aspects of the application in order to judge the likelihood that the proposed research will have a substantial impact on the pursuit of these goals.

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35	PA-06-181	NIH	03/02/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2009	R21	NIH Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program (**Parent R21**)

The Exploratory/Developmental Grant (R21) mechanism is intended to encourage exploratory and developmental research projects by providing support for the early and conceptual stages of these projects. These studies may involve considerable risk but may lead to a breakthrough in a particular area, or to the development of novel techniques, agents, methodologies, models, or applications that could have a major impact on a field of biomedical, behavioral, or clinical research. The evolution and vitality of the biomedical sciences require a constant infusion of new ideas, techniques, and points of view. These may differ substantially from current thinking or practice and may not yet be supported by substantial preliminary data.

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36	PA-06-186	NIDDK	03/02/2006	n/a	05/02/2009	R01	Heterogeneity of Fat Depots: Underlying Basis and Association with Morbidity (R01)

The goal of this initiative is to increase our understanding of the interactions among the cell populations in order to identify biomarkers of changes in cellular physiology and metabolism brought on by the obese state, which are truly associated with the development of co-morbidities such as diabetes, atherosclerosis, and hypertension. The long term goal of this initiative is to identify markers of obesity associated with disease risk that could yield new targets for therapeutics to disrupt this link. This funding opportunity requests investigator initiated studies designed to examine in detail the life cycle of adult fat cells and other cell types, such as macrophages, neurons, vascular smooth muscle and endothelial cells, within specific fat depots.

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37	PA-	NIDDK	03/02/2006	05/02/2006	05/02/2009	R21	Heterogeneity of Fat Depots: Underlying Basis and Association

	06-187						with Morbidity (R21)

The goal of this initiative is to increase our understanding of the interactions among the cell populations in order to identify biomarkers of changes in cellular physiology and metabolism brought on by the obese state, which are truly associated with the development of co-morbidities such as diabetes, atherosclerosis, and hypertension. The long term goal of this initiative is to identify markers of obesity associated with disease risk that could yield new targets for therapeutics to disrupt this link. This funding opportunity requests investigator initiated studies designed to examine in detail the life cycle of adult fat cells and other cell types, such as macrophages, neurons, vascular smooth muscle and endothelial cells, within specific fat depots.

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38	PA-06-190	NINDS	03/02/2006	05/02/2006	07/02/2008	R21	Collaborative Awards in Epilepsy Research for Junior Investigators (R21)

The goal of this program announcement is to stimulate basic, translational and clinical research in the field of epilepsy by promoting collaborations among junior investigators. The purpose of this initiative is to 1) focus attention of junior investigators on research in epilepsy; 2) promote the interaction of basic researchers and clinical scientists; and 3) provide information leading to the prevention and cure of epilepsy. The ultimate goal is to bring about meaningful advances in understanding the factors that contribute to epileptogenesis, and to develop interventions and effective treatments that improve the quality of life of people with epilepsy.

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39	PAR-06-103	NCI	03/02/2006	05/02/2006	03/02/2009	R21	Improving Diet and Physical Activity Assessment (R21)

This funding opportunity is aimed at advancing the quality of measurements of dietary intake and physical activity pertinent to cancer and/or other pathologies through supporting research on improved instruments, technologies, and/or statistical/analytical techniques. Research plans in the grant applications should be aimed at optimizing the combined use of objective and self-report measures of physical activity and/or dietary intake for testing in both general and diverse populations.

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40	PAR-06-132	OBSSR	03/02/2006	05/02/2006	10/14/2006	R03	Understanding and Promoting Health Literacy (R03)

The ultimate goal of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to encourage the development of empirical research on health literacy concepts and theory as these relate to the NIH public health goal of improving health outcomes for persons with medical and behavioral disorders and conditions.

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41	PAR-06-159	NCRR	02/24/2006	n/a	11/02/2008	K26	Midcareer Investigator Award in Mouse Pathobiology Research (K26)

The goals of NIH-supported career development programs are to help ensure that diverse pools of highly trained scientists are available in adequate numbers and in appropriate research areas to address the Nation's biomedical, behavioral, and clinical needs.

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42	PA-06-133	NIH	01/27/2006	n/a	03/02/2009	K99, R00	NIH Pathway to Independence (PI) Award (K99/R00)

This initiative will develop and implement a new Pathway to Independence Award Program (PI) designed to facilitate receiving an R01 award earlier in an investigator's research career. The primary, long-term goal of the PI Award Program is to increase and maintain a strong cohort of new and talented, NIH-supported independent investigators.

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43	PA-06-119	NIGMS	01/20/2006	n/a	05/02/2009	R01	Structural Biology of Membrane Proteins (R01)

This PA solicits applications to develop research and methods to enhance the rate of membrane protein structure determination and to determine specific membrane protein structures. Innovative methods for expression, oligomerization, solubilization, stabilization, purification, characterization, crystallization, isotopic labeling, and structure determination of unique and biologically significant membrane proteins by x-ray diffraction, nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), electron microscopic, mass spectrometry, and other biophysical techniques are encouraged. Projects that will lead in the near term to determining the structures of biologically important membrane proteins are also encouraged.

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44	PA-06-120	NIH	01/20/2006	03/01/2006	01/03/2007	R43, R44	PHS 2006-02 Omnibus Solicitation of the NIH, CDC, and FDA for Small Business Innovation Research Grant Applications (**Parent SBIR [R43/R44]**)

The purpose of this FOA from NIH, CDC, and FDA is to invite eligible United States small business concerns (SBCs) to submit Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase I, Phase II, Fast-Track, and Phase II Competing Renewal grant applications through Grants.gov. SBIR Fast-Track and Phase II Competing Renewal grant applications are accepted by the NIH ONLY.

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45	PA-06-121	NIH	01/20/2006	03/01/2006	01/03/2007	R41, R42	PHS 2006-2 Omnibus Solicitation of the NIH for Small Business Technology Transfer Grant Applications (**Parent STTR [R41/R42]**)

The purpose of this FOA from NIH is to invite eligible United States small business concerns (SBCs) to submit Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Phase I, Phase II, Fast-Track, and Phase II Competing Renewal grant applications through Grants.gov.

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46	PA-06-	NHLBI	01/20/2006	03/01/2006	08/02/2008	R43, R44	Directed Stem Cell Differentiation for Cell Based Therapies for Heart, Lung, Blood, and Aging Diseases (SBIR [R43/R44])

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This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) solicits Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant applications to define the factors and mechanisms controlling the differentiation of embryonic or adult stem or progenitor cells, either in vitro or in vivo. It is designed to stimulate new scientific advances in stem cell differentiation including technology research that may not be hypothesis driven. The long range goal of this program is the development of methods to direct the differentiation or development of stem cells along specific cell lineages to yield replacement cells for clinical use, whether the replacement cells are formed in vitro for delivery or formed in vivo in the tissue or organ environment.

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47	PA-06-125	NHLBI	01/20/2006	03/01/2006	08/02/2008	R41, R42	Directed Stem Cell Differentiation for Cell Based Therapies for Heart, Lung, Blood, and Aging Diseases (STTR [R41/R42])

The purpose of this FOA is to define the factors and mechanisms controlling the differentiation of embryonic or adult stem or progenitor cells, either in vitro or in vivo. The FOA is designed to stimulate new scientific advances in stem cell differentiation including technology research that may not be hypothesis driven. The long range goal of this program is the development of methods to direct the differentiation or development of stem cells along specific cell lineages to yield replacement cells for clinical use, whether the replacement cells are formed in vitro for delivery or formed in vivo in the tissue or organ environment.

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48	PAR-06-114	NICHD	12/27/2005	n/a	09/02/2008	R01	Research on Pathways Linking Environments, Behaviors and HIV/AIDS (R01)

This announcement invites research on the interrelationships among and pathways linking social, economic, cultural, and institutional environments; prevalence and patterning of individual behaviors related to HIV risk and prevention; and the prevalence, patterning, and spread of HIV infection in a population. This announcement seeks to stimulate innovative approaches to understanding the complex mechanisms involved in the spread of HIV and its consequences in a variety of populations across the globe. This includes the search for, production of and testing of improved models to account for changes in both behavior and biology under different levels of disease prevalence.

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49	PAR-06-104	NCI	12/23/2005	n/a	03/02/2009	R01	Improving Diet and Physical Activity Assessment (R01)

This funding opportunity is aimed at advancing the quality of measurements of dietary intake and physical activity pertinent to cancer and/or other pathologies through support of research on improved instruments, technologies, and/or statistical/analytical techniques. Studies proposed in the grant applications should be aimed at optimizing the combined use of objective and self-report measures of physical activity and/or dietary intake for testing in both general and diverse populations.

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50	RFA-DA-06-011	NIDA	12/23/2005	n/a	03/14/2006	T90	Training in Neuroimaging: Integrating First Principles and Applications (T90)

This funding opportunity will enable the development of novel, interdisciplinary training programs that integrate comprehensive training in basic neuroscience,

the physical and biological bases of neuroimaging, the technologies and analytic methods of in vivo neuroimaging, and the application of these technologies to understanding questions in neuroscience across the life span. Each training program must have two components: a] a pre-doctoral institutional training program and b] a short-term research education program(s) for scientists at all stages of the career continuum who are interested in neuroimaging. The goals of NIH supported research training and research education programs are to help ensure that a diverse pool of highly training scientists is available in adequate numbers and in appropriate scientific areas to address the Nation's biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research needs.

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51	PA-06-105	NINDS	12/22/2005	n/a	11/02/2008	R01	Research On The Cognitive Sequelae Of Parkinson's Disease (R01)

In order to address these recommendations, this PA encourages research on all aspects of cognition in the context of the diagnosis and treatment of PD, the progression of the disease, and its co-morbidity with dementia or other non-motor or neuropsychiatric complications.

The purpose of this initiative is to: 1) focus the attention of neuroscientists on the underlying neurodegenerative processes that affect cognition in Parkinson's disease; 2) promote research on potential therapeutics for cognitive impairment in PD; this includes the development of relevant animal models which can provide greater understanding of cognitive changes in PD, or the development of screens in such models which could test the potential use of therapeutics for cognitive impairments in PD; 3) promote studies of improving diagnostic assessment of cognitive impairments in PD; 4) promote the interaction of cognitive neuroscientists and clinical scientists conducting research in Parkinson's disease patients; 5) develop integrative research programs that advance our understanding of the substrates of cognitive function in health and in Parkinson's disease.

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52	PA-06-106	NINDS	12/22/2005	n/a	03/02/2006	R03	Research On The Cognitive Sequelae Of Parkinson's Disease (R03)

In order to address these recommendations, this PA encourages research on all aspects of cognition in the context of the diagnosis and treatment of PD, the progression of the disease, and its co-morbidity with dementia or other non-motor or neuropsychiatric complications.

The purpose of this initiative is to: 1) focus the attention of neuroscientists on the underlying neurodegenerative processes that affect cognition in Parkinson's disease; 2) promote research on potential therapeutics for cognitive impairment in PD; this includes the development of relevant animal models which can provide greater understanding of cognitive changes in PD, or the development of screens in such models which could test the potential use of therapeutics for cognitive impairments in PD; 3) promote studies of improving diagnostic assessment of cognitive impairments in PD; 4) promote the interaction of cognitive neuroscientists and clinical scientists conducting research in Parkinson's disease patients; 5) develop integrative research programs that advance our understanding of the substrates of cognitive function in health and in Parkinson's disease.

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53	PA-06-107	NINDS	12/22/2005	n/a	03/02/2006	R21	Research On The Cognitive Sequelae Of Parkinson's Disease (R21)

In order to address these recommendations, this PA encourages research on all aspects of cognition in the context of the diagnosis and treatment of PD, the progression of the disease, and its co-morbidity with dementia or other non-motor or neuropsychiatric complications.

The purpose of this initiative is to: 1) focus the attention of neuroscientists on the underlying neurodegenerative processes that affect cognition in Parkinson's disease; 2) promote research on potential therapeutics for cognitive impairment in PD; this includes the development of relevant animal models which can provide greater understanding of cognitive changes in PD, or the development of screens in such models which could test the potential use of therapeutics for cognitive impairments in PD; 3) promote studies of improving diagnostic assessment of cognitive impairments in PD; 4) promote the interaction of cognitive neuroscientists and clinical scientists conducting research in Parkinson's disease patients; 5) develop integrative research programs that advance our understanding of the substrates of cognitive function in health and in Parkinson's disease.

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