



Eunice Kennedy Shriver

NICHD

National Institute of Child Health
& Human Development

Duane Alexander, M.D., Director

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

***NATIONAL ADVISORY CHILD HEALTH
AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL***

June 12, 2008

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of NIH Acronyms	3
Future Council Meeting Dates	4
Personnel Changes - NICHD	4
Personnel Changes - NIH	6
Status of FY 2008, FY 2009 and FY 2010 Budgets	8
Program and Public Liaison Report	9
Conferences and Workshops	12
Requests for Applications (RFAs)	16
Co-Sponsored RFAs	18
Program Announcements (PAs)	20
Co-Sponsored PAs	24
NICHD Items of Interest	30
Awards	32
Publications	33

LIST OF ACRONYMS

NIH INSTITUTES, CENTERS & OFFICES

OD	Office of the Director
NCI	National Cancer Institute
NEI	National Eye Institute
NHLBI	National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
NHGRI	National Human Genome Research Institute
NIA	National Institute on Aging
NIAAA	National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
NIAID	National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
NIAMS	National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases
NICHD	Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
NIDCD	National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders
NIDCR	National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research
NIDDK	National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
NIDA	National Institute on Drug Abuse
NIEHS	National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
NIGMS	National Institute of General Medical Sciences
NIMH	National Institute of Mental Health
NINDS	National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke
NINR	National Institute of Nursing Research
NLM	National Library of Medicine
NIBIB	National Institute for Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering
CC	Warren Grant Magnuson Clinical Center
CIT	Center for Information Technology
NCCAM	National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine
NCRR	National Center for Research Resources
NCMHD	National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities
FIC	John E. Fogarty International Center
CSR	Center for Scientific Review
OAR	Office of AIDS Research
OBSSR	Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research
ODP	Office of Disease Prevention
ODS	Office of Dietary Supplements
ORD	Office of Rare Diseases
ORWH	Office of Research on Women's Health

FUTURE COUNCIL MEETING DATES

September 11, 2008	(Thursday)
January 22, 2009	(Thursday)
June 11, 2009	(Thursday)
September 21, 2009	(Monday)
January 28, 2010	(Thursday)
June 3, 2010	(Thursday)
September 20, 2010	(Monday)

PERSONNEL CHANGES - NICHD

Christine Bachrach, Ph.D., Chief, Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch (DBSB), Center for Population Research (CPR), was appointed as Acting Associate Director for Behavioral and Social Sciences Research and Acting Director of the NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research. Dr. Bachrach will serve in this position until a replacement is named for Dr. David Abrams, who has headed that office and is leaving NIH. Rebecca L. Clark, Ph.D., will assume the position of Acting Chief, DBSB, CPR. Dr. Clark has been a Health Scientist Administrator in DBSB since 2000. Prior to that time she was a Senior Research Associate at the Urban Institute in Washington D.C., working on issues related to immigration and the well-being of children. She served as Chair of the NIH Staff Training in Extramural Programs in 2006-2007.

Hameed Khan, Ph.D., Scientific Review Officer (SRO), Division of Scientific Review (DSR), has retired after 30 years of government service. Dr. Khan has served in a variety of government positions with the Food and Drug Administration and the National Cancer Institute and has been actively involved in the NIH Speakers Bureau and the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Management's Committee to address Asian American/Pacific Islanders employees issues in the NIH workplace.

Peter Zelazowski, Ph.D., has joined the DSR as a SRO. Dr. Zelazowski has previously served as an SRO at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research from 2002 to 2008. Prior to joining NIH, Dr. Zelazowski was a Research Assistant Professor of Pathology at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. A native of Poland, Dr. Zelazowski received his Ph.D. degree in Immunology from the Lodz Medical School in Lodz, Poland.

Daniel Berch, Ph.D., Associate Branch Chief, Child Development and Behavior Branch (CDBB), Center for Research for Mothers and Children (CRMC), retired from government service effective March 14, 2008. Dr. Berch has accepted a position as Associate Dean for Research at the Curry School of Education at the University of Virginia, Charlottesville. Additional CDBB, CRMC, staff changes include the appointment of James Griffin, Ph.D., as Deputy Chief, CDBB, CRMC. In addition to his role as Program Director, Early Learning and School Readiness Program, Dr. Griffin will assume responsibility for assisting with the day-to-day operations of the Branch including oversight of the Branch operating budget and research portfolio funding plans. Lisa Freund, Ph.D., Program Director, Developmental Cognitive Psychology, Behavioral Neuroscience, and Biology Program has been appointed as Associate Chief for Neurobiological Research of the CDBB. In this role she will provide leadership in neuroscience and neurobiology both at the Branch and Institute level, such as the work in NIH Blueprint activities as well as leadership on the ongoing neuroimaging database development activities.

Daniel A. Singer, M.D., M.P.H., F.A.C.P. recently joined the Office of the Director as the Associate Director for Global Health Research and International Activities. As such he will serve as the Director of the Office of Global Health Research and International Activities which was previously known as the Office of Prevention Research and International Programs. He will advise the Institute's Director, Deputy Director, and Senior Scientific Staff on strategic issues related to international health and will work with staff to set international priorities and identify unique opportunities to enhance the Institute's international research collaborations. Dr. Singer received his M.D. degree from the University of Pittsburgh and completed his internal medicine training at the University of Maryland. He has a Masters of Public Health in International Health from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and is a former officer of the Epidemic Intelligence Service. Prior to joining NICHD, Dr. Singer was the Senior Medical Policy Advisor at the U.S. Department of State and their liaison to the Department of Health and Human Services. He is a Commander in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps.

Steven L. Klein, Ph.D., left the NICHD on April 11, 2008, to accept the position of Program Director, Animal Developmental Systems, Division of Integrative Organismal Systems at the National Science Foundation. During his 16 years with this Institute, Dr. Klein served as a Health Scientist Administrator managing the Developmental Biology, Genetics and Teratology Branch's (DBGT) Early Embryonic Development Program. A champion of animal models, he led two important initiatives which have been instrumental in promoting the use of animal models to study birth defects. These include the trans-NIH initiatives on Mouse Mutagenesis and Phenotyping for Developmental Defects, and on Xenopus Genetics and Genomics. His efforts on the latter initiative promoted Xenopus tropicalis as a new genetic model for the study of embryonic development and spearheaded the sequencing of the Xenopus genome and the Xenopus Gene Collection, both of which represent trans-Agency collaborations. As a program officer for DBGT, he served as the point person for all training activities at NICHD and in the NIH arena representing NICHD. In his capacity as the chair of the NICHD's Training Policy

Committee, he helped to oversee and make recommendations regarding the Institute's training and career development programs, managed the second level of review for fellowship applications, and served as the Institute's representative to the NIH Training Advisory Committee.

Mahua Mukhopadhyay, Ph.D., has been appointed as a Health Scientist Administrator in the DBGT Branch. She will manage the Early Embryonic Development Program which supports research and training elucidating the cellular, molecular, and physical mechanisms that direct the formation of the embryonic body plan of complex, multicellular organisms. Dr. Mukhopadhyay comes to the Branch with a wealth of research experience with both the mouse and *Drosophila* model systems. She earned her Ph.D. degree in Biology from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, where she studied the development of neuronal connectivity in the *Drosophila* visual system. For the last nine years, Dr. Mukhopadhyay has worked in the Laboratory of Mammalian Genes and Development, in the NICHD Intramural Program, with Dr. Heiner Westphal, where she had responsibilities for planning, organizing, and coordinating the research activities of postdoctoral fellows, pre-doctoral M.D. fellows, post-baccalaureate fellows and technical staff.

Marion Koso-Thomas, M.D., has joined the Global Network for Women's and Children's Health Research as a Medical Officer. She is a board-certified pediatrician and holds a masters degree in public health, with specific interests in nutrition, maternal and child health, health disparities and health care delivery systems. She has published on diabetes and respiratory disease. She also served as a consultant to the National HIV/AIDS program supported by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), and was a clinician in Sierra Leone. Dr. Koso-Thomas will serve as a program officer in the Global Network, which currently has sites in Argentina, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guatemala, Kenya, India, Pakistan, and Zambia.

PERSONNEL CHANGES - NIH

Josephine Briggs, M.D., has been named Director, National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM). Dr. Briggs will provide oversight and leadership in monitoring the NCCAM \$121 million dollar budget that supports complementary and alternative medicine research. Dr. Briggs received her M.D. degree from Harvard Medical University, completed her residency training in internal medicine and nephrology at Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, followed by a research fellowship in physiology at Yale School of Medicine. Her previous appointments include Director, Division of Kidney, Urologic and Hematologic Diseases, National Institute of

Digestive and Kidney Diseases and Senior Scientific Officer, Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Her research interests include diabetic nephropathy, circadian regulation of blood pressure, and the effect of antioxidants in kidney disease.

Michael P. Johnson, M.D., has been appointed Deputy Director, Fogarty International Center (FIC). Dr. Johnson comes to the FIC from the Office of Global Health Affairs at the Department of Health and Human Services, where he was liaison to the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). He previously held a position in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Caribbean regional office and served as Chief Medical Officer and Director, Division of Training and Technical Assistance for the Ryan White CARE Act in the HIV/AIDS Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration. Dr. Johnson received his M.D. degree from Tufts University School of Medicine and a M.P.H. degree from the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.

Kenneth Warren, Ph.D., has been appointed Deputy Director, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). In this role Dr. Warren will serve as key advisor to the Director, NIAAA, on the issues surrounding alcohol and health. Previously, Dr. Warren held the position of Associate Director for Basic Research. In this position he was responsible for strategic planning, overseeing the Extramural Advisory Board and the Research Strategies Committee; serving as liaison with NIH for planning activities and basic science projects under the NIH roadmap; and providing leadership for NIAAA's Fetal Alcohol Syndrome activities. Dr. Warren has been with NIAAA since 1976.

Department of Health and Human Services Personnel Update

Joxel Garcia, M.D., was confirmed by the U.S. Senate as a Medical Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service and Assistant Secretary for Health of the Department of Health and Human Services. Prior positions include Deputy Director of the Pan American Health Organization, Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Public Health, and Assistant Director of Obstetrics and Gynecology at St. Francis Hospital and Medical Center, Hartford, Connecticut. Dr. Garcia received his medical training at the Ponce School of Medicine, Puerto Rico, and completed his residency training at Mount Sinai Hospital in Hartford specializing in Obstetrics and Gynecology. He is known for his research in the areas of cervical screening and pelvic pain.

STATUS OF FY 2008, 2009 AND 2010 BUDGETSFY 2008

The NIH is operating under the Omnibus legislation for the FY 2008 budget appropriation. Prior to this legislation, the NIH was under a Continuing Resolution (CR) and thus, in keeping with NIH policy, the NICHD was initially awarding non-competing grants at 80 percent of the committed level. The non-competing grants have been restored to 98 percent of their commitments.

The FY 2008 Omnibus Appropriation provides the NICHD with funding at approximately \$600,000 higher than the FY 2007 level. The NICHD estimates support of approximately 392 new and competing grants compared to 536 competing grants in FY 2007 and to the fiscal year 2006 new and competing award level of 423. Noncompeting awards are receiving a 1.0 percent inflationary increase in lieu of the full committed level of 3 percent for all grants.

The NIH “career to research” initiative entitled “Pathways to Independence” supports K99 awards with a concomitant future year R00 award. The NICHD is providing \$1.1 million for 12 awards.

FY 2009

The FY 2009 President’s budget request was released to the public on February 4, 2008. The President’s request for NIH was \$29.2 billion. A total of \$534 million is requested to support Common Fund/Roadmap projects, including the Human Microbiome initiative and the Epigenomics initiative. \$91 million is requested to continue the NIH Director’s Bridge Awards. The request continues to support new investigators with an additional \$71 million for the Pathways to Independence program, which will have in FY 2009 the first cohort of Pathway awards “graduate” into noncompeting RPGs.

The FY 2009 budget request for the NICHD is \$1.255 billion, which represents an increase of \$1.2 million over the FY 2008 budget. The FY 2009 President’s budget does not request funding for the National Children’s Study (NCS). The NICHD FY 2009 Congressional Justification can be viewed at <http://officeofbudget.od.nih.gov/ui/2008/NICHD.pdf>.

This year, the House Committee on Appropriations held its hearing on Health Issues and Opportunities on March 5, 2008. Dr. Zerhouni served as the principal witness for NIH on a panel with Dr. Gerberding for CDC, Dr. Cline for SAMHSA, and Dr. Clancy for AHRQ.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations hearings are cancelled this year.

Included at the end of this Report is the published FY 2009 NICHD President's Budget by funding mechanism. FY 2008 has been updated to reflect the FY 2008 Omnibus legislation.

FY 2010

Preliminary work on the budget for FY 2010 has begun using the FY 2009 President's budget request as the base. After intermediate stages of review, the President's budget request for FY 2010 will be presented to Congress in February 2009, at which time it will become available to the public.

PROGRAM AND PUBLIC LIAISON REPORT

This report on legislative and public liaison activities of interest to Council is current as of May 19, 2008. If warranted, an update will be provided to Council at its June 12, 2008, meeting.

The difficulties Congress faced last year completing the appropriations process for FY 2008 have made the chances of completing Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations legislation for FY 2009 by the end of the fiscal year unlikely. Being an election year, however, members have been anxious to see action on their key bills before adjournment. Several of these bills affect the work supported by NICHD:

Legislation

The following legislation has seen action since the last meeting of Council:

Newborn Screening – On April 24, the Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act became public law, P.L. 110-204. In addition to authorizing new programs through HRSA for education and outreach, and reiterating directives for the development of recommendations for new screening tests by the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children, the bill would establish an interagency coordinating committee (AHRQ, CDC and NIH), and require the collection of data on heritable disorders and regional epidemiological research centers. The NIH is directed to continue carrying out its research in this area, including identifying, developing and testing new newborn screening technologies, as well as supporting research on "experimental treatments and disease management strategies for additional newborn conditions" for which treatment is not yet available. Note: Another bill, H.R. 5919, which

would make a few technical corrections to the new newborn screening law, specifically extending its authorizations dates through FY 2013, also passed both houses of Congress and has been sent to the President.

Traumatic Brain Injury – The Traumatic Brain Injury Act of 2008 became law on April 28, P.L. 110-206. The new law reauthorizes funding for research, treatment, surveillance and education activities through 2012 at NIH, CDC and HRSA. The Secretary, acting through CDC and NIH, is required to report to Congress on activities that can improve the collection and dissemination of epidemiological studies on the incidence and prevalence of traumatic brain injury (TBI) in persons formerly in the military. In consultation with NIH, CDC is also charged with conducting a study to identify common therapeutic interventions currently used for rehabilitation of individuals with this type of injury, as well as those that can prevent secondary neurologic conditions, and with developing practice guidelines for the rehabilitation of TBI.

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) – On May 1, and after a 13-year odyssey, the Senate passed GINA, a bill to prevent health insurers and employers from discriminating in insurance coverage or employment decisions based on an individual's genetic information, or that of their family members. Signed by the President on May 21, the new law will allow U.S. citizens to obtain genetic testing and participate in research – such as research on new newborn screening tests -- without fear of losing their health insurance or jobs.

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (SBTT) Reauthorization Act – On April 23, the House passed H.R. 5819, the SBIR/SBTT Reauthorization Act, which would extend these trans-NIH programs through FY 2010. The percentage (allocation level) of an institute's budget expended on these programs would remain steady at 2.5 percent for SBIR and 0.3 percent for SBTT, although the potential award levels would be increased. In addition, the bill would expand the eligibility criteria for those small businesses that wish to apply for these awards. Amendments were adopted that would also give preference to those applicants that propose projects on rare diseases or nanotechnology, or that are located in high unemployment areas or that have taken steps to reduce carbon emissions.

Prenatally and Postnatally Diagnosed Conditions Awareness Act – Also on April 23, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce reported out H.R. 3112, originally introduced by Rep. James Sensenbrenner (R-WI). This bill would authorize the Secretary of HHS, acting through NIH, CDC and HRSA to make awards to states and other entities to collect and disseminate evidence-based information to individuals and their families about Down syndrome and other conditions diagnosed prenatally or within a year postnatally. H.R. 3112 is a companion (identical) bill to S. 1812, which was reported out of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee in February.

In addition, the following bills relevant to NICHD's research efforts have been introduced:

- Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Community Assistance, Research, and Education (MD-CARE) Amendments of 2008 – On February 7, Rep. Eliot Engel (D-NY) introduced H.R. 5265, and on February 8, Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) introduced S. 2618, to reauthorize the Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Cooperative Research Centers, which NICHD helps to support, and to require the MD Coordinating Committee to give special consideration to testing emerging therapies for various dystrophies.
- Pediatric Research Consortia Establishment Act – Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) introduced S. 2773 on March 13. As the title implies, this bill would direct NICHD, in collaboration with the other Institutes and Centers at NIH, to establish up to 20 pediatric research consortia, each to be funded at up to \$2.5 million annually. Each consortium would be charged with conducting basic, clinical, behavioral, social and translational research in pediatrics, as well as support training.
- Stillbirth Awareness and Research Act of 2008 – on May 6, Rep. Peter King (R-NY) introduced H.R. 5979, to establish through CDC a national stillbirth registry, direct the Secretary to carry out a national campaign to increase public awareness about stillbirth, and convey the sense of Congress that funding for research in this area should be increased.

Briefing

Down syndrome – On May 8, Dr. Yvonne Maddox, Deputy Director, NICHD, provided a briefing on the status of Down syndrome research at the NIH to the newly established Congressional Caucus on Down Syndrome. She also highlighted the trans-NIH Down Syndrome Research Plan, which was completed in October 2007, and outlined NIH's plans for implementing that plan.

Public Liaison

Fragile X – Led by Dr. Tiina Urv, of NICHD's Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Branch, the trans-NIH Fragile X Research Coordinating Group met with scientific experts, representatives from advocacy organizations, patients and family members to develop the basis for the congressionally mandated NIH Fragile X Research Plan on May 7 and 8. The plan is scheduled to be released before the end of FY 2008.

Community Ambassadors – On April 21 and several times over the past year, Dr. Yvonne Maddox has convened several meetings of a group of women influential in their communities to conduct outreach for some of NICHD's intramural clinical trials, hear their feedback on a variety of research-related issues, and discuss various community outreach efforts.

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

- Title:** **International Conference on Genetic and Genomic Medicine**
- Dates:** June 8-11, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** Association of Chinese Geneticists in America; Hong Kong Society of Medical Genetics; Croucher Foundation; Dr. Stanley Ho Medical Development Foundation; Hong Kong University; and Division of Intramural Research (DIR), NICHD
- Location:** University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China
- Purpose:** To provide a platform for basic and clinical scientists performing cutting edge genetic and genomic research in the USA to meet their colleagues from Hong Kong, mainland China and the surrounding areas. The goal is to increase the awareness of the role genetics and genomics play in our daily life among the general public and healthcare providers and to enhance collaboration between scientists and clinicians of the Pacific Rim. The focus of the conference will be on the impact of genetic and genomic research on human biology and medicine.
- Organizer(s):** Dr. Wai-Yee Chan, Head, Section on Developmental Genomics, Laboratory of Clinical Genomics, Program in Reproductive and Adult Endocrinology, DIR, NICHD, and past president and chair of Advisory Council, and the Hong Kong Society of Medical Genetics and Dr. Stephen Lam present president, HKSMG and Professor Paul Tam, Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of Hong Kong
- For Information:** Dr. Wai-Yee Chan
Tel.301-451-8821
Fax 301-480-4700
Email: chanwy@mail.nih.gov
- Title:** **International Adrenal Cortex Conference “Adrenal 2008”**
- Dates:** June 11-14, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** DIR, NICHD; University of Michigan Millie Schembechler Adrenal Cancer Program; Adrenal Cortex Conferences; University of Buffalo; and The American Endocrine Society
- Location:** San Francisco, California
- Purpose:** The conference will focus on the adrenal cortex, a gland that produces the steroid hormones, cortisol and aldosterone, that are essential for life. It will provide a greater opportunity to discuss

new discoveries and their impact on rare diseases specifically related to the adrenal gland. New insights into the role of adrenal stem cells in the differentiation and development of the mouse adrenal cortex; new genes implicated in adrenocortical carcinoma; ACTH resistance syndromes; other forms of adrenal insufficiency, and including newly discovered genes implicated in congenital adrenal hyperplasia will be the major topics.

- Organizer:** Dr. Alexander Brownie, University of Buffalo, Dr. Bernard Schimmer, University of Toronto, and Dr. Maria Dufau, Head, Section on Molecular Endocrinology, Endocrinology and Reproduction Research Branch, Program in Developmental Endocrinology and Genetics, DIR, NICHD
- For Information:** Dr. Maria Dufau
Tel: (301) 496-2021
Fax: (301) 480-8010
Email dufaum@mail.nih.gov
- Title:** **Feeding Families: Social Sciences and Social Epidemiology Approaches to Obesity Research**
- Date:** July 8-9, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** Demographic and Behavioral Sciences Branch (DBSB), Center for Population Research (CPR), and the Obesity Research Strategic Core, NICHD
- Location:** Rockville, Maryland
- Purpose:** To provide a forum for an expert panel discussion of innovative ways to blend approaches from the social sciences and social epidemiology to push forward interdisciplinary approaches to research on childhood obesity.
- Organizer(s):** Drs. Rosalind King and Michael Spittel, DBSB, CPR, NICHD and Dr. Terry Huang, Endocrinology, Nutrition and Growth Branch, Center for Research for Mothers and Children (CRMC), NICHD
- For Information:** Dr. Rosalind King
Tel: (301) 435-6986
Fax: (301) 496-0962
Email: rozking@mail.nih.gov
- Title:** **Gordon Research Conference on Mutagenesis**
- Dates:** July 20-25, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** Gordon Research Conference, NICHD, NCI, NIEHS, and NIA
- Location:** Magdalen College, Oxford, United Kingdom
- Purpose:** The conference will focus on the molecular mechanisms of mutagenesis that give rise to genomic instability. The goals of this

meeting are to identify new avenues of investigation, to define therapeutic strategies for maintenance of genomic integrity, to stimulate collaborations, and to foster the long-term development of this critical research area.

Organizer(s): Dr. Roger Woodgate, Head, Laboratory of Genomic Integrity, Program on Cellular Regulation and Metabolism, DIR, NICHD

For Information: Dr. Roger Woodgate
Tel: (301) 496-6175
Fax: (301) 594-1135
Email woodgate@mail.nih.gov

Title: **2008 Add Health Users Group Conference**

Date: July 24-25, 2008

Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): DBSB, CPR, NICHD; Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, NIH; and Carolina Population Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC)

Location: Natcher Conference Center, NIH Campus

Purpose: A two-day meeting of the investigators, funders, and users of the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health gathered to present research results and discuss methodological issues.

Organizer(s): Dr. Michael L. Spittel, DBSB, NICHD; Dr. Kathleen Mullan Harris, UNC

For Information: Dr. Michael L. Spittel
Tel: (301) 435-6983
Fax: (301) 496-0962
Email: spittelm@mail.nih.gov

Title: **Infections in the High Risk Newborn Infant**

Date: August 7-8, 2008

Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): Pregnancy and Perinatology Branch (PPB), Center for Developmental Biology and Perinatal Medicine (CDBPM), NICHD

Location: The Bolger Center, Potomac, Maryland

Purpose: Nosocomial infection in Newborn Intensive Care Unit (NICU) occurs at high rates and often leads to significant morbidity and mortality. Up to 50 percent of extremely low birth weight infants develop infection in the NICU. This conference will review the existing information with respect to antenatal, perinatal and neonatal management including short term and long term morbidity and mortality for infants with hospital acquired infections. The conference will focus on defining the evidence for the current standards of care or practice guidelines for evaluating

and treating suspected and confirmed neonatal sepsis. This includes current and developing diagnostic tools, optimal antibiotic use (to include minimal exposure), infection control procedures, and antibiotic resistance. The evidence will be critically evaluated at the conference. Current gaps in knowledge in this area will be identified and research priorities will be formulated. The workshop summary will provide NICHD and the scientific community a template to address the scientific and clinical issues related to this most difficult area of perinatal and neonatal care.

Organizer(s):
For Information:

Dr. Rosemary Higgins, PPB, CDBPM, NICHD
Dr. Rosemary Higgins
Tel: (301) 435-7906
Fax: (301) 496-3790
Email: higginsr@mail.nih.gov

Title:
Date:
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):
Location:
Purpose:

Neonatal Hypoglycemia: Opportunities and Challenges
September 8-9, 2008
PPB, CDBPM, NICHD
The Bolger Center, Potomac, Maryland
Neonatal hypoglycemia is the commonest metabolic problem encountered in newborn infants. In fetal life the endocrine system is geared to conserving energy, thus neo-glucogenetic pathways are not fully adapted to extra-uterine conditions after birth in all infants. Thus, transient “hypoglycemia” is an inevitable consequence of birth. Although it has been recognized for a long time, there is limited evidence-based consensus regarding the diagnosis, screening and management of infants at risk for neonatal hypoglycemia. Some issues to be addressed in the workshop include: definition; risk factors; monitoring and screening; maternal management and prevention of neonatal hypoglycemia in IDM; the value of MRI as a diagnostic tool; and brain and blood glucose. The focus will be to identify knowledge gaps and propose a research agenda.

Organizer(s):
For Information:

Dr. Tonse N. K. Raju, PPB, CDBPM, NICHD
Dr. Tonse N. K. Raju
Tel: (301) 402-1872
Fax: (301) 496-3790
Email: rajut@mail.nih.gov

REQUESTS FOR APPLICATIONS

- Title:** RFA-HD-07-022: Nutrition and Prevention, Care, and Treatment of HIV/AIDS (R01)
- Receipt Date(s):** April 10, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** NICHD, NIMH
- Purpose:** This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) solicits applications from domestic or foreign institutions to examine the impact of food and nutrition on prevention, care and treatment of HIV-infected and -affected women, infants, and children. The goal of this program is to further understanding of the relationship between nutrition and HIV infection. This FOA is intended to stimulate and strengthen a multi-disciplinary approach to a complex, under-researched area and to form a basis for future research and clinical care.
- Title:** RFA-HD-07-023: Integration of Food and Nutrition into Prevention, Care, and Treatment of HIV Infection and AIDS (R03)
- Receipt Date(s):** April 10, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** NICHD, NIMH
- Purpose:** This FOA solicits Small Grant (R03) applications from domestic or foreign institutions that propose to expand our appreciation of the scope of nutritional problems in the context of HIV across various regions hard hit by the epidemic and to evaluate the impact of new guidelines (e.g., WHO PEPFAR) regarding use of food and nutrition support in programs designed to address HIV prevention, progression, care, and treatment. This FOA is intended to stimulate and strengthen a multi-disciplinary approach to a complex, under-researched area and to form a basis for future research and clinical care.
- Title:** RFA-HD-08-003: Multi-Drug Combinations to Promote Neurological Recovery in Traumatic Brain Injury (R01)
- Receipt Date(s):** November 28, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** NICHD, NINDS
- Purpose:** This FOA solicits research applications proposing preclinical studies using multi-drug therapies to attenuate neurological injury and/or to enhance recovery after traumatic brain injury (TBI).

- Title:** RFA-HD-08-004: Studies of Antimicrobial and Prebiotic Activity of Oligosaccharides (R01)
- Receipt Date(s):** November 14, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** NICHD
- Purpose:** The goal of this FOA is to stimulate research on how oligosaccharides prevent enteric infections and to develop a new class of antimicrobial therapy to prevent or treat enteric bacterial or viral infections. A key step in reaching this goal is to develop biosynthetic means of producing large enough quantities of oligosaccharides with antimicrobial properties for preclinical tolerance and safety studies and for safety and clinical testing in populations that are exposed to gastrointestinal pathogens. By knowing more about oligosaccharide structures of pathogen binding sites on the surface of the enterocyte, it may be possible to predict which individuals are susceptible to specific bacterial and viral infections and to develop antimicrobial agents based on oligosaccharide structural mimicry of these pathogen binding sites. Studies on the immunomodulatory effects of various oligosaccharides on the function of the intestinal immune system are also encouraged.
- Title:** RFA-HD-08-005: Male Contraceptive Development Program (U01)
- Receipt Date(s):** May 16, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** NICHD
- Purpose:** The aim of this program is to conduct a wide range of research, both basic and applied, with the ultimate goal of developing clinically useful contraceptive products for men.
- Title:** RFA-HD-08-012: Innovations in Lower Limb Prostheses Attachment (R01)
- Receipt Date(s):** July 29, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** NICHD
- Purpose:** This FOA solicits research applications that propose to develop advanced methodologies to enhance soft tissue integration and to eliminate infection for lower limb prostheses in direct skeletal attachment.
- Title:** RFA-HD-08-013: Gender, Youth and HIV Risk (R01)
- Receipt Date(s):** July 29, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** NICHD
- Purpose:** This FOA solicits research applications that propose to study the

developmental and environmental processes contributing to HIV risk in individuals under the age of 24. It calls for studies focusing on HIV risk in specific settings around the globe where HIV prevalence is high or increasing and relevant environmental contexts are changing rapidly.

Title: RFA-HD-08-017: Gender, Youth and HIV Risk (R21)
Receipt Date: July 29, 2008
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NICHD, NIMH
Purpose: This FOA solicits exploratory/developmental applications that propose to study the developmental and environmental processes contributing to HIV risk in individuals under the age of 24. It calls for studies focusing on HIV risk in specific settings around the globe where HIV prevalence is high or increasing and relevant environmental contexts are changing rapidly.

CO-SPONSORED REQUESTS FOR APPLICATIONS

Title: RFA-OD-08-001: Rare Diseases Clinical Research Consortia (RDCRC) for the Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network (U54)
Receipt Date(s): August 20, 2008
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): ORD, NCI, NHLBI, NIA, NIAAA, NIAID, NIAMS, NICHD, NIDCR, NIDDK, NINDS
Purpose: The purpose of this cooperative agreement research program is to facilitate clinical research in rare diseases through support for 1) collaborative clinical research in rare diseases, including longitudinal studies of individuals with rare diseases, clinical studies, and/or phase I, II and II/III trials; 2) training of clinical investigators in rare diseases research; 3) pilot and demonstration projects; 4) a test bed for distributed clinical data management that incorporates novel approaches and technologies for data management, data mining, and data sharing across rare diseases, data types, and platforms; and 5) access to information related to rare diseases for basic and clinical researchers, academic and practicing physicians, patients, and the lay public.

- Title:** RFA-RR-08-003: Tools for Germplasm Cryopreservation (SBIR [R43/R44])
- Receipt Date(s):** July 23, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** NCRR, NICHD, NIGMS
- Purpose:** This FOA solicits applications for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) projects that propose innovative research in the areas of animal germplasm cryopreservation methods, reagents, equipment, biosecurity, and the detection of disease, including the vertical transmission of disease.
- Title:** RFA-RR-08-004: Tools for Germplasm Cryopreservation (STTR [R41/R42])
- Receipt Date(s):** July 23, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** NCRR, NICHD, NIGMS
- Purpose:** This FOA solicits applications for Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) projects that propose innovative research in the areas of animal germplasm cryopreservation methods, reagents, equipment, biosecurity, and the detection of disease, including the vertical transmission of disease.
- Title:** RFA-MH-09-030: Probes and Instrumentation for Monitoring and Manipulating Nervous System Plasticity (R01)
- Receipt Date(s):** September 16, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** NCCAM, NCRR, NEI, NIA, NIAAA, NIBIB, NICHD, NIDCD, NIDCR, NIDA, NIEHS, NIGMS, NIMH, NINDS, NINR, OBSSR
- Purpose:** This FOA is issued as an initiative of the NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research. The Neuroscience Blueprint is a collaborative framework through which 16 NIH Institutes, Centers and Offices jointly support neuroscience-related research, with the aim of accelerating discoveries and reducing the burden of nervous system disorders. Applications are solicited for support of projects that will develop probes, instrumentation, and other tools for understanding, monitoring, and manipulating nervous system plasticity. This FOA will focus on the development of tools or techniques that will significantly advance the current state of the art in neuroplasticity research.

PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Title: PA-08-059: Role of Adipose Tissue as an Endocrine Organ in Reproduction and Infertility (R01)
Receipt Date(s): Standard Receipt Dates
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NICHD
Purpose: This FOA encourages research grant applications from institutions/ organizations that propose to better understand the role of adipose tissue in the normal physiological regulation of reproduction, to discern its possible role in the etiology of diseases and disorders that impact human fertility, and to probe its potential importance in different racial/ethnic prevalence rates of certain reproductive disorders.

Title: PA-08-060: Role of Adipose Tissue as an Endocrine Organ in Reproduction and Infertility (R21)
Receipt Date(s): Standard Receipt Dates
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NICHD
Purpose: The purpose of this initiative is to announce the interest of the NICHD in stimulating research that seeks to better understand the role of adipose tissue in the normal physiological regulation of reproduction and to discern its possible role in the etiology of diseases and disorders that impact fertility.

Title: PA-08-068: The Science and Ecology of Early Development (SEED) [R03]
Receipt Date(s): Standard Receipt Dates
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NICHD, NIDA, NIAAA
Purpose: This FOA encourages small research grant applications focused on the mechanisms through which social, economic, cultural, and community-level factors, and their interactions, impact the early cognitive, neurobiological, socio-emotional, and physical development of children.

Title: PA-08-069: The Science and Ecology of Early Development (SEED) [R01]
Receipt Date(s): Standard Receipt Dates
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NICHD, NIDA, NIAAA
Purpose: This FOA encourages investigator-initiated research grant applications focused on the mechanisms through which social,

economic, cultural, and community-level factors, and their interactions, impact the early cognitive, neurobiological, socio-emotional, and physical development of children.

Title: PAR-08-096: Extramural Associates Research Development Award (EARDA) (G11)
Receipt Date(s): April 25, 2008, February 24, 2009, February 24, 2010
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NICHD
Purpose: The EARDA is designed to facilitate the development or strengthening of the research administration infrastructure and build capacity (i.e. the ability of individuals and organizations to perform effectively, efficiently, and in a sustainable manner) in research administration in domestic women's colleges and public or private four-year or two-year institutions with a traditionally significant to high ethnic minority student enrollment and which offers undergraduate, graduate or professional degrees. The overall goal is to enable institutions to provide support for the technical development of research grant proposals, to provide thorough oversight and the administrative management of grant awards, and to foster and facilitate ongoing research activities at the institution.

Title: PAR-08-102: Leiomyomata Uteri: Basic Science, Translational and Clinical Research (R01)
Receipt Date(s): May 20, 2008, May 20, 2009, May 20, 2010
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NICHD, NIEHS, ORWH
Purpose: The purpose of this FOA encourages new and experienced investigators to submit high quality research grant applications with the goal of transforming advances in our understanding of the molecular basis of leiomyomata uteri (uterine fibroids) into new therapeutic options for prevention, treatment, and cure of this common benign gynecologic disorder. This solicitation focuses on basic science, translational, and clinical research studies that are innovative in their approach to determine the complex molecular basis of this disorder and approaches to clinical applications that improve outcomes.

Title: PA-08-103: Adverse Outcomes of Assisted Reproductive Technologies (P01)
Receipt Date(s): Standard Receipt Dates
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NICHD
Purpose: This FOA, encourages Program Project Grant (P01) applications

that propose to study the ways in which Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART) may affect eggs, sperm and preimplantation embryos that could, in turn, lead to adverse outcomes during fetal development, the perinatal period, childhood, adulthood or even subsequent generations. While most ART offspring appear to be healthy and developing normally, there are some reports of adverse outcomes and some concerns owing to the variety and type of ART protocols in use. This FOA encourages applications on human subjects and animal models that can include a wide variety of basic, clinical and epidemiological approaches, multidisciplinary, interactive and synergistic program projects to address some of these issues.

Title: PA-08-104: Adverse Outcomes of Assisted Reproductive Technologies (R01)
Receipt Date(s): Standard Receipt Dates
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NICHD
Purpose: This FOA encourages Research Project Grant (R01) applications that propose to study the ways in which Assisted Reproductive Technologies (ART) may affect eggs, sperm and preimplantation embryos that could, in turn, lead to adverse outcomes during fetal development, the perinatal period, childhood, adulthood or even subsequent generations. While most ART offspring appear to be healthy and developing normally, there are some reports of adverse outcomes and some concerns owing to the variety and type of ART protocols in use. This FOA encourages applications on human subjects and animal models that can include a wide variety of basic, clinical and epidemiological approaches.

Title: PAR-08-105: Optimizing Technologies for the Preservation of Fertility (R21)
Receipt Date(s): September 16, 2008
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NICHD, NCI
Purpose: This FOA solicits applications that propose to develop or enhance technologies designed to increase the fertility preservation options for individuals who are or may become infertile secondary to chronic disease or disease treatment, exposure to environmental or occupational hazards, advanced reproductive age, or genetic predisposition. These technologies may be developed and applied in animal models or clinical studies.

- Title:** PAR-08-106: Limited Competition for the Academic-Community Partnership Conference Series (U13)
- Receipt Date(s):** June 17, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** NICHD
- Purpose:** This limited competition solicits NIH Cooperative Agreement Conference (U13) applications from current Extramural Associates Research Development Award (EARDA) awardees to conduct health disparities-related meetings, workshops and symposia. The objectives of these meetings will be to establish academic-community partnerships, identify community research priorities, and develop long-term research agendas. Areas of focus for these partnerships may include one or more of the following community health issues: infant mortality; violence prevention; childhood, adolescent and/or adult obesity; literacy; fibroid tumors; pediatric and maternal HIV/AIDS prevention; and/or techniques for outreach and information dissemination. Applicants for this U13 program are expected to propose a series of meetings/workshops/symposia designed to: (1) define the targeted community; (2) establish partnerships between academic institutions and the local community, including but not limited to schools and school communities; (3) identify the community's views of its health problems; and (4) develop a research agenda aligning the community's identified health problems and the EARDA institution's research priorities.
- Title:** PAR-07-145: Enhancing Zebrafish Research with Research Tools and Techniques (R01)
- Receipt Date(s):** September 17, 2008, September 17, 2009, September 17, 2010
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** NIDDK, NICHD, NCI, NEI, NHLBI, NHGRI, NIAAA, NIDCD, NIDCR, NIDA, NIEHS, NIGMS, NIMH, NINDS
- Purpose:** This FOA encourages investigator-initiated applications designed to exploit the power of the zebrafish as a vertebrate model for biomedical and behavioral research. Applications proposing to develop new research tools or techniques that are of high priority to the zebrafish community and that will advance the detection and characterization of genes, pathways, and phenotypes of interest in development and aging, organ formation, neural processes, behavior, sensory processing, physiological processes, and disease processes are welcome.

Title: PAR-08-138: Genetic Screens to Enhance Zebrafish Research (R01)
Receipt Date(s): September 24, 2008, September 24, 2009, September 24, 2010
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NICHD, NCI, NHLBI, NIA, NIAAA, NIAMS, NIDCD, NIDCR, NIDDK, NIDA, NIEHS, NIMH, NINDS
Purpose: This FOA encourages investigator-initiated applications designed to exploit the power of the zebrafish as a vertebrate model for biomedical and behavioral research. Applications proposing to develop new genetic screens of high priority to the zebrafish community that will advance the detection and characterization of genes, pathways, and phenotypes of interest in development and aging, organ formation, neural processes, behavior, sensory processes, physiological processes, and disease processes are welcome.

Title: PAR-08-163: Indo-US Program on Maternal and Child Health and Human Development Research (MCHDR) (R03)
Receipt Date(s): July 30, 2008
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NICHD
Purpose: The Republic of India and the United States of America invite collaborative research projects involving U.S. and Indian investigators to enhance maternal and child health, disease prevention, product development and/or technology transfer. The MCHDR program places specific emphasis on the need for more "translational" types of research intended to move beyond basic science and discovery to product development and delivery, and improved care for women, infants and children. An emphasis will also be placed on studies addressing social and behavioral factors affecting prevention, care, and treatment of disease/poor health in women, infants, and children.

CO-SPONSORED PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Title: PAR-08-065: NIH Revision Awards for Studying Interactions Among Social, Behavioral, and Genetic Factors in Health (R01)
Receipt Date(s): May 13, 2008
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): OBSSR, ODS, NCI, NCCAM, NEI, NHGRI, NIA, NIAAA, NIAMS, NICHD, NIDCD, NIDCR, NIDDK, NIDA, NIMH, NINDS, NINR

- Purpose:** This FOA solicits research applications for human and non-human studies to advance our understanding of the interactions among genetic, social and behavioral factors that influence the processes affecting variability in disease and health progression and outcomes. This program is focused on questions concerning the effects of (1) the interaction of genetic and social or behavioral factors and (2) gene-environment-behavioral interactions; and to better understand how the interaction of behaviors and social environmental factors affect gene expression, disease and behavior phenotypes and health outcomes.
- Title:** PAR-08-066: NIH Revision Awards for Studying Interactions Among Social, Behavioral, and Genetic Factors in Health (R21)
- Receipt Date(s):** May 13, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** OBSSR, ODS, NCI, NCCAM, NHGRI, NIA, NIAAA, NIAMS, NICHD, NIDCR, NIDA, NIMH, NINDS, NINR
- Purpose:** This FOA solicits exploratory/developmental applications for human and non-human studies to advance our understanding of the interactions among genetic, social and behavioral factors that influence the processes affecting variability in disease and health progression and outcomes. This program is focused on questions concerning the effects of (1) the interaction of genetic and social or behavioral factors and (2) gene-environment-behavioral interactions; and to better understand how the interaction of behaviors and social environmental factors affect gene expression, disease and behavior phenotypes and health outcomes.
- Title:** PAR-08-067: NIH Revision Awards for Studying Interactions Among Social, Behavioral, and Genetic Factors in Health (P01, P20, P50, P60, U01, U10, U54)
- Receipt Date(s):** May 13, 2008
- Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s):** OBSSR, NCCAM, NIA, NIAAA, NIAMS, NICHD, NIDCR, NIDA, NIMH, NINDS, NINR
- Purpose:** This FOA solicits research applications for human and non-human studies to advance our understanding of the interactions among genetic, social and behavioral factors that influence the processes affecting variability in disease and health progression and outcomes. This program is focused on questions concerning the effects of (1) the interaction of genetic and social and/or behavioral factors (2) gene-environment-behavioral interactions; and (3) how

the interaction of behaviors and social environmental factors affect gene expression, disease and behavior phenotypes and health outcomes.

Title: PA-08-074: Community Participation in Research (R01)
Receipt Date(s): Standard Receipt Dates
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): OBSSR, NCI, NHLBI, NICHD, NIDCR, NIEHS, NINR, NIAAA, NIMH, NIDCD, NIDA, NIOSH
Purpose: This FOA solicits R01 grant applications that propose intervention research on health promotion, disease prevention, and health disparities that communities and researchers jointly conduct.

Title: PAR-08-075: Community Participation Research Targeting the Medically Underserved (R01)
Receipt Date(s): May 16, 2008, May 15, 2009 and May 14, 2010
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): OBSSR, ORWH, NCI, NICHD, NIDCR, NIEHS, NINR, NIAAA, NIMH, NIDCD, NIDA
Purpose: This FOA solicits applications that propose research on health promotion, disease prevention, and health disparities that is jointly conducted by communities and researchers and targets medically underserved areas (MUAs) and medically underserved populations (MUPs) as defined by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Title: PAR-08-076: Community Participation Research Targeting the Medically Underserved (R21)
Receipt Date(s): May 16, 2008, May 15, 2009, May 14, 2010
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): OBSSR, NCI, NIAMS, NICHD, NIEHS, NINR, NIAAA, NIMH, NIDCD, NIDA
Purpose: The goal of this FOA is to solicit exploratory/development applications that propose research on health promotion, disease prevention, and health disparities that is jointly conducted by communities and researchers and targets medically underserved areas (MUAs) and medically underserved populations (MUPs) as defined by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Title: PA-08-099: Mechanisms of Functional Recovery After Stroke
Receipt Date(s): Standard Receipt Dates
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NINDS, NIA, NICHD, NIDCD
Purpose: This FOA solicits applications that propose to find brain

mechanisms to improve and develop new approaches to functional recovery after stroke. In the last decade the major research efforts were directed toward treatment of the acute stroke: reestablishing perfusion of the affected areas, and minimizing the neuronal damage. Post-stroke rehabilitation is a significant component of stroke treatment in the clinic, but most rehabilitation practices are empirical, rely on behavioral approaches, and are not based on data from large-scale randomized, controlled clinical trials. Relatively little research has been done on the mechanisms of brain repair and plasticity and their relation to behavioral and functional recovery, which are crucial for patients with lifetime consequences of this catastrophic event. This FOA seeks to expand studies on basic brain mechanisms of repair and plasticity after stroke, and on factors that influence these mechanisms.

Title: PA-08-100: Mechanisms of Functional Recovery After Stroke (R21)

Receipt Date(s): Standard Receipt Dates

Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NINDS, NIA, NICHD, NIDCD

Purpose: This FOA solicits applications that propose to find brain mechanisms to improve and develop new approaches to functional recovery after stroke. In the last decade the major research efforts were directed toward treatment of the acute stroke: reestablishing perfusion of the affected areas, and minimizing the neuronal damage. Post-stroke rehabilitation is a significant component of stroke treatment in the clinic, but most rehabilitation practices are empirical, rely on behavioral approaches, and are not based on data from large-scale randomized, controlled clinical trials. Relatively little research has been done on the mechanisms of brain repair and plasticity and their relation to behavioral and functional recovery, which are crucial for patients with lifetime consequences of this catastrophic event. This FOA seeks to expand studies on basic brain mechanisms of repair and plasticity after stroke, and on factors that influence these mechanisms.

Title: PA-08-107: Prevention Research with HIV Positive Individuals (R01)

Receipt Date(s): Standard Receipt Dates

Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NIMH, NINR, NICHD

Purpose: This FOA invites research grants to support interdisciplinary studies addressing the psychosocial and behavioral consequences of HIV disease. Over the past decade, secondary prevention in

HIV disease, or “positive prevention”, has received a much needed increase in attention. Gains have been made toward the aim of decreasing HIV transmission behaviors and improving quality of life among individuals living with HIV/AIDS, as well as understanding factors that are important to healthy coping. In this program announcement, further opportunities for innovation in this field are indicated.

Title: PA-08-108: Prevention Research with HIV Positive Individuals (R03)

Receipt Date(s): Standard Receipt Dates

Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NIMH, NINR, NICHD

Purpose: This FOA invites small grants to support interdisciplinary studies addressing the psychosocial and behavioral consequences of HIV disease. Over the past decade, secondary prevention in HIV disease, or “positive prevention”, has received a much needed increase in attention. Gains have been made toward the aim of decreasing HIV transmission behaviors and improving quality of life among individuals living with HIV/AIDS, as well as understanding factors that are important to healthy coping. In this program announcement, further opportunities for innovation in this field are indicated. The R03 grant mechanism supports different types of projects including pilot and feasibility studies; secondary analysis of existing data; small, self-contained research projects; development of research methodology; and development of new research technology. The R03 is intended to support small research projects that can be carried out in a short period of time with limited resources.

Title: PA-08-109: Prevention Research with HIV Positive Individuals (R21)

Receipt Date(s): Standard Receipt Dates

Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NIMH, NINR, NICHD

Purpose: This FOA invites exploratory/developmental grants to support interdisciplinary studies addressing the psychosocial and behavioral consequences of HIV disease. Over the past decade, secondary prevention in HIV disease, or “positive prevention”, has received a much needed increase in attention. Gains have been made toward the aim of decreasing HIV transmission behaviors and improving quality of life among individuals living with

HIV/AIDS, as well as understanding factors that are important to healthy coping. In this program announcement, further opportunities for innovation in this field are indicated.

Title: PAR-08-112: Brain Disorders in the Developing World: Research Across the Lifespan (R01)

Receipt Date(s): May 16, 2008; May 15, 2009; May 14, 2010

Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): FIC, NIA, NIAAA, NICHD, NIDA, NIEHS, NINDS, ODS/OD, INMHA/CIHR

Purpose: This FOA encourages research grant applications proposing the development and conduct of innovative, collaborative research and research training projects, between High Income country (HIC) and low- to middle-income country (LMIC) scientists, on nervous system function and disorders throughout life, relevant to LMICs. The collaborative research programs are expected to contribute to the long-term goals of building sustainable research capacity in LMICs to address nervous system development, function and impairment throughout life and to lead to diagnostics, treatment and prevention strategies that are applicable worldwide.

Title: PAR-08-113: Brain Disorders in the Developing World: Research Across the Lifespan (R21)

Receipt Date(s): May 16, 2008, May 15, 2009; May 14, 2010

Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): FIC, NIA, NIAAA, NICHD, NIDA, NIEHS, NINDS, ODS, INMHA/CIHR

Purpose: This FOA encourages exploratory/developmental planning grant applications proposing the development of innovative, collaborative research and research training projects, between high income country (HIC) and low-to middle-income country (LMIC) scientists, on brain and other nervous system function and disorders throughout life, relevant to LMICs. The planning grants are expected to lead to full research programs which contribute to the long-term goals of building sustainable research capacity in LMICs to address nervous system development, function and impairment throughout life and to lead to diagnostics, prevention, and treatment strategies that are applicable worldwide.

Title: PAR-08-139: Enhancing Zebrafish Research with Research Tools and Techniques (R01)

Receipt Date(s): September 17, 2008, September 17, 2009, September 17, 2010

Sponsor/Co-Sponsor(s): NIDDK, NICHD, NCI, NEI, NHLBI, NHGRI, NIAAA, NIDCD, NIDCR, NIDA, NIEHS, NIGMS, NIMH, NINDS

Purpose: This FOA encourages investigator-initiated applications designed to exploit the power of the zebrafish as a vertebrate model for biomedical and behavioral research. Applications proposing to develop new research tools or techniques that are of high priority to the zebrafish community and that will advance the detection and characterization of genes, pathways, and phenotypes of interest in development and aging, organ formation, neural processes, behavior, sensory processing, physiological processes, and disease processes are welcome.

NICHD ITEMS OF INTEREST

Extramural Associates Program, Division of Special Population

The American Psychiatric Association recently announced the members of the work groups that will review scientific advances and research based information to develop the fifth edition of the DSM-V (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (fifth edition)). Dr. Regina Smith James, Director of the Extramural Associates Program, Division of Special Populations, has been nominated to serve on the Disorders in Childhood and Adolescence Work Group. Members were chosen for their expertise in research and clinical care, and are composed of world renowned scientific researchers and clinicians with expertise in neuroscience, biology, genetics, statistics, epidemiology, public health, nursing, pediatrics and social work.

NICHD partnered with the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) and the National Council of La Raza to host a workshop focused on the NIH public trust initiative, opportunities for community engagement, and NIH research opportunities. Dr. Regina Smith James discussed public trust as a top priority of the National Institutes of Health, the NIH Public Trust Initiative, and opportunities for community engagement through NICHD. This meeting was held at the National Council of La Raza Headquarters in Washington D.C. on April 21, 2008. The meeting provided a forum for the general public and the research advocacy community to discuss ways in which they could learn about and actively engage in NIH research and research planning.

Obesity Research Strategic Core

The NICHD is leading the way to develop and implement a multilevel public health approach to address the issue of childhood and maternal obesity. This encompasses new research directions, new training activities, and new partnerships and alliances with domestic and global organizations that share the same cause. In order to increase the NICHD's visibility in the fight

against childhood and maternal obesity and to provide the Institute with greater opportunity to move the field ahead, with support from the NICHD Deputy Director, Dr. Yvonne Maddox and NICHD staff, Dr. Alexander, Director, NICHD announced the creation of the NICHD Obesity Research Strategic Core (ORSC). The ORSC will: (1) lead a multilevel, integrative approach to childhood and maternal obesity by coalescing obesity research and translation activities across the NICHD; (2) serve as an advisory body on future directions of obesity-related activities; (3) coordinate and facilitate the implementation of an agenda with broad domestic and international impact on childhood obesity; and (4) serve as a resource for cross-disciplinary, systems research on complex public health issues.

The NICHD ORSC will be a virtual center housed in the Office of the Director, drawing on staff invested in obesity research from across the Institute. Dr. Terry Huang, Endocrinology, Nutrition and Growth Branch, Center for Research for Mothers and Children, has accepted the charge to direct the ORSC, and Dr. Layla Esposito will serve as the ORSC coordinator. Because the ORSC is virtual, staff will remain in their current administrative units but develop initiatives jointly, share information on a regular basis, meet formally three times a year, and provide advice to the ORSC on future directions. In addition, external experts will be invited to the NICHD to provide consultation.

International Programs

NICHD, together with other NIH Institutes and Centers, HRSA, CDC and the Ministry of Health of the Arab Republic of Egypt sponsored the 2nd Conference of the Middle East and North Africa Newborn Screening Initiative: Partnerships for Sustainable Newborn Screening Infrastructure and Research Opportunities. This meeting was held in Cairo, April 12-14, 2008, and is a follow-up to the regional meeting held in November 2006 in Morocco. Planning for the meeting was done by a steering committee consisting of U.S., European, and regional members. The meeting provided a forum for regional researchers, health care providers, and policymakers to develop country plans, and for participants to discuss research infrastructure, partnerships, and obtain state of the science technical updates. Dr. Rodney Howell led the U.S. delegation consisting of Drs. James Hanson, Danuta Krotoski, Michele Hindi Alexander and Ms. Sorrel Namaste from NICHD as well as Dr. Peter Van Dyke from HRSA and Dr. Joanne Mei from CDC. After the meeting, Drs. Hanson and Krotoski had the opportunity to meet with the Maternal and Child Health team at the Eastern Mediterranean Regional Office of the World Health Organization

The Indo-US program on maternal and child health and human development research (MCHDR) has reissued its PAR for FY09. Applications will be reviewed in the fall and presented at the January 2009 session of Council. This solicitation continues to utilize the NIH Small Grant (R03) mechanism and continues to cover a wide range of subjects in the realm of MCH clinical, basic and behavioral science research.

The NICHD on behalf of Indo-US program on contraception and reproductive health research (CRHR) has published for the first time in its long and productive history an RFA. The primary reason for moving to an RFA utilizing the R01 mechanism rather than the small grant/R03 approach is because as the program has matured the need to step up Institute “translational” activities and be more aggressive about development of products that can be put “on the ground” has taken precedence over our historical focus on basic science.

As in the past, these projects will represent a partnership between NICHD and our collaborating Indian institution, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT). Thus, the U.S. contributions (up to 250k/year) will be matched by DBT making funds available for these projects quite substantial.

William J. Martin II, M.D., Associate Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and Director of the Office of Translational Research at NIEHS is on a six month detail in the Office of Global Health Research and International Activities. Dr. Martin will help develop a program in environmental health sciences related to women and children that could form the basis for a new partnership between NICHD and NIEHS. Specifically, Dr. Martin is interested in determining the adverse health effects to women and children from burning of biomass fuels for cooking and heating in the developing world.

AWARDS

Dr. Deborah Henken, Program Director, Developmental Biology, Genetics and Teratology Branch, Center for Developmental Biology and Perinatal Medicine (CDBPM) is the recipient of the 2008 Association for Women in Science (Bethesda Chapter) Excellence in Mentoring Award. The award is “In recognition of extraordinary contributions toward the mentoring of young women and men in science.”

Dr. Catherine Spong, Chief, Pregnancy and Perinatology Branch, CDBPM, is the 2008 recipient of the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine Achievement Award. The award is presented annually to a recognize national leader who has made significant contributions to the Society and specialty. The award recognizes Dr. Spong for her contributions in the field of maternal-fetal medicine.

PUBLICATIONS**Division of Intramural Research Annual Report 2007**

This volume documents the research accomplishments and scientific discoveries of the Principal Investigators in the NICHD intramural program. Beginning with the Scientific Director's Preface, it then describes each program's research focus, and also highlights the year's workshops and symposia organized by NICHD intramural scientists. Individual entries across the report include a list of lab personnel, key projects for 2007, selected publications, and a record of collaborators. Please contact Carol Carnahan at (301) 954-5984 to obtain a copy of this report.

Division of Special Populations

This four-page handout describes the mission and functions of the NICHD Division of Special Populations. The handout explains the programs supported through the Division, including the NIH-wide Extramural Associates Program, the Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research, and the Academic-Community Partnership Conference Series program, and provides contact information for the Division. Copies of this item are available by contacting the Division at (301).435.2723.

Innovations: Future Solutions Now (Spring-Summer 2008)

This e-update, released electronically by the NICHD National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research, aims to recognize progress and disseminate information about the many innovations made in the field of medical rehabilitation as a result of NICHD funding. This item is available online only through the NICHD Web site at <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/about/org/ncmrr/>.

Media-Smart Youth: Eat, Think, and Be Active! Packet for Training Program Facilitators

This packet includes everything needed to conduct full day and half day train-the-trainer sessions for Media-Smart Youth: Eat, Think, and Be Active!—an interactive after-school education program that helps young people ages 11 to 13 understand the complex media world around them and how it can influence their health, especially in regard to nutrition and physical activity. The Training Guide Packet includes both full-day and half-day training guides, a CD-ROM of presentations used in the training, and complete sets of handouts for facilitator trainees. Those who order the Training Guide Packet will also receive a single copy of the Media-Smart Youth: Eat, Think, and Be Active! Program Packet, which includes the Facilitator's Guide, VHS tape/DVD, and poster.

Obstetric and Pediatric Pharmacology Branch (OPPB), NICHD, Report to the NACHHD Council, January 2008

This scientific report describes research and research training supported by the NICHD's OPPB as of January 2008 that relate to pediatric pharmacology research, including efforts of the Pediatric Pharmacology Research Unit Network and activities for the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act, and obstetric pharmacology research, including the activities of the Obstetric Pharmacology Research Unit Network. The final section of the report outlines recommendations for the Branch's future research directions, which resulted from consultation with a panel of experts in fields related to OPPB research.

Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS): Beyond Infertility

This 32-page booklet describes the common symptoms, features, and other disorders associated with PCOS, the most common cause of anovulatory infertility in the United States. The booklet also describes some of the ongoing research conducted and supported by the NICHD on PCOS and provides contact information for organizations that can provide additional information, services, and support to women affected by PCOS and their families.

All of the above items (unless otherwise specified) are available at no charge from the NICHD Information Resource Center at 1-800-370-2943, or by calling the Public Information and Communications Branch at (301) 496-5133. You can also view, download, and order copies of the above items (unless otherwise specified) through the NICHD Web site at <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/publications>.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF CHILD HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
Status of FY 2007, 2008 and 2009 Budgets
(Dollars in thousands)

Includes AIDS

Mechanism	FY 2007		FY 2008		FY 2009	
	Actuals		Budget Omnibus*		President's Budget Requested	
	No.	Amount	No.	Amount	No.	Amount
<u>Research Grants</u>						
<u>Research Projects</u>						
Noncompeting	1,180	\$475,914	1,254	\$517,369	1,191	\$492,745
Administrative Supplements	(55)	4,464	(55)	4,464	(55)	4,464
Competing	536	172,674	392	126,326	452	145,625
Subtotal	1,716	653,052	1,646	648,159	1,643	642,834
SBIR/STTR	100	29,090	100	29,061	100	29,061
Subtotal, RPG	1,816	682,142	1,746	677,220	1,743	671,895
<u>Research Centers</u>						
Specialized/Comprehensive	50	65,505	50	63,505	50	63,505
Clinical Research	0	0	0	0	0	0
Biotechnology	0	243	0	234	0	234
Comparative Medicine	0	233	0	0	0	0
Res. Centers in Minority Instit.	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal, Centers	50	65,981	50	63,739	50	63,739
<u>Other Research</u>						
Research Careers	294	49,104	294	49,535	294	49,535
Cooperative Clinical Research	96	39,243	96	41,232	96	41,232
Other	143	24,099	143	22,479	143	22,479
Subtotal, Other Research	533	112,446	533	113,246	533	113,246
Total Research Grants	2,399	860,569	2,329	854,205	2,326	848,880
<u>Training</u>	<u>F</u>		<u>F</u>		<u>F</u>	
Individual	103	4,652	103	4,652	103	4,682
Institutional	769	33,702	769	33,702	769	33,918
Total Training	872	38,354	872	38,354	872	38,600
Research & Develop. Contracts (SBIR/STTR)	294	139,830	294	142,727	294	145,727
	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Intramural Research		159,375		162,590		165,029
Res. Management & Support		56,016		56,832		57,684
Total, NICHD		1,254,144		1,254,708		1,255,920

