

OCTOBER 2006

The Research ADVOCATE

Bringing Research Closer to Home

Wallace, Satcher Among 2007 Advocacy Award Honorees

Mike Wallace, mental health research advocate and world-renowned journalist, will be recognized at the Research!America 2007 Advocacy Awards gala with our Isadore Rosenfeld Award for Impact on Public Opinion.

David Satcher, MD, PhD, director, Center for Excellence on Health Disparities, Poussaint-Satcher-Cosby Chair in Mental Health, Morehouse

School of Medicine, and the 16th Surgeon General of the United

States, will receive the Raymond and Beverly Sackler Award for Sustained



Mike Wallace



David Satcher, MD, PhD

Leadership at the National Level.

Our 2007 Advocacy Awards will be presented during a dinner gala March 20, 2007, at the Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium in Washington, DC. **GlaxoSmithKline** is the corporate host and **PARADE magazine** is the media sponsor.

Wallace has brought new understanding and hope to sufferers of depression and other mental illnesses by speaking candidly and in great detail about his descents into and recoveries from depression. He has reached millions

Continued on page 5

U.S. Spending Less on Health Research Relative to Rising Health Costs

The U.S. investment in health-related research grew a modest 2.2% in 2005, much slower than the 7.4% growth in health costs, according to “**2005 Investment in U.S. Health Research**,” released by Research!America. The report was covered in the September 13 issue of *JAMA, the Journal of the American Medical Association*.

The nation spent approximately

\$111 billion last year on research to find new ways to treat, cure and prevent disease and disability. That amount represents a decrease relative to total health costs. *For every dollar spent on health overall, 5.5 cents went to research in 2005—compared to 5.8 cents in 2004—the smallest portion since 2001.*

“This is a trend we cannot ignore, and one we must reverse,” said **The**

Honorable John Edward Porter, chair of Research!America. “With strong concerns among policy makers and the business community that U.S. competitiveness is at risk, we cannot afford to cut back on investment in medical, health and scientific research, for the sake of our nation’s economy or our health.”

The report finds that growth in spending on health-related research by the public and private sectors began to level off in 2005.

Continued on page 7

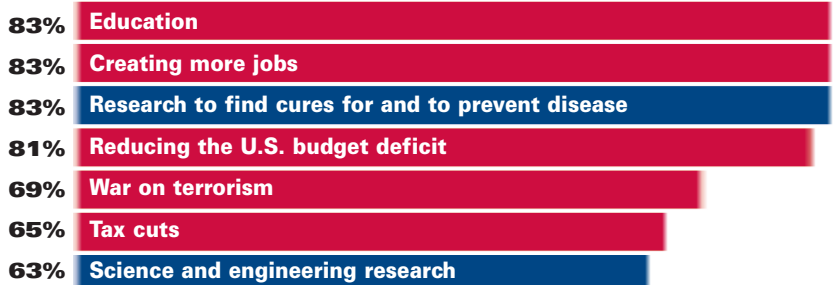
AMERICA Speaks

Likelihood to Vote for Candidate

Would you be more likely or less likely to vote for a candidate for public office if he or she supported increased funding for the following?

SOURCE: YOUR CANDIDATES—YOUR HEALTH SURVEY, 2006
CHARLTON RESEARCH COMPANY FOR RESEARCH!AMERICA

% saying “More Likely”



New ON THE Web

www.researchamerica.org

The **2006 Your Candidates—Your Health** voter guide shows Congressional candidates' positions on medical, health and scientific research and poll results on these issues at www.yourcandidatesyourhealth.org.

Our **2005 U.S. Investment in Health Research** report, which estimates the amount spent on health-related research, is available on our home page.

Our injury fact sheet, produced with **SAVIR**, is the latest in our series **Investment in Research Saves Lives and Money** on our Web site under Publications.

The Research ADVOCATE



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Editor: Marilyn Perry

We hope you enjoy our newsletter, now printed in full color.

About Research!America

Research!America is a 501(c)(3), membership-supported, public education and advocacy alliance founded in 1989. Our 500+ member institutions, organizations and businesses represent the voices of more than 125 million Americans who want research to improve health to be a higher national priority. Research!America's public opinion surveys, advocacy programs and publications reach the public and decision makers with messages that support a strong and vibrant research enterprise.

Research!America
AN ALLIANCE FOR DISCOVERIES IN HEALTH®

Members TAKE Action



Bill O'Connell

The Society for the Advancement of Violence and Injury Research

The Society for Advancement of Violence and Injury Research (SAVIR) is devoted to promoting scholarly activity in injury control and addressing issues relevant to the prevention, acute care and rehabilitation of traumatic injury. These aims are achieved through multiple member activities in research, research dissemination, program development and evaluation, consultation, education and training.

SAVIR's mission is to promote "the science" of violence and injury research, and its success is linked to a diverse membership.

Once known as the National Association of Injury Control Research Centers, it then represented only 12 CDC-funded Injury Control Research Centers. About two years ago, NAICRC and the CDC leaders agreed research opportunities for the field were more likely to improve if

NAICRC could attract a much broader membership.

Thus, in 2005, SAVIR was born, and its quickly growing membership includes many disciplines of practitioners,

researchers and institutions advancing educational and scholarly injury and violence prevention research through policy studies, program development, training and education of the public.

"SAVIR is unique in the injury control and prevention field because it links together research professionals and their institutional centers to save lives by reducing the incidence and severity of injury and violence," said **Bill O'Connell**, executive director. "We do this by improving our efforts to design and fund research, share it with practitioners and advocate systemic improvements with policy makers.

"There are thousands of professionals working in related fields who don't call themselves injury control researchers,"

he said. "SAVIR will fulfill its mission by giving a professional identity to those active in related research and practice and to afford them an opportunity to personally advance this field."

The organization's members include program practitioners, policy makers, individual researchers and research centers.

Located in Washington, DC, SAVIR has working relationships with a large

For us, partnering with Research!America was an obvious decision.'

*—Bill O'Connell,
SAVIR executive director*

and varied number of organization partners. A key partnership is with Research!America.

"It was obvious to me early on that, if SAVIR was to gain the attention of policy makers for meaningful dialogue and have a significant effect on their actions, it was going to need friends who already understood the issues, had the credibility to be taken seriously and knew how and where to deliver its message," O'Connell said. "For us, partnering with Research!America was an obvious decision."

One of SAVIR's key messages is that "ultimately injury research does not cost, it saves money and suffering." To help communicate this to its audiences, SAVIR was a partner on the most recent Research!America fact sheet (see insert), and on a September Congressional briefing (see page 6 for related story).

For more information, visit www.savir.org.

Media Attention to Investment in Research

The September 13 issue of *JAMA, the Journal of the American Medical Association*, covered Research!America's report, "2005 Investment in U.S. Health Research." The article ("Health Research Funding Losing Ground") observes, "Research!America's findings are consistent with those from other investigators, and the implications are being discussed by many in the research community."

A September 5 *New York Times* story ("The State of Research Isn't All That Grand") notes, "... overall government investment in basic and applied research—the foundation of the nation's innovative capacity—is in some ways shrinking." Reporter Anna Bernasek writes, "Few other investments can pay off the way research and development can." **Kei Koizumi**, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Research!America member, is cited as saying, "...as technology drives more of the economy, research to replenish the knowledge base for future innovations becomes more important."

Support for Innovation from Congress, States, Business Leaders

In an op-ed in *The Hill* newspaper, **Deborah Wince-Smith**, president, Council on Competitiveness, describes momentum in Congress, at the state level and in the business community for competitiveness and innovation initiatives: "Congressional action on competitiveness is being buttressed by the engagement of business and academic leaders. ... The nation's governors are also providing leadership at the state and regional levels. The new chair of the National Governors' Association, **Ariz. Gov. Janet Napolitano**, announced ... that competitiveness and innovation will be the focus of her Chair's Initiative during the coming year."

The 2006 Lasker Medical Research Awards

The **Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation** presented its 2006 Lasker Medical Research Awards in New York on September 28. **Elizabeth H. Blackburn, PhD**, of the University of California, San Francisco; **Carol W. Greider, PhD**, of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; and **Jack W. Szostak, PhD**, of Harvard Medical School, received the Basic Research Award. **Aaron T. Beck, MD**, of the University of Pennsylvania, received the Clinical Research Award, and **Joseph G. Gall, PhD**, of the Carnegie Institution, received the Special Achievement Award. For more information, see www.laskerfoundation.org.

Second Annual Public Health Thank You Day

Research!America, the **American Public Health Association**, **Association of Schools of Public Health**, **Association of State and Territorial Health Officials** and **National Association of County & City Health Officials** invite you to join us in celebrating our public health heroes on Monday, November 20—**Public Health Thank You Day**.

Watch our Web site for free Web banners, ads (in English and Spanish), communication templates, poll findings and other ways to say thank you. Contact sdzubin@researchamerica.org for more.



At this time every year we await word on who will be named Nobel Prize winners. This announcement is one of the few times the public's atten-

tion is trained on science. I encourage you to think of it as a once-a-year opportunity to underscore the accomplishments of research and researchers and to stimulate public interest in what can happen when research is given every opportunity to succeed.

Given sufficient resources and an appropriate policy environment, researchers will continue to make discoveries on par with what Nobel Laureates and Lasker Laureates have accomplished to date (for more about the Lasker Awards, see story at left). The media and public will be open to hearing about research happening close to home—their homes—and you, stakeholders in research, can connect the dots. Unless you are waiting for the Nobel Committee to call you this year, take a few moments to call or write a letter to the editor or call into talk radio to talk about research after the prizes are announced.

There's another reason October is time to talk about research. We are in the countdown to a closely watched midterm election, and research is on many candidates' agendas. It could be on the agendas of many more if enough constituents ask that it be. That's where the 125 million individuals represented by Research!America come in. This is the time to speak up to candidates. Tell them you care about their position on research, science education and global competitiveness. To find your candidates' positions and to encourage those who haven't weighed in to do so, check www.yourcandidatesyourhealth.org.

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Barton Forges Ahead with NIH Reauthorization

Rep. Joe Barton (Texas), chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, has moved forward with **National Institutes of Health** reauthorization legislation. The committee held a hearing September 19 on the NIH Reform Act of 2006 and approved the bill the next day. Approval by the full House is expected.

The emphasis of the bill is agency-wide strategic planning and coordination of the research portfolio, which would be led by the NIH director. NIH would be required to create an electronic reporting system to catalog all of the agency's research activities. A "common fund" would be established to provide a permanent funding mechanism for trans-NIH research projects. The bill also calls for the NIH budget to increase each of the three years of the authorization period, starting at 5% in FY 2007.

At press time, it seemed unlikely that the Senate would take action on the NIH reauthorization. Meanwhile, no appropriations bills, except possibly Defense, will likely be enacted until after the November elections.

CDC Public Meetings Set

The CDC is holding open meetings to solicit feedback from the American public on the agency's objectives and priority-setting. The Saturday meetings are

scheduled for October 14 in Oakland, Calif.; October 21 in San Antonio and Boston; and October 28 in Little Rock, Ark. For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/osi/goals/workshops/Public.html.

Largest Ever Congressional Staff Delegation Visits CDC

With support from nearly a dozen non-profit health organizations, the **Campaign for Public Health Executive Director Karl Moeller** led 18 legislative assistants from the House of Representatives on a two-day tour and lecture program at the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**. **Bill Gimson**, CDC chief operating officer, welcomed the group, the largest congressional staff delegation to visit the CDC.

The bipartisan group represented members of Congress who sit on the House Appropriations, Commerce, Ways and Means, and Rules committees.

CDC scientists and staff highlighted many disease control and prevention activities. Presentation topics followed the CDC's "Healthy People in Every Stage of Life" model and covered "urgent threats" (e.g., pandemic flu, bioterrorism) as well as the nation's ongoing "urgent realities" (heart disease, injuries).

See www.fundcdc.org for pictures, a summary and a list of cosponsors.

2007 FEDERAL RESEARCH BUDGET

Agency	President's Request	% Change from 2006	House	Senate
National Institutes of Health	\$28.3 billion	No change	\$28.3 billion [†]	\$28.5 billion [†]
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*	\$5.8 billion	-4.6%	\$6.2 billion [†]	\$6.1 billion [†]
National Science Foundation	\$6.0 billion	+7.9%	\$6.0 billion	\$6.0 billion [†]
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	\$319 million	No change	\$319 million [†]	\$319 million [†]

[†] Reflects level approved by Appropriations Committee.

* Reflects the CDC core program budget. For more information on the CDC budget, please visit www.FundCDC.org.

Forum Highlights Personalized Medicine, National Poll Findings

Photo by Gail Wevant



Mary Woolley; Susan Dentzer; Francis S. Collins, MD, PhD; M.J. Finley Austin, PhD; Ruth Katz, JD, MPH

Two-thirds of Americans (66%) say they are willing to donate their own genetic material in order to help scientists study disease, according to a Research!America national poll released at our September 19 forum “Personalized Medicine: From Promise to Practice” in Washington, DC.

Forum keynote speaker **Francis S. Collins, MD, PhD**, director of the **National Human Genome Research Institute at the National Institutes of**

Health, said, “We are at the beginning of a journey that holds much promise, but it will require thoughtful research and vigorous debate among scientists, health-care professionals, ethicists, legal scholars, patient advocates and ordinary citizens to

chart the wisest course.”

Two high-level panels discussed respectively the challenges and opportunities of personalized medicine, or the ability to analyze a patient’s genetic makeup to allow physicians and researchers to better predict, detect and treat disease.

Susan Dentzer of *The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer*, moderated the panel discussions. The panelists were **M.J. Finley Austin, PhD**, Roche; **Kenneth Buetow,**

PhD, Center for Bioinformatics, NIH; **Philip S. Carney Jr., MD, MPH**, Kaiser Permanente Mid-Atlantic Region; **Stephen Chanock, MD**, National Cancer Institute Pediatric Oncology Branch, Genomic Variation Section; **Richard Frank, MD, PhD, FFPM**, GE Healthcare; **Evan Jones**, Digene Corporation; **Bruce Korf, MD, PhD**, University of Alabama at Birmingham department of genetics; **Caroline Kovac, PhD**, IBM Life Sciences; **Daniel Perry**, Alliance for Aging Research; **Stephen Ubl**, AdvaMed; **Thomas Wildsmith**, MAAA, FSA, Hay Group; and **Janet Woodcock, MD**, Food and Drug Administration.

The forum was presented in partnership with **Roche** and **The George Washington University School of Public Health and Health Services**. Check our Web site for expanded coverage, transcript and video.

2007 Advocacy Award Honorees

Continued from page 1

regarding the promise of psychiatric research and the needs of psychiatric patients, in part through his memoir *Between You and Me* and in his 2005 farewell interview on

“60 Minutes,” for which he had been a correspondent since its 1968 premiere.

Satcher, who founded the **National Center for Primary Care at Morehouse**, is a lifelong humanitarian whose work has transformed the nation because of his demand that policy be based on solid research. Only the second person in history to have held the positions of surgeon general and assistant secretary for health simultaneously, he spearheaded efforts to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities in health.

Susan Axelrod, founder and president, **Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy (CURE)**, will receive the Gordon and Llura Gund Volunteer



Susan Axelrod



Sean Tipton

Leadership Award. She and two other mothers, motivated by their children’s struggles with epilepsy, launched CURE in 1998. Since then, Axelrod has led CURE’s efforts to raise more than \$5 million for research and award 48 research grants.

She was instrumental in organizing the CURE-National Institutes of Health conference “Curing Epilepsy—Focus on the Future,” which brought together scientists, clinicians and advocates from around the world for the first time to establish benchmarks for future research.

The **Coalition for the Advancement of Medical Research (CAMR)** will be recognized as the Organization that has Distinguished Itself by Its Advocacy. **Sean Tipton**, CAMR president, will accept the award. The coalition is being honored for its work in support of protecting and expanding opportunities for federal funding of biomedical research involving human embryonic

Principal Partner Thank You

Research!America thanks its principal partners for their support.

- American Heart Association/
American Stroke Association**
- Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation**
- Eugene Garfield Foundation**
- GlaxoSmithKline**
- Gordon and Llura Gund**
- National Alliance for Hispanic Health**
- PARADE magazine**
- Roche**
- Rosenfeld Heart Foundation**
- Raymond and Beverly Sackler**
- Society for Advancement of Violence and Injury Research (SAVIR)**
- Society for Neuroscience**

stem cells. CAMR has a broad membership base of patient groups, universities, foundations and scientific societies.

Additional 2007 Advocacy Award recipients will be named at a later date.

Did YOU Know

G. Steven Burrill, CEO of Burrill & Company and chair of the **Campaign for Medical Research** board of directors, was named the new president and chair of the board of the **National Science & Technology Medals Foundation**. Burrill follows previous president/chair, **George Rathmann**, founder of **Amgen, Inc.**, who is considered one of the founders of the biotechnology industry.

The **National Center for Research Resources** at NIH has created a series of targeted research reports about developments in clinical research information technology. NCCR has also created a searchable online database to provide access to clinical research networks focused on specific diseases or conditions. These resources are available at www.ncrr.nih.gov.

Research!America member **RAND Health** released “The First National Report Card on Quality of Health Care in America.” The report encourages patients to take an active role in obtaining care they need and finds that the U.S. must invest in making information on quality performance more routinely available at all levels. More information is available at www.rand.org/health.

Why is Injury Costing \$406 Billion a Year?

Experts in injury addressed this question at a September 19 **Congressional Prevention Coalition** briefing for Capitol Hill staff, “The Economic Value of Funding Injury Research and Prevention.” The event was sponsored by **Partnership for Prevention, the Society for the Advancement of Violence and Injury Research** and **Research!America**.

Bobby Jackson of the National Safety Council moderated a discussion among **Ileana Arias, PhD**, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, CDC; **Dan McGlathery**, car crash survivor

from Wheaton, Ill.; **Linda Cosgrove, PhD**, National Highway and Transportation Services Administration;

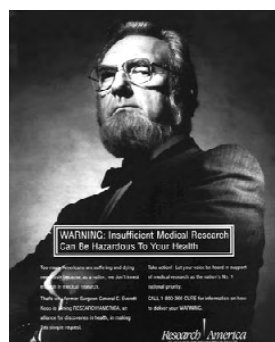
Patricia Adkins, Home Safety Council; and **Frank Pugliese, Jr.**, DuPont Government Solutions.

In 2003, 164,002 Americans—equivalent to three times the population of

Wheaton—died from an injury. Non-fatal injuries cost the U.S. \$406 billion a year. More importantly, these injuries are predictable and preventable. Research!America’s new fact sheet on the benefits of injury research is the insert in this month’s newsletter.



Frank Pugliese, Jr.; Patricia Adkins



Research!America ad featuring Koop

Former Surgeon General Koop Celebrates 90th Birthday

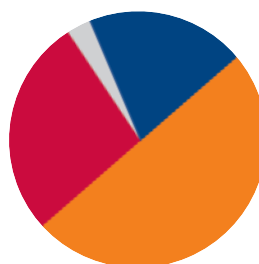
C. Everett Koop, MD, ScD, U.S. Surgeon General from 1982-1990, was honored September 13 in advance of his 90th birthday, October 14. **Sens. Hillary Rodham Clinton (N.Y.)** and **Orrin G. Hatch (Utah)** were co-chairs of the event, which featured video highlights from Koop’s life. An award-winning Research!America public service announcement featuring Koop, a Research!America honorary director, was included in the presentation.

John R. Seffrin, PhD, and **M. Cass Wheeler**, Research!America board members, and **M. Roy Schwarz, MD**, Research!America emeritus director, served on the event’s honorary committee. Schwarz also provided remarks at the event. Koop’s remarks will be published as an editorial in the December 2006 issue of the **American Journal of Public Health**.

AMERICA Speaks

Would you say research that finds new ways to prevent injuries, such as devices to improve car safety and methods to reduce domestic violence, is an effective use of taxpayer dollars?

Americans Say Research to Prevent Injury is Effective Use of Taxes



Very	20%
Somewhat	50%
Not	27%
Don't know	3%

SOURCE: NATIONAL INJURY SURVEY, 2005
CHARLTON RESEARCH COMPANY FOR RESEARCH!AMERICA AND SAFEUSA

New Stem Cell Research Funding Report

A recent **Center for American Progress** event addressed the state of stem cell research funding. Speakers included **Sen. Tom Harkin (Iowa)**; Wisconsin **Gov. Jim Doyle**; **John Gearhart, PhD**; **Bernard Lo, MD**; and **David Scadden, MD**. Released at the event was the report *Too Much to Ask: The States Simply Cannot Make Up for Federal Inaction on Stem Cell Research*. It notes that states have promised more than \$3.65 billion for stem cell research over an extended timeframe, but most of that will go toward the necessary infrastructure and training. While selected states are strongly supporting stem cell research, they cannot match the funding power of the National Institutes of Health. The report warns that federal funding for embryonic stem cell research must be expanded for the U.S. to remain a leader in the field. To read the report, visit www.americanprogress.org.

U.S. Spending Less on Health Research

Continued from page 1

The largest federal agency that funds health-related research, the **National Institutes of Health** saw its budget remain flat at \$28 billion in 2004 and 2005. Its actual spending power declined after inflation.

The combined health research budgets of NIH and other federal agencies were essentially flat from 2004 to 2005.

Industry research spending, which has for several years exceeded federal spending, remained mostly flat, at \$61 billion in 2005 and \$59 billion in 2004.

A 2006 Research!America poll finds that 58% of the public say increasing U.S. funding for medical and health research is essential to the country's future health and economic prosperity.

"People realize that long-term and sustained investments in research are required to keep ahead of the national and global concerns threatening

America's health," said **Mary Woolley**, president of Research!America. "Rather than cut back on research funding, the nation's leaders need to capitalize on years of proactive investment and expand the country's health research capacity."

The report was compiled by Research!America's **Stacie Propst, PhD** and **Emily Connelly**. View the entire report at www.researchamerica.org.

Welcome New Members!

American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists
American Institute for Stuttering
Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine
Institute for Systems Biology
Northern Colorado Economic Development Corporation

Not yet a member? Join Research!America today!
 Contact Cindy McConnell at 703-739-2577, ext. 35.

Did You Know?

Continued from page 6

AdvaMed, a Research!America member, presented a Capitol Hill exhibit, "Profiles in Progress You Can See," which demonstrated how advanced medical technology is having an impact on countless individuals by improving the quality of life and the healthcare system by diagnosing disease sooner. Read more at www.advamed.org.

* * *

The **Tourette Syndrome Association**, a Research!America member, won an Emmy in the children's programming category for their documentary *I Have Tourette's But Tourette's Doesn't Have Me*. The documentary highlights the prevalence of the disorder and profiles individuals living with it. Visit www.tsa-usa.org.

* * *

Research!America emeritus director, **Jordan J. Cohen, MD**, was honored as outgoing president of the **Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)** at its June executive council meeting. AAMC's new president is **Darrell G. Kirch, MD**.

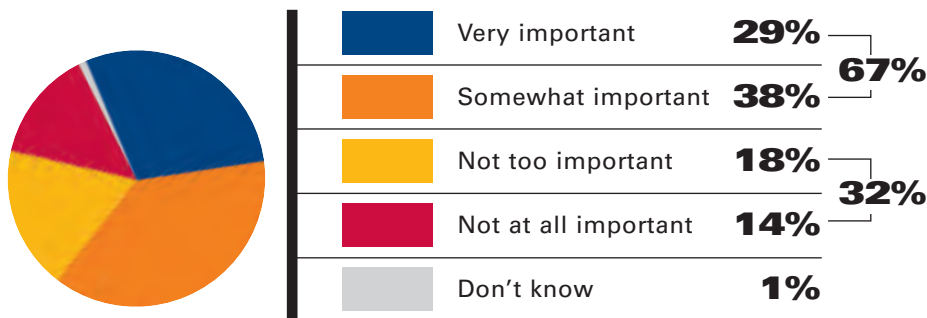
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In early September, Research!America presented an advocacy training workshop during the **Georgia Public Health Association's** annual meeting in Augusta, Ga.

* * *

Stem Cell Research is an Important Election Issue

How important will the issue of stem cell research be in determining how you vote in the November election?



SOURCE: YOUR CANDIDATES—YOUR HEALTH SURVEY, 2006
 CHARLTON RESEARCH COMPANY FOR RESEARCH!AMERICA

ComingUp

October 10—Research!America will present our fifth annual **Eugene Garfield Economic Impact of Medical and Health Research Award** at the National Press Club, Washington, DC.

October 10-11—Maryland and Virginia bioscience companies will meet at the **Mid-Atlantic Bio conference and exhibition** in support of biotechnology in mid-Atlantic states. See www.midatlanticbio.org.

November 13-14—The 2nd Annual **Burrill Personalized Medicine Meeting** in San Francisco. Research!America members receive a discount on registration. See www.burrillandco.com.

November 13-15—The **End-to-End Preparedness for Pandemic Influenza: Opportunities for Public-Private Collaboration** conference will take place in Washington, DC. Research!America members receive a discount on registration. See www.infocastinc.com/pand06.html.

November 20—The second annual **Public Health Thank You Day** will recognize the nation's public health heroes.

Advocacy & Action

Where Do Your Candidates Stand on Medical, Health and Scientific Research?

Congressional candidates' responses to the **2006 Your Candidates—Your Health Voter Guide** questionnaire are now available online at www.yourcandidatesyourhealth.org.

Your Candidates—Your Health is the first national voter education initiative focused exclusively on Congressional candidates' positions on investment in medical, health and scientific research and other research-related policy issues.

Use the easy search tools to see where your candidates stand. If your candidates have not yet responded to the questionnaire, encourage them to do so. Available Web site and e-mail addresses are provided on each candidate's page at www.yourcandidatesyourhealth.org.

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