

# The Research ADVOCATE

JANUARY 2007

Bringing Research Closer to Home

## Zerhouni Keynotes Florida Research Partners Forum

The **National Institutes of Health**, industry and academia must work together toward common goals and take risks, dominate new fields and pursue the most innovative research.

These were among the key messages conveyed by NIH Director **Elias Zerhouni, MD**, and other leaders in research during “Research: The Risks, the Rewards and the Returns—a Florida Perspective,” Research!America’s most recent research partners forum.

“We must accelerate our discoveries on a fundamental level,” said

Credit: Eric Youngnash/USF Health



**Elias Zerhouni, MD**

Zerhouni, the keynote speaker and a panelist. “We realize more and more that you just can’t do it without collaboration.”

The forum, presented in part-

nership with **Novartis** and the **University of South Florida**, was hosted in Tampa, Fla., in late November. More than 100 leaders from industry, academia, government and the media convened to discuss how to increase awareness and understanding of health research in Florida.

**Brenda Blanchard**, vice president public affairs, **Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation** and **Judy Genshaft, PhD**,

*Continued on page 5*

## 2007 Research Appropriations Deferred Leadership Pledges to Reintroduce Stem Cell Research Bill

The 109th Congress deferred passage of the FY 2007 appropriations bills that fund the **NIH, CDC, AHRQ** and **NSF**. Prior to adjourning, Congress passed a continuing resolution (CR) that funds these agencies through February 15, 2007.

On December 12, the incoming chairs of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees, **Sen. Robert Byrd (WV)** and **Rep. David**

**Obey (WI)** announced they will seek to pass a long-term CR to fund all 2007 appropriations through the end of the fiscal year, except Defense and Homeland Security. Congress passed appropriations bills funding Defense and Homeland Security



**Sen. Robert Byrd**



**Rep. David Obey**

earlier in the fall. Byrd and Obey indicated they would make “limited adjustments” in the CR to increase funding levels for select labor, health and education programs.

The long-term CR will include no earmarks in the remaining FY 2007 appropriations bills. Obey and Byrd announced a moratorium on all earmarks until

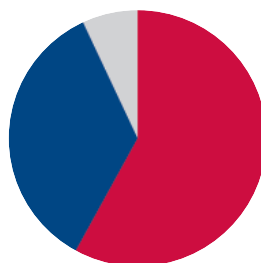
*Continued on page 3*

## AMERICA Speaks

Do you support or oppose the President’s decision to veto the bill (H.R. 810) that would have allowed federally funded scientists to use leftover embryos from in vitro fertilization clinics for medical research?

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

### Most Americans Oppose Veto of H.R. 810



Oppose	<b>58%</b>
Support	<b>35%</b>
Don't know	<b>7%</b>

# New ON THE Web

[www.researchamerica.org](http://www.researchamerica.org)

Results from our latest national poll, on obesity, commissioned in partnership with **The Endocrine Society**, are available at [www.researchamerica.org](http://www.researchamerica.org).

The **Council on Competitiveness** released its report "Competitiveness Index: Where America Stands," which benchmarks U.S. competitiveness against 20 years of economic data, highlighting innovation as a driver of our economy. The report may be ordered online at [www.compete.org](http://www.compete.org).

Remarks by **The Honorable Paul G. Rogers**, *Research!America* chair emeritus, at a Fogarty International Center meeting, are posted on our Web site, under *Advocacy Leaders Speak Out*.

## The Research ADVOCATE



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### About Research!America

Research!America is the nation's largest not-for-profit public education and advocacy alliance working to make research to improve health a higher national priority. Founded in 1989, Research!America is supported by our 500+ member organizations, who represent the voices of more than 125 million Americans. Our public opinion polls, advocacy programs and publications reach the public and decision makers to help advance medical and health research.

**Research!America**  
AN ALLIANCE FOR DISCOVERIES IN HEALTH

# Members TAKE Action



**Leonard Wartofsky,**  
MD, MPH

## The Endocrine Society

*The mission of The Endocrine Society is excellence in hormone research and care of patients with endocrine disease. To achieve this mission, the Society continues to be the prime advocate and integrative force for clinicians and investigators, and will maintain a leadership role in providing endocrine education and information to the diverse professional endocrine community, the broader medical community, policy-makers, patients and the public.*

The Endocrine Society works to foster a greater understanding of endocrinology among the public and practitioners of complementary medical disciplines and to promote the interests of endocrinologists at the national scientific research and health policy levels of government.

The Society's diverse membership represents medicine, molecular and cellular biology, biochemistry, physiology, genetics, immunology, education, industry and allied health.

"Our members are scientists, physicians, educators, nurses, and students active in the clinical practice of endocrinology or devoted to the research of hormones and the endocrine systems," said **Dr. Leonard Wartofsky**, society president and chair of the Department of Medicine at **Washington Hospital Center**.

The Society uses an exceptional suite of advocacy activities to activate these members. Each year, it identifies legislative and regulatory issues most relevant to the membership and uses these to create a focused agenda for action.

"One of the most important ways the Society advances medical research is through its journals, which contain a wealth of peer-reviewed data on obesity and diabetes from basic research studies and clinical trials," Wartofsky said.

The Society galvanizes the community through its annual meeting, the premier conference on endocrinology. ENDO is the only meeting that gathers the entire endocrine community explore the leading edge of research and to discuss the

latest news in clinical practice. ENDO 2007 will be held in Toronto and is expected to attract nearly 7,000 scientists, physicians and educators.

Globally, there are more than 1 billion overweight adults, and at least 300 million (30%) are obese. Obesity is one of the top advocacy priorities for The Endocrine Society. The Society has been extremely active in advocating for medical coverage for obesity treatments and for medical research funding to better understand its causes.

"Our members are leading the study and treatment of obesity, and we do all we can to support them," Wartofsky said.

Research!America and the Society recently released results of a public opinion poll on obesity. (See page 7.)

"The more voices brought to bear on these important issues, the more likely it is these concerns will be heard," Wartofsky said. "By working with Research!America and other coalitions, The Endocrine Society can more effectively advocate for issues important to its members and the public."

Visit [www.endo-society.org](http://www.endo-society.org).

### Welcome New Members!

**American Sociological Association**

**Center for Global Health  
and Medical Diplomacy**

**City of Commerce City (CO)**

**University of Pittsburgh  
School of Nursing**

## Explaining Science to Congress

The retiring House Science Committee chair, **U.S. Rep. Sherwood "Sherry" Boehlert (NY)**, spoke with *Science* on government and the role of scientists. He urged scientists, "You have to do more advocacy, and the people who are good at it have to train their colleagues." In talking to Congress, he advised focusing not on scientific terms but rather, "What does it do to strengthen the economy, or enhance competitiveness, or provide more jobs?... you have to prove to me that it has some public benefit ..." What scientists can do to reach out to elected officials? Boehlert said, "Invite them to come to the university in their district, ... to a general discussion of what's going on and what it means ... I think the scientific community will be an abject failure if, when these new [Congressional] freshmen start campaigning for reelection, at least a few of them don't have a science component in their platform." See this month's insert for the full interview.

## CDC In TIME

*TIME* magazine published a letter from CDC Director **Julie Gerberding, MD, MPH**, in response to an article about the agency. Gerberding wrote, "The CDC has increased its ability to face urgent threats like bioterrorism and flu pandemics, and we want to do the same for heart disease, cancer, diabetes, HIV/AIDS and obesity." The original article noted, "Ironically, it is increased CDC funding mandated by Congress for high-profile threats like bioterrorism and flu pandemics that has drained money from areas of public health that may be more pressing."

## U.S. Competitiveness: Health Research Technology

*Science & Government Report* recently reported that U.S. leadership in information technology R&D is at risk. The article noted a "falloff in federal support, coupled with the disappearance of basic IT research that used to be carried out by [the private sector]."

The article notes that NIH spends about \$500 million a year in bioinformatics R&D and that a key challenge is "dealing with all the data that is being generated by new bioinformatics tools," according to **Michael Marron, PhD**, Division of Biomedical Technology at **NIH's National Center for Research Resources**. He said, "We're nowhere near having the tools to store it and analyze it."

## 2007 Research Appropriations Deferred

*Continued from page 1*

new standards for transparency and accountability are in place.

Separately, the new Democratic leadership has pledged to reintroduce legislation to expand federal funding for embryonic stem cell research, as part of its First 100 Hours initiative. The legislation introduced in 2005 by **Diana DeGette (CO)** and **Mike Castle (DE)** was passed by Congress last summer but vetoed by the White House.



January 4, 2007, marks Research!America's 18th anniversary. It is also the date that Dr. Margaret Chan assumes the post of director-general of the

World Health Organization. I had the opportunity to talk with Dr. Chan during her "listening tour" in Washington last month. She articulated the importance of increased investment in research and spoke eloquently of the need for evidence-based health diplomacy. Our conversation underscored for me the timeliness of the work of the new Research!America Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research. The Society's namesake and role model, The Hon. Paul G. Rogers, spoke movingly at the Fogarty International Center last month. You can read his remarks on our Web site under Advocacy Leaders Speak Out.

January 4 also marks the opening of the 110th Congress. A weighty agenda confronts our nation's decision makers in Washington and across the nation. With our latest public opinion poll data, fact sheets, spending analyses, white papers and message platforms, Research!America is ready, willing and able to work with our members to assure they are well-armed to make the case for research in policy discussions on health, global competitiveness and sustained economic growth.

Coming up in the first quarter of 2007 are three major opportunities for members to join other leaders to deliberate issues central to realizing the full potential of research: see page 8 for information about our February "Bridging the Sciences" forum and our post-budget release messaging conference and our National Forum on March 20. Be sure to join us as we work to make research to improve health a higher national priority in 2007!

## Principal Partner Thank You

The Research!America extends special thanks to these principal partners for their support of our special initiatives:

**Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**

**The Endocrine Society**

**GlaxoSmithKline**

**Novartis**

**PARADE magazine**

**Pfizer Inc**

**Rutherford-Polk-McDowell  
District Health Department**

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## NIH Reauthorized

In its final hours, the 109th Congress approved legislation to reauthorize the NIH through FY 2009. At press time, the bill, H.R. 6164—the **National Institutes of Health Reform Act of 2006**—was on its way to the president for signature. Congress last authorized NIH in 1993.

**Rep. Joe Barton (TX)** provided strong leadership in developing and passing the bill. Key provisions of the bill include:

- *Overall Funding Authorization Increases* — setting maximum increases for the NIH budget as roughly 7% for FY07 and 8% for FY08 and such sums as may be necessary for FY09.
- *Agency-wide Reporting System* — a new electronic reporting system that will catalogue all NIH research activities.
- *“Common Fund”* — to provide a permanent funding mechanism for trans-NIH research projects.
- *Empowering the NIH Director* — a formal strategic planning process for the entire NIH research portfolio.
- *Scientific Management Review Board* — a new board to evaluate the NIH structure at least once every seven years.
- *Limiting the Size of the NIH* — to 27 institutes and centers.
- *Demonstration Programs* — grants for “Bridging the Sciences” projects at the interface of the biological, behavioral and social sciences with

the physical, chemical, mathematical and computational sciences.

## Outlook for NIH Advocacy

The new Congress provides new opportunities for the **Campaign for Medical Research**. Party leaders in the House and Senate are speaking about working together, and senior staff of incoming **House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (CA)** have said publicly that NIH funding is a priority.

CMR and its allies will first work with the Budget committees to be sure that the allocation for the Labor-HHS-Education bill is sufficient. The next step is to hold—or improve—our achievement in the Budget committees during floor consideration and then work with Appropriations committees to secure adequate funding for NIH.

## President Signs AETA

On November 27, the president signed into law the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act, which imposes criminal penalties for intentional property damage and threats against research and other animal enterprises.

*Correction:* **Rep. Jim Walsh (NY)** is in strong contention to be ranking member of the House Appropriations Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee for the 110th Congress. The decision will not be final until early 2007.

## 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](http://www.FundCDC.org).

## Research Leaders to Headline 2007 Forum

Federal research agency, industry, patient advocacy and media leaders will headline Research!America's 2007 National Forum "U.S. Investment in Research: Assuring Domestic and Global Dividends."

The forum will take place March 20, 2007, at the National Press Club in Washington, DC.

Panelists confirmed include **Carolyn M. Clancy, MD**, director, **Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality**; **Julie L. Gerberding, MD, MPH**, director, **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**; **Elias Zerhouni, MD**, director, **National Institutes of Health**; **Christopher A. Viehbacher**, president, U.S. Pharmaceuticals, **GlaxoSmithKline**; and **Martin MacKay**, Senior Vice President, Head of Worldwide Research and Technology at **Pfizer Global Research and Development**. **David Gergen**, editor-at-large of *U.S. News & World Report* and director of the **Center for Public Leadership at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University**, will serve as moderator.

*The Hill*, a newspaper for and about the U.S. Congress, will be the forum's media sponsor. Other sponsors include **GlaxoSmithKline** and **Pfizer Inc.**

Visit [www.researchamerica.org/outreach/forum07.html](http://www.researchamerica.org/outreach/forum07.html) for more details and to register to attend the forum, and watch for updates in *The Research Advocate*.



Carolyn Clancy, MD



Julie L. Gerberding, MD, MPH

### Zerhouni Keynote

*Continued from page 1*

president, University of South Florida, provided opening remarks.

**Mary Woolley**, president, Research!America, presented our new Florida poll findings. (For findings, see [www.researchamerica.org/polldata/2006/floridapoll2006.pdf](http://www.researchamerica.org/polldata/2006/floridapoll2006.pdf).)

Joining Zerhouni for the panel discussion were **Marjorie Gatlin, MD**, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation; **Nancy Loving**, WomenHeart: the National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease; **Abdul Rao, MD, MA, DPhil**, USF Health

and Tampa General Hospital; **Jay Roland**, *Sarasota Herald Tribune*; and **B. Jack Sullivan, Jr.**, Florida Research Consortium. **Heidi Godman**, WWSB-TV, Sarasota, served as moderator.

Gatlin and Rao spoke to the need to break down barriers to research. "As an industry, we are investing more and more in developing new drugs, but the rate of new drug approvals has been falling off," said Gatlin. She said Novartis, in partnership with the FDA and its Critical Path Initiative, now has a process underway to identify a more effective approach.

Gatlin and Loving addressed the impact of heart disease in Florida and gender and ethnic disparities in research. "There have been huge advances in cardiovascular research, but not everyone has benefited," Loving said, adding that patient advocacy can make a crucial difference.

Sullivan spoke to the economic benefit of research conducted in Florida's state universities, a \$1.5 billion enterprise that filters through the economy to grow to



Heidi Godman; Marjorie Gatlin, MD; Nancy Loving; Abdul Rao, MD, MA, DPhil; Elias Zerhouni, MD; Jay Roland; Jack Sullivan, Jr.

## SAVE THE DATE

### Research!America's 11th Annual Advocacy Awards Gala

March 20, 2007  
Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium,  
Washington, DC

Corporate Host: **GlaxoSmithKline**  
Media Sponsor: **PARADE** magazine  
Tribute Reception Sponsor: **Pfizer Inc**

#### Our 2007 Advocacy Award Recipients named to date:

**Susan Axelrod**, Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy

**Michael Brown, MD,**  
**Joseph Goldstein, MD,** and  
**Donald W. Seldin, MD**

University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas

#### Coalition for the Advancement of Medical Research

**David Satcher, MD, PhD,**  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
and 16th Surgeon General of the U.S.

**Mike Wallace,**  
CBS Correspondent Emeritus and  
Mental Health Research Advocate

*For more details, visit [www.researchamerica.org/outreach/awards2007.html](http://www.researchamerica.org/outreach/awards2007.html).*

### New Health Affairs Blog

The journal *Health Affairs*, published by **Project HOPE**, has launched a blog "as a new means of engaging readers in the health policy debate." Topics have ranged from health economics to public health, from the nurse shortage to election issues. Visit [www.healthaffairs.org/blog](http://www.healthaffairs.org/blog).

\$5.8 billion, with returns to state tax coffers of \$224 million.

For a transcript, contact Cindy McConnell at 703-739-2577, ext. 35. For USF's report of the forum, visit <http://health.usf.edu/publicaffairs/newsreleases/newsrelease11202006.html>.

# Did YOU Know

The National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research and the Fogarty International Center hosted the 2006 David E. Barmes Global Health Lecture on December 4, presented by **Barry R. Bloom, PhD**, a Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research Advisory Council member and dean of the Harvard University School of Public Health.

\* \* \*

Our 2006 **Edwin C. Whitehead Award for Medical Research Advocacy** winners, **U.S. Reps. Diana DeGette (CO)** and **Mike Castle (DE)** were named among the 2006 *Scientific American 50* for their work on stem cell research legislation.

\* \* \*

The **United Health Foundation**, in partnership with Research!America members the **American Public Health Association** and **Partnership for Prevention**, released the 2006 *America's Health Rankings*, an annual review of the health of the nation. Visit [www.unitedhealthfoundation.org](http://www.unitedhealthfoundation.org).

\* \* \*

**Steven Straus** has been named senior adviser to National Institutes of Health Director **Elias A. Zerhouni, MD**. **Ruth Kirschstein** will succeed Straus at the **National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine** on an acting basis.

\* \* \*

## Global Health Research Leaders Convene In Washington PARADE Editor Lee Kravitz as Keynote

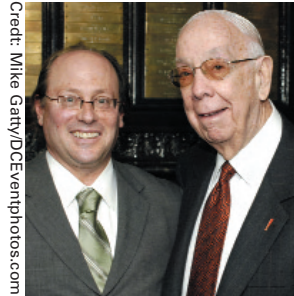


"Everyday Americans look to you—leaders in global health research—to keep them secure from bioterrorism, to keep them safe and to give them hope!" **PARADE** magazine editor-in-chief **Lee Kravitz** told the inaugural

class of **Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research** Ambassadors, December 4 at the National Press Club in Washington, DC.

Kravitz was the keynote speaker in a session that provided the Ambassadors with public opinion polling data, communications strategies and techniques to convey the value and importance of global health research. He said when it comes to effective communication with policy-makers, the media and the public, simple is best.

Rogers Society Executive Director **Karen A. Goraleski** encouraged Ambassadors to speak from their own experiences and add the broader message of the importance of increased U.S. investment in all global health research.



**Lee Kravitz, The Hon. Paul G. Rogers**

As advocates, Ambassadors will engage in specific outreach activities in their regions through letters to the editor, op-eds, editorial board visits, meetings with policy makers and presentation to non-science audiences.

Research!America President **Mary Woolley** told Ambassadors that spending a few minutes per month on high-impact advocacy for research can have impressive results.

For more information about the Society, see [www.researchamerica.org/pgrsociety/index.html](http://www.researchamerica.org/pgrsociety/index.html).

### Rogers Addresses Fogarty Center

Research!America Chair Emeritus, **The Honorable Paul G. Rogers** spoke at the Fogarty International Center Strategic Planning Stakeholders Conference on December 12. The Fogarty Center is the international component of the NIH.

Rogers reminded the audience, which included three Ambassadors of the Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research, that they play a pivotal role in promoting the value and importance of global health research.

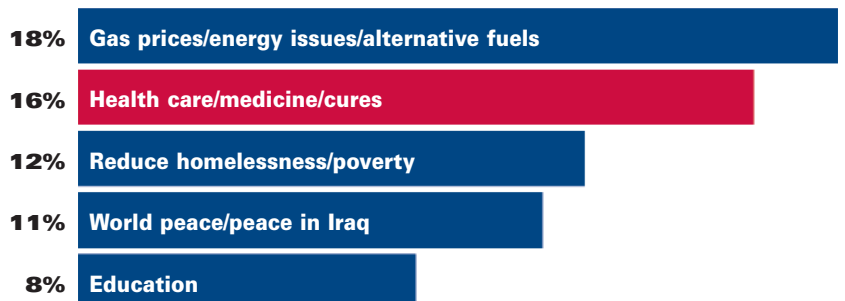
"Investing our nation's resources to improve the health of everyone on the planet is a task that unites us for self-interest and humanitarian reasons," Rogers said. "It's the smart thing to do for America. It's the right thing to do for the world."

## AMERICA Speaks

If the U.S. decided to invest in one thing to really make a difference in the world, what do you think that one thing should be? (first mentions)

ATTITUDES: GLOBAL HEALTH RESEARCH  
CHARLTON RESEARCH FOR RESEARCH!AMERICA, 2006

### Investing in Health Can Change the World



## White House Convenes Summit on Malaria

President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush presented the White House Summit on Malaria on December 14 to discuss and highlight measures to combat this preventable and treatable disease that kills 3,000 children in Africa every day.

The summit's objectives were to jump-start an effort to control malaria, educate the public about the disease and send a message globally about the need to work together to control malaria.

Melinda Gates, co-chair of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, spoke about her foundation's work, which includes a recently announced \$83.5 million investment to fight malaria. She called for better communication between those working in the field and the acceleration of malaria research.

## Australia Legalizes Therapeutic Cloning

After a four-year ban, Australia's House of Representatives voted December 6 to legalize the cloning of human embryos. This new law will allow therapeutic cloning, to produce new stem cells capable of forming every tissue in the human body. The Australian Senate passed the bill in November.

## Obesity Cited as No. 1 Kids' Health Issue

Obesity or being overweight is seen as the most important health issue for U.S. children, according to a new poll commissioned by Research!America and The Endocrine Society. More than a quarter of Americans (27%) named obesity as the top health issue for kids, followed by lack of health care/insurance (16%) and nutrition/unhealthy diet (9%).

Americans are divided on whether addressing obesity is an individual or societal issue. According to the poll, 52% think obesity is a public health issue that society should help solve; 46% say it is a private issue that people should deal with on their own.

"Clearly, Americans recognize the obesity epidemic facing this country and our children," said Leonard Wartofsky, MD, MPH, president of The Endocrine Society. "However, the poll shows that the public thinks we should address obesity as a public health issue to bolster the actions of individuals and families. Health care professionals and researchers need to help convey the importance of a stronger public health response to this epidemic."

For a full report of the findings, see [www.researchamerica.org](http://www.researchamerica.org).

## Did You Know?

*Continued from page 6*

The Anschutz Foundation donated \$25 million to the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center's Aurora campus, which will now be known as the Anschutz Medical Campus. UCDHSC is a Research!America member, and Vice Chancellor for External Affairs Jay A. Gershen, DDS, PhD, is a Research!America board member.

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U.S. doctorate degrees in science and engineering-related fields were at an all time high in 2005, according to a recent report released by the National Science Foundation. The number of PhD graduates from U.S. universities climbed for the third year in a row, but most of the growth was due to foreign students. The report is available at [www.nsf.gov/statistics/infbrief/nsf07301/](http://www.nsf.gov/statistics/infbrief/nsf07301/).

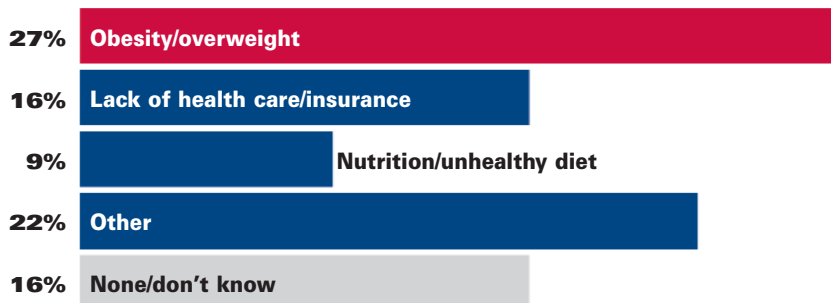
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The U.S. Naval Ship *Mercy*, featured in a 2005 *PARADE* magazine article by Research!America emeritus director Isadore Rosenfeld, MD, provided humanitarian aid to nearly 61,000 patients in the Philippines, Indonesia, Bangladesh and East Timor on its latest mission. Subsequent polls in Indonesia and Bangladesh showed that perceptions about the United States were more favorable afterward.

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## Most Important Health Issues Facing Children

What do you think is the most important health issue facing children in the U.S. today? (first mentions)



SOURCE: ENDOCRINE POLL, 2006  
CHARLTON RESEARCH COMPANY FOR RESEARCH!AMERICA

# ComingUp

February 1, 2007—Research!America, in partnership with **Abbott**, will present **Bridging the Sciences**, a research partners forum, at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. National Science Foundation Director **Arden Bement Jr., PhD**, will keynote. See [www.researchamerica.org/outreach/2007\\_dc\\_forum.html](http://www.researchamerica.org/outreach/2007_dc_forum.html).

February 2, 2007—The **National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute** encourages Americans everywhere to wear red for **National “Wear Red” Day** to support women’s heart disease awareness. See [www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/hearttruth/events/nwrd.htm](http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/hearttruth/events/nwrd.htm).

February 6, 2007—Research!America and the **American Association for the Advancement of Science** will present a **National Institutes of Health messaging meeting** following the release of the President’s FY 2008 Budget. The meeting will take place at the AAAS in Washington, DC.

March 20, 2007—Research!America’s **11th Annual Advocacy Awards gala, National Forum and annual meeting** will be in Washington, DC. For more information see [www.researchamerica.org/outreach/awards2007.html](http://www.researchamerica.org/outreach/awards2007.html) and [www.researchamerica.org/outreach/forum07.html](http://www.researchamerica.org/outreach/forum07.html).

# Advocacy & Action

## New Congress to Vote on Stem Cell Research Early in 2007

Incoming Speaker of the House **Nancy Pelosi (CA)** and Senate Majority Leader **Harry Reid (NV)** have announced they will make passage of a bill identical to the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act (H.R. 810) a priority at the beginning of the 110th Congress. *A vote could happen as soon as mid-January.*

*Stem cell research advocates must speak out loudly and early because of the compressed timeline.* The legislation also will likely need enough support in the House and Senate to override a second Presidential veto. Visit [www.researchamerica.org/advocacy](http://www.researchamerica.org/advocacy) for the latest news on stem cell research legislation and to make your voice heard.

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