A message from Research!America Leadership

The momentum to advance research and innovation is building among Americans and policymakers across the political spectrum as legislation to accelerate the discovery, development and delivery of new treatments and cures for patients moves forward. Americans care deeply about federal support for research to tackle deadly and disabling diseases like Alzheimer’s, cancer and emerging health threats. The cancer ‘moonshot’ initiative, precision medicine, and efforts to address opioid abuse and antimicrobial resistance demonstrate the commitment of elected officials to protecting the health of Americans. Congressional action in 2015 that removed barriers to innovation such as making the R&D tax credit both stronger and permanent, and suspending the medical device tax, thus broadened our ability to expand cutting-edge research and bring state-of-the-art technologies to patients. Bipartisan support for research is not only a win for patients but a win for our economy and a win for our global competitiveness in science and innovation. A majority of Americans agree, as illustrated in our national public opinion surveys, which help to inform policymakers about the priorities of their constituents. Research for health continues to be a priority for Americans who believe the public and private sectors play critical roles in treating and preventing disease, improving quality of life, creating jobs and sustaining economic growth.

The desire to assure our nation’s preeminence in science remains strong among Americans. Elected officials and candidates running for national office should embrace that same level of commitment if we are to stay one step ahead of the next global health threat. They must also redouble efforts to assure sustained and predictable funding increases for our federal health agencies, assure the conduct of health services research and social and behavioral research, pass measures aimed at assuring faster medical progress and repeal the medical device tax. By enacting smart policies and bringing sufficient resources to bear, we will accelerate medical progress at a greater pace, and in so doing, find the solutions to what ails us.

Among recent survey results:

- 78% of Americans agree that Congress should make health promotion and disease prevention research a priority.
- 59% of Americans say they are willing to share their personal health information to advance medical research.
- 74% of Americans say it is important that Congress pass legislation to increase the pace of medical progress.
- A strong majority (81%) agree that Congress should support legislation that will encourage private investments in medical research.
- 79% say it is important that the U.S. work to improve health globally through research and innovation.
A message from The American Medical Association

The American Medical Association (AMA) is pleased to join Research!America in its release of America Speaks: Poll Data Summary, Volume 16. This series offers timely insight for policymakers, practitioners and the public and is a must-read for anyone concerned about medical research.

As Americans prepare to elect a new president and a new Congress later this year, Research!America’s findings show they are looking for leaders with a strong commitment to evidence-based public policies. Further, voters are looking for candidates who place a high priority on increasing funding for medical research. And overwhelmingly, they believe Congress should place a high priority on disease prevention and health promotion research.

Like Research!America and a growing majority of Americans, the AMA and America’s physicians understand that research is the foundation of continued progress in medicine. In the last century, research made possible a number of life-saving medical advances such as vaccines, antibiotics and antiseptics. Whether it is identifying genes linked to particular illnesses, developing safer medications with fewer side effects, or studying effective approaches to creating health equity for patients of all cultural identities, research is fundamental.

Research will undoubtedly drive our discovery of ways to prevent and treat chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes and asthma.

The AMA is proud of our partnership in Research!America’s mission to increase awareness of the benefits of health research and to advocate for a greater investment of resources in such research. This work is vitally important if we are to continue building on our nation’s strong history of medical innovation for the benefit of future generations.

Research underpins each of the AMA’s three areas of strategic focus:

- Improving health outcomes associated with type 2 diabetes and heart disease;
- Envisioning and creating the medical school of the future, while equipping future physicians to be lifelong learners who care for a diverse population, integrate technology into the care setting and lead medical teams; and
- Enabling physicians to provide innovative, high-quality care through practice improvements.

James L. Madara, MD
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND CEO
AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
3 Election-Year Priorities

5 Advancing Discovery, Development and Delivery

8 Responding to Health Threats

11 Job Creation & Competitiveness

13 One State’s Perspective: Louisiana

15 Campaign for Cures

16 Survey Methodology

17 Board of Directors
Election-Year Priorities

“It is incredibly humbling to see, firsthand, the remarkable efforts researchers, health care professionals, advocates, and families are making to improve the lives of those diagnosed with incurable diseases. It is imperative that we continue to invest in scientific research, in Missouri and across the nation, to support those efforts and advance progress toward cures that will save lives and drive down the cost of care.”

SEN. ROY BLUNT (R-MO)
“Early on in my tenure as LHHS (Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee) chair, I recognized that adequate disease research was not only a clearly unmet need in our society, but it was an issue that could and should be met with bipartisan cooperation and agreement by lawmakers.”

REPRESENTATIVE TOM COLE (R-OK)
Advancing Discovery, Development and Delivery

“We are working in the Senate health committee to send to the president’s desk bipartisan legislation that would safely bring lifesaving drugs and medical devices to patients more quickly.”

SEN. LAMAR ALEXANDER (R-TN)
Majority Agree that Basic Research is Critical

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Even if it brings no immediate benefits, basic scientific research that advances the frontiers of knowledge is necessary and should be supported by the federal government?

- **Strongly agree**: 24%
- **Somewhat agree**: 46%
- **Somewhat disagree**: 11%
- **Strongly disagree**: 4%
- **Not sure**: 15%

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2015

Plurality say Health Services Research Funding Should Increase

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) is the federal agency charged with funding health services research. Which of the following statements most accurately reflects your view?

- **Funding for AHRQ is not a priority**: 18%
- **AHRQ funding should be increased as a strategy to improve health care quality and safety in the U.S.**: 45%
- **Don’t know/no opinion**: 36%

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2016

Americans Split on Whether Health Care is Based on Latest Research

Do you believe the health care services you personally receive are based on the best and most recent research available?

- **Yes**: 41%
- **No**: 36%
- **Not sure**: 23%

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2016

Americans Willing to Share Personal Health Data for Research

For which of the following would you be willing to share your personal health information? (choose all that apply)

- **To advance medical research**: 59%
- **So health care providers can improve patient care**: 56%
- **So public health officials can better track disease and disability and the causes**: 46%
- **None**: 14%
- **Not sure**: 12%

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2016

“My family has experienced firsthand how important it is to find a critical balance between innovative treatments and appropriate safeguards for patients. The American people need access to cutting edge treatments, but also must be able to trust the information they are given about that treatment.”

ROBERT M. CALIFF, MD | COMMISSIONER, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
Majority say Critical to Increase NIH Funding

The National Institutes of Health’s (NIH) mission is to seek fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems and the application of that knowledge to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce illness and disability. How important is it to increase funding for NIH?

- 27% Very important
- 41% Somewhat important
- 14% Not too important
- 4% Not at all important
- 15% Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2015

Majority say Important to Boost FDA Funding

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is the agency responsible for the safety and effectiveness of human and veterinary drugs, biological products, medical devices, our nation’s food supply, cosmetics and products that emit radiation. How important is it to increase funding for the FDA?

- 33% Very important
- 40% Somewhat important
- 10% Not too important
- 4% Not at all important
- 13% Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2016

“Collaboration between academia and industry proved itself time and again in the 20th Century – delivering such progress as antibiotics, vaccines for polio and other dread diseases, increasingly effective cancer treatments, and medicines to cut the risk of heart disease. It’s important that we understand and strengthen the qualities that make such collaborations work.”

JOHN C. LECHLEITER, PHD
CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, ELI LILLY AND COMPANY
Responding to Health Threats

“If you just look at history of new infections – the pandemic flu of 1918, the first recognition of Ebola in 1976, HIV in 1981 – as microbes evolve with humans, there will be a continual emergence of brand new infections. To think that it’s going to stop is extremely naive, because the history of civilization has told us that this just happens in a continuum. What can we do about it? We can try and prepare ourselves as best as we can.”

ANTHONY S. FAUCI, MD
DIRECTOR, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES
“Even the most successful public health programs require constant evaluation, innovation, and improvement. The progress we achieve builds on itself to create new opportunities to improve the nation’s health and reduce disparities.”

**THOMAS R. FRIEDEN, MD, MPH | DIRECTOR, CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION**
Research Important to Improving Global Health

How important would you say it is that the U.S. work to improve health globally through research and innovation?

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in September 2015

44% Very important
35% Somewhat important
8% Not too important
3% Not at all important
11% Not sure

Public Dollars Critical to Suicide Prevention

How important do you think it is for the U.S. to invest public dollars in the prevention of suicide?

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in September 2015

33% Very important
34% Somewhat important
14% Not too important
7% Not at all important
13% Not sure

Public Investment in Mental Health Research Not Enough

Do you think public investment in mental health research is enough, not enough, about right or not sure?

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in September 2015

14% Enough
54% Not enough
10% About right
22% Not sure

“You don’t have to be a psychiatrist to know our society has a serious mental health problem. To address this issue, we need facilities and practitioners who can help people with mental illness and we need to support research that will lead to faster diagnosis and more effective treatments.”

HERBERT PARDES, MD | EXECUTIVE VICE CHAIR, NEW YORK-PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL
Majority say Important to Increase NSF Funding

The National Science Foundation (NSF) works to promote the progress of science; advance the national health, prosperity and welfare; and secure the national defense. How important is it to increase funding for NSF?

35% Very important
37% Somewhat important
9% Not too important
4% Not at all important
15% Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2016

Research is Key to Job Creation

How important is investing in research to job creation, technological breakthroughs and economic growth?

55% Very important
34% Somewhat important
5% Not too important
2% Not at all important
5% Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2016

Job Creation & Competitiveness

“As a committed partner in the global community of scientific research, NSF believes it is imperative that all of us promote the benefits that investing in research and discovery yield to everyone on the planet.”

FRANCE A. CÓRDOVA, PHD
DIRECTOR, NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
**Majority of Americans Agree Research Investments Fuel the Economy**

*Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: If the United States increased public investment in scientific research, it would help grow the economy?*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Somewhat agree</th>
<th>Somewhat disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Don’t know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: A ResearchAmerica and ScienceDebate.org survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in September 2015

---

**Plurality Say U.S. Will Be Leader in Health Care in 2020**

*In your view, which of the following will be considered the number one world leader in health care in the year 2020?*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>United States</th>
<th>China</th>
<th>India</th>
<th>European Union</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>43%</td>
<td></td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: A ResearchAmerica survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2016

---

**Plurality Say U.S. Will Lead in Science and Technology in 2020**

*In your view, which of the following will be considered the number one world leader in science and technology in the year 2020?*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>United States</th>
<th>China</th>
<th>India</th>
<th>European Union</th>
<th>Other</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44%</td>
<td></td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: A ResearchAmerica survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2016

---

**Only a Third Believe U.S. Health Care System is Best in World**

*Do you believe the United States has the best health care system in the world?*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>33%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td></td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: A ResearchAmerica survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2016

---

“Investments in biomedical research through NIH are advancing human health, spurring innovations in science and technology, stimulating economic growth, and laying the groundwork for the future of the United States biomedical research enterprise. We have never witnessed a time of greater promise for advances in medicine than right now.”

**FRANCIS S. COLLINS, MD, PHD**  
**DIRECTOR, NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH**
One State’s Perspective: Louisiana

“Many diseases that we once felt were death sentences; progress in research has totally changed their outlook. I was doing my residency when HIV/AIDS was first recognized. It was truly a death sentence. And yet now if someone takes the prescribed dosage of medicine, they are not going to die from HIV/AIDS. We must acknowledge our research successes and apply that same urgency to new diseases.”

SEN. BILL CASSIDY, MD (R-LA)
Louisianans say Investments in Research Important to Local Economy

In terms of jobs and incomes, how important do you think spending money on medical research is to Louisiana’s economy?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34%</td>
<td>Very important</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41%</td>
<td>Somewhat important</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Not too important</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4%</td>
<td>Not at all important</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6%</td>
<td>Not sure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Louisiana Should Prioritize STEM Education and Careers

Do you agree or disagree the Louisiana state legislature should assign a higher priority to improving education focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics and careers in those fields?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>48%</td>
<td>Strongly agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32%</td>
<td>Somewhat agree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7%</td>
<td>Somewhat disagree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3%</td>
<td>Strongly disagree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9%</td>
<td>Not sure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“Louisianans understand the importance of research. They know it represents the most direct route to finding solutions for our state’s most pressing problems. To that end, our citizens agree that additional support is needed to maximize the impact of our research.”

F. KING ALEXANDER, PHD
PRESIDENT, LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
Campaign for Cures, a national voter education initiative led by Research!America and partner organizations, is elevating the impact of research and innovation to our health and the economy in the national conversation during election season. Through strategic grassroots activities, communications initiatives and partnerships with preeminent voter education groups, the campaign is raising awareness about the importance of sustaining medical progress and galvanizing research advocates to ensure their voices are prominent on the campaign trail. For more information, visit www.campaignforcures.org.
Research!America began commissioning surveys in 1992 in an effort to understand public attitudes toward medical, health and scientific research, and this informs our advocacy. The results of Research!America’s surveys have proven invaluable to our alliance of member organizations and, in turn, to the fulfillment of our mission to make research to improve health a higher national priority. In response to growing usage and demand, Research!America has expanded its portfolio, which includes state, national and issue-specific surveys. More survey data is available by request or at www.researchamerica.org.

**SURVEY METHODOLOGY**

Online surveys are conducted with a sample size of 800-1,052 adults (age 18+) and a maximum theoretical sampling error of +/- 3.2%. Data are demographically representative of adult U.S. residents. Survey data in this publication was conducted by Zogby Analytics.
OFFICERS

*Hon. John Edward Porter  
Chair  
Senior Advisor, Hogan Lovells US LLP  
United States Representative (1980-2001)

*Hon. Michael N. Castle  
Vice Chair  
Partner, DLA Piper, LLP  
Governor of Delaware (1985-1992)  
United States Representative (1993-2011)

*Mary Woolley  
President & CEO  
Research!America

*E. Albert Reece, M.D., Ph.D., MBA  
Secretary  
Vice President of Medical Affairs;  
The John Z. And Ahiko Bowers Distinguished Professor and Dean, University of Maryland School of Medicine

*Lucinda Maine, Ph.D., R.Ph.  
Treasurer  
Executive Vice President & CEO  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy

BOARD MEMBERS

Tenley E. Albright, M.D.  
Director, Collaborative Initiatives  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Hortensia Amaro, Ph.D.  
Associate Vice Provost, Dean’s Professor of Social Work and Preventive Medicine  
University of Southern California School of Social Work

Georges C. Benjamin, M.D.  
Executive Director  
American Public Health Association

*Nancy Brown  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Heart Association

Susan Dentzer  
President and CEO  
Network for Excellence in Health Innovation

*Victor J. Dzau, M.D.  
President  
National Academy of Medicine

Joseph M. Feczko, M.D.

*Jay A. Gershen, DDS, Ph.D.  
President  
Northeast Ohio Medical University

*William N. Hait, M.D., Ph.D.  
Global Head  
Janssen Research & Development, LLC

Larry Hausner, MBA  
President  
ConStrat

Mary J.C. Hendrix, Ph.D.  
President  
Shepherd University

Martha N. Hill, Ph.D., R.N., FAAN  
Dean Emerita; Professor of Nursing, Medicine and Public Health  
The Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing

Rush D. Holt, Ph.D.  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Association for the Advancement of Science  
United States Representative (1999-2015)

Harry Johns  
President and CEO  
Alzheimer’s Association

Evan Jones  
Managing Member  
jVen Capital

Elizabeth Baker Keffer  
Managing Director and Chief Network Officer  
BDT Capital Partners

Debra R. Lappin, J.D.  
Principal  
FaegreBD Consulting

*Alan I. Leshner, Ph.D.  
Chief Executive Officer Emeritus  
American Association for the Advancement of Science

James L. Madara, M.D.  
Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer  
American Medical Association

Mark McClellan, M.D., Ph.D., MPA  
Director, Duke-Robert J. Margolis, MD, Center for Health Policy  
Duke University

*Hon. Kweisi Mfume  
United States Representative (1987-1996)

*Herbert Pardes, M.D.  
Executive Vice Chair  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

*Sudip S. Parikh, Ph.D.  
Vice President & General Manager  
Health & Analytics  
Battelle

*Amy Comstock Rick, J.D.  
President and CEO  
Food and Drug Law Institute

*Larry J. Shapiro, M.D.  
Spencer T. and Ann W. Olin Distinguished Professor;  
Executive Vice Chancellor for Medical Affairs and Dean Emeritus, School of Medicine  
Washington University in St. Louis

Laing Rogers Sisto  
Community Leader

Gregory Sorensen, M.D.  
Executive Chairman  
IMRIS

*Keith R. Yamamoto, Ph.D.  
Professor;  
Vice Chancellor for Science Policy and Strategy;  
Vice Dean for Research, School of Medicine  
University of California, San Francisco

Elias A. Zerhouni, M.D.  
President, Global Research & Development  
Sanofi  
Former Director, National Institutes of Health, 2002 – 2008

*Executive Committee Member