



THE AD HOC GROUP FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

For Immediate Release

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Ad Hoc Group Statement on House Passage of FY 2020 Appropriations Package

June 19, 2019 – *The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research issued the following statement in response to House passage of H.R. 2740, which includes fiscal year (FY) 2020 funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) within Division A.*

The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research commends the House of Representatives for continuing in FY 2020 its steadfast commitment to medical research supported by the NIH. In addition to providing the hope of better health to millions of patients, NIH funding advances science, innovation, and economic growth. The \$2 billion increase included in this bill enables the sustainable, predictable growth above inflation necessary to realize the invaluable promise of new cures, diagnostics, and treatments offered through NIH.

In particular, we are appreciative that the House-approved spending bill would continue the sustained funding momentum of the last four years by supporting the base budgets of all NIH institutes and centers while also continuing funding for specific initiatives, such as programs established in the 21st Century Cures Act.

We are grateful to House Appropriations Committee leadership for the longstanding emphasis they have placed on the importance of medical research. We also continue to be mindful that completing the appropriations process will require lawmakers and the White House first to finalize a deal to raise the budget caps imposed by the Budget Control Act of 2011. The Ad Hoc Group encourages Congress and the administration to quickly reach an agreement on lifting the budget caps for FY 2020 and FY 2021 and to establish topline spending levels that allow for timely enactment of the FY 2020 spending bills to avoid delays in lifesaving medical research.

The Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research is a coalition of over 300 patient and voluntary health groups, medical and scientific societies, academic and research organizations, and industry. The Ad Hoc Group has one mission: to enhance the federal investment in biomedical, behavioral, social, and population-based research by increasing the funding for the National Institutes of Health.