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Dear Dr. Bhattacharya:

As you assume your new role as director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the undersigned organizations representing patients, scientists, clinicians, research and academic institutions, and industry write to invite you to meet with the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, a coalition of stakeholder groups dedicated to enhancing the federal investment in biomedical, behavioral, social, and population-based research supported by NIH.

Our community is eager to find opportunities to work together to make America healthy again and to advance the priorities you outlined for NIH in your confirmation hearing. We hope you agree that there is opportunity for our organizations to leverage our expertise in support of aligned areas of interest and action, such as combatting chronic disease and supporting early career researchers. To that end, we welcome the opportunity to hear directly from you about your vision for the agency and specific ways that our organizations can collaborate with you and your team on decisions affecting the agency and the medical research it supports nationwide.

We appreciate that in recent weeks, you have taken positive steps to alleviate bureaucratic burden on NIH staff, including by allowing them to resume their participation in scientific conferences and engagement with the NIH grantee community. At the same time, many of our organizations are strongly concerned about other actions, including many that predate your arrival at NIH, that have caused significant disruptions across the agency and its grantees and contractors. The concerns that such actions have felt abrupt, with no proper transition period or input from the community, are compounded by reports of significant additional changes to come.

Our community shares your goal of optimizing the federal investment in NIH, and many of our organizations have provided input to Congress to that end and look forward to working with you on improving NIH. While we all bring varied perspectives to that discussion, one unanimous point of agreement is that any reforms to the agency should build upon its longstanding track record of success and bipartisan support, rather than risk undermining and destabilizing it.

We believe you share this vision of ensuring that our medical research enterprise continues to thrive and that NIH remains the world's premier medical research agency. With that mutual interest and in the spirit of the transparency and deliberation that we all seek, we hope you will accept our invitation to engage with the Ad Hoc Group. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[undersigned organizations]

126 Signatories as of May 8, 2025

Academy for Radiology and Biomedical Imaging Research

ACT for NIH

Akari Foundation

Alliance for Academic Internal Medicine (AAIM)

Alliance for Aging Research

Alliance to Solve PANS & Immune-Related Encephalopathies

American Academy of Neurology

American Academy of Nursing

American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation

American Academy of Sleep Medicine

American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research

American Association of Colleges of Nursing

American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP)

American Association of Physicists in Medicine

American Association of Veterinary Medical Colleges

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN)

American College of Osteopathic Internists

American College of Radiology

American College of Rheumatology

American Diabetes Association

American Gastroenterological Association

American Heart Association

American Massage Therapy Association

American Psychological Association Services

American Society for Investigative Pathology

American Society for Microbiology

American Society for Nutrition

American Society for Radiation Oncology

American Society of Anesthesiologists

American Society of Clinical Psychopharmacology

American Society of Hematology

American Society of Human Genetics

American Society of Nephrology

American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

American Statistical Association

American Thoracic Society

Americans for Medical Progress

Association for Academic Pathology (AAPath)

Association for Clinical Oncology (ASCO)

Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries

Association of American Medical Colleges

Association of American Universities

Association of Bioethics Program Directors

Association of Independent Research Institutes

Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities

Biophysical Society

Center for Endometriosis Care

Childhood Arthritis and Rheumatology Research Alliance

Chris CJ Johnson Foundation Inc

Coalition of Skin Diseases

Council of Graduate Schools

Council on Social Work Eduction (CSWE)

CURE Epilepsy

CURE GABA-A

Cure HHT

Dravet Syndrome Foundation

Emory University

Entomological Society of America

Epilepsy Foundation of America

Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology

Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences

Foundation for Sarcoidosis Research

Gerontological Society of America

Good Days

GRIN2B Foundation

HealthyWomen

Hermansky-Pudlak Syndrome Network Inc

Hope for HIE

Infectious Diseases Society of America

International Bipolar Foundation

Interstitial Cystitis Association of America, Inc.

Keck School of Medicine

Kidney Cancer Association

Lupus Foundation of America

M-CM Network

Marymount University

Medical Library Association

Mississippi Metabolics Foundation

Monell Chemical Senses Center

National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research

National Association for Biomedical Research

National Association of Veterans Research and Education Foundations (NAVREF)

National Eczema Association

National Health Council

National Kidney Foundation

NDRI

New Jersey Association for Biomedical Research

NORSE Institute

North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition

North American Vascular Biology Organization

NYU Langone Health

Office of Research, Marymount University

Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance

Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN)

Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy

Patient-Led Research Collaborative

Penn State Health

Pennsylvania Society for Biomedical Research

Phelan-McDermid Syndrome Foundation

Population Association of America

Project Sleep

Pulmonary Hypertension Association

Recurrent Pregnancy Loss Association

Research! America

Restless Legs Syndrome Foundation

Sanford Burnham Prebys

Sanford Burnham Prebys

Sjogren's Foundation

Society for Imaging Informatics in Medicine

Society for Neuroscience

Society for Vascular Surgery

Society of Interventional Radiology

Society of Radiologists in Ultrasound

Susan G. Komen

Texas Biomedical Research Institute

The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration

The Judy Nicholson Foundation

The Lundquist Institute

The Myalgic Encephalomyelitis Action Network (#MEAction)

The National Pancreas Foundation

The STARR Coalition

The University of Houston TSC Alliance University of Hawai'i System Usher Syndrome Coalition VentureWell