

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Testimony before the  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies

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Good Morning, Chairwoman DeLauro, Ranking Minority Member Cole, and distinguished Subcommittee Members. I am Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D., and I am the Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

I am joined by Christopher Austin, M.D., Director for the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS), Patricia Flatley Brennan, R.N., Ph.D, Director of the National Library of Medicine (NLM), Helene Langevin, M.D., Director of the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH), Eliseo J. Pérez-Stable, M.D., Director of the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD), and Bruce Tromberg, Ph.D., Director of the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB),

I want to thank the Committee for its work on the Labor-HHS funding bill for FY 2020 that passed the House in June. We are grateful for your ongoing bipartisan support in helping NIH to continue our longstanding commitment to leading the world in biomedical research that will turn discovery into health.

Madam Chairwoman, I remember that, in April, you announced your intention to hold hearings with NIH Institute Directors who have not testified.

studies. With the participation of the CTSA Program hubs, Trial

provide rare diseases researchers with a palette of vectors to treat many, and potentially all, rare genetic diseases.

### National Library of Medicine (NLM)

Through its cutting-edge research, information systems, collections, and training programs, NLM plays an essential role in catalyzing basic biomedical science and data-driven discovery. NLM acquires, organizes, curates, and delivers up-to-date biomedical information across the United

conventional medicine. This diverse group of health practices includes natural products, such as dietary supplements, plant-based products, and probiotics, as well as mind-body approaches, like yoga, massage therapy, meditation, mindfulness-based stress reduction, spinal manipulation, and acupuncture. Integrative health care seeks to bring conventional and complementary approaches together in a safe, coordinated way.

Consumers often use complementary health approaches without understanding whether they

management and related conditions in military and veteran populations. The PMC currently funds 11 pragmatic clinical trial research project grants and a resource coordinating center, totaling approximately \$81 million over six years, with the NCCIH contributing more than half of these funds. The studies will not only show if specific nonpharmacologic approaches are effective for pain management, but also how they can be integrated into a healthcare system. This initiative may lead to new pain management practices within the DoD and VA and support the use of nonpharmacologic approaches for pain management in the general population.

#### National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)

I know that many Members of the Subcommittee have interest in examining individual factors and systems in which we live, learn, work, and play that influence health status. The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) leads scientific research to improve minority health and to reduce health disparities. That research has evolved from a basic descriptive understanding of what health disparities are and who is most affected to discovering the complexity of factors involved in health and its outcomes. NIMHD works to transform the field of minority health and health disparities by building on evidence-based advances in promising areas such as genomics, behavioral and social science, and health information technology that could be beneficial in improving the health of racial and ethnic minority



NIBIB-supported research in health informatics technology (HIT) is also building toward practical, patient-centered applications such as using data to help doctors make clinical decisions,