

American Society of Hematology
Statement to the Senate Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS, Education, and Related Agencies
FY 2023 Funding for NIH, CDC, and HRSA
May 11, 2022

The American Society of Hematology (ASH) represents more than 18,000 clinicians and scientists committed to the study and treatment of blood and blood-related diseases, including malignant disorders such as leukemia, lymphoma, and myeloma, as well as non-malignant conditions such as sickle cell disease (SCD), thalassemia, bone marrow failure, venous thromboembolism, and hemophilia.

National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Hematology research, funded by many institutes at the NIH, including the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), the National Institute on Aging (NIA), and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), has been an important component of this investment in the nation's health. NIH-funded research has led to tremendous advances in treatments for children and adults with blood cancers and other hematologic diseases and disorders. Hematology advances also help patients with other types of cancers, heart disease, and stroke. Basic research on blood has aided physicians who treat patients with heart disease, strokes, end-stage renal disease, cancer, and AIDS.

The field of hematology continues to make great strides in conquering blood diseases thanks to novel technologies, mechanistic insights, and cutting-edge therapeutic strategies. Groundbreaking scientific research highlighted at the December 2021 ASH Annual Meeting and Exposition, much of which was either funded by NIH or derived from NIH-fu

related basic science and clinical research questions that emerged in the first few months of the pandemic; the research agenda continues to be updated as our understanding of the natural history and treatment of COVID-19 improves.

ASH thanks Congress for the robust bipartisan support that has resulted in seven consecutive years of welcome and much needed funding increases for NIH. For fiscal year (FY) 2023, ASH joins nearly 400 organizations and institutions across the NIH stakeholder community to strongly support the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research [recommendation](#) that NIH receive a program level of at least \$49.048 billion. This funding level would allow for meaningful growth above inflation in the base budget that would expand NIH's capacity to support promising science in all disciplines. ASH also joins the community in strongly urging lawmakers to ensure that any funding for the new Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) supplement the \$49 billion recommendation for NIH's base budget, rather than supplant the essential foundational investment in the NIH. In addition, ASH supports the Administration's proposal to supplement NIH's budget with additional mandatory funding to speed the pace of thndatorentat (e)4oJ (t)-2cYor

ASH thanks Congress for the \$3 million provided for the data collection program in FY 2022. This funding will allow CDC to continue to support data collection efforts in all of the states currently participating in the program. ASH also appreciates the Administration's request for \$4.5 million in funding for the program in FY 2023. However, the Society strongly supports providing CDC with at least \$10 million in FY 2023 for the Sickle Cell Data Collection program. This additional funding is necessary to allow the program to continue in the states currently participating in the programs and to also expand the programs to include additional states with the goal of covering the majority of the U.S. SCD population over the next five years.

To further support CDC's sickle cell data collection efforts, ASH urges the inclusion of the following report language under CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD):

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