More Than Three Decades: Inspiring HIV Discoveries Through Basic Science Research

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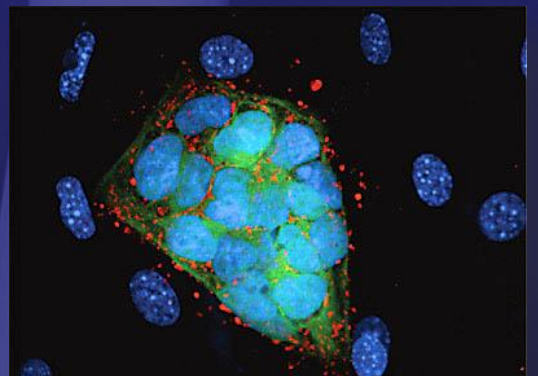
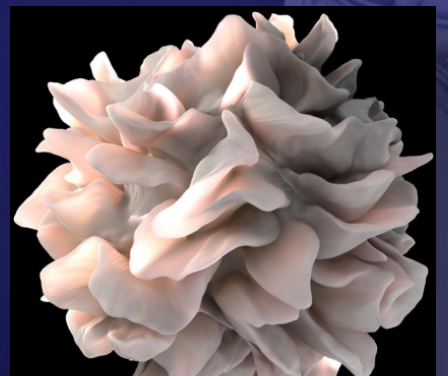
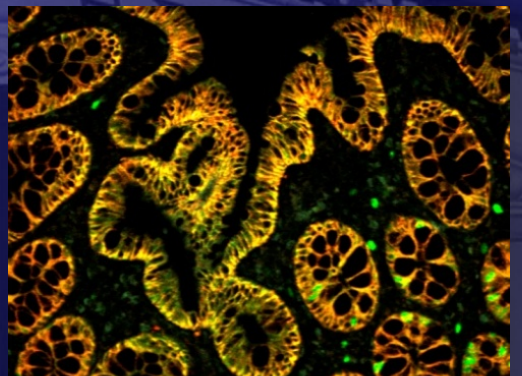
National Institutes of Health
Office of AIDS Research




NIH…

Turning Discovery Into Health

Basic Scientific Research at NIH

NIH Director's Blog

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Basic Research: Building a Firm Foundation for Biomedicine

Posted on February 27th, 2018 by Dr. Francis Collins

Credit: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH

A major part of NIH's mission is to support basic research that generates fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems. Such knowledge serves as the foundation for the biomedical advances needed to protect and improve our health—and the health of generations to come.

Of course, it's often hard to predict how this kind of basic research might benefit human populations, and the lag time between discovery and medical application (if that happens at all) can be quite long. Some might argue, therefore, that basic research is not a good use of funds, and all of NIH's support should go to specific disease targets.

To counter that perception, I'm pleased to share some new findings that underscore the importance of publicly supported basic research. In an analysis of more than 28 million papers in the PubMed.gov database, researchers found NIH contributed to published research that was associated with every single one of the 210 new drugs approved by the Food and Drug Administration from 2010 through 2016 [1]. More than 90 percent of that contributory research was basic—that is, related to the discovery of fundamental biological mechanisms, rather than actual development of the drugs themselves.

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Francis Collins, M.D., Ph.D.
Director, NIH

Vision for NIH HIV Research

End the HIV pandemic

AND

Improve the health of people with HIV

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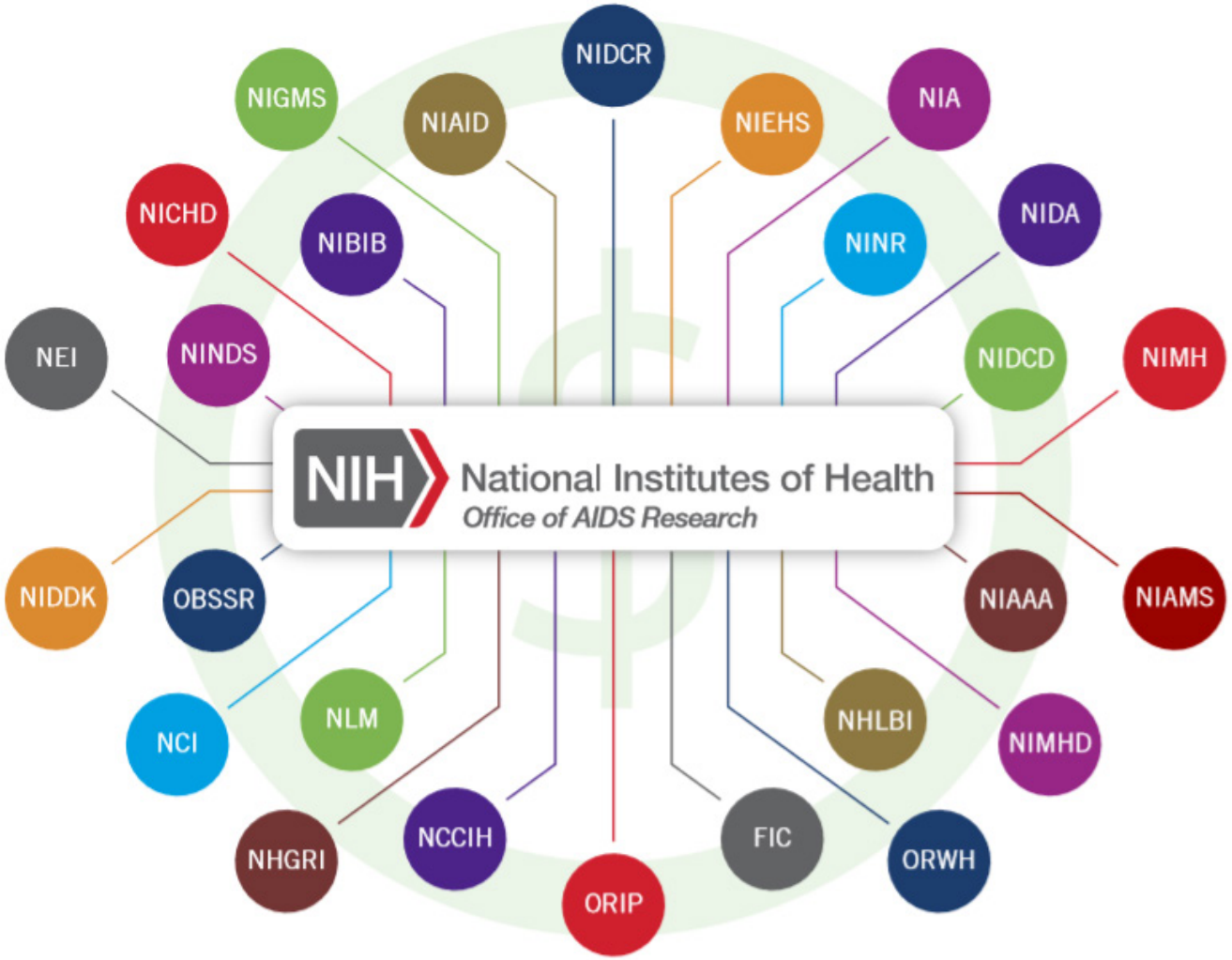
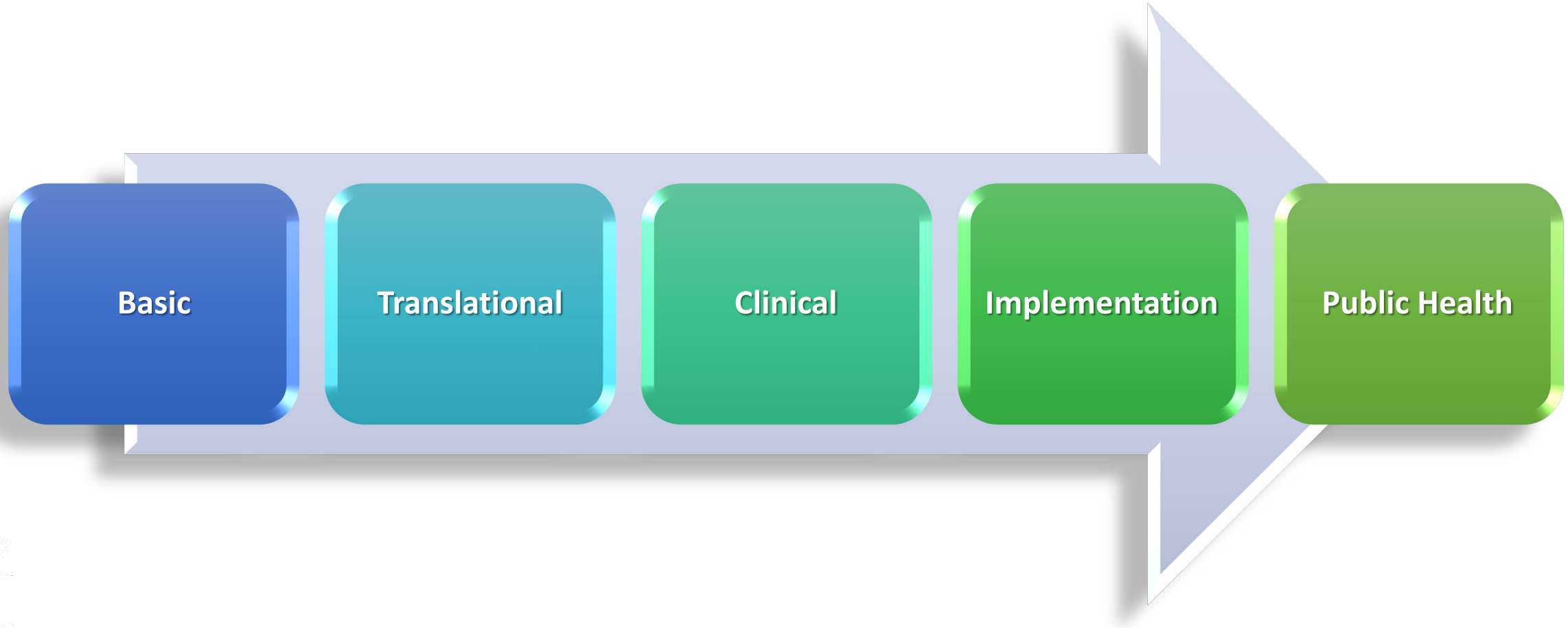
OAR Coordinates the NIH HIV Research Agenda



Basic Scientific Research in HIV/AIDS

- Provides the foundation for all HIV research areas
- Achieves remarkable scientific breakthroughs that prevent infections and benefit people with HIV
- Influences the entire HIV landscape
- Provides a focus to specific areas of study

HIV Research Pipeline



Basic Research Leads to Improved Health

U=U: PWH can achieve and maintain an undetectable viral load without risk of sexually transmitting the virus to an HIV-negative partner.

Looking Ahead

- How the virus remains hidden and becomes active even with ART
- How co-occurring infections and other health conditions develop and progress in PWH
- An effective vaccine to prevent HIV
- A cure for HIV

Today's Moderator

Carl W. Dieffenbach, Ph.D.
Director, Division of AIDS
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH

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Working Together to Find HIV/AIDS Solutions

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