

# NIAID International Research Activities FY 2020

#### **About NIAID**

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), conducts and supports basic and clinical research to better understand, treat, and prevent infectious, immunologic, and allergic diseases. For more than 60 years, NIAID research has led to new therapies, vaccines, diagnostics, and preventive strategies that have improved the health of millions of people in the United States and around the world.

# **Countries With NIAID Research Support**

NIAID supported research activities in 127 countries. Total NIAID international research funding was \$719.4 million.

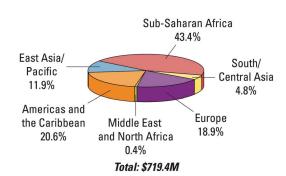


Countries With NIAID-Funded Activities, FY 2020 (n = 127)

#### **NIAID-Funded Research: Top 10 Foreign Countries**

- 1. South Africa
- 2. United Kingdom
- 3. Uganda
- 4. Brazil
- 5. Canada
- 6. Kenya
- 7. Peru
- 8. India
- 9. Australia
- 10. Malawi

#### **NIAID Funding by Region**



## **International Projects**

NIAID supported 1,718 international research projects with 57% of funding invested in HIV/AIDS studies, 25% focused on biodefense-related pathogens, and 18% used for research on other infectious and immunologic diseases.

#### **Total NIAID International Funding Expenditures**



## **NIAID Participants in the NIH Visiting Program**

In fiscal year (FY) 2020, the NIH Visiting Program welcomed 2,820 foreign scientists to conduct research in NIH laboratories. NIAID hosted 336 of these researchers from 51 countries including Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, South Korea, and the United Kingdom.

#### **NIAID Foreign Delegations and Visitors**

NIAID virtually hosted official delegations and visitors from Australia, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Canada, Chad, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Guinea, Haiti, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mongolia, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sweden, Taiwan, Tunisia, and Uganda.

#### **NIAID Staff Overseas**

NIAID has staff posted in Cambodia, China, Geneva, Guinea, India, Mali, Senegal, South Africa, and Uganda.

# **Selected NIAID International Programs**

Centers for Research in Emerging Infectious Diseases (CREID) network was launched in FY 2020. This coordinated group of research centers is situated in regions around the globe where emerging and re-emerging infectious disease outbreaks are likely.

COVID-19 Prevention Network (CoVPN) was formed in FY 2020 to bring networks and global partners together to address the pressing need for vaccines and monoclonal antibodies against SARS-CoV-2. Partners include the HIV Vaccine Trials Network, HIV Prevention Trials Network, Infectious Disease Clinical Research Consortium, and AIDS Clinical Trials Group.

Indo-U.S. Vaccine Action Program (VAP) involves U.S. and Indian scientists in collaborative, jointly funded research on tuberculosis (TB), antimicrobial resistance, human immunology, and vaccine and diagnostics development and evaluation. In FY 2020, the VAP Candidate Vaccine Advisory Committee reviewed COVID-19 vaccine development efforts in India.

U.S.-Brazil Collaborative Biomedical Research Program supports collaborative research projects between NIH-supported U.S. scientists and Brazilian investigators funded by the Brazil Ministry of Health. In FY 2020, the program awarded 12 grants on arboviruses, HIV/AIDS, neglected tropical diseases, TB, cancer, and neurological disorders.

U.S.-Japan Cooperative Medical Sciences Program (USJCMSP) addresses public health issues in the Asia-Pacific region with U.S. and Japanese funding. In FY 2020, the USJCMSP hosted the 22nd International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases in the Pacific Rim, which focused on the pathogenesis, prevention, and treatment of viral diseases of regional importance and featured a special session on COVID-19.

U.S.-South Africa Program for Collaborative Biomedical Research supports collaborations between U.S. and South African scientists on research related to TB, HIV, and HIV-associated co-morbidities, including cancer and other infectious diseases. Phase 2 of the program encourages collaborations with historically disadvantaged institutions and scientists in Kenya, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, and Uganda.

# **Selected NIAID-Supported International Advances**

NIAID's Rocky Mountain Laboratories (RML) worked with investigators from Italy and the United States to develop a new test, 4R RT-QuIC, to detect abnormal

forms of the tau protein, which is associated with uncommon types of neurodegenerative diseases called tauopathies. RML hopes to use cerebrospinal fluid to diagnose these and other neurological diseases, such as Alzheimer's disease.

The Adaptive COVID-19 Treatment Trial found that hospitalized patients with advanced COVID-19 and lung involvement who received remdesivir had a 31% faster recovery time than similar patients who received placebo. The trial was the first in the United States to evaluate an experimental treatment for COVID-19 and enrolled 1,063 patients from 68 global sites.

An NIH study found that cabotegravir, a long-acting HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) regimen injected once every 8 weeks, prevented HIV in men who have sex with men and transgender women who have sex with men. The study enrolled 4,570 HIV-negative men and transgender women at 43 sites in Argentina, Brazil, Peru, South Africa, Thailand, the United States, and Vietnam. Among people who acquired HIV, the study found an HIV incidence rate of 0.38% in the cabotegravir group compared with 1.21% in the PrEP group.

An international, randomized controlled trial found that a four-month daily regimen with high-dose rifapentine plus moxifloxacin is as safe and effective as the standard six-month daily regimen at curing drugsusceptible TB. More than 2,500 participants enrolled at 34 clinical sites in Brazil, Haiti, Hong Kong, India, Kenya, Malawi, Peru, South Africa, Thailand, Uganda, the United States, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe. Shorter regimens enable patients to be cured faster and may reduce treatment costs, improve patient quality of life, increase therapy completion, and reduce development of drug resistance.

## NIAID Office of Global Research (OGR)

OGR facilitates and coordinates NIAID's international activities and collaborative research programs. OGR works closely with other NIH Institutes and Centers, HHS offices and agencies, and numerous foreign government agencies.

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