

Issues and Updates

Federal Funding for Diabetes Increases Dramatically in Fiscal Year 1994

Before Congress adjourned for the 1993 session, the Fiscal Year 1994 Health Appropriations Bill was passed by both the House and the Senate. Thanks in part to the lobbying efforts of the American Diabetes Association, this bill contained substantial increases in funding for the National Institute of Diabetes, and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Division of Diabetes Translation, and the Search for the Diabetes Gene.

NIDDK, which conducts most of the diabetes research in the U.S., received \$716 million—a \$36 million increase from 1993. Of this, approximately 40% will fund diabetes biomedical research directly.

The Search for the Diabetes Gene, which has only been in existence since 1991, was awarded \$8 million in 1994 for continued research to isolate the gene or genes that may cause diabetes.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Diabetes Translation was allotted \$17.9 million for 1994, which is a huge jump from the \$8 million received last year. This money will allow this division of the CDC to continue translating diabetes research

findings into clinical and public health practice through diabetes control programs.

Hopefully, the generous increases appropriated for the upcoming fiscal year by Congress for diabetes research and related programs will assist numerous patients, physicians, and researchers in the effort to ultimately cure diabetes.

—Christianna L. Shortridge

ADA Events

Research Symposium: Pancreas and Islet Cell Transplantation, March 18–20, 1994, San Diego, CA.

54th Annual Meeting and Scientific Sessions: 11–14 June 1994, New Orleans, LA. Deadline: 7 January 1994 for submission of abstracts.

Contact: ADA, Professional Education Department, 1660 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

Program information: 703–549–1500, ext. 212 or ext. 215; registration information: 703–549–1500, ext. 330.

Diabetes Complications: Assessment, Treatment, Prevention
13 April 1994

Rosemont, IL

Location: Holiday Inn

Sponsorship: The American Diabetes Association/Illinois Affiliate, the Diabetes Educators of the Chicago Area, the American Association of Diabetes Educators.

Contact: Sue Apsey, American Diabetes Association/Northern Illinois Affiliate, 6 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 1202, Chicago, IL 60602. Tel: 312–346–1805 or 800–433–4966.

Women and Diabetes
29 April 1994

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Sponsorship: American Diabetes Association/Pennsylvania Affiliate, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Magee-Women's Hospital.

Topics include: Implications of the DCCT results, hormonal therapy, and the long-term complications of diabetes.

Contact: Trish Smith, UPMC Department of Conference Management, Nose-Barkan Building, Suite 512, 3811 O'Hara Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Tel: 412–647–8126; Fax: 412–647–8222.

Other Events

1st Postgraduate Clinical Endocrinology Course

20–23 April 1994

Gerona, Spain

Location: Parador De Aiguablava

Sponsorship: European Federation of Endocrine Societies.

Contact: Professor F.F. Casanueva, Department of Medicine, Endocrine Section, P.O. Box 563, Santiago de Compostela, 15780 Spain. Fax: 34–81–57 21 21.

Arterial and Arteriolar Wall in Diabetes Mellitus: Animal vs. Human Studies

20-23 April 1994

Toledo, Spain

Deadline: 1 November 1993 for submission of abstracts.

Sponsorship: European Society for Clinical Investigations.

Topics include: Microcirculatory changes, endothelial dysfunction, vascular reactivity, and pathobiology of the vessel wall in diabetic angiopathy.

Contact: Dr. N.C. Schaper, Department of Internal Medicine, University Hospital, P. Debyelaan 25, postbus 5800, 6202 AZ Maastricht, The Netherlands. Tel: 043-877019; Fax: 043-875006.

Diabetes 1994 Conference

6-7 May 1994

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Location: Coast Plaza at the Stanley Park, 1733 Comox Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Sponsorship: University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Topics include: Improving ability to diagnose and manage patients with insulin-dependent and non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus.

Contact: Diabetes 1994 Conference, Room 105-2194 Health Sciences Mall, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Tel: 604-822-2626; Fax: 604-822-4835.

13th Immunology of Diabetes Workshop Meeting

25-28 May 1994

Montvillargenne, France

Topics include: Cellular mechanisms in IDDM, mechanisms of β -cell aggression, autoantigens, prediction, new models of autoimmune diabetes, immunotherapy, and environmental factors.

Contact: Secretariat Pr. Bach, Immunologie Clinique, Hopital Necker, 161 rue de Sevres, 75743 Paris Cedex 15, France.

Annual Scientific Congress of the Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists

29 May-2 June 1994

Quebec, Canada

Location: Hotel Loews Le Concorde

Sponsorship: Canadian Society of Clinical Chemists and Canadian Association of Medical Biochemists.

Topic: Screening for disease.

Contact: Dr. J.-C. Forest, Service de Biochimie, Hopital Saint-Francois-d'Assise, 10, rue de L'Espinay, Quebec G1L 3L5, Canada.

Vanadium Symposium 1994: Biochemistry, Physiology, and Potential Use in Diabetes Therapy

30-31 July 1994

Montreal, Canada

Sponsorship: 12th International Congress of Pharmacology. Topics include: Mechanism of action, physiological effects, and potential therapeutic applications of Vanadium compounds in the control of diabetes.

Contact: Dr. Ashok K. Srivastava, Centre de Recherche, Hotel-Dieu de Montreal, 3850 Saint-Urbain Street, Montreal, Quebec 2W 1T8, Canada. Tel: 514-843-2917; Fax: 514-843-2709.

American Board of Internal Medicine Examinations

23-24 August 1994

Deadline: 1 September 1993 through 1 December 1993 for registration.

Contact: Registration Section, American Board of Internal Medicine, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104. Tel: 1-800-441-2246; Fax: 1-215-243-1500.

7th International Congress on Obesity

20-25 August 1994

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Location: Westin Harbour Castle Hotel
Participants may receive AMA Category I study credits.

Contact: Continuing Education, Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, Medical Sciences Building, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 1A8 Canada. Tel: 416-978-2718; Fax: 416-978-7144.

Lessons From Animal Diabetes International Workshop IV

2-4 November 1994

Omiyai, Saitama, Japan

Sponsorship: International Diabetes Federation Congress.

Topics include: Genetics of non-insulin-dependent and insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus in different animal models, diabetes complications in animals and treatment by drugs and other modes, endocrine malfunction, and the mechanisms of insulin resistance and obesity associated with diabetes.

Contact: Dr. Yasunori Kanazawa, c/o Access Brain Inc., Hogon-sky Building 503, Hongo 3-38-11, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, Japan 113. Fax: 81-3-3818-4433. Dr. Eleazar Shafir, Department of Biochemistry, Hadassah University Hospital, Jerusalem 91220, Israel. Fax: 972-2-434434.

Third International Symposium on Diabetic Neuropathy

3-5 November 1994

Kanagawa, Japan

Location: Hakone Prince Hotel

Sponsorship: International Diabetes Federation Congress

Topics include: Diabetic neuropathy.

Contact: Dr. Nigishi Hotta, Third Department of Internal Medicine, Nagoya University School of Medicine, 65 Tsushima-cho, Showa-ku, Nagoya 466, Japan. Tel: 052-741-2111, ext. 2218; Fax: 052-733-8241.

15th International Diabetes Federation Congress

6-11 November 1994

Kobe, Japan

Location: Kobe Convention Center

Topics include: Prevention of diabetes and clarification of goals to reach by the year 2000.

Contact: S. Ohsata, Kobe Convention Center, 6-9-1, Manatojima-nakamachi, Chuo-Ku, Kobe 650, Japan. Tel: 078-303-0055; Fax: 078-302-7303.

**The Wolfram Syndrome Registry
New York Medical College
Hawthorne, New York**

Conditions: The Wolfram Syndrome Registry seeks additional Wolfram syndrome (DIDMOAD) patients and their families for federally funded genetic studies. The Wolfram syndrome is diagnosed when diabetes mellitus and bilateral optic atrophy are present. Many other clinical manifestations may occur.

Contact: Dr. Ronnie Gorman Swift, Director, Division of Psychiatric Genetics, New York Medical College, 4 Skyline Drive, Hawthorne, New York 10532. Tel: 914-347-2690.

International Genetic Collaborative Study

The Institut de Morphologie Pathologique Loveral, Center for Human Genetics

Loveral, Belgium

Conditions: Clinicians with patients who have total lipodystrophy (lipotrophic diabetes, Berardinelli-Seip syndrome) can enter an international genetic collaborative study aimed at localizing the gene responsible for the disease. Participation consists of providing a single blood sampling of affected patients, unaffected siblings, and their parents.

Contact: Dr. Lionel Van Maldergem, Center for Human Genetics, IMPL, Allee des Templiers 41, 6280 Loveral, Belgium. Tel: 32-71-471520; Fax: 32-71-471520.

ADA Research Awards

ADA Career Development

Award: Up to \$75,000/yr for 3 yr to support new researchers with 2-5 yr of

postdoctoral/postfellowship research experience. Funds divided between salary and other grant support.

Deadline: 1 February 1994 for 1 July 1994 funding.

Conditions: Applicants must be U.S. citizens or have permanent resident status and hold full-time positions at U.S. university-affiliated institutes.

ADA Research Awards

Award: Between \$20,000 and \$50,000/yr for 2 yr to assist researchers, new or established, who have a novel, exciting idea for which they need support.

Deadline: 1 February 1994 for 1 July 1994 funding.

Conditions: Applicants must be U.S. citizens or have permanent resident status and hold full-time faculty positions at U.S. university-affiliated institutions.

Clinical Research Grant Program

Award: Up to \$70,000/yr for 3 yr for studies that involve humans.

Deadline: 1 February 1994 for 1 July 1994 funding.

Conditions: Studies must focus on intact human subjects in which the effect of a change in the individual's external or internal environment is evaluated. In vitro research on human blood or tissue samples does not qualify unless there has been a major in vivo intervention, and the protocol is designed specifically to quantitate the effect of the manipulation. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or have permanent resident status and hold full-time faculty positions at U.S. university-affiliated institutions.

Mentor-Based Postdoctoral Fellowship Program

Award: \$30,000/yr for 3/yr for a postdoctoral fellow working with an established diabetes investigator.

Deadline: 7 October 1994 for 1 July 1995 funding.

Conditions: The investigator must be a U.S. citizen or have permanent residence status and hold an appointment at a U.S. research institution. The fellow must have an MD or a PhD and no more than 3 yr of postdoctoral research experience.

Contact: American Diabetes Association, 1660 Duke Street, Alexandria, Va 22314. Tel: 703-549-1500, x362.

Lions SightFirst Diabetic Retinopathy Research Program

Award: \$40,000/yr for 2 yr to support new treatment regimens, epidemiology, and translation research. Consideration will be given to training grants and grants for equipment.

Deadline: 1 February 1994 for 1 July 1994 funding.

Medical Student Diabetes Research Fellowship Program

Award: \$4000 for a 3-6 mo period to promote medical student interest in careers of diabetes-related clinical investigation or basic research.

Deadline: 1 March 1994 for 1 July 1994 funding.

Conditions: Application must be made by the student who must have a qualified sponsor. The student must have completed at least one year of medical school. The award will be \$3000 to cover the 3-6 mo period of research experience and \$1000 will cover the costs of supplies, animals, and so forth that are related to the student's project.