

Invest in the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Disease is the primary institute at the National Institutes of Health supporting diabetes research. Funding for NIDDK is essential to preventing diabetes, improving the lives of people living with the disease, and—ultimately—curing diabetes.

Funding for NIDDK has not kept pace with biomedical inflation, let alone the country's growing diabetes epidemic. As a result, many promising diabetes research projects go unfunded—even as more than 30 million Americans have diabetes, 84 million have prediabetes, and diabetes and prediabetes cost our country an estimated \$322 billion per year.

For FY 2019, the American Diabetes Association® urges Congress to provide **\$2.165 billion for NIDDK.**

NIDDK research works. It has led to many discoveries that help Americans prevent or better manage diabetes, including:

- A program that lowers the risk of developing type 2 diabetes by 58 percent through dietary changes and increased physical activity
- Tools to prevent life-threatening high and low blood glucose levels, such as continuous glucose monitors
- Important new drug therapies for type 2 diabetes
- Treatment regimens that have reduced the risk for the serious complications of diabetes: heart disease, stroke, lower extremity amputation, blindness, and kidney disease
- Increasing our understanding of gestational diabetes, including clinical trials to determine the best treatment, optimal gestational age to identify gestational diabetes, best method to identify gestational diabetes, and later impact of gestational diabetes on mother and child
- Examining if medications used to treat other autoimmune diseases can delay or prevent development of type 1 diabetes
- Determining how to improve the treatment of diabetic foot ulcers to reduce amputations
- Learning the relationship between diabetes and neurocognitive conditions, such as dementia and Alzheimer's disease
- Discovering how drugs to treat diabetes may help those facing heart disease and cancer
- Understanding brown fat tissue, which burns calories to generate heat, and its role in combating obesity and type 2 diabetes
- Preventing type 2 diabetes in people with prediabetes and obstructive sleep apnea

FY 2019 funding of \$2.165 billion would surpass the rate of medical inflation and would allow NIDDK to fund additional investigator-initiated research grants to meet critical needs in areas such as:

- Expansion of NIDDK's comparative effectiveness clinical trial testing, which examines different medications to determine the best treatments for type 2 diabetes