

As you may know, most of the federal government, including NIH, is currently operating under a continuing resolution set to expire on Dec. 9, while committee-approved spending bills with a \$2 billion (Senate) and a \$1.25 billion (House) increase for NIH are still pending in Congress. The American Brain Coalition, along with over 200 patient health groups, scientific societies, and academic and research organizations, has [signed on to the Ad Hoc Letter](#) urging lawmakers to avoid additional continuing resolutions past December. Please share a copy of the letter with your congressional contacts and urge them to support finalizing an FY17 spending bill with \$34.1 billion for NIH this year.

Please [sign the petition to promote research on marijuana](#) and its constituent products.

Last week, BIO concluded its fifth annual Patient and Health Advocacy Summit, which brought together over 300 attendees representing more than 200 organizations from the patient advocacy and provider community, academia, government, think tanks, professional societies, and the biotechnology industry. To read more about the Summit, a recap is available on [BIOTECHNOW](#).

### **IN THE NEWS**

- In science news,
  - Researchers identify a [gene](#) associated with post-traumatic stress disorder
  - Researchers [pinpoint neurons](#) that cause and maintain wakefulness
  - Brain's immune protectors can now be grown in the lab for close study
- The Brain & Behavior Research Foundation recognizes outstanding research leadership and contributions to mental health research with a number of annual prizes. You can read about [this year's award winners](#) here.
- Read what research has found about whether [celebrity endorsements influencing teens' health](#).
- The International Essential Tremor Foundation ([IETF](#)) works hard to create compelling and impactful messages to bring them one step closer to achieving their mission. This year, the IETF won two awards for Tremor Talk magazine. Click [here](#) to learn more about this magazine.
- As part of the FDA's ongoing effort to ensure patients and providers have timely and continued access to safe, effective, and high-quality medical devices, the FDA launched a website to help sponsors and innovators bring neurological medical devices to the U.S. marketplace. You can check out the website [here](#).
- The [One Mind Institute](#) recently held its 2016 Music Festival. You can check out the talks here:
  - [Human genomes, brain health, and brain illness](#)
  - [A public-private partnership to accelerate TBI research](#)
  - [Stabilizing neuronal architecture for depression therapeutics](#)
  - [Neurally targeted interventions to reduce early childhood anxiety](#)
- The [Center for BrainHealth](#), part of The University of Texas at Dallas released the following research news:
  - Dr. Ian Robertson explains [how embracing good stress can benefit your brain health](#)
  - Funded by NIDA, Dr. Filbey's research includes that [regular marijuana users have less gray matter \(than nonusers of the drug\) in the orbitofrontal cortex, a brain region that contributes to impulse control, decision-making and learning](#).
  - A new study finds that [Strategic Memory Advanced Reasoning Training \(SMART\) improves cognition for those with bipolar disorder](#).
  - Dr. Rennaker has spent his life helping others overcome tinnitus and other neurological injuries through his research in vagus nerve stimulation. [Learn more about Dr. Rennaker's research breakthroughs](#).
  - [Dr. Chapman explains how lengthened lifespans call for an intentional focus on brain health](#) in a recent Huffington Post article.
  - The Center for BrainHealth [presented Dan Branch with its highest honor, the Legacy Award](#), given to individuals whose vision and dedication enables the center and its Brain Performance Institute to empower people of all ages to unlock their brain potential.

- Read this discussion on [international neuroscience programs as well as big data and data sharing in neuroscience](#) in the current issue of Neuron.
- Read about a new research study where researchers have created a [model, based on brain activity and exposure to stress in childhood, that predicts the likelihood that antidepressants will benefit a patient](#).
- Parkinson's Disease Foundation opens \$2.7 million in research funding [to solve, treat and end Parkinson's Disease](#).
- Read this blog post by Research!America about [improving mental healthcare for our nation's veterans](#).
- The NIH has put forward a [Request for Information](#) (RFI) to seek public comments on data management and sharing strategies and priorities to consider: (1) how digital scientific data generated from NIH-funded research should be managed, and to the fullest extent possible, made publicly available; and, (2) how to set standards for citing shared data and software.
- In new discoveries that have come to us because of experimental animals,
  - Read how a [brain implant](#) that wirelessly stimulates electrodes in the legs of paralyzed monkeys has allowed them to walk again.
  - A study in the journal Nature reports that [remission has been achieved in primate models of HIV](#) with a two-step treatment using the immune stimulant TLR-7 and a vaccine.
  - Scientists have found that [topical gel containing heat shock protein 60 significantly improved diabetic wound healing in mice](#)
  - Scientists develop a [mouse model to study lung diseases in humans](#)

#### **FOR AMERICAN BRAIN COALITION MEMBERS**

- The American Society for Clinical Psychopharmacology ([ASCP](#)) recognizes that the vitality and success of most endeavors in medicine is directly related to the ability to attract and maintain a talented pool of clinical investigators. The ASCP Steering Committee is seeking applicants for the New Investigator Award (NIA) Program. The New Investigators will be recognized at the 2017 ASCP Annual Meeting in Miami Beach, Florida, May 29 - June 02, 2017. You can find details on how to apply [here](#); applications are due January 30, 2017.
- Read about "Fox It Forward" - a fundraising endeavor introduced by the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research to support critical research. You can create your own page [here](#).
- [Watch](#) a series produced by the Brain & Behavior Research Foundation aimed to remove the stigma of mental illness and demonstrate that with help, there is hope.
- [Register](#) for "Meet the Scientist" webinar to be held on December 13, 2016 and 2 pm, where Dr. Yvette Sheline will talk about the "Neuroinflammatory Hypotheses of Depression".
- Check out funding opportunities released by the NIH [here](#).
- Watch the latest "Ask the MD" Video on [young-onset Parkinson's Disease](#).
- The Hereditary Disease Foundation has a [new Facebook page](#). Please spread the word about their work on social media!
- [Register](#) for a webinar entitled "Webinar: Risk And Resilience To Mood Disorders In Teens" to be held on December 14, 2016.
- You are invited to an Access to Innovation Forum (Forum) briefing about the evolution of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI), and how CMMI envisions its work will progress over 2017. This meeting will be held on November 28, 2016. Please RSVP to Lindsey Trischler at [ltrischler@dc-crd.com](mailto:ltrischler@dc-crd.com) by Monday, November 21, 2016.