

COMBAT THE PRESCRIPTION OPIOID CRISIS AT ITS SOURCE: FIND CHRONIC PAIN THERAPIES TO MAKE OPIOIDS OBSOLETE

- Chronic pain affects 100 million Americans (Nat Acad of Med 2011 report).
- Chronic pain is the nation's most costly health problem (up to \$635B/year)
- Chronic pain research is underfunded relative to this huge economic burden.

	US total costs (billions) (2011 NAM estimates)	NIH Research Funding (billions) (2014 NIH estimates)	Research funding / economic costs (relative to "Pain")
Pain	\$560 to \$635	\$0.499	1
Heart Disease	\$309	\$1.224	>4.4 times higher
Diabetes	\$188	\$1.011	>6 times higher
Cancer	\$243	\$5.392	>25 times higher

- The current prescription opioid crisis cannot be resolved until safe / non-addictive, effective, and affordable therapies are discovered for chronic pain to replace current opioid medications.

REQUEST: INCLUDE PROVISIONS TO PRIORITIZE NIH PAIN RESEARCH IN THE "INNOVATIONS FOR HEALTHIER AMERICANS ACT"

- Please contact Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray of the Senate HELP Committee to urge inclusion of provisions in the *Innovations for Healthier Americans Act* to prioritize NIH fundamental, translational, and clinical pain research to discover safer and more effective therapies for chronic pain.



**Alliance for
Headache
Disorders
Advocacy**

Alliance for Patient Access
American Academy of Neurology
American Headache Society
American Migraine and Headache Association
Clusterbusters
Headache Cooperative of New England
Headache Cooperative of the Pacific

Migraine Research Foundation
Miles for Migraine Races
National Headache Foundation
National Migraine Association
Ohio Headache Association
PFO Research Foundation

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