Frequently Asked Questions

COVID-19 Related Research Recovery Resources, June 2021

1. Where can I find COVID-19 related information regarding NIH grants and funding?

The NIH central resource for grants and funding information created a webpage titled “Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): Information for NIH Applicants and Recipients of NIH Funding.”

Examples of resources on this page include:

- Guidance for early stage investigators (ESI)
  - Information regarding training and eligibility extensions for ESI
  - Information to assist potential awardees with preparing applications during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Guidance related to human participants and clinical trials
- Guidance and contingency plans for animal welfare amid COVID-19
- Information on updates to the peer review process
- Frequently asked questions about COVID-19 flexibilities for applicants and awardees

2. How did the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) inform the NIH COVID-19 related research guidance?

NIH has developed guidance to implement the OMB Memorandum M-20-26 “Extension of Administrative Relief for Recipients and Applicants of Federal Financial Assistance Directly Impacted by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) due to Loss of Operations” dated June 18, 2020. Other OMB memoranda related to COVID-19 funding flexibilities are also available for review.
3. **How will the NIH evaluate the impact of COVID-19 on the public health research enterprise?**

   In October 2020, the NIH fielded two surveys to measure COVID-19 impact on extramural researchers and institutions. Findings from the survey are now available. An infographic was created to highlight and easily convey these findings.

4. **How is NIH supporting trainees and addressing the impact of COVID-19 on their career paths?**

   NIH’s Office of Intramural Training and Education (OITE) developed a workshop titled “Supporting Yourself and Your Trainees During the Coronavirus Pandemic.”

   - A recording of the workshop can be found here.

5. **Where can I find information on the convergence of the COVID-19 and HIV pandemics?**

   - Publications related to the COVID-19 and HIV pandemics shed light on opportunities to create synergy between both research areas for scientific advancement.
     - **Human Immunodeficiency Virus/AIDS in the Era of Coronavirus Disease 2019: A Juxtaposition of 2 Pandemics** (Eisinger, Lerner, Fauci)
       - Authors discuss how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted people affected by HIV as well as how the COVID-19 and HIV pandemics require an unprecedented coordinated and collaborative global effort of scientists, industry, and community partners to accelerate the implementation of evidence-based interventions into real world settings.
     - **COVID/HIV Co-Infection: A Syndemic Perspective on What to Ask and How to Answer** (Gesesew, et al.)
       - This commentary explores a shared research agenda for addressing the HIV and COVID-19 pandemics through a syndemic approach.
     - **Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on clinical research** (Tuttle KR)
       - This is an individual account by a clinical investigator on the adjustments made in their institution to continue clinical research during the pandemic.
6. Where can I find clinical guidance regarding COVID-19 and HIV?
   • Interim clinical guidance for COVID-19 and Persons with HIV is reviewed and updated continuously by the HIV Clinical Guidelines Working Groups of the NIH Office of AIDS Research Advisory Council.
   • The NIH maintains COVID-19 Treatment Guidelines and the CDC maintains Interim Clinical Guidance for Management of Patients with Confirmed Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). These pages have links for further clinical resources.

7. Who can I contact for more information about COVID-19 and HIV?
   • Please contact OAR and direct queries to the COVID-19 and HIV Taskforce
     o E-mail: OARinfo@nih.gov
     o Phone: 1-301-496-0357