

NCI Organization, Mission, & Budget

CARRA Peer Review Workshop
Pre-Training Teleconference
2005

Learning Objectives

1. Describe the organization of NCI.
2. State NCI's major mission.
3. Describe how NCI is funded.
4. Know why understanding the NCI is important in order to participate effectively in the peer review process.

NCI – Organization within the Federal Government

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

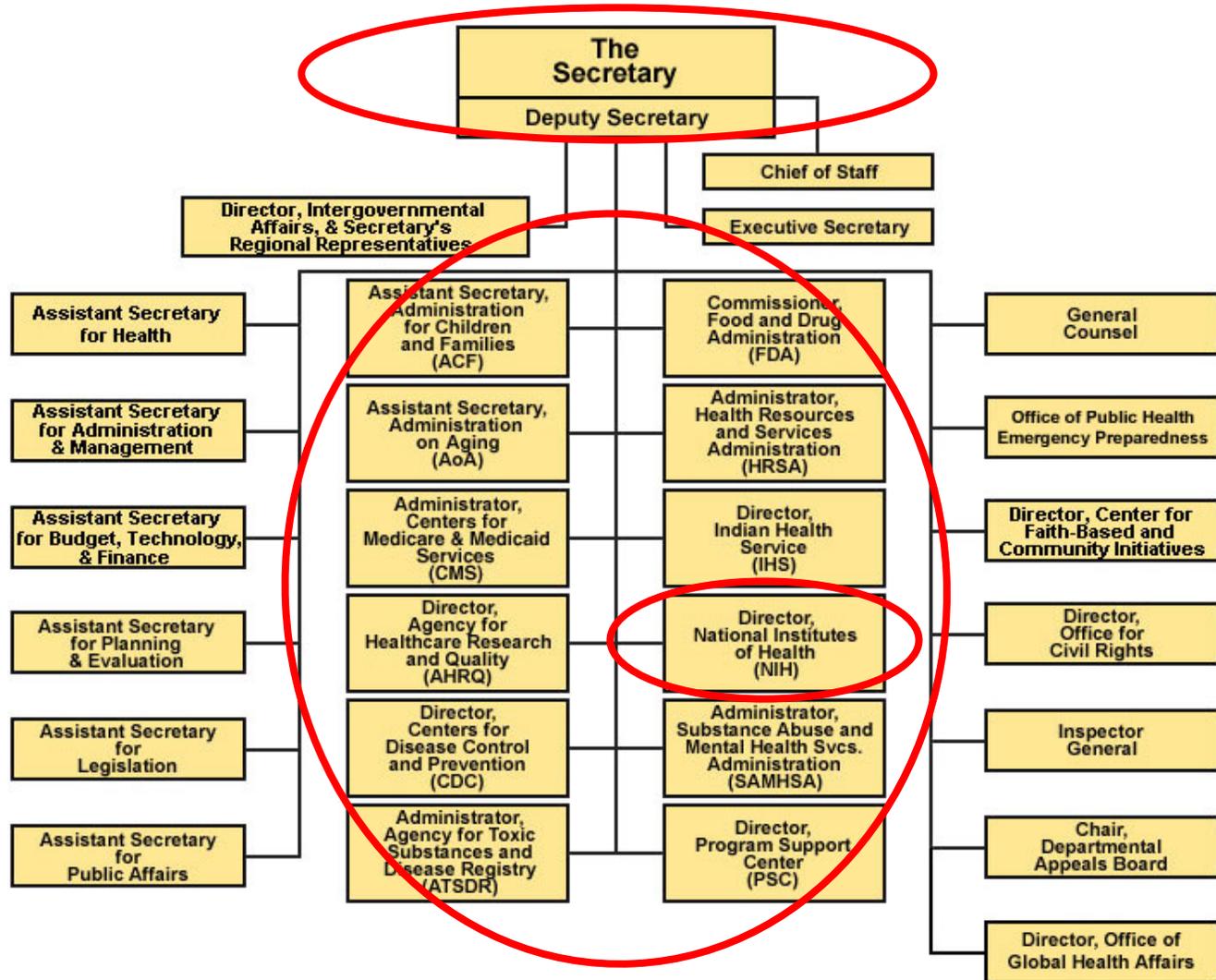
www.hhs.gov



Mike Leavitt

Secretary of Health and Human Services
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH)

www.nih.gov



Elias Zerhouni, M.D.

Director, National Institutes of Health
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 6

National Institutes of Health

Office of the Director Program Offices:

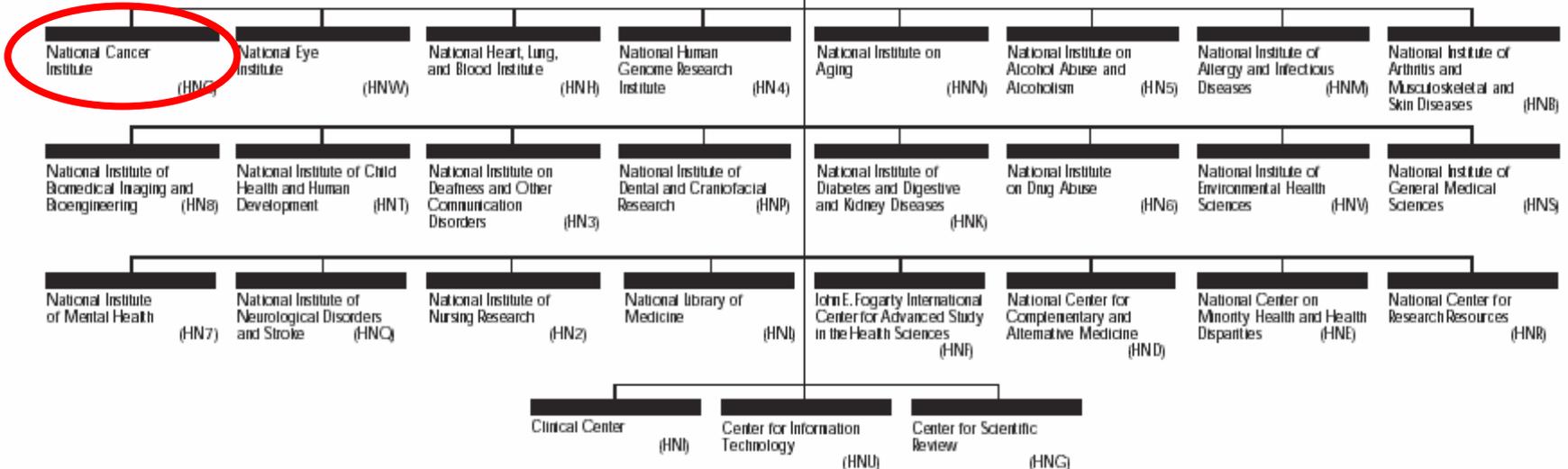
Office of Research on Women's Health (HNA3)
 Office of AIDS Research (HNA5)
 Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (HNAH)
 Office of Disease Prevention (HNAZ)

Immediate Office of the Director (HNA)

Office of the Director Staff Offices:

Office of Extramural Research (HNA3)
 Office of Intramural Research (HNA4)
 Office of Management/Chief Financial Officer (HNAM)
 Office of Science Policy (HNA6)
 Office of Communications and Public Liaison (HNA8)
 Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity Management (HNAD)
 Office of Program Coordination (HNAN)
 Office of Legislative Policy and Analysis (HNAQ)
 Office of Community Liaison (HNAP)
 Executive Office (HNAR)
 Office of the Ombudsman/Ct. for Cooperative Resolution (HNAS)

NIH
1 of 1



The Mission of the National Institutes of Health is science in pursuit of knowledge to improve human health. This means pursuing science to expand fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems; to apply that knowledge to extend the health of human lives; and to reduce the burdens resulting from disease and disability.

The National Institutes of Health seeks to accomplish its mission by:

- Fostering fundamental discoveries, innovative research, and their applications in order to advance the Nation's capacity to protect and improve health;
- Developing, maintaining, and renewing the human and physical resources that are vital to ensure the Nation's capability to prevent disease, improve health, and enhance quality of life;
- Expanding the knowledge base in biomedical, behavioral, and associated sciences order to enhance America's economic well-being and ensure a continued high return on the public investment in research; and
- Exemplifying and promoting the highest level of scientific integrity, public accountability, and social responsibility in the conduct of science.

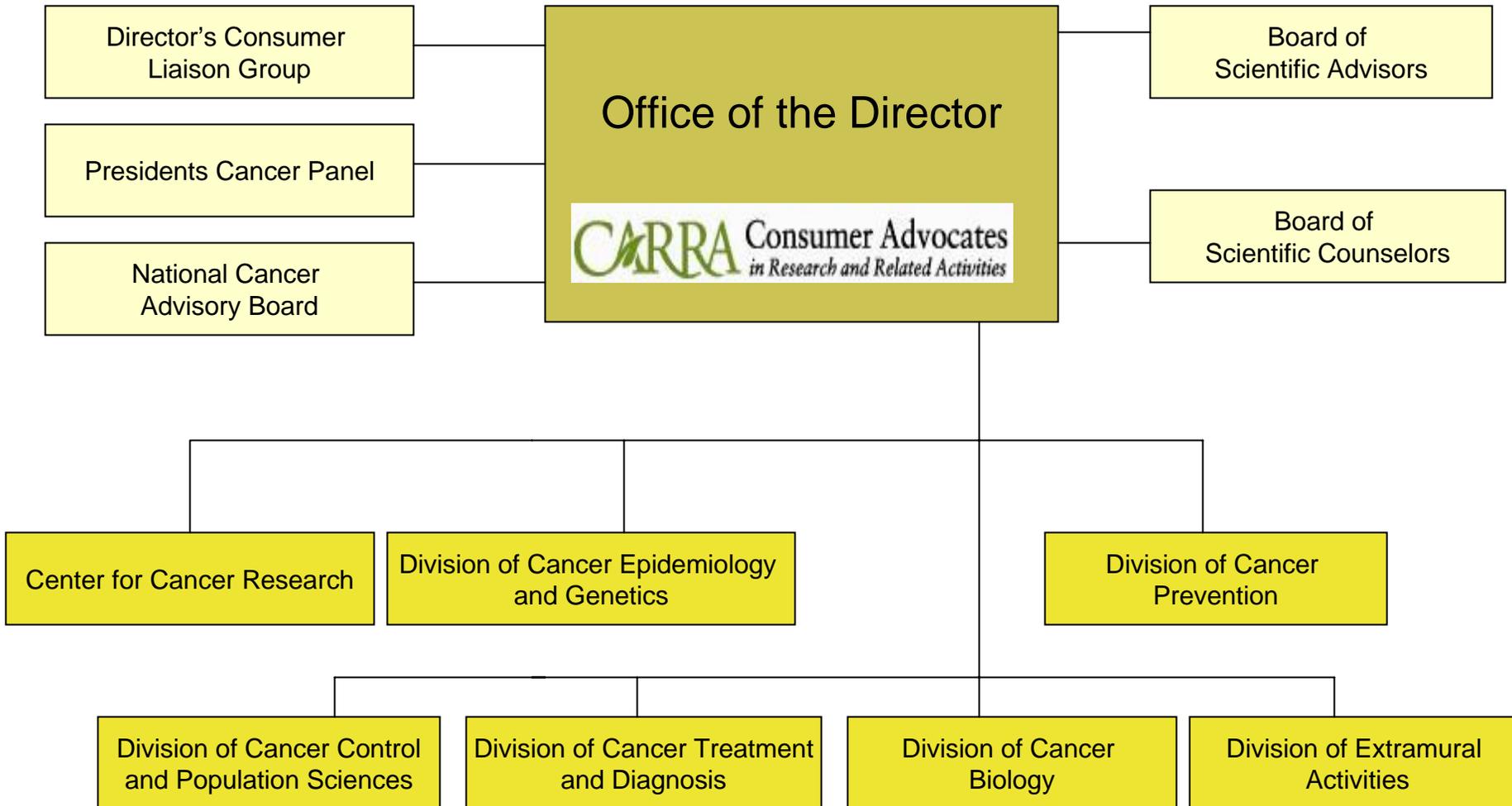
U.S. National Cancer Institute (NCI)

www.cancer.gov



Andrew von Eschenbach, M.D.
Director, National Cancer Institute
National Institutes of Health
Department of Health and Human Services

National Cancer Institute (NCI)



NCI – Goal and Mission

NCI Challenge Goal:

Eliminate the suffering and death due to cancer by 2015

National Cancer Institute (NCI)

History...

- The NCI, established under the National Cancer Act of 1937, is the Federal Government's principal agency for cancer research and training.

...Mission

- The NCI's primary mission is to *conduct* and *fund* cancer-related research.



NCI – Mission and Organization

Funding Cancer Research

- A large majority of NCI's major organizational units – Divisions – deal with the work of funding cancer research.
- ❖ The Division of Extramural Activities (DEA) handles the peer review process. The peer review process is the process used to evaluate the scientific and technical merit of grant applications in order to make a funding recommendation to NCI.

Funding Cancer Research

- Other Divisions manage grant portfolios in a partnership role with the researchers once the funds are granted.
 - ❖ Division of Cancer Prevention (DCP)
 - ❖ Division of Cancer Biology (DCB)
 - ❖ Division of Cancer Treatment & Diagnosis (DCTD)
 - ❖ Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences (DCCPS)

Funding Cancer Research

- Funding Cancer Research outside of NCI is called **Extramural Research**.
- NCI Divisions who work to fund this research are called Extramural Divisions.
- Research is conducted in over 650 locations across the U.S. and internationally.
- Research is conducted by researchers who are employed by institutions across the U.S. and other places. The researchers receive funds from NCI.

Conducting Cancer Research

Two NCI Divisions conduct their **own** research.

1. Center for Cancer Research (CCR):
conducts basic and clinical research.

2. Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics (DCEG):

conducts research to discover the genetic and environmental determinants of cancer and new approaches to cancer prevention.

Conducting Cancer Research

- Conducting Cancer Research at NCI is called **Intramural Research**.
- NCI Divisions that conduct their own research are called Intramural Divisions.
- Research is conducted in Bethesda and Frederick, Maryland.
- Research is conducted by NCI employees who are Federal Government researchers.

Administering Cancer Research

Office of the NCI Director (OD) provides direction and support for research infrastructure and areas of emphasis, including clinical research and over 60 cancer centers.

- Office of Communication (OC)
- Office of Education and Special Initiatives (OESI)
- Cancer Centers Branch (CCB)
- Office of Liaison Activities (OLA)

National Cancer Institute (NCI)



Conducting - Intramural

Center for Cancer Research

Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics

Division of Cancer Prevention

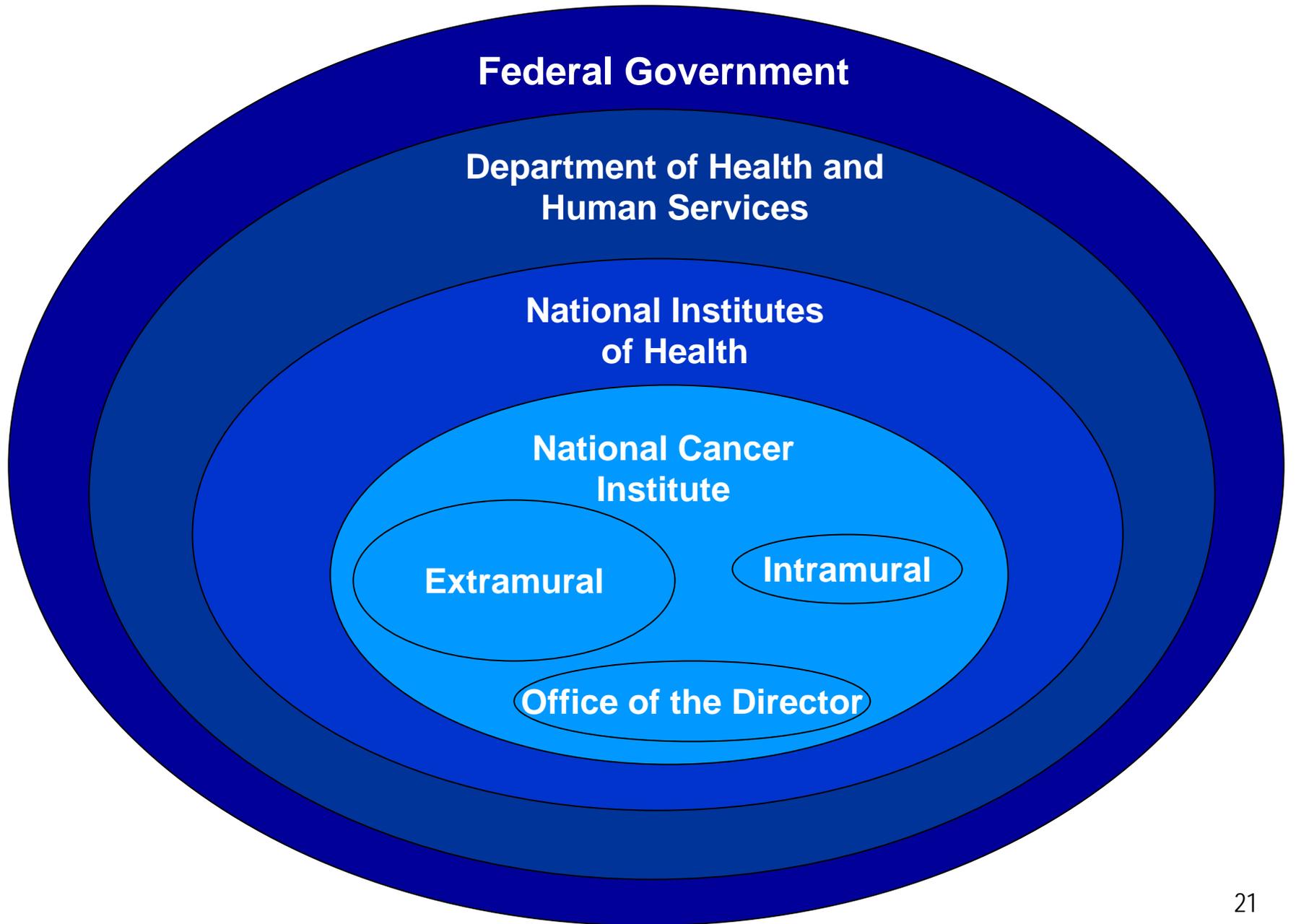
Funding - Extramural

Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences

Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis

Division of Cancer Biology

Division of Extramural Activities



NCI - Budget

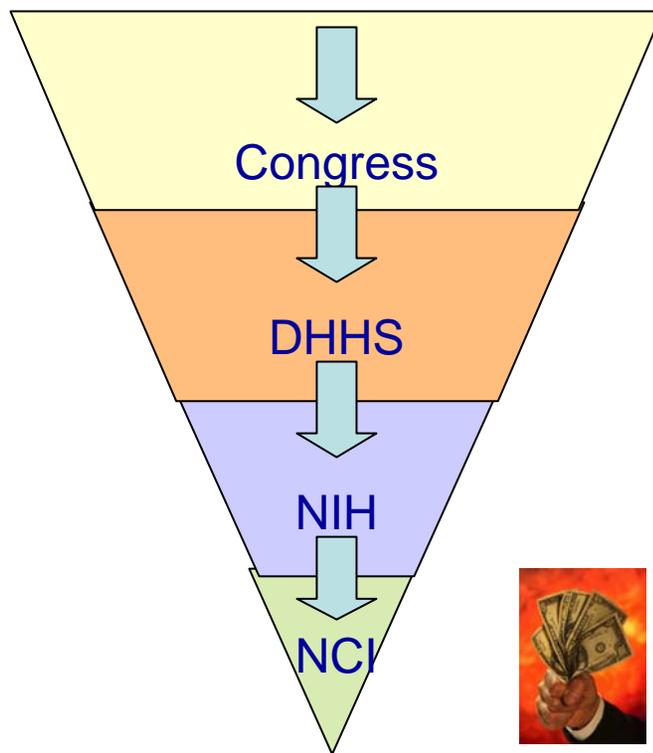
NCI Budget

1. Professional Judgment or Bypass Budget –
A budget request submitted to the U.S. President and used by Congress as an information resource.
2. Actual budget request submitted to DHHS through NIH.

How does it work?

Federal Government Fiscal Year runs October 1st - September 30th

Fiscal Year 2006 (FY06) - October 1, 2005 – September 30, 2006



Congress allocates an annual budget to the Federal Government (Oct 1)

DHHS receives funds for its agencies

NIH receives funds from DHHS

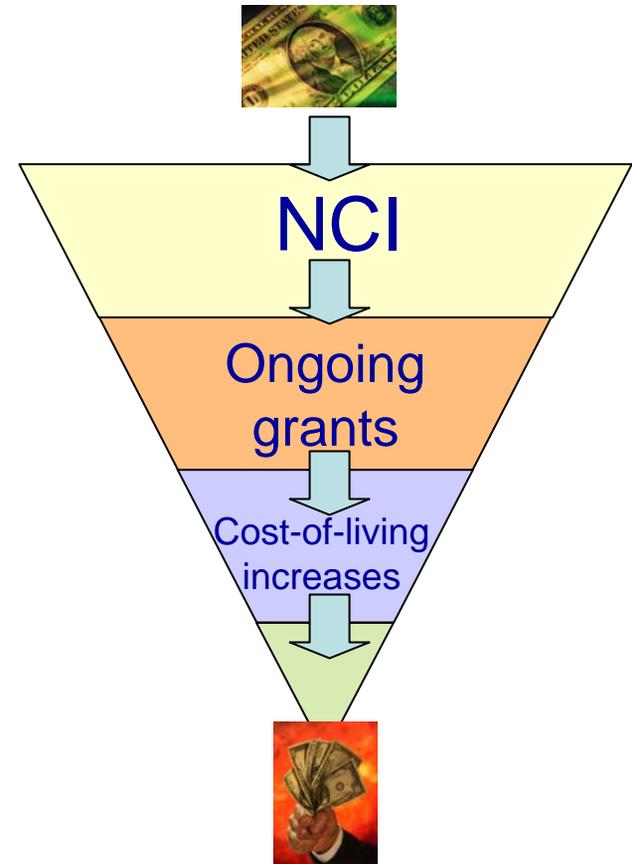
NCI receives funds from NIH

Offices and Divisions receive funds from NCI leadership



How does it work?

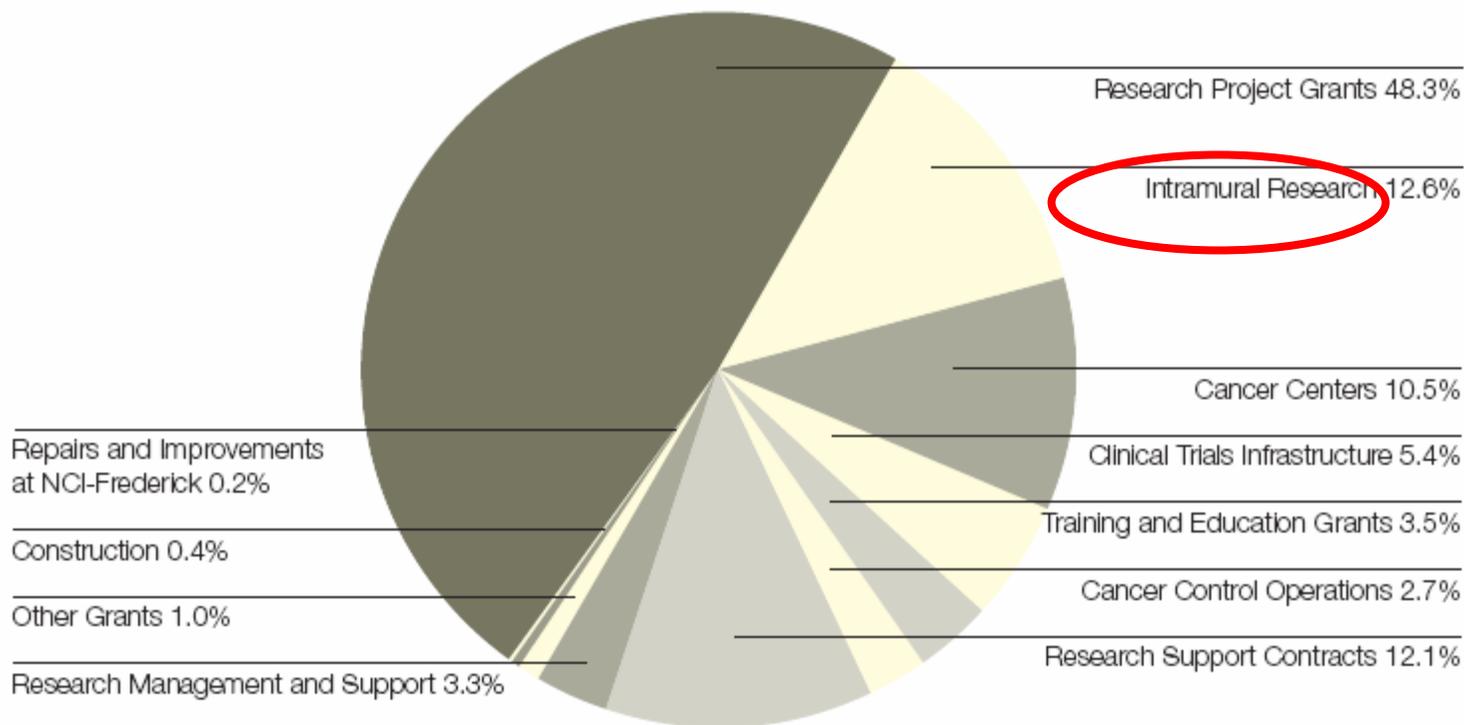
- A large majority of the budget goes to prior-year commitments since most grants are given out on a 3, 4, or 5 year basis.
- Most multi-year grants incorporate a "cost-of-living" increase in grant money.
- NCI must contribute money to overarching NIH initiatives such as the NIH Roadmap.



With these mandated increases, a small annual budget increase for NCI from Congress may mean a decrease in money for new grants and initiatives.

The NCI's primary mission is to *conduct* and *fund* cancer-related research.

Distribution of Fiscal Year 2006 Budget Request (\$6,170,000,000)



Funding cancer research = about 80% of the annual NCI budget

Conducting cancer research = about 15% of the annual NCI budget

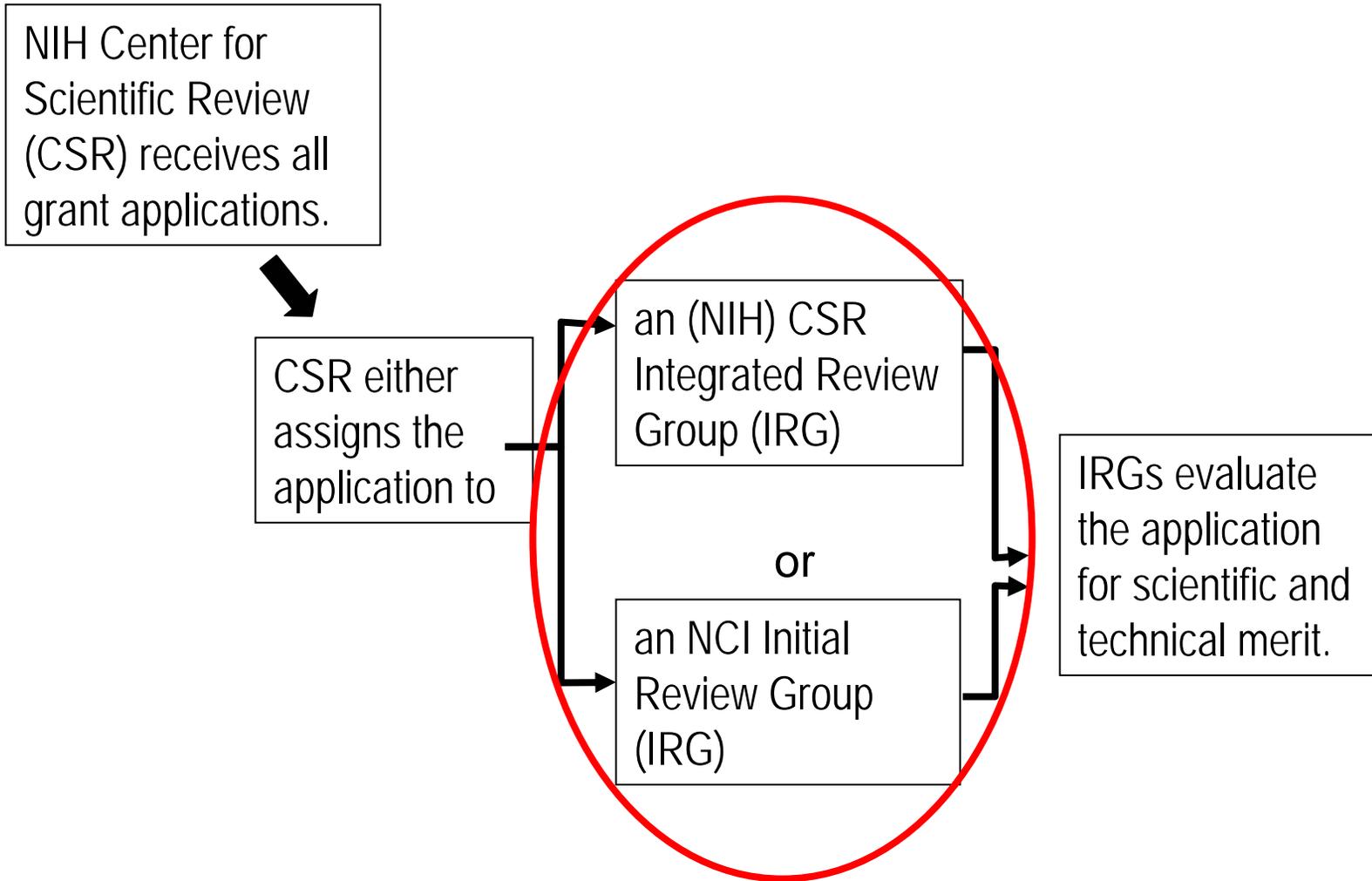
How do researchers get the \$?

Board of Scientific Advisors (BSA) gives final approval for Request for Applications (RFA) concept, allowing NCI to set-aside the funds for the RFA. →

NCI / NIH issues a RFA, or a Request for Proposals (RFP) (to solicit contract proposals) or a Program Announcement (PA) →

Applicant develops and submits a grant application to NIH in response to an RFA or PA. Applicants may also submit unsolicited (investigator-initiated) grant applications.

How do researchers get the \$?



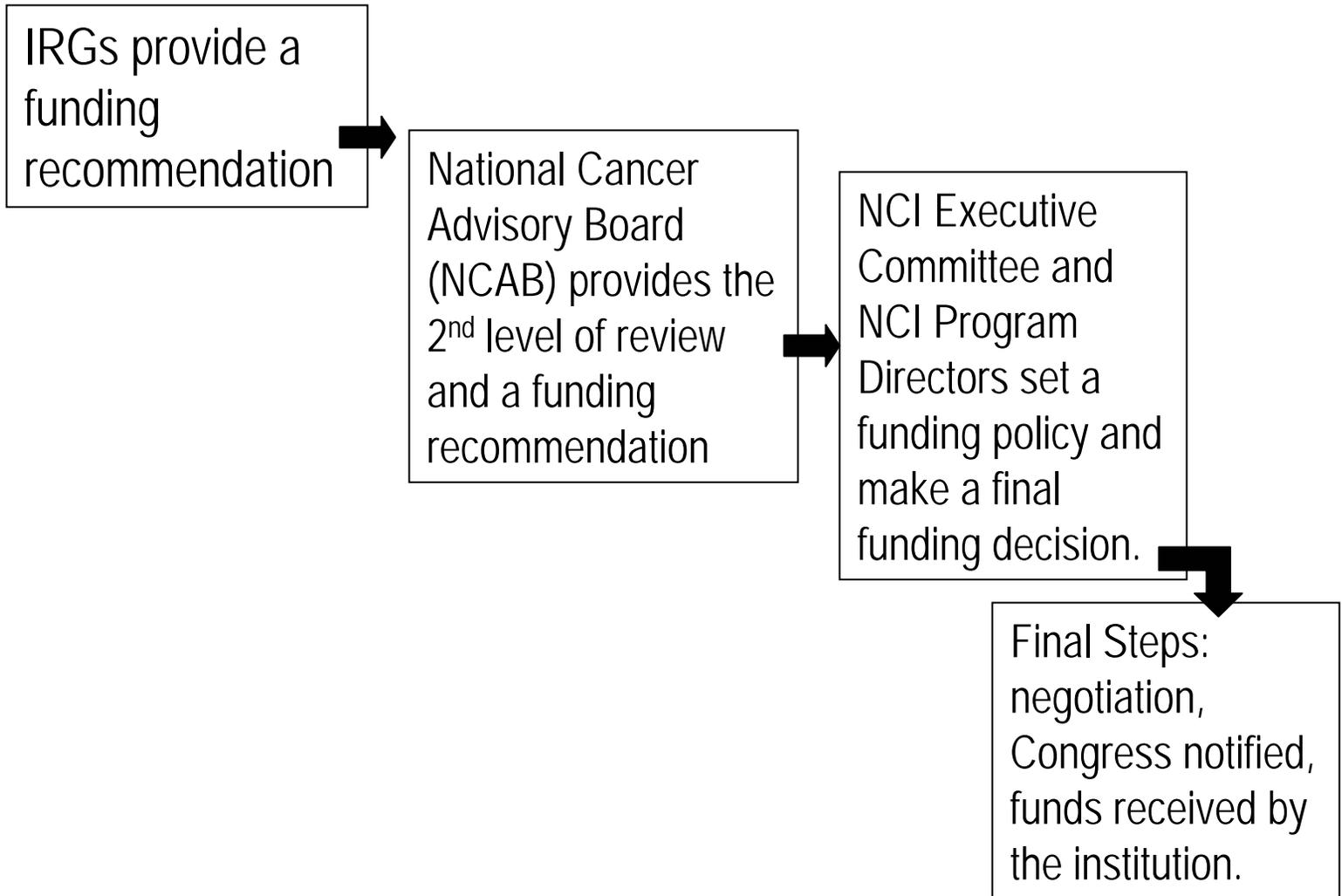
NCI IRGs

- 8 parent committees with additional Special Emphasis Panels (SEPs) as needed.
- NCI uses a 2-part process for some types of grants. A site visit (part 1) can precede a review meeting of the parent committee (part 2).
- SEPs most often review grant applications submitted in response to RFAs and PAs.
- Consumer advocates participate in the review of all clinical, translational, and training grant applications.

CSR IRGs

- About 25 Integrated Review Groups (IRGs).
- There is an "Oncological Sciences" IRG.
- Each IRG has 5 -20 study sections.
- CSR most often reviews RO1 (investigator-initiated) applications and fellowships.
- CSR reviews about 70% of grant applications submitted to NIH.

How do researchers get the \$?



Peer Review Related Initiatives

- Two-level review process is mandated by Congress (peer review and NCAB review)
- NIH eRA – electronic Research Administration
- CGAP Pilots – electronic piloting of Competitive Grant Application Process
- NIH eSNAP – electronic Sreamlined Non-competing Award Process

NCI Advisory Committees – Scientific

- Board of Scientific Advisors - ...*concept review of extramural program initiatives...*
- Board of Scientific Counselors - ...*periodic site visits to intramural laboratories...*
- National Cancer Advisory Board -
...*reviewing and recommending for support grants and cooperative agreements, following technical and scientific peer review...*

NCI Advisory Committees – Advocacy

- Director's Consumer Liaison Group - *Provide advice and make recommendations to the Director, NCI, from the perspective and viewpoint of cancer consumer advocates.*
- President's Cancer Panel - *The Panel shall monitor the development and execution of the activities of the National Cancer Program, and shall report directly to the President.*

Budget Review

- NCI makes a budget request to the President who sends it on to Congress.
- Congress appropriates money to the NIH/NCI at the start of each fiscal year (October 1).
- NCI pays its commitments to ongoing grants and contracts and various administrative costs.

Budget Review

- DEA runs the peer review process for NCI to provide a funding recommendation for grant applications based on scientific merit.
- The National Cancer Advisory Board (NCAB) determines the final funding recommendation for grant applications.

Miscellaneous NCI Questions

- NCI does not provide medical care unless it is to a patient who is part of a research study.
- NCI and NIH are not regulatory agencies (like the FDA). NCI/NIH are research-focused.

Miscellaneous NCI Questions

- Generally, NCI does not provide treatment guidelines or screening recommendations.
- NCI cannot lobby Congress. NCI employees cannot encourage others to lobby Congress on our behalf.

Conclusion

- Thank you for your willingness to participate in the NCI Peer Review process.
- You represent cancer patients all across the U.S. when you provide the voice of the patient advocate during the peer review process.
- Your contributions are valuable, and appreciated by the NCI.