

Office of Disease Prevention
Strategic Plan FY 2024–2028

Prevention Research: Creating a Healthier Future for All

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National Institutes of Health
Office of Disease Prevention

Strategic Planning Process



Reviewed progress and identified new directions



Gathered public feedback



Engaged ICOs and federal partners



Refined priorities and objectives



Finalized strategic plan

ODP Strategic Priorities and Cross-Cutting Themes FY24–28



7 strategic priorities
and
5 cross-cutting themes
will guide ODP activities
through 2028



Strategic Priority 1: Conduct Portfolio Analysis & Impact Assessment

Systematically monitor NIH investments in prevention research and assess the progress and results of that research.

Objectives

- Characterize and report on NIH prevention research projects based on the taxonomy for prevention research developed by ODP.
- Assess the impact of NIH investments in prevention research.
- Partner with NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices and other federal agencies to disseminate ODP portfolio analysis resources.

Analysis & Impact Assessment Activities

Analyzing the NIH prevention research portfolio

- Expanded to cover all extramural research-focused activity codes.
- Updated coding protocol to capture research on leading causes of death, risk and protective factors for death and disability, social determinants of health, race/ethnicity, sex/gender, dissemination and implementation, and intervention settings.

Conducting impact assessments

- Measuring the impact of NIH prevention research and ODP initiatives on:
 - Guidelines, policies, and legislation
 - Clinical preventive services uptake
 - Population health

Supporting collaborative prevention research initiatives

- Conducting portfolio analyses and evaluations to inform ODP, NIH, and federal-wide initiatives by identifying potential research gaps and opportunities for collaboration.





Strategic Priority 2: Identify Research Gaps

Identify prevention research areas for investment or expanded effort by NIH.

Objectives

- Work with a variety of partners to identify needs in prevention research.
- Compare identified needs in prevention research with the current NIH portfolio to identify prevention research gaps (i.e., those areas that are not being addressed or have insufficient funding).
- Work across ODP and with NIH Institutes and Centers and partners to identify the most promising and feasible prevention research gaps that warrant greater investment or expanded effort.

Research Gaps Activities

Highlighting NIH's work to address insufficient evidence

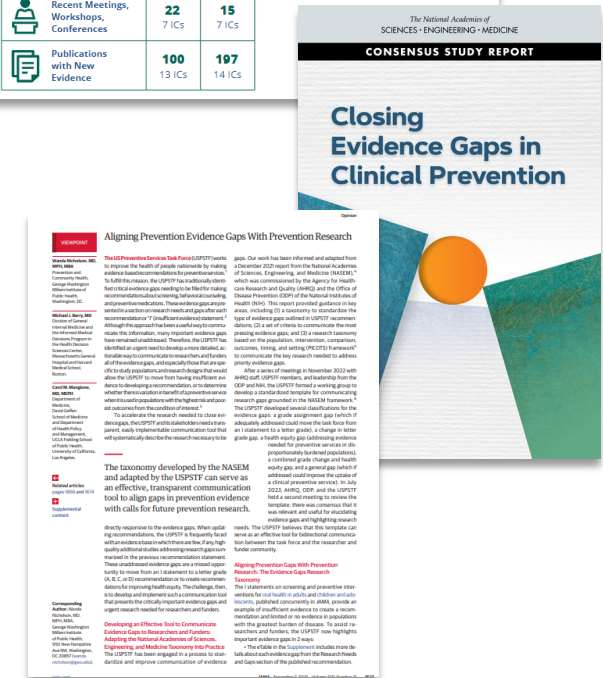
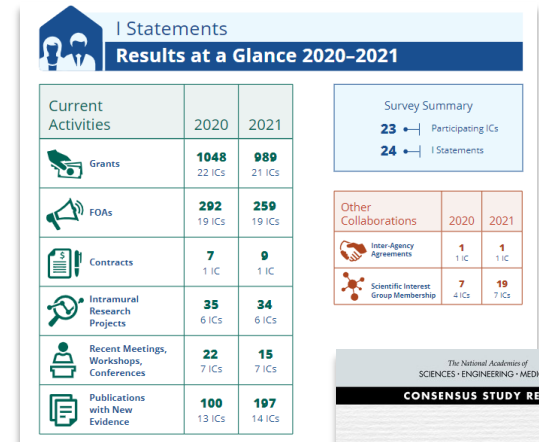
- Redesigning the annual survey on NIH activities that address U.S. Preventive Services Task Force insufficient evidence statements.
- Developing a public-facing report for the extramural research community to identify potential opportunities for researchers.

Implementing a new approach to communicating evidence gaps

- Worked closely with the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force and AHRQ to develop a research gaps taxonomy.
- Coordinating with NIH partners to create strategies to address high priority evidence gaps.

Assessing the impact of the Pathways to Prevention Program

- Evaluating how previous workshops and follow-up activities impacted funding and federal-level support for work on identified research gaps.



Aligning Prevention Evidence Gaps With Prevention Research

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) works to improve the health of people worldwide by making evidence-based recommendations for preventive services. To inform its mission, the USPSTF has established a research gaps taxonomy to identify research opportunities for critical evidence gaps leading to better health outcomes. This taxonomy is a key tool for the USPSTF to identify and address evidence gaps. The taxonomy is a key tool for the USPSTF to identify and address evidence gaps. The taxonomy is a key tool for the USPSTF to identify and address evidence gaps.

The taxonomy developed by the NASEM and adapted by the USPSTF can serve as an effective, transparent communication tool to align gaps in prevention evidence with calls for future prevention research.

The USPSTF believes that the taxonomy can serve as an effective tool for identifying research opportunities for the USPSTF to address evidence gaps. The taxonomy is a key tool for the USPSTF to identify and address evidence gaps.



Strategic Priority 3: Improve Prevention Research Methods

Promote the use of the best available methods in prevention research and support the development of high-quality methods.

Objectives

- Ensure ODP provides the most accurate and up-to-date information available pertaining to prevention science methods.
- Provide training in prevention science methods to NIH staff and extramural investigators, including extramural investigators and trainees from populations underrepresented in prevention research.
- Serve as a resource to ICOs on prevention science methods as they develop new funding opportunities, workshops, meetings, and other activities.
- Collaborate with ICOs to strengthen NIH policies and procedures to encourage the use of the best available methods in applications for prevention research.
- Review and conduct research on methods used in prevention research.

Methods Activities

Updating and expanding the Research Methods Resources Website

- Adding a section on regression discontinuity designs, including a sample size calculator.
- Adding material on N-of-1 studies in the Broadly Applicable Methods section.

Reviewing methods used in NIH-funded clinical trials

- Examining the proposed methods in all new phase II and III clinical trial applications that were funded in FY2023.
- Assessing how the design, analytic plans, and sample size methods proposed in the applications align with the methods for allocating participants to study arms and for delivering interventions to those participants.
- Will present results and recommendations to the NIH IC Directors.



Strategic Priority 4: Promote Collaborative Research

Promote collaborative prevention research and facilitate coordination of collaborative projects and efforts across NIH and with other public and private entities.

Objectives

- Establish and facilitate infrastructures and processes to foster prevention research coordination and collaboration across NIH and with public and private partners.
- Coordinate and support collaborative initiatives to address prevention research gaps and promote integration of evidence-based interventions and policies into routine practices and settings.
- Advance evidence-based approaches for identifying future prevention research gaps and priorities and collaborate on NIH-wide and federal-wide activities to address them.

Collaborations Activities

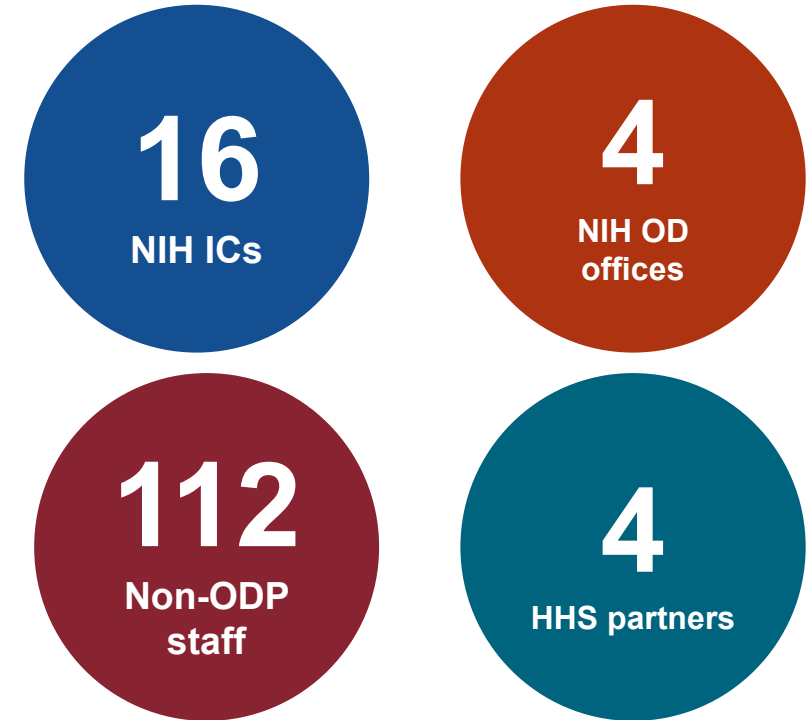
Leading the Health & Housing Group

- A collaboration between NIH, HUD, and CDC.
- Efforts include:
 - Portfolio analysis
 - Conference presentations
 - Seminars
 - Leveraging data resources for secondary data analysis

Organizing Prevention Scientific Interest Groups (SIGs)

- Currently 3 active SIGs in Physical Activity, Comorbidity, and Screening.
- Collaborate on research initiatives to address unmet prevention research needs.
- Develop activities such as the Prevention in Focus Webinar Series, which provides opportunities for the broader scientific community and members of the public to learn about the latest prevention research findings directly from experts.

Prevention SIG Facts





Strategic Priority 5: Advance Tobacco Regulatory and Prevention Science

Promote and facilitate tobacco regulatory science and tobacco prevention research.

Objectives

- Lead the NIH-wide program in tobacco regulatory science, partnering with FDA scientific leadership to help identify, develop, characterize, and address FDA's tobacco regulatory research priorities.
- Oversee and lead NIH ICOs and grant recipients in complying with policies and procedures unique to the NIH-FDA partnership in tobacco regulatory science.
- Educate FDA and NIH program, review, and grants management staff on TRSP scientific goals, policies, and procedures.
- Create opportunities for extramural investigators and federal scientific staff to collaborate, network, and discuss FDA's priority topics and share research results in prevention and tobacco regulatory science.
- Facilitate development of resources and research opportunities to address gaps in tobacco prevention intervention, research, measurement, and methodology.

Tobacco Regulatory Science Activities

RFA-OD-23-021: Public Health Communications Messaging about the Continuum of Risk for Tobacco Products

- \$2.5M in total costs for FY24–27
- To better understand the effects of messaging about the continuum of risk for tobacco products on various segments of the population, including:
 - Audiences for whom the messaging could potentially be useful (i.e., adults who use combustible products)
 - Audiences for whom the messaging could have negative consequences (e.g., youth)

Announcing a new Opportunity Fund

- \$1.5M/year administered through coordinating center
- Will respond to the dynamic tobacco marketplace with high priority, time-sensitive projects that address FDA CTP research needs.
- Extramural investigators will be able to apply.



Strategic Priority 6: Address Health Disparities

Promote and coordinate prevention research that addresses health disparities.

Objectives

- Coordinate NIH-wide funding opportunities and other research initiatives to develop and test new interventions and new strategies to disseminate existing interventions that address risk and protective factors for illness, injury, and the leading causes of death in populations experiencing health disparities.
- Assess the NIH prevention research portfolio related to health disparities to identify research, infrastructure, and training gaps and develop strategies to address those gaps.
- Serve as a resource on health disparities-related prevention research to NIH ICOs, federal partners, and the extramural research community.

Health Disparities Activities

Advancing Prevention Research for Health Equity (ADVANCE) initiative

- Preventive intervention research addressing social determinants of health in populations that experience health disparities. Funding opportunities since FY22 include the following topics:
 - Preventive interventions to address cardiometabolic risk factors; interventions to promote social, cultural, and environmental connectedness
 - Cancer screening
 - Screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment or prevention for alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use
 - Menthol cigarette smoking cessation
 - Pre-doctoral training to promote diversity in prevention research
 - Multi-sectoral preventive interventions research network and coordinating center
- Beginning in FY24, ADVANCE will pursue new topic areas, such as unintentional injury, obesity, and adverse childhood experiences.
- ODP's first-ever prize competition: Art challenge for teens and young adults about how prevention and can improve health equity.





Strategic Priority 7: Communicate Efforts and Findings

Highlight the value of prevention research by developing resources, sharing information, and strengthening partnerships.

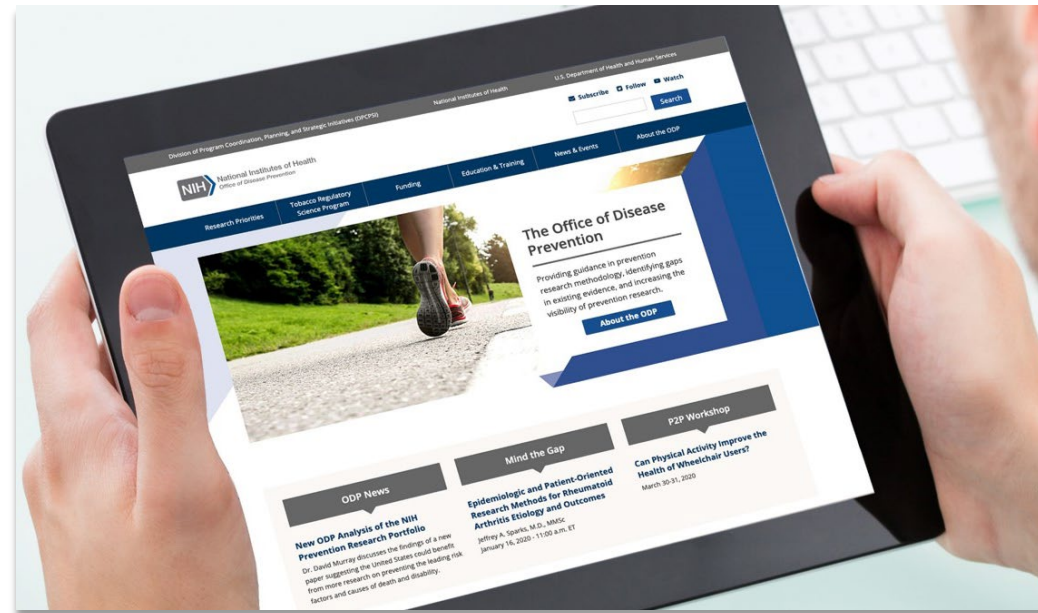
Objectives

- Improve the availability and visibility of information about prevention research and promote prevention-related events conducted by NIH and other federal agencies.
- Inform ODP's audiences about the scope and impact of prevention research.
- Engage with partners to foster opportunities to enhance and support ODP's mission.


Communications Activities

Reorganizing and improving the ODP website

- Updating the navigation categories on prevention.nih.gov to better reflect the office's current activities and priorities.
- Informed by results from web analytics, usability testing, and feedback from ODP staff.




Coming soon!



NIH Office of Disease Prevention

**Strategic Plan
Fiscal Years
2024–2028**

**Prevention Research:
Creating a Healthier
Future for All**



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