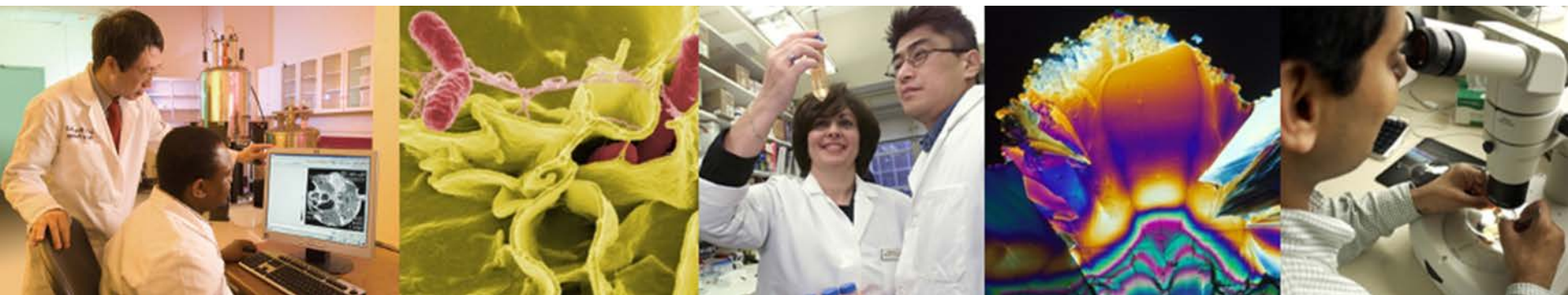


NIH American Indian and Alaska Native Activities

NIH Tribal Consultation Advisory Committee Meeting

February 25, 2016



Lawrence A. Tabak, DDS, PhD
Principal Deputy Director, NIH
Department of Health and Human Services



Topics

- NIH Visit to Navajo Nation
- Selected STAC Priority Areas
 - Suicide Prevention Research
 - Historical Trauma Research
- ECHO Program



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NIH Visit to Navajo Nation

January 11, 2016

- Other HHS OpDivs in Attendance
 - CDC
 - SAMHSA
- Major Topics of Discussion
 - Alcohol and Substance Abuse
 - Environmental toxins: uranium exposure and Gold King Mine spill
 - Suicide Surveillance and Prevention
- Met with President Begaye, Vice President Nez, and the Navajo Nation Council Delegates
- Toured and met staff at Fort Defiance Outpatient Center Department of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS) and the Medical Center
- Listening Session



Topics

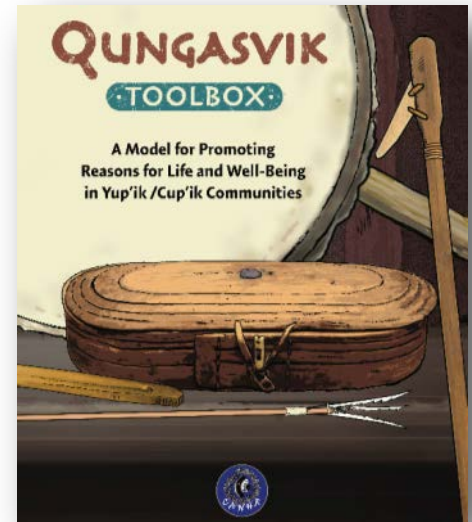
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Selected STAC Priority Areas: Suicide Prevention Research

Selected Examples

- Prevention of Alcohol/Suicide Risk in Alaska Native Youth
 - University of Alaska and Yup'ik Alaska Natives
 - Prevention intervention harnessing traditional activities to enhance resiliency of Yup'ik youth to alcohol use and suicide
- Healing of the Canoe
 - University of Washington and Suquamish and Port Gamble S'Klallam tribes
 - Project to promote well-being and prevent substance use among Native youth based on the traditional Canoe Journey
 - Thus far, intervention increased cultural identity, cultural practices, hope, and self-efficacy, and decreased substance use



STAC Topics of Interest:

Suicide Prevention Research (cont.)

- Reducing the Incidence of Suicide in Indigenous Groups: Strengths United through Networks (RISING-SUN)
 - Arctic Council Sustainable Development Working Group project
 - NIH/NIMH collaborates with:
 - US Department of State
 - CDC
 - SAMHSA
 - Co-sponsors: the Kingdom of Denmark, Norway, Canada, and the Inuit Circumpolar Council
 - Create common metrics for suicide prevention in the Arctic
 - Developed a toolkit to harmonize evaluation of interventions, enable communities to measure what is relevant to their needs, and share and compare data



STAC Topics of Interest:

Historical Trauma Research

Selected Examples

- Historical Trauma Practice and Group Interpersonal Psychotherapy for American Indians
 - University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center partnering with multiple tribes
 - Healing study to develop a culturally-tailored intervention for treatment of depression and other mental health disorders
- Consequences of Alcohol Abuse/Dependence for Indigenous Adolescents
 - University of Nebraska-Lincoln partnering with Ojibwe
 - Found that perceived discrimination was strongly related to feelings of historical loss, which predicted high alcohol abuse
 - Additionally demonstrated culturally based protective factors
 - Spiritual activity, cultural identity and traditional activity were related to decreased alcohol abuse

STAC Topics of Interest:

Historical Trauma Research (cont.)

- NIMHD Comprehensive Center of Excellence
 - University of Washington
 - Indigenous Wellness Research Institute
 - Center to foster a focused research agenda examining how historical, cultural, and social determinants of health relate to health disparities and health risk behaviors among AI/AN populations
 - Particular focus on cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and obesity



Topics

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ECHO Program: Overview

■ **Overarching Goal**

- Investigate the longitudinal impact of pre-, peri-, and postnatal environmental exposures on pediatric development and health outcomes with high public health impact through leverage of extant cohorts and other available resources

■ **Core Elements to be Collected From all Participants**

- Demographics
- Typical early health and development descriptors
 - Optional Sub-Element: Microbiome
- Genetic influences on early childhood health and development
 - Optional Sub-Element: Epigenetics
- Environmental exposures (e.g., behavioral, biological, chemical, social)
- Patient/Person (parent and child) Reported Outcomes (PROs)

ECHO Program: Overview (cont'd)

- **Pediatric Health Outcome Focus Areas**
 - Upper and lower airway
 - Obesity
 - Pre-, peri-, and postnatal outcomes
 - Neurodevelopment
- **Additional Opportunity**
 - Create an IDeA States Pediatric Clinical Trials Network



ECHO Program Elements

- Extant Pediatric Cohorts
- Coordinating Center (CC)
- Data Analysis Center (DAC)
- PRO Core – leveraging PEPR (started in FY15 with NCS funds)
- CHEAR Core – leveraging CHEAR (started in FY15 with NCS funds)
- Genetics Core
- IDeA States Pediatric Clinical Trials Network (ISPCTN)
 - IDeA Clinical Sites
 - IDeA Data Coordinating and Operations Center (DCOC)



ECHO Program Elements: IDeA Clinical Sites and DCOC

Clinical Sites

- Expand pediatric clinical trials initiated by other entities to:
 - Improve access to relevant populations, particularly rural and medically underserved children
 - Support advances in pediatric clinical research
 - Accelerate overall accrual
- Link existing IDeA state centers with experts in clinical trials

DCOC

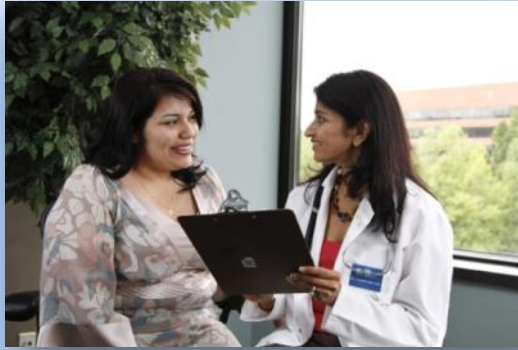
- Coordinate ISPCTN activities
- Manage Steering Committee
 - Prioritize research investigating the four ECHO Focus Areas



ECHO Plan: Potential Research Questions that Could be Addressed

- What are the specific relative contributions of genetic and environmental (behavioral, biological, chemical, social, etc.) influences on child health?
- What factors render individuals or populations subjected to the same exposures as resilient or susceptible to disease? Do these differ over time, and by sex/gender, race/ethnicity, and/or SES?
- What are the inflection points at which the body's normal physiologic homeostasis becomes dysregulated, leading chronic disease(s)?
- What are the molecular and behavioral mechanisms involved in maintaining a healthy weight across the lifespan?
- What are the genetic, biomarker, and environmental predictors of risk for the key focus areas of childhood outcomes?

Applications are due April 15, 2016



NIH...

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Turning Discovery Into Health

