Introduction to the HEAL (Helping to End Addiction Long-term) Initiative

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Helping to End Addiction Long-term (HEAL) Initiative

• Trans-NIH research initiative to:
  • Improve prevention and treatment strategies for opioid misuse and addiction
  • Enhance pain management

• Goals are scientific solutions to the opioid crisis

• Coordinating with the HHS Secretary, Surgeon General, federal partners, local government officials and communities

www.nih.gov/heal-initiative
Helping to End Addiction Long-term (HEAL) Initiative: At a glance

- $500M/year Trans - NIH effort
  - Over $850M to be obligated in FY2019
- 12 NIH Institute and Centers leading 26 HEAL research projects
  - Over 20 collaborating Institutes, Centers and Offices
  - From prevention research, basic and translational research, clinical trials, to implementation science
  - Multiple projects integrating research into new settings
- Released 40+ funding announcements for FY2019
HEAL Initiative Research Overview

- Enhancing Pain Management
  - Pre-Clinical Research in Pain Management
  - Clinical Research in Pain Management
- Improving Treatments for Misuse and Addiction
  - Expand Therapeutic Options
  - Develop New/Improved Prevention & Treatment Strategies
  - Optimize Effective Treatments
  - Enhance Treatments for Affected Newborns
Improving Prevention and Treatment Strategies for Opioid Addiction

• Expand therapeutic options for opioid addiction and overdose
  • New, more user-friendly formulations of existing medications
  • Longer duration, more powerful overdose-reversers
  • New approaches to reverse respiratory depression
  • Immunotherapies for opioids to prevent relapse and overdose
  • New targets and approaches for treating Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)
Improving Prevention and Treatment Strategies for Opioid Addiction

• Enhance Treatments for Affected Newborns with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome/ Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome (NOWS)
  • Advancing Clinical Trials in Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal Syndrome
    • ACT NOW Study
  • Understanding the long-term consequences of early opioid exposure
    • HEALthy Brain and Cognitive Development (BCD) Study
Improving Prevention and Treatment Strategies for Opioid Addiction

• Develop New and Improved Prevention & Treatment Strategies
  • Preventing at risk adolescents from transitioning to OUD as they transition to adulthood
  • Understanding the role of sleep dysfunction in OUD and recovery
  • Managing opioid misuse and low severity OUD
  • Determining the optimal length of medication treatment for OUD
  • Optimizing collaborative care for people with OUD and common mental disorders
Improving Prevention and Treatment Strategies for Opioid Addiction

- Optimize Effective Treatments
  - Enhancing the NIDA Clinical Trials Network to address opioids
  - Promoting innovation in the criminal justice system
    - Justice Community Opioid Intervention Network
  - Understanding the role of behavioral health interventions
    - Behavioral Research to Improve Adherence to Medication-based treatment for OUD
  - Integrating multiple evidence based interventions in communities
    - The HEALing Communities Study
Enhancing Pain Management

• Pre-Clinical Research in Pain Management
  • Accelerate the discovery and development of non-addictive treatments for pain
    • Understanding the origins of chronic pain
      • Acute to Chronic Pain Signatures Program
        • Discovery and validation of novel targets for safe and effective pain treatment
        • Biomarkers, signatures and endpoints for pain
        • Translating discoveries into effective devices for pain treatment
        • Engineering preclinical screening platforms + novel drug development
Enhancing Pain Management

• **Clinical Research in Pain Management**
  - Characterize populations of patients with pain conditions
  - Test novel treatments in a new clinical trials network
    - Early Phase Pain Investigation Clinical Network (EPPIC Net)
    - Back Pain Research Consortium
  - Establish best strategies for management of acute and chronic pain
    - Pain Management Effectiveness Research Network
    - Integrated approach to pain and opioid use in hemodialysis patients
    - Pragmatic and Implementation Studies for the Management of Pain
NIH • Helping to End Addiction Long-term