NCI Legislative Update
Clinical Trials and Translational Research Advisory Committee

M.K. Holohan, J.D.
Director
NCI Office of Government and Congressional Relations

November 4, 2015
Discussion Topics

- Recent Congressional Activity
  - Budget Deal
  - House GOP Leadership Changes
  - Appropriations – still pending
  - Key Issues
Where we were ... Appropriations FY 2016

Budget Caps Limit Possible Options

House LHHS Committee Approved FY 2016 bill on June 24, 2015

- Provides NIH $31.2 billion, an increase of 1.1 billion above FY2015
- Includes $200 million for Precision Medicine Initiative, $70 million to NCI
- Targets specific research areas, providing increased funding for Alzheimer’s disease research, Clinical Translational Sciences Awards, the BRIAN initiative, among others.
- Provides NCI $5.081 billion

Senate LHHS Committee Approved FY 2016 bill on June 25, 2015

- Provides NIH $32 billion, an increase of $2 billion above FY2015
- Includes $200 million for Precision Medicine Initiative, $70 million to NCI
- Targets specific research areas, providing increased funding for Alzheimer’s disease research, BRAIN initiative, and the Combating Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria program, among others.
- Provides NCI $5.204 billion
• Short Term CR – Dec 11

• Speaker of the House Boehner resigns Sept 25

• Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy – short-lived heir apparent – drops out of race October 8th

• Leadership vacuum
The House passed the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 (HR 1314) by a vote of 266-167 on October 28th, and the Senate passed the bill on October 30th by a vote of 64-35.
What the budget deal does:

- Suspends the U.S. debt limit until March 15, 2017, after the next presidential election
- Partially rolls back the sequester and increases discretionary spending caps for FY 2016 and FY 2017
- Caps will increase by $50 billion in FY 2016 and $30 billion in FY 2017, split equally between defense and nondefense spending

Not clear yet how much each appropriations subcommittee will receive for FY16

What the budget deal does not do:

- Make appropriations for FY16 – we still have Dec 11 deadline, still risk of shutdown
- 21 legislative days left
• Oct. 28 - Rep. Paul Ryan becomes Speaker of the House- pledges “bottom up” effort to unite the House GOP
• The President signed the bill into law on November 2.
Compromise Deal

• “I would say it was a good week for those of us who want to govern and a tough week for those who don’t,” said Rep. Charlie Dent, a leader in the GOP centrist Tuesday Group

• Rep. Tom Cole “No one’s popping champagne corks on either end of Pennsylvania Avenue”
Appropriations: What to Expect Next

- Continuing Resolution #1 – expires December 11th
- Highway Funding bill – expires November 25th
- Omnibus for FY16
  - Issue will be policy riders
    - Speaker Ryan at odds with Dems and WH already

Stay tuned...
QUESTIONS?