NCI Legislative Update

Clinical Trials and Translational Research Advisory Committee

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National Institutes of Health



Discussion Topics

Appropriations Status

NCI Interactions with Congress

Topic of Interest



Where are we?

- > No appropriation bills have passed.
- ➤ Government is operating under a Continuing Resolution (CR) that expires November 18

How did we get here?

- ➤ Debt ceiling negotiations delayed progress on any Appropriations bills May July
- Labor-HHS Education bill passed in Senate by Appropriations Committee Sept. 21
- ➤ House Labor-H bill finally made public Sept. 29, but no action



What Else Happened in the Senate?

- © Sen. Moran (R-KS) offered amendment to increase NIH funding by \$190 million
- NIH increase paid for by across-the-board cut
- Amendment did not pass



What Else Happened in the House?

- © Bill includes higher funding levels for NIH and NCI
- Prohibits funding for implementation of health care reform
- Minority objected because they had no input
- Bill unlikely to be voted on



What's Next?

- House and Senate leadership needed a strategy to reduce the time it will take to pass all 12 appropriations bills, but still avoid a single catch-all bill.
- ➤ Reached agreement to have the Senate combine 2 or more bills into "minibus" packages.
- > 1st minibus voted on by Senate next week, others to follow
- ➤ Bills must then be passed by House, signed by President
- Labor, HHS, Education bill will be in the last group.
- A new CR that will extend through mid-December will be included in the first minibus bill.



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NCI Staff Inform Congress

- Cancer Research (Sept. 22)
 - AACR invited RSC members
 - Dr. Varmus
- Ovarian Cancer (Sept.15)
 - Ovarian Cancer National Alliance sponsored
 - Members and staff attended
 - Dr. Jennifer Loud (DCEG)
- Multiple Myeloma (Oct. 25)
 - International Myeloma Foundation sponsored
 - Rep. Jackie Speier (D-CA) participated
 - Dr. Ola Landgren (CCR)



Members of Congress Visit NIH

- Rep. Jackie Speier (July 29)
 - Drs. Helman and Mackall led tour of CC
 - Discussed pediatric clinical trials
 - Dr. Collins, staff from NIDDK participated
- Sen. Jerry Moran (Sept. 22)
 - Visited lab with Dr. Linehan
 - Toured clinic with Dr. Helman
 - Met Dr. Collins
- Congressional Staff and Advocates (Sept. 27)
 - Research! America sponsored
 - Multiple ICs participated
 - Dr. Linehan (NCI)



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Drug Shortage – Legislation

Preserving Access to Life-Saving Medications Act

- S 296 introduced by Klobuchar/Casey Feb. 17
- HR 2245 introduced by Rooney/DeGette June 21
 - ✓ Manufacturers must notify FDA of disontinuance, interruption, disruption that would result in shortage
 - ✓ HHS must implement evidence-based criteria to identify drugs vulnerable to shortages
 - ✓ GAO must study possible causes
 - ✓ HHS must report to Congress



Drug Shortage – Congressional Interest

- House Energy and Commerce Comm. Hearing Sept 23
 - HHS (Dr. Koh) and FDA (Dr. Kweder) testified
- Sen. Schumer held press conference Oct. 9
 - Asked FTC to investigate distributors for price gouging
- Rep. Cummings launched investigation of gray market
 - October Requested information from 5 companies that sell
 drugs but do not manufacture them or treat patients
 - November Expressed concern at some companies lack of cooperation



Drug Shortage – Follow Up

- FDA released "Review of Drug Shortages"
- HHS posted issue brief "Economic Analysis of the Causes of Drug Shortages"
- President Obama issued Executive Order FDA to:
 - Use existing authorities to require drug manufacturers to provide advance notice of potential shortages
 - Expand current efforts to expedite regulatory reviews
 - Work with DOJ to review certain behaviors by market participants







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