

ACT-AD

Accelerate Cure/Treatments for Alzheimer's Disease

Advisory Council

March 31, 2008

Alliance for Aging Research

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair

Alzheimer's Foundation of America

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development,
Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies

American Society on Aging

United States House of Representatives
2262 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

National Alliance for Caregiving

Dear Congresswoman DeLauro:

National Association of Area Agencies on Aging

Accelerate Cure/Treatments for Alzheimer's Disease (ACT-AD) is a coalition of national organizations representing patients, caregivers, researchers, health professionals, and other health advocates. Our mission is to support efforts designed to expedite the development, review, and approval of therapies to better treat or cure Alzheimer's disease. To achieve this end, the coalition collaborates with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on an ongoing basis.

National Consumers League

Research!America

As you are aware, recent reports have highlighted that more than 5.2 million people currently have Alzheimer's disease and 1 million more are expected to be diagnosed by 2050. If no cure or more effective treatment options become available, this disease will continue to not only devastate these patients and their families, but also cripple our already strained health care system. An improved process for reviewing novel interventions to slow or reverse the effects of Alzheimer's disease must be implemented in order to avert a national crisis.

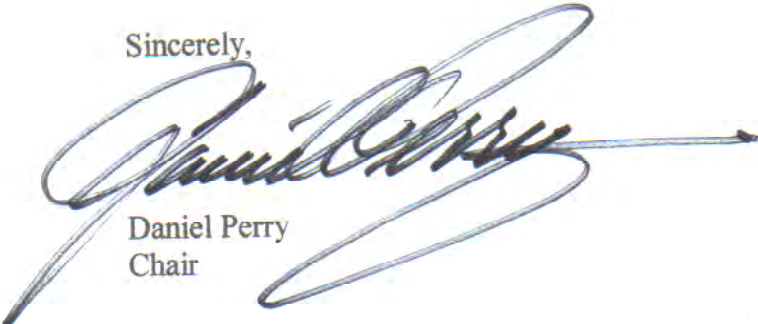
Society for Women's Health Research

There are numerous compounds currently demonstrating promise for Alzheimer's disease in various stages of development. With the proper tools, increased focus and appropriate regulatory structure devoted to Alzheimer's disease, we believe that these treatments can make their way into the hands of patients who desperately need them. However, FDA's expertise and manpower must be enhanced to prepare them for the evaluation of these products. This cannot happen unless the FDA is provided with sufficient funding.

The undersigned members of ACT-AD support an \$80 million increase in the drug budget at FDA for FY 2009 (over FY 2008 appropriated levels, exclusive of user fees) to strengthen the scientific knowledge base and tools available at FDA. Our hope is that an increase in funding for CDER and CBER would help to advance new therapies that can potentially revolutionize the way diseases like Alzheimer's are treated.

The full membership of ACT-AD and the millions of Americans they represent appreciate your attention to these important issues. To respond to this letter, or if we can be of assistance to the subcommittee as it contemplates the appropriate level of funding for the FDA this year, please contact Cynthia Farrell on the coalition staff at (202) 293-2856 x116.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Daniel Perry", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel Perry
Chair

Supporting Organizations

Alliance for Aging Research
Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation
Alzheimer's Foundation of America
American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry
American Federation for Aging Research
American Health Assistance Foundation
FasterCures
International Longevity Center-USA
National Council on Patient Information and Education
RetireSafe
Society for Women's Health Research
Strategic Health Policy International

ACT-AD

Accelerate Cure/Treatments for Alzheimer's Disease

Advisory Council

March 31, 2008

Alliance for Aging Research

The Honorable Herb Kohl
Chair

Alzheimer's Foundation of America

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development,
Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies

American Society on Aging

United States Senate
129 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

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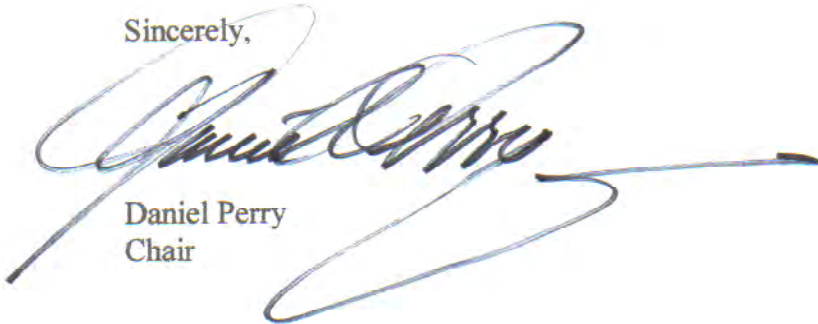
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