NHLBI Strategic Plan

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

National Heart Lung and Blood Institute

NHLBI Vision

Provide global leadership through research and education to enhance the health of all individuals so that they can live longer and more fulfilling lives.

Partnerships

Researchers

International Organizations

Professional Societies

Federal-State-Local Agencies

Our Approach

Work in partnership in an ever evolving environment.

Voluntary Health Organizations

Corporations

Patient Advocacy Groups

Foundations

Community Organizations

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NHLBI Strategic Plan Objectives

Develop a scientific blueprint for the next decade.

- A living, working plan from an inclusive and participatory process.
- Identify strategic priorities for the NHLBI to:
  - Initiate – *will not happen unless the Institute takes the lead*
  - Catalyze – *will be facilitated by the Institute*
  - Support – *will be accomplished through investigator-initiated research*

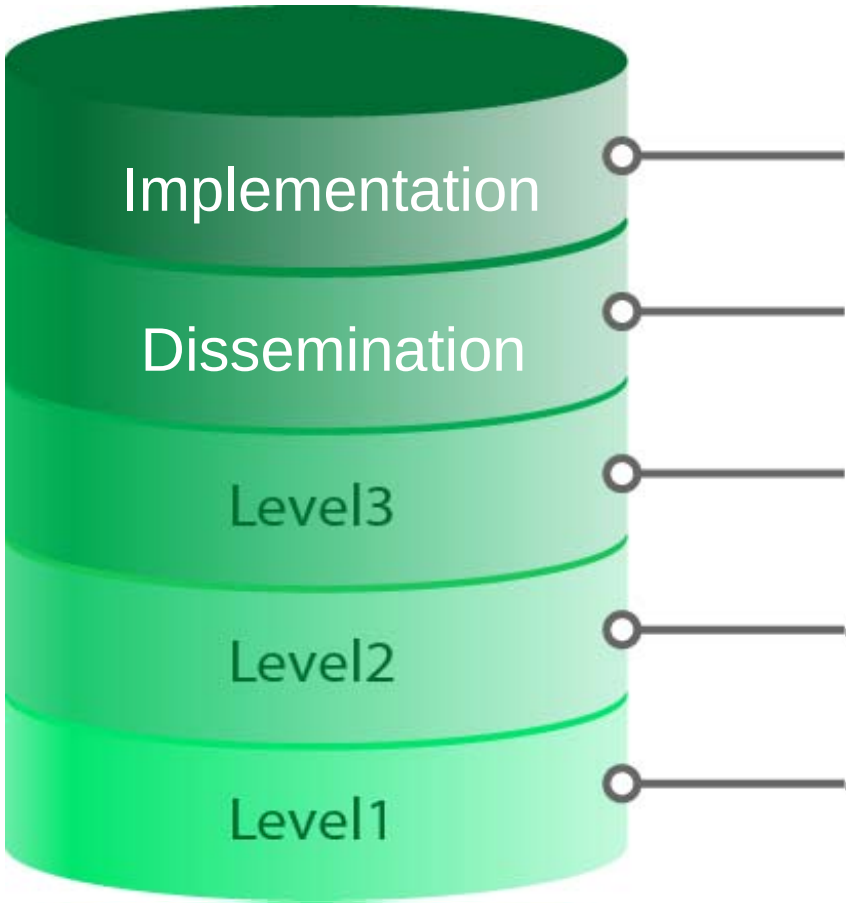
Planning Principles

- Identify the scientific directions for which the NHLBI is well positioned to make major contributions
- Ensure an inclusive process with grantees and other NHLBI constituencies having an active role
- Look inward as well as forward; evaluate NHLBI operational policies as part of the process
- Create a living document by providing for ongoing implementation and evaluation

Scientific and Operational Questions

- What are the most pressing scientific opportunities and challenges in heart, lung, blood, and sleep research?
- What are the obstacles to progress and what is needed to overcome them, including needed technologies and resources?
- What changes in the NHLBI business operations are needed to facilitate this research?
- How can the NHLBI enable the community to address these opportunities and challenges?

Strategic Plan Timeline



2005-2007

Implementation
Summer 2007

Plan Dissemination
Spring 2007

Level Three: Public Comment
Winter 2006-2007

Level Two: Develop Institute-wide Strategic Themes
Fall 2006

Level One: Identify Research Program Themes
Winter 2005/Summer 2006

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Level 1 Meetings

1. Heart Failure and Cardiomyopathy
2. From Discovery to Clinical Application
3. Coronary Artery Disease and Atherosclerosis
4. Arrhythmias
5. Regenerative and Reparative Medicine
6. Bioinformatics and Computational Biology
7. Translation, Implementation, & Community Research
8. Vascular Diseases and Hypertension
9. Emerging and Evolving Technologies
10. Valvular and Congenital Diseases
11. Clinical Trial Methodology
12. Personalized Medicine

Level 1 Meetings (continued)

13. Injury/Inflammation; Repair/Remodeling; Replacement/Regeneration
14. New Investigator Workshop (ATS)
15. Enabling Therapeutic Trials and Translational Research
16. Personalized Medicine
17. Integrative Approaches to Pathogenic Research
18. Development and Early Origins of Disease
19. Global Blood Safety and Availability
20. Acquired and Inherited Blood Diseases
21. Cellular Therapeutics
22. Critical Role of Inflammation in Ischemic Disorders
23. Diagnosis and Treatment of Thrombotic Disorders

Cross-cutting Level 2 Meeting

Resulted in:

Three Goals

with each Goal further defined by **Challenges**

and **Eight Strategies** that will change

as Challenges are met and new Challenges emerge

Level 3 Public Comment

Public Comment Period - January , 2007 through February 1, 2007

A total of 89 commentators, both individual and organizational, provided 218 comments on the draft strategic plan. The major themes raised were:

1. Implementation steps
2. Collaboration with other agencies and institutions
3. Continuing support for investigator-initiated research

Goal One: Form to Function

Goal 1

To improve understanding of the molecular and physiological basis of health and disease and to use that understanding to develop improved approaches to disease diagnosis, treatment, and prevention.

Challenge 1.1

To delineate mechanisms that relate molecular events to health and disease.

Challenge 1.2

To discover biomarkers that differentiate clinically relevant disease subtypes and that identify new molecular targets for application to prevention, diagnosis – including imaging, and therapy.

Goal Two: Function to Causes

Goal 2:

To improve understanding of the clinical mechanisms of disease and thereby enable better prevention, diagnosis, and treatment.

Challenge 2.1

To accelerate the translation of basic research findings into clinical studies and trials and to promote the translation of clinical research findings back to the laboratory.

Challenge 2.2

To enable early and accurate risk stratification and diagnosis of cardiovascular, lung, and blood disorders.

Challenge 2.3

To develop personalized preventive and therapeutic regimens for cardiovascular, lung, and blood diseases.

Challenge 2.4

To enhance the evidence available to guide the practice of medicine and improve public health.

Goal Three: Causes to Cures

Goal 3

To generate an improved understanding of the processes involved in translating research into practice and use that understanding to enable improvements in public health and to stimulate further scientific discovery.

Challenge 3.1

To complement bench discoveries and clinical trial results with focused behavioral and social science research.

Challenge 3.2

To identify cost-effective approaches for prevention, diagnosis, and treatment.

Challenge 3.3

To promote the development and implementation of evidence-based guidelines in partnership with individuals, professional and patient communities, and health care systems and to communicate research advances effectively to the public.

Plan Strategies: 1, 2 and 3

Eight Strategies – will change as Challenges are met and new Challenges emerge

1. Develop and facilitate access to scientific research resources
2. Develop new technologies, tools and resources
3. Increase the return for NHLBI population-based and outcomes research

Plan Strategies: 4 thru 8

4. Establish and expand collaborative resources for clinical research
5. Extend the infrastructure for clinical research
6. Support the development of multidisciplinary teams
7. Develop and retain human capital
8. Bridge the gap between research and practice through knowledge networks

Next Steps

Develop a communications plan to inform, engage, and elicit continued feedback

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Next Steps: Dissemination

- Printed version of the plan for Scientific audiences
- Printed summary brochure for Public audiences
- PowerPoint slide set
- Accessible via the NHLBI Strategic Plan website at http://nhlbi.nih.gov/strategicplan/
- Presentations at meetings and other events

Strategic Plan Publications

National Heart Lung and Blood Institute

Initiative Development Process

Plan and Develop Initiatives and Ideas

- NHLBI staff develop initiatives and ideas, based upon input from
  - scientific community
  - other NHLBI constituencies
  - congress
  - BEE and Council
- NHLBI staff discuss Ideas and Initiatives at Idea Forum

Select and Prioritize Initiatives

- "Director's Table" selects proposals from Idea Forum to be considered by the BEE
- BEE prioritizes initiatives

Initiative Development Process (continued)

Consider and Recommend Initiatives for Funding

- Council reviews initiatives and BEE prioritization and makes recommendations

Make Funding Decisions

- Director, NHLBI makes funding decisions by considering
  - BEE priorities
  - Council recommendations
  - Fiscal resources
  - Program need
  - Program balance
  - Etc.