

July 2021 Newsletter
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NIH COVID-19 RESOURCES FOR APPLICANTS AND GRANTEES

Guidance for various aspects of research and grant application processes, as well as FAQs and COVID-19 funding opportunities can be found [here](#).

FAQ DOCUMENT ON COVID-19 FLEXIBILITIES

Policies and programs affecting the grants process can be found [here](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES SPECIFIC TO COVID-19

A list of active and expired funding opportunities across NIH related to SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19 research can be found [here](#).

HHS COVID-19 AWARDS TRACKING WEBSITE

The HHS COVID-19 award tracking website, including data on awards made by all HHS awarding agencies with supplemental appropriations, can be found [here](#).

NIH COVID-19 RESEARCH WEBSITE

A new website provides a central location for trusted, up-to-date, accurate information about research and the NIH's strategic role in COVID-19 research. Read more [here](#).

LEE, BLUMENAUER SEND LETTER CALLING ON USADA TO REEVALUATE CANNABIS RULES

Cannabis Caucus Co-chairs Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) and Barbara Lee (D-CA) sent a letter urging the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, along with the World Anti-Doping Agency and the U.S. Track and Field Association, to reevaluate their rules prohibiting cannabis consumption, even outside of competition. Read more [here](#).

THC'S IMPACT ON MEMORY

High-potency cannabis products can have an impact on an individual's memory capacity while intoxicated, a new study published by Washington State University in the journal Scientific Reports found. Read more [here](#).

MARIJUANA LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) and Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ) released a discussion draft of the Cannabis Administration and Opportunity Act. Schumer, Wyden and Booker's offices are taking comment until September 1 at Cannabis_Reform@finance.senate.gov. Read more [here](#).

BIDEN TAPS GUPTA FOR DRUG CZAR POST

Dr. Rahul Gupta has been tapped by President Joe Biden to serve as the head of the Office of National Drug Control Policy. Read more [here](#).

CDC DATA SHOWS DEADLIEST YEAR FOR DRUG OVERDOSES

According to data released on July 14, overdose deaths in the U.S. surged to 93,331 in 2020, the most recorded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in any year. Read more [here](#).

LEGAL MARIJUANA'S IMPACT ON OPIOID USE

According to a new study published in Health Economics, the coronavirus pandemic helped fuel drug overdose deaths to record highs last year, but in the long-term legal marijuana did not have much of an effect either way. Read more [here](#).

HIGH-DOSE BUPRENORPHINE CAN HELP EMERGENCY ROOMS WITH WITHDRAWAL

A new study supported by the National Institutes of Health's National Institute on Drug Abuse finds that high-dose buprenorphine therapy can be safely used by emergency departments to help patients suffering from opioid withdrawal. Read more [here](#).

CBD IS CONFUSING FOR MANY

A lack of federal oversight coupled with a mishmash of state regulations for CBD is causing rampant consumer confusion and safety concerns, according to a new report from the Consumer Brands Association. Read more [here](#).

SENATE CAUCUS ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL HEARING

On July 20, Dr. Volkow testified before the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control on the "Federal Response to the Drug Overdose Epidemic." Read more [here](#).

CHOOSING APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE TO REDUCE STIGMA

Dr. Volkow, along with NIAAA Director Dr. Koob and NIMH Director Dr. Gordon published an article in *Neuropsychopharmacology* on "Choosing Appropriate Language to Reduce the Stigma Around Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorders." Read more [here](#).

HOUSE PASSES FY22 LABOR HHS BILL

On July 29, the House of Representatives passed a spending package of FY22 spending bills, including the Labor-HHS-Education spending bill. The bill includes \$49.4 billion in funding for NIH, including a \$3.5 billion increase to the NIH base budget. Read more [here](#).