

FACT SHEET: UC Urges Passage of Comprehensive Cures/ Innovations Legislation

Congress is currently considering legislation that promotes medical innovation through reforms and increased funding to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The House vehicle is the 21st Century Cures Act, referred to as “Cures,” while the Senate has 19 individual companion vehicles making up the Innovations for Healthier Americans Act, referred to as “Innovations.”

UC urges passage of Cures/Innovations legislation before the end of the 114th Congress because a one-time surge in NIH funding is vital to accelerating health treatments and cures for all Americans.

Robust and sustained NIH funding is central to the Cures/Innovations legislation, and is critical to UC fulfilling its public service mission to California and the nation.

- In fiscal year 2015, UC received over \$1.8 billion from NIH – more than 50 percent of the total NIH funds awarded to California that year.
- This essential investment enables California’s biomedical research industry to drive life-saving breakthroughs in science and employ hundreds of thousands of Californians.

UC supports federal investment in the Cancer Moonshot, the Precision Medicine and the Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies (BRAIN) Initiatives. UC is deeply involved in all three endeavors.

- Our five National Cancer Institute-designated Cancer Centers are collaborating to leverage medical advances through the sharing of several million cancer patients’ genomic data.
- BRAIN Initiative grants are supporting UC teams to develop new tools and technologies for a deeper understanding of brain functions and to accelerate new treatments for neurological disorders.
- Through the NIH Precision Medicine Initiative Cohort Program, UC will engage one million or more U.S. participants in research to prevent and treat diseases based on differences in lifestyle, environment and genetics.

UC medical discoveries and treatments have enriched millions of lives, and with enactment of Cures/Innovations legislation, we can serve millions more.