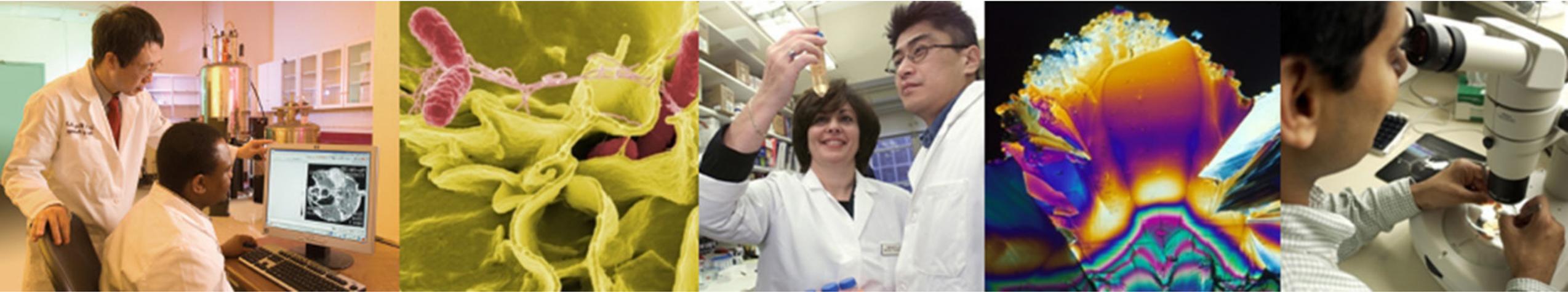


# Social Determinants of Opioid Use: Establishing a Research Agenda to Inform Community and System Level Interventions



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# Call to action - NIH is committed to addressing racial and health disparities.

**The COVID-19 pandemic has shone a bright and deeply distressing light on just how much health inequity persists in our society.**

*Francis Collins 2020, June 5. NIH Director Message: Grieving For Loss and Confronting Social Injustice*



**The long history of discrimination against racial minorities in America bears directly on NIDA's mission to address addiction as a disease ...**

*Nora Volkow 2020, August 5. A Message from the Director on Racially Motivated Violence.*



**I am charged with striving to transform the understanding and treatment of mental illnesses through basic and clinical research, paving the way for prevention, recovery, and cure.**

*Joshua Gordon, 2020, June 19. Racism and Mental Health Research: Steps Toward Equity.*



**The mission of NINDS is to generate knowledge to reduce the burden of neurological disorders, *for all people.***

*Walter Koroshetz 2020, June 19. A time for change: NINDS' commitment to diversity and eliminating racial bias.*



# Health Disparities: Barriers to quality care

- **Biopsychosocial Factors**
  - Racial/ethnic differences in perception, response, reporting
- **Patient/Provider Interactions**
  - Bias in assessment and treatment; differential treatment
- **Socioeconomic Factors**
  - Access to resources
- **Healthcare**
  - Access to healthcare

NIH works towards understanding the causes of health disparities *and* developing effective interventions to overcome them related to the most pressing issues of our time, including COVID-19, cancer, AIDS, diabetes, infant mortality, cardiovascular disease, and the opioid crisis as exemplified by this meeting today.

# Health Disparities Research is Central the NIH Mission

- NIH Strategic Plan
- The NIMHD led science visioning process to chart a new research course to improve minority health and reduce health disparities
- COVID-19 Research
- Addressing the opioid crisis and reducing disparities

