

tion strengthened among the National Institutes of Health research institutes.

“(2) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this section [enacting this section] to provide for the expansion and coordination of research regarding Parkinson’s disease, and to improve care and assistance for afflicted individuals and their family caregivers.”

**§ 284g. Expansion, intensification, and coordination of activities of National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism spectrum disorder**

**(a) In general**

**(1) Expansion of activities**

The Director of NIH (in this section referred to as the “Director”) shall, subject to the availability of appropriations, expand, intensify, and coordinate the activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism spectrum disorder, including basic and clinical research in fields including pathology, developmental neurobiology, genetics, epigenetics, pharmacology, nutrition, immunology, neuroimmunology, neurobehavioral development, endocrinology, gastroenterology, and toxicology. Such research shall investigate the cause (including possible environmental causes), diagnosis or rule out, early detection, prevention, services, supports, intervention, and treatment of autism spectrum disorder.

**(2) Consolidation**

The Director may consolidate program activities under this section if such consolidation would improve program efficiencies and outcomes.

**(3) Administration of program; collaboration among agencies**

The Director shall carry out this section acting through the Director of the National Institute of Mental Health and in collaboration with any other agencies that the Director determines appropriate.

**(b) Centers of excellence**

**(1) In general**

The Director shall under subsection (a)(1) make awards of grants and contracts to public or nonprofit private entities to pay all or part of the cost of planning, establishing, improving, and providing basic operating support for centers of excellence regarding research on autism spectrum disorder.

**(2) Research**

Each center under paragraph (1) shall conduct basic and clinical research into autism spectrum disorder. Such research should include investigations into the cause, diagnosis, early detection, prevention, control, and treatment of autism spectrum disorder. The centers, as a group, shall conduct research including the fields of developmental neurobiology, genetics, and psychopharmacology.

**(3) Services for patients**

**(A) In general**

A center under paragraph (1) may expend amounts provided under such paragraph to

carry out a program to make individuals aware of opportunities to participate as subjects in research conducted by the centers.

**(B) Referrals and costs**

A program under subparagraph (A) may, in accordance with such criteria as the Director may establish, provide to the subjects described in such subparagraph, referrals for health and other services, and such patient care costs as are required for research.

**(C) Availability and access**

The extent to which a center can demonstrate availability and access to clinical services shall be considered by the Director in decisions about awarding grants to applicants which meet the scientific criteria for funding under this section.

**(4) Organization of centers**

Each center under paragraph (1) shall use the facilities of a single institution, or be formed from a consortium of cooperating institutions, meeting such requirements as may be prescribed by the Director.

**(5) Number of centers; duration of support**

**(A) In general**

The Director shall provide for the establishment of not less than five centers under paragraph (1).

**(B) Duration**

Support for a center established under paragraph (1) may be provided under this section for a period of not to exceed 5 years. Such period may be extended for one or more additional periods not exceeding 5 years if the operations of such center have been reviewed by an appropriate technical and scientific peer review group established by the Director and if such group has recommended to the Director that such period should be extended.

**(c) Facilitation of research**

The Director shall under subsection (a)(1) provide for a program under which samples of tissues and genetic materials that are of use in research on autism spectrum disorder are donated, collected, preserved, and made available for such research. The program shall be carried out in accordance with accepted scientific and medical standards for the donation, collection, and preservation of such samples.

**(d) Public input**

The Director shall under subsection (a)(1) provide for means through which the public can obtain information on the existing and planned programs and activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to autism spectrum disorder and through which the Director can receive comments from the public regarding such programs and activities.

(July 1, 1944, ch. 373, title IV, § 409C, as added Pub. L. 106-310, div. A, title I, § 101, Oct. 17, 2000, 114 Stat. 1105; amended Pub. L. 109-416, §§ 2(a), 4(b), Dec. 19, 2006, 120 Stat. 2821, 2830; Pub. L. 109-482, title I, §§ 103(b)(9), 104(b)(1)(D), Jan. 15, 2007, 120 Stat. 3687, 3693.)

## CODIFICATION

Another section 409C of act July 1, 1944, was renumbered section 409G and is classified to section 284k of this title.

## AMENDMENTS

2007—Subsec. (b)(4) to (6). Pub. L. 109-482, § 104(b)(1)(D), redesignated pars. (5) and (6) as (4) and (5), respectively, and struck out heading and text of former par. (4). Text read as follows: “The Director shall, as appropriate, provide for the coordination of information among centers under paragraph (1) and ensure regular communication between such centers, and may require the periodic preparation of reports on the activities of the centers and the submission of the reports to the Director.”

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 109-482, § 103(b)(9), which directed the striking of subsec. (e), could not be executed because of prior amendment by Pub. L. 109-416. See 2006 Amendment note below.

2006—Pub. L. 109-416, § 2(a)(1), substituted “autism spectrum disorder” for “autism” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 109-416, § 2(a)(3), added pars. (1) and (2), redesignated former par. (2) as (3), and struck out heading and text of former par. (1). Text read as follows: “The Director of NIH (in this section referred to as the ‘Director’) shall expand, intensify, and coordinate the activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism.”

Subsec. (b)(1), (2). Pub. L. 109-416, § 2(a)(2), substituted “autism spectrum disorder” for “autism” in par. (1) and in two places in par. (2).

Subsecs. (c), (d). Pub. L. 109-416, § 2(a)(2), substituted “autism spectrum disorder” for “autism”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 109-416, § 4(b), struck out heading and text of subsec. (e). Text read as follows: “There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section. Amounts appropriated under this subsection are in addition to any other amounts appropriated for such purpose.”

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2007 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 109-482 applicable only with respect to amounts appropriated for fiscal year 2007 or subsequent fiscal years, see section 109 of Pub. L. 109-482, set out as a note under section 281 of this title.

**§ 284h. Pediatric Research Initiative****(a) Establishment**

The Secretary shall establish within the Office of the Director of NIH a Pediatric Research Initiative (referred to in this section as the “Initiative”) to conduct and support research that is directly related to diseases, disorders, and other conditions in children. The Initiative shall be headed by the Director of NIH.

**(b) Purpose**

The purpose of the Initiative is to provide funds to enable the Director of NIH—

(1) to increase support for pediatric biomedical research within the National Institutes of Health to realize the expanding opportunities for advancement in scientific investigations and care for children;

(2) to enhance collaborative efforts among the Institutes to conduct and support multidisciplinary research in the areas that the Director deems most promising; and

(3) in coordination with the Food and Drug Administration, to increase the development of adequate pediatric clinical trials and pediatric use information to promote the safer and more effective use of prescription drugs in the pediatric population.

**(c) Duties**

In carrying out subsection (b), the Director of NIH shall—

(1) consult with the Director of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the other national research institutes, in considering their requests for new or expanded pediatric research efforts, and consult with the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration and other advisors as the Director determines to be appropriate;

(2) have broad discretion in the allocation of any Initiative assistance among the Institutes, among types of grants, and between basic and clinical research so long as the assistance is directly related to the illnesses and conditions of children; and

(3) be responsible for the oversight of any newly appropriated Initiative funds and annually report to Congress and the public on the extent of the total funds obligated to conduct or support pediatric research across the National Institutes of Health, including the specific support and research awards allocated through the Initiative.

**(d) National Pediatric Research Network****(1) Network**

In carrying out the Initiative, the Director of NIH, in collaboration with the national research institutes and national centers that carry out activities involving pediatric research, shall support a National Pediatric Research Network in order to more effectively support pediatric research and optimize the use of Federal resources. Such National Pediatric Research Network may be comprised of, as appropriate—

(A) the pediatric research consortia receiving awards under paragraph (2); or

(B) other consortia, centers, or networks focused on pediatric research that are recognized by the Director of NIH and established pursuant to the authorities vested in the National Institutes of Health by other sections of this chapter.

**(2) Pediatric research consortia****(A) In general**

The Director of NIH shall award funding, including through grants, contracts, or other mechanisms, to public or private non-profit entities for providing support for pediatric research consortia, including with respect to—

(i) basic, clinical, behavioral, or translational research to meet unmet needs for pediatric research; and

(ii) training researchers in pediatric research techniques in order to address unmet pediatric research needs.

**(B) Research**

The Director of NIH shall, as appropriate, ensure that—

(i) each consortium receiving an award under subparagraph (A) conducts or supports at least one category of research described in subparagraph (A)(i) and collectively such consortia conduct or support such categories of research; and