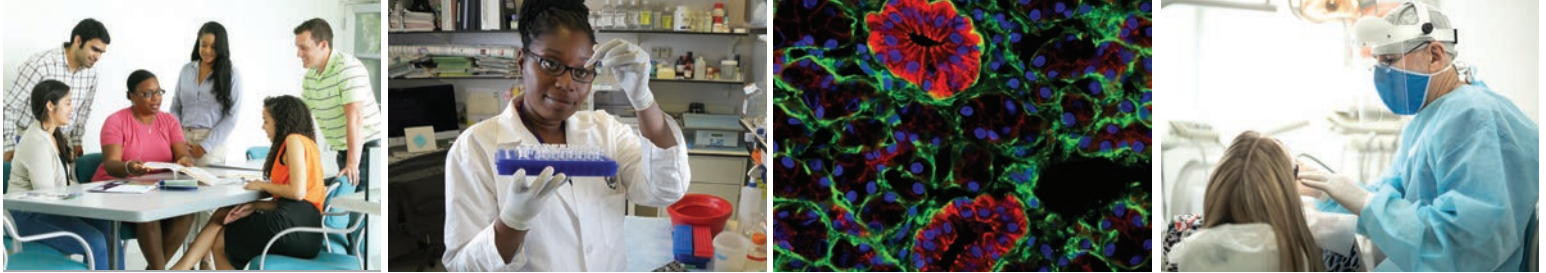


HIGHLIGHTS

Across the Institute



About Us

Our mission is to advance fundamental knowledge about dental, oral, and craniofacial (DOC) health and disease and translate these findings into prevention, early detection, and treatment strategies that improve overall health for all individuals and communities across the lifespan to promote oral health for all.

How We Accomplish Our Mission

NIDCR supports scientists at all stages of their careers, from high school students to independent researchers, and funds cutting-edge basic, translational, and clinical research to create the scientific foundation for oral health policy and practice. NIDCR shares research findings and health information with the public, health care professionals, researchers, and policy makers to promote oral health for all.

Leading the Way to Improve Oral Health

The [NIDCR Strategic Plan 2021-2026](#) charts a course for supporting science that advances oral health for all.

The 2021 [Oral Health in America: Advances and Challenges](#) report is a far-reaching examination of the nation's oral health, including calls to action for addressing persistent oral health challenges.

In 2023, NIDCR celebrates 75 years of advancements that have dramatically improved the nation's oral and overall health.

KEY FACTS

- Largest funder of oral health research in the world, with an annual appropriation (budget) of more than **\$520 million**.
- Provides 65% of NIH's funding to dental schools.
- Supports 78% of NIH awardees who have dental or oral health-related degrees.
- Funds research that provides the evidence base for clinical decision-making by over 300,000 U.S. dental professionals.



Supporting the Next Generation of Oral Health Researchers

NIDCR invested over **\$23 million** in FY22 to support **research training and career development programs** spanning the career stages of scientists to help build a vibrant and inclusive community of researchers.



SPOTLIGHT

Mentoring and Career Development Opportunities

Mentored Career Development Award to Promote Diversity in the Dental, Oral and Craniofacial Research Workforce helps facilitate the transition of early-career researchers to research independence.

Mentoring an Inclusive Network for a Diverse Workforce of the Future (Mind the Future) program provides mentored research career development and grant writing activities for a diverse cohort of participants.



SPOTLIGHT

Dentist Training Opportunities on the NIH campus

Dental Clinical Research Fellowship, a multi-year program that provides hands-on research experience for dentists in NIH intramural research laboratories and in the NIH Clinical Center's Dental Clinic.

Dental Public Health and Research Fellowship is the only three-year, full-time, combined dental public health and research fellowship program in the nation. Fellows have the opportunity to conduct population-level research to address pressing oral health questions and public health needs.



Research Across the United States

NIDCR invested over **\$394 million** in FY22 to support biomedical research at universities, dental schools, medical schools, and small businesses, primarily in the United States. Key initiatives include:

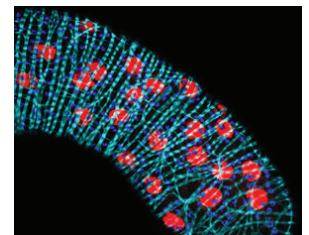
- **Practice-Based Research Integrating Multidisciplinary Experiences in Dental Schools (PRIMED)** expands NIDCR's practice-based network into dental school clinics, where oral health studies take place at the site of care and include topics of importance to practitioners and their patients.
- **Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Tissue Regeneration Consortium (DOCTRC)** removes roadblocks and speeds the process from scientific discovery to novel FDA-approved therapies for the regeneration of DOC tissues lost to disease or trauma, with ninety-five percent of projects filing patent applications.
- **Advancing Head and Neck Cancer Early Detection Research (AHEAD)** accelerates translational research to improve early detection of head and neck cancers.
- **Temporomandibular Disorders Collaborative for Improving Patient-Centered Translational Research (TMD IMPACT)** will help improve clinical care for TMD by establishing a national, interdisciplinary, patient-centered consortium to advance research and help train the next generation of TMD researchers.

Research on the NIH Campus

NIDCR invested over **\$74 million** in FY22 to support basic, translational, and clinical research and training on the NIH campus, which includes the state-of-the-art NIH Clinical Center Dental Clinic that serves NIH's unique patient populations.

Some examples include:

- **Dental Clinic Research Core** supports research to develop diagnostics and treatments for dental, oral, and craniofacial diseases, including Sjögren's Disease and Fibrous Dysplasia.
- **Sensory Biology and Pain** research explores the underlying mechanisms of sensation (including taste, itch, and pain), and development of novel strategies to control pain. One recent study uncovered the neural mechanisms through which **sound blunts pain in mice**.



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www.nidcr.nih.gov/about-us/highlights