

ACTS ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE

Connection

January Issue 1

Translational Science 2018



Awards Program Now Open

Acknowledge the outstanding contributions of the investigators and educators you work with by [submitting a nomination](#) for one of the awards presented at Translational Science 2018!

Nominations are due Friday, February 9, 2018.

[Submit a Nomination](#)

ACTS Leadership Conference

Registration Opens Tomorrow

ACTS will be hosting its first annual Leadership Conference from **March 15-16, 2018** in **Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida**.

This high-impact program for CTSA PIs will allow attendees to cultivate relationships among leaders of research institutes and learn how to enable high levels of organizational performance.



News From the Hill

News From the Hill: January 5, 2018

Congress reconvened in early January with an ever-growing list of critical legislative items to address. The only pending legislation that saw meaningful action at

the end of last year was the enacted tax reform bill; the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Ultimately, the tax overhaul effort was a mixed-bag for healthcare advocates. While the individual mandate to purchase insurance was repealed (dealing a blow to health insurance markets), the medical expense deduction for patients was made more robust and the Orphan Drug Tax credit was halved rather than completely eliminated.



Higher education was a mixed bag as well with the removal of proposals to eliminate student loan interest deductions and place additional taxes on graduate students occurring along with the inclusion of a 1.4% excise tax on institutions with large endowments.

With so much effort dedicated to the tax reform package, Congress opted to enact another short-term Continuing Resolution (CR) to keep the government operating at FY 2017 funding level until January 19th. Legislators are presently working to finalize at advance the twelve annual appropriations bills. However, it is possible that another CR may be required as legislators are facing difficulty agreeing on spending levels for both Defense and Non-Defense Discretionary programs that will allow them to craft a final measure. Pending in the current FY 2018 appropriations effort is a roughly \$2 billion funding increase for the National Institutes of Health with related increases for various clinical and translational research and research training programs. The longer it takes to pass a final appropriations bill for FY 2018, the greater the risk that lawmakers will forgo any increases and simply maintain FY 2017 funding levels for the entire fiscal year.

The emphasis on tax reform impacted key healthcare items outside the budget and appropriations process as well. Most notably, Congress enacted only a short-term extension of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and allowed prohibitions on certain healthcare taxes, such as the medical device tax, to lapse. Subsequent timely action will be needed to shore-up CHIP and other federal healthcare activities, and to further delay or eliminate healthcare taxes. Once again though, these efforts will now occur at a time when lawmakers are also trying to complete work on the budget and also potentially consider legislation to stabilize health insurance markets.

See the full newsletter on the [ACTS Advocacy Page](#).

Journal of Clinical and Translational Science



The fourth issue of the Journal of Clinical and Translational Science has been published. [Volume 1 / Issue 4, November 2017](#) is now available for viewing!

JCTS's mission is to provide a forum for the rapid communication of topics of interest and relevance to the large and diverse community of clinical and translational scientists with the goal of improving the efficiency with which health needs inform research and new diagnostics, therapies, and preventive measures reach the public. The Association for Clinical and Translational Science has partnered with the American Physician Scientists Association (APSA) and the Clinical Research Forum (CRF) to support the growth and development of JCTS.

Submit your article today to be featured in future issues of JCTS!

Visit <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jcts>

Translational Science Today



Salk Institute and Indivumed Advance Global Cancer Research

The Salk Institute and Indivumed today announce a strategic alliance to secure, preserve and analyze human cancer tissue and annotated clinical data from patients around the world, enabling the most cutting-edge translational research in cancer.

[Read more](#)

www.dddmag.com

Member Feature

Frontiers in Precision Medicine: Will Personalized Medicine Improve Population Health

On March 16, 2018, the University of Utah is holding a symposium on Frontiers in Precision Medicine: Will Personalized Medicine Improve Population Health. The symposium will explore key biomedical, legal, policy, socio-economic and ethical issues arising from incorporation of genomic information into clinical practice, and its relative benefits for the health of broader populations.

The event is a one day symposium on Precision Medicine being co-hosted by the University of Utah School of Medicine, College of Law, and the Huntsman Cancer Institute. Featured speakers include Muin Khoury (CDC); Sara Lynn van Driest (Vanderbilt); Rick Kittles (U Arizona); Chanita Hughes Halbert, Medical University of South Carolina; Ken Chahine (Ancestry DNA), Erika Leitzan (U Missouri), and Erika Check Hayden (U California Santa Cruz). They will be joined by faculty from Utah, including Adam

Bress, Jorge Contreras, and Willard Dere (symposium organizers). For further information, contact Willard Dere, Co-Director, Center for Clinical and Translational Science, email: willard.dere@hsc.utah.edu.

Do you know someone who deserves to be recognized for outstanding or groundbreaking work? Send ACTS your story to be highlighted in future versions of ACTS Connection. **Submit stories to:** info@actscience.org.

[Website](#) [About Us](#) [Advocacy](#) [News & Publications](#) [Annual Meeting](#)

Association for Clinical and Translational Science
2025 M St NW Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 367 1119
info@actscience.org
www.actscience.org

