

Research!America Advocacy Awards to Recognize Nation's Outstanding Leaders for Medical and Health Research

ARLINGTON, VA Oct. 15, 2024-- Research!America is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2025 Advocacy Awards. Given annually since 1996, the Advocacy Awards recognize individuals and organizations whose leadership efforts have advanced the nation's commitment to medical and health research.

Research!America will formally present the awards during an event at the National Academy of

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tremendous progress in women's health

Domestically, she developed and now directs SMART IRB, a national platform that permits single ethics review for multi-site trials. She previously established the Brigham

[Monica M. Bertagnolli, MD](#), Director, [National Institutes of Health](#), will receive the *Meeting the Moment for Public Health Award*, which recognizes an individual or organization that has been a “clear voice,” playing a key role in communicating important public health information to the public and rising to the challenge of the day. Dr. Bertagnolli is a public health leader who helps define and shape public health solutions for the American people by actively listening to concerns and effectively communicating a vision. In her short time as head of the NIH, she has worked to rebuild bridges between lawmakers, the public, and the NIH after the trauma of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Bertagnolli also served as Director of the National Cancer Institute where



[Health Equity Institute](#) and Professor of Medicine and Microbiology, Biochemistry, and Immunology, Morehouse School of Medicine. ~~Corbet -Helaire~~ is currently Assistant Professor of Immunology and Infectious Diseases at [Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health](#) and Howard Hughes Medical Institute Freeman Hrabowski Scholar.

[Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative \(DNDi\)](#) will be recognized with the Rapid *Translation Award*. This award honors public-private partnership that has made a critical contribution to public health progress in a timely way. [Delali Atogbe Atopoe](#), North America Executive Director, will accept on the organization's behalf. DNDi has been pivotal in addressing unmet public health needs in developing countries, and in increasingly developed countries where neglected tropical diseases have appeared recently. DNDi has leveraged public-private partnerships to accelerate drug development for diseases that primarily affect poor and marginalized people and have not been a major focus of R&D, diseases such as sleeping sickness, Chagas disease, malaria, and eumycetoma.

The honorees of the Edwin C. Whitehead Award for Medical Research Advocacy will be announced early next year. This award recognizes exemplary leaders, particularly those in public office, who have demonstrated a deep commitment to advancing medical and health research as a national priority and who galvanize others in support of science.

For more information about the 2025 Advocacy Awards, including bios of each honoree and details about the various awards, visit our [Advocacy Awards web page](#).

Contact Glenn O'Neal, Senior Director of Communications, at 571-482-2737 or goneal@researchamerica.org with press inquiries

About Research!America

Research!America is a nonprofit medical and health research advocacy alliance which advocates for science, discovery, and innovation to achieve better health for all. Visit

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