# Primary and Secondary Prevention Research in Humans Funded by NIH During 2012-2017 

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## Selection of Activity Codes

- ODP worked with staff from many ICs to identify activity codes likely to support NIH prevention research that met ODP's definition.
- Basic and preclinical research were excluded.
- Awards for community services, facilities, infrastructure, loan repayment, meetings, planning, and training were excluded.
- Intramural research was excluded.
- Contracts were excluded.
- Methodological research was included only if it yielded products that were applicable to prevention research without additional development.
- We included all remaining R, P, and U activity codes with at least 500 awards across FY12-17 or at least \$500M awarded across FY12-17.
- Several of these activity codes involved awards with multiple subprojects; as a result, we sampled projects or subprojects instead of awards.


## 12 Activity Codes Included in the Portfolio Analysis

| Code | Total Awards <br> FY12-17 | Total Projects <br> FY12-17 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R01 | 32176 | 32190 |
| R21 | 11992 | 11992 |
| R43 | 3439 | 3439 |
| R03 | 2932 | 2932 |
| U01 | 2188 | 2187 |
| R56 | 1943 | 1945 |
| R44 | 1901 | 1902 |
| P01 | 534 | 3755 |
| U54 | 328 | 1939 |
| P50 | 268 | 2143 |
| U19 | 203 | 1328 |
| UM1 | $\mathbf{2 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{2 3 2}$ |


| Code | Total Costs <br> FY12-17 |
| :---: | :---: |
| R01 | $\$ 14500 \mathrm{M}$ |
| R21 | $\$ 2600 \mathrm{M}$ |
| U01 | $\$ 2000 \mathrm{M}$ |
| R44 | $\$ 1200 \mathrm{M}$ |
| P01 | $\$ 996 \mathrm{M}$ |
| R56 | $\$ 815 \mathrm{M}$ |
| R43 | $\$ 780 \mathrm{M}$ |
| U54 | $\$ 747 \mathrm{M}$ |
| UM1 | $\$ 742 \mathrm{M}$ |
| P50 | $\$ 536 \mathrm{M}$ |
| U19 | $\$ 527 \mathrm{M}$ |
| R03 | $\$ 259 \mathrm{M}$ |

- We considered all Type I, 2, and 9 awards and projects from FY12-17 made using these activity codes.


## Portfolio Coverage by These Activity Codes

|  | All Activity Codes | $\mathrm{R}, \mathrm{P}, \mathrm{U}$ Activity Codes | Research R, P, U Activity Codes | ODP's <br> Selected Activity Codes | \% Research R, P, U Activity Codes |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Awards | 111,626 | 68,757 | 63,381 | 58,104 | 91.7\% |
| Total Costs | \$57.5 B | \$32.6 B | \$30.6 B | \$25.7 B | 84.1\% |

- All figures based on Type I, 2, and 9 awards from FY12-17, excluding parent awards for projects with sub-awards to avoid double counting.


## Weighting the Coded Projects



Weights for FY14, P01, type 1, Machine Learning $+=N_{M L+} / n_{M L+}$
Weights for FY14, P01, type 1, Machine Learning - = $\mathrm{N}_{\text {ML- }} / \mathrm{n}_{\text {ML- }}$

## Prevention as a Fraction of the NIH Research Portfolio

## Primary and Secondary <br> Prevention Research in Humans: FY12-17



## Primary and Secondary <br> Prevention Research in Humans: FY12-17



## Primary and Secondary Prevention Research in Humans by Activity Code FY12-17

| Activity <br> Code | Research <br> Projects | \% of Research <br> Projects $(95 \% \mathrm{CI})$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| P01 | 3,226 | $8.4 \%$ <br> P50 |
| P5.0-11.8) | 1,896 | $18.3 \%(13.3-24.6)$ |
| R01 | 32,190 | $16.8 \%(15.8-17.9)$ |
| R03 | 2,932 | $26.9 \%(23.1-31.2)$ |
| R21 | 11,992 | $15.0 \%(13.4-16.7)$ |
| R43 | 3,439 | $9.6 \%$ |
| R44 | 1,902 | $11.4 \%$ |
| R56 | 1,945 | $12.6-15.3)$ |
| U01 | 2,187 | $43.8 \%(9.6-18.2)$ |
| U19 | 1,130 | $12.9 \%$ |
| U54 | 1,680 | $13.8 \%(8.2-19.8)$ |
| UM1 | 225 | $33.6 \%(10.2-18.3)$ |
|  |  |  |

## Characterizing the NIH Prevention Research Portfolio

## Study Rationales FY12-17

|  | \% of Prevention |  | \% of Prevention |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Topic | Projects (95\% CI) | Topic | Projects (95\% CI) |
| Mortality | 28.0\% (26.0-30.1) | Tobacco | 6.5\% (5.5-7.6) |
| Cancer | 17.8\% (16.1-19.7) | Diabetes | 5.5\% (4.7-6.4) |
| Infectious Disease | 17.8\% (16.2-19.6) | Alcohol | 5.7\% (4.9-6.6) |
| MPCH | 13.2\% (11.9-14.7) | Lung Disease | 3.7\% (2.9-4.8) |
| Heart Disease | 10.2\% (9.0-11.6) | Alzheimer's Disease | 3.1\% (2.3-4.2) |
| Mental Health | 10.2\% (9.0-11.5) | Kidney Disease | 2.8\% (2.0-3.8) |
| Stroke | 8.6\% (7.5-9.8) | Musculoskeletal Disease | 2.6\% (1.9-3.4) |
| Substance Abuse | 9.1\% (8.0-10.2) | Gastrointestinal Disease | 2.7\% (1.9-3.9) |
| Neurological Disease | 8.0\% (6.7-9.4) | Unintentional Injuries | 2.0\% (1.5-2.6) |
| Obesity | 7.3\% (6.5-8.2) | Suicide | 1.3\% (1.0-1.8) |

- Coders selected all categories that applied to each project; percentages do not sum to $100 \%$.


## Study Exposures FY12-17

|  | $\%$ of Prevention |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Topic | Projects | $(95 \% \mathrm{CI})$ |
| Genetics | $26.9 \%$ | $(24.8-29.0)$ |
| Education/Counseling | $14.3 \%$ | $(13.2-15.4)$ |
| Medication/Device | $9.8 \%$ | $(8.4-11.5)$ |
| Diet/nutrition | $5.2 \%$ | $(4.4-6.1)$ |
| Healthcare Delivery | $4.3 \%$ | $(3.6-5.0)$ |
| Infectious Disease | $3.8 \%$ | $(3.0-4.6)$ |
| Chemical/Toxin | $3.4 \%$ | $(2.7-4.1)$ |
| Physical Activity | $2.4 \%$ | $(2.1-2.8)$ |
| Tobacco | $2.6 \%$ | $(2.1-3.4)$ |
| Substance Abuse | $2.2 \%$ | $(1.7-2.6)$ |
| Stress | $2.1 \%$ | $(1.6-2.6)$ |
| Microbiome | $1.8 \%$ | $(1.3-2.6)$ |
| Mental Health | $1.7 \%$ | $(1.3-2.1)$ |
| Alcohol | $1.6 \%$ | $(1.4-2.0)$ |

- Coders selected all categories that applied to each project; percentages do not sum to $100 \%$.


## Study Outcomes FY12-17

| $\begin{array}{c}\text { \% of Prevention } \\ \text { Topic }\end{array}$ |  |  | $\begin{array}{r}\text { \% of Prevention } \\ \text { Projects } \\ \text { Projects (95\% CI) }\end{array}$ |  | Topic |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: |$)$

- Coders selected all categories that applied to each project; percentages do not sum to $100 \%$.


## Populations Studied FY12-17



- Coders selected all categories that applied to each project; percentages do not sum to $100 \%$.


## Study Designs FY12-17



- Coders selected all categories that applied to each project; percentages do not sum to $100 \%$.


## Summary and Conclusions

- ODP coded 11,082 projects from 12 activity codes for FY12-17.
- Those codes represent $91.7 \%$ of all projects and $84.1 \%$ of all dollars used for research in NIH extramural grants and collaborative agreements.
- For those activity codes, primary and secondary prevention research in humans represented $16.7 \%$ of projects and $22.6 \%$ of dollars.
- $63.3 \%$ of the prevention projects included an observational study, $43.4 \%$ included an analysis of existing data, $23.9 \%$ included methods research.
- Only $18.2 \%$ included a randomized intervention, suggesting that only $3 \%$ of NIH resources for research are used for preventive intervention trials.
- Given that 74\% of the variability in county-level life expectancy across the US is explained by established risk factors, it seems appropriate to devote a larger proportion of the NIH research portfolio to randomized prevention trials to address those risk factors.


## Next Steps for ODP

- We will work with colleagues across the ICs to examine our data for their portfolio and to consider the implications of those findings for their prevention research going forward.
- We will make IC-specific data available to interested ICs.
- We want to present our findings in articles and at conferences.
- We will extend the application of the machine learning algorithms to many of the 128 topics and assess sensitivity and specificity.
- We hope this will allow us to reduce the level of manual coding.
- We will assess the progress and results of primary and secondary research in humans using metrics such as publications, citations in guidelines, citations in patent applications, etc.

