

neurological. Three Institutes have as their focus the solution of health and medical problems not peculiar to a given disease category:

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) supports fundamental or multidisciplinary research in biomedical, physical, and behavioral sciences where relevance to a specific disease category is not clear or several such disease categories are involved.

The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)—with special responsibilities for child health and problems of aging—seeks understanding of normal and abnormal developmental processes across the full life cycle of man.

The exceptionally wide-ranging programs of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) are integrated by a common unifying objective—improvement in the mental health of the American people.

The NIH “program” divisions fit into the research picture in this way:

The Division of Research Facilities and Resources (DRFR) administers the grants programs providing funds for—

(1) The general research support of institutions;

(2) The establishment and operation of:

General clinical research centers

Primate centers

Special research resource centers

(3) Grants on a matching basis for construction of health research facilities.

The recently established Division of Computer Research and Technology (DCRT)—which is strictly an intramural resource—provides modern computer facilities for NIH scientists, enabling them to do research on the application of advanced mathematics and computer theory to biomedical research problems; also on automation of certain routine laboratory and clinical procedures.

The Division of Biologics Standards (DBS)—which like the DCRT awards no grants—does research relevant to its control responsibilities; which include insuring the safety, purity, and potency of biologic products used throughout the Nation in prevention and treatment of disease.

The Office of International Research (OIR) has a dual research role: It coordinates policies of the nine NIH Institutes in their support of overseas research activities; and it is responsible for administering several programs of its own, including international centers for medical research and training, international postdoctoral fellowships, and the special foreign currency program.

Key supporting components include the Division of Research Services (DRS) which provides technical, engineering, and scientific support for the intramural research program; and the Division of Research Grants (DRG) which provides for scientific and technical review of grant applications, and coordinates financial and administrative procedures relating to research grants.

For both intramural and extramural components of the NIH research program, the Office of Administrative Management (OAM) provides administrative support.

*Intramural activities.*—The intramural portion of the NIH research program is the largest single biomedical research effort in the world.