

These advances are the result of spectacular progress in research, in public health, in the medical arts. We have developed:

Sufficient knowledge to end nearly all of the hazards of childbirth and pregnancy.

Modern nutrition to wipe out such ailments as rickets, goiter, and pellagra. Vaccines, antibiotics and modern drugs to control many of the killers and cripples of yesterday: polio, diphtheria, pneumonia.

New medical and surgical techniques to combat cancer and cardiovascular disease.

Life-saving devices: plastic heart valves, and artificial artery transplants.

In 1967, to pursue this vital work, the Federal Government is investing more than \$440 million in the construction of health facilities, \$620 million for health manpower education and training, \$1.3 billion in biomedical research, \$7.8 billion to provide medical care.

But each gain, each victory, should focus our attention more sharply on the unfinished business facing this Nation in the field of health:

Infant mortality is far higher than it need be.

Handicaps afflicting many children are discovered too late or left untreated.

Grave deficiencies remain in health care for the poor, the handicapped and the chronically ill.

American men between the ages of 45 and 54—which should be the most productive years of their lives—have a death rate twice that of men of the same age in a number of advanced countries.

We still search in vain for ways to prevent and treat many forms of cancer.

Many types of mental illness, retardation, arthritis and heart disease are still largely beyond our control.

Our national resources for health have grown, but our national aspirations have grown faster. Today we expect what yesterday we could not have envisioned—adequate medical care for every citizen.

My health proposals to the 90th Congress have four basic aims:

To expand our knowledge of disease and our research and development of better ways to deliver health care to every American;

To build our health resources, by stepped up training of health workers and by improved planning of health facilities;

To remove barriers to good medical care for those who most need care;

To strengthen our Partnership for Health by encouraging regional, state, and local efforts—public and private—to develop comprehensive programs serving all our citizens.

HEALTH RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT: THE FOUNDATION OF OUR EFFORTS

Supporting biomedical research

Our progress in health grows out of a research effort unparalleled anywhere in the world. The scientists of the National Institutes of Health have shaped an alliance throughout the nation to find the causes and the cures of disease.

We must build on the strong base of past research achievements, exchange ideas with scholars and students from all parts of the world, and apply our knowledge more swiftly and effectively.

We must take advantage of our progress in targeted research as we have done in our vaccine development program, in the heart drug study, in artificial kidney and kidney transplant research, and in the treatment of specific types of cancer.

In the 1968 budget, I am recommending an increase of \$65 million—to an annual total of almost \$1.5 billion—to support biomedical research.

I am seeking funds to establish an International Center for Advanced Study in the Health Sciences and to provide scholarships and fellowships in the Center.

I am directing the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare to appoint immediately a lung cancer task force, to supplement the continuing work of existing task forces on leukemia, cancer chemotherapy, uterine cancer, solid tumor and breast cancer.

Health services research and development

America's annual spending for health and medical care is more than \$43 billion. But despite this investment, our system of providing health services is not operating as efficiently and effectively as it should.