

The Interagency Committee on Human Nutrition Research (ICHNR)

Purpose: Improve planning, coordination, and communication among federal agencies engaged in research in nutrition and/or nutrition policies, surveillance, technologies, and related issues.

- Established in 1983
- Members are appointed by their agency: HHS, USDA, DoD, NASA, VHA, NSF, USAID, OSTP (WH), EPA, DoC, NASA, and EPA
- Meets about twice per year once an ASH and USDA Undersecretary /Chief Scientist is appointed.
- Last meeting December 2, 2022

Co-chairs

- [ADM Rachel Levine, M.D.](#), Assistant Secretary for Health (ASH) HHS
- [Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young](#), Under Secretary /Chief Scientist Research, Education, and Economics, USDA

Co-Executive Secretaries

HHS/NIH- [Christopher J. Lynch](#)

USDA/ARS – [Pamela Starke-Reed](#)

ICHNR Subcommittees

- Dietary Guidance
- Dietary Reference Intakes
- Collaborative Process (Public-Private Partnerships)
- Human Nutrition Research Database
- Nutrition Research Roadmap

Subcommittee on Dietary Guidance

- Key focus: To gain perspectives from Federal stakeholders regarding the DGAC's deliberations and identify any gaps or concerns that are important to Federal programs; to engage USDA and HHS agencies in the DGA policy development process.
- Topics include Dietary Guidelines for Americans, 2020 and Birth-24 mons/Pregnant Woman Nutrition project (for DGA 2020)
- Co-chairs: **Janet DeJesus (HHS ODPHP) and Eve Stody (USDA CNPP)**
- Members from HHS (ODPHP, NIH, CDC, FDA), DoD, and USDA (CNPP, FNS, AMS, ERS, NIFA, ARS, FSIS)
- Meet several times per year, after each Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee meeting

Subcommittee on Dietary Reference Intakes

- Key Focus: This subcommittee and its workgroup develop prioritize the nutrients, statements of work, raise funds and address issues around contracting the National Academy to perform the Dietary Reference Intake studies.
- Co-chairs: **Cindy Davis (USDA ARS) and Karl Friedl (DOD)**
- Members from HHS (ODS, CDC, FDA, NHLBI, NIDDK, AOA), USDA, NASA, DoD
- Works very closely with Health Canada – joint sponsorship of IOM DRI reports
- Solicited public nominations for new DRI reviews in 2013
- Current focus is communications of the dietary reference intakes for Na and K completed in 2020 where the implementation of chronic disease endpoints for DRIs was first rolled out.

Subcommittee on Collaborative Process

- Key focus: develop agreement on a core set of principles that would govern public-private partnerships related to food. Meets with leadership of most professional societies representing food and nutrition researchers.
- **Chair: Open**
- Members from FDA, CDC, USDA, NIH;
- Industry spends close to 10 times more on nutrition research than the federal government does (creating an opportunity for partnership), and many University based scientists who receive federal funding also seek industry funding where available. While it is unlikely that NIH will be entering into industry research partnerships related to food anytime soon, we do have an interest in ensuring that Federal and Industry sponsored research available to the public is rigorous and reproducible.

Subcommittee on Human Nutrition Research Database

- Key Focus: To fill a need to provide a nutrition research funding website that allows public to track scientific and budgetary information on human nutrition research activities across federal agencies. Currently, each agency uses different search terms and may or may not have public facing websites. This makes it difficult to decrease or address potential funding redundancies among agencies that have overlapping research objectives in nutrition.
- **Co-Chairs: Karen Regan (NIH)**
- Structure and funding of database currently under discussions

Subcommittee on Nutrition Research Roadmap

- Key Focus: is on developing a nutrition research agenda and its coordination for the Federal government
- **Co-chairs: Vacant**
- Members from HHS (NIH, FDA, CDC) and USDA
- SC formed in 2/14