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ONE HUNDRED FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515–6115
Majority (202) 225–2927
Minority (202) 225–3641

July 12, 2018

Dr. Anthony S. Fauci
Director
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
National Institutes of Health
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dear Dr. Fauci:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations on June 15, 2018, to testify at the hearing entitled "The State of U.S. Public Health Biopreparedness: Responding to Biological Attacks, Pandemics, and Emerging Disease Outbreaks."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Thursday, July 26, 2018. Your responses should be mailed to Ali Fulling, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to Ali.Fulling@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

Gregg Harper

Gregg Harper
Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

cc: The Honorable Diana DeGette, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

Attachment

Attachment—Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Gregg Harper

1. What do we need to do as a country to be better prepared for an outbreak of pandemic influenza in the U.S.?

2. In your testimony, you mentioned that there will be several iterations of a 'universal' flu vaccine. How many universal vaccine candidates are currently being developed at, or supported by, NIAID and what strains will they target? Where does this research currently stand? How many iterations of a universal flu vaccine does NIAID ultimately envision?

3. What are the present challenges that are preventing the broader utilization of cell-based influenza vaccines, and what steps can be taken to become less reliant on egg-based vaccines?

The Honorable Michael C. Burgess

1. Dr. Fauci, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases is on the front lines of vaccine development, especially in the wake of Ebola and Zika hitting the United States. You wrote an article in the Journal of the American Medical Association in November 2017 that detailed the critical role of biomedical research in pandemic preparedness. Can you share with us some of the research approaches NIAID uses to prepare for pandemics, such as a new flu strain, that have yet to hit our shores?

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.

1. How can we plan long-term for therapeutics and vaccines in order to respond to outbreaks that we cannot yet anticipate?

2. In your view, are there specific pathogens or diseases we should be most concerned with?

    a. With so many dangerous pathogens, how do we prioritize research to try to target those posing the greatest threat?

3. Can you briefly explain the barriers that make it harder for scientists to discover new antibiotics?