

## ACROSS-THE-BOARD BUDGET CUTS WILL ROB AMERICANS OF CURES

*Statement By Mary Woolley, President of Research!America  
on OMB Sequestration Report*

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The White House report on the impact of sequestration isn't a wake up call, it's a fire alarm ... and not a false one. The dollars drained from the research pipeline would knock the wind out of U.S. innovation at the very moment that it is most needed to refuel the economy. Policy makers can't have it both ways. They can't cut funding for medical and health research – much less the Food and Drug Administration's ability to shepherd safe and effective products to patients – and somehow hope to rein in a deficit fueled by skyrocketing health care costs. How else but with knowledge and products developed by research and innovation are we going to combat Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and the disabling chronic illnesses that are exploding the costs of Medicare and Medicaid? How else are we going to transform our health care system, squeezing out the \$750 billion that is wasted each year because of waste and duplication? Medical progress is a partnership between the public and private sectors that yields dramatically improved health and nationwide economic benefits. But in order for the private sector to deliver, the public sector has to step up. The White House and both parties in Congress have set the stage for an arbitrary across-the-board budget cut that will slow the development of new treatments and cures. If leaders from both parties truly care about medical progress and American prosperity, they will stop wasting time and put out this five-alarm fire.

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