

ASHG

American Society of Human Genetics

ADVOCATE UPDATE

50 States Represented at Rally for Medical Research



Last week, 2020 Virtual [Rally for Medical Research](#) brought together almost 500 advocates from all 50 states, plus Washington D.C. and Puerto Rico, to share their stories with their elected officials on the importance of funding for biomedical research. Thank you to ASHG's Government and Public Advocacy Committee (GPAC) members, Lynn Jorde, PhD, and Katrina Goddard, PhD, (pictured left in a meeting with

Senator Merkley's staff) and ASHG Advocates who participated and helped to make it a successful event. Also thank you to our Advocates who participated in this National Day of Action by tweeting their representatives in Congress.

Register for ASHG Forum: Clinical Use of Germline Genome Editing



Fridat, September 25 at 12:00 pm Eastern

On September 3, the International Commission on the Clinical Use of Human Germline Genome Editing issued its [recommendations](#) for a proposed framework for assessing potential clinical applications of germline genome editing. Join us to hear from the leadership and membership of the Commission about its recommendations. This virtual Forum follows the [in-person Forum](#) held by ASHG at the 2019 Annual Meeting in Houston.

Speakers:

- Kay E. Davies, DPhil, CBE, DBE, FMedSci, FRS (University of Oxford)
- Richard P. Lifton, MD, PhD, (Rockefeller University)
- Michèle Ramsay, PhD (University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg)
- Bartha Maria Knoppers, JD, PhD (McGill University)
- Charles Rotimi, PhD, ASHG 2021 President-elect, Moderator

Register

ASHG Perspective: Advancing Diversity in Research

ASHG PERSPECTIVE

Advancing Diverse Participation in Research with Special Consideration for Vulnerable Populations

It is imperative for participation in genetics and genomics research to reflect humanity's diversity so that all people can enjoy its benefits. This will take a concerted effort by the research community and must include greater engagement with individuals and communities underrepresented in research. In engaging with vulnerable populations, it is essential that researchers guard against harm resulting from their participation.

In the most recent issue of the *American Journal of Human Genetics (AJHG)*, ASHG published a new [Perspective](#) on the need for diversity in research cohorts and considerations for preventing harm in vulnerable populations. The Perspective is part of the latest efforts in ASHG's strategic plan to value, drive, and embody diversity and inclusion in genetics and genomics. For more on expanding population participation in research, please [join](#) the ASHG Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Dialogue Series on Oct. 5.

In addition, ASHG has signed onto a [multi-society letter](#) endorsing Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson's (D-TX) call for research and action on systemic racism in academia.

In Other News

- Last week, the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation [approved](#) the Research Investment to Spark the Economy (RISE) Act. ASHG supported the bill which would provide the NIH with \$10 billion in relief funding.
- As an organizational affiliate of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), ASHG encourages trainees, policy advocates, and others in the community to submit an abstract for [e-poster sessions](#) at the 2021 Virtual AAAS Annual Meeting, February 8-11.
- The new NIH Fetal Tissue Ethics Advisory Board's recommendations [rejected](#) all but one grant application at their meeting.
- Late last month, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) ruled that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) [cannot regulate lab-developed tests](#) without a process known as notice and comment rulemaking.

The American Society of Human Genetics
6120 Executive Boulevard, Suite 500
Rockville, Maryland 20852

[Privacy Policy](#)