Tentative Agenda  
*As of Jan. 18, 2019*

7:30 a.m.  Registration and Poster/Exhibit Booth Setup

8:30 a.m.  **Welcome**  
Christopher P. Austin, M.D., Director, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS), National Institutes of Health (NIH); Former Chair, International Rare Diseases Research Consortium (IRDiRC)  

James K. Gilman, M.D., Chief Executive Officer (CEO), NIH Clinical Center (CC)

8:55 a.m.  **NCATS Office of Rare Diseases Research (ORDR) Update**  
Anne R. Pariser, M.D., Director, ORDR, NCATS, NIH

9:10 a.m.  **Zebbie Award Presentation**  
Anne R. Pariser, M.D., Director, ORDR, NCATS, NIH

9:20 a.m.  **Beyond the Diagnosis Unveiling: Portrait by Jota Leal**  
Patricia Weltin, CEO and Founder, Beyond the Diagnosis

9:30 a.m.  **Session 1: The Collective Research Model with the NIH Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network (RDCRN)**  
*Panel members will discuss the importance of collaborative research approaches for rare diseases. A diverse panel will share case studies and illustrative examples from the RDCRN, which integrates academic investigators, patient groups, trainees, NIH scientific staff and others to accelerate rare diseases research.*  

**Moderator:** Tiina K. Urv, Ph.D., Program Director, ORDR, NCATS, NIH

**Panelists:**
- Michael E. Shy, M.D., Principal Investigator, Inherited Neuropathies Consortium; Director, Division of Neuromuscular Disease and Division of Neurogenetics, Department of Neurology, University of Iowa
- Seema S. Aceves, M.D., Ph.D., Principal Investigator, Consortium of Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Disease Researchers (CEGIR); Professor of Pediatrics and Medicine, University of California, San Diego; Director, Eosinophilic Gastrointestinal Disorders Clinic, Rady Children’s Hospital, San Diego
- Ellyn Kodroff, Coalition of Patient Advocacy Groups (CPAG) Representative, CEGIR [Campaign Urging Research for Eosinophilic Disease (CURED), American Partnership for Eosinophilic Disorders, Eosinophilic Family Coalition]; President and Founder, CURED
- Steven L. Roberds, Ph.D., CPAG Representative, Developmental Synaptopathies Consortium; Chief Scientific Officer, Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance

10:30 a.m.  Networking Break
10:45 a.m. **NIH Director Remarks**
Francis S. Collins, M.D., Ph.D., Director, NIH

11:00 a.m. **Session 2: The Power of Patients — Harnessing Quality Registries to Understand Your Rare Disease**

An essential step in improving the diagnosis and treatment of a rare disease is to establish an understanding of the disease’s natural history. Natural history studies often provide foundational information for clinical research and drug development programs, and these studies often rely on active partnerships with patient organizations. Panel members will discuss their experiences in developing registries to understand rare diseases and in using natural history data to advance care for rare disease patients.

**Moderator:** Eric W.K. Sid, M.D., M.H.A., Presidential Management Fellow, ORDR, NCATS, NIH

**Panelists:**
- Forbes Denny Porter, M.D., Ph.D., Clinical Director and Senior Investigator, Division of Intramural Research, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIH

Noon

**Lunch (on your own)**
- Networking Rooms
- Demonstration of the NCATS Toolkit and Rare Diseases Registry (RaDaR) Program
- Poster Session and Exhibits
- NIH CC Tours
- Art Exhibition
- Videos

1:30 p.m. **Congressional Remarks**
Rep. G. K. Butterfield (D-NC), Co-Chair, Rare Disease Congressional Caucus

1:45 p.m. **Session 3: Success Factors for Rare Cancer Research — Building Strong Foundations**

Panelists will discuss the similarities and differences in the challenges that researchers face in rare cancers as compared to other rare diseases. Experts from NIH’s National Cancer Institute (NCI) and leading rare cancer advocates will describe their efforts to coordinate research both nationally and internationally, as well as different models of success for rare cancer advocacy and the role of social media in building rare cancer communities and recruiting patients for studies.

**Moderator:** Abby B. Sandler, Ph.D., Executive Director, My Pediatric and Adult Rare Tumor (MyPART) Network, Center for Cancer Research (CCR), NCI
Panelists:
- Karlyne M. Reilly, Ph.D., Director, Rare Tumor Initiative, CCR, NCI
- Jack J. Welch, M.D., Ph.D., Medical Officer, International Rare Cancers Initiative, Center for Global Health, NCI
- Denise Reinke, M.S., N.P., M.B.A., President and CEO, Sarcoma Alliance for Research through Collaboration
- Jim Palma, Executive Director, TargetCancer Foundation
- Corrie Painter, Ph.D., Associate Director, Count Me In; Associate Director of Operations and Scientific Outreach, Broad Institute of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University

2:45 p.m. **Session 4: No Disease Left Behind, No Patient Left Behind**

*New technologies such as gene editing and genome therapy have potentially broad implications for many rare diseases. However, for clinical trials, there are practical challenges that need to be addressed to ensure that these technologies are accessible to all patients that might benefit from them. Panelists, including scientists, patients and other stakeholders, will discuss these issues.*

**Opening Remarks:** Philip John (P.J.) Brooks, Ph.D., Program Director, ORDR, NCATS, NIH

**Moderator:** Jonathan Jackson, Ph.D., Center Director, Community Access, Recruitment, and Engagement (CARE) Research Center, Massachusetts General Hospital

Panelists:
- John F. Tisdale, M.D., Chief, Cellular and Molecular Therapeutics Branch, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, NIH
- Helen Hemley, Program Manager, CARE Research Center, Massachusetts General Hospital
- Mandy Mansaray, RN, M.A., Program Coordinator, Clinical Research Volunteer Program, Office of Patient Recruitment, NIH CC

3:45 p.m. **The Children’s Inn at NIH: A Place Like Home**

Jennie Lucca, M.S.W., CEO, The Children’s Inn at NIH

3:55 p.m. **Closing Remarks**

Christopher P. Austin, M.D., Director, NCATS, NIH; Former Chair, IRDiRC

4:00 p.m. Adjournment