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February 14, 2018

Dear Academy Members,

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Since 1995, Dr. Stanley Baum has reported and ranked National Institutes of Health (NIH) funding to radiology departments in the United States. This report provides data on the total amount of federal funding from the NIH that goes to “diagnostic radiology,” as well as how much of that funding is allocated to each radiology department. Each year, this report is tracked and shared on the Academy’s website. Below we have provided answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about the process for developing the ranking. We would appreciate receiving your feedback regarding this process and if it could be improved in the future for quality assurance.

How is the grant data collected?

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Dr. Baum submits a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request every year to the Office of Extramural Research (OER) at the NIH for the research and training grants awarded to Principal Investigators (PIs) with primary appointments in radiology departments at U.S. medical schools.

Some NIH grants go through an institution that is not included on the initial NIH list. Therefore, radiology department chairs at these nine institutions are contacted to provide their NIH grant information independently.

PIs in radiology departments who perform their research outside of the hospital or university will have indirect costs for their grants routed through other institutions, such as the VA, ACR, etc., and therefore, their grants are not on the original list provided by the NIH. These grants are added manually.

For multi-institutional grants (e.g., ACRIN grants), credit is given to the overall PI of the entire grant, because the NIH RePORTER credits the PI’s institution.

How do you analyze the NIH raw data?

Executive Director:

Renée L. Cruea, MPA

The raw data is sorted, as it sometimes contains duplicate or incorrect information. For example, duplicate grants are removed; grants from Multiple Principal Investigators (MPIs) from the same radiology department are credited to the radiology Contact PI; other MPIs are removed unless the Contact PI is in another department, and then the

credit is given to the MPI in radiology. The raw data from the NIH also includes grants in radiation oncology, and those grants are removed. However, grant applicants sometimes incorrectly categorize grants under radiation oncology when they should be included under radiology, and these grants remain. A manual review of all grants is made to address and correct such errors.

Why are some grants from my department not included in the total number of the ranking?

One reason could be that your institutional grant administrator may not have listed your grant(s) as being in radiology. Please make sure that your grants are listed under the correct category on the NIH RePORTER. Our goal is to have an accurate report. Once corrected, these grants will be included in future years.

What is the difference between this ranking and the Blue Ridge Report ranking?

The Blue Ridge Report from the Blue Ridge Institute for Medical Research does not exclude radiation oncology grants and does not include the independent hospitals with radiology departments.

Please feel free to contact the Academy at 202-347-5872 or at rcruea@acadrad.org if you have additional questions or concerns.

Thank you very much for your support.

Sincerely,



Stanley Baum, MD

Emeritus Professor of Radiology
University of Pennsylvania



Renée L. Cruea, MPA

Executive Director
The Academy for Radiology & Biomedical
Imaging