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**Academy strategic advocacy efforts to advance imaging research at NIH
through committee report language in the report to the LHHS
Appropriations Bill**

Since 2016, the Academy has focused its advocacy efforts in part on encouraging the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and other federal research agencies to work in a collaborative and complementary manner to advance imaging research, and to fully integrate this priority with ongoing initiatives like the Cancer Moon Shot, the Precision Medicine Initiative, and the BRAIN Initiative. With hundreds of millions of dollars in annual funding for public and private sector research, an ongoing inter-agency process tracking progress and identifying gaps and opportunities, is essential.

It is testament to the hard work of advocates like you – and committed Members of Congress and Senators – that the Academy has successfully secured language attached to federal appropriations law directing NIH to detail inter-agency collaboration on imaging research, assess opportunities for growth, and report the results publicly.

These efforts get results. NIH recently published its 2019 Congressional Justification, which responded to the congressional direction that the Academy advocated. [Please click here](#) (*refer to pages 162-163*) to read the National Institutes of Health (NIH) 2019 Congressional Justification, which also details the ongoing to advance imaging research by the Inter-agency Working Group on Medical Imaging (IWGMI) effort to advance imaging research, [completed in December 2017](#). Further, the Academy's advocacy effort the previous year, 2018, also resulted in a response from NIH to the congressional direction on imaging research and can be found [here](#) (*refer to pages 161-162.*)