

Drug Research and Development for Adults Across the Older Age Span Reflections: Looking towards the Future

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Lessons from Academia, Practice, Industry, Government and Tech

- Follow the \$\$
- Make policies that cause a shift in the flow of \$\$ (move the cheese)
- We do not lack in creativity or innovation, but these talents need channels that are supported by \$\$ and policies

Observations and Suggestions

- Basic issues about pharmacology and aging are unresolved
 - Industry needs an incentive or requirement (carrots or sticks or both?)
- NIH has a relevant institute and a precedent of successful implementation of policies requiring representation of under-represented populations in clinical research
 - Action plan needs to be developed for enrollment across the lifespan
- The complexity of comorbidity and polypharmacy is daunting
 - Needs its own stream of research
- Many critical issues can only be addressed by integrating research and clinical care
 - Specific approaches needed to make this happen

Observations and Suggestions

- Clinicians are stressed and despite interest, have little to no time to participate in research
 - Specific strategies are needed to deal with this problem
- The general ethical stance that people need to be protected from research needs to be reconciled with the critical importance of research to inform practice
 - Examination of the balance of participation and protection is needed, including empirical ethics research
- The multiple streams of the digital environment are not well integrated to enable facile integration of biological, clinical, behavioral, social and environmental factors
 - Continued funding needed for approaches to data capture, curation, integration and analysis
- The special environments of assisted living, nursing homes, hospice house millions of people
 - Specific approaches need to be funded to open up the research and quality efforts