

From: [Richard Darling, DDS](#)
To: [Ms. Chris Jansing, MSNBC Anchor and News Correspondent;](#)
CC: [Ray Hill \(hillray@sbcglobal.net\);](mailto:hillray@sbcglobal.net)
Subject: "The Ethical Edge: Everyday Ethics" Topic Suggestion: HIV/AIDS and the need for fair and equitable funding
Date: Tuesday, March 14, 2006 7:53:00 PM
Attachments:

Dear Ms. Jansing,

Our national organization, The FAIR Foundation, is addressing the ethics behind our government's allocations of dollars for disease research, including spending \$48 on each diabetic versus \$3,084 on each HIV/AIDS patient in disease research when the former kills more Americans than AIDS and breast cancer combined.

In my national presentations, such as [those to Congressional Legislative Health Aides](#) and a [recent one to the University of Nevada School of Medicine's CME course](#) entitled "The Ethical Issues in the Allocation of Federal Dollars for Disease Research," I find audiences have great interest in this topic. Of course, some HIV/AIDS activists holler at me (viewed at [video 1](#) and [video 2](#)), but thousands of citizens and professionals in every state and the District of Columbia now comprise our member base and our supporters as we call for fairer and more equitable research allocations.

I welcome you to visit our 28-member Board of Directors consisting of physicians, dentists, pharmacist and disease advocates [here](#) and note that one was arguably this country's most strident HIV/AIDS activist, Ray Hill, of Houston. Ray has now switched his focus from HIV to hepatitis C because, according to [dozens of HIV groups](#) and hepatologists, more AIDS patients are now dying of hepatitis C (HCV) than they are of HIV/AIDS yet HCV is getting poor funding from the National Institutes of Health.

Thank you for considering this issue as a topic for your show and please know I'd be most willing to debate this live with anyone, including an HIV/AIDS activist, if you would like such a forum to occur on your show.

Gratefully,

Richard

Dr. Richard Darling, DDS: [National Public Citizen of the Year](#) (NASW-03)
President and CEO: [The FAIR Foundation](#), a national movement to reverse inequities in research funding distributions by the National Institutes of Health

Founder: [The Coachella Valley Hepatitis C, Liver Disease & Transplant Support Group](#)

Board of Directors: United Organ Transplant Association

Ambassador: OneLegacy, a transplant donor network

Author: [Coma Life](#), an autobiographical memoir of life "within" coma and survival over hepatitis C induced liver cancer, three liver transplants, heart attack, diabetes

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Disease	2005 NIH Research \$	Deaths Per Disease	\$ Per Patient Death	\$ Per Patient
AIDS	2.93 Billion	18,017	\$ 162,790	\$ 3,084
Cardiovascular Dis.	2.4 Billion	930,000	\$ 2,589	\$ 40
Diabetes	1.02 Billion	73,965	\$ 13,722	\$ 48
Alzheimer's Dis.	649 Million	63,343	\$ 10,245	\$ 144
Prostate Cancer	381 Million	29,578	\$ 12,881	\$ 136
Parkinson's Dis.	232 Million	17,898	\$ 12,962	\$ 154
Hepatitis C	122 Million	12,000	\$ 10,166	\$ 25
Hepatitis B	33 Million	5,000	\$ 6,600	\$ 32
COPD**	57 Million	126,128	\$ 452	\$ 5
West Nile Virus	54 Million	102	\$ 529,411	\$19,292

** COPD = Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

Statistics based on information from the CDC & NIH See: <http://www.fairfoundation.org/update.htm> for verifying links

Join the FAIR Foundation today: <http://www.fairfoundation.org/join.htm> (free)

[NIH Orphan Drug Allocation of \\$1.2 Billion](#) for 6000 diseases equals only \$200,000, on average, for research on each disease