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# RE: Request for Information (RFI) on the DRAFT Scientific Integrity Policy of the National Institutes of Health

# Submitted via online portal on November 7, 2023

The American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Request for Information regarding the DRAFT Scientific Integrity Policy of the National Institutes of Health. ASPET is a 4,000-member scientific society whose members conduct basic and clinical pharmacological research and work in academia, government, industry, and non-profit organizations. ASPET members conduct research leading to the development of new medicines and therapeutic agents to fight existing and emerging diseases. ASPET is a global pharmacology community that advances the science of drugs and therapeutics to accelerate the discovery of cures for disease. We are in constant pursuit of our Mission through research, education, innovation, and advocacy.

ASPET appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on proposed updates to the NIH Scientific Integrity Policy. ASPET agrees that defining individuals and parties responsible for developing, evaluating, and upholding scientific integrity policies is important and believes that that the proposed roles and responsibilities of the NIH Scientific Integrity Officer and Chief Scientist as well as the proposed designated individuals to take on those roles fitting and align with existing responsibilities of the designated individuals. ASPET also agrees with the proposed roles of the NIH Scientific Integrity Council in supporting the role of the SIO.

In regard to the prohibitions Against Political Interference, ASPET appreciates the effort NIH has put in the draft to call out various ways in which it prohibits political interference and inappropriate influence. ASPET also encourages NIH to incorporate language in the draft on how the newly proposed NIH scientific integrity infrastructure will interface with the Office of Research Integrity at the Department of Health and Human Services.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on the update for the Scientific Integrity Policy of the National Institutes of Health and we look forward to its implementation.



