



21st Century Cures 1.0 Is Working

21st Century Cures 1.0 began with a simple idea: That more could be done to foster the next era of medical innovations here in America. Patients needed a game-changer, and U.S. Reps. Diana DeGette, D-Colorado, and Fred Upton, R-Michigan, worked hand in glove to deliver.

The historic, bipartisan legislation passed the U.S. House and Senate with broad, bipartisan support and was one of the last bills signed by President Barack Obama in 2016.

DeGette and Upton worked on this bold, bipartisan effort to support biomedical research, breaking the mold with their approach to getting 21st Century Cures across the finish line in 2016. They listened. They engaged. They solicited input. They discussed ideas with stakeholders. They traveled across the country to meet with health care experts. It was an inclusive, unique, transparent process that culminated in landmark legislation to safely speed the discovery, development, and delivery of life-saving drugs and devices.

Now, 21st Century Cures is as important as ever as the world face's its worst public health crisis in more than a century. In discussions with Dr. Tony Fauci and former FDA Administrator Scott Gottlieb, they are confident that because Cures 1.0 helped to accelerate medical innovation and streamline the advancement of treatment options and products, the world will have a vaccine for COVID-19 faster than it otherwise would have.

In the past three years since it became law, 21st Century Cures has resulted in extraordinary successes to help patients around the nation and the world. Now DeGette and Upton are looking to take the next step toward finding and delivering more life-saving cures.

21st Century Cures Act Historical Overview and Accomplishments:

- Helped bring drugs and devices to market more quickly by making needed reforms to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), including: expediting review for breakthrough devices, increasing patient involvement in the drug approval process, streamlining the review process for combination products that are both a drug and device, and decreasing the red tape for approving software like Fitbit or calorie counting apps.
 - The Food and Drug Administration recently announced that over 1,600 new drugs have been approved since January 2017, about a third more than the period from 2015 through 2016, helping to lower health care costs for millions of Americans.
- Because of Cures, it's possible to better prevent and screen cancer. In 2017, the U.S. cancer death rate fell by 2.2%, the biggest single year drop ever recorded.
- Provided \$4.8 billion to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), including: \$1.45 billion for President Obama's Precision Medicine Initiative to drive research into genetic, lifestyle, and environmental variations of disease; \$1.8 billion for the Beau Biden "Cancer Moonshot" to speed research; and \$1.5 billion for the BRAIN initiative to improve our understanding of diseases like Alzheimer's and speed diagnoses and treatment.