Conducts, fosters, and supports research and research training on the causes, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of deafness and other communication disorders through:

- Intramural, collaborative, and field research in its own laboratories, branches, and clinics, and through contracts;
- Research grants to scientific institutions and to individuals;
- Individual and institutional research training awards to increase trained professional research personnel in the fields of deafness and other communication disorders; and
- Cooperation with various agencies in collecting and disseminating educational and informational material related to deafness and other communication disorders.