

Thank you all so much for being here today. I am Martha Meacham the NNLM Project Director. I excited to share some of the wonderful work of the NNLM and investigate the future of the program

I just want to take a moment to acknowledge the strange world we are in. In the past year plus some, there has been a massive amount of change and challenge. There have been a lot of changes with the NNLM, a new cooperative agreement, new regional configuration. I am also new in this job since last MLA – all this during the time of COVID-19. I am here to go over some of those changes, but I am also here to reassure that the NNLM is and always will be committed to serving you and all our communities. The Network is an amazing resource that I have been working with for a long time. It never ceases to amaze me the ingenuity, creativity and dedication to the work of the people who work with and for the Network. That is a constant. The work of the NNLM will continue to support and inform you as it always has, but with the growth and nimbleness that we all have had to learn. There will still be training and funding and connections to you and your organizations. As all of use flex and adjust, I am excited to see the new and wonderful ways the Network and all of you continue to adjust and grow.

## NETWORK OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE

The NNLM is coordinated by the National Library of Medicine through the Office of Engagement and Training and carried out through a nationwide network of health science libraries and information centers.

This is facilitated by Regional Medical Libraries, Offices, and Centers.

The NNLM engages with current and future audiences to advance information access, with priority for Underrepresented Populations.

NIH National Library of Medicine

But now, let's start with the foundation, the NNLM is coordinated by the Office of Engagement and Training (OET) at the National Library of Medicine.

Regional Medical Libraries (RMLs) are regional hubs of the NNLM that provide training, funding, and engagement opportunities for member libraries and other organizations to carry out regional and national programs, I'd like to highlight three reasons why this is so important to NNLM and the National Library of Medicine:

- First, RMLs and NNLM member organizations act as trusted ambassadors between NLM and the communities they serve.
- Second, RMLs are the primary connection point of NNLM members in their regions to the National Library of Medicine. Within each region, RMLs regularly assess and interpret the needs of current and potential audiences, with the goal of expanding the reach and impact of the Nation Library of Medicine.
- Third, the RMLs work together to form the national program of the Network. To do this, RMLs cooperatively design, implement, and evaluate innovative approaches to serving the biomedical and health information needs of NNLM's audiences. The Funding Opportunity Announcement for the 2021-2026 cycle says that RMLs "substantially" contribute to a national program; as a guideline, think 60/40 national to regional efforts.

NNLM Offices are national in scope, serving the entire NNLM program, and are found as part of or with funding through an RML. Within their focus areas, the NNLM Offices and

Centers serve critical roles. They are coordinators of national programs; consensus-builders for NNLM-wide standards; and monitors of content and outputs for quality and accuracy While the NNLM serves all, there is now an explicit focus on NNLM engaging with Underrepresented and underserved Populations

## **NETWORK OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE**

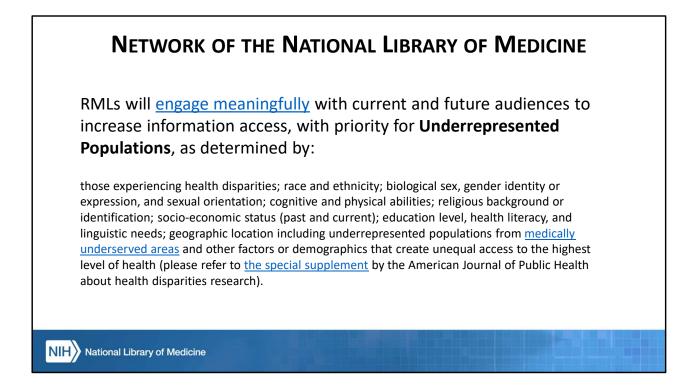
The mission of the NNLM is to provide U.S. researchers, health professionals, public health workforce, educators, and the public with equal access to biomedical and health information resources and data.

NNLM's main goals are to work through libraries and other members to support a highly trained workforce for biomedical and health information resources and data, improve health literacy, and **advance** health equity through information.

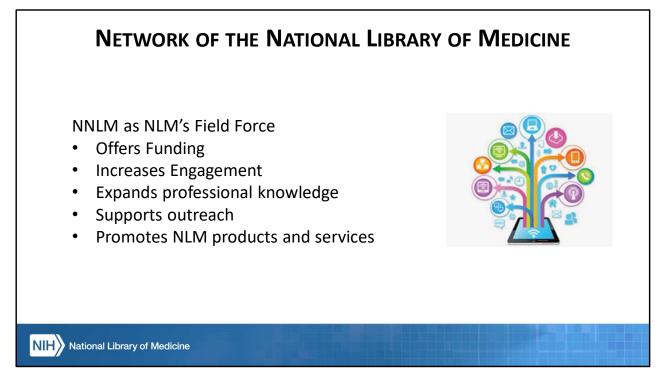
NIH National Library of Medicine

The mission on the NNLM is to work with a variety of populations and communities to promote and ensure equal access to biomedical and health information resources and data. I like to say that the NNLM can serve anyone who would benefit from Health Information and health literacy...which is basically everyone.

The goals are to work with all these people and groups to improve health literacy, and **advance** health equity through information.

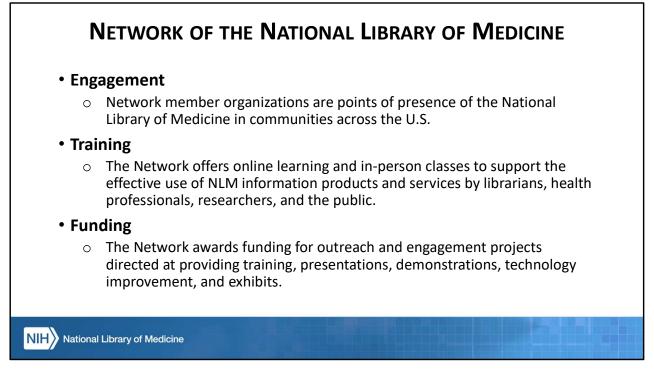


Like I said, there is now an emphasis on engaging meaningfully with underrepresented populations. This encompasses a wide variety of people, groups, communities, etc. And really is an important way that the NNLM can address health disparities, grow and reach new communities.



In short, the NNLM is NLM's field force.

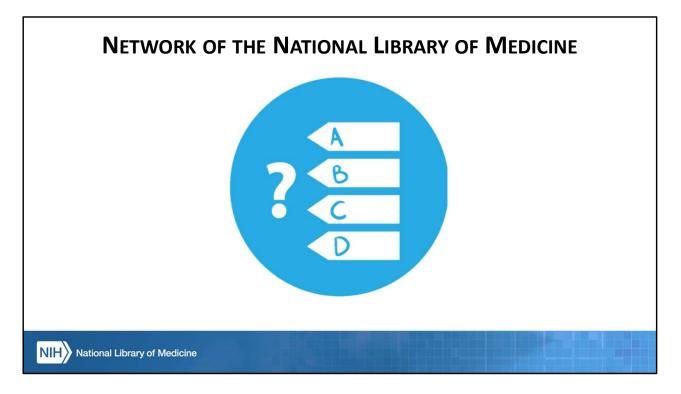
We offer funding, engagement, professional knowledge, outreach and, of course, promote NLM products and services



This work is done primarily through the means of Engagement with our NNLM Member organizations

Through training

And by funding organizations to do outreach and engagements projects that have a major impact in their communities



So, I have a little Challenge for you today during this presentation. We are going to have a little fun.

There will be some trivia questions and I want to see how well people know the NNLM. Who will earn the most points!? You can keep score yourself or put your answers in the chat. (if you don't mind giving it away to others!)



The first question:

Under which National Library of Medicine Strategic Area does the NNLM Fit?

- Accelerate discovery & advance health through data-driven research
- Reach more people in more ways through enhanced dissemination and engagement
- Build a workforce for data-driven research and health



I will give you a hint – this is a trick question

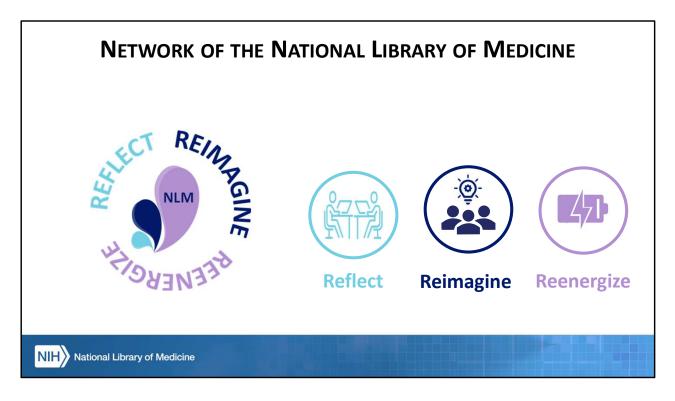
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Looking at the NLM Strategic Plan, the NNLM is a key element in furthering many of the goals and subgoals.

Obviously, Goal 2, which is all about engagement and reaching more people, is a cornerstone of the Network.

However, the training and education activities conducted and supported by Network Staff contribute to Goal 3, building a workforce for data-driven research and health.

And over the last few years, new Network programs are directly furthering Goals 1.2 and 1.3, by helping medical librarians guide researchers at their institutions as they develop data management practices which support new approaches to data science and open science.

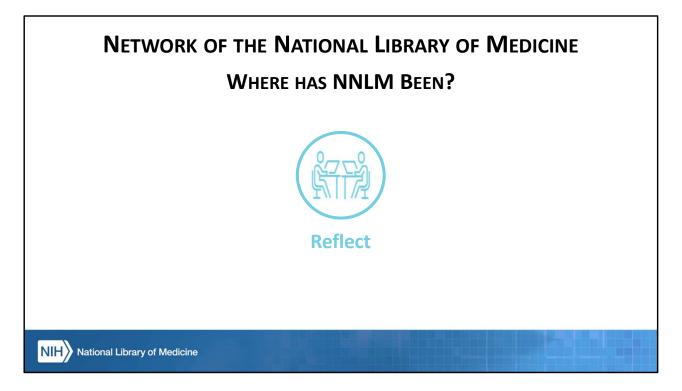


For the rest of the presentation

We will reflect on where NNLM has been

We will show the process and outcomes of reimagining the Network

And we will look at some of the ways that the NNLM is reenergizing its work and those it works with



I want to take a moment to reflect on the extraordinary history, people and work of the NNLM, especially in the last 5 years.

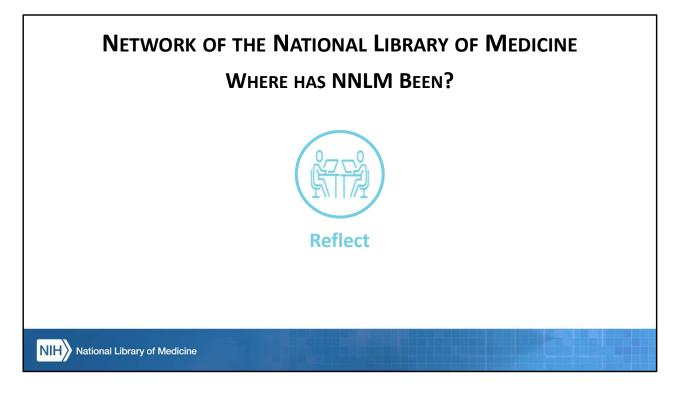


First, I want to acknowledge and thank the wonderful teams at UCLA and University of Pittsburgh. Both of these regions leave a tremendous legacy that will influence and inform the work of the NNLM well into the future. The leadership and the staff of the MidAtlantic Region and the Pacific Southwest region have done incredible work and added greatly to the reach and success of the NNLM. Thank you to all who took part in this work.



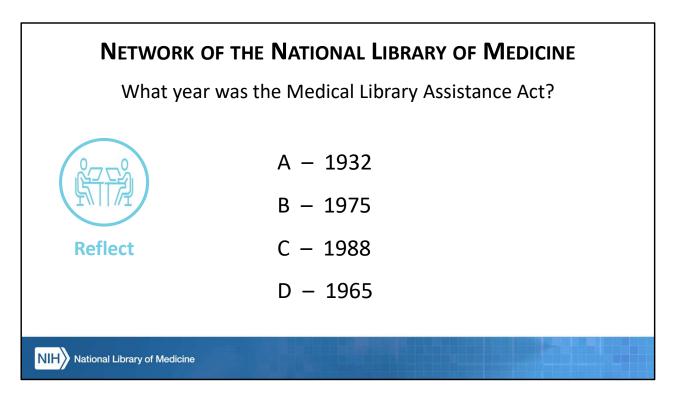
I also want to celebrate the wonderful work of all the NNLM staff and partners. I hope that many of you have had a chance to work with your regions and participate in some of the trainings or programs. If you have, you have experienced the fun, innovative, and timely work of the Network. Across the NNLM, there have been hundreds of activities and classes, reaching hundreds of thousands of people. Last cycle from 2016-2021, was the first time as a cooperative agreement, it was during this time that the Office of Engagement and Training was formed at the NLM. We had crisis and COVID and natural disasters, and the normal ups and downs of we all face.

Throughout it all, I have seen resilience and adaptability. The Network has remained a strong force and the people of the network have been leaders, advocates, and amazing to work with.

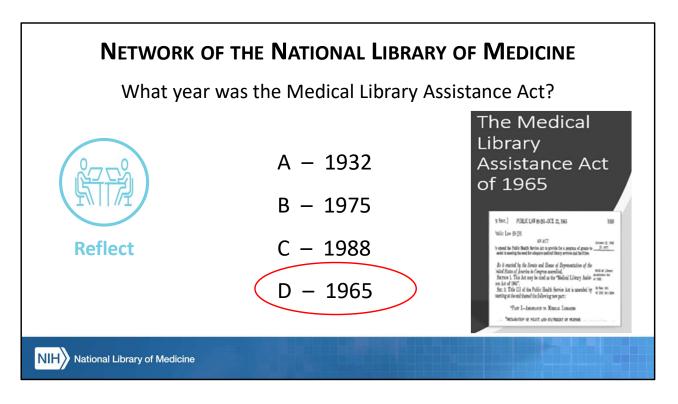


So where have we been,

Instead of me reciting the history and statistics of the network, I thought it would be more fun to do a little more trivia. Give yourself a point for every answer you get right, and we will see by the end of the presentation how well you know the NNLM

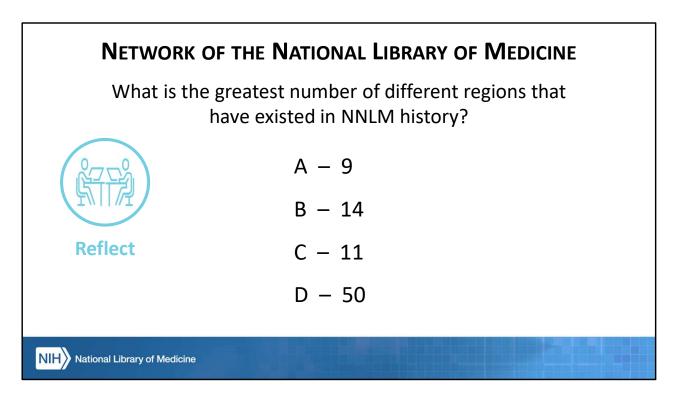


What year was the Medical Library Assistance Act that formally authorized and enacted what is now the NNLM?



the answer is 1965. this is when the medical library assistance act was Introduced by Senator Lister Hill of Alabama and Representative John Fogarty of Rhode Island It was Signed into law by President Johnson on October 1965

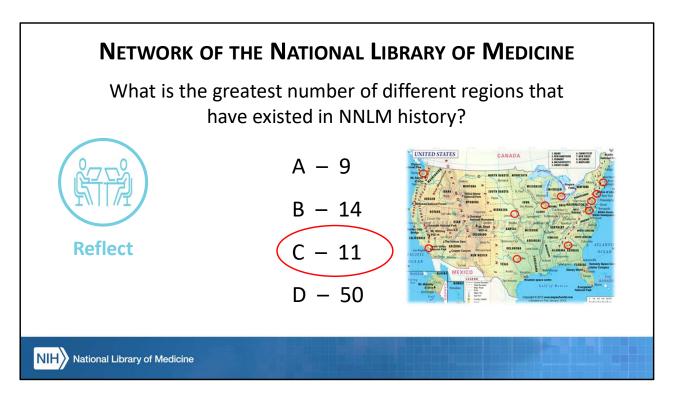
It Authorized the National Library of Medicine to develop a national system of regional medical libraries



What is the greatest number of different regions that

have existed in NNLM history?

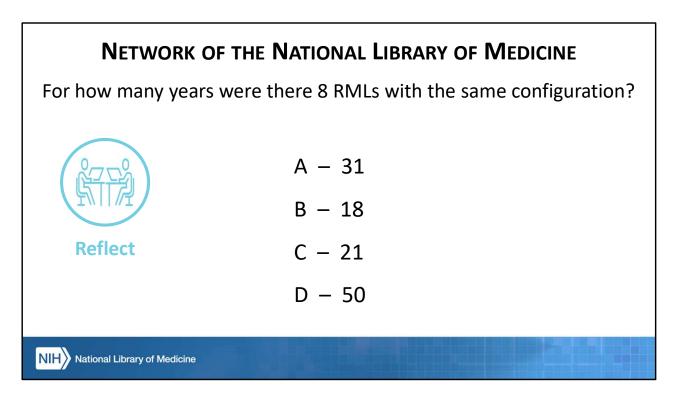
At one point there were more than 8 regions in the NNLM, what was the largest number of different regions that once existed?



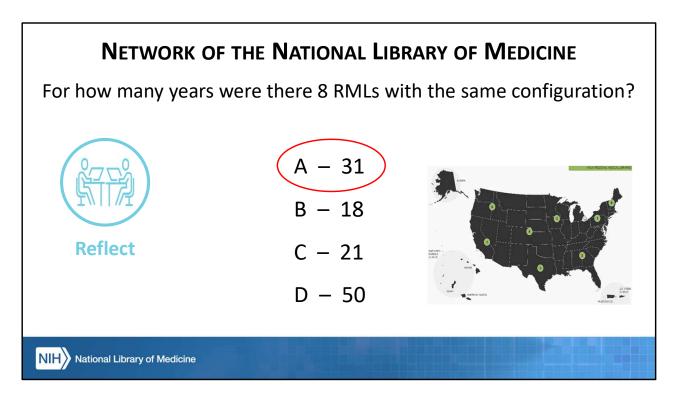
It's 11 different regions

In 1967: there was one RML at Harvard University Medical Library

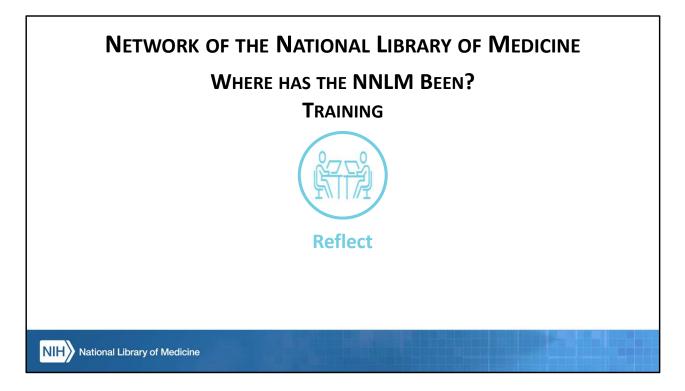
By 1970: Another 10 regions had been created, making a total of 11 RMLs



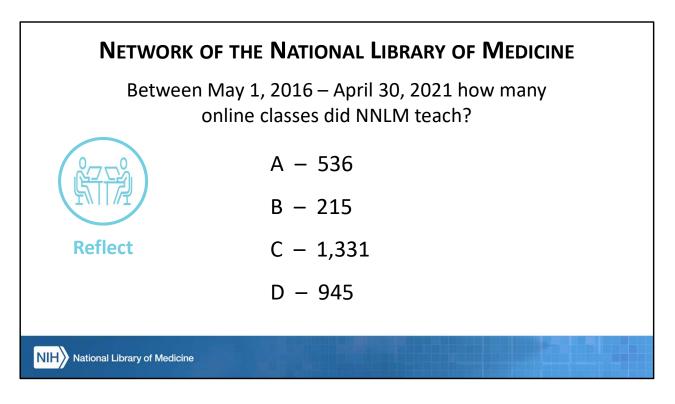
There have been 8 RMLs with the same configuration for a long time. How many years where there 8 RMLs?



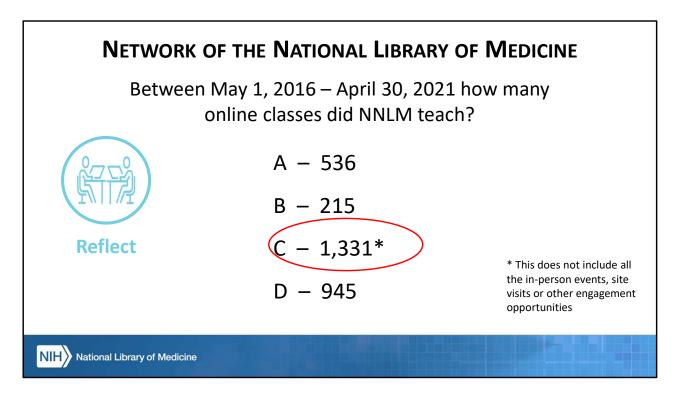
The configuration that included 8 RMLs in way that you may have known it in the past came into being in 1990. It has been 31 years since the number and configuration of the NNLM has been adjusted.



Training is at the heart of much of the work of the NNLM. This was true in the last cooperative agreement and will remain true in the future,



But let's see if you really know how much training goes on Between May 1, 2016 – April 30, 2021 how many online classes did NNLM teach?



There were 1,331 online classes taught in the last cooperative agreement. This does not include all the in-person event, in-person trainings, site visits or other engagement activities.

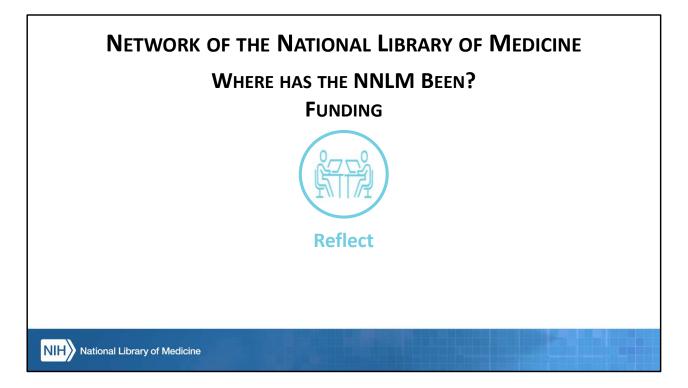
For example in just one year during the last Cooperative Agreement there were 2,261 OTHER activities with over 250,000 participants.

Class registration numbers for all NNLM Classes			<i>"I use MedlinePlus regularly, both in my personal and professional life. I now feel more prepared to help community members</i>
Year 2 15,881 Year 3 20,169			find accurate and reliable answers to their health questions." "I added a module to my usual health literacy teaching to family medicine residents about how to communicate numbers to patients."
Year 4 Year 5 <sub>(May</sub> - Oct 2020)	31,465 20,298		
	May - Oct 2019	May - Oct 2020	
# registrations	13,718	20,295 Na	"In this time (Covid-19) where charts and numbers are being thrown around daily the
% would recommend	83%	84%	instruction in this webinar helped me develop skills to better interpret and help others interpret what those numbers really mean."

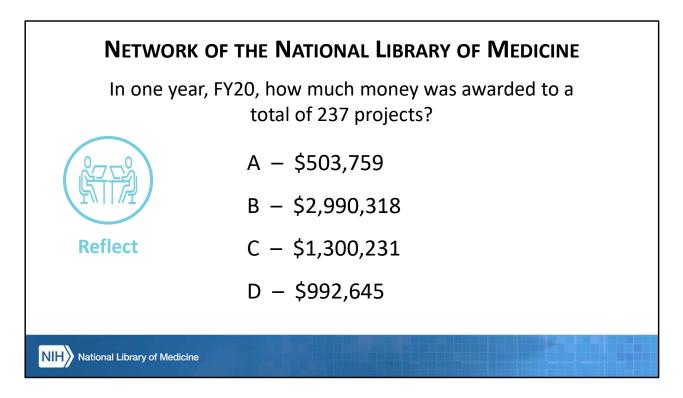
You can see that for just our online classes we receive tens of thousands of registrations. I also want to point out for the

From the same time period pre pandemic to during the pandemic, our registrations went up by around 7,000 individuals

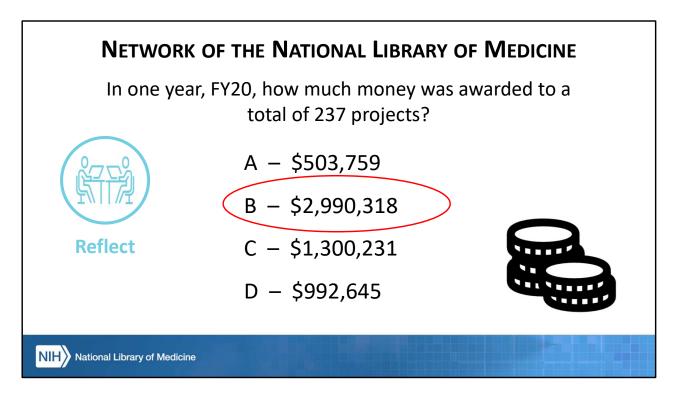
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Funding is one of the primary methods of engagement with and support of work done in communities. How much to you think goes back out into the community?

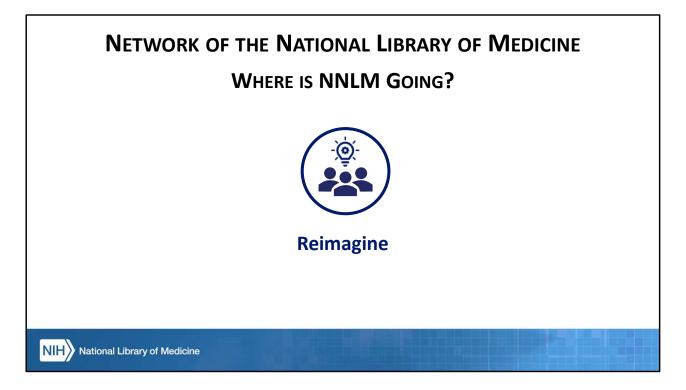


In one year, FY20, how much money was awarded to a total of 237 projects?

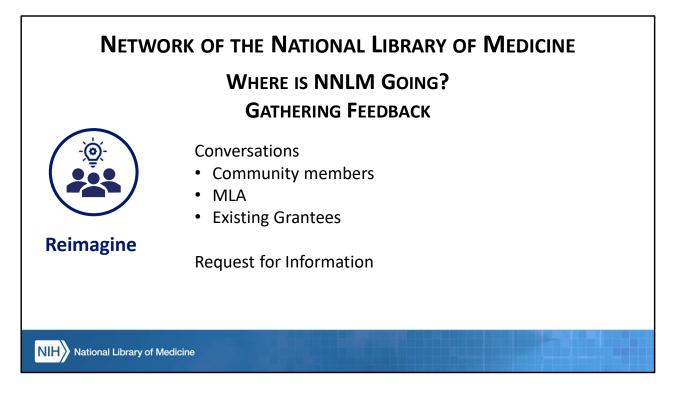


Almost 3 million dollars was awarded to libraries, community organizations and others in just one year of the last cooperative agreement. Additionally, over half of this money was to new organizations that had not received NNLM funding in the past.

With the realignment of regions creating more equitable funding for all regions, which I will talk more about in a moment, we fully expect this amount to increase over the course of the next 5 year cooperative agreement



So with where the NNLM had been over the previous cooperative agreement, everything that had been learned and tried, along with input from the community and stakeholders, There are many ways that the NNLM has been reimagining moving in to the next Cooperative Agreement from 2021-2026



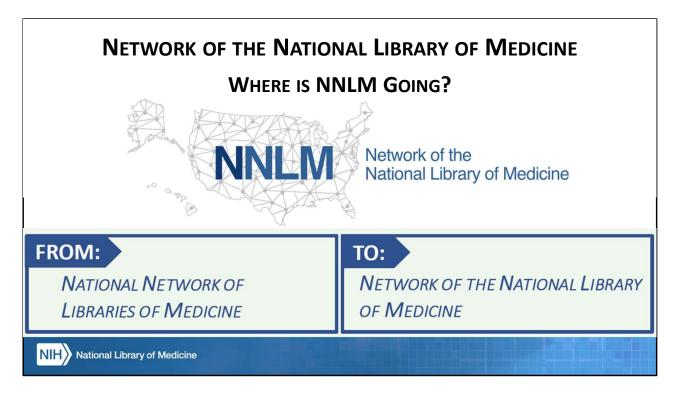
Before the details of the next cycle were determined, a lot of information was gathered

There were extensive conversations with the communities we work with and our stakeholders.

This includes many of you and through MLA

Much was also heard through the Request for Information that was issued.

All the information from ever source was taken into consideration



One of the first things that happened was the changing of NNLM's name from National Network of Libraries of Medicine to

"The Network of the National Library of Medicine"

This emphasizes that NNLM is more than just "Libraries of Medicine"

It focuses on the Network component

Bonus; it Keeps the same acronym!



This will be the second cycle in which the Network uses the mechanism of a Cooperative Agreement. This is significant. This gives regions much more flexibility and the makes the work more collaborative in nature

The Network is now made up of 7 rather than 8 regions. We will look at this a little more in a few moments.

The NNLM Evaluation Center (NEC) was a companion Funding Opportunity Announcement . Creating this new, separate NNLM Evaluation Center brings more expertise, innovation, and focus to analyzing and reporting the effectiveness, value, and impact of the Network's regional and national programs and activities.

A new committee was formed – the DOCLINE Coordination Committee. This replaces the NNLM Docline Office. It brings some of the work of DOCLINE back into the regions, and also allows the regions to discuss and manage topics around DOCLINE and Resource Sharing

The Network as always worked closely with communities. The new cycle will

continue this, while emphasizing community driven and delivered project.



Nationally, the RMLs will ensure continuity of quality service for core programs of the NNLM, and cooperatively design, implement, and evaluate innovative approaches to serving the biomedical and health information needs of researchers, health professionals, public health workforce, educators, and the public. RMLs and NNLM members act as trusted ambassadors between NLM and the communities they serve. RMLs working with and through partner/resource libraries, members, and other organizations with shared visions to carry out regional and national programs contributing to sustainability of partnerships and program activities. Develop approaches to promote awareness of, improve access to, and enable use of NLM's resources and data;

Develop and support a diverse workforce to access biomedical and health information resources and data, and to support data-driven research;

Engage authentically with current and future audiences to increase information access, with priority focus on <u>underrepresented populations</u>;

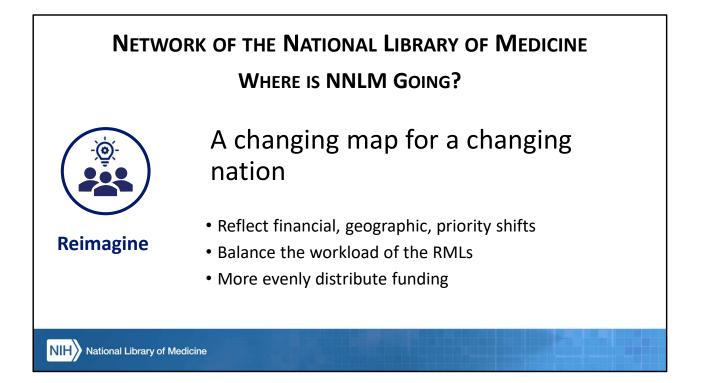
Provide community-driven innovative approaches and interventions for biomedical and health information access and use;

Contribute substantially to the development of vision, strategies, standards, oversight, and activities for NNLM's national program in collaboration with other

RMLs, NNLM Offices and Centers, and NLM;

Assess and interpret the biomedical and health information needs of NNLM members within the region and provide solutions within scope of the program; Partner and collaborate with Network members and other organizations to accomplish national and regional program goals; and

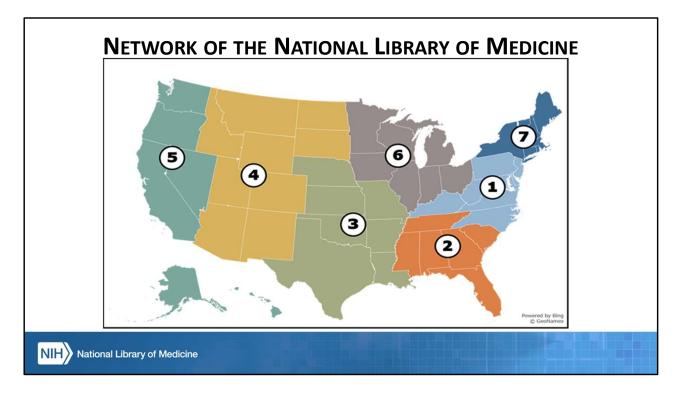
Conduct formative and summative evaluation of the effectiveness, impact, and value of RML program.



It sometimes feels to us as if the Network region map is etched in stone, but it has actually changed over time, from one to 11 regions, down to seven in the early 80s, and then back to eight starting in 1990.

In the past, adjustments to the map were made for budgetary reasons, to better reflect geographic and demographic changes across the U.S., and to account for changing NNLM priorities and methods for accomplishing those priorities (including, for example, the birth of the Internet).

One of the biggest arguments in favor of considering a remapping is that, by evening out the population across the regions, we can distribute the workload more evenly across the RMLs.



This is the new configuration of regions in the NNLM

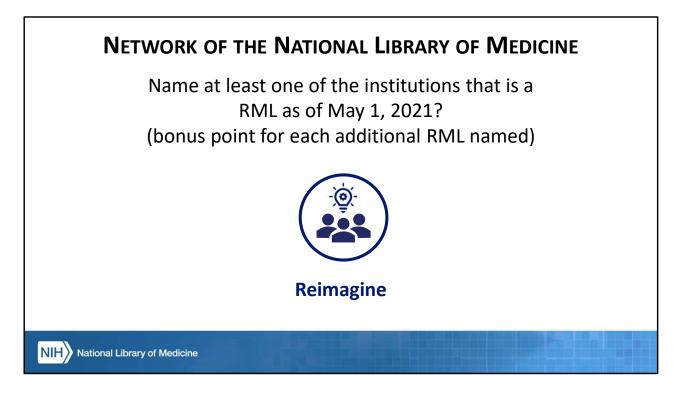
Every region changed the number or configuration of the states they served.

This new alignment has dramatically improved the population distributions across all regions and created better distributed work loads.

As an example, Region 4 covers the most geographic area, but has the lowest population served.

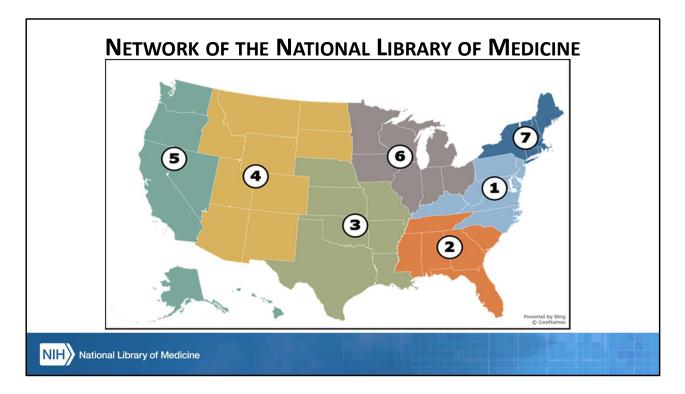
	<u># States/</u> Territories	<b>Population</b>		Network Membership	
		Total	%	Total	%
Region 1	9	54.60 M	16.5%	1649	19.8%
Region 2	8	54.85 M	16.6%	1120	13.4%
Region 3	7	51.29 M	15.5%	1434	17.2%
Region 4	9	23.16 M	7.0%	563	6.8%
Region 5	9	56.74 M	17.2%	858	10.3%
Region 6	7	55.70 M	16.8%	1215	14.6%
Region 7	7	34.40 M	10.4%	1493	17.9%
Regions Total	56	330.74 M	100.00%	8332	100.00%

As you can see, the populations are much more balanced and the number of member organizations in each region is more even.



We have another quiz question.

You have just seen the map, but can you name at least one of the institutions that was awarded in the 2021-2026 cooperative agreement? Hopefully, you know the institution for your own region, but you get a point for every institution you can name



Just to be fair I will even show you the map again

## NETWORK OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE REGIONAL MEDICAL LIBRARIES

**REGION 1: University of Maryland, Baltimore** - Health Sciences and Human Services Library - Baltimore, MD

Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and District of Columbia

**REGION 2: Medical University of South Carolina** - Medical University of South Carolina Libraries - Charleston, SC

Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands

**REGION 3: University of North Texas Health Science Center** - Gibson D. Lewis Library - Fort Worth, TX

Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas

REGION 4: University of Utah - Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library - Salt Lake City, UT

Arizona, Idaho, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

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**REGION 5: University of Washington** - Health Sciences Library - Seattle, WA

Alaska, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and U.S. Territories and Freely Associated States

**REGION 6: University of Iowa** - Hardin Library for the Health Sciences - Iowa City, IA Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

REGION 7: University of Massachusetts Medical School - Lamar Soutter Library - Worcester, MA Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont

The seven Regional Medical libraries during the 2021-2026 Cooperative Agreement are

Region 1: University of Maryland, Baltimore

Region 2: Medical University of South Carolina

Region 3: University of North Texas Health Science Center

Region 4: University of Utah

**Region 5: University of Washington** 

Region 6: University of Iowa

Region 7: University of Massachusetts Medical School

## NETWORK OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE **OFFICES AND CENTERS** NNLM Public Health Coordination Office (NPHCO) University of Massachusetts Medical School NNLM Web Services Office (NWSO) Lamar Soutter Library University of Maryland, Baltimore Worcester, MA Health Sciences and Human Services Library Baltimore, MD NNLM Evaluation Center (NEC) Northwestern University NNLM Training Office (NTO) Galter Health Sciences Library & Learning Center University of Utah Chicago, IL Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library Salt Lake City, UT **Data Coordination Center** (TBD)

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In addition to the RMLs there were 3 offices awarded and one Center.

The three offices are the

Web services Office at the University of Maryland, Baltimore

The Training Office, at the university of Utah

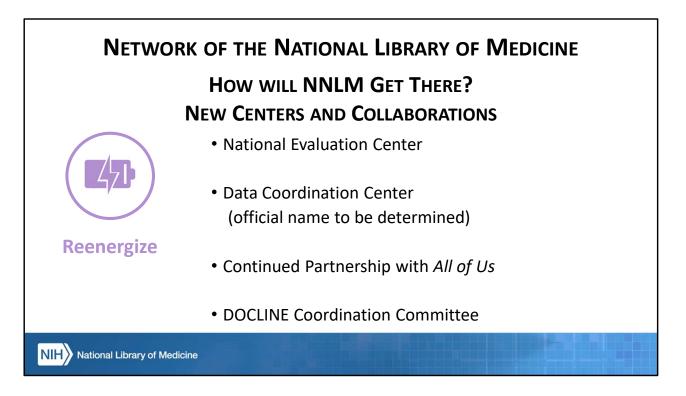
The Public Health Coordination Office at University of Massachusetts Medical School And the new center is the

Evaluation Center at Northwester University

The Data Coordination Center is a new office that is current in the application and award phase. The RML that will host this Center will be announced soon.



As we have just entered this new Cooperative Agreement, there are many ways that NNLM is looking to Reenergize - growing opportunities and reach.



Some of the changes include an expansion or change in services

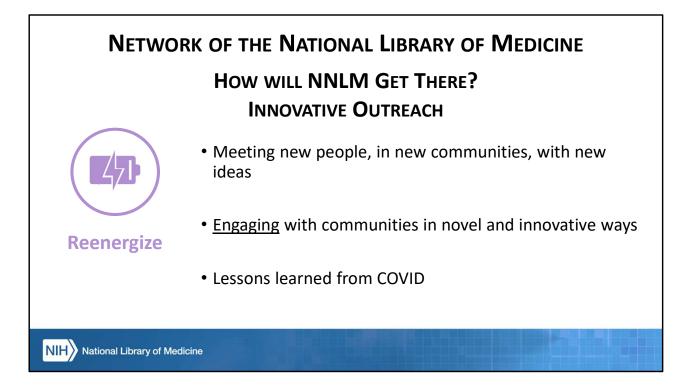
The Evaluation Office is now a stand alone center with a much more dedicated focus on evaluating the work of the NNLM and increasing the dissemination of knowledge and findings that can help grow and increase the impact our the NNLM program and for those organizations the Network serves

Data coordination center is in the process of being awarded now. It will Coordinate and expand NNLM efforts to support strategic plan number 1.2:

Advance research and development in biomedical informatics and data science. It will Further RDM and other data-related education efforts started by NNLM RDM Working Group.

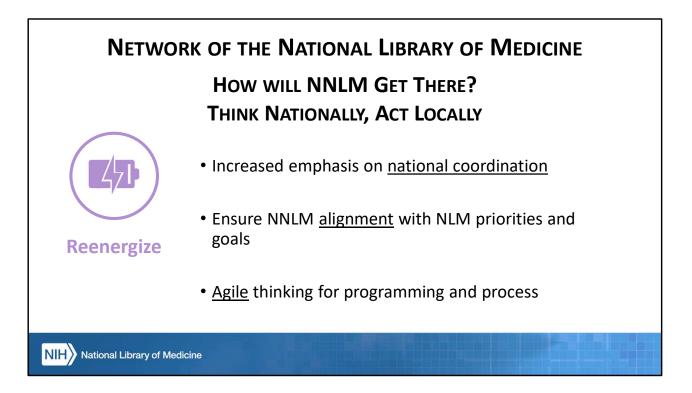
There will be a continued partnership with the All of Us research program. This incredible partnership has helped the NNLM grow connections in new communities and really emphasized the collaborative nature of the NNLM

Finally, one of the changes in the Cooperative agreement is the formation of the DOCLINE Coordination Committee which will work in close collaboration with DOCLINE at NLM and also address issues of resource sharing in general



The Network is always evolving and evaluating the way it does outreach and engagement. This the heart of what the Network does. By continuous improvement and a focus on Evidence-Based engagement, the Network can best meet the needs and address the challenges that partners and communities face.

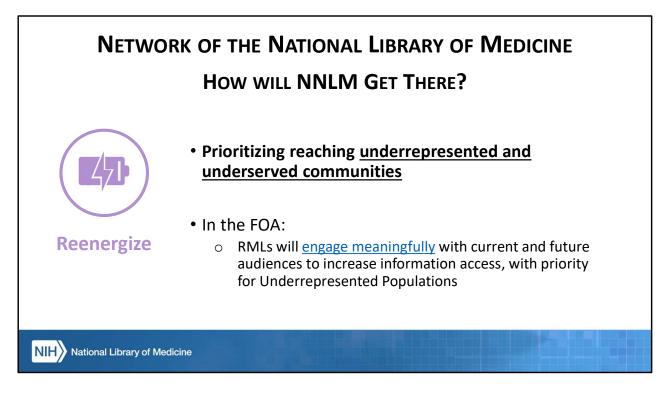
There have been many lessons learned as the Network met the challenges of COVID-19. The Network has always had a strong virtual presence. This was heightened and expanded after COVID eliminated most in-person events, classes, and site visits. It has not been easy to replicate the high touch, responsive, in person connections that were possible. The staff of the Network have developed and implemented many new techniques and revamped many of the in-person successes to work well in a virtual environment. Book clubs, virtual advisory groups, publishing, use of new technology, are just some of the ways that the network as adapted.



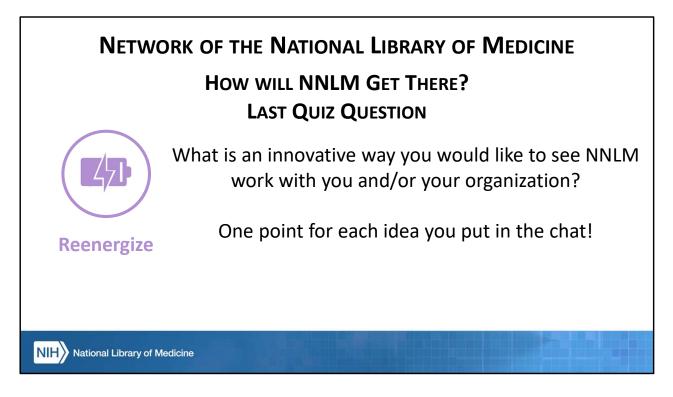
The emphasis moving forward will be to think Nationally, act locally. How can we leverage the power of this truly national network to make serious long lasting impacts across the country, while not losing that close connection to and knowledge about the local communities served. Much of the high level or nationally important work can be coordinated at a national level. This is evidenced in the offices and centers.

The NNLM will continue to strive to be in alignment with the priorities and goals of the National Library of Medicine

Additionally, the Network is using Agile thinking for its programming and processes. This allows quick response to changes and challenges, and quickly addressing the needs of those we serve.



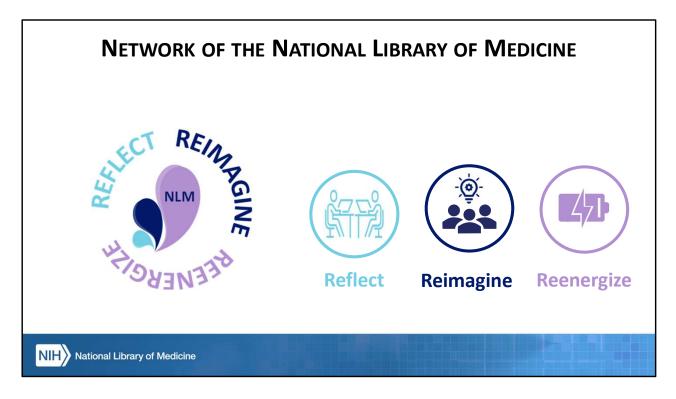
While the NNLM has always reached and worked with very diverse communities, if the Funding Opportunity Announcement it was made explicit that the NNLM would prioritize reaching Underrepresented and underserved Communities. This is important as the NNLM expands it reach and impact to serve all.



Ok, last quiz question and an opportunity to earn lots of points

What is an innovative way you would like to see NNLM work with you and/or your organization?

One point for each idea you put in the chat!



The NNLM has a very long and very rich history. There have been major accomplishments over 60+ years. As we reflect on the work of the NNLM, many changes and advancements have shaped how the program has grown and adapted, It seems the perfect time to reimagine what the NNLM is and how best it can serve everyone. Yes, there are a lot of changes that have occurred, and the program will continue to flex and grow into its new skin, but it will remain a program dedicated to meeting its core mission and serving ALL of you.

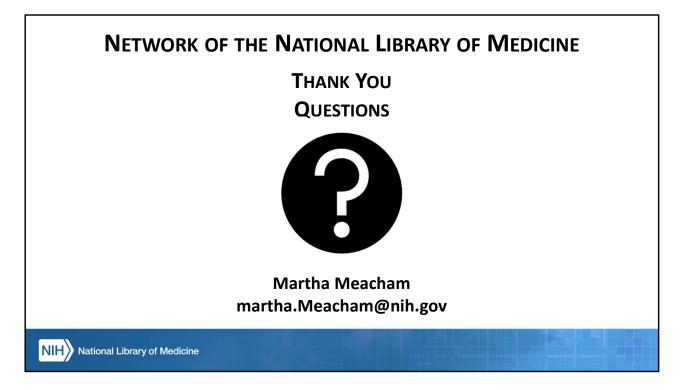
I, in partnership with all my NNLM colleagues and with all of our communities, partners and YOU – hope to reenergize the NNLM in this new world we are now in. For the world of general, this has been a time of change and challenge, the NNLM is changing and growing, but will remain a pillar of service and opportunity.



Please take some time today to meet with your regional representatives. The session are open to all, not just MLA members, and can be joined at anytime. NNLM staff will be available for the full hour to chat, answer questions, and get to know you and other regional partners.



Additionally, there will be other NLM related content throughout MLA and I encourage you to attend to learn more, especially the NLM exhibit booth on May 19th and 20th where there are over 50 different sessions and opportunities to meet the experts. I personally am also looking forward to the trivia night on May 26th with Dr. Brennan



Thank you very much for listening, I would now be happy to take questions. Please add them to the chat or contact me anytime for more information. Also let me know if the chat how many points you got!