ALZHEIMER’S IS THE MOST EXPENSIVE DISEASE IN AMERICA, WITH COSTS SET TO SKYROCKET IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

Nearly 1 in 5 Medicare dollars is spent on a person with Alzheimer’s.
The growing Alzheimer’s crisis is helping to bankrupt America.

In 2014 the total cost of Alzheimer’s will be $214 billion, including $150 billion to Medicare and Medicaid.

Only 0.25% of this total has been committed to Alzheimer’s research, the only path to reducing this cost.

“We are not, at the moment, limited by ideas. We are not limited by scientific opportunities. We are not limited by talent. We are, unfortunately, limited by resources to be able to move this enterprise forward at the pace that it could take.”

Dr. Francis Collins, Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), testifying on Alzheimer’s research before the U.S. Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, February 26, 2014.
Medicare and Medicaid spending for those with Alzheimer’s
compared to scale with:

NIH investment in Alzheimer’s research

Source: Alzheimer’s Association, 2014 Facts and Figures, Alzheimer’s and Dementia, Vol. 10, Issue 2;
The already high cost of Alzheimer’s will skyrocket as the baby boomers age.

Total cost of care for those with Alzheimer’s, with more than two-thirds paid by Medicare and Medicaid.

Source: Lewin Group Econometric Model of Alzheimer’s and Dementia Costs (see: alz.org/trajectory).

NIH research investments in other conditions, shown below, are paying off. This proven approach should be applied to Alzheimer’s.

NIH Estimated Research Funding for FY2014.
(in millions)

Cancer: $5,418
HIV/AIDS: $2,978
Cardiovascular: $2,015
Alzheimer’s: $566
