As you know, the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) is conducting a "Vision" process to identify "the next decade's most scientific opportunities across the Institute's most diverse research areas." The process consisted of nine workshops centered around broad scientific themes. White papers from these workshops are being posted for public comment as they become available. Currently, six papers are posted.

These white papers describe the key ideas discussed at the workshops and will inform the final NICHD Scientific Vision statement. Comments are being carefully reviewed by Institute staff and will be VERY important to informing the final product.

According to the Institute, they "appreciate all comments related to the NICHD Vision process, but are particularly interested in input regarding any perceived gaps in the white papers, i.e., any key scientific opportunities related to the Vision themes that are not in the white papers but that merit attention."

The white papers are posted at: http://www.nichd.nih.gov/vision/overview.cfm.

Please consider sending your own comments on any of these important papers.

Thank you!