

RICHARD E. NEAL  
SECOND DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

AT-LARGE WHIP



COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

CHAIRMAN,  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT  
REVENUE MEASURES

CHAIRMAN, FRIENDS OF IRELAND

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

February 29, 2008

Dear Mr. [REDACTED],

Thank you for your letter regarding *Blastocystis* infection.

Your letter may help end needless suffering due to lack of medical research into this infection. As a concerned representative of my constituents, I felt that it was necessary to get involved in convincing the NIAID to make a Funding Opportunity Announcement. This is a very important issue for individuals such as yourself, as well as our troops in the Middle East.

I sent a letter to the NIAID on your behalf, requesting that *Blastocystis* be placed on their Category B Biodefense pathogen list, as well as asking them to issue a FOA for clinically directed research on this infection.

Thank you very much for taking the time to contact my office. If I can be of help in the future, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Neal,  
Member of Congress

REN/yc

2208 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5601

1550 MAIN STREET  
FEDERAL BUILDING  
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01103  
(413) 785-0325

4 CONGRESS STREET  
POST OFFICE BUILDING  
MILFORD, MA 01757  
(508) 634-8198

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

