

# PHOENIX ZONES INITIATIVE

## Media Advisory

**January 23, 2023**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Albuquerque, NM** – Led by Dr. Hope Ferdowsian, who is a medical doctor and president of Phoenix Zones Initiative, a panel of experts in science and ethics will brief Congressional policy makers on transforming medical research and advancing science and ethics. The experts will discuss updates in medical innovation; ethical, human-relevant research tools and methods; physician and patient perspectives on the strengths and limitations of current research; and evolving public opinion—as well as challenges and opportunities in transforming medical research.

The recent adoption of the FDA Modernization Act removed a Depression-era requirement for animal testing in the preclinical phase of drug development. This policy change will drive advancements as developers are freed to use state-of-the-art human-relevant testing methods.

**Who:** Legislative staff and policy makers

Panel members include: **Hope Ferdowsian**, MD, MPH, internal medicine, preventive medicine, and public health doctor with expertise in research ethics; **Jim Corbett**, CEO and board member, Emulate, Inc.; **L. Syd M. Johnson**, PhD, philosopher, bioethicist, and neuroethicist; **Barbara J. King**, PhD, anthropologist, and author; **Paul A. Locke**, DrPH, MPH, JD, attorney, and scientist.

**What:** Briefing on transforming medical research

**When:** Monday, January 30, 2023, noon-1:30 pm

**Where:** Hart Senate Building, Room 902

**Why:** With up-to-date information regarding advancements in science and ethics, Congress can play a role in driving advancements to further modernize medical research, including through nonanimal methods.

### **About Phoenix Zones Initiative**

Phoenix Zones Initiative (PZI) uses medical and public health expertise to advance the health and wellbeing of people, animals, and the planet through education, research, and advocacy. Led by physicians and an interdisciplinary team, PZI's work draws on expertise in medicine, global public health, research, and ethics. PZI promotes social, economic, and environmental policy to uplift the most vulnerable, and provides resources to empower others to advocate for similar changes.

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