



Massachusetts Life Sciences Center Women's Health – Lack in Funding Animated Video Transcript

Audio Description

This video has no audio.

Visual Description

This video has visual representation of the information provided below. This animated video was created

Video Text Transcript Starts Here

[Timestamp 00:00 – 00:06]

Each of these circles represents a disease, with circle area representing disease burden — a measure of how much death and disability it causes.

[Timestamp 00:07 – 00:13]

Grey circles represent diseases that affect men and women roughly equally.

[Timestamp 00:14 – 00:21]

For red circles, at least 60% of people with the disease are women.

[Timestamp 00:22 – 00:29]

For blue, at least 60% of those affected are men.

[Timestamp 00:30 – 00:36]

Purple and light purple circles represent diseases in which men or women, respectively, are slightly dominant, from 55% to 60%.

[Timestamp 00:36 – 00:43]

Of the conditions that are dominant in one sex, those that create the highest burden, such as depression and headaches, tend to affect women more.

[Timestamp 00:44 – 00:48]

Here are the diseases ranked by burden.

[Timestamp 00:48 – 00:53]

Now let's look at funding data from the US National Institutes of Health (NIH), which spent US\$45 billion on biomedical research in 2022.



[Timestamp 00:53 – 00:57]

If NIH funding were determined only by the burden of disease, these bubbles would remain in the same size order.

[Timestamp 00:58 – 01:03]

Instead, when ranked by funding amount, diseases that affect mainly women drop down. They are underfunded compared with the burden.

[Timestamp 01:04 – 01:10]

Migraine, headaches, endometriosis and anxiety disorders, for example, which disproportionately affect women, all attract much less funding in proportion to the burden they exert on the US population than do other conditions.

[Timestamp 01:10 – 01:15]

HIV/AIDS and substance misuse, which disproportionately affect men, get more funding than their corresponding burden might suggest.

[Timestamp 01:16 – 01:22]

The degree of underfunding or overfunding is different for the groups of conditions, too. On average, female-dominant diseases that are underfunded are more severely so.

[Timestamp 01:23 – 01:29]

For chronic fatigue syndrome, also known as myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME/CFS), for example, the ratio of burden to funding is 0.04. For HIV/AIDS, the ratio is 15.6.

Video ends with logo on screen and source.

Source: [Visit Nature.com](http://Visit.Nature.com) or to learn more about Massachusetts Life Sciences Center, visit masslifesciences.com