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## Appendix F

# Criteria for Setting Priorities

April 7, 1993

The following are the criteria to be used in assigning research recommendations to priority categories. These are presented in no particular order:

### **Social Value**

- Will it promote health or prevent disease?
- Will it lessen disability or increase active life expectancy?
- Will it foster physical, social, or economic independence?
- Will it enhance individual or societal productivity?
- Will it improve the quality of life of older persons or their families?
- Will it reduce the economic and social costs of illness borne by older persons and their families?
- Will it reduce dependency on publicly funded programs?
- Will it benefit groups and individuals with the greatest need?
- Will it benefit large numbers of people?

### **Scientific Merit**

- Scientific relevance—is this an important area of scientific investigation?
- Scientific readiness—is science prepared to undertake this research?
- Scientific return on investment—will this research stimulate or facilitate important future research?

### **Cost-Benefits of Research**

- Is this research likely to produce a good return on investment? Will its economic and social benefits justify its cost?

### **Governmental Benefits**

- Will it help to anticipate and plan for the future of an aging society?
- Will it help to improve public policy decisions?
- Will it help to reduce expenditure, or enhance the prudent use of, public funds?