

ALLINA HEALTH RESEARCH

Raising funds to support clinical research, patient care and population health

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Pioneering genetic and immune system therapies for patients with brain tumors. Identifying innovative ways to help people with poorly-managed diabetes better control their blood sugar levels. Critically evaluating care models to ensure that a pregnant woman with life-threatening health concerns will receive the best treatment and outcome for her and her baby. Finding safe and effective ways to accelerate recovery after joint replacement surgery. Developing quicker methods for identifying people at risk of stroke. These are just a few examples of the ways in which the Allina Health Research Program transforms care, uncovers better models of health care delivery and improves the lives of patients.



At Allina Health, we believe that research is an essential component of supporting patients, families and the greater health of the region. Our clinicians and researchers pursue innovative, collaborative research to transform care and improve the health of the communities we serve. Annually, the research program conducts hundreds of active studies. Our researchers work diligently to apply research discoveries, all for the benefit of patients.

“For my family to have their dad back; healthy, unimpaired, like he was before, without anxiety for the family’s future, is a blessing that is our reality today.” – Grateful patient

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Advancing Excellence

Abbott Northwestern Hospital Foundation, with the generous support of the community, is raising funds for the Allina Health Research Program. Your gift will help create innovations in care, strengthen scientific research and the sharing of best practices, advancing excellence well into the future.

Opportunities to support the Allina Health Research Program

- **Patient care:** Clinicians place an emphasis on analyzing real time patient data to rapidly improve care and save lives. For example, clinicians at the Virginia Piper Cancer Institute are testing a less-invasive pancreatic cancer screening program for patients at high risk of the disease based on genetics and family history. The goal is to diagnose pancreatic cancer early at the pre-cancer stage or when it is confined to the pancreas so that surgery can be potentially curable. This study aims to make the screening process much easier for patients facing this daunting disease.
- **Clinical innovation:** Innovation in care delivery is vital to improving how patients experience health care. Better, more effective treatment reduces the cost of care. Recently, the Abbott Northwestern Intensivist Service, in response to the needs of its critically-ill patients, developed a standardized treatment protocol for patients with blood clots in the lungs. Findings from this study are improving critical care across Allina Health and will inform new clinical guidelines nationwide.
- **Influencing best practices:** By sharing what we learn and partnering with peer institutions, our clinicians and researchers break down barriers and set the stage for groundbreaking discoveries in medical science on a national level. For example, a research team at Piper Breast Center examined if surgical biopsy was always necessary to test lymph nodes for small breast cancer tumors. Their findings, published for a national audience, suggested that it was not always required. Now patients around the country can avoid an invasive procedure during treatment.
- **Advancing clinical trials:** Improvements to care are possible because of the people who volunteer to participate in research. Research studies, called clinical trials, test how new medications, devices and treatments work, and help us learn how to improve future care. Participants have access to these new drugs and treatments, offering hope to many.

Philanthropic support advances the mission of Allina Health to restore health, prevent illness and provide comfort. By strengthening the ability of the Allina Health Research Program to conduct research and advance professional knowledge, you ensure that this national health care leader continues to be a dynamic place of healing and innovation for all patients and their families.

To learn more about the Allina Health Research Program and how you can help, please contact the Abbott Northwestern Hospital Foundation at **612-863-4126**.