



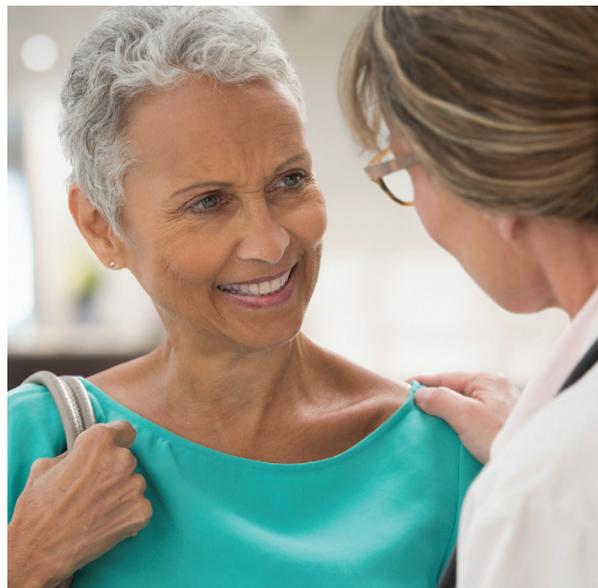
Medicine Ball, Ray of Hope

Saturday, October 12, 2019

Co-chaired by Sharon Hawkins, community chair, and Dr. Dan Buss, physician chair

Abbott Northwestern Hospital and Allina Health Research Program

Pioneering genetic and immune system therapies for patients with brain tumors. Identifying innovative ways to help people with poorly managed diabetes to better control their blood sugar levels. Critically evaluating care models to ensure that a 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 many ways in which the Abbott Northwestern and Allina Health Research Program transforms care, uncovers better models of health care delivery and improves the lives of patients.



At Abbott Northwestern and 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. The Abbott Northwestern and Allina Health Research Program is organized into clinically focused research houses. In 2018, the research program conducted more than 600 active studies. Encouraging a culture of collaboration includes reaching across disciplines. Our researchers work diligently to apply research discoveries, all for the benefit of patients.

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How your support makes a difference

Abbott Northwestern Hospital Foundation, with the generous support of the community, is raising funds for the Abbott Northwestern and Allina Health Research Program through Medicine Ball. Your gift supports leading-edge research for improved care, and it advances Abbott Northwestern's and Allina Health's vision to be the region's premier research center.

Here are examples how Abbott Northwestern and Allina Health research enhances patient care and advances treatment.

- **Patient care:** Analyzing real-time patient data helps clinicians 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 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 they 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. Patients who participate in clinical trials at Abbott Northwestern have access to these new drugs and treatments, offering hope to many.

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

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