A strong research program is essential to providing the best possible care to all our patients. When you donate to Maine Medical Center Research Institute (MMCRI), you bring more of the latest scientific discoveries to patients’ bedsides and improve the quality of care they receive. Your support of research helps us better understand disease processes, and develop better diagnostic tools and treatments.

Today, MMCRI’s world-class scientists are moving closer to solving some of our community’s most pressing medical issues, including cancer, cardiovascular disease, pediatric conditions, psychiatric disorders and osteoporosis, just to name a few. Some of this exciting work is highlighted below:

Dr. Alex Craig is developing ways to improve the treatment for neonatal encephalopathy in rural areas. Neonatal encephalopathy is a type of brain injury that can occur in newborn infants and could lead to disorders such as cerebral palsy (CP). Dr. Craig’s study is using a telemedicine consult, a three-way, real-time interactive communication via video between the rural physician, the neonatologist at MMC and Dr. Craig. For infants and their families, this means faster diagnosis and treatment thereby improving chances of a better outcome.

Dr. Peter Brooks is a cancer researcher focusing on developing potential therapeutics that help the body activate its natural immune cells to detect and destroy tumor cells. This laboratory research is critical in the development of new, targeted therapies, with the potential to improve the health outcomes of patients with ovarian cancer and those with a malignant melanoma (skin cancer), for which survival rate is still low, despite treatment.

Dr. Matthew Siegel is leading a clinical research study to help predict behavior in children with autism. Participants will wear biosensors to provide real-time warnings of impending aggression. It is hoped that these wearable wristband devices will enable clinicians and caregivers to predict challenging behaviors in children with autism and create a new opportunity to intervene and prevent problems before they occur.

Dr. Lucy Liaw is addressing the link between obesity and cardiovascular disease. The goal of this research is to understand what causes cardiovascular disease, so that it can be prevented or treated more effectively. This project includes collaborations between basic scientists and vascular surgeons to understand differences in tissues in patients with varying degrees of cardiovascular disease.

Becoming a partner in research with us.
Your gift to Maine Medical Center Research Institute can open new doors in detection and treatment of diseases.
Supporting Research

Successful medical research is a complex process requiring close collaboration across basic scientists, physicians, epidemiologists, data analysts, along with state-of-the-art instruments and a strong commitment on the part of the Institution. The research institute is divided into both laboratory-based and clinical research divisions including the Center for Molecular Medicine, Center for Clinical & Translational Research, Center for Psychiatric Research, and the Center for Outcomes Research & Evaluation.

The Continuum of Biomedical Research at MMCRI

- **Bench**: Laboratory-based study of biological processes and systems—the building blocks of biomedical research.
- **Translational**: Applying bench research findings to medical problems, and developing and testing clinical applications for those discoveries.
- **Clinical**: Bringing new clinical applications to patients—testing for effectiveness and patient safety—resulting in cutting-edge treatments available only at research hospitals.
- **Health Services**: Monitoring the outcomes of clinical applications and checking their effectiveness in the “real world.”

With your help, we can achieve even more.

- **Direct Research**: Support laboratory studies focused on cardiovascular disease, cancer, obesity, metabolism, or stem cell biology. Contribute to pilot clinical studies for feasibility of therapeutics.
- **Technology**: Support state-of-the art equipment for research. Enable training opportunities in advanced research technologies.
- **Education & Training**: Provide a research internship for a student. Support a graduate student in pursuing an advanced degree.

Research enhances the quality of care we deliver to our patients. We need the help of generous individuals like you who understand the value of research at this caliber. By raising private gifts to supplement federal and state grants, you can help our scientists and physicians continue to work together to solve our most challenging medical issues.

If you are interested in supporting research, please contact our Philanthropy Department: 22 Bramhall Street, Portland ME 04102 | 207-662-2669 | www.mmc.org/giving

Maine Medical Center Research Institute