



JOHNS HOPKINS ALS CLINICAL RESEARCH AND PATIENT CARE

Johns Hopkins has a long-standing tradition of delivering the very best neurological care possible. Our mission is to improve the health of the community and the world by setting the standard of excellence in medical education, research and clinical care. True to this mission, the close relationship between the Johns Hopkins ALS Clinics, clinical research, and laboratory research to advance ALS therapeutics has been longstanding. The earliest clinical trials in ALS date back to 1986. Since then, more than 30 clinical trials have been carried out at Johns Hopkins, initiated as single-center investigations as well as national and international multi-center trials, all in the pursuit to better understand ALS and effectively treat current and future patients.

Over the years, philanthropy has provided our faculty with the resources to further their research and improve their clinical practice. With your involvement and support, future discoveries by Johns Hopkins neurologists will be achieved through the pursuit of new ideas that push the limits of current knowledge and expand the boundaries of our ability to diagnose and treat ALS.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS ALS CLINICAL TRIALS UNIT

The ALS Clinical Trials Unit was established to expressly translate research ideas in the laboratory to our patients in the clinic. Our goal is to enroll all potential ALS patients into clinical trials that could help slow, halt, and eventually improve ALS. These therapies can take the form of traditional medications taken in pill form or by injection, but have also included gene therapy studies and the study of medical devices. Our team of investigators, nurses, and clinical research staff have over 100 years of combined experience in ALS clinical research.

The Clinical Trials Unit is currently partnering with pharmaceutical companies to undertake the investigation of therapeutics as well as facilitate investigator-initiated studies that are ready for the clinic. Part of our mission is to also partner with ALS patients to develop biomarkers of ALS disease progression that will be useful as measures of treatment effects.

Clinical trials are essential to understanding ALS and developing effective treatments for the disease. Philanthropy will play a vital role in developing the next generation of clinical trials and ensuring that every ALS patient has access to new drug therapies.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS ALS CLINICS

Due to the growing number of patients seeking care at Johns Hopkins, we have established two dedicated ALS multidisciplinary clinics – the Center for ALS Specialty Care and the ALS Clinic. These clinics stand as a testament to our commitment to providing timely and comprehensive medical care, support, and education to patients and their families. Our clinics are designed to offer a holistic approach to care,

ensuring that patients receive an all-encompassing range of services, from diagnosis to advanced stages of ALS.

Each patient benefits from the expertise of an ALS neurologist, palliative care physician, physical therapist, occupational therapist, and speech therapist. Recognizing the multifaceted nature of ALS, we have incorporated a social worker and an assistive technology specialist into our care teams to address the physical, emotional, social, and technological needs of the patients.

Integrated within the clinics are research coordinators, providing patients with opportunities to participate in clinical trials. By bridging the gap between research and patient care, we strive to advance the understanding and treatment of ALS. Support for the ALS Clinics will enable us to sustain and expand the services, continuing to offer top-tier medical care, support, and education to ALS patients and their families.

ALS CENTER FOR CELL THERAPY AND REGENERATION RESEARCH

The ALS Center for Cell Therapy and Regeneration Research at Johns Hopkins is committed to identifying the causes of the neurodegenerative disease, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), and discovering new and effective treatment options.

The Center's research focuses on the use of stem cells to model ALS in a dish. From here, investigators can research the disease, screen potential drugs for activity in preventing motor neuron death, and develop pharmaceuticals for treating ALS. This effort leans heavily on the use of human induced pluripotent stem cells reprogrammed from hundreds of ALS patients in order to understand more about the variability in the disease with regard to its onset and progression.

Gifts in support of the ALS Center for Cell Therapy and Regeneration Research enable our physician-scientists to continue their ground-breaking research into clinical services to improve the lives of our patients and people all over the world.