

A New Spin on Old Age

With your support, OHSU's world-class researchers, clinicians and technology innovators can redefine what it means to grow old.

As Oregon's only academic health center, OHSU can play an important role in helping people to remain happy, healthy and engaged later in life. Interdisciplinary collaborations among our health experts are under way that will change our understanding of how aging affects our health — and what we can do about it.

OHSU's scientists are working to unlock the secrets of age-related changes in health, such as:

- Alzheimer's disease
- Metabolic disorders/diabetes
- Heart disease/stroke
- Vision loss/macular degeneration
- Hearing loss
- Cancer
- Mobility issues/gait
- Parkinson's disease

Their work is helping to shape care and support strategies developed by clinical experts in geriatric medicine and nursing, social work and medical ethics to ensure that healthcare professionals are prepared to meet the growing demands of an aging population.

The multidisciplinary research and care initiative under way at OHSU is intended to accelerate the pace of scientific discoveries in high-impact areas and to translate them as rapidly as possible to clinics, hospitals, homes and assisted living facilities.

This collaborative effort will not only result in a better scientific understanding of the aging process, it will also address the concerns that can hinder independent living — such as wound and respiratory management, nutrition and fitness, mental health and delirium, and caregiver support.

Only OHSU has the breadth of scope and mission to deliver this new era of care to Oregonians. But we can't do it alone.

What OHSU supporters can do

This healthy aging initiative advances the notion that we can enjoy the highest possible quality of life for as many years as we live.

Your philanthropic investment will support a family of priority projects in clinical care, research and education — and make a significant impact on care and support options available to our region's seniors.



A patient story...

For 15 years, 80-year-old Rose suffered from painful arthritis that confined her to a wheelchair. Her pain medication caused her to become depressed, fatigued and confused — and she was still in pain.

At OHSU, the aging team reviewed her medications, performed a memory assessment and created a care plan with a social worker. The team also suggested physical therapy and acupuncture for Rose, to augment her basic care.

"Now that I can walk again, it's a whole different world," says Rose.

Giving opportunities

Casey Eye Translational Clinical Trials Center

Retinal degeneration is the leading cause of blindness in seniors and a barrier to independence and well being. Clinician scientists at the Casey Eye Institute are working to translate new therapies into effective treatments for blinding diseases, advances that are essential to maintaining a high quality of life as we age.

OHSU School of Medicine Interprofessional Visiting Professorship in Geriatrics

By bringing in experts and specialists from across the nation, the visiting professorship dramatically expands the scope of the learning experience at OHSU. The program recently brought in two experts on delirium prevention and management, Sharon Inouye, M.D., and Dorothy Baker, Ph.D., R.N. Drs. Inouye and Baker brought the latest best practices to over 200 medical, nursing, and pharmacy students, residents and faculty.

Balance Disorder and Fall Prevention Center

Balance disorders and falls are the number one reason seniors leave their homes to live in assisted living centers and nursing homes. OHSU researchers are committed to changing that through cutting-edge research and technology that allows clinicians to measure balance — thus preventing life-altering falls.

Oregon Center for Aging and Technology

OHSU researchers are developing innovative ways to use technology to help seniors cope with cognitive decline. Focused on “point of care” engineering, this center’s team of experts is developing technology solutions that help people live safely and independently.

The John A. Hartford Foundation Center of Geriatric Nursing Excellence

As the largest segment of the healthcare workforce, nurses are responsible for delivering the majority of frontline services to seniors. OHSU’s School of Nursing Hartford Center was created to develop the next generation of geriatric nurses — future leaders who can advance the practices, education and policies needed to meet the challenges of an aging population and evolving health care system.

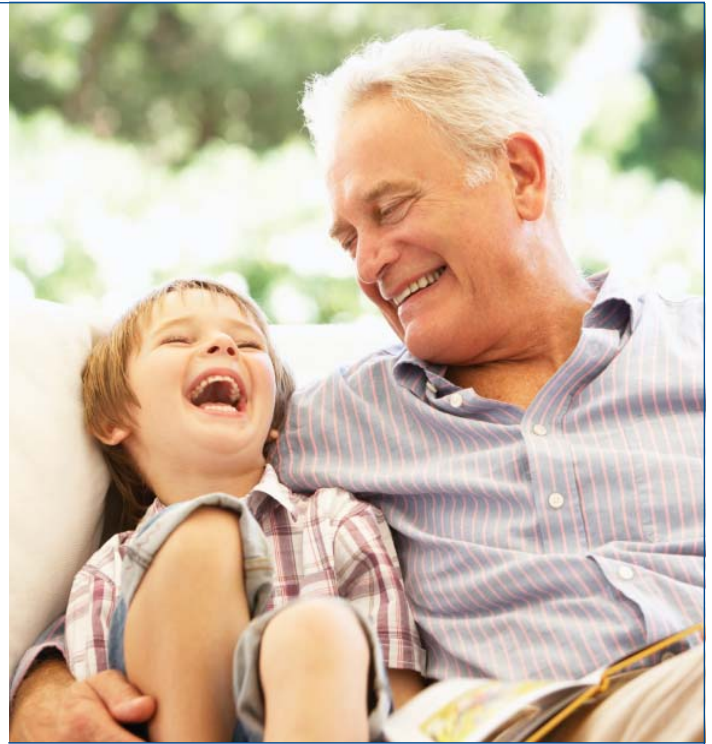
Make a Gift

For further information or assistance, contact:

Rebecca Auman
503 494-1313
auman@ohsu.edu

OHSU Foundation
MS/45 PO Box 4000
Portland, OR 97208-9852

www.ohsufoundation.org



Promoting Healthy Aging: OHSU’s Strengths

- OHSU’s neuroscience research, which includes important work in Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s disease, is consistently ranked in the top five programs for NIH research funding.
- Casey Eye Institute has developed the pioneering Translational Clinical Trials Center, which conducts gene and cell-based clinical trials for age-related macular degeneration and other degenerative eye diseases.
- The Advanced Imaging Research Center provides world-leading MRI capabilities that enable early detection of conditions such as MS, Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s diseases.
- The Physician Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment (POLST) program helps seniors take charge of end-of-life medical decisions. This unique, nationally recognized approach originated at OHSU and is now being replicated throughout the U.S.
- Care Management Plus, a program supported by The John A. Hartford Foundation, trains primary care providers across the U.S. to use innovative technology and care managers to improve quality of care for older patients with complex health issues.

