

M Northwestern Medicine[®]
Feinberg School of Medicine

Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine Division of Cardiology



Division of Cardiology

We are steadfast in our mission in the Division of Cardiology to conduct groundbreaking research, train the next generation of cardiologists, and deliver expert clinical care. Anchored by Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, and our affiliated Northwestern Memorial Healthcare System, including the Northwestern Bluhm Cardiovascular Institute, we are able to fulfill this mission. For the past decade, Northwestern has been ranked among the nation's top-tier cardiology and heart surgery programs by *US News & World Report*.



Division Faculty, Programs, Research, and Training

Faculty

Northwestern Memorial Hospital has 130 dedicated Feinberg faculty members with specialties including heart valve disease, heart failure, coronary disease, heart rhythm disorders, preventive cardiology, and general cardiology. Our faculty are national and international leaders who cover the full breadth of cardiovascular medicine, even authoring many of the American College of Cardiology and American Heart Association clinical practice guidelines. In addition, our faculty serve prestigious organizations on the forefront of cardiac discovery and care. We currently have on faculty the editor and deputy editor of *JAMA Cardiology*, and several of our faculty members previously served as president of the American Heart Association and the American Society of Echocardiography. We have a remarkable presence in the medical literature with some of our faculty among the top 1% of all cited scientific authors—worldwide.

Programs

Division faculty members are leading highly innovative programs in genetic cardiomyopathies, infiltrative diseases, hypertrophic cardiomyopathies, transcatheter valve therapies, and venous thrombotic diseases. We have performed five first-in-human studies to treat valve disease without open heart surgery. We are proud to hold national clinical leadership roles in key areas:

- Transcatheter aortic valve replacement
- Transcatheter tricuspid valve repair
- Mitral valve repair
- Heart transplant
- Atrial fibrillation
- Acute heart failure



Akhil Narang, MD, and lead cardiac sonographer Carrie Christoff discuss an echocardiogram.



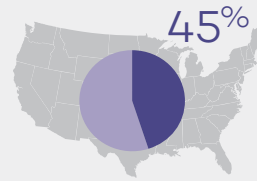
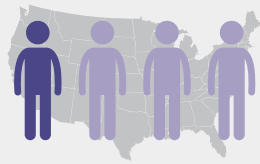
“Our division tirelessly pursues a trajectory of excellence. On an annual basis, we rank among the top 10 cardiology and heart surgery programs in the nation. Scholarship, leadership, and excellence with humanity mirror our DNA.”

Clyde W. Yancy, MD, MSc
Chief of Cardiology in the Department of Medicine and Magerstadt Professor,
Professor of Medicine (Cardiology) and Medical Social Sciences,
Vice Dean for Diversity and Inclusion

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women—in the US and worldwide.

About **1 in 4 deaths** in the US and **1 in 3 deaths** worldwide are caused by heart disease.^{1,2}

By 2035, **45% of the US population** will have some form of cardiovascular disease, costing society **\$1.1 trillion**.³



Strong Research at the Heart of Our Academic Division

We have built a robust research portfolio to advance clinical care for the benefit of patients everywhere.

Our investigators are exploring clinical and translational science and are leading multi-institutional national and international clinical trials in the areas of heart failure, valvular heart disease, and atrial fibrillation.

A cutting-edge component of these studies includes the utilization of big data analytics to better identify novel disease phenotypes that may lead to better therapies. In addition, we have a well-established cardiovascular genetics program with expertise in the assessment of all forms of cardiomyopathies and the cardiovascular consequences of muscular dystrophy.

Current projects:

- Exploring biological models that determine the cellular mechanisms of atrial fibrillation and potential gene therapy targets;
- Studying the complex interplay of iron metabolism and cardiac homeostasis; and
- Investigating small molecule development that may reduce the burden of chronic diseases driven by age-related changes.

Training Current and Future Cardiovascular Medicine Leaders

In the division, we embrace our mission and responsibility to educate current and future leaders of cardiovascular medicine. Annually our Cardiovascular Fellowship programs train more than 38 fellows in general cardiology along with subspecialty training in electrophysiology, heart failure, cardiac imaging, and interventional cardiology.

Due to the success of our programs, we have earned two prestigious National Institutes of Health training grants in prevention and molecular cardiology. We have additional postgraduate degree programs in clinical investigation, bioinformatics, public health, and augmented intelligence.



Jane E. Wilcox, MD, MSc, (right), associate professor, and Quentin R. Youmans, MD, MSc (second from right), assistant professor, at Northwestern Memorial Hospital.





Philanthropy Makes a Difference

At Northwestern, we recognize that the positive contributions we are making in the field of cardiovascular medicine are made possible by donors who entrust us with their philanthropic support. We invite you to join our efforts. Together we will prevent heart disease and improve the lives of people living worldwide with diseases and disorders of the heart.

Cardiovascular Fundraising Priorities

Northwestern thrives on philanthropy to propel research that will translate into better patient care. Two types of opportunities exist: endowment and outright support. Endowment gifts help us improve our cardiovascular research infrastructure, and immediate-use gifts support novel projects. Gifts may be pledged over multiple years.

Endowed Professorship in Cardiology

\$3 million

Endowed professorships represent the highest accolade a university can bestow upon its faculty. These prestigious academic positions are important because they allow our physician–scientists to conduct novel research that may be more speculative in nature but offers the greatest potential for yielding breakthrough discoveries. An endowed professorship in cardiovascular disease would support the division in its efforts to attract and retain outstanding physicians.

Endowed Fellowship in Cardiology

\$2 million

Applicants to fellowships are young physicians who seek intensive specialized training. These trainees represent our future leaders and innovators. Having an annual stream of endowment would ensure that the division is able to continue its training and mentorship of these rising physicians. A commitment of \$2 million would allow the Division of Cardiology to create a named and endowed cardiovascular disease fellowship that would be reserved for training in highly specialized areas of cardiovascular medicine.

Endowed Research Fund in Cardiology

\$500,000+

This endowment would support cutting-edge research to better understand the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease. It also would enable the division to plan for ongoing research needs in a more systematic and strategic way. There is a continued need to complement grants with institutional and philanthropic support for ideas that lead research in new directions not yet accepted by agencies such as the National Institutes of Health. In addition, this fund could support the research of fellows, graduate students, and others who play a key role in the scientific discovery process, but who may not yet have attracted their own external funding.

Expendable Seed Funding for Cardiovascular Disease Research

\$50,000+ per project

Immediate-use gifts are critical to support cardiovascular research projects in the initial stages of development that have the potential to yield new knowledge. Seed funding also may be used as “bridge funds” for projects that have started but require continued financial assistance. Examples of projects include:

- Using artificial intelligence to probe electronic health records for heart failure specific data; and
- Creating a user-friendly data repository for student and early-career physician research.

For more information about supporting the Division of Cardiology, please contact:

Kathleen Praznowski

Director, Major Gifts

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For more information about the Division of Cardiology, visit www.medicine.northwestern.edu/cardiology

¹ www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/facts.htm

² [www.who.int/en/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/cardiovascular-diseases-\(cvds\)](http://www.who.int/en/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/cardiovascular-diseases-(cvds))

³ American Heart Association. “Cardiovascular disease: a costly burden for America. Projections Through 2035”