

THE COLLABORATIVE CENTER FOR HEALTHY AGING RESEARCH AND TRAINING

At UW Medicine

THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF AGING — and the study of aging well — has advanced by leaps and bounds since the turn of the century. Older adults are living longer, which places an increased demand on the healthcare system. More than ever before, there is an urgent need to build and enhance geriatric research and to train the next generation of healthcare providers in caring for older adults.

With our strengths in geriatric medicine and research, including preservation of physical functioning and memory and brain wellness, UW Medicine is well-positioned to create the proposed **Collaborative Center for Healthy Aging Research and Training (CCHART)**. Drawing on resources and expertise across departments and institutions at UW Medicine and the University of Washington, this innovative virtual center will accelerate research focused on healthy aging. It will also help create a diverse, highly skilled team of primary-care physicians, nurses and specialists, such as orthopedic and trauma surgeons, here and worldwide. We invite you to partner with us in this important work.

A Few of Our Collaborating Centers

- Northwest Geriatric Education Center, UW Medicine
- Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, UW Medicine
- De Tournay Center for Healthy Aging, UW School of Nursing
- Plein Center for Geriatric Pharmacy Research, Education and Outreach, UW School of Pharmacy

Recruiting New Talent

CCHART's success will depend, in part, on the recruitment of new talent, including the center's future medical director, its fellows and a program coordinator. These are the experts who will conduct leading-edge research and administer training programs. They will also train the next generation of healthcare providers in areas critical to the care of older adults, such as fall prevention, heart disease and the management of patients with multiple conditions.

Our Pilot Research and Community Outreach Program

UW Medicine's researchers are making advances across the full spectrum of aging research and geriatric medicine, and investment in CCHART will give us the seed funds to expand promising pilot research projects. Pilot projects allow our researchers more opportunities to procure proof-of-principle data that can help us leverage subsequent federal or foundation grants from institutions like the National Institutes of Health. An example of the exciting research already under way is the Fall Prevention Clinic at Harborview Medical Center, a national authority on preventing falls. Elizabeth Phelan, M.D., M.S., the founding director of the center, conducts research on health promotion and the prevention of functional decline.

Exploring community outreach opportunities for CCHART will also be an important aspect of our work. Already, Lee Burnside, M.D., has partnered with the Frye Art Museum to research the impact of experiential arts on people with dementia and their care partners. The creation of this center would support additional collaborations.

Strength in Coordination

Gerontology is interdisciplinary; geriatricians must be able to provide expert care for patients who often face one or more serious, chronic conditions, such as heart disease, diabetes, arthritis and dementia.

With philanthropic support, CCHART will build on the history of strong collaboration across disciplines that already exists among the University’s schools of medicine, nursing and social work. By hiring a program coordinator, we’ll be able to host web-based forums for collaboration and sharing throughout the University of Washington community. In addition, we will create a highly interactive web community where researchers, faculty, students and patients can interact and share information that will also be available to regional providers.

Opportunities to Invest

We invite you to partner with CCHART at UW Medicine to strengthen geriatric care throughout the region. Below are a few ways you can invest in our work.

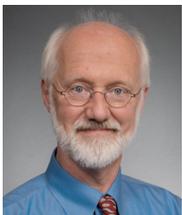
Program Resource	Purpose	Investment
Recruiting New Talent: The Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine Endowed Chair*	Supports a substantial portion of the annual salary of the center’s medical director.	\$2 million
Recruiting New Talent: The Gerontology and Geriatric Medicine Fellow	Recruit a fellow to conduct proof-of-principle research that is essential to progress in geriatric medicine.	\$80,000 supports a fellow for one year.
Our Pilot Research and Community Outreach Program	Research and small pilot grants for senior fellows and community outreach support.	\$50,000 per year
Strength in Coordination: Program Coordinator	Responsible for increasing communication among CCHART and other centers, creating and managing the website, and arranging symposia and meetings with partners.	\$60,000 supports a program coordinator for one year.

*Endowments provide a permanent and reliable source of funding for UW Medicine. Endowed chairs and professorships also provide prestige to their holder, and they serve as a valuable recruitment and retention tool.

Join Us

UW Medicine wants to provide the best care possible to older adults, and we encourage you to join us. To learn more about the proposed Collaborative Center for Healthy Aging Research and Training (CCHART), please contact Elizabeth Perera, director for philanthropy, at 206.221.2915 or eperera@uw.edu. Thank you for your interest in our work.

Key Faculty



Wayne C. McCormick, M.D., MPH

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William E. Colson Endowed Chair in Gerontology*

Dr. Wayne McCormick is a graduate of Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, and of the UW School of Public Health in Seattle. He is a former Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar and is board-certified in medicine, preventive medicine and public health, palliative medicine and geriatrics.