

## ATRIAL FIBRILLATION PROGRAM

# PHILANTHROPIC PRIORITIES

The goal of the Atrial Fibrillation Program at Northwestern Medicine is to dramatically improve the diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis of the 6 million Americans living with atrial fibrillation.

With gifts of endowment, which will provide resources in perpetuity, we seek to name the Atrial Fibrillation Program, establish a Director's Fund, create professorships and fellowships, and support innovative research. We also welcome expendable support for research. These resources are a substantial investment, but they are essential tools in our quest to gain new insights and improve patient outcomes.



### **Naming of the Atrial Fibrillation Program**

**\$5 million**

A generous commitment of \$5 million in endowed funds would name the **Atrial Fibrillation Program** in the Division of Cardiology. This fund, created in perpetuity, would provide support to advance the research, educational and clinical activities, and operations of this leading-edge program and sustain its growth over time.

### **Director's Fund**

**\$3 million**

In creating a named and endowed **Director's Fund** for the Atrial Fibrillation Program, we are endeavoring to equip our director, Dr. Rod Passman, and his successors with resources that can be used to address the highest priorities of this program. The Director's Fund would be used to help build and evolve the program as a top-tier destination for clinical care, research, and academic training. We are actively seeking outright, annual support for the Director's Fund as we work in earnest to fully endow this critical fund.

### **Endowed Atrial Fibrillation Professorship**

**\$3 million**

Endowed professorships represent the highest accolade a university can bestow upon its faculty. They are important tools, as they greatly assist our efforts to recruit and retain preeminent faculty. Endowed professorships enable our most talented physician-scientists to initiate novel research and pioneer projects that may be more speculative in nature, but offer the greatest potential for yielding new breakthrough insights. Over the generations, an endowed **Atrial Fibrillation Professorship** would forever ensure that research and training in atrial fibrillation and its related conditions are advanced by the appointed holders of this position—superb clinicians, investigators, mentors, and teachers. Income produced from the **Atrial Fibrillation Professorship** would be used to offset salary and provide protected time that can be devoted exclusively to mentoring, specialized care, research, and training.

**Endowed Atrial Fibrillation Fellowship**

**\$2 million**

At Northwestern Medicine, our leaders of atrial fibrillation research studies are also deeply committed to mentoring and training fellows. Our faculty members take great pride and satisfaction in helping young colleagues to develop and hone their talents and skills. Establishing a permanent **Atrial Fibrillation Endowed Fellowship** would provide dedicated resources for our exceptional trainees who are completing fellowship programs in Cardiology at Northwestern Medicine. Fellows represent the next generation of experts in atrial fibrillation. The expense to train such talent is an important investment to prepare these future innovators and medical leaders. Based on their performance and research excellence, fellows would be awarded this prestigious funding to supplement part or all of their annual expenses. Holding the **Atrial Fibrillation Fellowship** would be a tremendous honor for the selected fellow and would represent an important career accomplishment. This academic recognition would benefit the fellow as she or he pursues additional research funding and career opportunities in the future.

**Endowed Innovation Research Fund**

**\$500,000**

“Idea” or seed grants created through donor generosity would provide awards to investigators across the Atrial Fibrillation Program, enabling them to ask novel research questions and explore new ideas. These competitive awards would help to raise the bar for scientific discovery by rewarding ingenuity. Each grant from the endowed **Atrial Fibrillation Innovation Research Fund** would provide crucial funds to support promising research in the area of Atrial Fibrillation and would further collaboration among scientists and/or clinicians. 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 Atrial Fibrillation Research**

**\$25,000+  
per project**

We are seeking outright research funding for atrial fibrillation-related pilot projects and/or for projects that have started, but require continued financial assistance in the form of bridge funds. This philanthropic support would enable our most respected faculty to continue collecting research data and the results necessary to bring their studies to the next level of progress.

To learn more about our programs, please visit:

<http://www.medicine.northwestern.edu/divisions/cardiology/research/cardiovascular-innovation.html>

**To support the Atrial Fibrillation Program, please speak with your physician or contact:**

**Kathleen Praznowski**

Senior Associate Director  
Development & Alumni Relations  
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine  
Phone: 312-503-0762  
Email: [kathleen.praznowski@northwestern.edu](mailto:kathleen.praznowski@northwestern.edu)

