INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICINE AT NORTHWESTERN MEDICINE
BUHEHLER CENTER ON AGING, HEALTH & SOCIETY
The Buehler Center on Aging, Health & Society was established in 1982 at Northwestern in response to an increasing need for expertise on aging. The Center was renamed in honor of the Buehler family in 1990 to recognize the family’s deep philanthropic commitment to the Center and to the field of aging.

The mission of the Buehler Center is to improve the quality of life and quality of care for older adults, the terminally ill, and other vulnerable populations through education and research. Although there are approximately 100 centers on aging in the United States, the Buehler Center is one of only a few affiliated with a medical school. The Buehler Center’s activities and continued success are supported, in great part, by the generosity of dedicated individuals, foundations, corporations, and other groups.

At the Buehler Center, we are pursuing our mission each day by:

- Providing high-impact, high-dissemination education and training for key areas of recent progress in medicine; and
- Addressing the whole person context in which illness and well-being occur.

Our Center focuses on three key areas—Implementation Medicine, Health Policy, and Healthy Aging.

Implementation Medicine

Implementation Medicine involves the implementation of best practices to patient care at the individual, community, and global levels. Through our highly successful Education in Palliative and End-of-life Care (EPEC®) Program, we are achieving high-impact dissemination of information. EPEC® provides palliative care education to

“At the Buehler Center, we see the possibility that the later stages of life can be the richest of all in quality and relationship. Our vision is that all older people and all those with advanced illness can capture that well-being and share it. Integrating many areas of expertise and focusing on the whole person in context, we use transformational interventions to bring safe care and quality of life possibilities to our people, whether in their home, a long-term care facility, or the intensive care unit.”

Linda Emanuel, MD, PhD, Director and Buehler Professor of Geriatric Medicine
more than 1 million health professionals worldwide via conferences and online learning. Our Patient Safety Education Program™ (PSEP) provides curriculum-driven, high-impact education and training intervention to interdisciplinary teams of healthcare providers. The goal of this education and training is to reduce hospital errors, as well as accidents in the home.

The experience of family caregivers is an important area of focus and research. Family caregiving has been a priority for the Buehler Center, and it is clear from research that although family caregivers are essential for the care of patients, they also sustain a considerable burden and are both financially and medically at risk themselves. A recent collaboration with the city of Chicago and the World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities program involves a needs assessment of support for the elderly in Chicago.

Healthy Aging and Aging Health
Healthy Aging and Aging Health are timely. People are living longer than ever before. Many seniors live active and healthy lives, but there is no getting around the eventual toll of aging on our bodies and minds. Eating a healthy diet, staying active, not smoking, drinking in moderation, practicing safety habits, and getting regular healthcare all contribute to healthy aging. Underlying all of it is a positive, engaged attitude that anyone can adopt. Our program is designed to better understand and promote healthy aging, including prevention, screening, nutrition, health checks, psychology, research, and specific medical conditions.

Can we prevent aging? What are the best ways to access care and maximize prevention? How will we bend the healthcare cost curve downward? These are some of the questions to be answered by our Buehler Center faculty and their collaborators.

At the Buehler Center on Aging, Health & Society, we recognize that every positive contribution we have made to the field of aging has been made possible by donors who have entrusted us with their philanthropic support. We invite our loyal donors and interested friends to join us in advancing the breakthrough research and education of the Center and ensuring our success through gifts of outright support and endowment.

Health Policy
Health Policy includes decisions, plans, and actions to achieve specific healthcare goals within a society. Evidenced-based studies dictate policy and improve quality of life. A new A.C. Buehler Professorship in Health Policy has been funded, and a search is underway for its first holder. This part of the Buehler Center will focus broadly on the economics of healthcare, including evidence-based decision making, the importance of randomized controlled clinical trials, and philosophy and ethics of healthcare. Issues of social justice, global security, economic development, medical research, and medical workforce policy are all within the realm of this program.
THROUGH NORTHWESTERN MEDICINE, WE INTEND TO CREATE A NATIONAL EPICENTER FOR HEALTHCARE, EDUCATION, RESEARCH, COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND ADVOCACY.

Northwestern Medicine
Northwestern Memorial Hospital and Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine are seeking to impact the health of humankind through Northwestern Medicine. We aspire to be the destination of choice for people seeking quality healthcare; for those who provide, support and advance care through leading-edge treatments and breakthrough discoveries; and for people who share our passion for educating future physicians and scientists. Our commitment to transform healthcare and to be among the nation’s top academic medical centers will be accomplished through innovation and excellence.

Our world-class Buehler Center on Aging, Health & Society is an integral part of our new Institute for Public Health and Medicine. The Institute is guided by a mission to improve the health of our communities, our city, and the world by developing and supporting research that combines best ideas across disciplines and spans the traditional boundaries of public health and medicine. Specifically, the Institute for Public Health and Medicine addresses healthcare and patient-centered outcomes, epidemiology and prevention of disease, global health, aging, healthcare engineering, health behavior, and community health. The Institute transcends traditional boundaries among academic disciplines, medical centers, public health programs, and community partners as it aspires to become recognized internationally for innovative discoveries, dissemination of findings, and training of scholars.