BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH BUILDING AT NORTHWESTERN MEDICINE
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At Northwestern Medicine, we are conducting lifesaving research, ensuring the health of Chicago residents, creating jobs, and fueling the Chicago economy. To propel these important missions, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine needs additional laboratory space for biomedical research. We are constructing a magnificent 12-story Biomedical Research Building to address this priority. The new 600,000 square foot building will be adjacent to and connected on a floor-by-floor basis with the Robert H. Lurie Medical Research Center. The space will have an eventual build-out capacity of approximately 1.2 million square feet. Construction will take place over two to three phases with the building ultimately standing more than 25 stories as the world’s tallest medical research building.

Discovering Tomorrow’s Cures Today

The new Biomedical Research Building will help us attract the world’s best medical researchers and go a long way in helping a world class city find tomorrow’s cures. The facility will provide critical space for investigators working in the areas of cancer, heart disease, neurodegenerative disorders, diabetes, and other areas of study where we need more knowledge and answers. In recruiting top scientists, we will attract $150 million a year in new biomedical research funding, create 2,000 new full-time jobs, and generate an additional $3.9 billion in economic activity in Chicago over 10 years.

This facility, located in the heart of Northwestern Medicine’s academic medical center, will enable new centers of research excellence, create venture space, and generate new start-up companies and scientific discoveries that will save lives and improve health. It will be a draw for high quality research faculty, PhD students, and postdoctoral fellows, and will provide new research opportunities for medical students, residents, and clinical fellows.

World Class Architecture for World Class Research

After an extensive international search and competition, Northwestern has selected the Chicago architectural firm of Perkins+Will to design the new Biomedical Research Building. The Perkins+Will design features a curved glass exterior with flexible floor plans for laboratories. The tower profile references and updates the soaring traditional Gothic buildings on our campus, presenting a striking profile on the Chicago skyline and leading the way for future campus development.

The design concept aligns with a vision of the Biomedical Research Building as a strong connector at the core of a great academic medical center district and research campus comprising Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern Memorial Hospital, the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago, and the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago.

“Our new Biomedical Research Building is the centerpiece of our efforts to double our research enterprise and rise in the competitive pantheon of research-intensive medical schools. Perkins+Will has designed a building that will be superbly functional and have great internal spaces to encourage collaboration among our scientists. This new modern facility will be transformative for our research mission and will attract and retain the best faculty in the country. Over the next decade, Northwestern University and Northwestern Medicine will invest more than one billion dollars toward research, education, and clinical care. But this is just the beginning. We hope you will join us in completing this important vision for the future.”

Eric G. Neilson, MD, Vice President for Medical Affairs and Lewis Landsberg Dean, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine
The sculptural design reinforces Chicago’s progressive modern-architecture heritage and advances sustainable practices with green technology and design features that support environmental and personal health.

The building will house 9 laboratory floors and will be designed to accommodate at least an additional 15 floors of vertical expansion in the future. Each laboratory floor of more than 40,000 square feet will help accelerate our pace of discovery and heighten the collaborative nature of cutting-edge research at Northwestern.

On each floor, we will create large and flexible laboratory blocks, known as neighborhoods. Each neighborhood will house between 6 to 9 research teams. Offices for principal investigators and their teams and formal and informal meeting spaces will be within each neighborhood, adjacent to the laboratories. To further propel collaboration, there will be a series of two-story collaboration spaces in the heart of the building, shared by all laboratory neighborhoods. Conference, informal seating groups, and other facilities will be located to encourage interactions and an exchange of ideas among researchers.

“The generator from day one was the lab plan for the building,” said Ralph Johnson, design director of Perkins+Will. “It wasn’t creating a sculpture and fitting in the plan. It’s all about the research and the labs, and that’s the generator of the idea. When you do that, the shape of the building starts to happen.”

- **A Research Anchor:** The Biomedical Research Building will anchor Northwestern University’s research facilities and be the hub of a world class research and development enterprise that attracts innovation and entrepreneurship.

- **Pediatric Studies:** The building will provide space for the pediatric research arm of the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children’s Hospital of Chicago. Much of this basic research will study the underpinnings of diseases in children and their families that carry into and affect their adult lives, such as sickle cell anemia, early metabolism of obesity, asthma, cystic fibrosis, and cardiovascular disease, among others.

- **Smart Green Design:** The building will be designed to achieve a minimum Silver Rating from the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program of the U.S. Green Building Council.
THROUGH NORTHWESTERN MEDICINE, WE ARE CREATING A NATIONAL EPICENTER FOR HEALTHCARE, EDUCATION, RESEARCH, COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND ADVOCACY.

NORTHWESTERN MEDICINE

Northwestern Memorial HealthCare 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.