



Why Research?

"Research is tremendously important to society as a whole. It's research that's responsible for advances in technology like computers and cell phones, as well as our knowledge of what keeps us healthy... Research allows us to live the highest quality of life possible. At Kessler Foundation, research is designed to improve the daily function and health of individuals with disabilities."

John DeLuca, PhD
Vice President, Research and Training

Interested in participating in research?

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Research and You

"Research allows us to live the highest quality of life possible."



What is research?

Research enables us to improve our knowledge or to answer a specific question about a certain topic. At Kessler Foundation, our research focuses on improving the lives of people with disabilities caused by stroke, multiple sclerosis, brain injury, spinal cord injury and other chronic conditions.

Researchers who look for better ways to rehabilitate people with these conditions are called rehabilitation researchers. These researchers, from many different science backgrounds, work together to improve quality of life for people with disabilities.

About research at Kessler Foundation

Participating in research studies helps us find new ways to restore function for people disabled by injury or disease. For some, that means regaining their ability to think, learn and remember; for others, that means improving their mobility through new therapy or technology.

Our research also focuses on better ways to get people back into the community and the workplace. Some studies look at ways to improve long-term outcomes through greater employment opportunities, better health care, and easier access to treatment. At Kessler Foundation, people volunteer for the type of study that pertains to them.

Who pays for research?

Kessler Foundation receives funds from state and federal government agencies and organizations that want to find better ways to help people recover from disabling injuries and diseases. Participating in research does not cost you anything. In fact, participants usually receive a small amount of money for their time and effort.

What to expect?

Some studies test ways to help people regain their abilities to think, learn and remember. These are called cognitive research studies. A person might take tests using paper and pencil or a special computer program, or use a handheld device like a smart phone.

Some studies look at ways to help people with difficulties standing and walking. These are called mobility research studies. A person in this type of study might train on a treadmill, test the best way to use a wheelchair, or test a medication or device that may improve mobility.

Other studies look at ways to help people with disabilities participate fully in their homes, workplaces, and communities. These are called outcomes studies. A person in this type of study might fill out surveys or questionnaires.

Neuroimaging helps us understand how to restore brain function. For some studies, a person may have brain imaging done at the Neuroimaging Center at Kessler Foundation.

Interested in participating in research?

Think you may qualify for a study? Our research team will explain everything and answer any questions you have.

Visit [KesslerFoundation.org/ResearchAndYou](https://www.KesslerFoundation.org/ResearchAndYou) to learn more about our current studies.

We also need people without disabilities to join our studies to compare the results. So, you can get involved even if you don't have a disability.

Why participate in research?

- You may benefit from joining a study. For example, some people learn new memory techniques or gain mobility.
- You are compensated for your participation.
- You may be one of the first people in the world to try new therapies or technology.
- You contribute to improving the lives of people with disabilities and their loved ones.
- Discoveries you help us make today will help people in the future.

Why join a study?

- Kessler Foundation is widely recognized for its excellence in research. Our scientists work with experts here and abroad to find ways to help people with disabilities.
- Our research articles appear in medical journals read by researchers and clinicians around the world.
- Kessler Foundation uses the latest neuroimaging, robotic and computer technology to advance its research.

