Is it possible to live a life free from disease as we age? How do we slow age-related disease progression, or prevent disease altogether? And how, in the face of illness and disability in later life, do we deliver the very best care? Scientists and clinicians at the University of Rochester Medical Center are providing international leadership to answer these questions.

We have much to learn about aging, the greatest risk factor for developing almost every illness from heart disease to Alzheimer’s disease to cancer. Scientists know that if aging can be delayed, even just a bit, disease can be postponed or prevented, extending the span of healthy life. Our scientists are doing some of today’s most innovative and collaborative work in this regard. We are examining the underlying mechanisms—genetic and molecular switches—that control aging and disease. We are also determining how changes in your aging metabolism affect the way a disease should be treated and, ultimately, could be prevented. And we are looking at certain long-lived animal species—like the naked mole rat—to see what nature has given them to live long, cancer-free lives.

Even as we search for keys to healthy aging, our clinical scientists are also hard at work to create ever higher standards of care of our older patients. As the aging population is the fastest growing segment of people in Rochester and across the nation—and they consume the largest portion of health care—we can develop leading approaches to all aging care that will yield the best health outcomes and quality, while also being cost-effective. Our strengths in data science can be leveraged as well to examine the genetic, psychosocial, and environmental factors that influence our oldest patients’ longevity and apply that knowledge to the development of new treatments. Finally, we must understand how to train all healthcare professionals to provide tailored treatments and care for more people, in better ways, to help our aging patients live vital and rewarding lives.

With your support, we can reveal the secrets of aging, slow or prevent the age-related onset of disease, and deliver the care you need to keep you healthy at every age.
Older people are the fastest growing segment of our population. You can help us better understand how and why we age, keep us healthy and reduce our risk of disease and disability, and re-define the health services that are provided to us as we age. Join us today to have an impact in Rochester, across the nation, and around the world.

**Your Gift Will Help Us Lead the Nation in Aging Research and Care**

*ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS IN AGING CARE AND RESEARCH—$1,000,000 to $2,000,000 OR MORE*

Professorships ($1,500,000 or more) are among the most coveted and defining rewards that a faculty member can receive, recognizing and fostering excellence. They also serve as a powerful recruitment tool, drawing new faculty and researchers of established distinction in aging research and care from around the world. Visiting professors ($1,000,000 or more) conduct aging research, teach or lecture for a defined period of time, providing a continual source of new ideas that is vital to the intellectual life of the Medical Center.

*ENDOWED FELLOWSHIPS—$750,000 OR MORE*

Fellowships can inspire early-career scientists who have the imagination and drive to reach their highest potential or physicians who are honing their clinical skills and wish to focus their careers on caring for aging patients.

*ENDOWED RESEARCH FUND—$750,000 to $1,000,000*

Supports mid-career scientists who have not yet attained the rank of full professor, but whose work has distinguished them from their peers.

*TEAM SCIENCE FUNDS—$500,000 to $1,000,000 (multi-year)*

Most scientific discoveries are not made by one lone scientist. Generally, they are the result of years of intensive work by teams of researchers that include graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and laboratory technicians. You can support the contributions of our entrepreneurial, innovative research teams who have a legacy of working collaboratively across disciplines and with scientists from other institutions. You can also support the technology that speeds the path to new therapies and cures, yet adds heavily to research costs.

*PILOT PROJECTS/SEED FUNDS—$50,000 to $100,000 (annually)*

Gifts for seed funding are “risk capital.” They allow scientists to shift the direction of their research to follow promising leads or new ideas, propelling scientific discoveries in new ways. You can help give researchers the time they need to push the boundaries of science and allow innovative ideas to reach their full potential.

*POSTDOCTORAL AND STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS—$25,000 to $75,000 (a one-year fellowship)*

Funds support an aspiring scientist while providing research training and mentorship in the laboratory setting.

*RISING STAR FUNDS—$250,000 to $500,000 (multi-year)*

Support at this level can help the best and brightest, early-career researchers fund promising science that may be too cutting-edge to attract external funding from traditional avenues of support like the National Institutes of Health (NIH); work that is vital to scientific discoveries and advances.

*PATIENT- AND FAMILY-CENTERED CARE FUNDS—$25,000 to $75,000*

The demands of day-to-day care and changing family roles can put stress on families and loved ones when caring for an aging family member. Your gift can help fund important needs such as support groups and educational programs for patients and families, or transportation/basic needs for the most vulnerable of our elderly patients to ensure they continue their care.

For more information about how your gift can make an impact, please contact Marc Misiurewicz at: (585)276-3595 • marc.misiurewicz@rochester.edu