

John and Carol Walter Center for Urological Health  
at NorthShore University HealthSystem

## A Patient-Centered Environment Dedicated to Advanced Urological Care

*Your Invitation to Support Healthcare Innovation*



## A Vision for Integrated Care

*To cure the patient, not just the disease; to restore the person, not just the patient; to preserve dignity and quality of life for patients and families; to join knowledge with understanding, expertise with empathy and recovery with compassion.*

**Statement of Philosophy, John and Carol Walter Center for Urological Health**

## Your Invitation to Support Healthcare Innovation

A recent charitable gift totaling \$5 million from John and Carol Walter inaugurates within NorthShore University HealthSystem (NorthShore) a wonderful journey to unique achievements in urological care. The John and Carol Walter Center for Urological Health is a 6,000-square-foot state-of-the-art facility, offering patients and their families the very best care experience, provided by world-class clinicians supported with leading-edge researchers.

We invite you to join us on this journey of medical innovation and improved health as the Walters and NorthShore Foundation partner to raise additional funds to build on and extend the impact of this leadership gift. We invite you to join the Walters in being recognized for your own commitment to lasting medical excellence.

**The Need:** There existed a tremendous unmet need to provide patients truly integrated urological care – from the routine to the highly advanced – in a setting where patients are true partners in the care process. The John and Carol Walter Center for Urological Health is founded on the philosophy that patients thrive where they have access to team-based care and when they can understand their treatment options and chart their outcomes. Competing medical specialties can often confuse patients and their families. To address this, the Walter Center provides a patient-focused environment with a “one stop” personalized approach and specialized care in a highly supportive team setting.

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Michael McGuire, MD, (left) and Charles Brendler, MD, (right)  
Co-Medical Directors of the John and Carol Walter Center  
for Urological Health, with Carol and John Walter.

## Why NorthShore University HealthSystem?

It is NorthShore's combination of the focus on individual patient well-being with scientific innovation which convinced John and Carol Walter to make their transformational gift to establish a dedicated Center for Urological Health. Ranked among the most advanced, top-quality healthcare systems in the nation, NorthShore has brought together world-class clinicians and outstanding scientists who are focused on patient-centered research. For the past 15 years, NorthShore has been consistently recognized by the Thomson Reuters industry group as among the **Top 100 Hospitals™** nationally. It leads the nation's hospitals by having established an advanced **Electronic Medical Record (EMR)** system that eliminates paperwork errors and provides instant access to patients' medical histories wherever they are being treated within the NorthShore system. **NorthShore Research Institute**, a center for translational research dedicated to enhancing the quality of patient care, has been ranked among the top 12 hospital-affiliated research centers for funding from the National Institutes of Health. NorthShore is also the only multi-site healthcare system in Illinois to be granted **Magnet status** for its exemplary nursing program. Most recently, in a survey of 5,000 hospitals nationwide, NorthShore was recognized by **U.S. News and World Report** as being among the top 140 hospitals in the nation across 11 specialties. Its urology program was included in this specialty grouping as among the best in the nation.

## Medical and Scientific Leadership

Inspired clinical leadership, outstanding research collaboration, and patient-centered treatment goals are what make the Walter Center a living promise to patients and their families. The following two founding physicians serve as the Walter Center's Co-Medical Directors.

**Charles B. Brendler, MD**, brings to NorthShore a wealth of expertise and knowledge in prostate cancer. He served for 13 years as Professor and Chief of Urology at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine and previously another 13 years at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He has performed more than 2,000 prostate cancer operations.

**Michael McGuire, MD**, completed his urologic residency at Northwestern University in 1996 and then did a two-year fellowship in urologic cancer at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. Dr. McGuire is an experienced urologic cancer surgeon with great expertise in both traditional open and robotic prostate cancer surgery.

**A Unique Integration of Skills and Services:** Evolving from NorthShore's original Center for Prostatic Health into today's fully integrated program of urological care, the John and Carol Walter Center for Urological Health supports the entire discipline of urology for both men and women – from education to advanced research – in a patient-friendly environment designed to be informative, reassuring and supportive.



*The John and Carol Walter Center for Urological Health supports the entire discipline of urology for both men and women – from education to advanced research – in a patient-friendly environment designed to be informative, reassuring and supportive.*



*“The most important thing is the transformational care NorthShore will be able to provide patients because of this generous philanthropy.”*

**Charles Brendler, MD**

## John and Carol Walter Leadership Gift Summary

The Walters have designated their multi-year gift to carefully support the design and implementation of targeted projects that will sustain a comprehensive approach to patient care and clinical research, both now and for the future. The Walters' gift is invested as follows:

Patient Care and Patient Care Experience	\$ 2,000,000
Patient Education, Community Education and Outreach Programs	\$ 1,000,000
Medical Informatics and Clinical Pathways, Outcomes Research and Quality of Life Studies	\$ 500,000
Research Endowment	\$ 1,500,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$ 5,000,000</b>

**Support Urologic Patient Care and a New Distinctive Patient Care Experience:** The first \$2 million of the Walters' philanthropic gift helped to build and equip the new John and Carol Walter Center for Urological Health. The remaining funds committed will be allocated to create three key programmatic elements.

**Create Urologic Patient Education, Community Education, and Outreach Programs:** An allocation of \$1 million will help support and sustain patient-centered clinical services, community-based health advocacy programs and health education.

**Advance Medical Informatics/Clinical Pathways Research:** \$500,000 will create a research fund to stimulate the development of new innovations in data mining of electronic medical records and the undertaking of clinical trials to bring new solutions to urologic treatment.

**Establish the John and Carol Walter Urologic Research Endowment:** The Research Endowment will receive \$1.5 million to assure that the Walter Center will be able to support continued innovative care driven by translational research and attract the talent to lead it. This research fund also will provide the seed money to support the most promising pilot projects until they develop the data needed to attract national funding.

# Detailed Description of the John and Carol Walter Center for Urological Health

## I. Support Urologic Patient Care and a New Distinctive Patient Care Experience

### Patient Care Support Services

The Walter Center's commitment to the whole patient is embodied in its array of patient support services which provide a continuum of care and assurance to patients and their families. This collaborative care combines the following services:

- **Nurse Navigators** – To provide prompt and personalized service to patients and their families; to help coordinate patient appointments, communicate test results and help make patients aware of any new advances in treatment.
- **Cancer Nutrition** – To help patients optimize their diet to decrease the risk of developing cancer and to delay cancer progression.
- **Clinical Psychology** – To help patients deal with the psychological stresses associated with cancer and other urologic diseases and to assist families in weighing treatment options.
- **Integrative Medicine** – To improve the quality of life in our cancer patients by using alternative medicine treatments including acupuncture, massage, and yoga.
- **Medical Genetics** – To determine individual genetic risk assessment profiles, and thereby tailor treatment options according to genetic susceptibilities.
- **Molecular Diagnostics** – To determine risk of disease and to both diagnose and monitor disease progression by using molecular medicine.
- **Ross Clinic for Sexual Health** – To enable men and women to overcome the risks to sexual health associated with urologic diseases and to recover sexual function following treatment.
- **Cancer Survivorship** – To create a bridge for continued care of post treatment cancer survivors back to the community, family, and the primary care setting, and help patients optimize their quality of life.

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The Walter Center will share this urologic health information as relevant to specific patients and their families. Patients of the John and Carol Walter Center for Urological Health will have online access to information about our urologic care programs, physicians and nurses, various diseases and answers to specific questions about their disease and treatment options. The state-of-the-art Walter Center is equipped with a multi-media education room in which patients can review educational materials directed to their individual health issues.

Because the Walter Center is focused on delivering superlative care that consistently exceeds patients' expectations, its staff is committed to continuously improving every facet of patient care. Offering a unique team approach to care, promising to empower every patient, and improving services through a continuous dialogue with medical researchers and national opinion leaders, the staff of the Walter Center is focused on differentiating its programs through the quality of patients' experience. Patients' feedback will be regularly surveyed and analyzed to create new opportunities to improve care and better anticipate the needs of patients and their families.



## II. Create Patient Education, Community Education, and Outreach Programs

**Patient Education and Community Outreach:** A core value of the John and Carol Walter Center for Urological Health is to help patients understand their health issues, partnering with their physician to choose their best treatment, and to feel empowered as advocates for their own wellness and survivorship. The Walter Center stands for optimal patient access to and understanding of vital healthcare information.

The Walter Center is also committed to reaching out to past and future patients by educating them about urological health, especially if they have been under-informed and underserved. The Walter Center will reach out to the patient community through an annual patient issues forum, patient support groups, special psycho-social services and healthy lifestyle learning. These events will raise public awareness of urologic health issues and encourage participants to make lifestyle adjustments, seek screening and testing and commit themselves to urologic care as needed.

**Serving the Medically Underserved:** The Walter Center will also support the launching of a new urological health awareness outreach program with a special focus on the medically underserved from both African-American and Hispanic populations, whose access to urologic education, early screening, diagnosis and urologic care has been historically limited. Begun as a free prostate cancer screening program by the Center's physician founders, this new initiative will target churches, community organizations and other settings within the Chicago area with urologic health information, offer community mini-conferences and develop new physician partnerships.

## III. Advance Medical Informatics/Clinical Pathways Research

**Medical Informatics and Clinical Outcomes Research:** NorthShore has set among its strategic priorities investment in initiatives that will help to drive the Walter Center as a focus of institutional excellence. These priorities include expanding capacity in information technology and significant investment in NorthShore's new Center for Clinical and Research Informatics (CCRI) at NorthShore Research Institute. The CCRI is newly staffed with senior clinical informaticians whose mission is to mine the confidential, vast research wealth of NorthShore's 11 million incidents of patient care held in its Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system. This analysis will yield new insights into complex diseases, identify opportunities to improve patient outcomes and help NorthShore globally manage the effects of new drugs and community epidemics, as well as address the risk factors in individual and family medical histories.

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At the Walter Center, every patient care experience will be illuminated with the help of the EMR system within this larger network of information to achieve optimal personalized care. In addition, the Walter Center will offer patients new web and smart phone-based access to medical information, self care suggestions and urological health updates.

**Clinical Research:** Clinical trials are vital to testing new treatments that may ultimately improve patient care. The NorthShore Department of Surgery, which includes the Division of Urology, has a dedicated research office comprised of 20 individuals who currently oversee more than 100 clinical studies, all of which have been approved by our Institutional Review Board.

**Active Surveillance:** The Walter Center will lead the Midwest region in the study of options to traditional surgery and radiation therapy for prostate cancer. The NorthShore active surveillance (AS) program is the only institutionally approved AS program in the Chicagoland area. NorthShore is also the coordinating center for all AS programs in the United States and British Columbia. AS offers men an alternative to surgery and radiation, thereby sparing them unnecessary side effects of traditional therapy.

#### **IV. Establish the John and Carol Walter Urological Research Endowment**

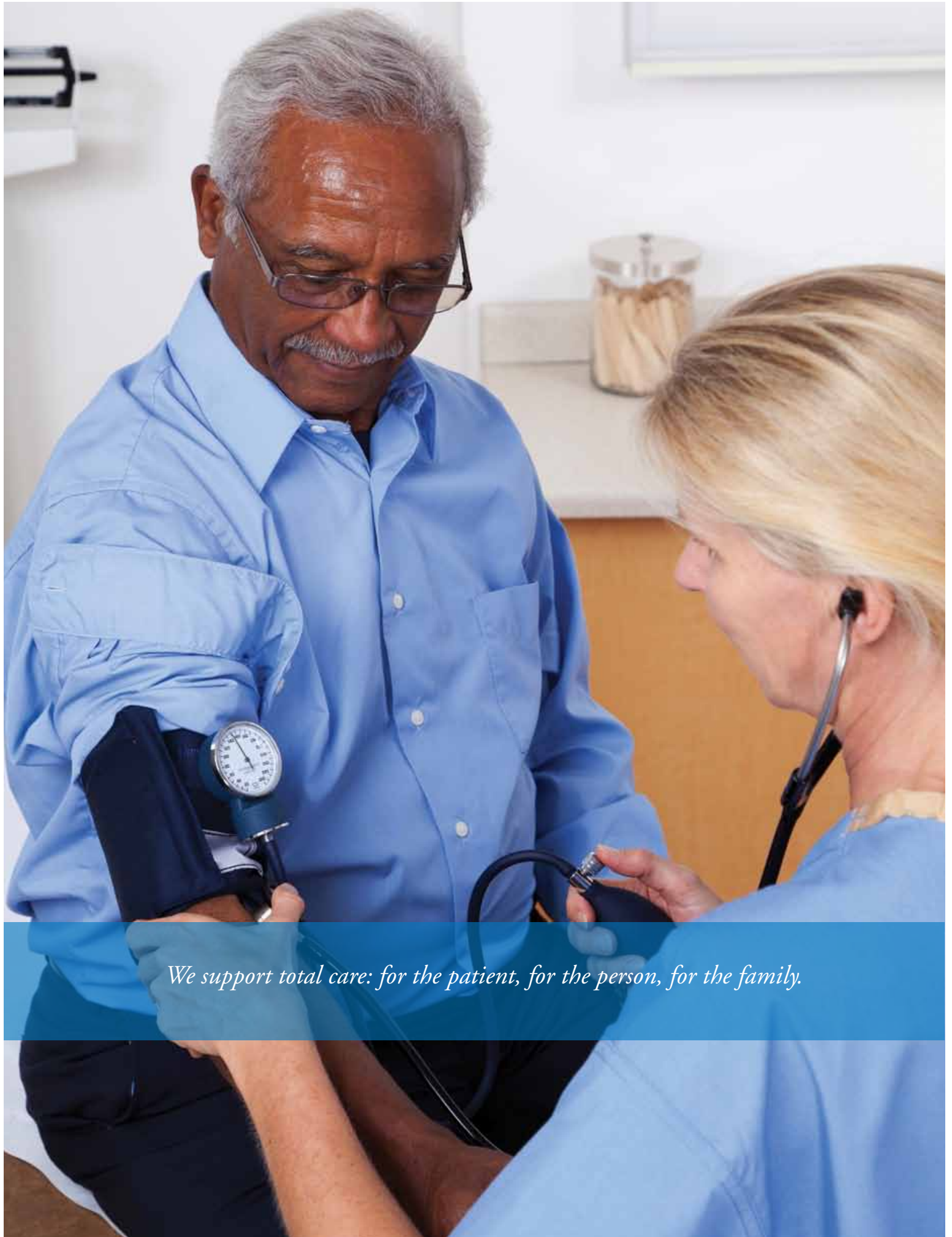
**Translational Research:** NorthShore has built its reputation on translational research, focusing its scientific inquiry on the direct improvement of clinical care and patient outcomes. NorthShore has a similar capitalization targeted for NorthShore's Center for Molecular Medicine. This new focus on the molecular basis of disease tracks the by-products of cellular processes to identify precancerous activity and to explore early stage interventions. This offers patients new, non-invasive ways of understanding their urologic conditions and provides physicians with new tools to diagnose and treat them.

**Metabolomics:** Metabolomics is a new science that uses sophisticated molecular technology to develop individual biologic profiles, or "metabolic fingerprints," to determine prognosis and guide treatment on an individual basis in men with prostate cancer and in men and women with other urologic malignancies.

**Obesity and Cancer Risk:** Ongoing research investigating the relationship of dietary fat and obesity to cancer risk and progression will offer a better understanding of how fat promotes cancer growth and may provide new tests to diagnose and monitor cancer progression.

**Neural Stem Cell Research:** NorthShore scientists have discovered that cancer cells rarely proliferate in the proximity of neural stem cells. They are researching the use of a biologic adhesive derived from the hard clinging marine mussel to adhere neural stem cells to the bed of the tumor following surgical removal, creating a barrier to the return of cancer cells. This highly innovative approach to reducing cancer recurrence is one example of the leading edge research that will be a trademark of the Walter Center.

**Biomarker Research:** NorthShore has a comprehensive Molecular Diagnostics Laboratory devoted to the discovery and use of biomarkers to improve patient care. Biomarkers are molecules that are found in blood, urine and tissues that help to diagnose cancer and monitor disease progression.



*We support total care: for the patient, for the person, for the family.*



*Your leadership support – joined to John and Carol Walter's – will help provide an unparalleled level of care for additional patients and their families, and will assure the steady progress of increasing leading edge translational research in the diagnosis and treatment of urologic conditions.*



## You Are Invited to Add Your Gift to Extend Support for Additional Innovation and Patient-Centered Urological Care

### **Immediate Goal for New Philanthropy**

John and Carol Walter believe in making a difference now, reflective of their family's living legacy. They are confident that even more can be accomplished for those with urological health needs. You are invited to join them and others, in partnership with NorthShore Foundation, in raising additional resources to help operate and sustain key patient programs at the John and Carol Walter Center for Urological Health. Your donation will add critical momentum to their multi-year gift and offer you an opportunity to become a partner in healthcare innovation in a urological program area that is meaningful to you.

Bringing innovation to any field can be a costly process with advanced medical care among the most capital intensive. Your help will be especially crucial during the start-up phase of the Walter Center's new clinical programs – both at a time when charitable funds support construction and, later, when initial programmatic gifts will require sustained underwriting to assure the Walter Center's programs reach the largest numbers of patients possible and funding is sustained for lasting effectiveness.

### **Initial Program and Research Funding Opportunities**

The following philanthropic priorities have been chosen for your consideration by the Walter Center's Medical Directors, Charles Brendler, MD, and Michael McGuire, MD. Making a gift to help launch these key programmatic, patient-focused areas will help strengthen the personally meaningful, inclusive, and research-focused patient experience expressed by the philosophy of the Walter Center.

#### **Neural Stem Cell – Bio-adhesive Cancer Therapy – \$450,000**

NorthShore is conducting leading edge research using neural stem cells embedded in a bio-adhesive derived from marine mussels and applied to the bed of the tumor following surgery to eradicate microscopically residual cancer cells and thereby prevent tumor re-growth and metastasis. Support of this breakthrough thinking about blocking post-surgical tumor recurrence will help increase the effectiveness of cancer surgery. Combining the application of marine mussel neural stem cells to sites where tumors have been removed has been shown to reduce cancer recurrence by preventing new growth from residual cancer cells left following surgery.

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#### **Web-Based Patient Educational Materials – \$300,000**

Research has shown that Web-based education effectively supports better patient outcomes. In today's era of informed consent and care, patients will benefit from evaluating their options and participating in their recoveries. Active patient involvement is the core value of the Walter Center philosophy; this involvement will be expanded through the planned addition of a recently pioneered Web-based decision support system, WiserCare, developed by Christopher Saigal, MD, and his urologic colleagues at the University of California, Los Angeles. NorthShore is partnering with Dr. Saigal to introduce WiserCare to patients as its only external partner site. This system will support patients in making more informed decisions about their care and will measure patient satisfaction with these choices. Support for licensing fees and system upgrades will greatly improve patients' ability to decide their own best care options and to better assess the implications of their decisions. Currently this initiative is wholly dependent on new philanthropic funds for its launch this year.

### **Community Outreach Program – \$250,000**

Reaching the underserved members of our community is essential to the Walters' vision of comprehensive patient care and to NorthShore's mission "to preserve and improve human life." Because members of NorthShore's African-American and Hispanic communities have added vulnerability and heightened incidence of urological disease, this outreach program will raise awareness of the risks, reinforce healthy behaviors and help save patients' lives. Additionally, through NorthShore's hospital-based Community Advisory Councils, the advances that are made in urologic care at the Walter Center will be promptly shared with our surrounding communities and further shaped by community input. This program will require critical launch funding for the next two years.

### **Clinical Outcomes Research and Quality of Life Studies – \$250,000**

Objective analyses of treatment outcomes and quality of life research are essential to improving patient care. As one of the first medical institutions in the United States to adopt a fully Electronic Medical Record (EMR) system and having recently established a dedicated Center for Clinical and Research Informatics (CCRI), NorthShore is ideally positioned to continuously evaluate and improve our treatment outcomes. Outcomes researchers on the Walter Center urology team also will conduct electronic-based quality of life studies in order to objectively determine how different treatments impact patient health and to institute programs that will optimize quality of life both physically and emotionally following treatment. A revolutionary harnessing of the informational potential of EMR systems, this informatics-enhanced outcomes research will enable Walter Center physicians to globally evaluate procedure options based on hundreds of similarly related patient records and outcomes, as well as suggest ways in which patient stress can be reduced and treatment satisfaction can be increased.

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### **Prostate Cancer Active Surveillance Clinical Study – \$150,000/year**

Active surveillance in prostate cancer refers to the increasingly popular strategy of following older men with early prostate cancer without treatment and instituting treatment only if and when it becomes necessary. This approach allows those men who subsequently need treatment to be treated effectively and spares the majority of older men unnecessary treatment and side effects. NorthShore has the only institutionally reviewed and approved prostate cancer active surveillance (AS) program in the region and is the coordinating site for all the other AS programs across the United States and British Columbia. Early funding of this clinical trial will extend the option of treatment-free existence to future patients and the avoidance of the side effects of unnecessary radiation and chemotherapy.

### **Pilot Fund for Urologic Oncology Research – \$100,000/year**

This support is needed to provide protected time to further research in urologic oncology. This funding would enable Kristian Novakovic, MD, to pursue research studies to examine the impact of dietary fat and fat metabolism on the development and progression of prostate and kidney cancer.

Please join NorthShore Foundation and the variety of generous donors who have joined this remarkable journey of healthcare innovation. You can personally add through your own gift of philanthropy to the quality of life for NorthShore's urology patients; helping advance treatment options and supporting the well-being of others. Your gift will advance the true vision of NorthShore's integrated care within the John and Carol Walter Center for Urological Health.

*Curing the patient, not just the disease.*

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