

RESEARCH TRIUMPHS THROUGHOUT DMRF'S HISTORY

Our researchers' achievements are many and we are proud to share just a small snapshot of their research triumphs with you.

- Dalhousie's Inflammation, Immunity and Infectious Diseases researchers recently invented the first new class of antibiotics to come along in 30 years—a powerful new weapon against antibiotic-resistant superbugs like MRSA (a type of staph bacteria that is resistant to many antibiotics).
- Over 20 years ago, Dr. Sultan Darvesh established the Maritime Brain Tissue Bank, which currently houses over 1,100 brain tissue samples and is available to researchers worldwide who are striving to find faster and definitive diagnosis, better treatments, and cures for brain disorders like Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and Multiple Sclerosis.
- The Frailty Index (FI), a seven-point scale used worldwide to measure the health status of older individuals, was developed by internationally acclaimed Dalhousie researchers Dr. Kenneth Rockwood and Dr. Arnold Mitnitski.
- Dr. Gautam Awatramani and his lab recently unlocked a 50-year mystery of how the retina senses motion, opening a new chapter in the field of eye and vision research.
- Dr. Patrick Lee (recently retired) made the pioneering discovery that the common reovirus can infect and kill cancer cells without harming healthy cells. Reovirus is now being tested against a variety of cancers in clinical trials. Dalhousie's Dr. Shashi Gujar is one of several researchers continuing this life-saving research.
- Former Dalhousie researcher Dr. Ivar Mendez and a team of doctors at the QEII Health Sciences Centre in Halifax helped remove a tumour from the brain of a patient hundreds of miles away in Saint John, New Brunswick, performing the world's first remote-controlled brain surgery.
- Dr. Graeme Rucker was part of the research team that created INSPIRED, an innovative and effective program designed to proactively help people diagnosed with late-stage COPD, using self-management education, evidence-based action plans, psychosocial and spiritual care and advanced care planning; supports that allow patients to successfully transition from hospital to home and reduce incidents of re-admission. Within the first six months of program implementation, results showed: 62% fewer emergency department visits, 64% fewer hospital admissions, and 63% fewer days in hospital.

This research advances health and healthcare at a level that can't be understated; our researchers are changing and saving lives.

YOUR SUPPORT IS HELPING TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN.

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This issue explores the many ways in which determination is a requirement of health research and philanthropy. We share stories of researchers who have overcome great odds to achieve outstanding health impacts, donors who have supported health research for decades, and patients whose lives have been changed, and indeed saved, by extraordinary health research at Dalhousie. **Thank you for being a part of our story for the last 40 years, and thank you for supporting research through DMRF.**