



BROOKS AND THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA REACH RESEARCH AGREEMENT

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., — Brooks Rehabilitation and the University of Florida (UF) have reached a new five-year agreement that will position the Brooks Center for Rehabilitation Studies, in collaboration with UF, located in Jacksonville, as a world-class research facility.

The agreement increases funding for the Brooks Center by more than \$5 million over five years. As part of its Community Benefit initiative, Brooks will provide \$4 million in funding and UF, through its College of Medicine-Jacksonville, will provide more than \$1 million. The funding will be used to support research taking place in both Brooks' and UF facilities.

"We are pleased to further develop our relationship with the University of Florida and look forward to the increased research capabilities we will share," said Brooks CEO & president, Doug Baer. "Our investment in the Center's growth will bring the latest innovations to our patients."

Robert C. Nuss, M.D., dean of the regional campus at UF Health Science Center–Jacksonville cited the excellent opportunity the expanded relationship offers Brooks and UF. "The benefits are tremendous for both parties, with the Center's research projects focusing primarily on stroke and other neurological conditions, relating to the population served by both Brooks and UF," he said. "In addition, this arrangement provides an excellent opportunity for us to maximize collaboration between our own Gainesville and Jacksonville campuses."

The agreement will result in the addition of six dedicated, doctoral-level researchers and support staff working at the Brooks Center and at UF Health Science Center-Jacksonville. Now that the agreement is finalized, the search for a full-time Brooks Center director is in progress.

The Center's mission and vision include a focus on research and improvement of the continuum of care, leading to optimal outcomes and functional improvements for its patients. More than 20 active research trials are currently under way at the Brooks Center for Rehabilitation Studies, including 10 stroke-related studies. With this new agreement, Brooks is poised to become a major research entity, and to serve its community through this partnership.

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About Brooks

Serving the community for more than 35 years, Brooks has a long-standing tradition of providing quality inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation care to Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia. Our 143-bed acute physical rehab hospital is unique in the region with a highly trained staff and an unmatched range of services. We have an extensive network of outpatient centers as well as a cutting-edge research facility which allow us to provide the best continuum of care possible to the communities we serve. As a non-profit health system, we are deeply dedicated to meeting the needs and improving the health of our community. Brooks is more than rehabilitation. It's about being you again.

About the University of Florida Health Science Center

The University of Florida Health Science Center — the most comprehensive academic health center in the Southeast — is dedicated to high-quality programs of education, research, patient care and public service. Health Science Center faculty are known nationally and internationally for research and clinical programs related to the brain and spine, cancer, genetics, diabetes, aging, children's health, design and organ transplantation. The Health Science Center encompasses the colleges of Dentistry, Public Health and Health Professions, Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and Veterinary Medicine, as well as a regional academic campus in Jacksonville offering graduate education programs in dentistry, medicine, nursing and pharmacy.