

Putting Innovation Within Reach

Support the Institute for Functional Restoration (IFR) at Case Western Reserve University.





“Case Western Reserve University strives to bring life-changing technology to the people who need it, which is why we are committed to making FES devices clinically available through the Institute for Functional Restoration.”

BARBARA R. SNYDER
President,
Case Western Reserve University

FROM DISCOVERY TO DELIVERY

The latest innovations in Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES) use electrical current to bring life to paralyzed muscles. With the help of tiny implantable devices, paralyzed patients can grasp a pen to write or a fork to eat. They can regain control over basic life functions and even stand again.

But too often, a lack of profitability can stand in the way of bringing exciting technology like FES to market. While abundant funding options from government grants and foundations exist in early research stages, once a discovery is proven in a lab, funding falls to the private sector, meaning that without robust markets, some potential products fail to attract essential support and wind up stranded in a post-research, pre-clinical limbo.

In the field, these devices are known as orphan products—proven, effective technologies that lack the profitability to attract private investors. While the fact that some 250,000 people live with the life-altering consequences of spinal cord injuries is a sobering statistic, the number pales in comparison to the millions of Americans prescribed drugs for more common illnesses like diabetes and high blood pressure. Without a large market to assure return on investment, technologies like FES remain unfunded by the private sector.

The Institute for Functional Restoration (IFR) at Case Western Reserve University will step in at this critical stage in product development—raising the funds necessary to help these technologies clear clinical trials and put them on the path to commercialization.



THE PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT CONTINUUM

WHERE YOU FIT IN

Your support will help the Institute for Functional Restoration step in at the critical juncture on a product's journey from lab to life—raising funds to guide cutting-edge FES technology through FDA clinical trials and into the market.



MOVING FORWARD

The Functional Electrical Stimulation (FES) Center is a pioneer in research to restore functions lost because of spinal cord injury. Established in 1991, the research center combines the efforts and expertise of three partner institutions: Case Western Reserve University, the Cleveland VA Medical Center and MetroHealth Medical Center.

The technology developed by the FES Center can activate essential functions like bladder control and breathing, create sensation in the skin and even restore limb movement. The Institute for Functional Restoration (IFR) will build in the successful work of the FES Center and lead these products through FDA clinical trials to make them available to patients outside of the limited reach of the FES Center's research studies. By combining philanthropic support with business expertise, the IFR will provide the essential step of financial support to propel these innovations into the marketplace.



To learn more about supporting the Institute for Functional Restoration, please contact XXXX XXXX at 216.368.XXX or XXXXXX@case.edu.



10900 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44106
216.368.2290 or 800.863.6772
case.edu