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KIMBERLY-CLARK CORPORATION GIFT CREATES PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION RESEARCH CENTER

DALLAS--The Kimberly-Clark Corporation today pledged \$1 million over the next five years for rehabilitation research at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. The gift will be matched with \$1 million in challenge funds to endow the Kimberly-Clark Center for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Research.

Researchers in the new center will study injuries and illnesses that cause mobility impairment, such as paralysis due to head or spine trauma, strokes, burns, orthopedic injuries and neurological diseases such as multiple sclerosis and Lou Gehrig's disease (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis). Research will focus both on understanding the underlying mechanisms of disabilities and on developing new, more effective methods for returning mobility-impaired people to more productive life.

"Kimberly-Clark is proud to play a major role in the establishment of a research center for physical medicine and rehabilitation," said Wayne R. Sanders, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Kimberly-Clark Corporation. "It is our hope that research at this new center will lead to developments that vastly improve the lives of patients with physical disabilities."

Kimberly-Clark's gift is part of a \$150 million campaign to support medical research at UT Southwestern. It will allow the medical center to recruit leading research specialists in physical medicine and rehabilitation.

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Physical medicine and rehabilitation is at a stage where major breakthroughs can be expected in this generation if proper support is available, said UT Southwestern president Dr. Kern Wildenthal. "Kimberly-Clark's employees, stockholders and customers can take pride and satisfaction in knowing that they are providing a means to accelerate research that will someday result in paralyzed and debilitated patients being able to walk and function more productively once again," he said.

Wildenthal praised Kimberly-Clark for taking a leadership role in the medical center's fund-raising campaign. "When leading companies such as Kimberly-Clark step forward with truly major gifts, they inspire others--large and small--to do their best in helping support medical research in Dallas," he said.

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NOTE: The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas comprises Southwestern Medical School, Southwestern Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Southwestern Allied Health Sciences School, affiliated teaching hospitals and outpatient clinics.