

HOW RESEARCH FUNDING HELPS EVERYONE

Everything we know about the prevention and treatment of cardiovascular diseases and stroke began as an idea that had to be developed and tested in many research laboratories.

The results of research afford our doctors and community hospitals the medical advancements and knowledge they need to prevent and treat cardiovascular and cerebrovascular illnesses. Medications to control high blood pressure and cholesterol; angioplasty; by-pass surgery; heart valve replacement all came about as the result of dedicated researchers sharing information and competing for funding to continue their work.

Researchers must stay current with rapidly changing advances in their fields of study. They do this by collaborating with others in the same field, often in other cities and countries; through journal subscriptions (such as AHA's *Circulation Research*); and by sharing and absorbing the latest findings at scientific meetings.

AHA's annual Scientific Sessions is the world's largest convention for scientists and health care professionals devoted to the science of cardiovascular disease and stroke. Programming provides unparalleled continuing medical education through over 3,700 presentations given by experts in cardiovascular disease.

Most physicians in cardiology-related fields belong to at least one AHA Council. As such, they receive subscriptions to AHA journals, and many attend Scientific Sessions and other AHA-sponsored meetings.

AHA offers an exciting internet tool for health professionals: Through My American Heart for Professionals, physicians can log on for the latest patient care information, on-line AHA Journals subscriptions, a medical library search, and breaking research news. <http://my.americanheart.org/portal/professional>

AHA continually funds research to advance the treatment of CVD and stroke and provides on-going educational opportunities for doctors by providing them with the latest in patient care treatment information.