Stroke Rehabilitation

Stroke patients travel from all over the world for treatment at Shirley Ryan AbilityLab. In fact, we have been a world-renown leader in stroke rehabilitation for decades because our patients get results. From offering best-in-class inpatient care to leveraging the latest scientific breakthroughs, our state-of-the-art facility offers the greatest chance for the best outcome. Our specialists will work with you through your entire recovery. Once you are a patient with us, you will always be part of our family.

Research in areas that help promote maximal recovery and function including:

• Aphasia
• Non-invasive brain stimulation
• Robotic Assistive Devices
• Walking trials

Ability labs are dedicated to the recovery of specialized functions:

• Think + Speak Lab: Therapeutic care and scientific application help patients recover the building blocks for understanding speech, creating speech and rewiring the brain to maximize recovery of executive functioning.
• Legs + Walking Lab: Our lab is unlike any other in the world, accommodating patients who need different levels of support as they walk, as well as the space to increase distance, speed and endurance during walking therapy.
• Strength + Endurance: To build stamina and resilience, therapy is targeted through monitored treadmills and activities that challenge patients to work harder, early on, and recover.
• Arms + Hands Lab: Patients work to regain gross motor function (grabbing a cup, throwing a ball) and fine motor function (sewing a button on a shirt).

Our program focuses on four critical areas in recovering from stroke:

• Communication & Understanding
• Mobility & Training
• Coordination & Strength
• Function & Movement

Patient care is infused with the most current best practices in medicine. Many of these best practices have been pioneered and proven by our top research minds and applied in therapy, real time. This means patients receive the most state-of-the-art treatments available — anywhere. We have more than 200 clinical trials underway, many of which tie directly to our stroke rehabilitation program.

Recovering the ability to think, reason, perceive, swallow, eat, talk, interact with others and make decisions are key for returning to yourself, loved ones and life.

Meet Our Medical Leader

Richard Harvey, MD • Clinical Chair, Brain Innovation Center

With more than 20 years’ experience in stroke rehabilitation, Dr. Harvey is as committed to patient care as he is to seeking bigger, better answers to stroke recovery. He is one of just a few physicians in the nation to complete three fellowships in stroke rehabilitation.