



# Mayo Clinic Samuel C. Johnson Genomics of Addiction Program

***Mayo Clinic Samuel C. Johnson Genomics of Addiction Program will serve as one of Mayo's flagship projects for making medical genomics a reality in personalized patient care.***

The cost of alcoholism and other addictions to individuals, families and society is immense. According to the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, more than 100,000 Americans die annually of alcohol-related causes, and as many as 19,000 Americans die of other drug-related causes every year. An encouraging fact is that alcoholism is one of the most common, preventable causes of death among Americans, giving Mayo the opportunity to attack it at the origin.

In an effort to predict and prevent alcoholism and other chemical dependencies, Mayo Clinic is developing a landmark research program in the genomics of addiction.

This program builds on Mayo's long tradition of bringing together excellent basic science with outstanding clinical resources to attack fundamental problems in the origin, prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease. This approach is distinctive because it combines expertise in molecular genetics with the management and analysis of complex data sets and the enormous depth of experience in translational medicine (bench to bedside).

## ***Mayo Clinic Samuel C. Johnson Genomics of Addiction Program***

The goal of the program is to prevent the onset of addiction to alcohol and other drugs and to develop therapies that will be more effective in the treatment of these illnesses.

Most current treatments of addiction focus on changing behaviors through education and individual and group counseling. Mayo seeks to understand the genetic basis of the illness to develop prevention and treatment for those who are at risk of becoming addicted to alcohol or other drugs.

Mayo will conduct clinical research to discover the underlying causes of cravings. Genetic screening and analysis will indicate how patients may respond to therapies. This work will identify and analyze all genes linked with addiction to determine how these genes interact and make some individuals susceptible to addiction.



## ***Samuel C. Johnson's Commitment***

Samuel C. Johnson's family of Racine, Wis., and The SC Johnson Fund have committed \$12.05 million to Mayo Clinic over five years to establish Mayo Clinic Samuel C. Johnson Genomics of Addiction Program.

Mr. Johnson served as the chair of Mayo Clinic Board of Trustees from 1983 to 1990; he also was the longest-serving public member of Mayo's board. He was the chair emeritus of S.C. Johnson & Sons, Racine, Wis., a family-owned company, known worldwide for products such as Pledge®, Ziploc® and Glade®.

***“I am pleased to support this innovative research, which can potentially contribute significantly to the ultimate goal of the complete eradication of alcoholism,” says Samuel C. Johnson.***

The total investment needed over five years to support this research is nearly \$20 million. The generosity of the S.C. Johnson family provides full funding of the program in the first year and one half of the funds needed for years two through five. This is a great opportunity for others to partner with Mayo and the Johnson family to advance this important work and provide the matching funds that will help solve this devastating, societal problem.

**Overview of Funding for Mayo Clinic Samuel C. Johnson Genomics of Addiction Program  
(In millions of dollars)**

