

FACT SHEET

Vision 2010: Neurological Research Institute

- The Jan and Dan Duncan Neurological Research Institute (NRI) at Texas Children's Hospital will be the first facility of its kind in the United States that will use a multidisciplinary approach and will be dedicated to understanding the unique issues of a child's brain structure, development patterns and related diseases. It will be a new model of excellence in the study of pediatric cognitive development.
- Brain related diseases and injuries are estimated to exceed more than a *half trillion dollars* annually in health care, lost productivity and other economic costs.
- Brain related disorders account for the majority of our nation's long-term care costs. When combined with other psychiatric disorders, they account for more hospitalization and prolonged care than almost *all* other diseases combined.
- Scheduled for completion in 2010, the Jan and Dan Duncan Neurological Research Institute at Texas Children's Hospital will consist of research labs and a vivarium that will encompass 14 floors and 370,000 square feet of space.
- Texas Children's physicians and researchers have been at the forefront of identifying genes that cause neurological disorders, including Fragile X syndrome, Angelman syndrome, Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease, Prader-Willi syndrome, spinocerebellar ataxia, inherited ataxias and the brain malformation lissencephaly.
- The Jan and Dan Duncan Neurological Research Institute at Texas Children's Hospital will house some of the finest researchers in the world, including Dr. Huda Zoghbi, whose research group identified MeCP2, or methyl-CpG binding protein 2, as the causative gene in Rett syndrome – an X-chromosome-linked neurological disorder.
- With more than 26 pediatric neurologists, Texas Children's is home to the largest pediatric neurology division in the world, including the Bridges Program, The Blue Bird Circle Clinic for Pediatric Neurology, the Rise School and the Meyer Center for Developmental Pediatrics.

