



Revolutionary new KineAssist™ Robot helps people learn to walk again after stroke or disability

Alexian Rehabilitation Hospital is proud to be the first community hospital to utilize a new robotic device developed to help patients who have walking and balance difficulties. The device is called the KineAssist™. It initially will be used for research purposes, with the intent of using it in the clinical setting in the future.

The KineAssist Walking & Balance Exercise System™ is a breakthrough application of robotic technology to help physical therapists work safely and effectively with adult patients who are learning to walk again.

The KineAssist has the physical strength to provide an adult patient with protection from a fall while training in real environments, such as walking over ground or up and down steps, while encouraging the hands-on care of the physical therapist.

The KineAssist was developed through a joint venture of the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago (RIC) and Kinea Design, LLC, a company of expert physical therapists and engineers, to provide more intensive and effective therapy for patients, without diminishing the crucial physical, sensory and psychological connections between therapists and patient. The KineAssist was created to meet the needs of real users performing real tasks in real settings.

The KineAssist Walking & Balance Exercise System offers unique benefits to patients and their care providers, including:

- Ability to safely challenge patients in real-life environments, such as over ground walking, step climbing, standing balance and dynamic balance therapy
- Protects patients from the consequences of a fall, building confidence in their abilities while they increase strength and stamina
- Easily adapts to the environment and integrates with a wide range of existing practice settings



Alexian Rehabilitation Hospital conducting KineAssist research study

We are currently conducting a research study on balance and gait difficulties following stroke at the Alexian Rehabilitation Hospital. Participants must meet the following criteria:

- Be less than 48 months post-stroke
- Be able to walk independently with or without an assistive device
- Currently not be receiving physical or occupational therapy
- Be at least 18 years of age

For more information, or to participate in the study, please contact Linda Foster, PT, at 847-640-5600 ext 3752.

About Alexian Rehabilitation Hospital

Alexian Rehabilitation Hospital is a unique collaboration between two distinguished institutions—Alexian Brothers Hospital Network and the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. These two institutions share a dedication to providing the finest, most comprehensive rehabilitation services available. Such excellence is recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* and has ranked the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago the #1 rehabilitation hospital in America every year since 1991.