



John G. (Jack) Keimel

Jack is the co-founder and president of New Hope Research Foundation, a non-profit operating foundation dedicated to research and development of gene therapies for treating central nervous system aspects of lysosomal storage diseases. (www.newhoperesearch.org)

Jack has also been an employee of Medtronic, Inc. for over 31 years, and is currently a Distinguished Biomedical Engineer in Neuromodulation Research and Business Development. Previous positions at Medtronic include Vice President of Arrhythmia Management Research & Advanced Concepts managing worldwide device research on cardiac arrhythmias and Vice President of Defibrillator Systems Operations managing the design, development, and manufacture of implantable cardiac defibrillator systems. During his career at Medtronic, Jack has directed the research, technology, and development of innovative concepts intended to bring full life to patients with cardiac rhythm and neurological abnormalities. Primary among these were the world's first tiered therapy implantable defibrillator. The Medtronic Tachyarrhythmia business, which he helped initiate in the early 1980s, now helps protect over 100,000 new patients each year with implantable defibrillator technology.

Jack holds 24 granted US patents in the areas of noninvasive electrophysiologic testing, implantable defibrillator systems, implantable sensors, telemetry communication systems, and implantable drug delivery systems. In 1990 he was awarded the Medtronic Wallin Leadership Award for his work in developing the PCD implantable defibrillator product line, and in 1997, was inducted into the honorary Bakken Society for his technical contributions to Medtronic. In 2004, Jack was inducted into the College of Fellows of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering.

Prior to joining Medtronic, Jack conducted research on devices for the physically disabled at the University of Minnesota Hospital. He also served as a captain in the US Air Force. Jack has completed advanced coursework in Biomedical Engineering at the University of Minnesota, holds a MS degree in Electrical Engineering with interdisciplinary work in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Minnesota (1979), and a BS degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Notre Dame (1973). Continuing education includes completion of the Minnesota Executive Program at the University of Minnesota and course work from Harvard University Business School.

Jack is a leading advocate for extending life, improving the quality of life, and reducing the cost of health care through the use of biomedical technology. His current areas of interest include research and technology that will permit broad distribution of gene therapy vectors to the central nervous system.