



## DR. REBECCA JACKSON

*Associate Dean for Clinical Research  
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The lessons of creative thinking and the value of knowledge instilled by her mother propelled Dr. Rebecca Jackson into an early and avid interest in science. As a seven-year-old, she had her first dissecting kit and in junior high school her science project won Superior at the state level. By age 14, Rebecca was studying thyroid disease in mice. At age 22, after graduating from The Ohio State University College of Medicine, her residency took her to Johns Hopkins University in Maryland where her life changed. An accident left her confined to a wheelchair.

Determined and optimistic, Rebecca kept working through her residency and saw patients while in recovery. She later returned to Ohio State, where her life changed again. In a casual conversation with an administrator from the Medical Center, she shared some advances in osteoporosis research. He, in turn, asked her to spearhead a major initiative in this area.

Her ground-breaking research in the treatment of osteoporosis has made Rebecca a major figure in American medicine.

Rebecca is Vice-Chair of the Women's Health Initiative, a landmark study evaluating the risks and benefits of interventions designed for women after menopause. She led a research effort to examine the effect of resistance training on post-menopausal women with osteoporosis. Rebecca's commitment to women's health has also led to important research in Calcium plus Vitamin D supplementation in treating bone loss and in the use of NSAIDs to reduce the risk of breast cancer. She also serves as Interim Director of the OSU Center for Women's Health.

Life has brought many changes for Rebecca, and she has always been up to the task. "Sometimes things present themselves when you least expect them," she says. "The pathway is not always straight - it forces you to stretch beyond what you think you're capable of."