## Innovation at Work
### Illinois

### Research in the Prairie State

**Astellas and University of Chicago, Chicago, IL**
Astellas is conducting a phase II clinical trial at University of Chicago to test the safety and efficacy of the antibody ASKP1240. Researchers will observe whether adding this compound to a commonly deployed post-kidney transplant drug regimen will reduce the risk of organ rejection.

**University of Chicago, Chicago, IL**
Researchers at the University of Chicago have secured funding from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to study the factors that influence patients’ treatment decisions in order to improve health care outcomes for chronic hepatitis C, which affects as many as 3.9 million Americans.

**Northwestern University, Evanston, IL**
The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is funding a Northwestern researcher who is developing a new nanoparticle that can identify molecules associated with the early stages of Alzheimer’s disease. The ultimate goal is to develop a diagnostic tool that provides for earlier diagnosis and treatment of this progressive illness.

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**Sources:**
National Institutes of Health, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, America’s Biopharmaceutical Research Council, American Diabetes Association.