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**Bacharach**

## LEADERSHIP REPORT



The Robots are Here!

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Dear Friends,

I remember the moment we watched in stunned silence as a woman wearing a ReWalk exoskeleton stood up and circled our packed physical therapy gym.

The woman had a severe spinal cord injury, and could not walk on her own. Wearing the ReWalk, she was confidently ambulating, explaining how it worked and telling us how the ancillary cardiovascular benefits helped her reduce some of her medications.

We were hooked. That was the summer of 2015, and from that point we began the exploration of new technology that brings Bacharach to where we are at this moment, the regional leader in neurorecovery.

Today our gym is filled with neurorecovery robots, and with patients using them.

On one machine is a man fighting his way back from a stroke. He grimaces with effort as he raises his arm again and again, but in between he is smiling, and joking with his therapist, as the arm-raising action is all part of a video game he is playing.

The equation is simple – make the work fun, and the patient does more work. The more work the patient does, the more potential there is for neurorecovery, allowing the brain to create new pathways and recovery of function.

What makes the robots so extraordinary is a combination of several key criteria. Repetitive motion enables patients to relearn motor skills and develop muscle strength. The robots are interactive. The amount of help or resistance that the robots offer changes as the patient masters the exercise. The robots help patients perform prescribed exercises many more times than they could have done through conventional therapy.

They entertain while providing therapy. Video games and challenges make the patients' work a pleasant distraction rather than a chore.

These sophisticated machines, coupled with our staff of highly trained clinicians, will help us to make an even greater difference in the lives of our patients. We are forever grateful to James Klinghoffer for making the neurorecovery center a reality.

Sincerely,

Richard Kathrins  
President & CEO

### AWARDED BY OUR PROFESSION

