

Suva to support ETH Zurich's Rehab Initiative



Marc Epelbaum, secretary general Suva, and Detlef Günther, Vice President for Research ETH Zurich, (f.l.t.r.) at the signing of the contract.

© ETH Foundation / Hannes Heinzer 2 November 2021

Suva is donating CHF 1 million to the ETH Foundation to fund five years of research projects by the Rehab Initiative, run by the Competence Centre for Rehabilitation Engineering and Science (RESC) at ETH Zurich.

As part of its programme to promote research into prevention, rehabilitation, assistance, inclusion and health economics, Suva is to support research projects in the field of accident and occupational health rehabilitation by the ETH Rehab Initiative. It will do this both through funding and collaboration with its Bellikon Rehabilitation Clinic. Suva CEO Felix Weber commented: "ETH's findings from the advanced research projects and their application, particularly in everyday settings and rehabilitation practice, will benefit Suva's policyholders and patients. Suva is interested in the translation of research into clinical practice."

The aim of the broad-based Rehab Initiative, launched in 2019, is for ETH researchers to partner with clinics, foundations, public authorities and other institutions to improve the quality of life and participation of people with physical disabilities.

The initiative is designed to give fresh momentum to research and technology transfer in the field of holistic rehabilitation.

Having already signed up the Wilhelm Schulthess Foundation, the Stavros Niarchos Foundation, the Swiss Paraplegic Foundation and Hocoma as partners, the Rehab Initiative has been given a further, significant boost through the involvement of Suva. Detlef Günther, Vice President for Research at ETH Zurich, stated: "The field of

health and medicine is of strategic importance to ETH Zurich, and the Rehab Initiative is an integral part of that. I am delighted about the partnership with Suva as it represents a long-term strengthening of the initiative.”

[learn more about the RESC](#)

<https://ethz-foundation.ch/en/spotlight/news-2021-suva-donation/>

PDF exported on 02/01/2026 22:27
© 2026 ETH Zurich Foundation