ENACT Director Julie Keysor talks about ENACT’s arthritis research for BU’s Annual Report (December 2013)

Well, I have first-hand experience with arthritis. I’ve lived with it since I was 25 years old. My daughter also has arthritis. She was one when she was diagnosed, and I do think about her as she goes forward in her life. Fortunately, we come up with new medications, new ways to help people all the time. Many people think it’s just a mildly nagging disease and that people just need to live with it. And that’s far from the truth. Our current research is supported by the National Institute of Disability and Rehabilitation Research. We have three main areas of research in our center. One is looking at helping people sustain employment or minimize work disability. We are also addressing physical activity adherence. We know physical activity and exercise helps but many people are inactive, who have arthritis. And the last area is looking at what outcomes people are able to achieve after total joint replacement. The need is so tremendous in our society for helping everyone, from kids all the way on up to adults. We could really change the paradigm of how rehabilitation impacts millions of people who have arthritis.