The Emory Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center (ADRC) is one of 27 active centers in the nation supported by the National Institutes of Health. The goal of these centers is to bring scientists together to facilitate their research and help learn more about Alzheimer’s and related diseases.

We are also committed to educating health care professionals, persons with Alzheimer’s disease, their families, and our community. We invite you to join us in our efforts to explore memory at Emory through an understanding of the importance of research to discover answers.

Research is crucial to gain more information about disease, provide better care, and ultimately, prevent the burden of neurological diseases for future generations.

One particular area of interest of the Emory ADRC is a better understanding of mild cognitive impairment and early diagnosis and treatment of memory disorders.

To gain this understanding, some of our studies need volunteers to investigate how memory changes with normal aging in those without Alzheimer’s disease.

We are also interested in involving persons who are often underrepresented in research. For example, more African Americans are affected by Alzheimer’s disease and we need more volunteers to ensure our research applies to everyone. Research activities include a variety of preclinical and clinical studies, as well as research for family caregivers.

We hope this information will provide you with a better understanding of our research opportunities and how your volunteer commitment not only means helping your loved ones; it means helping others across the world by joining efforts right here in Georgia. Thank you for making a difference to end Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias.
African Americans are twice as likely to get Alzheimer's disease than Caucasians, but the cause is not known. Emory is conducting the first study to apply modern spinal fluid and MRI techniques in a comparative study involving 75 African Americans and 75 Caucasians. Dr. William Hu, Dr. Monica Parker, and their team will study the interaction between Alzheimer's disease, mini strokes, and race to set the stage for a national study involving multiple university medical centers. Each participant will undergo pencil and paper testing, MRI, blood draw, and spinal fluid collection. For questions or participation, please contact Dr. Monica Parker: mparke2@emory.edu; Dr. William Hu: wthu@emory.edu; 404-727-4174, or the Emory Alzheimer's Disease Research Center at 404-728-6950.

This is an exciting time for new discoveries in neuroscience and brain research. As we embark upon evidence-based interventions that reduce the burden of Alzheimer's disease, we never forget that the patient is our primary focus. Everything we do begins and ends with our commitment to the people we serve. As health care professionals we see how devastating a disease like Alzheimer's affects a person and their loved ones. Because of our ongoing commitment to patient centered care, the Emory Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC) has launched a clinical intervention that assists patients who have a diagnosis of Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI). Persons with a diagnosis of MCI experience changes in their ability to think, learn, and remember. Those with MCI are often interested in actively trying to manage or compensate for their memory difficulties in a way that can help them now and into the future.

With the help of a cognitive therapist, a person with MCI and their study partner learn to incorporate a memory tracking and organization tool in their daily routine. Through this memory compensation tool, participants learn habits that can minimize symptoms of cognitive decline and improve independence and self-efficacy. What began as innovative research has developed into a novel therapy for persons experiencing changes in their ability to think, learn and remember. Like so many families, Richard Lyon was first touched by Alzheimer’s Disease in 2001 when his wife Madeline was diagnosed with frontotemporal dementia by Dr. Allan Levey, Director, Emory ADRC. Mr. Lyon, a pilot and former engineer was caught off guard when loved ones noticed something unusual with his memory and behavior. Lyon reports that the issues were subtle but enough to warrant concern. Fortunately, he was already acquainted with Emory.

“I didn’t waste a lot of time calling the clinic to schedule an appointment” Lyon stated. He thinks that most people delay visiting the doctor because they are afraid of what they will find. Lyon completed a battery of tests that confirmed his memory impairment. Under the care of an interdisciplinary team that includes a neurologist, advanced practice nurse, and social worker, Lyon volunteered to participate in the MCI clinic. He believes his engineering background made his decision to play a part in this pioneering research a simple one. He notes there is a fair investment of time involved due to the study components, however the potential to compensate for memory loss is worth the time. As a good-natured patient—always quick to offer witty commentary—Lyon remains optimistic and makes every effort to do his part to maintain his physical and cognitive status. He serves on a number of community association boards, travels the country, remains physically active and sings regularly with a local barbershop quartet. It is said that hope springs eternal in patient’s thoughts. And so it does for all of our patients who are more than a number. They are individuals looking forward with seeds of hope.
### Research Registries

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<th>Registry</th>
<th>Eligibility</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
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| Honor Research Registry: Longitudinal study of changes in memory and other cognitive skills | • Aging people with no memory problems  
• People of any age with MCI, Alzheimer’s disease or other forms of dementia  
• Willing to participate in additional research studies  
• Study partner available to participate in visits | Letheshia Husbands  
lhusban@emory.edu  
404-728-6950 |
| Registry for Remembrance: An initiative to increase awareness & participation in neurology research | • Ethnic individuals of African Ancestry  
• Aging people over 60 with no memory problems  
• People of any age with mild cognitive impairment, Alzheimer’s disease or other forms of dementia  
• Study partner available for all visits | Letheshia Husbands  
lhusban@emory.edu  
404-728-6950 |

### Prevention Trials

**A4 Study** - 3-year prevention trial. The A4 study is a clinical trial for older individuals who have evidence of amyloid plaque build-up in their brains who may be at risk for memory loss and cognitive decline due to Alzheimer's disease (AD). The A4 study will test an anti-amyloid drug in older individuals who do not yet show symptoms of Alzheimer's disease, cognitive impairment, or dementia with the aim of slowing memory and cognitive decline. The A4 study will also test whether anti-amyloid treatment can delay the progression of AD related brain injury using imaging and other biomarkers.

**Eligibility**
• Cognitively normal  
• 65-85 years old  
• Study partner available for all study visits

**Contact**
Gail Schwartz  
gschwar@emory.edu  
404-728-6395

**TOMMORROW** - 5-year prevention trial. This study has two goals. One of these goals is to see if a new genetic test can determine if participants are at risk of developing Mild Cognitive Impairment due to Alzheimer's disease (MCI-AD) within the next five years. This study will look at the effectiveness of the study drug, pioglitazone, in delaying the onset of MCI-AD in cognitively-normal people who are at high-risk of developing MCI-AD, as identified by the biomarker in the non-Hispanic/Latino Caucasian participants.

**Eligibility**
• Cognitively normal  
• 65-83 years old  
• Study partner available for all study visits

**Contact**
Deborah Westover  
dwestov@emory.edu  
404-712-6807

Kyle Jennette  
kyle.j.jennette@emory.edu

**DIAN** - 2-year prevention trial. This study will target individuals who are either known to have a disease-causing mutation or who are at risk for such a mutation (the child or sibling of a person with a known mutation). Subjects will be eligible for enrollment in the DIAN-TU-001 study if they are between 15 years younger (-15) to 10 years older (+10) than the age of onset of their affected parent. A set of cognitive measures designed to assess the very earliest, cognitive changes will be collected. Two different drugs will be tested over a 2-year period, and various biological markers (MRI, PET, CSF, blood) will be measured.

**Eligibility**
• Cognitively normal or MCI  
• 18 – 80 years old  
• Study partner available for all study visits

**Contact**
Gail Schwartz  
gschwar@emory.edu  
404-728-6395
2014 RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Mild Cognitive Impairment Trials

Atomoxetine - For people with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI). The purpose of this study is to find out if atomoxetine causes a change in the biological markers (substances that may indicate the presence of a disease) in the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) of participants diagnosed with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI). In this research study, the spinal fluid of subjects with MCI who take atomoxetine will be compared to spinal fluid of those who take capsules containing inactive material, also known as placebo. At the six-month time point, subjects who were taking placebo during the first six months will be placed on active study medication, and those who received active study medication will be reassigned to placebo. This study will also evaluate if the drug is safe and well-tolerated. Additionally, information will be gathered to identify the dose of atomoxetine that is most beneficial, and how taking this medication affects thinking and behavior, as well as imaging and blood biomarkers.

Eligibility
• Diagnosis of Mild Cognitive Impairment
• Stable on Medications for 3 months
• Study partner who can attend all visits

Contact
Lavezza Zanders
lzander@emory.edu
404-728-6392

BAN2401 - An 18 month infusion study to slow Alzheimer’s disease (AD) progression. This multinational study is using a placebo or the study drug, BAN240, to determine clinical efficacy and to explore the dose response of this drug. BAN2401 is an 18-month study in which drug/placebo is infused biweekly (once every 2 weeks). Subjects will be from 2 clinical subgroups: MCI due to Alzheimer's disease (AD) or mild Alzheimer's disease dementia. Effectiveness of drug treatment will be assessed using cognitive tests, as well as biological markers (MRI, PET, CSF, blood).

Eligibility
• Diagnosis of MCI due to AD or mild AD
• 50-90 years old, study partner available for all visits
• Willing to undergo MRI & PET scans

Contact
Gail Schwartz
gschwar@emory.edu
404-728-6395

MK8931-019 - 2-year trial for treatment of MCI. The purpose of this trial is to assess the efficacy and safety of MK-8931 compared with placebo in the treatment of MCI due to AD, also known as prodromal AD. Participants will be randomized to receive placebo, or 12 mg or 40 mg MK-8931, once daily. The primary study hypothesis is that at least one MK-8931 dose is superior to placebo with respect to the change from baseline in the cognitive assessment scores at 104 weeks.

Eligibility
• Diagnosis of MCI
• Ages 50-80 years
• Study partner available for all study visits

Contact
Phyllis Vaughn
pvaughn@emory.edu
404-728-6567

Effects of Perceptual Interference on Memory in Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI)

Eligibility
• Individuals with a diagnosis of MCI

Contact
Audrey Duarte
Audrey.duarte@psych.gatech.edu
404-894-2349
Alzheimer’s Disease Trials

**Starshine** - The purpose of this study is to establish the efficacy of Lu AE58054 as adjunctive therapy to donepezil (Aricept) for symptomatic treatment of patients with mild-to-moderate AD. Participants will take an oral dose of study drug daily for 6 months. Drug effectiveness will be determined by cognitive testing. If desired, participants can continue to receive study drug for an additional 6 months following study participation.

**Contact**: Phyllis Vaughn, pvaughn@emory.edu
404-728-6567

**EPOCH** - A clinical trial testing a new treatment for Alzheimer’s disease (AD). The purpose of this study is to assess the efficacy and safety of MK-8931 compared with placebo in the treatment of AD. The primary study hypotheses are that at least one MK-8931 dose is superior to placebo at 78 weeks of treatment with respect to change from Baseline as assessed using several cognitive scales.

**Eligibility**
- Diagnosis of mild to moderate AD
- 55-85 year old
- Study partner available for all visits
- Willing to have dilated eye exams and MRIs

**Contact**: Phyllis Vaughn
pvaughn@emory.edu
404-728-6567

**Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD)**

**TauRx** - 1 year study for treatment of FTD. This study explores a new treatment for people diagnosed with behavioral variant Frontotemporal Dementia (bvFTD). The study requires 10 visits to the clinic over a period of 60 weeks. Drug (Methyltoninium) effectiveness will be assessed by cognitive testing. Additional procedures include MRI, blood draws, pulse oximetry, and neurological and physical examinations. Participants must be younger than 70 years of age. Support for travel expenses is available.

**Eligibility**
- Individuals with a diagnosis of behavioral variant Frontotemporal Dementia
- Study partner available for all visits
- Willing to undergo MRI
- Age 80 or younger

**Contact**: Andrea Kippels
ajkippe@emory.edu
404-728-6443

**Cardiovascular Disease and Dementia Studies**

**ASCEND** - 3-year study of cardiovascular influences on AD. This study is designed to see if blood flow is related to factors contributing to Alzheimer’s disease. Participants will come to Emory 1 time per year for 3 years. Cognitive assessments will be made, and participants will be required to wear a blood pressure monitor for one 24-hour period. Additional procedures include vascular ultrasound, lumbar puncture and MRI scans. Participants must be between the ages of 45-65.

**Eligibility**
- 45-65 years old
- Family history of AD
- Cognitively normal

**Contact**: Whitney Wharton
w.wharton@emory.edu
404-728-6918
2014 RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

CALIBREX - 1-year study of the relationship between high blood pressure and AD. The purpose of this trial is to determine whether drug treatment for high blood pressure can affect those factors associated with Alzheimer’s disease. Participants will come to Emory at least 5 times during the 1-year study period for the following procedures: vascular ultrasound, MRI, cognitive testing, and blood draws. Participants will take one of 2 medications for the treatment of high blood pressure. Cognitively normal people older than 60 years of age are eligible for participation.

Eligibility
- Cognitively normal
- Older than 60 years of age
- Hypertensive

Contact
Ihab Hajjar
ihabhajjar@emory.edu

Pilot Studies

NeuroVision – 4 day study of amyloid imaging in the retina. This proof-of-concept study is for people with mild cognitive impairment or Alzheimer’s disease. This is a brief study in which participants will be asked to ingest the spice curcumin for 4 days. Curcumin binds to the protein associated with Alzheimer’s disease, and it is possible to visualize it by looking into the eyes. Photographs of the eyes will be taken prior to treatment and after 4 days of ingesting curcumin. The pupils of the eyes will be dilated. Participants must come to the clinic for 2 visits.

Eligibility
- Individuals with MCI or Alzheimer’s disease
- Over 50 years of age

Contact
Phyllis Vaughn
pvaughn@emory.edu
404-728-6567

Cognitively Normal

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<tr>
<th>Research Study</th>
<th>Eligibility</th>
<th>Contact Person</th>
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| Memory and Aging in African Americans and Caucasians| • Age 55 – 90 with no memory problems or MCI or mild Alzheimer’s
                   • Study partner available for all study visits
                   • Willing to have imaging & lumbar puncture                              | William Hu
wthu@emory.edu
404-727-4174
Monica Parker
mparke2@emory.edu
404-728-6950 |
| Right Frontal Activity in Older Adults: Does it Help or Hurt Word Retrieval? | • Aging people with no memory problems
                   • 65-89 years old
                   • Right handed                                                              | Holly Hudson
Holly.Hudson@va.gov
404-321-6111 ext 7099 |
| Aerobic Exercise and Cognitive Training in Older Adults | • Aging people 65-89 years old without memory problems                       | Holly Hudson
Holly.Hudson@va.gov
404-321-6111 ext 7099 |