The Center for Cognitive Neurology offers participants a broad range of benefits, including:

- Cutting edge research, which provides new insights into causes, early diagnosis, care and prevention of Alzheimer’s disease.
- Brain imaging, enhancing the diagnosis and understanding of disease progression.
- A team of experienced physicians specializing in cognitive neurology, geriatric medicine, and neuropsychology, along with nurses, psychotherapists, social workers, and researchers—together representing many decades of experience.
- The Alzheimer’s and Related Dementias Family Support Program, which provides free services to caregivers.

The Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center (ADRC), supported by the National Institute on Aging, started in 1973. It is one of the oldest and largest ADRCs in the country. Our mission is to advance the current knowledge and understanding of brain aging and Alzheimer’s disease; to expand the number of scientists working in the field; share findings widely; and to work toward better treatment options and care for those living with memory impairment.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact:
212-263-8088

For donations, please make check payable to:
Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center (ADRC)
NYU Langone Health
145 East 32nd Street, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10016

NYU Langone Health is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and all contributions are tax-deductible.
ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH STUDY

If you join the Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center study, you will receive yearly evaluations. Over the decades, we have tracked thousands of study participants, examining potential factors that might lead to an Alzheimer’s disease diagnosis. Our work and that of others helps scientists better understand the links between genetics, blood proteins, and brain behavior. Because the brain changes that lead to Alzheimer’s disease begin years before a person has symptoms and memory loss, our goal is to diagnose the disease early so we can slow its potentially devastating path.

WHAT TO EXPECT

You will come to the Center two days per year (145 E. 32nd Street) and complete brain imaging every two years (660 1st Ave.). You do not take medications for the study. Clinicians look for memory changes since the last evaluation and will provide feedback. Assessments can be administered in either English or Spanish.

If you use reading glasses or hearing aids, please bring them to your visit.

Day One

• Consent Form (1 hour):
  You will meet a study team member who will review the study with you, and you will be asked to sign indicating that you understand and want to participate.

• Clinical Interview (1 hour):
  A trained clinician will review your personal and medical history and do a brief memory assessment. A neurological exam will also be given to assess your reflexes, balance, coordination, etc.

• Cognitive Testing (1.5 hours):
  You will have a memory and thinking evaluation, which looks at perception, attention, concentration, language, reasoning, comprehension, and problem solving skills. This is a written and verbal assessment.

• Gait Analysis (30 min):
  You will walk back and forth on a short track with censors.

• Interview with Study Partner (20 minutes):
  A friend or family member who knows you well, called a “study partner”, will be called or come in person to answer questions about you.

Day Two

• Blood Draw (15 minutes):
  When you arrive, we will first collect a blood sample (just as you might do when you have bloodwork for your doctor). You must not eat or drink at least 4 hours ahead of time, but it is okay to have water and take medications.

• Meal Break (30 minutes):
  We will then provide you with a meal.

• Psychosocial Assessment (45 minutes):
  You will answer questions about your overall mood and well-being.

• Optional Procedures Discussion and Consent (30 minutes):
  A study team member will discuss optional procedures with you. These optional procedures include: collection of a microbiome sample at home, completing a lumbar puncture (spinal tap), and wearing wristwatch device to measure the time you spend awake and asleep.

Days Three-Four

• Amyloid and Tau PET-MRI Scans:
  You will be given PET-MRI scans to look for changes in the brain. The scans look at amyloid and tau, which are proteins in the brain associated with Alzheimer’s disease. A PET scan uses a substance called a tracer to look at how the brain is functioning, and an MRI uses strong magnets to generate images. These scans take place over two days and are repeated every 2 years.

Day Five-Optional

• Lumbar Puncture (Optional):
  You have the option to undergo a lumbar puncture (spinal tap). This is a safe and commonly used procedure to collect cerebrospinal fluid (CSF). CSF is the fluid that surrounds the brain and spinal cord. To collect the fluid, a needle is inserted into the midline in the lower back (your lower spine). We can detect proteins in the CSF (such as amyloid and tau) that can reflect what is happening in the brain.

Will I be paid to participate?

Depending on which procedures you complete, you will be paid $50-$600 per year.

Feedback

You can be given feedback about the results of your evaluation from a study clinician.

Brain Donation Program*

The most important gift a participant can give in Alzheimer’s disease research is to donate their brain at the time of death. This generous act can help ensure that family members have access to precious health information that may help them plan their own future, since brain tissue testing is the only way we can confirm a definitive diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease or other dementia. Brain tissue also gives scientists access to other valuable information they can use to improve treatment—and ultimately, to find a cure. For more information on our brain donation program, please contact (212) 263-6262 or NYULHBrainDonation@nyulangone.org.

*This criteria is optional for certain participants.

The NYU Langone Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center (ADRC) hopes that you will become a participants if you:

• Are 60 years of age or older (certain participants must be at least 65 years old)
• Have no problems or minimal problems with memory
• Are in relatively good health
• Have a “study partner”, a friend and family member who can answer questions about you