THE ADULT CHILDREN STUDY

The Adult Children Study

Memory & Aging Project
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What is the Adult Children Study (ACS)?

The goal of the ACS is to help detect the first signs or markers of Alzheimer disease (AD) in the body and track changes over time. This offers a unique chance to learn about the potential causes of AD so that we can develop treatments, and ideally, preventions for AD. Healthy people with normal memory are invited to take part as research volunteers, and all tests are free.

Who Can Volunteer?

You can take part in the study if you:

- Are a healthy person aged 45-64 with no memory or thinking problems.
- Have a parent who developed AD before the age of 80 OR have two parents who were never affected by AD and lived past 70 years of age.
- Have a study partner (such as a spouse, family member, or friend) who can discuss your memory and thinking.

Please call 314-286-2683 or visit our web site at: http://alzheimer.wustl.edu/ for further information.

What will happen in the study?

- We will evaluate your memory and thinking every 3 years in our research office until you reach 65 years old, then yearly evaluations occur. Visits take 2-3 hours.
- We will take blood samples every 2-3 years to test for genetic causes of AD
- Opportunities will be provided for:
  - Brain scans, including magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and positron emission tomography (PET), every 3 years.
  - Collection and study of your spinal fluid every 3 years.

Points to Consider When Becoming an ACS Volunteer:

1. Taking part is a chance to help others in the future by helping researchers find better ways to diagnose and treat Alzheimer Disease. It may or may not help you directly.
2. Taking part does not replace the medical care you may get from your health care provider.
3. Information collected about you is kept private.
4. Taking part in each of the research activities is voluntary.

Our Mission

Researchers at the Knight Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center at Washington University are looking at the memory and thinking changes that occur in people as they age. A team of nurses, doctors, social workers, and other professionals look at cognitive function in older adult volunteers both with and without dementia. The team deeply appreciates the hundreds of volunteers who take part in our studies. The research could not be advanced without our volunteers, their families, and care partners.