

San Diego Research and Clinical Trials

A worldwide quest is under way to find new treatments to stop, slow or even prevent Alzheimer's disease. Some of the most promising research is happening right here in San Diego. In contrast to current drugs that treat the symptoms of Alzheimer's, many of the new drugs in development aim to modify the disease process itself by impacting one or more of the many brain changes that Alzheimer's causes. Many researchers believe successful treatment will eventually involve a combination of medications aimed at several targets, similar to current state-of-the-art treatments for many cancers and AIDS.

In addition to investigating experimental drugs, many clinical trials include various brain imaging studies and testing of blood or spinal fluid. Researchers hope these techniques will one day provide methods to diagnose Alzheimer's disease in its earliest, most treatable stages – possibly even before symptoms appear.

Research Institution	Current Studies Enrolling Participants
<p>Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital Clinical Research</p> <p><i>For more information, contact:</i> 858-836-8350 www.sharp.com/hospitals/mesa-vista</p>	<p>Mild Cognitive Impairment: The purpose of this study is to see if the drug BAN2401 reduces the amount of amyloid protein in the brain and if it has a benefit on a person's cognitive (mental) status. The study drug/placebo will be administered every 2 weeks by an infusion.</p> <p>Mild to Moderate Alzheimer's Disease: This study will evaluate the study drug (MK-7622) as an additional therapy to donepezil (Aricept), Rivastigmine (Exelon) or Galantamine (Razadyne) in improving the ability to remember, understand, reason, perform daily activities, mood and behavior. Requirements include, 55-85 yrs in age, diagnosis of probable mild-moderate Alzheimer's, 10 visits over 28 weeks. Study drug/placebo administered by capsule every morning.</p>
<p>The Research Center of Southern California</p> <p><i>For more information, contact:</i> Estela Soto 760-732-0557 x2123 SotoE@neurocenter.com</p>	<p>Starbeam Study: This study evaluates a potential new treatment for mild-to-moderate Alzheimer's disease. Participants may receive an investigational treatment, designed to help improve memory, thinking and reasoning. All study-related medications and consultations are free of charge and reasonable travel, parking and food expenses will be paid. Requirements include 50yrs +, diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, able to communicate with study doctors, able to walk, have a caregiver to join you during every visit, taking a drug containing donepezil for at least 6 months.</p>

<p>UCSD Alzheimer's Disease Research Center</p> <p><i>For more information, contact: Christina Gigliotti, PhD 858-822-4800 cgigliotti@ucsd.edu</i></p>	<p>A4: Anti-Amyloid in Asymptomatic AD: This trial will assess solanezumab (an antibody that helps the body rid the brain of beta amyloid) on persons with no symptoms of Alzheimer's. Drug is administered monthly via infusion. Requirements include 65-85yrs in age, normal cognition.</p> <p>Cognitive Aging – Observational Longitudinal Study: The purpose of this study is to learn how the brain changes as we age. This is an observational study focusing on annual data collection, no medication. Requirements include 65yrs +, normal cognition, consent to brain autopsy upon death.</p> <p>California Institute of Regenerative Medicine: This study will obtain a blood sample from persons with Alzheimer's disease to make pluripotent stem cells that can be reprogrammed into nerve or other cells. Requirements include one-time appointment for blood draw.</p> <p>Stem Cells Derived from Skin Fibroblasts: This study will look at the mechanisms of brain aging by deriving neurons from skin biopsies. A small piece of skin is removed from the forearm, the cells are grown in a dish and induced to become neurons. Requirements include 65 yrs +, diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease.</p> <p>EMERGE - Biogen (BIIB037): This study will evaluate the efficacy and safety of Aducanumab (BIIB037) in persons with early Alzheimer's disease. This drug is being evaluated to determine whether it can remove the amyloid plaques and slow the progression of symptoms in early Alzheimer's. Requirements include 50-85 yrs, MMSE score of 24-30, available for monthly infusions.</p>
<p>UCSD Department of Psychiatry</p> <p><i>For more information, contact: Jean-Loup Bitterlin 858-534-9479</i></p>	<p>Alzheimer's Caregiver Study: This study investigates whether providing caregivers with coping tools will lower physiological markers related to heart disease. Study visits all conducted in-home. Participants will receive free counseling, up to \$500 in payment and lab results from a comprehensive health evaluation. Requirements include being the spouse and living with someone with Alzheimer's, 55yrs +, no history of stroke or heart attack, no serious mental illness.</p>

For more information about Alzheimer's research and clinical trials, visit:

Alzheimer's Prevention Registry

www.endAlznow.org

National Institutes of Health

www.clinicaltrials.gov

Center Watch

www.centerwatch.com

Learn more about clinical trials and research at National Institute of Health: www.nih.gov/health-information/nih-clinical-research-trials-you