

2016 Alzheimer's Association® Grant Awards

—Organized by Research Categories

Molecular Pathogenesis and Pathophysiology of Alzheimer's Disease

Onder Albayram, Ph.D.

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Boston, Massachusetts

Targeting the Misshapen Pathogenic Tau Protein in Tauopathies

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 174,293 over 3 years

How do different modifications of the tau protein contribute to the formation of tau tangles in the brain?

Sandra Almeida, Ph.D.

University of Massachusetts Medical School
Worcester, Massachusetts

Exploring Molecular Pathogenic Pathways Common to AD and FTD

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$100,000 over 2 years

How do variations in the CHMP2B gene increase the risk of developing dementia?

Nicolas Barthelemy, Ph.D.

Washington University in St. Louis
St. Louis, Missouri

Quantitative Analyses of Tau Isoforms in Human Brain, CSF and Plasma by MS

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 174,999 over 3 years

Can a novel method be used to detect different forms of the tau protein associated with Alzheimer's disease?

Christine Bastin, Ph.D.

Université de Liège (University of Liège)
Liège, Belgium

Memory for Entities and Early Tau Accumulation in Prodromal AD

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) --\$ 99,990 over 2 years

Can a simple, targeted memory test detect Alzheimer's disease in its earliest clinical stages?

Abdel Ali Belaidi, Ph.D.

The Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health
Melbourne, Australia

Iron and Apolipoprotein E Link in the Pathogenesis of Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship to Promote Diversity (AARF-D) --\$ 175,000 over 3 years

How do variations in the APOE gene affect iron levels in the brain and the risk for Alzheimer's disease?

George Bloom, Ph.D.

University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA

Tau, mTOR & Neuron Cell Cycle Re-Entry: Why Insulin Resistance Promotes AD

2016 Zenith Fellows Award (ZNTH)—\$450,000 over 3 years

How do nerve cells die in Alzheimer's disease and does insulin help prevent nerve cell death?

Thomas Brett, Ph.D.

Washington University in St. Louis
St. Louis, Missouri

Structural and Functional Basis for TREM2/ApoE/Lipid interaction in AD

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG) --\$ 150,000 over 3 years

Do certain proteins associated with Alzheimer's physically interact in ways that may promote disease progression?

Paramita Chakrabarty, Ph.D.

University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida

Comparative Prionoid and Strain Properties of Tau and Synuclein

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG) --\$ 150,000 over 3 years

Does the interaction of abnormal tau and alpha-synuclein proteins accelerate the progression of neurodegenerative disease?

John Chen, Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California

Identification of Cellular Factors that Control Tau Aggregation and Spread

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 145,000 over 3 years

What genes and proteins contribute to the build-up of tau tangles throughout the brain as Alzheimer's disease progresses?

Carol Colton, Ph.D.

Duke University Medical Center
Durham, North Carolina

Onset of Immune Pathology in Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Zenith Fellows Award (ZNTH) --\$ 450,000 over 3 years

How is the immune system and inflammation involved in Alzheimer's disease?

Erin Congdon, Ph.D.

New York University School of Medicine
New York, New York

Clarifying Clearance of Tau Pathology: Extra and/or Intracellular Mechanism

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$100,000 over 2 years

How do novel antibodies help clear abnormal tau protein from the brain?

Holly Cukier, Ph.D.

University of Miami
Coral Gables, Florida

Investigating a Frameshift Deletion in ABCA7 of African Origin Using iPSC

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$100,000 over 2 years

Does a certain variation in the ABCA7 gene increase the risk Alzheimer's disease in African Americans?

Holger Cynis, Ph.D.

Fraunhofer IZI-MWT

Halle, Germany

Generation and Characterization of Novel APP-Wt X Tau-Wt Double Knock-In Mice

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$100,000 over 2 years

Can mouse models of Alzheimer's disease be improved to more accurately represent human disease?

Mark Dallas, Ph.D.

University of Reading

Reading, United Kingdom

Carbon Monoxide Suppression of Alzheimer's Disease Pathology

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG) --\$ 149,758 over 3 years

Can carbon monoxide help protect nerve cells in the brain from toxic effects of beta-amyloid?

Annina DeLeo, Ph.D.

Boston University

Boston, Massachusetts

Characterization of Human AD Brain-Derived Exosomes on Tau Propagation

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 175,000 over 3 years

How do cellular transport pathways contribute to the movement of abnormal tau protein throughout the brain in Alzheimer's disease?

Chad Dickey, Ph.D.

University of South Florida

Tampa, Florida

The Role of Peptidyl-Prolyl Isomerases in Tau-Mediated Neurotoxicity

2016 Mechanisms of Cell Death in Neurodegeneration Grant (MCDN) —\$495,000 over 3 years

How does a specific class of proteins regulate the structure of tau and its effects on nerve cells in neurodegenerative disease?

Heng Du, M.D., Ph.D.

The University of Texas at Dallas

Richardson, Texas

OSCP Aberration and Synaptic Injury in Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG)—\$149,985 over 3 years

How does beta-amyloid accumulation in the brain damage nerve cell synapses in Alzheimer's disease?

Brittany Dugger, Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco

San Francisco, California

The Presence of Tau in Peripheral Tissues Across Alzheimer's Disease Stages

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG) --\$ 120,000 over 3 years

Is abnormal tau protein present in body tissues other than the brain during Alzheimer's disease?

Francesca-Fang Liao, Ph.D.

The University of Tennessee Health Science Center

Memphis, Tennessee

Is Dysfunctional eNOS a Major Contributing Factor For Sporadic Alzheimer's?

2016 Zenith Fellows Award (ZNTH) -- \$449,999 over 3 years

How is a protein that regulates blood flow involved in the development of Alzheimer's-associated brain changes?

Stefania Forner, Ph.D.

University of California, Irvine
Irvine, California

Impact of the Actin Cytoskeleton and its Regulators in Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 174,999 over 3 years

How does damage to the cellular structures needed for nerve cell communication contribute to Alzheimer's disease?

Tamara Franklin, Ph.D.

Dalhousie University
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Understanding the Neural Bases for Social Deficits in Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Mentored New Investigator Research Grant to Promote Diversity (MNIRGD) --\$ 149,987 over 3 years

What are the specific brain changes that underlie the social/behavioral symptoms of Alzheimer's disease?

Joshua Gamsby, Ph.D.

University of South Florida
Tampa, Florida

Tauopathy and Circadian Dysfunction

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$99,998 over 2 years

Can abnormal tau protein hinder brain function by disrupting normal sleep patterns?

Jesus Gomar, Ph.D.

The Feinstein Institute for Medical Research
New York, New York

Neuroinflammatory Mechanisms in AD: Gliosis, myo-Inositol and Amyloidosis

2016 Alzheimer's Association Clinical Fellowship to Promote Diversity (AACF-D) --\$ 145,000 over 3 years

Can novel brain imaging methods shed new light on the relationship between beta-amyloid and brain inflammation?

Lea Grinberg, M.D., Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California

Caspases and Proteasome as Determinants of Opposite Neuronal Fate in AD

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG) --\$ 120,000 over 3 years

Does an imbalance in specific nerve cell proteins lead to the formation of tau tangles in Alzheimer's disease?

Lindsay Hohsfield, Ph.D.

University of California, Irvine
Irvine, California

Manipulating Microglia to Prevent Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 175,000 over 3 years

Can regulating the function of microglia in the brain help reduce inflammation associated with Alzheimer's disease?

Heng-Wei Hsu, Ph.D.

University of California, Irvine
Irvine, California

The Role of Inflammation on Endothelial LRP1

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 170,000 over 3 years

How does inflammation reduce the clearance of beta-amyloid from the brain?

Wen Hu, Ph.D.

New York State Institute for Basic Research in Developmental Disabilities
Staten Island, New York

The Role of Hyperphosphorylation in the Spread of Tau Pathology

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$100,000 over 2 years

How does a specific modification of the tau protein promote its accumulation and spread through the brain in Alzheimer's disease?

Laura Jacobson, Ph.D.

The Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health
Melbourne, Australia

Tau and Orexin Interactions in Sleep and Cognition in Alzheimer's Disease

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG)--\$ 99,737 over 2 years

Can abnormal tau protein promote Alzheimer's disease by disrupting the sleep cycle?

Leigh Johnson, Ph.D.

University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth
Fort Worth, Texas

Inflammation as a Pathway for the Depression – Cognition Link

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG)—\$117,895 over 3 years

Can blood-based biomarkers for inflammation help predict if depression increases the risk for cognitive decline?

Devi Krishna Priya Karunakaran, Ph.D.

Northwestern University
Chicago, Illinois

Molecular Mechanisms of the Alzheimer's Risk Gene UNC5c in Neuronal Death

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 175,000 over 3 years

Does a variation in a gene related to brain development increase the risk of Alzheimer's disease?

Katherine Koenig, Ph.D.

Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, Ohio

Neuroimaging, Amyloid, and Cognitive Function in Down Syndrome

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$97,718 over 2 years

Can a multi-pronged assessment of cognition, brain structure and beta-amyloid levels better clarify how people with Down syndrome develop Alzheimer's disease?

Daniel Lee, Ph.D.

University of South Florida
Tampa, Florida

Modulation of GPRC6a Signaling to Mitigate Tauopathies

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant to Promote Diversity (AARG-D) --\$ 149,999 over 3 years

Can inhibiting the activity of a protein called GPRC6a reduce the formation of tau tangles in the brain?

Hyoung-gon Lee, Ph.D.

Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio

Pathological Role Of PLK1 in Selective Neurodegeneration in Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG)—\$149,998 over 3 years

Can blocking the cell-cycle protein PLK1 help prevent nerve cell death during Alzheimer's disease?

Siok Lam (Sharon) Lim, Ph.D.

University of California, Irvine
Irvine, California

Deciphering the Role of SYK as a Key Mediator of A β Clearance by Microglia

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 175,000 over 3 years

How do alterations in an immune-related protein affect the clearance of beta-amyloid from the brain?

Kun Ping Lu, M.D., Ph.D.

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Boston, Massachusetts

Mechanisms of Neuronal Apoptosis Induced by the Early Pathogenic Cis P-Tau

2016 Mechanisms of Cell Death in Neurodegeneration Grant (MCDN) —\$608,547 over 3 years

How does a specific modification of the tau protein increase its abnormal accumulation and toxic effects on nerve cells?

Laura McIntire, Ph.D.

Columbia University Medical Center
New York, New York

Functional Genetic CRISPR Screen for Prevention of Synapse Loss in Alzheimer's Disease

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$100,000 over 2 years

Can a new gene modifying method help identify novel factors that protect nerve cells from the effects of beta-amyloid?

Stephen Meredith, M.D., Ph.D.

University of Chicago
Chicago, Illinois

Brain Amyloid Seeded Oligomers

2016 Zenith Fellows Award (ZNTH) -- \$450,000 over 3 years

What triggers the accumulation and spread of beta-amyloid in the brain during Alzheimer's disease?

Kyong Nyon Nam, Ph.D.

University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Effect of APOE and A β Oligomers Interaction on Cognition Decline in Mice

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF)—\$175,000 over 3 years

How do different versions of apolipoprotein E affect the build-up of beta-amyloid in the brain?

Shamsideen Ojelade, Ph.D.

Baylor College of Medicine
Houston, Texas

Understanding CD2AP's Role in Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship to Promote Diversity (AARF-D) --\$ 174,501 over 3 years

How do variations in the CD2AP gene affect nerve cell function and the risk for Alzheimer's disease?

Towfique Raj, Ph.D.

Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, New York

Functional Genomics of Alzheimer's Disease in African Americans

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG)—\$120,000 over 3 years

Can genetic changes detected in immune cells serve as blood-based biomarkers for Alzheimer's disease?

Srikant Rangaraju, M.B.B.S.

Emory University
Atlanta, Georgia

Ion Channels: Regulators of Neuroinflammation in Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG) --\$ 150,000 over 3 years

How do immune cells in the brain have both pro-inflammatory and anti-inflammatory effects during Alzheimer's disease?

Heather Rice, Ph.D.

Flanders Interuniversity Institute for Biotechnology (VIB)
Leuven, Belgium

Selective Vulnerability of Interneurons in Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 174,985 over 3 years

What makes certain types of nerve cells more vulnerable to damage during Alzheimer's disease?

Catrina Robinson, Ph.D.

Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, South Carolina

Obesity-Related Cognitive Impairment: The Role of Brain Insulin

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant to Promote Diversity (AARG-D)—\$150,000 over 3 years

Why is obesity associated with an increased risk of memory problems and Alzheimer's disease?

Karen Rodrigue, Ph.D.

The University of Texas at Dallas
Richardson, Texas

Links Between Brain Iron and Beta-Amyloid Deposition in Aging and MCI

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$98,450 over 2 years

Is iron accumulation in the brain an early risk factor for the development of Alzheimer's disease?

Carlo Sala Frigerio, Ph.D.

Flanders Interuniversity Institute for Biotechnology (VIB)
Leuven, Belgium

Somatic Mutations as Pathogenic Drivers in Sporadic Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 173,240 over 3 years

Can genetic modifications of certain brain cells increase the risk for Alzheimer's disease?

Koorosh Shahpasand, Ph.D.

Royan Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Technology
Tehran, Iran

Reason of Tau Toxicity Upon Cistauosis

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$100,000 over 2 years

How does an abnormally modified version of the tau protein promote nerve cell death?

Niraj Shanbhag, M.D., Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California

The Role of BRCA1 in Alzheimer's Pathogenesis

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 175,000 over 3 years

Does a gene involved in DNA repair and cancer play a role in Alzheimer's disease?

Salil Sharma, Ph.D.

Indiana University
Bloomington, Indiana

Role of Circulating MicroRNAs in Alzheimer's Diseases

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 175,000 over 3 years

Can a blood-based molecule that regulates gene function serve as a biomarker for the early detection and diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease?

Kinga Szigeti, M.D., Ph.D.

State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo
Buffalo, New York

Narrowing the Gap in the Genetic Architecture of Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG) --\$ 149,970 over 3 years

Could certain genetic variations that alter gene activity levels contribute to the risk for Alzheimer's disease?

Andrew Teich, M.D., Ph.D.

Columbia University Medical Center
New York, New York

A Cross-Species Study of DNA Methylation in Alzheimer's Disease Dementia

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$100,000 over 2 years

How are gene patterns changed during the development of Alzheimer's disease?

William Todd, Ph.D.

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Boston, Massachusetts

A Circadian Circuit for Behavioral Aggression in Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 175,000 over 3 years

Do changes in circadian rhythms promote aggressive behavior in people with Alzheimer's?

Badri Vardarajan, Ph.D.

Columbia University Medical Center
New York, New York

Sequencing in Healthy APOE-e4 Samples to Identify Protective Variants in AD

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$99,056 over 2 years

What are the unique genetic factors that may protect people at high risk for developing Alzheimer's disease?

Xiongwei Zhu, Ph.D.

Case Western Reserve University
Cleveland, Ohio

Role of Aberrant Calcium Signaling in Mitochondrial Dynamics in AD

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG)—\$150,000 over 3 years

Does beta-amyloid lead to excess calcium in nerve cells in Alzheimer's disease?

Diagnosis, Assessment and Disease Monitoring

Ganesh Babulal, OTD

Washington University in St. Louis
St. Louis, Missouri

Racial Differences in Alzheimer's Disease Biomarkers and Driving Behavior

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship to Promote Diversity (AARF-D) --\$ 145,000 over 3 years

Can Alzheimer's disease biomarkers help predict who may be at risk for declines in driving ability?

Einor Ben Assayag, Ph.D.

Tel-Aviv Medical Center Research And Development Fund And Health Services
Tel Aviv, Israel

Blood Exosomal miRNAs as Biomarkers in Post-Stroke Brain Recovery/ Dementia

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG) --\$ 149,999 over 3 years

Can changes in a novel blood-based biomarker be used to help predict who will develop dementia after a stroke?

Ashley Bush, M.D., Ph.D.

The Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health
Melbourne, Australia

Predicting Longitudinal Disease Outcomes Using CSF Iron Parameters

2016 Biomarkers Across Neurodegenerative Diseases (BAND) --\$ 33,000 over 2 years

Does iron accumulation in the brain contribute to the onset or progression of Alzheimer's or Parkinson's disease?

Brandy Callahan, Ph.D.

Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre
Toronto Ontario, Canada

Cognition in Mild Cognitive Impairment and Adult Attention-Deficit Disorder

2016 Alzheimer's Association Clinical Fellowship (AACF) --\$ 175,000 over 3 years

Can a new comprehensive set of tests distinguish cognitive changes associated with adult attention deficit disorder (ADD) from those associated with mild cognitive impairment (MCI)?

Alice Chen-Plotkin, M.D.

University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Protein Signatures of AD And PD – Shared and Distinct Biomarkers in Blood

2016 Biomarkers Across Neurodegenerative Diseases (BAND) --\$ 150,000 over 2 years

Can biomarker profiles that signal for the presence of Alzheimer's or Parkinson's disease be identified in the blood?

Taher Darreh-Shori, Ph.D.

Karolinska Institutet
Stockholm, Sweden

Novel Lead Chat-PET Tracer as Early Diagnostic and Theragonistic Biomarker

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$99,989 over 2 years

Can a novel PET imaging compound be used to detect early brain changes associated with Alzheimer's disease?

Guangwei Du, M.D., Ph.D.

The Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine
Hershey, Pennsylvania

Benchmark Structural MRI Marker(s) for Parkinsonian Syndromes

2016 Biomarkers Across Neurodegenerative Diseases (BAND) --\$ 146,508 over 2 years

Which specific features of MRI brain images can uniquely identify people who have early-stage Parkinson's disease?

Jennifer Gatchel, M.D., Ph.D.

Massachusetts General Hospital
Charlestown, Massachusetts

Depressive and Anxiety Symptoms and Tau PET Imaging in Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Clinical Fellowship (AACF) --\$ 174,419 over 3 years

How are depression and anxiety related to brain changes associated with Alzheimer's disease?

Edward Goetzl, M.D.

Hebrew Home for the Aged Disabled
San Francisco, California

Neural-Derived Blood Exosome Protein Biomarkers in AD and FTD

2016 Biomarkers Across Neurodegenerative Diseases (BAND) --\$ 150,000 over 2 years

Can a novel method for measuring brain-derived factors in the blood improve the detection and diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or frontotemporal dementia?

Yuanfang Guan, Ph.D.

University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Cross-Disease Brain Image Modeling

2016 Biomarkers Across Neurodegenerative Diseases (BAND) --\$ 150,000 over 4 years

Can a novel method for analyzing brain images be used to improve the early diagnosis of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease?

Andrea Iaconi, M.D., D.Phil.

Toronto Rehabilitation Institute-UHN
Toronto Ontario, Canada

A Multidimensional Tool for Assessing Mobility in Advanced Dementia

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG) --\$ 149,625 over 3 years

Can a novel tool that measures multiple factors more accurately detect mobility loss across time in people with Alzheimer's disease?

Jeongchul Kim, Ph.D.

Wake Forest University Health Sciences
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Analysis of Brain Degeneration in MCI Using a Biomechanical Framework

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 174,479 over 3 years

Can new methods to analyze subtle changes in brain structure be used to detect Alzheimer's disease in its earliest stages?

Sungeun Kim, Ph.D.

Indiana University
Indianapolis, Indiana

Biological Networks and Pathophysiology of AD and PD

2016 Biomarkers Across Neurodegenerative Diseases (BAND) --\$ 150,000 over 2 years

Can a combined analysis of multiple disease characteristics improve the diagnosis of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease?

Randy McIntosh, Ph.D.

Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Differentiating Dynamic Neural Model Profiles In Neurodegenerative Disease

2016 Biomarkers Across Neurodegenerative Diseases (BAND) --\$ 149,993 over 2 years

Can a novel computer simulation of human brain activity improve the diagnosis and treatment of neurodegenerative diseases?

Luis Medina, Ph.D.

University of Colorado Denver
Aurora, Colorado

Performance-Based Functional Assessment of Alzheimer's Disease in Hispanics

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship to Promote Diversity (AARF-D) --\$ 145,000 over 3 years

Can novel performance-based tests of brain function help improve the detection and diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease in Hispanic-Americans?

Evan Miller, Ph.D.

University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, California

Optical Tools to Interrogate Neuronal Physiology in Alzheimer's Disease

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$100,000 over 2 years

Can a novel method for measuring electrical activity in nerve cells reveal how cellular communication breaks down in Alzheimer's disease?

Fabio Moda, Ph.D.

Fondazione IRCCS Istituto Neurologico "Carlo Besta"
Milan, Italy

Seed of Dementia: Misfolded Proteins in Neurodegenerative Disorders

2016 Biomarkers Across Neurodegenerative Diseases (BAND) --\$ 121,000 over 2 years

Can a new technology that non-invasively measures low levels of toxic proteins be used to detect neurodegenerative diseases at the earliest stages?

Ines Moreno-Gonzalez, Ph.D.

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Houston, Texas

PET Imaging to Detect Alzheimer's-Like Pathology After Brain Injury

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$99,928 over 2 years

Can an imaging technique help determine how traumatic brain injury may promote brain changes associated with Alzheimer's disease?

Neil Oxtoby, Ph.D.

University College London
London, United Kingdom

Network Models of Neurodegeneration (NetMon)

2016 Biomarkers Across Neurodegenerative Diseases (BAND) --\$ 149,669 over 3 years

Can a new model for analyzing brain changes across time improve the detection and diagnosis of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease?

Kathryn Papp, Ph.D.

Brigham and Women's Hospital, Inc.
Boston, Massachusetts

Optimizing Semantic Memory Measures to Tau PET Deposition in Preclinical AD

2016 Alzheimer's Association Clinical Fellowship (AACF) --\$ 174,980 over 3 years

Can a novel memory test help detect the earliest stages of Alzheimer's disease?

Jeffrey Phillips, Ph.D.

University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Anatomical Progression of Typical and Atypical Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF)—\$174,699 over 3 years

How does the progression of brain changes differ in typical and atypical Alzheimer's disease?

Tom Schweizer, Ph.D.

St. Michael's Hospital
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Using Functional MRI to Evaluate Cognitive Predictors of Driving in MCI

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG) --\$ 146,861 over 3 years

Can brain activation patterns inform the development of new tools to help determine if individuals with cognitive impairment can safely drive?

Nicholas Seyfried, Ph.D.

Emory University
Atlanta, Georgia

Proteomic Network Analysis to Define Common Mechanisms Underlying AD and PD

2016 Biomarkers Across Neurodegenerative Diseases (BAND) --\$ 150,000 over 2 years

How do large networks of proteins change in the brains of people with Alzheimer's or Parkinson's disease?

Andy Shih, Ph.D.

Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, South Carolina

Long-term In Vivo Imaging of the Pericyte Response to Amyloid Beta

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) — \$99,960 over 2 years

How does beta-amyloid affect the function of blood vessels in the brain?

Bryan Strange, Ph.D., M.B.B.S.

Technical University of Madrid
Madrid, Spain

The Healthy Elderly Brain: MRI Predictors for Developing MCI

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$100,000 over 2 years

Can specific changes detected by brain imaging predict who is at risk for developing mild cognitive impairment?

Katherine Turk, M.D.

Boston VA Research Institute, Inc.
Boston, Massachusetts

Diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease Using Event Related Potentials

2016 Alzheimer's Association Clinical Fellowship (AACF) --\$ 175,000 over 3 years

Can measuring specific changes in brain activity improve the early detection and diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease?

Sylvia Villeneuve, Ph.D.

Douglas Hospital Research Centre
Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Monitoring Behavioral Changes Using Online Tools in At-Risk Individuals

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) --\$ 100,000 over 2 years

Can an inexpensive, internet-based system help detect early changes in brain function in individuals at risk for Alzheimer's disease?

Dieter Willbold, Ph.D.

Research Centre Juelich
Jülich, Germany

Homo- And Hetero-Aggregates As Biomarkers In Neurodegenerative Disorders

2016 Biomarkers Across Neurodegenerative Diseases (BAND) --\$ 147,500 over 2 years

Can a novel method to identify and measure different types of abnormal protein clumps in cerebrospinal fluid improve the detection and diagnosis of neurodegenerative diseases?

Renaud La Joie, Ph.D.

University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, California

Multimodal Imaging of Neurodegeneration Processes and Their Propagation

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 175,000 over 3 years

Can brain imaging techniques help promote more accurate detection and diagnosis of different types of dementia?

Translational Research and Clinical Interventions

Tina Brinkley, Ph.D.

Wake Forest University Health Sciences
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Diet, Exercise, and Soluble RAGE in Adults at Risk for Alzheimer's Disease

2016 New Investigator Research Grant to Promote Diversity (NIRGD) —\$100,000 over 3 years

How may diet and exercise impact the levels of a potential Alzheimer's disease biomarker found in blood and cerebrospinal fluid?

Michael Castle, Ph.D.

University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California

AAV Vectors for Widespread and Specific BDNF Delivery to the Cortex in AD

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 175,000 over 3 years

Can a novel method of delivering growth factors to the brain help promote nerve cell survival in Alzheimer's disease?

Katherine Denny, Ph.D.

University of California, Davis
Sacramento, California

Multidimensional Behavioral Intervention for Those at Risk for AD

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG) --\$ 120,000 over 3 years

Can a novel intervention that promotes a healthy lifestyle and improves everyday skills help slow the onset of Alzheimer's disease?

Gary D'Souza, Ph.D.

Arizona State University
Tempe, Arizona

Does Lenalidomide Alter AD Neuropathologies Via Gliosis Modulation?

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 175,000 over 3 years

Can the drug lenalidomide reduce brain inflammation and the progression of Alzheimer's disease?

Isidro Ferrer, M.D., Ph.D.

Center for Networked Biomedical Research on Neurodegenerative Diseases (CIBERNED)
Barcelona, Spain

Sativex in MCI Patients at High Risk of Developing AD

2016 Part the Cloud Challenge on Neuroinflammation —\$999,131 over 3 years

This Phase II clinical trial will examine if Sativex reduces brain inflammation and helps slow the progression of Alzheimer's disease in people with mild cognitive impairment

Lin Guo, Ph.D.

University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Developing Protein Disaggregases and RNA Inhibitors for FTD Protein: FUS

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF)—\$175,000 over 3 years

How do certain protein clumps promote frontotemporal dementia, and how may they be targeted to slow or prevent disease progression?

Mitchel Kling, M.D.

University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

A Biomarker-Based Trial of Plasmalogen Repletion in MCI/AD

2016 Part the Cloud Translational Research Funding for Alzheimer's Disease Program —\$599,961 over 3 years

Can a novel oral medication help restore the lipids necessary for nerve cell function that are lost in Alzheimer's disease?

Sanjaya Kuruppu, Ph.D.

Monash University
Clayton, Australia

A Venom Derived Peptide to Treat Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG) --\$ 108,820 over 3 years

Can a molecule found in snake venom help reduce the build-up of beta-amyloid in the brain during Alzheimer's disease?

Albert La Spada, M.D., Ph.D.

University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California

Modulators of Transcription Factor EB (TFEB)

2016 Collaboration 4 Cure (C4C) --\$ 57,224 over 2 years

Can novel drug candidates that help regulate the removal of abnormal proteins be potential Alzheimer's disease treatments?

Karienn Montgomery, Ph.D.

Texas A&M University Health Science Center
College Station, Texas

Cognitive Impairment and AD: Targeting Presynaptic Therapeutic Mechanisms

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship to Promote Diversity (AARF-D) --\$ 145,000 over 3 years

Can strategies to preserve nerve cell communication help slow or prevent Alzheimer's disease?

Paul A. Newhouse, M.D.

Vanderbilt University Medical Center
Nashville, Tennessee

Phase 1 Testing of a Muscarinic M1 PAM for Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Part the Cloud Translational Research Funding for Alzheimer's Disease -- \$689,386

Can a novel molecule that stimulates specific docking sites on the surface of nerve cells improve brain function?

John Olichney, M.D.

University of California, Davis
Sacramento, California

Proof of Mechanism Study of Senicapoc in Mild or Prodromal AD

2016 Part the Cloud Challenge on Neuroinflammation—\$1,000,000 over 3 years

This Phase II clinical trial will examine if the drug senicapoc reduces brain inflammation and preserves cognitive function in people with early Alzheimer's disease

Anthony Oliva, Ph.D.

Longeveron LLC
Miami, Florida

Mesenchymal Stem Cell Therapy for Neuroinflammation in Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Part the Cloud Challenge on Neuroinflammation—\$1,000,000 over 3 years

This Phase I clinical trial will test if a novel stem cell therapy is safe and can reduce brain inflammation in people with early Alzheimer's disease

Elena Pasquale, Ph.D.

Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute
La Jolla, California

Inhibiting the EphA4 Receptor to Counteract Alzheimer's Neurodegeneration

2016 Collaboration 4 Cure (C4C) --\$ 60,000 over 2 years

Can novel drug-like molecules stop abnormal clumps of the beta-amyloid protein from blocking nerve cell repair in people with Alzheimer's disease?

Matthew Pearn, M.D.

University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California

Small Molecules to Normalize Early Endosome Structure and Function in AD

2016 Collaboration 4 Cure (C4C) --\$ 55,000 over 2 years

Can a novel compound help prevent dysfunction of nerve cell transport systems in Alzheimer's disease?

Huntington Potter, Ph.D.

University of Colorado Denver
Aurora, Colorado

Safety & Efficacy of GM-CSF/Leukine in Mild-to-Moderate Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Part the Cloud Challenge on Neuroinflammation—\$1,000,000 over 3 years

This Phase II study will determine if the FDA-approved drug, Leukine, is safe and can help slow or prevent the progression of Alzheimer's disease

Arubala Reddy, Ph.D.

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
Lubbock, Texas

Protective Effects of SSRI Against Alzheimer's Disease

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$99,952 over 2 years

Could some antidepressant drugs be useful for treating Alzheimer's disease?

Subhojit Roy, Ph.D.

University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California

Identifying Molecules that Attenuate APP and BACE-1 Interactions

2016 Collaboration 4 Cure (C4C) --\$ 57,000 over 2 years

Can interfering with the interaction between APP and BACE-1 in nerve cells reduce beta-amyloid protein production?

Evgenia Salta, Ph.D.

Flanders Interuniversity Institute for Biotechnology (VIB)
Leuven, Belgium

Functional Validation of miR-132 Loss in AD and Therapeutic Targeting

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 175,000 over 3 years

Can a molecule that regulates gene activity help prevent brain changes associated with Alzheimer's disease?

Cécilia Samieri, Ph.D.

Association for the Development of Education and Research with Universities, Research Centers, and Enterprises of Aquitaine
Pessac, France

Network Science Tools to Identify Novel Diet Patterns in Prodromal Dementia

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG) --\$ 118,872 over 3 years

Can novel methods to analyze complex datasets reveal how diet impacts the risk of Alzheimer's disease?

Henrieta Scholtzova, M.D., Ph.D.

New York University School of Medicine
New York, New York

CAA Treatment via Innate Immunity Stimulation and MRI Detection in Primates

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG) --\$ 150,000 over 3 years

Can a novel treatment that stimulates the brain's immune system help prevent the harmful buildup of beta-amyloid in the brain?

Lutz Tautz, Ph.D.

Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute
La Jolla, California

Novel Screening Platform to Identify Specific Inhibitors of STEP

2016 Collaboration 4 Cure (C4C) --\$ 52,722 over 2 years

Can a new nerve cell testing system identify drug candidates that inhibit a specific protein involved in Alzheimer's disease?

Ramon Velazquez, Ph.D.

Arizona State University
Tempe, Arizona

Pim1 Inhibition as a Therapeutic Strategy for Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship to Promote Diversity (AARF-D) --\$ 174,999 over 3 years

Can the regulation of a molecule involved in producing and degrading proteins lead to a novel Alzheimer's treatment?

Steven L. Wagner, Ph.D.

University of California, San Diego
La Jolla, California

Screening For Novel Gamma-Secretase Modulator Scaffolds

2016 Collaboration 4 Cure (C4C) --\$ 32,249 over 2 years

Can molecules with unique chemical structures be found that modulate the gamma-secretase protein and reduce toxic beta-amyloid production?

Huaxi Xu, Ph.D.

Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute
La Jolla, California

Promoting TREM2 Stability and Activity for AD Intervention

2016 Collaboration 4 Cure (C4C) --\$ 64,471 over 2 years

Can new drug candidates that target the TREM2 protein on immune cells help regulate brain inflammation in Alzheimer's disease?

Yunwu Zhang, Ph.D.

Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute
La Jolla, California

Targeting Apoptosis for Intervention of Alzheimer's and Other Tauopathies

2016 Collaboration 4 Cure (C4C) --\$ 64,471 over 2 years

Can novel molecules that inhibit high levels of the apoptosis protein protect against nerve cell death in Alzheimer's?

Epidemiology (Dementia Risk Factors and Prevention)

Sara Adar, ScD, MHS

University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Neighborhood Noise, Socioeconomic Context, and Alzheimer's Disease

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) —\$99,996 over 2 years

Does neighborhood noise contribute to the risk of Alzheimer's disease?

Tatyana Mollayeva, M.D., Ph.D.

Toronto Rehabilitation Institute-UHN

Toronto Ontario, Canada

Alzheimer's Disease in Men and Women with Central Nervous System Trauma

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship (AARF) --\$ 144,784 over 3 years

What factors impact the relationship between brain trauma and the risk for Alzheimer's disease?

Thuc-Nhi Nguyen, Ph.D.

University of California, Davis

Sacramento, California

Cognitive Impairment and Vietnamese Female Nail Technicians

2016 Alzheimer's Association Clinical Fellowship (AACF) --\$ 174,935 over 3 years

Does exposure to toxic chemicals in nail care products increase the risk of Alzheimer's disease?

Monica Rivera-Mindt, Ph.D.

Fordham University

Bronx, New York

Alzheimer's, Cerebrovascular and Sociocultural Factors for Dementia in HIV

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant to Promote Diversity (AARG-D)—\$150,000 over 3 years

What risk factors contribute to cognitive impairment in older Latinos living with HIV?

Claudia Satizabal, Ph.D.

Boston University

Boston, Massachusetts

Impact of Obesity in Brain Aging and Alzheimer's Disease

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant to Promote Diversity (AARG-D) --\$ 118,673 over 3 years

How does mid-life obesity contribute to a person's risk of Alzheimer's disease later in life?

Kellee White, Ph.D.

University of South Carolina

Columbia, South Carolina

Racial Disparities in Cognitive Outcomes: The Role of Multimorbidity

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant to Promote Diversity (AARG-D)—\$150,000 over 3 years

Does the presence of multiple chronic medical conditions contribute to the risk of Alzheimer's disease?

Care, Support and Health Economics of Alzheimer's Disease

Bianca Acevedo, Ph.D.

University of California, Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara, California

Caregiving, Empathy and Alzheimer's Disease: A Pilot Study

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowship to Promote Diversity (AARF-D) --\$ 174,999 over 3 years

Can a meditation intervention increase empathy and improve quality of life for caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease?

Susan Hunter, Ph.D.

The University of Western Ontario

London, Ontario, Canada

Paradoxical Effects of Mobility Aids on Postural Stability in Dementia

2016 Alzheimer's Association Research Grant (AARG) --\$ 115,070 over 3 years

What are the unique needs of individuals with Alzheimer's disease who require the use of mobility aids?

Oanh Meyer, Ph.D.

University of California, Davis

Sacramento, California

A Culturally-Relevant Intervention to Reduce Dementia Caregiver Distress

2016 Mentored New Investigator Research Grant to Promote Diversity (MNIRGD)—\$150,000 over 3 years

Can Vietnamese-American dementia caregivers benefit from a culturally-relevant program that is designed to reduce stress and improve their health?

Laura Middleton, Ph.D.

University of Waterloo

Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

How Do We Get People with MCI and Dementia to be Physically Active?

2016 New Investigator Research Grant (NIRG) --\$ 100,000 over 2 years

What is the best way to deliver an exercise program for people with cognitive impairment or dementia?