

NEWSLETTER



Issue 004

October 2024

Research News - The Role of Inflammation in Dementia

Inflammation as a Trigger

Long-term brain inflammation is one of the key factors in causing dementia.

Inflammation Markers

High levels of inflammatory proteins in the blood may help predict dementia before symptoms appear.

The Gut-Brain Link

Research shows that gut health affects brain inflammation, raising dementia risk.



National Institute on Aging News: [Beyond the brain: The gut microbiome and Alzheimer's disease](#)

Amyloid Plaques and Inflammation

Amyloid plaques are abnormal proteins in the brain. Sticky amyloid plaques can both cause and result from inflammation, which worsens dementia.

Genes linked to Inflammatory Conditions

Genes controlling inflammation and inflammatory conditions in the gut can increase the likelihood of developing Alzheimer's disease.

Inflammation Treatments

Scientists are testing anti-inflammatory drugs to help treat dementia. However, results have been mixed so far.

If someone is living with a diagnosis of Mild Cognitive Impairment or Dementia, you can refer yourself or refer via a healthcare professional today. Please email your details to MARC@southernhealth.nhs.uk or call 0238 231 8757

Trials investigating inflammation in dementia - Open to recruitment



BRIC is a 2-year study investigating how brain inflammation might play a role in cognitive problems for people with Dementia with Lewy bodies.



PEBBAL2 is a 3-year study investigating how a leaky blood brain barrier and inflammation might contribute to cognitive decline in Alzheimer's disease.

*Older Age Psychiatrist's, **Dr Jay Amin** & **Dr Claire Gee** are leading the research*

Other trials open to recruitment for people living with...

Mild Cognitive Impairment



COGNIKET-MCI is a trial investigating whether ketones and B vitamins help cognitive function.

Dr Brady McFarlane is the UK Chief Investigator.

Mild Cognitive Impairment or Alzheimer's Disease



POLARIS-AD is a trial investigating whether drug, AR1001, may help the blood vessels in the brain work better.

Dr Claire Gee is our Principal Investigator.

Well done team for being the 1st UK site to recruit participants!

Team News

Introductions

A very warm welcome to our two new team members, Jude & Maxine. **Jude Rolfe-Tarrant** is our new Research Assistant. Jude was a volunteer at MARC supporting the PEBBAL2 trial. Jude has experience in research and Psychology (MSc, BSc).

Maxine Yabut is our new Pharmacy Technician with a background in Chemistry (BSc) and experience working in pharmacy in the NHS.



National News



ALZHEIMER'S DRUG LARRY HAS BEEN ON THE DRUG SINCE 2020

New drug, Lecanemab, is the first licensed treatment in UK that can slow down the early stages of Alzheimer's disease, rather than manage people's symptoms. MARC volunteer Larry has been one of the first to trial the new drug. On ITV's Good Morning Britain, Larry shares his experience of being on the new drug with his wife Rita. To hear more, click [here](#) or search online by typing, 'His memory is not better than it was but it hasn't gotten worse.'

A special thank you

We could not run our infusion drug trials without the expertise of nurses, **Jackie Hood, Mary Gough & Christine Guy**, at **Medical Day Unit**, Lymington Hospital.

Jackie, Mary & Christine give the highest quality care to our participants. Thank you for your incredible support. It has been key to the success of these trials.



Christine Jackie Mary

[Alzheimer's Research UK News](#) shares the latest information on new Alzheimer's treatments:



[Newly licensed Alzheimer's drug Lecanemab not available on NHS](#)
[New Alzheimer's drug Donanemab—what is it and how does it work?](#)

“ We are incredibly grateful to Larry, Rita, and everyone who has participated in these important clinical trials testing new treatments for Alzheimer's disease. Although Donanemab has joined Lecanemab in not being recommended as a treatment on the NHS, we feel that significant progress is being made and we are moving closer to getting a new treatment for Alzheimer's disease. ”

The MARC Team

Worldwide, hundreds of experimental treatments are being tested for dementia. Volunteer today and join us in the race to find more effective treatments.