



**BRIGHAM HEALTH**  
BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S  
Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment

# Road Map to Dementia Diagnosis:

## Behavioral Neurology Support for Diagnosis and Care

### How We Can Help

We want to provide primary care physicians with the tools to support, diagnose, and manage the care of patients with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) and Alzheimer's disease (AD), and to build a referral partner network that will support access to early diagnosis, improvements in care and treatment, and information on community services and research opportunities.

In addition to general inquiries about diagnosis, treatment, and care, we can provide additional information and resources to support patients and families, including:

- Access to neurological & neuropsychological testing support
- Caregiver resources
- Support group resources
- Clinical trials resources
- **Rapid diagnostic clinic program:** A program designed to improve access to earlier diagnosis for patients interested in research participation at the Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment (CART), and to support physician partners whose patients are in need of diagnostic assistance. The goal of this clinic is to enhance our current diagnostic capability and work closely with professionals, particularly physician partners, to support patients with a timely diagnosis, help physicians develop a comprehensive plan for follow-up, and facilitate enrollment in research studies. This clinic is staffed by a behavioral neurology physician assistant and several behavioral neurologists.

### How to Contact Us

Email us anytime at [bwhbehavioralneurology@bwh.harvard.edu](mailto:bwhbehavioralneurology@bwh.harvard.edu).

We are here to help. We have scheduled every Wednesday morning as a time that we will follow up with you. We will respond to your email questions or call you back by phone.

If you would like to contact us by phone, please call the main number for the Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment (CART) at (617) 732-8085. Please leave your name and contact information and ask to receive a call back from the covering Behavioral Neurologist of the week. Should you have any problems reaching us, please contact Lenore Jackson-Pope, Co-Director of Primary Care Outreach, at [LJackson-Pope@bwh.harvard.edu](mailto:LJackson-Pope@bwh.harvard.edu).



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### Special points of interest

- Rapid diagnostic clinic program
- Behavioral Neurologists on-call
- Resources for Providers and Families



## Why Create Partnerships in Care?

More than five million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease (AD), and the prevalence of those suffering from this disease is doubling every 5 years after the age of 65.

The problem is compounded in underserved communities in the United States, especially within communities of color, where the rate of dementia may be twice that of Caucasian communities, and access to quality care is impeded by social and structural barriers.

In addition, many people from these communities are denied access to research opportunities due to the lack of

available information and resources to support research participation.

Primary care physicians (PCPs) are on the **front lines** of providing dementia care and are natural partners to support care, access and education. PCPs are in a position to recognize cognitive changes early in their patients and advocate for a diagnosis of Mild Cognitive Impairment or Early Alzheimer's disease.

By working together, we can increase the rates of early detection of disease, and improve access to care, resources and research opportunities.

*To contact us, email [bwhbehavioralneurology@bwh.harvard.edu](mailto:bwhbehavioralneurology@bwh.harvard.edu)*

### Why We Are Here

We know that in order to meet the challenges of early detection, diagnosis, and care of individuals living with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI), Alzheimer's disease (AD), and related dementias, we must create partnerships.

Professional partnerships will enhance our experiences as medical professionals and improve patients' and caregivers' experiences.

Together, we can help lead patients and families to the support and resources they need, and together we will work towards finding effective treatment and a better understanding of how to fight Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

## Why Participate in Research?

Clinical trials offer hope for many people and are an opportunity to help researchers find better treatments for others in the future.

People participate in research for a variety of reasons. Healthy volunteers and patients say they participate in clinical trials to help others and to contribute to moving the science forward, or to receive access to a possible new treatment.

At Brigham and Women's Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment (CART) and Massachusetts Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (MADRC), we conduct two major types of clinical research studies: Observational or natural history studies and Interventional or therapeutic clinical trials.

In observational studies, participants undergo memory and thinking tests as well as brain imaging scans. Researchers at CART and MADRC are working on developing more sensitive cognitive tests, biomarkers and neuroimaging techniques like MRI and PET scans to detect early brain changes related to Alzheimer's disease, and to differentiate these changes from "normal aging".

In therapeutic clinical trials, participants receive an experimental drug or a placebo to test new potential therapies to treat or prevent Alzheimer's disease. CART is currently enrolling participants in multiple studies, including studies for older individuals with normal cognition, subjects with mild cognitive impairment (MCI), and patients with mild Alzheimer's disease dementia.

If a patient or family member is interested in memory research, please have them call the CART Main Line at (617) 732-8085 or email [cart@partners.org](mailto:cart@partners.org).

## Who We Are



### **Gad Marshall, M.D.**

Associate Medical Director of Clinical Trials, Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment  
Associate Neurologist, Brigham & Women's Hospital  
Assistant in Neurology, Massachusetts General Hospital  
Associate Professor of Neurology, Harvard Medical School

Gad Marshall, MD is a behavioral neurologist at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital, focusing on clinical trials and neuroimaging biomarkers in Alzheimer's disease and its precursor stages. Dr. Marshall has a long-standing interest in clinical-pathologic and imaging correlates in Alzheimer's disease. His work involves using clinical and biomarker data to assess the relationship between apathy, executive function and instrumental activities of daily living, cortical atrophy, in vivo amyloid deposition (PiB PET), cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) biomarkers (amyloid beta, total and phospho-tau), and synaptic integrity (FDG PET) in clinically normal elderly, mild cognitive impairment, and mild Alzheimer's disease dementia. More recently, Dr. Marshall has been developing ecologically valid performance-based instrumental activities of daily living tests for the assessments of the earliest functional deficits in older adults at risk for Alzheimer's disease.



### **Scott McGinnis, M.D.**

Associate Neurologist, Brigham and Women's Hospital  
Assistant in Neurology, Massachusetts General Hospital  
Assistant Professor in Neurology, Harvard Medical School

Scott McGinnis, MD is a staff neurologist at Brigham and Women's and Massachusetts General Hospitals. Dr. McGinnis' clinical and research focus is on improving diagnostic and treatment methods in neurodegenerative dementias. Dr. McGinnis has a specific interest in clinical-pathological correlations in frontotemporal dementias and atypical, non-memory presentations of Alzheimer's disease.



### **Seth Gale, M.D.**

Associate Neurologist, Brigham and Women's Hospital  
Instructor in Neurology, Harvard Medical School

Seth Gale, MD is a behavioral neurologist at Brigham and Women's Hospital, with interests in a broad spectrum of cognitive/behavioral disorders. His clinical focus is in the degenerative dementias. Dr. Gale has research interests in the organization and practice of behavioral neurology as a neurologic subspecialty and in the optimization of dementia clinical care. At CART, Dr. Gale works as an investigator on multiple interventional and observational studies along the spectrum of AD.



### **Hyun-Sik Yang, M.D.**

Associate Neurologist, Brigham and Women's Hospital  
Assistant in Neurology, Massachusetts General Hospital  
Instructor in Neurology, Harvard Medical School

Hyun-Sik Yang, MD is a behavioral neurologist at Brigham and Women's Hospital, and Massachusetts General Hospital. Dr. Yang's clinical interest is on neurodegenerative dementias, and his research focuses on disease modifiers of Alzheimer's disease such as genetic variations, coexisting pathologies, and medical comorbidities. Dr. Yang is a sub-investigator and study physician for various Alzheimer's disease clinical trials at CART.

Contact us: [Behavioralneurologysupport@bwh.harvard.edu](mailto:Behavioralneurologysupport@bwh.harvard.edu)

## Our Goal

The goal of building a road map to support diagnosis and care for individuals living with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI), Alzheimer's Disease (AD) and related dementias is to provide primary care physicians with tools to support, diagnose, and manage the care of these patients, and to build a referral partner network that will support access to early diagnosis and treatment, as well as information about community services and research opportunities.

We are working together to fight Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

## Where We Work

### Center for Brain/Mind Medicine

Center for Brain-Mind Medicine (CBMM), includes the Division of Cognitive and Behavioral Neurology and the Division of Neuropsychiatry.

The Center performs comprehensive evaluations of complex diagnostic conditions at the interface of psychiatry and neurology. The Division of Cognitive and Behavioral Neurology at Brigham and Women's Hospital provides a comprehensive, multidisciplinary approach to the diagnosis and management of patients who have problems with memory, executive functions, attention, language, emotion, or behavior due to disease, injury, or developmental disorders of the central nervous

system. Patients receive the highest standard of neurological, psychiatric, and social work care for the treatment of their conditions.



*Center for Brain/Mind Medicine Staff*

### Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment (CART)



*CART Staff*

The Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment (CART) is affiliated with the Department of Neurology and the Center for Brain/Mind Medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. Its mission is two-fold: to assess promising new therapies for the prevention and treatment of Alzheimer's disease through clinical trials, and to improve early diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease by employing more sensitive clinical evaluations, biological markers, and neuroimaging techniques.

### Massachusetts Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (MADRC)

The Massachusetts Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (MADRC) mission is to support new research and to enhance ongoing research by bringing together behavioral, biomedical, and clinical science investigators, to enrich the effectiveness of Alzheimer disease research and, ultimately, improve health care delivery.

The Center has three functions: (1) Conducting multi-disciplinary research, (2) training scientists and clinicians, (3) teaching and/or transferring new information concerning Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.

The MADRC Outreach, Recruitment & Engagement (ORE) Core increases public awareness about the importance of Alzheimer's disease (AD) clinical research, educates the community about current advances in early AD and other neurodegenerative diseases, research, and supports recruitment and retention for MADRC-affiliated clinical research. The MADRC ORE is based at Massachusetts General Hospital.



*Members of the ORE Core of MADRC and CART*



## Other Resources for Families and Caregivers

### Caregiver Resources

- Alzheimer's Association — [www.alz.org/care](http://www.alz.org/care) | 1-800-272-3900 (24/7 helpline)
- American Association for Retired Persons (AARP) — <http://bit.ly/2EJrP9J>
- National Institutes on Aging — <http://bit.ly/2nESqO7>

### Research Information

- Clinical Trials.gov — [www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov)
- Alzheimer's Association Trial Match — [www.alz.org/trialmatch](http://www.alz.org/trialmatch)
- Center for Clinical Research Participation Information (CICSRP) — [www.ciscrp.org](http://www.ciscrp.org)



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## Other Resources for Providers

*Additional resource for your Spanish-speaking patients:*

### **Multicultural Neuropsychology Program (MUNDOS), Massachusetts General Hospital**

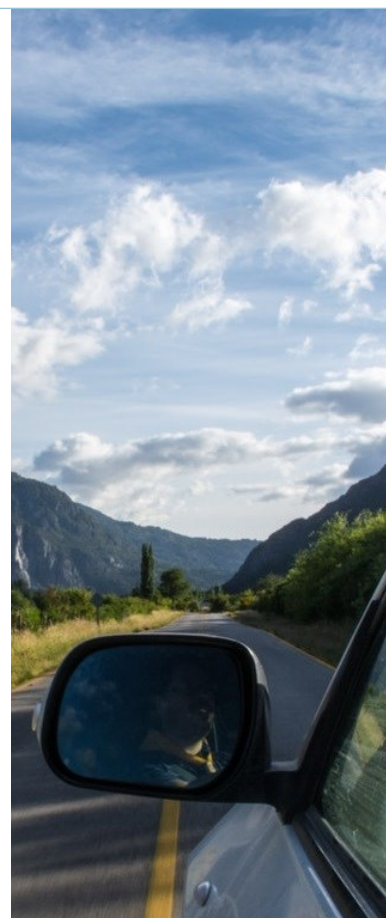
- Culturally, linguistically appropriate neuropsychological evaluations and interventions; (617) 643-3997 | [yquiroz@bwh.harvard.edu](mailto:yquiroz@bwh.harvard.edu)

### **Alzheimer's Association: Provider Information**

- Provider Page — <http://bit.ly/2En7Dg6>
- Medicare Physician Fees — <http://bit.ly/2E5yNcg>
- Policy Brief: Early Detection and Diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease — <http://bit.ly/2BcGkm>

### **Driving Evaluation Programs**

- Massachusetts Driving Medical evaluation form, Registry of Motor Vehicles — <http://bit.ly/2s9PLAJ>
- Spaulding Rehabilitation Center, Driving Evaluation Program — <http://bit.ly/1Oe48Cr>
- Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital, Drive Wise and Drive Advise — <http://bit.ly/1TU68HX>



## Questions

If you have any questions about this initiative, please contact the Co-Director of Primary Care Outreach, Lenore Jackson-Pope:

**LJackson-Pope@bwh.harvard.edu**

## Contact Information

### Behavioral Neurology Support:

- [bwhbehavioralneurology@bwh.harvard.edu](mailto:bwhbehavioralneurology@bwh.harvard.edu)
- *If you would like us to call you, please call (617) 732-8085 at the Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment (CART) and ask for a call back from the Behavioral Neurologist on-call*

### Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment (CART):

- (617) 732-8085
- [cart@partners.org](mailto:cart@partners.org)
- [www.bwhcart.org](http://www.bwhcart.org)

### Massachusetts Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (MADRC):

- (617) 643-5200
- [www.madrc.org](http://www.madrc.org)



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Research Center

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