Fall 2020 Issue

We are Your Research Home:

We hope this newsletter finds you well. The Massachusetts Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center and Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment are your home for information and resources about Alzheimer’s disease and related dementia research. Please visit us at www.madrc.org and www.bwhcart.org or follow us on Facebook or Twitter.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us: (857) 307-0708 or BWHMADRCeducation@partners.org

COVID-19: We have re-opened our research operations and are taking every precaution to protect our research participants, study partners, and staff. If you or a family member need information or resources, MGH Brigham has set up a COVID-19 hotline for clinicians, patients and the public at 617-724-7000.

Research at BWH & MGH: We have several observational studies and clinical trials open across the BWH and MGH campuses. There are five-investigator-led observational studies currently looking for volunteers concerned about, or noticing change with, their memory and thinking abilities, or those with a diagnosis of Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI) or Early Alzheimer’s Disease (AD).

These studies will help improve our understanding of methods to obtain an earlier diagnosis in patients concerned about cognitive decline, identify contributing factors to cognitive decline, and help improve monitoring and assessment. If you want to learn more about these studies, please contact Molly Lawrence, recruitment specialist: mlawrence9@bwh.harvard.edu

Alzheimer Prevention Study: We recently opened the AHEAD A3,4-5 study. This study is comprised of two different trials testing the same investigational drug (known as BAN2401). Cognitively normal study participants are enrolled in one of two AHEAD trials based on whether they have intermediate or elevated levels of amyloid in their brain:

- Participants with intermediate amyloid levels take part in the AHEAD A-3 trial
- Participants with elevated amyloid levels take part in the AHEAD A-45 trial

This study is looking for healthy adults ages 55-80 who may be at an increased risk of memory loss associated with Alzheimer’s disease but do not have significant symptoms yet. To learn more about this study contact Allyson Pulsoni, recruitment specialist: apulsoni@bwh.harvard.edu

Research participation from home during COVID-19: Individuals with a family history of Alzheimer’s disease, or who have memory concerns, have asked if there is a research study they can do from home. The answer is yes! The Alzheimer’s Prevention Trials (APT) Webstudy engages people in their own homes, on computers, and uses technology to identify those potentially at risk for Alzheimer’s disease. Anyone aged 50 or over can participate in the APT Webstudy. Learn more: www.aptwebstudy.org.

Thanks again to those of you in the registry who have previously completed online surveys. Please keep an eye out for a brief questionnaire/check-in that we are preparing to send during the upcoming holiday season.
Get the Facts!
Check out our infographics below to learn the difference between clinical trials and observational studies, as well as age-related memory problems vs. cause for concern.