

MIND MATTERS

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A Letter From The Director

We are very happy to announce that funding of the Farrukh-Jamal Stanford Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC) / Healthy Brain Aging Study has been renewed by the National Institute on Aging for another five years, through March 31, 2030. This essential NIH support will allow us to continue as a member of the national network of congressionally mandated centers, which are purposed with finding effective treatment and prevention for Alzheimer's and related disorders. The Stanford ADRC will continue its focus on healthy brain aging, on the spectrum of Alzheimer's disease – which includes Alzheimer's disease in its mildest forms – and on the spectrum of Lewy body disease – which includes Parkinson's disease and dementia with Lewy bodies. Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease are the two most common age-related neurodegenerative diseases, and microscopic features of both are often found together at the time of autopsy. We thank our research participants, who make it possible for us to conduct our research. We thank our Community Advisory Board, whose invaluable insights guide us in our mission. We will continue to recruit new volunteers who are able to give generously of their time to further this research, including volunteers from communities whose members are at higher risk of dementia. We continue to benefit from generous support from the Good Planet Foundation, the Department of Neurology, the Dean of the School of Medicine, and the Knight Initiative for Brain Resilience.

During the next five years, the Stanford ADRC will continue its focus on disease-related biomarkers in blood and other body fluids, brain imaging and genetic studies, and brain autopsy. We plan new studies of vision, hearing, and olfaction (sense of smell) to determine the role of sensory loss in neurodegenerative disease. We will return these and other research results to study participants, and we will continue to make anonymized data available to scientists at Stanford and other universities. We will train future leaders, support pilot research, and work with community partners. Dr. Michael Greicius (neurogenetics) and Dr. Beth Mormino (neuroimaging) join me as associate directors for the center, and Dr. Nusha Askari continues in her role as executive director. Other Stanford ADRC leaders include Dr. Lu Tian (Data Management and Statistics Core), Dr. Inma Cobos (Neuropathology Core), Dr. Lisa Goldman Rosas (Outreach, Recruitment, and Engagement Core), and Dr. Kaci Fairchild (Research and Education Component).

Thank you for your dedication, commitment, and support!

Victor W. Henderson, MD, MS
Director, Farrukh-Jamal Stanford ADRC

**ADRC IN THE
COMMUNITY!**

**Participant
Appreciation Day**

**This year we've decided
to move our annual
Participant Appreciation
Day to the spring time!**

**2025 Walk to end
Alzheimer's - Silicon
Valley**

**Date: October 11, 2025
Location: San Jose, CA**

[register
here!](#)

**Opportunities for
connection...**

**Memory Cafés and
Support Groups in SF
and Marin**

**for information email:
info@seniorsathome.org**



Meet our Associate Directors!



Elizabeth Mormino, PhD

Associate Director
Imaging Core Leader

My background is in neuroscience and neuroimaging. I joined the Stanford ADRC in 2018 as part of the Imaging Core. My lab focuses on different types of PET scans that allow us to visualize spatial patterns important for neurodegenerative diseases. We also use MRI to understand brain structure and function. A major goal of our work is to integrate brain imaging with other types of data, such as cognitive testing, blood and cerebrospinal fluid proteomics, and genetics, to improve our understanding of disease risk and progression, as well as healthy aging. In addition to my work with the Stanford ADRC, I also direct the Stanford Aging and Memory Study (SAMS), which is a local study focused on healthy aging that collaborates closely with the Stanford ADRC. I also work closely on the CLARiTI study, which is a collaborative imaging study that includes all individual ADRCs across the country. I am extremely excited about the next 5 years of our ADRC. It has been a privilege to interact with our research participants over the last two grant cycles, who have generously allowed us to collect various biological measurements that have already improved our understanding of neurodegenerative diseases. During the upcoming years, I am confident that our ADRC will continue to contribute to important discoveries, and believe that these discoveries will improve treatments and early detection efforts.

I am a behavioral neurologist by training and have been at Stanford since arriving as a postdoctoral fellow in 2000. I see patients with memory disorders in clinic one day per week but spend the bulk of my time these days doing Alzheimer's genetics research. My lab makes use of large publicly available genetic datasets (we have access now to data from about 1 million individuals) as well as our cherished, locally acquired data from the Stanford ADRC which is much richer in terms of the amount of data available in each participant. The main goal of our lab is to identify genetic variants that either increase or decrease the risk of developing Alzheimer's and then trying to figure out how such variants act with an eye towards providing new targets for drug development. We are particularly interested in looking for protective variants in people that carry 1 or 2 copies of the high risk APOE4 variant but that remain cognitively healthy into their 70s, 80s, and beyond. I am very excited about the next 5 year cycle for the ADRC and eager to continue building, studying, and interacting with this incredible cohort you have helped us put together over the last 10 years. I am optimistic that, as a field, we will soon have more powerful medications to provide our patients and certain that your dedication to the Stanford ADRC will have made a measurable difference in helping the field get to that point.



Michael Greicius, MD, MPH

Associate Director
Biomarker Core Leader

Faculty Highlight



The Inge Grundke-Iqbal Award for Alzheimer's Research was presented to the senior author of the most impactful study published in Alzheimer's research over the preceding two years. (For AAIC 2025: Jan. 1, 2023 – Dec. 31, 2024) This year's recipient was Stanford ADRC's very own **Katrin Andreasson, M.D.** Congratulations!

New Staff Spotlight



Daisy Ma, BS
Clinical Research Coordinator Associate (Clinical Core)

Daisy earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from the University of California, Irvine, in 2024. Prior to her role at the ADRC, she served as a student research assistant in the Sleep and Cognition (SoC) lab, where she investigated the relationship between sleep patterns and spatial memory using EEG and virtual reality technologies. At the ADRC, she is eager to contribute to research on neurodegenerative diseases, aiming to increase the representation of individuals of all countries in Alzheimer's disease research. Daisy plans to pursue a doctoral degree in neuropsychology, with the goal of advancing rehabilitative interventions that promote independence and improve the quality of life for individuals with cognitive impairments.



Nicolas Medina Penaranda, BS
Clinical Research Coordinator Associate (Clinical Core)

Nicolas received his Bachelor of Science degree in Neuroscience, with a minor in Global Health, from the University of California, Los Angeles in 2023. Before joining the ADRC, he worked as an EMT and volunteered in settings of youth education and global health. At the ADRC, he is excited to work with the Clinical Core and Neuropathology Core to advance toward a more comprehensive understanding of neurodegenerative diseases.



Jenny Wang, MS
Clinical Research Coordinator Associate (Clinical Core)

Jenny received her Master of Science in Molecular Biology, Cell Biology, and Biochemistry, as well as a Bachelor of Science degree in Neuroscience and Biology from Brown University in 2025. Prior to joining the ADRC, she worked as a Research Assistant in the Fallon Lab at Brown, where she investigated the role of the MuSK-BMP signaling pathway in adult hippocampal neurogenesis and its implications in neurodegenerative diseases using mouse models. At the ADRC, Jenny is excited to contribute to research focused on Alzheimer's Disease and other neurodegenerative conditions by working closely with patients to deepen our understanding of these complex disorders.



Henry Alva Alva, BA
Community Outreach and Research Coordinator (OREC)

Henry is a Community Outreach and Research Coordinator in the Stanford ADRC OREC and a Research Program Associate with the Office of Community Engagement at Stanford Medicine. He holds a BA in Communication Studies with a focus on community engagement and intercultural communication. In his role in the ADRC OREC team, he contributes to recruitment and engagement, evaluation and eligibility assessment efforts aimed at increasing participant enrollment in our studies. As an experienced bilingual and multicultural researcher, he leverages his skills to effectively engage diverse communities and facilitate meaningful connections in our research initiatives.

Healthy Brain Aging Study / Stanford ADRC

Contact: Veronica Ramirez at vramirez1@stanford.edu or (650) 721-2409

Stanford ADRC Affiliated Studies

Study: Alzheimer Gut Microbiome Project

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Veronica Ramirez, vramirez1@stanford.edu or (650) 721-2409

Study: Asian Cohort For Alzheimer's Disease Study

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Veronica Ramirez, vramirez1@stanford.edu or (650) 721-2409

Study: Sleep and Physical Activity Study

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Joseph Winer, jwiner@stanford.edu

Study: Longitudinal Early-Onset Alzheimer's Disease Study (LEADS)

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Stephanie Tran, trans@stanford.edu or (650) 521-7287

Study: Gastrointestinal system in Parkinson's disease (GI-PD)

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Yasmine Kehnemouyi, ykehn97@stanford.edu or at (301)-221-1948

Study: Aging with HIV infection and Parkinson's disease: a collaborative SRI-Stanford Study

Study Status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Daria Shariff, hivpd23study@stanford.edu

Study: Neuroimaging Study for Older Adults

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Daniel Tadeo, dftadeo@stanford.edu or study_aging@stanford.edu

Study: SPRING Study

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: bronte-stewartlab@stanford.edu

Stanford ADRC Affiliated Studies

Study: Speaker-listener coupling and brain dynamics during naturalistic verbal communication in Alzheimer's disease

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Delaney Ubellacker
braindevelopment@stanford.edu

Study: Tool to identify Parkinson's disease and Dementia with Lewy Bodies using digital facial expression biomarkers

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Alena Smith
alena@stanford.edu
(650) 269-0484

Study: Blood-based Markers across Neurodegenerative Diseases Study

Study Status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact:
bloodbasedmarkers@stanford.edu or
postonlab@stanford.edu or (650)-723-0600

Study: Development of a cost-effective and neurobiologically valid VR assessment tool for early detection of AD

Study Status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Samantha Reitmaier
samreit@stanford.edu or
(650) 724-2939

Contact: : mcik_study@stanford.edu

Study: Iron as an imaging biomarker for inflammation in Alzheimer's disease

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Meghan Bell,
mbell11@stanford.edu or
(650) 736-1584

Study: Mind & Memory Changes Study (LB-SPARK)

Study Status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Poston Lab Recruitment Team (lbsparkstudy@stanford.edu)

Clinical Trials

Study: ONO Trial

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Kaila Sevilla;
kailas44@stanford.edu; 650- 454-5458

Study: Bumetanide AD Trial

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Mina Kmiecik;
mina.kmiecik@stanford.edu;
(650) 387-1559

Study: APEX Study

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Mina Kmiecik,
mina.kmiecik@stanford.edu or
(650) 387-1559

Study: ALZ-NET Registry

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Stephanie Tran,
trans@stanford.edu or (650) 521-7287

Study: Neuro/PET study (healthy controls, MS, AD, PD, and ALS)

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Caroline Huang,
chuang99@stanford.edu or (650) 723-0341

Study: HD Project (observational trial, neurodegenerative disease)

Study status: Open, enrollment ongoing

Contact: Minhtrang Chu,
mtchu@stanford.edu or (650) 250-3160

More information can be found

[HERE](#)