2018 Alzheimer’s Association® Grant Awards
—Organized by Research Categories

Molecular Pathogenesis and Pathophysiology of Alzheimer’s Disease and Alzheimer’s Disease-Related Dementias (AD/ADRDs)

Rabab Al-Lahham, Ph.D.
University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
Galveston, TX
**Tau Deletion Promotes Peripheral Insulin Resistance**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $140,000 over 2 years
*Does abnormal tau protein lead to insulin resistance in people with Alzheimer’s?*

Ladan Amin, Ph.D.
Boston University
Boston, MA
**A new approach to visualize the interaction between Aß and its receptors**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $174,971 over 3 years
*Can an understanding of how beta-amyloid attaches to nerve cell reveal new ways to prevent its harmful effects?*

Anna Barron, Ph.D.
Nanyang Technological University
Singapore
**PET imaging of mitochondrial dysfunction in tauopathy**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $150,000 over 3 years
*Can a new tool to visualize early biological changes in Alzheimer’s be developed?*

Laura Blair, Ph.D.
University of South Florida
Tampa, FL
**ER stress as a mediator of tau-induced neurotoxicity**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $150,000 over 3 years
*Does reducing stress in the brain cells help moderate tau-related brain damage in Alzheimer’s and other dementias?*

Marine Bretou, Ph.D.
VIB-KU Leuven Center for Brain and Disease Research
Gent, Belgium
**New neuronal models for intracellular toxic Aß accumulation**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $174,999 over 3 years
*Are changes to the brain’s waste clearance mechanism linked to early brain changes in Alzheimer’s?*
Sara Calafate, Ph.D.
VIB - KU Leuven Center for Brain and Disease Research
Gent, Belgium
**EC-CA1 network dysfunction in Alzheimer's disease**
2018 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program - $175,000 over 3 years
*What is the mechanism in the brain by which memory loss occurs in Alzheimer's?*

Che-Wei Chang, Ph.D.
J. David Gladstone Institutes
San Francisco, CA
**Role of Tau in modulating neural activity in Alzheimer's disease**
2018 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program - $175,000 over 3 years
*How does tau affect the communication between nerve cells in the brain, in Alzheimer's and other brain diseases?*

Xiaofen Chen, Ph.D.
Xiamen University
Xiamen, China
**Targeting soluble TREM2 for Alzheimer's disease therapy**
2018 Alzheimer's Association Research Grants (AARG)- $150,000 over 3 years
*What role does the immune system play in Alzheimer's and how can this be targeted for possible therapy?*

Marius Chiasseu, Ph.D.
Yale University
New Haven, CT
**Role of brain injury in the induction of Alzheimer's disease**
2018 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowships to Promote Diversity (AARF-D)- $175,000 over 3 years
*What is the underlying biology for association and an individual's risk in later life for developing Alzheimer's or other dementia?*

Sarah Cohen, Ph.D.
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC
**Role of ApoE in astrocyte lipid metabolism**
2018 Alzheimer's Association Research Grants (AARG)- $150,000 over 3 years
*Can a gene linked to Alzheimer's cause damage to the nerve cells by producing abnormal levels of fat in brain cells?*

Marcello D'Amelio, Ph.D.
University of Rome
Rome, Italy
**Targeting dopamine neuronal loss on a model of Alzheimer's disease**
2018 Alzheimer's Association Research Grants (AARG)- $150,000 over 3 years
*Can a cancer drug block or slowdown the degeneration of specific brain cell types?*

Fang Du, Ph.D.
University of Kansas
Lawrence, KS
**Mechanisms of mitochondrial clearance and tau accumulation**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $148,500 over 3 years
*Could removing damaged structures inside nerve cells, prevent tau tangles from forming during Alzheimer’s?*

**Simon Dujardin, Ph.D.**
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, MA
**Understanding the molecular signature of Tau seeds in the human brain**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $174,999 over 3 years
*Can we predict the start of tau protein aggregation in the brain?*

**Amy Dunn, Ph.D.**
The Jackson Laboratory
Bar Harbor, ME
**Mechanisms of an interaction between genetics and diet in AD**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $174,973 over 3 years
*How does consuming a high fat diet affect risk of Alzheimer’s in individuals with different genetic profiles?*

**Nicholas Fitz, Ph.D.**
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA
**APOE isoform specific effects on microglial mediated neuroinflammation**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $150,000 over 3 years
*How do certain changes in immune cell activity affect different brain regions in Alzheimer’s?*

**Anton Forsberg Moren, Ph.D.**
Karolinska Institutet
Stockholm, Sweden
**PET imaging using a novel radioligand for beta secretase 1**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $147,520 over 3 years
*Can a novel brain scan compound help researchers better understand how beta-amyloid is produced in early Alzheimer’s?*

**Brian Hitt, M.D., Ph.D.**
University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center
Dallas, TX
**Identification of tau seeds in the CSF of Alzheimer disease patients**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Clinical Fellowships (AACSF)- $175,000 over 3 years
*Could detection of abnormal tau protein provide valuable diagnostic information about Alzheimer’s and other brain diseases?*

**Ksenia Kastanenka, Ph.D.**
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, MA
**Characterization of neuronal network disruptions in Alzheimer’s disease**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $150,000 over 3 years
*How might disruption of brain activity during sleep affect the progression of Alzheimer’s disease?*
Cristian Lasagna Reeves, Ph.D.
Indiana University
Indianapolis, IN
**Impact of Tau Protein Modifications in CAA**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants to Promote Diversity (AARG-D)- $150,000 over 3 years
*How does tau protein in and around blood vessels affect the brain?*

Adrian Liston, Ph.D.
VIB- KU Leuven Center for Brain and Disease Research
Gent, Belgium
**Role of Regulatory T cells in Alzheimer’s disease**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grant-New to the Field (AARG-NTF)- $135,000 over 3 years
*Could boosting the activity of an immune system protein in the brain reduce harmful brain inflammation and memory loss in Alzheimer’s?*

Justin Long, M.D., Ph.D.
Washington University in St.Louis
St. Louis, MO
**Role of ApoE isoforms in tau-mediated neurodegeneration**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Clinical Fellowships (AACSF) Program- $174,990 over 3 years
*How does APOE cause brain cell death during Alzheimer’s disease?*

Rodrigo Lopez-Gonzalez, Ph.D.
University of Massachusetts Medical School
Worcester, MA
**C9ORF72 Related Frontotemporal Dementia and Genomic Instability**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships to Promote Diversity (AARF-D)- $175,000 over 3 years
*How might a genetic variation in certain genes lead to the development of frontotemporal dementia?*

John Lukens, Ph.D.
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA
**Lymphatic dysfunction and inflammasomes as drivers of AD pathology**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $149,820 over 3 years
*Does traumatic brain injury increase the risk for dementia by damaging the brain’s ability to clear toxic proteins?*

Renzo Mancuso, Ph.D.
VIB- KU Leuven Center for Brain and Disease Research
Gent, Belgium
**Microglia and neuroinflammation: transducers of Aβ toxicity in human AD**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $174,070 over 3 years
*Does brain inflammation promote the development of Alzheimer’s?*

Lior Mayo, Ph.D.
Tel Aviv University
Tel Aviv, Israel
**The role of NG2-Glia in Alzheimer’s disease**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $150,000 over 3 years
Could targeting specialized support cells in the brain affect Alzheimer’s progression?

Rodrigo Morales, Ph.D.
University of Texas Health Science Center
Houston, TX

**Characterization of natural and synthetic Aß “conformational strains”.
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants to Promote Diversity (AARG-D)- $149,997 over 3 years**

Does the shape of beta-amyloid affect how it contributes to the progression of Alzheimer’s?

Derek Oakley, M.D., Ph.D.
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, MA

**Tau aggregation and toxicity in patient-derived iPS-neurons**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Clinical Fellowships (AACSF)- $174,991 over 3 years

Could a new type of cell grown in a laboratory dish reveal how tau protein harms nerve cells during Alzheimer’s?

Ana Pereira, M.D.
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, NY

**Molecular Profiling of glutamate and tau-mediated toxicity in AD**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $150,000 over 3 years

Could a new model reveal biological pathways in brain regions important for memory and learning that are harmed in Alzheimer’s?

Ilaria Prada, Ph.D.
CNR Neuroscience Institute
Milan, Italy

**Role of extracellular vesicles in the propagation of synaptic dysfunction**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $170,858 over 3 years

How do the toxic protein fragments associated with Alzheimer’s spread throughout the brain and affect nerve cells?

Alan Renton, Ph.D.
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, NY

**Neural Somatic Mosaicism in Neurodegenerative Disease**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $169,927 over 3 years

How could abnormalities in a person’s DNA be linked to Alzheimer’s and other dementias?

Roberta Rodriguez, Ph.D., M.D.
University of Sao Paolo
Sao Paolo, Brazil

**Characterization of tau astrogliopathy on aging and neurodegeneration**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $140,000 over 2 years

Does tau accumulation in the brain’s “helper” cells affect brain related changes and the individual’s cognitive decline?

Amar Sahay, Ph.D.
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, MA
Targeting feed-forward inhibition in DG-CA3 to improve memory in AD
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grant – New to the Field (AARG-NTF)- $150,000 over 3 years
Can restoring balance in the brain cell activity reduce beta-amyloid accumulation and improve memory?

Jason Shepherd, Ph.D.
University of Utah
Salt Lake City, UT
Investigating the role of neuronal exosomes in Alzheimer's Disease
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG) - $150,000 over 3 years
How do nerve cells remove harmful proteins during Alzheimer’s?

Juan Song, Ph.D.
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC
Targeting neural circuits for treating Alzheimer’s disease
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grant – New to the Field (AARG-NTF)- $150,000 over 3 years
Can restoring the function of specific nerve cell circuits in the brain reverse Alzheimer's?

Andrea Soranno, Ph.D.
Washington University in St.Louis
St. Louis, MO
Conformational analysis of ApoE isoforms and their role in AD mechanism
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG) - $150,000 over 3 years
How do different variations in apolipoprotein E change its shape and function during Alzheimer’s disease?

Peter St George-Hyslop, M.D.
University of Toronto
Toronto, Ontario
Role of Intrinsically Disordered Proteins in Fronto-Temporal Dementia
2018 Zenith Fellows Awards (ZEN)- $450,000 over 3 years
How does a unique protein called FUS become abnormally modified to promote the development of frontotemporal dementia?

Sidney Strickland, Ph.D.
Rockefeller University
New York, NY
Role of the contact system in Alzheimer's disease
2018 Zenith Fellows Awards (ZEN)- $450,000 over 3 years
How can a process linked to blood clotting and inflammation promote the onset of Alzheimer's disease?

Lidia Tagliafierro, Ph.D.
Duke University Medical Center
Durham, NC
ApoE, Alzheimer’s and Aging: discover the triple A in hiPSC-derived models.
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $175,000 over 3 years
How do different forms of APOE gene affect cells in the brain in Alzheimer’s?
Andrew Varga, M.D., Ph.D.
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
New York, NY
Effect of chronic sleep disruption on brain tau phosphorylation and spread
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $149,999 over 3 years
Does sleep disruption lead to more rapid build-up of abnormal tau protein in the brain?

Laura Vella, Ph.D.
The Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health
Parkville, Australia
Do extracellular vesicles mediate progression of Alzheimer’s disease?
2018 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $174,786 over 3 years
What role does the brain’s waste clearance system play in formation of hallmark brain changes in Alzheimer's?

Hongtian Yang, Ph.D.
The Jackson Laboratory
Bar Harbor, ME
Determining how genetic diversity of myeloid cells impacts AD progression
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $174,720 over 3 years
How do brain cells that increase inflammation impact progression of Alzheimer’s?

Na Zhao, M.D., Ph.D.
Mayo Clinic Jacksonville
Jacksonville, FL
ApoE isoform effects on cerebral insulin signaling in Alzheimer’s disease
2018 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $140,000 over 3 years
How do beta amyloid and the APOE-e4 gene variation work together to impair brain health in Alzheimer’s?

Jing Zhao, Ph.D.
Mayo Clinic Jacksonville
Jacksonville, FL
ApoE isoform effects on tau pathology using iPSC-derived cortical organoids
2018 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $174,811 over 3 years
How do different variations of the APOE gene lead to abnormal tau accumulation in the brain in Alzheimer’s?

Diagnosis, Assessment and Disease Monitoring

Miguel Arce, Ph.D.
Columbia University
New York, NY
Bilingualism among Individuals with and without Family History of Dementia
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships to Promote Diversity (AARF-D)- $164,039 over 3 years
Does speaking multiple languages help reduce the risk of Alzheimer’s in aging Hispanic Americans?

Mircea Balasa, M.D., Ph.D.
Trinity College Dublin
Dublin, Ireland
Primary-specialised Care Partnership for an Earlier Diagnosis of AD
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $21,780 over 1 year

Katherine J. Bangen, Ph.D.
University of California
La Jolla, CA
Cerebral Arterial Compliance and Cognitive Function in MCI
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $150,000 over 3 years
*Can you measure stiff blood vessels in the brain as a novel early-stage marker of Alzheimer's?*

Willa Brenowitz, Ph.D.
University of California
San Francisco, CA
Relationships between multiple sensory impairments and cognitive decline
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $175,000 over 3 years
*What are the relationships between sensory impairments, such as hearing and vision loss, and cognitive decline in older adults?*

Kacie Deters, Ph.D.
Stanford University
Palo Alto, CA
AD genetic risk factors and cognitive decline in African-Americans
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships to Promote Diversity (AARF-D)- $175,000 over 3 years
*Do specific genes increase risk of African-Americans in developing Alzheimer's-related brain changes?*

Lisbeth Evered, Ph.D.
St. Vincent’s Hospital
Melbourne, Australia
Biomarker evidence of neuronal damage in response to anesthesia and surgery
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG) Program- $149,800 over 3 years
*Can certain compounds in the blood identify brain damage resulting from surgery with anesthesia?*

Boris Gutman, Ph.D.
Illinois Institute of Technology
Chicago, IL
Advanced Disconnectome Markers of Alzheimer's Disease
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $149,997 over 3 years
*How do the brain’s nerve cell connections become damaged in the early stages of Alzheimer's?*

Laura Jonkman, Ph.D.
VU University Medical Center
Amsterdam, Netherlands
Impact of (p-)Tau and amyloid-β on brain networks in Alzheimer's patients
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $175,000 over 3 years
*How does the underlying biology in Alzheimer's affect the clinical symptoms for an individual?*

Aurélie Ledreux, Ph.D.
University of Denver
Denver, CO

**Brain-derived exosomes as biomarkers for Alzheimer's disease**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $149,997 over 3 years
*Can measuring tau and beta-amyloid content in blood predict the development of Alzheimer's?*

**Emer McGrath, M.D.**
Brigham and Women's Hospital, Inc.
Boston, MA

**Serum Biomarkers for Predicting Cognitive Decline and Dementia**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Clinical Fellowships (AACSF)- $140,000 over 2 years
*Do changes of certain molecules in the blood associate with cognitive diseases like Alzheimer’s later in life?*

**Naomi Nevler, M.D.**
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA

**Novel Speech Biomarkers in Amnestic and Non-amnestic AD**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Clinical Fellowships (AACSF)- $175,000 over 3 years
*Can subtle speech changes be an early indicator of the earliest stages of Alzheimer’s?*

**Ronald Petersen, M.D., Ph.D.**
Mayo Clinic
Rochester, MN

**Alzheimer's Disease Biomarker Combinations in the Community**
2018 Zenith Fellows Awards (ZEN)- $450,000 over 3 years
*How do toxic forms of tau and beta-amyloid interact to promote Alzheimer's disease?*

**Fabrizio Piazza, Ph.D.**
University of Milano - Bicocca
Milan, Italy

**CAA-ri as a human spontaneous model of ARIA for biomarkers research**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $150,000 over 3 years
*Can the study of therapy-related adverse side effects improve our understanding of how the immune system may fight Alzheimer's?*

**Yakeel Quiroz, Ph.D.**
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, MA

**Taking it to the extreme: The search for modifiers of cognitive decline**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants to Promote Diversity (AARG-D)- $146,415 over 3 years
*What genes and lifestyle factors contribute to the age of Alzheimer's onset?*

**Ameer Taha, Ph.D.**
University of California
Davis, CA

**Lipid pathways underlying the vascular contributions to Alzheimer’s Disease**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants to Promote Diversity (AARG-D)- $149,975 over 3 years
*Could the levels of certain fats in the blood help predict a person’s risk of Alzheimer’s?*
Ioannis Tarnanas, Ph.D.
Trinity College Dublin
Dublin, Ireland
Alzheimer's Disease Prediction Service (ADPS): a computational biomarker
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI) - $25,000 over 2 years

Sarinnapha Vasunilashorn, Ph.D.
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
Boston, MA
Genetic and Inflammatory Mechanisms of Delirium and Alzheimer's Disease
2018 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program - $175,000 over 3 years
How might stress-related delirium after surgery, increase risk for Alzheimer's?

Dominic Walsh, Ph.D.
Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Inc.
Boston, MA
A blood-based molecular fingerprint for early Alzheimer’s disease
2018 Zenith Fellows Awards (ZEN) - $449,999 over 3 years
Can a blood test be used to detect and diagnose Alzheimer's disease?

Li Zhao, Ph.D.
Children’s National Medical Center
Washington D.C.
Noninvasive biomarkers of CSF production
2018 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program - $175,000 over 3 years
Can measuring the loss of a fluid that surrounds the brain help diagnose Alzheimer's?

Megan Zuelsdorff, Ph.D.
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Madison, WI
Social stressors, allostatic load, and disparities in cognitive aging
2018 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program - $174,870 over 3 years
How might a disadvantaged social environment increase risk for Alzheimer's?

Translational Research and Clinical Interventions

Roberta Brinton, Ph.D.
University of Arizona Health Sciences
Tucson, AZ
Advancing Allopregnanolone as a regenerative therapeutic for Alzheimer's
2018 The Part the Cloud to RESCUE Brain Cell Degeneration in Alzheimer’s Disease (PTC-R) - $1,000,000 over 2 years
This is a Phase 2a study to determine whether an important hormone in brain function is able to regenerate brain cells and restore function in people with Alzheimer's.

Rafael de la Torre, Ph.D.
Fundacio Institut Mar d’Investigacions Mediques
Barcelona, Spain
Cognitive decline in early stages of AD after EGCG and a multimodal therapy
2018 The Part the Cloud to RESCUE Brain Cell Degeneration in Alzheimer’s Disease (PTC-R)- $999,244 over 2 years
This is a Phase 2 clinical trial to examine the efficacy of compound EGCG combined with multicomponent lifestyle changes as an approach to slow down cognitive decline in early stages of Alzheimer’s.

Claudia Duran-Aniotz, Ph.D.
Instituto de Neurociencia Biomedica (BNI)
Santiago, Chile
Targeting the UPR stress sensor IRE1 to treat Alzheimer’s disease
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $150,000 over 3 years
Could therapeutic small molecules help nerve cells overcome the effects of misfolded proteins during Alzheimer’s?

Eugenio Gutierrez Jimenez, M.D., Ph.D.
University of Aarhus
Aarhus, Denmark
Capillary dysfunction in Alzheimer’s disease: Pathophysiology and Treatment
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $175,000 over 3 years
Is low oxygen level in the brain a characteristic of Alzheimer’s and could it be treated by a FDA approved drug?

Xue Hua, Ph.D.
M3 Biotechnology, Inc.
Seattle, WA
Phase 2a Alzheimer’s Trials of a Novel Neurotrophic Activator, NDX-1017
2018 The Part the Cloud to RESCUE Brain Cell Degeneration in Alzheimer’s Disease (PTC-R)- $1,000,000 over 1.5 years
This is a Phase 2a trial that explores if a drug that stimulates brain cell growth and survival could be a novel therapy for Alzheimer’s.

Elissaios Karageorgiou, M.D., Ph.D.
The Regents of the University of California, San Francisco
San Francisco, CA
Cognitive Behavioral Therapy of Insomnia in Mild Cognitive Impairment
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $25,000 over 2 years

Enza Lacivita, Ph.D.
University of Bari
Bari, Italy
Drug development of pro-resolving ALX/FRP2 agonists for Alzheimer’s Disease
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grant– New to the Field (AARG-NTF)- $120,000 over 2 years
Can targeting brain inflammation lead to decreased beta-amyloid in Alzheimer’s as a potential therapy?

Krista Lanctôt, Ph.D.
Sunnybrook Research Institute
Toronto, Ontario
Linking GSH and cognitive response: a pilot phase 2a study of NAC in VCIND
2018 Part the Cloud Translational Research Funding for Alzheimer’s disease (PTC)- $443,000 over 3 years
Can a drug designed to boost levels of a key antioxidant in the brain help delay or prevent the onset of dementia?
Kent Leslie, M.S.
Amylyx Pharmaceuticals Inc.
Cambridge, MA
**Phase II Study to Assess Safety and Target Engagement of AMX0035 in AD**
2018 Alzheimer's Combination Therapy Opportunities (ACTO)- $507,567 over 2.5 years

JiaBei Lin, Ph.D.
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA
**Developing therapeutic protein disaggregases for Alzheimer’s Disease**
2018 Alzheimer's Association Research Fellowships (AARF) Program- $175,000 over 3 years
*Can a protein found in yeast be used to moderate the harmful effects of beta-amyloid and tau in Alzheimer's?*

Cassie Mitchell, Ph.D.
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, GA
**Quilting disparate data patches to elucidate Alzheimer's Disease**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants to Promote Diversity (AARG-D)- $150,000 over 3 years
*Can the vast scientific literature on Alzheimer's be organized into a cohesive, easily-useable database?*

Lennart Mucke, M.D.
The J.David Gladstone Institutes
San Francisco, CA
**Development of Tau-lowering Small Molecule Drugs**
2018 Alzheimer’s Innovation Award (AIA)- $150,000 over 2 years
*Could novel drugs that target tau levels in the brain prevent and slow Alzheimer’s progression?*

Paul Newhouse, M.D.
Vanderbilt University
Nashville, TN
**M1-PAM VU319 Effects on Network Connectivity in MCI: A Proof-of-Concept Study**
2018 The Part the Cloud to RESCUE Brain Cell Degeneration in Alzheimer’s Disease (PTC-R)- $998,151 over 2 years
*This is a Phase 2a clinical trial to test if a novel drug that stimulates specific brain cell proteins could improve memory and attention in people with Mild Cognitive Impairment.*

Rogerio Panizzutti, M.D., Ph.D.
Trinity College Dublin
Dublin, Ireland
**Cognitive training to promote brain health: implementation and engagement**
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $25,000 over 1.5 years

Sabrina Pickens, Ph.D.
University of Texas Health Science Center
Houston, TX
**Modifying a Telephone Based Care Program to Assess for Self-Neglect**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants to Promote Diversity (AARG-D)- $119,998 over 2 years
*Can a care program administered by telephone help, homebound older adults to carry out vital daily activities?*
Jagan Pillai, M.D., Ph.D.
Cleveland Clinic Foundation
Cleveland, OH
**Immune & genetic predisposition altering TNF responses in Alzheimer disease**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $150,000 over 3 years
What immune system and genetic variations might lower the risk of harmful brain inflammation during early Alzheimer’s?

Joel Salinas, M.D., M.B.A., M.Sc.
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, MA
**Robert Katzman Clinical Fellowship in Alzheimer's & Related Dementias**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Clinical Fellowships (AACSF)- $106,666 over 2 years

Ashley Sanderlin, Ph.D.
Wake Forest University Health Sciences
Winston-Salem, NC
**Ketogenic Dietary Effects on Sleep, Cognition and Behavior in MCI**
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships to Promote Diversity (AARF-D)- $169,999 over 3 years
Can a low-carbohydrate diet improve sleep and brain function and improve quality of life in individuals with Mild Cognitive Impairment?

Stephen Strittmatter, M.D., Ph.D.
Yale School of Medicine
New Haven, CT
**Silent Allosteric Modulation of mGluR5 for Alzheimer's Disease**
2018 The Part the Cloud to RESCUE Brain Cell Degeneration in Alzheimer’s Disease (PTC-R)- $999,895 over 3 years
Can a drug block harmful functions of a brain cell protein without affecting its normal, healthy functions in people with Alzheimer's?

Kyrana Tsapkini, Ph.D.
Johns Hopkins University- School of Medicine
Baltimore, MD
**Predicting therapy effects in people with Alzheimer's disease using tDCS**
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $25,000 over 1.5 years

Manfred Windisch, Ph.D.
Neurokine Therapeutics LLC
New York, NY
**Phase 1 Study of MW150: Novel Stress Kinase Inhibitor Candidate**
2018 Part The Cloud Translational Research Funding for Alzheimer’s Disease (PTC)- $436,745 over 2 years
Can a novel pleiotropic compound that targets synaptic loss and neuroinflammation prove to be safe and tolerable in humans?
Population Studies

Zelde Espinel, M.D.
University of Miami
Coral Gables, FL
Behavioral/Cognitive Effects of Hurricane Irma on Alzheimer’s Disease
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Clinical Fellowships to Promote Diversity (AARF-D)- $175,000 over 3 years
How do traumatic events affect people living with Alzheimer’s dementia?

Jorge Llibre Guerra, M.D.
Global Brain Health Institute, UCSF
San Francisco, CA
The Cuban Dementia Study among admixture populations: a longitudinal study
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $25,000 over 1 year

Claire McEvoy, Ph.D., M.Phil
Queen's University
Belfast, Northern Ireland
Ideal cardiovascular health, cognitive decline and incident dementia
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $24,247 over 1 year

Matthew Pase, Ph.D.
Swinburne University of Technology
Hawthorn, Australia
Effects of Poor Sleep on Alzheimer’s disease Pathogenesis
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG) Program- $149,835 over 3 years
Can altered sleep lead to the onset of Alzheimer’s by boosting brain levels of beta-amyloid?

Nicole Spartano, Ph.D.
Boston Medical Center Corporation
Boston, MA
Physical Inactivity, Epigenetic Aging, and Preclinical Dementia
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $149,103 over 3 years
Which biological mechanisms may underlie the link between physical inactivity and an increased risk for dementia?

Warren Taylor, M.D.
Vanderbilt University
Nashville, TN
Sex Differences in Stress Response in Individuals at Higher Risk for AD
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Sex and Gender in Alzheimer’s (SAGA)- $100,000 over 1 year
Do differences in how women and men respond to stress influence their risk for later life cognitive decline?

Dementia care and Impact of Disease

Jalayne Arias, J.D., M.A.
University of California
San Francisco, CA
Social, Legal, and Financial Consequences of Frontotemporal dementia
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $25,000 over 1 year

Eleonore Bayen, M.D., Ph.D.
Association Robert Debré pour la Recherche Médicale
Paris, FRANCE
“Brain Health matters”: create understanding around brain health at school
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $25,000 over 1 year

Alissa Bernstein, Ph.D.
Global Brain Health Institute, UCSF
San Francisco, CA
Brain Health Promotion and Dementia Prevention among Bay Area Latinos
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $24,970 over 1.5 years

Nathalie Bier, Ph.D.
Université de Montréal
Montreal, Québec
Assistive technology for cognition to increase safety at home
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $150,000 over 3 years
Can novel technology help people in earlier stage Alzheimer's remain independent and safe in their homes?

Dominic Campbell, B.A.
Trinity College Dublin
Dublin, Ireland
Creative Ageing International
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $24,728 over 1 year

Maria Carmona-Iragui, M.D., Ph.D., M.H.S
Institut De Recerca De L'Hospital De La Santa Creu i Sant Pau
Barcelona, Spain
Domiciliary Alzheimer Visiting in Down syndrome
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $24,970 over 2 years

Laurent Cleret de Langavant, M.D., Ph.D.
Association Robert Debré pour la Recherche Médicale
Paris, FRANCE
Statistical learning to track dementia in population based surveys
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $25,000 over 1 year

Barbara Costa Beber, Ph.D.
Associacao Mario Tannhauser de Ensino, Pesquisa e Assistencia – aMTepa
Porto Alegre, Brazil
Awareness and knowledge of dementia amongst Speech and Language Therapists
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $25,000 over 1 year
Elisa de Paula França Resende, M.D.
Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais - Faculdade de Medicina
Belo Horizonte, Brazil

Basic literacy, memory and brain connectivity
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $25,000 over 2 years

Fayron Epps, Ph.D.
Georgia State University Research Foundation, Inc.
Atlanta, GA

Dementia-Friendly Faith Villages to Support African American Families
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants to Promote Diversity (AARG-D)- $150,000 over 3 years

How might attending church together strengthen the well-being of African-Americans with dementia and their caregivers?

Linda Francis, Ph.D.
Cleveland State University
Cleveland, OH

A Virtual Interaction Training Guide as a Quality of Life Intervention
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $149,913 over 3 years

Does a computer-based tool benefit quality of life in residential care for people with Alzheimer’s?

Elena Portacolone, Ph.D., M.B.A, M.P.H
University of California
San Francisco, CA

Scalable Strategies to recruit African Americans into dementia research
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Grants (AARG)- $150,000 over 3 years

Can partnerships with specific community-based organizations help increase recruitment of African Americans in dementia research?

Kendra Ray, Ph.D.
Menorah Home and Hospital
Brooklyn, NY

Beyond Listening: A Music-Based Caregiver Intervention
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships to Promote Diversity (AARF-D)- $175,000 over 3 years

Can an effective, music-based therapy be delivered by a family caregiver in the home for people living with dementia?

Octavio Santos, Ph.D.
Mayo Clinic Jacksonville
Jacksonville, FL

Spanish translation and cultural adaptation of the Memory Support System
2018 Alzheimer’s Association Research Fellowships to Promote Diversity (AARF-D)- $140,000 over 2 years

Can a culturally-tailored brain exercise program improve memory and daily function in older Hispanic/Latino adults?

Fionnuala Sweeney, B.A.
Trinity College Dublin
Dublin, Ireland

Your Brain’s Health -Innovative Digital Platform
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $25,000 over 1 year
Stelios Zygouris, M.S.
Greek Association of Alzheimer’s disease and Related Disorders
Thessaloniki, Greece

A two-tiered cost-efficient computerized cognitive screening protocol
2018 The Pilot Awards for Global Brain Health Leaders (GBHI)- $25,000 over 2 years

* This list contains the awards funded exclusively by Alzheimer’s Association in FY2018.