

# Clinical Trials & Research Opportunities

Last updated October 2021

## Alzheimer's Association TrialMatch®

Alzheimer's Association TrialMatch® is a clinical trial matching service for Alzheimer's and other dementias. It provides customized lists of clinical studies based on user-provided information. The free, easy-to-use platform allows you to see which studies are a good fit for you or a family member. Search for studies, sign up for study updates, or connect with researcher teams.

[About TrialMatch](#)

## ClinicalTrials.gov

ClinicalTrials.gov is a resource provided by the U.S. National Library of Medicine. You can search for clinical trials by condition or disease, other terms such as a drug name or other keywords, and by country. You can also filter your search to find recruiting or completed trials and can find out the results. The trials are not just for pharmaceutical research, there are also long-term studies about disease progression and the effects of lifestyle and non-pharmaceutical interventions.

ClinicalTrials.gov is a database of privately and publicly funded clinical studies conducted around the world, so listing a study does not mean it has been evaluated by the U.S. Federal Government. Before participating in a study, talk to your health care provider and learn about the risks and potential benefits.

[ClinicalTrials.gov](#)

## HealthPartners Neuroscience Clinical Trials

For a list of current neuroscience clinical trials taking place at the HealthPartners Institute please see the [Neuroscience Studies](#) webpage. Each trial has a link to the email address and the clinical trials phone line 651-495-6363. Messages are checked regularly.

## University of Minnesota Families and Long-Term Care Projects

The mission of The Families and Long-Term Care (LTC) Projects is to build systems and solutions that empower and improve the quality of life of persons with memory loss and their families across racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic boundaries.

There are multiple opportunities for families, persons with memory loss/other chronic conditions, and care professionals to participate in research projects that seek to design and evaluate innovative programs.

You can also become part of a registry which provides the Families and Long-Term Care Projects permission to contact you in the future about any upcoming opportunities to participate in our research as well other basic information. It does not enroll you in any study. For more information see the Families & LTC Care Projects [webpage](#).

Contact Joe Gaugler, PhD at [gaug0015@umn.edu](mailto:gaug0015@umn.edu) or 612-626-2485 for more information.

For more general inquiries about participation for studies across the University of Minnesota, please see: [StudyFinder: UMN](#).

## CarFreeMe

CarFreeMe is a research study conducted by the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. CarFreeMe is a program for people with memory loss living in Minnesota who are considering retiring from driving or are acclimating to driving retirement. The program enrolls them and their supportive family member(s).

CarFreeMe is studying the effects of a coaching and educational program to support people who have memory concerns and are considering retiring from driving or are adjusting to driving retirement. The study provides telephone or video conference coaching sessions for the individual with memory loss, together with their supportive family member, as they prepare for or acclimate to driving retirement. The CarFreeMe intervention aims to share strategies for decision-making and information on alternate transportation options for adapting to driving retirement in order to promote independence and well-being.

For more information and to complete the survey: [CarFreeMe](#)

## **LBD Study**

### **Mayo Clinic / UF Health - Norman Fixel Institute for Neurological Diseases**

Volunteers are needed to help doctors and researchers understand the experiences of people with dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB) and their caregivers during moderate to advanced DLB stages.

This study aims to understand what changes might predict the end of life in people with dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB). This information will help patients, caregivers, families, and health care professionals know what to expect in later stages of DLB. It will also help identify what changes might suggest that someone is approaching the end of life, and how to make that time a good experience.

#### **Are you eligible?**

This study is enrolling individuals with DLB and their main caregiver. Those who are enrolled must currently receive routine care at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. The person with DLB and the caregiver must be willing to participate as a pair. To participate, individuals must have at least moderate DLB and the caregiver must be able to answer questionnaires relating to the DLB and caregiver experience. After agreeing to participate, a screening visit will include three brief questionnaires to make sure the volunteer pair meet the study criteria.

#### **What's involved?**

Each study visit after screening will include several questionnaires about the experiences of a person with DLB and their caregiver, and will primarily be answered by the caregiver. Study visits can take place in-person, or by video call or telephone if preferred. Study visits will take place once every six months for up to three years.

#### **Compensation**

Each pair will receive \$100 in compensation after each visit given time and travel expenses.

If you are interested in learning more or participating, call or email a member of our study team:

Jodi Melius

(507) 538-4044

[Melius.Jodi@mayo.edu](mailto:Melius.Jodi@mayo.edu)

## Project CARE at Rice University

Participants sought for study examining The Impact of Emotions on Social Distancing among family caregivers for individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The purpose of this research study is to understand the factors (e.g., feeling unhappy, lonely, frustrated) that influence compliance with social distancing recommendations during the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, this study aims to understand how negative emotions (e.g., feeling unhappy, lonely, frustrated) along with social distancing requirements influence family caregivers' confidence in their ability to provide high-quality care for their relatives with dementia during the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you agree to take part in this study, you will be asked to complete an initial online screening survey (approximately 20-25 minutes).

Interested individuals who are eligible based on the online screening survey will be asked to complete:

- A 30 to 45 -minute training session via Zoom, which is a video communication tool,
- Mobile assessment at 3-time periods (each period will be one week, one month apart over 3 months)

For this mobile portion of the study, you will answer brief surveys 7 times throughout the day (one in morning, one in evening and five random times). Each time it will take approximately 5-10 minutes to complete the surveys. The random surveys will be sent to your phone at five random times throughout the day.

- A series of online questionnaires at the beginning and end of each week (it will take approximately 1hr to 1hr 30 min). In addition, only in Time 1 of this study, you will be asked to complete 15-min online questionnaires every day for a week
- You will wear a provided smartwatch to monitor your sleep, heart rates, physical activity and location during the week of mobile assessment.

We are looking for participants who

1. are the principal person taking care of a family member with a physician-based diagnosis of dementia/Alzheimer's Disease,
2. devote at least 4 hours daily to the care of a family member with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias for at least the last 3 months,
3. are married or self-defined as long term committed partners for at least 3 years (Only if you are a spousal caregiver),
4. have a personal smartphone with a cellular data plan for the mobile portion of the study and internet access to complete the surveys,
5. have access to a personal computer or laptop with internet access to complete the surveys, and 6) are fluent in English. Participants should not have acute or uncontrolled medical illness (e.g., major surgery, autoimmune disorders).

Participants will be compensated up to \$255 for completion of the three visits (Amazon gift card or PayPal).

The principal investigator of this study is Dr. Christopher Fagundes in the BMED Lab at Rice University.

To get more information about the study, please contact us at [careduringCOVID@rice.edu](mailto:careduringCOVID@rice.edu) or 832-819-4297.

## **Opportunity for Input: Stanford University Survey for Caregivers During Pandemic**

Dr. Ranak Trivedi from Stanford University is conducting a research study to understand the experience of caregivers during the COVID19 pandemic. This is an international, anonymous, online survey that will help us understand the unique needs of caregivers. We can then use this information to provide better support.

[Complete the survey to make sure your voice is heard!](#)

## **Rural Dementia Caregiver Project - UCSF University of California, San Francisco**

We are offering a free online workshop to caregivers who care for people with dementia and live in rural communities throughout the US. Our workshop is different from other caregiver programs because it can be accessed anytime (day or night), there are no set meeting times, and caregivers do not need to meet in-person or leave their care partner alone to participate, important during COVID. Also, caregivers can do the workshop using a smartphone, tablet, or computer—Zoom and video are not required to participate. We think online programs like this workshop are a big asset during these challenging times.

The workshop is called Building Better Caregivers, and it lasts 6 weeks. There is no cost to caregivers because we have a grant from the National Institute on Aging to pay for it.

Caregivers may be eligible if they:

- Live in a rural area of the United States
- Give care at least 10 hours a week for a family member or friend with memory problems (by care we mean give help with dressing, meals, transportation, medications, appointments, or similar support).
- Are 18 years of age or older
- Have internet access

The workshop teaches caregivers how to reduce their stress, take better care of themselves, and manage the difficult behaviors of the family member or friend they are caring for. Caregivers also get to talk with and learn from other caregivers and two trained facilitators.

Because this is a study, caregivers will be randomly assigned to one of two groups by a computer. Half of the caregivers will receive the Building Better Caregivers workshop right away. The other half will have to wait 12 months. Caregivers who have to wait will receive a free caregiver handbook on tips and resources and support phone calls from our trained staff. All caregivers will be asked to complete four surveys on their caregiving experiences and will receive up to \$80 in cash for doing so.

We hope this program will help rural caregivers of people with memory loss improve their health and caregiving skills.

If you would like more information, please visit our website at [Rural Caregiver Project](#)

Giselle Aguayo Ramirez  
Assistant Project Coordinator

## **Addressing Diversity in Alzheimer's Clinical Trials**

At 2021 AAIC (Alzheimer's Association International Conference), the National Institute on Aging (NIA), part of the U.S. National Institutes of Health, launched a new online tool, [Outreach Pro](#), to help researchers and clinicians increase awareness and participation in clinical trials on Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, especially among traditionally underrepresented communities.

For more information about diversity issues in Alzheimer's clinical trials, see the [Highlights Report](#) from the 2021 AAIC.