AD/ADRD Multimodal Data Workshop

Friday, July 25, 2025 | 1-5 p.m.
Westin Harbour Castle Hotel, Frontenac Ballroom — Toronto, Canada
All times are in Eastern Standard Time
In-person attendance only

Overview

Join us for an interactive, in-person workshop that explores how integrating multimodal data can unlock new research opportunities and address critical challenges in Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (AD/ADRD).

As data from individual participants becomes increasingly rich—spanning electronic health records, clinical assessments, genomics, blood-based biomarkers, imaging, and more—the potential to answer complex research questions is rapidly expanding. However, navigating disparate repositories and combining diverse data types remains a key challenge. This workshop will dive into both the opportunities and the obstacles, with a focus on making real progress toward actionable solutions.

What to Expect:

- **Expert Panel:** The workshop will kick off with a panel discussion featuring leaders from major data repositories across the AD/ADRD research landscape.

- **Data Discovery Circuit:** Participants will rotate through hands-on stations to explore repository platforms, interact with data experts and tools, and provide feedback on the data access experience.

- **Research Pitch & Design:** Attendees will pitch research ideas or challenges that could benefit from multimodal data. In small teams, they'll develop these ideas further—identifying needed datasets, refining study designs, and gathering input from repository and NIA representatives.

- **Collaborative Sharing:** Teams will share their proposed projects with the full group to spark discussion and cross-pollination of ideas.

- **Closing Takeaways:** The session will wrap up with a synthesis of key insights and concrete strategies for improving data discoverability and access—paving the way for more impactful and inclusive AD/ADRD research.

See below for the detailed agenda.

Organizing Committee

- Sarah Biber, PhD - National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center (NACC)
- Laura M Heath, PhD - AD Knowledge Portal
- Zoë Leanza, BA - AD Knowledge Portal
- Hannah Stockwell, BA - NACC

Speakers

- **Sarah Biber, PhD** - Executive Director of the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center (NACC)
- **Laura M Heath, PhD** - Associate Director of Alzheimer's Disease Translational Research at Sage Bionetworks / AD Knowledge Portal
- **Li-San Wang, PhD** - PI of the National Institute on Aging Genetics of Alzheimer's Disease Data Storage Site (NIAGADS)
- **Tatiana Foroud, PhD** - PI of the National Centralized Repository for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (NCRAD)
- **Duygu Tosun, PhD** - PI of the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative (ADNI)
- **Mike Nalls, PhD** - Advanced Analytics Expert Group Lead at the NIA Center for Alzheimer's and Related Dementias (CARD); Founding Partner, Datatecnica

Target Audience

This ISTAART immersive workshop is designed for researchers at the beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels.

Learning Objectives

1. Discover the multimodal data resources that are available from some of the leading AD/ADRD data centers
2. Discuss how multimodal data can best be leveraged to address the most pressing AD/ADRD research questions
3. Identify multimodal data infrastructure needs, gaps, and solutions

Registration

Educational workshops are offered for in-person attendance only. Workshops require a separate registration fee in addition to AAIC full conference registration, or they may be purchased as stand-alone events. Visit alz.org/AAIC.

Agenda: July 25, 2025 | 1:00 - 5:00 PM

Time (ET)	Session Details	Speakers and Moderators
1:00–1:30 pm	**Panel: AD/ADRD Multimodal Data Repositories** (featuring ADKP, ADNI, CARD, NACC, NCRAD, NIAGADS)	Li-San Wang, PhD Tatiana Foroud, PhD Duygu Tosun, PhD Sarah Biber, PhD Laura Heath, PhD Mike Nalls, PhD
1:30-1:40 pm	**Warm-Up Activity**	All Attendees
1:40-2:15 pm	**Stations Activity: Review Repositories, Tooling and Provide Feedback** (featuring ADKP, ADNI, CARD, NACC, NCRAD, NIAGADS) *Continued on next page*	All Attendees

2:15-2:25 pm	**Develop a Pitch**
	Pitches should be 90 seconds or less and cover the following:
	
	● Brief introduction: State your name, affiliation, and relevant expertise.
	● Overview of what research question you are interested in addressing using multimodal data
	  ○ What is the question?
	  ○ What types of data do you need?
	  ○ What is the potential impact?
	  ○ What are some types of expertise you are seeking in collaborators today?
		All Attendees (may submit a pitch in advance or develop in-person)

2:25-2:35 pm	BREAK *Continues on next page*	

2:35 - 3:05 pm	**Attendees Pitch Ideas** ● Ideally submit your pitch in our online form before you take the stage ● Line up to pitch, get your pitch # sticker and take the stage when given your cue ● Leave the stage and ensure your pitch has been accurately recorded in our pitch tracker ● Audience members will be able to review all pitches in pitch tracker ● Total number of pitches will be capped to stay on time	All Attendees (Individual Pitches)
3:05 - 4:10 pm	**Team Breakouts and Research Plan Formation** ● Form small teams around a single or combined pitch idea ● Collaborate on putting together a research plan detailing the problem space, data and tooling considerations, methods, needs and potential impact ● Create a poster with your group using provided supplies	All Attendees (Group Collaboration)
4:10-4:45 pm	**Research Plan Presentations** ● Your group will have approximately **4 minutes** to present. Bring your poster to the stage. ● The presentation format will be based on pre-set group research plan questions, but feel free to go "off-script" and be creative!	All Attendees (Group Collaboration)
4:45-4:55 pm	**Key Takeaways**	Sarah Biber, PhD Laura Heath, PhD
4:55-5:00 pm	**Post-event Survey**	All Attendees