Monthly news, updates, and information from the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center

Dear Colleagues,

I am happy to introduce this issue of the NACC Navigator, the monthly newsletter of the National Alzheimer's Coordinating Center! As many of you may know, after serving as Deputy Director and Associate Director at NACC, I have recently assumed the role of NACC's Interim Director. Through my work at NACC and leading data sharing networks such as Data QUEST, I have developed a deep appreciation for the work our ADRC community accomplishes together and the importance of maintaining strong collaborative relationships across all our Centers. I look forward to working with the NACC team and all of you to continue supporting the research and data needs of the ADRC program.

With gratitude,

Kari A. Stephens, PhD
Interim Director

▶ *Spotlight*

2025 FALL
ADRC
MEETING

October 21-23, 2025
FULLY VIRTUAL

Join your ADRC colleagues online this October!

The 2025 Virtual Fall ADRC Meeting will center on Personalized Medicine, highlighting how ADRC research across clinical studies, biomarkers, imaging, neuropathology, data science, and community engagement contributes to tailored approaches for Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

Register Now!

Preliminary Agenda

➤ *Recent Research*

4 KEY PIECES
Managing Common Health Conditions Slows Alzheimer's Progression

Dr. Brinton and researchers at the University of Arizona in Tucson have discovered that managing the four common health conditions of type 2 diabetes, hypertension, inflammation, and dyslipidemia can significantly slow Alzheimer's disease progression. According to new findings using NACC and ADNI data, these treatments offer a delay in cognitive decline that rivals or exceeds the latest amyloid-targeted therapies. Explore how these insights from real patient data could extend the window for Alzheimer's interventions.

Read More

➤ *Upcoming Events*

Tuesday, October 14, 2025 | 3-4 pm CT

Advancing Dementia Care: Research, Training, and Collaboration Opportunities

Tuesday, October 14, 2025
4 - 5 pm ET | 3 - 4 pm CT | 1 - 2 pm PT

This webinar will introduce the field of dementia care and caregiving research, highlight examples of innovative work happening across the ADRC network, and showcase the training and consultation services available to support researchers and practitioners in this space.

Register Now

The Knight ADRC is hosting the 20th Annual Norman R. Seay Lecture

"Honoring Legacy. Accelerating Progress."
Hybrid Event: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 4 - 5 pm CT

Commemorating 20 years of community-informed science and engagement in Alzheimer's disease research, the event featured reflections from prior Seay Lecturers, a keynote on milestones in brain health by Dr. John C. Morris, a roundtable discussion on building a legacy of trust led by Dr. Joyce Balls-Berry, and a call to action inviting broader participation in research, concluding with a reception celebrating the 25th anniversary of the African American Advisory Board.

Register Now

▶ NACC Updates

New! NACC Support Page & Request Form

NACC has a new Support Page and Support Request Form! Now ADRC Program members and other researchers have one place to go to find support options, including a more formal and structured support request form, links to

common support topics, information about the ADRC Program Community Forum, and a prominent search bar. You can always find a link to Support in the NACC site footer. When you submit a support request form it automatically sends in a support ticket to the appropriate team at NACC. We will get back to you in 3-5 business days.

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Get Support

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New! Biomarker Best Practice Guidelines for CSF & Blood

Review the newly released Biomarker Best Practice Guidelines for CSF and Blood Collection, Processing and Storage. The following recommendations, developed by the ADRC Biomarker Best Practices Working Group, are intended to be guiding principles for ADRCs for the collection, processing, and storage of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) and blood specimens for Alzheimer's disease biomarker research purposes. Such guidelines will foster data harmonization across ADRCs while still encouraging Center investigators to explore novel Alzheimer's disease biomarkers. These guidelines were developed with consideration of available evidence to date.

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View the Blood Guidelines

View the CSF Guidelines

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► ADRC/CORE Spotlight

Enhancing Data Quality: Laura McLeod's REDCap Contributions

With 15 years of REDCap experience, Laura McLeod, NACC's Senior REDCap Administrator, is dedicated to improving data quality and reducing burden on REDCap users and survey participants. "Finding creative uses or external modules, or just built-in REDCap functionality that's going to save people time

or make their life easier or make sure that correct data is being collected, that makes me excited," said Laura.

In addition to the important work Laura does supporting NACC and the ADRC Program, she is also an active leader in the REDCap Consortium. She co-chairs the *Training and Collaboration Committee* and founded and co-chairs the *SQL Users in REDCap League (SQUIRL)*. She has twice been awarded the [REDCap All-Star Award at REDCapCon](#) and was a plenary speaker at this year's event. The NACC team is extremely thankful for all of Laura's hard work, and we're excited to see the new and creative ways she will continue to improve data quality and the REDCap user experience for our team and the ADRC Program.

➤*Funding Opportunities*

BrightFocus Foundation FY26 Alzheimer's Disease Research Postdoctoral Fellowship

Deadline: September 29, 2025 at 5 pm EST

BrightFocus supports postdoctoral researchers conducting mentored training in Alzheimer's disease research. Fellows must be within five years of terminal degree completion and have an established mentor with dedicated laboratory space. Awards provide $100,000/year for two years, supporting salary, research costs, and conference travel to present results.

Learn More and Apply

BrightFocus Foundation FY26 Alzheimer's Disease Research Standard Award

Deadline: September 29, 2025 at 5 pm EST

BrightFocus seeks applications for Standard Awards supporting innovative Alzheimer's research by new and early investigators (MD, PhD, or equivalent within 12 years). Awards provide $100,000/year for up to 3 years (total $300,000), starting July 1, 2026. Program prioritizes high-risk studies advancing disease understanding with no overhead costs allowed.

Full Details

XPRIZE Healthspan Longitudinal Data Analysis Select Awards

Application Deadline: October 6, 2025

Four XPRIZE Healthspan Longitudinal Data Analysis Select Awards of $10,000 each to conduct novel data analyses of select existing cohorts, with priority given to early career investigators and investigators with data from geographically and ethnically diverse populations. These analyses will develop reference thresholds for the $81M Grand Prize competition focused on therapeutics to increase healthspan.

More Information

AI and Technology Collaboratory (AITC) Coordinating Center (U24)

Application Deadline: October 15, 2025

Award: $1,900,000 total costs per year

NIA seeks a coordinating center to facilitate the AITC program, which promotes artificial intelligence approaches for aging and Alzheimer's research. The center will coordinate collaboratory activities, lead stakeholder engagement, and enhance program impact through dissemination efforts. Eligible applicants include institutions with AI coordination and multi-disciplinary research expertise.

Apply Today

in   X   🦋

We Want to Hear From You

Have feedback or news that you'd like included in this newsletter? Email us at naccmail@uw.edu.