

# Why is research important?

## *For you and your loved one*

- The Penn Memory Center research program enrolls people with and without memory concerns. We provide everyone with a comprehensive memory assessment.
- You may be able to participate in cutting-edge studies with the possibility of taking free investigational medications.
- We work to connect you with additional resources in the community, from writing letters to your doctor for the continuation of your care, to recommending appropriate support groups.
- The knowledge that your participation directly advances research, helping future generations in the fight against Alzheimer's disease.



## *For your community*

- African Americans are under-represented in Alzheimer's disease research, which means we have little information about how the disease is affecting our community.
- Age is a key risk factor for Alzheimer's disease in all racial and ethnic groups. The number of African Americans age 65 and over will more than double by 2030, from 2.7 million in 1995 to 6.9 million by 2030.
- Vascular disease may be a powerful factor in the frequency of Alzheimer's disease among African Americans, but more research must be done to know conclusively.

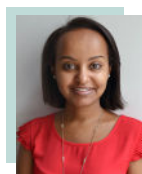
## *What research participation might look like for you...*

Everyone has unique life experiences and family situations, so research looks different for everyone. Below is a general outline of what we do. We want you to make decisions about research from a place of understanding.

- The first step is made by you, by contacting the Penn Memory Center.
- A Penn Memory staff member will return your call, inform you about our research registry and other opportunities available through research, and ask you some basic medical information about you or your loved one.
- After hearing from a Penn Memory staff member, if you are still interested and eligible, we will request and review your medical records. We will do this to make sure that research makes sense for you.
- If everything looks good, we will bring you and/or your loved one in for a single evaluation. You will receive a comprehensive evaluation and a full memory assessment. The appointment will last about 2 hours. You will be compensated for your time.
- After your visit, we will talk with you about your participation: if research is the right fit, we will explain what your options are and what the next steps will look like. Some possibilities include a once-a-year visit to our center, becoming involved in a clinical treatment trial, or simply adding your name to a list of people we will contact about future projects.



The Penn Healthy Brain Research Center  
A CDC Healthy Brain Research Network Member



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