

Brains for Dementia Research



A world-class resource



Brains for Dementia Research (BDR) is a gold-standard resource providing;

- Data from over 3000 participants and thus far, over 1300 donated brains.
- A network of 5 UK-based brain banks located in the Universities of Oxford, Bristol, King's College, London, Manchester and Newcastle.
- All BDR brain banks use a standard neuropathology reporting protocol.
- To-date, around 70,000 brain tissue samples have been dispatched to 36 countries across the world.
- Over 1,000 requests made to access BDR brain tissue from researchers in academia and industry.



A one-stop shop for researchers



BDR provides a vast range of integrated resources including:

- Fixed and frozen P.M. brain tissue (diseased and controls)
- Tissue derivatives – DNA, RNA and post mortem CSF
- Fibroblasts and induced pluripotent stem cells
- Standardised, longitudinal neurocognitive and neuropsychiatric data
- Standardised and characterised neuropathology data
- Genetic data including ApoE status and some EGA, exome sequencing and neuroX data.
- Blood tissue (subgroup), including plasma, serum, buffy coat, whole blood.

A research community



The Brains for Dementia Research cohort has become more than just a tissue resource or data repository for mining, with hundreds of researchers generating and analysing its data. It is now a powerful tool to aid in the fight against dementia. We have created a “BDR Community”, a network of researchers all working on the same resource with the same goal. This community aims to bring together a wealth of knowledge from all research areas and develop collaborations to maximise researcher’s efforts by combining data generated on the same samples. The group have online meetings to discuss projects and ideas. If you would like to be a part of this community, or would just like to know more, you can register your interest by filling in the form available at <https://shorturl.at/MSJ6E>



A no-cost data resource



A sub-set of the serial, standardised assessment data can be found on the UK Brain Bank Network <https://ukbbn.brainsfordementiaresearch.org/> and for researchers in receipt of tissue, some associated data is available from Brain Banks. Researchers requiring a full set of longitudinal assessment data can apply to the data portal, Dementias Platform UK (DPUK). BDR is consistently in the top 3 most-requested cohorts in DPUK applications [DPUK Overview Report – DPUK Data Portal](#) and although applications require approval, most approvals take under 2 weeks. There is no cost for data access.

We are here to support you



If we are to gain a greater understanding of dementia and develop potential treatments, collaboration is essential. At BDR we are keen to support researchers as much as we can. If you would like to learn more about the programme or discuss your requirements, please get in touch. You can find out more at our website <https://bdr.alzheimersresearchuk.org/> or email the coordinating centre at BDR.coordinatingcentre@ncl.ac.uk.