

New developments in brain tissue research: LATE



As a result of brain tissue research, scientists have identified a new type of dementia which is termed **Limbic-predominant age-related TDP-43 encephalopathy** or “**LATE**”

Some people diagnosed with Alzheimer’s may actually have this newly-defined dementia type as it mimics the disease symptoms of Alzheimer’s but is caused by another disease in the brain. While that doesn’t change the search for a treatment for Alzheimer’s or for this newly classified type of dementia, distinguishing between the two is essential if we are to narrow down a cause and target potential future treatments more accurately.

Further information about **LATE** can be seen on the links from our funders; **Alzheimer’s Society** www.alzheimers.org.uk/blog/late-new-type-dementia and **Alzheimer’s Research UK** www.alzheimersresearchuk.org/new-dementia-classification-for-disease-with-alzheimers-like-symptoms/

BDR Blood sub-study



We are delighted to be in receipt of new funding to carry out blood sampling.

We would like to approach those participants who previously donated samples, to ask if they would be willing to give more samples. In addition, some participants linked to the BDR Centre in Manchester will be asked if they would be willing to donate samples for the first time.

The samples are collected so that we can look for **bio-markers** which may indicate changes affecting the brain such as signs of inflammation. We can then compare these results with what we see when brain tissue is eventually donated.

This may help us pinpoint exactly when changes occur and to allow us to develop blood tests which could be used to predict dementia long before memory symptoms appear.



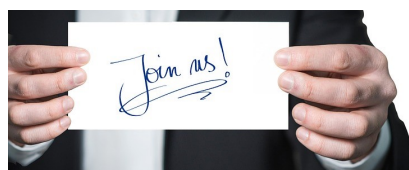
We have re-launched the BDR website and hope that you like the new presentation which includes the local details of who to contact and what to do when a tissue donor dies.

Brainsfordementiaresearch.org.uk

BDR3 Progress update

Approximately 1 year ago, we started inviting BDR participants to continue their participation in the study. The first BDR3 consent form was received on 27th June 2018 from a volunteer living in the Bristol area. One year on, over **1,500** participants have agreed to continue supporting this study and have completed the new assessments including the new measures of vascular health. We couldn’t do the study without your support and hence we would like to express our sincere **THANKS** and would encourage anyone who has been approached by their local study team and is keen to help us, to return their consent forms as soon as possible.

What's happening in your local BDR?



ENGAGEMENT EVENTS We were delighted to meet BDR participants and study partners at the Engagement Events held in **Oxford** and in **London**. The events were important to us as we wanted to take the opportunity to thank in person everyone who has supported BDR and for making the study a success.

We also aimed to update you with progress, answer any questions that you had and show you the work that we do. We hope that you enjoyed the events and we plan to hold similar events in the **spring of 2020** in **Bristol** and **Cardiff** and in the **autumn of 2020**, in **Manchester** and **Newcastle**, details of which will be made available in due course.



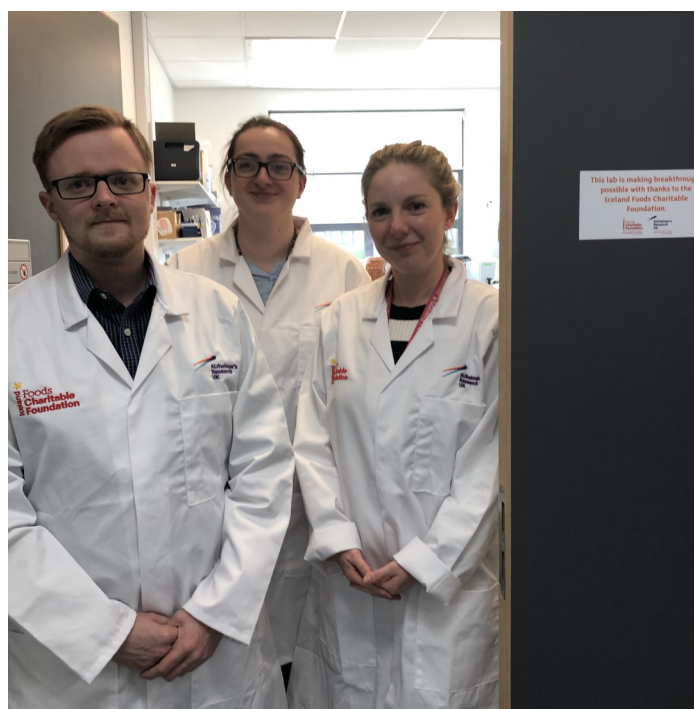
Oxford Open Day
16th March 2019



Brains for
Dementia
Research



OXFORD
BRAIN BANK



The Newcastle BDR Coordinating Centre were visited by a representative from Iceland Foods, which is partnered with **Alzheimer's Research UK**. **Iceland Foods Charitable Foundation** will be supporting Brains for Dementia Research through its fundraising efforts.

Newcastle



**Newcastle
University**
Institute of
Neuroscience

Manchester

MANCHESTER
1824
The University
of Manchester

New staff Many of our Manchester volunteers will be familiar with **Steve Chew-Graham** (below far left) who has been the BDR study coordinator for many years. Steve is still very much part of the team but he has reduced his hours and will focus primarily on supporting tissue donation.



Phil Tinkler (left) has taken over much of Steve's previous role and hence might be contacting you for your next assessment!

We welcome Phil to the team.

Case Study The Manchester Brain Bank have been selected as a case study for the website of a major supplier of scientific equipment highlighting Manchester's (and therefore BDR's) contributions to the identification of the genetic mutations associated with neurodegenerative disease <https://monmouthscientific.co.uk/case-study/manchester-brain-bank/>