

ACT at the Alzheimer's Association International Conference

ACT researchers were excited to attend the Alzheimer's Association International Conference (AAIC) in July. Alzheimer's researchers from around the world gather every year at this conference to present the results of their ongoing studies and to learn from each other. Data from the ACT study was included in 17 presentations this year. Because we collect such a variety of information from you, our valuable partners, ACT is helping to advance knowledge in many different areas, from basic science to clinical care.

Our presentations described different types of neuropathology (brain disease) that can be found in the brains of people who died with dementia, and in those who died without dementia. Our studies show that many different types of neuropathology are present in people who have dementia, and even in people who do not have dementia, making it difficult to understand the cause of any individual's dementia during life.

Another study examined the brains of people who had hearing loss, a known risk factor for dementia. This study reported that people with hearing loss who wore hearing aids were less likely to have Alzheimer's disease pathology than those who did not. More research on this is needed, but the results support findings by other studies that hearing aids may help protect against risk of dementia.

One area in which ACT is doing very new research is in the comparison of damage seen in the brain at the time of death with information that can be seen on MRI scans during life, as we described in our newsletter last summer that focused on our Neuroimaging Core. This study identified a specific type of disease process that is associated with injury to the brain's white matter (the fibers that connect different brain

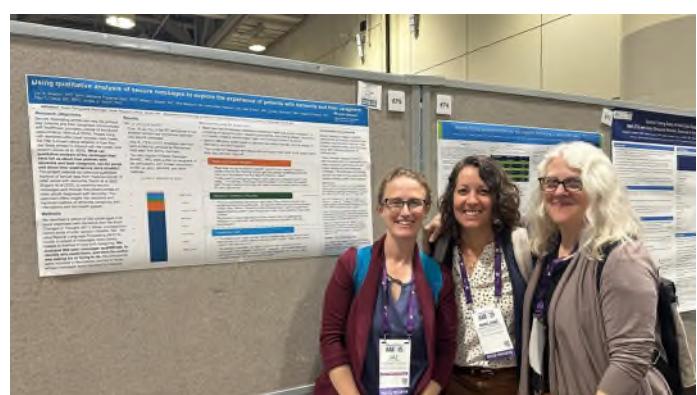
regions) that are often seen in MRIs. This information will help researchers and clinicians better interpret clinical findings on MRIs.

In another quite different study, ACT researchers examined how patients with dementia and their caregivers communicate with healthcare providers through patient portals (reporting anonymous data to protect privacy). This study found common areas of concern expressed by patients and caregivers, which may help us identify ways to improve care.

All the studies we presented at the conference, and that we have published over the years, help us learn more about Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia and may help develop new ways to treat or prevent dementia. We are so grateful for all your efforts to help us find ways to prevent and treat dementia so that fewer people will have to suffer from this terrible disease in the future.

To learn more about the scientific discoveries shared at AAIC, go to:
<https://aaic.alz.org/press/press-releases.asp>

Or google: AAIC 2025 News Highlights



Drs. Shapiro, Figueroa Gray and Taylor presenting their research at AAIC 2025.

Send comments or suggestions to:

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