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FROM THE ALZHEIMER’S ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE 2022

ALZHEIMER’S ASSOCIATION LAUNCHES ALZ-NET: A LONG-TERM DATA COLLECTION AND SHARING NETWORK FOR NEW TREATMENTS

SAN DIEGO, AUGUST 1, 2022 — The Alzheimer’s Association announces that the Alzheimer's Network for Treatment and Diagnostics (ALZ-NET) — a new platform that will collect long-term clinical and safety data from patients treated with FDA-approved Alzheimer’s disease therapies in real world clinical settings — is launched and live.

ALZ-NET is the first network developed specifically for new FDA-approved Alzheimer’s treatments, collecting real-world evidence on drug effectiveness and side effects over a long period of time.

The announcement was made today at the Alzheimer’s Association International Conference® (AAIC®) 2022 in San Diego and virtually. ALZ-NET partner organizations include the American College of Radiology, Critical Path Institute, Department of Biostatistics at Brown University School of Public Health and American Society of Neuroradiology, along with other clinical research and imaging experts.

The goal of ALZ-NET is to improve patient care and outcomes, and inform Alzheimer’s treatment practices, including helping us better understand and remediate health disparities, by tracking how people from all backgrounds and communities respond to novel FDA-approved Alzheimer’s therapies.

A national system to collect and share drug safety and effectiveness is essential since the Alzheimer’s treatment landscape dramatically changed with FDA accelerated approval of aducanumab in June 2021, and as many late-stage clinical trials are expected to report out in the next 12 months.

"We are entering a new phase of Alzheimer's treatment. ALZ-NET is the tool that will help us translate therapies into care that provides the most benefit to people living with the disease and their caregivers, in all communities,” said Maria C. Carrillo, Ph.D., Alzheimer’s Association chief science officer and ALZ-NET co-principal investigator. “In collaboration with partners and
scientific leaders, we are looking to develop the future of Alzheimer’s and dementia treatment and diagnostics."

Similar successful networks for heart disease, cancer, HIV/AIDS and multiple sclerosis have enabled stakeholders to track the long-term performance of therapies.

“ALZ-NET will be a long-term investment for the Alzheimer’s Association. This is a prime example of our commitment to improve care and clinical readiness, and support innovative drug discovery,” Carrillo said. “It is imperative that we all work together as a clinical and research community to build this infrastructure as it creates opportunities for evidence gathering, information sharing and education.”

**What Will ALZ-NET Gather, and What Will It Produce?**

“ALZ-NET will gather real-world clinical practice data and outcomes, including treatment effectiveness and side effects,” said Gil D. Rabinovici, M.D., ALZ-NET co-principal investigator and Edward Fein and Pearl Landrith Endowed Professor in Memory & Aging at the University of California, San Francisco, Weill Institute for Neurosciences. “The data will be shared quickly and transparently with doctors, patients, family members, researchers, regulators, such as the FDA, and payers, such as the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.”

“ALZ-NET will include people from a variety of backgrounds and communities to achieve representativeness beyond the populations historically enrolled in clinical trials,” Rabinovici added.

“The Alzheimer’s Association and its partners are working tirelessly to ensure access, safety and efficacy of treatments for patients,” Carrillo said.

**How ALZ-NET and Clinical Trials Complement Each Other**

In order to gather clean, comparable data, clinical trials are conducted in highly structured, often narrowly defined conditions where participants are, for example, only in a specific age range, don’t have other (often common) health conditions or are not taking other drugs. They usually take their treatments every time, on time. Study participants often get regular testing, medical care and follow-up.

Once treatments are approved and available for use in the real world, patients take them in the context of their real, busy, sometimes messy lives. And this can have a significant impact on the treatment results.
ALZ-NET will be designed to grow with scientific and medical advancements. As new drugs are approved and implemented in care, they will also be included in ALZ-NET.

“Our understanding of the complexity of Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias continues to evolve, and there are a number of diverse new treatment approaches on the heels of amyloid-targeting therapeutics that will comprise the therapies available to patients and their caregivers,” said Michael S. Rafii, M.D., Ph.D., ALZ-NET co-principal investigator and professor of neurology at the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine and Medical Director of the Alzheimer’s Therapeutic Research Institute (ATRI). “ALZ-NET will be an important tool to help us better understand these treatments using real-world evidence.”

Getting a Running Start… By Running the IDEAS and New IDEAS Studies

ALZ-NET will build on expertise and contacts developed through the Alzheimer’s Association-led IDEAS and New IDEAS studies, and the work of other successful disease treatment networks. ALZ-NET is a provider enrolled network, which will capitalize on the more than 1,000 dementia care providers and imaging facilities across the U.S. created through the IDEAS and New IDEAS studies. These two studies are focused on investigating the clinical utility of brain amyloid PET scans.

While ALZ-NET will leverage the IDEAS/New IDEAS network, additional sites are needed that have:

- Expertise in diagnosis, treatment and care of Alzheimer’s and other dementias.
- Imaging capacity, and knowledge and experience with ARIA management.
- Diverse patient populations and strong community relationships.

For more information, please visit: alz.org/alznet

To learn more about becoming a study site or an ALZ-NET affiliated study, or for other questions, please contact alzheimersnetwork@alz.org

The ALZ-NET Principal Investigators are:

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- Gil D. Rabinovici, M.D., Memory and Aging Center, Departments of Neurology, Radiology & Biomedical Imaging, University of California, San Francisco. Principal Investigator, IDEAS/New IDEAS Studies.
- Michael S. Rafii, M.D., Ph.D., Alzheimer’s Therapeutic Research Institute, Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California.

About the Alzheimer’s Association International Conference® (AAIC®)
The Alzheimer’s Association International Conference (AAIC) is the world’s largest gathering of researchers from around the world focused on Alzheimer’s and other dementias. As a part of the Alzheimer’s Association’s research program, AAIC serves as a catalyst for generating new knowledge about dementia and fostering a vital, collegial research community.

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About the Alzheimer’s Association®

The Alzheimer’s Association is a worldwide voluntary health organization dedicated to Alzheimer’s care, support and research. Our mission is to lead the way to end Alzheimer’s and all other dementia — by accelerating global research, driving risk reduction and early detection, and maximizing quality care and support. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer’s and all other dementia®. Visit alz.org or call 800.272.3900.

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The AAIC 2022 session titled “ALZ-NET: Using Real World Evidence to Inform Future Treatment and Alzheimer’s Care” will take place on Monday, August 1, 2022 at 8 a.m. PT in San Diego and online.