

***Can Alzheimer's
disease be seen
in the brain
during life?***

 **Avid**
Radiopharmaceuticals

What if...

Alzheimer's disease could be detected before it caused memory failure?

What if...

we could see the amyloid plaques that cause Alzheimer's disease when they first begin to accumulate?

What if...

physicians could prescribe treatment for Alzheimer's disease, knowing for sure that the diagnosis was correct?

What if

you could help this happen by giving the gift of knowledge for the benefit of others?

Avid Radiopharmaceuticals is evaluating a novel imaging tracer, florpiramine F 18 (¹⁸F-AV-45) to see if it can identify the amyloid brain plaques associated with Alzheimer's disease. Until now, these plaques could only be seen by using a microscope to look at the brain of a patient after they died. Now, using florpiramine, a new imaging tracer jointly developed by Avid Radiopharmaceuticals and the University of Pennsylvania, it may be possible to see amyloid deposits in the brain in living patients using a PET scan. The purpose of this study is to definitively determine if this is possible by seeking volunteers who are willing to help achieve this goal by having a florpiramine PET scan and agreeing to an examination of their brain after they die. The findings in their 'brain autopsy' can then be compared to their PET scan to determine if florpiramine truly provides a valid measure of the presence or absence of amyloid.

Why is this important?

Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia, striking more than 5 million people in the United States. There is an urgent need to develop a method to detect its presence before it causes irreversible brain failure. Early detection will facilitate early treatment.

While there has been considerable progress in understanding how Alzheimer's disease develops, only recently has a method been developed that may make it possible to actually see the pathology in the brains of living patients at the earliest stage of the disease.

By agreeing to participate in Avid's study of florpiramine, you become part of a team dedicated to turning the dream of a world free of Alzheimer's disease into a reality.

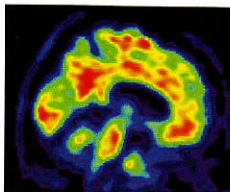
About florpiramine

Florpiramine is an investigational agent that has not yet been approved by the FDA for use in the routine evaluation of patients. It is not a therapy for dementia or Alzheimer's disease. It is a radioactive chemical that when injected into the vein in trace amounts is carried to the brain where it temporarily binds to amyloid. The PET scan measures the amount of amyloid in the brain by detecting the amount of florpiramine bound to amyloid. The goal of this study is to definitively establish that this is true.

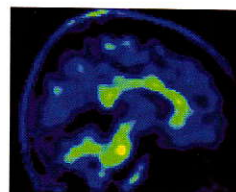
If this study demonstrates that a florpiramine PET scan reliably detects amyloid deposits it will provide an important new diagnostic tool that physicians can use to more accurately detect Alzheimer's disease in its earliest stage, allowing appropriate treatments to be started at the earliest stage possible and with greater confidence that the diagnosis is correct.

What happens when a subject joins the study by agreeing to have a florpiramine PET scan and allow examination of their brain after death?

During the initial research visit, a member of the study team gathers basic information about the participant, including their medical history and current medical condition. In addition, they are given a brief (15 to 20 minute) paper and pencil test to assess their memory and ability to perform simple mental exercises.



Alzheimer's Disease



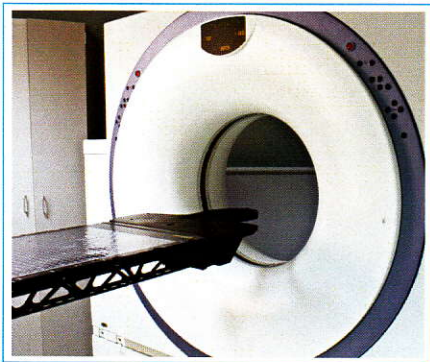
Healthy Volunteer

They then have a florpiramine PET scan. This procedure takes about 1 hour, including approximately 15 to 20 minutes lying in the PET scanner while an image of their brain is obtained.

In the weeks following the PET scan, a member of the study team will maintain periodic contact to monitor the participant's medical status and facilitate completion of the brain-only autopsy at the time of death.

Benefits

There is no direct benefit to participants in this study beyond the knowledge that through their altruism they are helping advance medical knowledge.



Frequently asked questions about a brain only autopsy

How is brain autopsy performed?

The brain is removed by an opening created in the back of the skull. Afterward, the skull and overlying skin are returned to their natural position, leaving no visible indications a brain autopsy has been done.

What happens after the brain is removed?

The brain is placed in a chemical preservative and sent to the Sun Health Research Institute in Sun City, Arizona. There the small sections needed to compare to the florpiramine PET findings are removed and prepared for analysis. These sections are then sent to Rush University in Chicago where they are examined under a microscope to look for evidence of amyloid. The results are compared to the participant's PET images to determine if florpiramine accurately marked the presence or absence of amyloid deposits in their brain.

***Will brain autopsy interfere
with funeral arrangements
or having an open casket viewing?***

No. A brain autopsy will not delay or interfere with the plans for an open casket viewing, traditional funeral services, cremation, or burial. However, the autopsy must be performed within 24 hours from the time of death to provide valid information for this study.

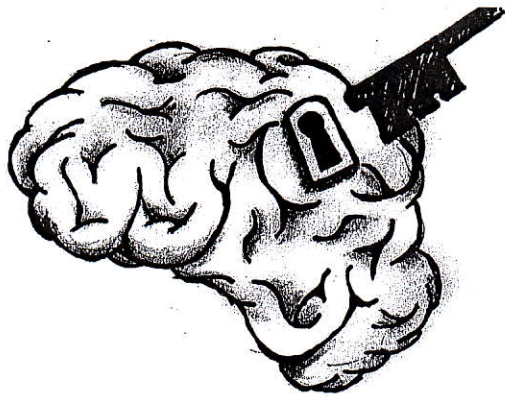
Will there be any cost to the family?

There are no costs to the family associated with the brain autopsy or with any procedures done in this study.



**Please contact
Dr. Franco Sicuro
at 314-298-0027
if you are interested in
participating in this study.**

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We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.

- *Winston Churchill*

Gaining a greater understanding of Alzheimer's Disease, especially its formation within the brain, is crucial to the development of effective treatments. Throughout the course of this illness, families and caregivers have dealt not only with uncertainty about the diagnosis, but also with many stressful situations and emotional demands. Learning the precise cause of the patient's illness may be a tremendous relief to the family and help you close this chapter of your lives.

We are extending an invitation for you to make a valuable contribution to the study and knowledge of this disease. With your comfort in mind, we would accomplish most of the following by coming to you:

- ✦ Basic demographic information (age, gender, race, ethnicity, education)
- ✦ Review of your medical records and medications
- ✦ Brief cognitive evaluation assessing memory, language, and orientation
- ✦ Interview with your family and/or caregivers
- ✦ PET scan of the brain
- ✦ Your consent for brain donation

The benefit to you includes:

- ✦ Helping others by paving the way for future prevention and treatment strategies
- ✦ Appropriate transportation to and from the PET imaging
- ✦ Financial compensation for time and effort

If you are interested in participating, please contact us for further information. We are **Millennium Psychiatric Associates** and can be reached at #314-298-0001.