# Over 20,000 Individuals Sign Up for Groundbreaking Dementia Study Led by University of Cambridge and Alzheimer’s Society



Over 20,000 individuals have signed up for a groundbreaking study aimed to speed up the development of treatments for dementia. The study, managed by the University of Cambridge in partnership with the Alzheimer’s Society, is part of the Genes and Cognition Cohort within the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) BioResource. Participants, ranging in age from 17 to 85, are mostly healthy individuals who will be part of clinical trials testing new drugs that might prevent or slow the progression of dementia.

This research initiative focuses on two key mechanisms thought to influence cognitive decline: inflammation and metabolism. By examining the genetic profiles and health trajectories of volunteers over time, researchers hope to gain insights into the early stages of diseases causing dementia. This could potentially lead to the development of therapeutics targeting early-stage disease, thereby improving effectiveness.

The initiative has received funding from a UK government commitment made in 2022 under then Prime Minister Boris Johnson, called the Dame Barbara Windsor Dementia Mission. This commitment aims to double the funding for dementia research, recognizing the urgent need for new treatments as the global number of those affected by dementia is expected to reach 139 million by 2050.