

WHO WE ARE

As a research center, our goal is to complement the care that you provide to your patients. We do not replace you as your patients' clinical care provider!

The Shiley-Marcos Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC) at the University of California San Diego is one of the original five of now 30 ADRCs in the United States. Supported by the National Institute on Aging, the Shiley-Marcos ADRC was established in 1984 to translate research advances into improved diagnosis and care for persons with Alzheimer's disease (AD). Under the current leadership of director Douglas Galasko, M.D., our ADRC collaborates with national and international groups conducting research dedicated to understanding the causes, treatment, and prevention of AD and related memory disorders.

Our multidisciplinary research team is comprised of physicians specializing in geriatric medicine, neurology, and neuropathology, as well as neuropsychologists, nurses, social workers, and other health educators. We follow approximately 450 seniors, including 300 with AD or suspected dementia and 150 age-matched participants with no memory problems, meeting with each participant annually as part of a longitudinal observational study. One component of our program is dedicated to the study of seniors of Hispanic ethnicity and is served by a team of bilingual, bicultural staff members. In addition, we conduct a wide variety of clinical research trials, brain imaging and biomarker studies, and offer a research-based memory screening service for undiagnosed seniors with memory concerns.

Our ADRC also offers a number of quality-of-life programs for persons with memory loss and their families, including professionally facilitated support groups and outings programs for those with memory impairment, and education and assistance to families seeking information about community resources for persons with dementia.

Our Mission is to:

- ➔ **Carry out research into the causes, treatment, and prevention of AD.**
- ➔ **Act as a local and national resource for collaborating scientists, sharing interested research subjects, data, and materials to advance the mutual goal of understanding and ultimately preventing AD.**
- ➔ **Provide education about diagnosis, treatment, and care for patients with dementia through outreach to community seniors and the families and professionals providing care for them.**
- ➔ **Provide training opportunities for clinicians and researchers.**

