

University of Wisconsin researchers are investigating the impact of human gut microbes on the development of Alzheimer's disease. Very little research has been done in this area of research, but the microbiome has been shown to affect other diseases.

Differences between microbiomes discovered in this investigation would give us risk factors that can help us to diagnose and treat Alzheimer's.



Contributing to a better future:

The contribution you are making by participating in research is long lasting and far reaching, with the goal of helping future generations. This particular study may uncover better ways to prevent and slow Alzheimer's disease. We thank you for your participation in this and other studies.



**Wisconsin Alzheimer's
Disease Research Center**

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

MARS Microbiome in Alzheimer's Risk Study

An invitation to
participate in research



*Wisconsin
Alzheimer's Disease
Research Center*

What is the human microbiome?

The human microbiome is the group of bacteria and fungi that make their home in or on your body. Some of those that live in your gut do helpful things like help you digest food and fight off the harmful bacteria, while others just find it a comfy place to live. What is in the gut inevitably gets flushed down the toilet, so fecal samples can tell us your unique microbiome.



The study of the human microbiome has become increasingly relevant as we discover its many impacts on our health.

Study Description

- This study seeks to understand the human microbiome, specifically in the gut, and how it may be different for those with Alzheimer's disease

Who can participate?

- Volunteers who are 40 years old or older
- Men and women

What will I be asked to do?

Participants will be mailed a stool sample collection kit and questionnaires to fill out, and the entire process takes place at your home. Participants simply use the collection kit the next time they have to go, and the kit goes in a box. The box is then mailed to a lab on campus. Previous users of the kit have found it easy and sanitary to use. We ask participants to send in samples every two years.



Who will see my sample?

Samples are marked with numbers to maintain privacy and security for each participant.

How will my sample be used to study the microbiome?

Your sample will be processed in a microbiology lab in a way that will show what types of microbes are present and the amount of each type, giving us the micro-biome of your digestive tract. By the end of the study, we will be able to tell how the microbiomes of those with Alzheimer's disease are similar to and different from the microbiomes of those without Alzheimer's disease.

What if I change my mind?

Participation in this study is voluntary. You can stop participating at any time.

How can I receive more information about the MARS study?

If you have further questions about, or would like to schedule a study visit, please contact us at 608-265-6253.

Contact the Wisconsin Alzheimer's
Disease Research Center

UW Hospital
600 Highland Ave
J5/1M Clinical Science Center

Phone: 608-265-6253
Website: adrc.wisc.edu