

NEUROLOGY RESEARCH NEWS

RNAi

Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc & Alnylam Inc. announced positive interim results from the ongoing single ascending dose part of the Phase 1 study of ALN-APP, an investigational RNAi therapeutic targeting amyloid precursor protein (APP) in development for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease and cerebral amyloid angiopathy (CAA).

Donanemab

Eli Lilly announced positive results from the TRAILBLAZER-ALZ 2 study which showed that nearly half (46%) of donanemab treated patients had no clinical progression of dementia. The study enrolled 1182 patients with mild stage Alzheimer's Disease. FDA is currently evaluating the application for approval.

Alcohol & Dementia

A retrospective review of 5.5 million US insurance claims found that alcohol use disorder increases the risk of Alzheimer's Disease by 80%.



Leqembi (Lecanemab)

The FDA approved the use of Leqembi for the treatment of Alzheimer's Disease based on positive results seen in a randomized controlled trial of 856 patients with mild cognitive impairment of mild stage Alzheimer's Disease. The study found that patients treated with Leqembi saw a significant reduction in progression dementia symptoms at 18 months. The most concerning side effects were headaches and amyloid-related imaging abnormalities (ARIA) which include edema and microhemorrhage. Patients who carry homozygous mutations in **ApoE e4** are most susceptible to these complications.

Amyloid Beta-Directed Antibody

Leqembi is an antibody directed at inhibiting the formation of amyloid beta plaques in the brain. Along with tau protein, these amyloid plaques are hypothesized to be pathogenic in the progressive loss of neurons and the progression of dementia.



Local Programs for People with Dementia

Arlington Central Public Library

A Memory Café is a comfortable, supportive environment where people with dementia and their family caregivers can socialize, build support networks, and enjoy meaningful dementia-friendly activities together. Join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month for FREE and engaging program. All attendees must be accompanied by a caregiver.

Fairfax County Adult Day Health Care

This program is run by recreational therapists and nursing staff 7am-5:30pm MF. Info: 571-585-2790 or adultday@fairfaxcounty.gov.

Locations:

Herndon Harbor

Lewinsville Adult Day (McLean, VA)

Lincolnia (Alexandria, VA)

To be eligible for this treatment, patients must have evidence of amyloid plaque in the brain, either seen by PET/CT or in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF). Leqembi is administered as an intravenous infusion every two weeks at a medical center or outpatient infusion center.

Leqembi will cost \$19-26,000/year but Medicare part B will cover it. It is estimated about 6 millions Americans are diagnosed with Alzheimer's.

There are ongoing studies investigating Leqembi in patients are do not yet have clinical symptoms of dementia.

Sana Research

Sana Research has partnered with Nova Neurology Associates to start an independent clinical research site dedicated to advancing new treatments of neurological diseases. Sana will work with pharmaceutical companies who are developing new treatments.

Sana will operate in the same offices as Nova Neuro (1635 N. George Mason Drive #420).

As part of this effort, Sana is offering free memory/cognitive assessments to anyone in the DMV area. Sana is also a partner of the **Alzheimer's Foundation of America**.

For more information, please call 703-717-7764 or go to www.sanaresearch.com.