

# Addressing Diversity in Alzheimer's: A Roundtable on Health Equity in Human-Based Research

## ***An AAIC19 External Ancillary Meeting***

Please join us for a roundtable on preclinical strategies to reduce health disparities in dementia research. Our goal is to advance human-based scientific discoveries and therapeutic development across diverse populations.

This meeting is a call to action for basic and translational researchers, clinicians, patient advocates, support groups and funders to integrate diversity components into preclinical dementia research. This will be a working dinner with presentations and discussion.

**Date & Time:** Monday, July 15, 2019 - 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**Location:** JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. Live, Plaza 1 Room (AAIC Conference Hotel)  
900 W Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90015

**RSVP:** Please respond by Saturday July 13, 2019 to: [alam@pcrm.org](mailto:alam@pcrm.org)

## **Background**

Minorities are often disproportionately affected by dementia both as patients and caregivers. However, research -- particularly in basic and preclinical science -- has struggled to explain and close the gaps. The field's focus on animal model systems for dementia has worsened the problem by creating frameworks of dementia largely devoid of human diversity elements. At its core, reducing health disparities and moving toward health equity in dementia research and care will require addressing systemic bias so that diversity is foundational to every study. Researchers and Alzheimer's communities must rethink current research designs, donor engagement, human biobanks and funding. At the research level, human-based preclinical approaches such as genetic analyses, patient-derived cells, biospecimen studies, computational modeling, epidemiology and digital markers for life course studies can all provide greater insights but need to directly address the biases too often ignored. Beyond prevention and treatment of dementia for diverse communities, such approaches will also be essential for developing personalized medicine for everyone.

## **Agenda**

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| 6:00 - 6:30 pm | <b>Introduction: Background, Defining Diversity &amp; Purpose of Roundtable</b><br>The Need for Diversity in Human-based Research. Lightning talks and go-around  |
| 6:30 - 7:40 pm | <b>Brainstorming Session on Key Factors for Health Equity Integration in Dementia Research, including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Research questions &amp; methods</li><li>2) Developing research resources</li><li>3) Patient partnership infrastructure</li><li>4) Institutional &amp; national initiatives to reduce health disparities</li><li>5) Education &amp; ethics</li><li>6) Protections for Individuals and communities</li></ul> |
| 7:40 - 7:55 pm | <b>Prioritizing Objectives &amp; Determining Milestones. Establishing a Diversity in Dementia Research Working Group (DDRWG).</b>   |
| 7:55 - 8:00 pm | Closing Remarks   |

***Please come and share your experiences and strategies for health equity research!***