

Trial Ready Cohort – Down Syndrome

About the Study

The service is inviting those over the age of 25 with Down syndrome who want to help researchers learn more about memory and thinking problems, such as Alzheimer's disease to take part in a study. The TRC-DS study is based at the National Intellectual Disability Memory Service in TUH.

This study brings together teams from different countries to help improve care and health for people with Down syndrome around the world. It is funded by the US National Institutes of Health and supported by the Alzheimer's Therapeutic Research Institute at the University of Southern California.

Why are we inviting people with Down syndrome to take part in the study?

People with Down syndrome are at higher risk because they have an extra copy of chromosome 21, which causes the body to produce more amyloid protein.

This protein can build up in the brain, forming plaques and tangles that damage brain cells over time. In Alzheimer's disease, changes can start in the brain 15 to 20 years before any symptoms, such as changes in memory and the ability to do daily activities, appear. Many adults with Down syndrome begin to show changes related to Alzheimer's between the ages of 25 and 55.

Why Research Matters?

Diagnosing Alzheimer's disease is not always easy. That is why it is helpful to have early memory checks when someone is younger and feeling well, doctors will have something to compare to later, if needed. For people with Down syndrome, this is especially important. That is why it's important they are included in research and clinical trials. Their involvement helps us better understand the condition and improve care and treatment in the future.

To be eligible to join the study participants must:

- Be healthy between the ages of 25 to 55 with Down syndrome
- Have an interest in supporting clinical research
- Be prepared to visit the National Intellectual Disability Memory Service in TUH once every 16 months for physical exams like blood pressure checks, blood tests, memory skills tests and a brain scan (MRI) to measure changes in their brain health and function

Please note there is no cost to take part in this study.

Contact Details

If you are interested in participating in the study please contact Jasmine Joseph or Ruth Ennis Phone: 01 414 3213 Mobile: 087 347 3088 Email: Jasmine.Joseph@tuh.ie