

Tear-off reply slip

If you would like more information, please complete this form and return it to us in an envelope at the address overleaf.

Name:

Date of Birth: / /

Address:

Tel:

Email:

Best time to contact you:

Thank you for your interest in our research.

Contact us

For information about our research, please contact us:

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/mrccnng



@MRCCardiff



Ymchwil Iechyd
a Gofal Cymru
Health and Care
Research Wales



NHS
National Institute for
Health Research

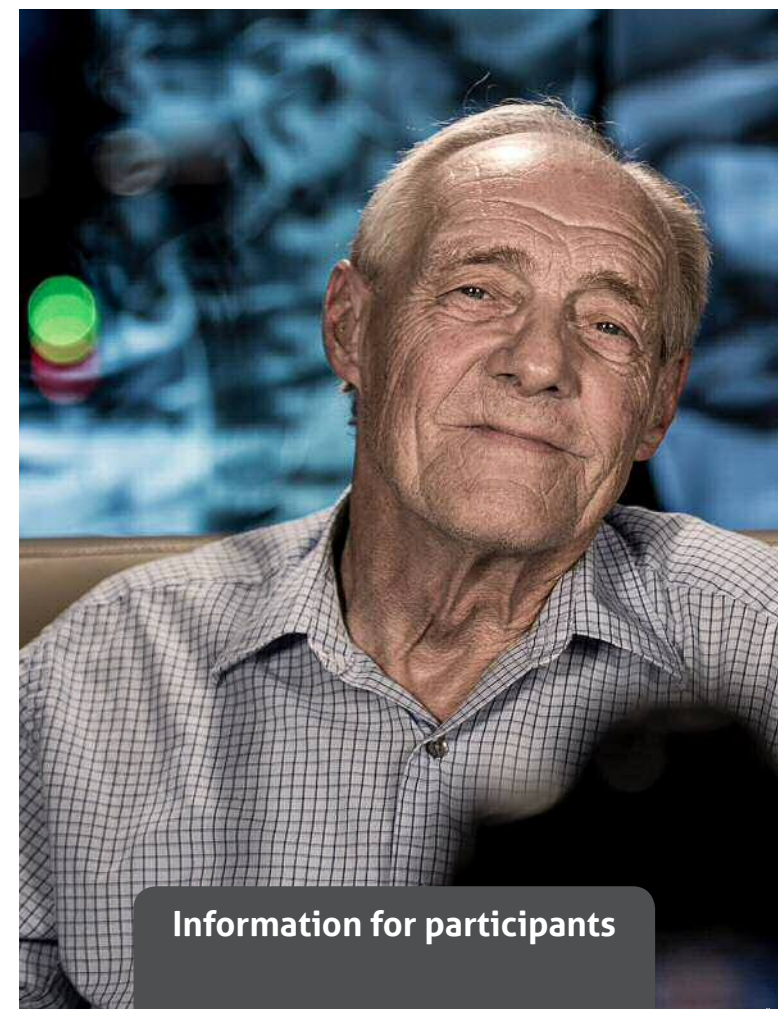


MRC

Centre for
Neuropsychiatric Genetics
and Genomics

Dementia with Lewy Bodies Research

Can you help?



Information for participants



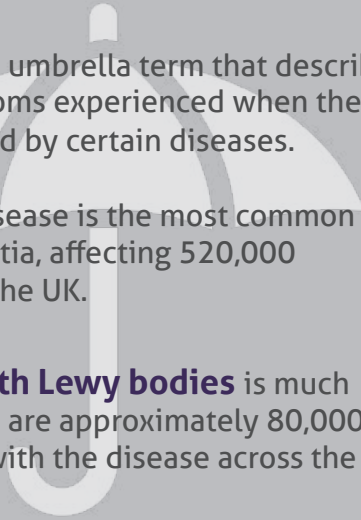
Dementia research

We are a research group based at Cardiff University School of Medicine led by Professor Julie Williams.

Since 2004 we have been collecting blood samples and interviewing people to try and understand more about how certain genes affect the chance of developing Dementia.

Although we started to understand more about how genetics are involved, we know there are more genes to find and much more to learn about how these genes work.

By studying the genes involved in dementia with Lewy bodies we hope to learn more about why people develop the disease. We hope that this will translate into new treatments and better methods of diagnosis in the future.



Dementia is an umbrella term that describes a set of symptoms experienced when the brain is affected by certain diseases.

Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia, affecting 520,000 individuals in the UK.

Dementia with Lewy bodies is much rarer and there are approximately 80,000 people living with the disease across the UK.



How can you help?

We are inviting people who have received a diagnosis of Lewy body dementia to help with this research.

Helping with our research is completely confidential and involves:

- A trained Research Assistant or Research Nurse visiting you either at home or at a local clinic. (This visit will last around two hours.)
- Answering questions about yourself and taking part in a memory test.
- Providing a blood sample.
- Inviting a family member or friend to help by answering some questions about your diagnosis, memory and general health.



Why genetics?

Very little is known about the cause of Lewy body dementia, however it is thought to be explained by a combination of genetic, environmental and lifestyle factors.

Genes act like instructions for processes in our bodies. Difference in these instructions are what make us unique. By comparing the subtle differences in the genes of groups of people with and without dementia with Lewy bodies, we discover clues about which processes in our bodies may cause the condition.

What has the research group found so far?

The researchers have found more than 20 genes that are associated with Alzheimer's disease. The instructions given by these genes can be grouped into certain functions. These include synaptic cell membrane processes, cholesterol metabolism in the brain and immune function.

We aim to translate this expertise gained from study Alzheimer's disease to understand more about Lewy body dementia.

