



The University of Texas System

The University of Texas Systemwide Brain Research Summit: Focus on Dementia and Related Neurodegenerative Diseases

AT&T Conference Center at the University of Texas
1900 University Avenue, Austin, TX, 78705

November 5, 2026

07:30 am - 09:00 am	Registration / Check in / Breakfast
09:00 am - 09:30 am	Introduction and Opening Remarks • William Dauer, MD, Co-Chair UT Southwestern
09:30 am - 10:20 am	Keynote - David M. Holtzman, MD Professor of Neurology Barbara Burton & Reuben M Morriss III Distinguished Professorship Professor of Developmental Biology Director - Hope Center for Neurological Disorders Director- Knight Alzheimer's Disease Research Center WashU Medicine Moderator: William Dauer, MD
10:25 am – 11:55 am	Risk Factors Across the Lifespan • Genetic Risk and Cognitive Resilience - Giulio Taglialetela, PhD (UTMB) • Cardiometabolic Disease and Cognitive Decline Jiang He, MD, MS, PhD (UT Southwestern) • The South Texas ADRC: Exploring the Exposome Impacting AD in Hispanics with Focus on Non-CVD Risk Factors - Sudha Seshadri, MD, DM (UT Health San Antonio) Moderator: Adam J. Woods, PhD (UT Dallas)
12:00 pm - 01:15 pm	Lunch and Networking



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01:15 pm - 02:45 pm

Disease Architecture and Heterogeneity

- The Tauopathy Spectrum - Rakez Kaye, PhD (UTMB)
- The ALS-FTD Spectrum – Anna Campbell Sullivan, PsyD, ABPP-CN (UT Health San Antonio)
- The Alpha-Synuclein Spectrum - Mya Schiess, MD (UT Health Houston- RBD)

Moderator: Louise D. McCullough, MD, PhD (UT Health Houston)

02:45 pm - 03:15 pm

Break

03:15 pm - 04:45 pm

Neuropsychiatric Manifestations

- Early Life Trauma as a Risk Factor of Dementia – Charlie Nemeroff, MD, PhD (UT Austin)
- Late-Life Depression: Risk vs Prodromal AD - Tarek Rajji, MD (UTSW)
- Behavioral manifestations in Dementia – Antonio Teixeira, MD, PhD (UT Health San Antonio)

Moderator: Karen Wagner, MD, PhD (UTMB)

04:45 pm - 05:00 pm

Closing Remarks

Karen Wagner, MD, PhD – Co-Chair
UT Medical Branch - Galveston

05:00 pm - 07:00 pm

Reception and poster session



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November 6, 2025

07:00 am - 08:00 am	Registration/Check-in/Breakfast
08:00 am - 08:20 am	Introduction and Opening Remarks Karen Wagner, MD, PhD – Co-Chair (UT Medical Branch - Galveston) and John Zerwas, MD, FASA (University of Texas System)
08:20 am – 09:20 am	From Diagnosis to Discovery: The Patient and Caregiver Journey into Alzheimer’s Clinical Research Moderator: Joan E. Asseff, LCSW-S (UT Austin)
09:20 am - 10:50 am	Fundamental Mechanisms of Disease • Lipid and Metabolic APOE Dysfunction – Jim Ray, PhD (MD Anderson) • Proteinopathy and Proteostasis – Marc Diamond, MD (UTSW) • Neuroimmune Mechanism - Long-Jun Wu, PhD (UT Houston) Moderator: William Dauer, MD (UTSW)
10:50 am - 11:00 am	Break
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Measurement Platforms: Biomarkers, Imaging, and AI • Blood Biomarkers at Scale – Claudio Soto, PhD (UT Health Houston) • AI and Large-Scale Data Infrastructure and Imaging and Multimodal Integration - GQ Zhang, PhD (UT Health Houston) • Human Molecular Imaging: Current State and Future Promise– Pedro Rosa-Neto, MD, PhD (UT Southwestern) Moderator: Jim Ray, PhD (MD Anderson)
12:30 pm - 1:15 pm	Lunch and Networking



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01:15 pm - 02:45 pm

Treatment and Innovative Interventions

- Finally, Significant Advances in Preventing and Treating Alzheimer's Disease – Paul Schulz, MD (UT Health)
- Use of Gerotherapeutics to Prevent Neurocognitive Decline - Alan Landay, PhD (UTMB)
- Non-invasive Neuromodulation for Cognition in Older Adults - Adam J. Woods, PhD (UT Dallas)

Moderator: Charles Nemeroff, MD, PhD (UT Austin Dell)

02:45 pm - 04:15 pm

Epidemiology, and Health Systems Innovation

- Population-Based Brain Banking: Dementia, Resilience, and Health Disparities - Claudia Suemoto, MD, PhD (UT San Antonio)
- Elder abuse/Caregiving-Carrie Pickering, PhD, RN (UT Health Houston)
- Care Models and Scalable Brain Health Interventions - Sandra Bond Chapman, PhD (UT Dallas)

Moderator: Sudha Seshadri, MD, DM (UT Health San Antonio)

04:15 pm – 04:30 pm

Closing Remarks

William Dauer, MD, Co-Chair
UT Southwestern