



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

Thursday, November 5, 2026

07:30 am - 09:00 am	Registration / Check in / Breakfast
09:00 am - 09:30 am	Introduction and Opening Remarks • David Lakey, MD, Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs and Chief Medical Officer, University of Texas System • William Dauer, MD, Professor of Neurology and Neuroscience; Director of the O'Donnell Brain Institute, UT Southwestern Medical Center
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 , Professor of Neurology and Neuroscience; Director of the O'Donnell Brain Institute, UT Southwestern Medical Center
10:25 am – 11:55 am	Risk Factors Across the Lifespan • <i>"Genetic Risk and Cognitive Resilience"</i> - Giulio Taglialetela, PhD, Vice President of Brain Health at UT Medical Branch and Director of the Moody Brain Health Institute. • <i>"Cardiometabolic Disease and Cognitive Decline"</i> - Jiang He, MD, MS, PhD - Professor and Chair of Epidemiology at the O'Donnell School of Public Health, Professor of Internal Medicine and Neurology, UT Southwestern Medical Center • <i>"The South Texas ADRC: Exploring the Exposome Impacting AD in Hispanics with Focus on Non-CVD Risk Factors"</i> - Claudia Suemoto, MD, PhD, Professor, Biggs Institute, Department of Quantitative and Qualitative Health Sciences, UT Health Science Center San Antonio Moderator: Adam J. Woods, PhD , Dean of the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences at the University of Texas at 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**, Professor, Mitchell Center for Neurodegenerative Disorders John Sealy Chair for Parkinson's Research, UT Medical Branch
- *"The ALS-FTD Spectrum"* – **Anna Campbell Sullivan, PsyD, ABPP-CN**, Associate Professor, Clinical Core Director of the South Texas Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, Co-Founder and Co-Director of the South Texas Frontotemporal Dementia Program, Director of the MIND Clinic, and Director of the Clinical Neuropsychology Fellowship Program, UT Health Science Center San Antonio
- *"The Alpha-Synuclein Spectrum"* - **Mya Schiess, MD, FAAN, FANA**, Professor, Department of Neurology; Director, Movement Disorders Division, UT Health Science Center Houston

Moderator: Louise D. McCullough, MD, PhD, Professor of Neurology and the Co-director of UTHealth Neurosciences at McGovern Medical School, UT Health Science Center 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**, Chair and Professor with the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, UT Austin Dell Medical School
- *"Late-Life Depression: Risk vs Prodromal AD"* - **Tarek Rajji, MD**, Chair of Department of Psychiatry, UT Southwestern Medical Center
- *"Behavioral manifestations in Dementia"* – **Antonio Teixeira, MD, PhD**, Professor of Neurology and Psychiatry, Biggs Institute, UT Health Science Center San Antonio

Moderator: Karen Wagner, MD, PhD, Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the UT Medical Branch in Galveston.

04:45 pm - 05:00 pm

Closing Remarks

Karen Wagner, MD, PhD, Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the UT Medical Branch in Galveston.

05:00 pm - 07:00 pm

Reception and Poster Session (80 posters)



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Friday, November 6, 2026

07:00 am - 08:00 am	Registration/Check-in/Breakfast
08:00 am - 08:20 am	Introduction and Opening Remarks Karen Wagner, MD, PhD , Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the UT Medical Branch
08:20 am – 09:20 am	Alzheimer’s Disease Care and Caregiving – in their own words Organized by Debbie Hanna - Alzheimer’s Texas Panelists: • John Bertelson, MD, FAAN, Assistant Professor of Neurology and Psychiatry, UT Austin Dell Med • Anna Finger, LCSW-S, Clinical Assistant Professor, GRACE Program Co-Director, School of Social Work, UT Austin Moderator: Joan E. Asseff, LCSW-S , Assistant Dean for Master’s Programs and Clinical Associate Professor, Steve Hicks School of Social Work, UT Austin
09:20 am - 10:50 am	Fundamental Mechanisms of Disease • <i>“Lipid and Metabolic APOE Dysfunction”</i> – Jim Ray, PhD, Executive Director of The Belfer Neurodegeneration Consortium and Founding Co-Director of the Cancer Neuroscience Program, UT MD Anderson • <i>“Proteinopathy and Proteostasis”</i> – Marc Diamond, MD, Professor and Founding Director of the Center for Alzheimer’s and Neurodegenerative Diseases, UT Southwestern Medical Center • <i>“Neuroimmune Mechanism”</i> - Long-Jun Wu, PhD, Chair, Professor and Founding Director of Center for Neuroimmunology and Glial Biology, UT Health Science Center at Houston Moderator: William Dauer, MD , Professor of Neurology and Neuroscience; Director of the O'Donnell Brain Institute, UT Southwestern Medical Center
10:50 am - 11:00 am	Break
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Measurement Platforms: Biomarkers, Imaging, and AI • <i>“Blood Biomarkers at Scale”</i> – Claudio Soto, PhD, Professor of Neurology and Director of the George and Cynthia W Mitchell Center for Alzheimer's disease and Other Brain Related Illnesses, UT Health Science Center at Houston • <i>“AI and Large-Scale Data Infrastructure and Imaging and Multimodal Integration”</i> - GQ Zhang, PhD, Vice President & Chief Data Scientist, Co-Director of the Texas Institute for Restorative Neurotechnologies, and Professor of Medicine, Biomedical Informatics and Public Health, UT Health Science Center Houston



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- *“Human Molecular Imaging: Current State and Future Promise”* – **Pedro Rosa-Neto, MD, PhD**, Professor, Peter O’Donnell Jr. Brain Institute, UT Southwestern Medical Center

Moderator: Jim Ray, PhD, Executive Director of The Belfer Neurodegeneration Consortium and Founding Co-Director of the Cancer Neuroscience Program, UT MD Anderson

12:30 pm - 1:15 pm

Lunch and Networking

01:15 pm - 02:45 pm

Treatment and Innovative Interventions

- *“Finally, Significant Advances in Preventing and Treating Alzheimer’s Disease”* – **Paul Schulz, MD**, Professor of Neurology, Director of the Neurocognitive Disorders Center, and Director of the Neuropsychiatry and Behavioral Neurology Fellowship, UT Health Science Center Houston
- *“Use of Gerotherapeutics to Prevent Neurocognitive Decline”* - **Alan Landay, PHD**, Vice President for Research and Professor in the Departments of Internal Medicine and Microbiology and Immunology, UT Medical Branch
- *“Non-invasive Neuromodulation for Cognition in Older Adults”* - **Adam J. Woods, PhD**, Dean of the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas

Moderator: Charlie Nemeroff, MD, PhD, Chair and Professor with the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, UT Austin Dell Medical School

02:45 pm - 04:15 pm

Epidemiology, and Health Systems Innovation

- *“Population-Based Brain Banking: Dementia, Resilience, and Health Disparities”* - **Sudha Seshadri, MD, DM**, Professor and Director of the Glenn Biggs Institute for Alzheimer’s & Neurodegenerative Diseases, UT Health Science Center San Antonio
- *“Behavioral Health Needs of Family Caregivers”* - **Carrie Pickering, PhD, RN**, Executive Director, Cizik Nursing Research Institute, Isla Carrol Turner Chair in Gerontological Nursing, and Professor, UT Health Science Center Houston
- *“Brain Health Optimization Longevity for Dementia Prevention- TEXAS-BOLD”* - **Sandra Bond Chapman, PhD**, Founder and Chief Director of Center for BrainHealth®, Dee Wyly Distinguished University Professor in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, University of Texas at Dallas

Moderator: Sudha Seshadri, MD, DM, Professor and Director of the Glenn Biggs Institute for Alzheimer’s & Neurodegenerative Diseases, UT Health Science Center San Antonio

04:15 pm – 04:30 pm

Closing Remarks

William Dauer, MD, Professor of Neurology and Neuroscience; Director of the O’Donnell Brain Institute, UT Southwestern Medical Center