

# Get involved with brain donation: Register as a brain donor with Brains for Dementia Research

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A lot of research into dementia relies on generously donated brain tissue but supplies are running low. Help support dementia research in the UK and register as a brain donor today.

## Why is brain donation important?

To fully understand [dementia](#) researchers need to study brain tissue.

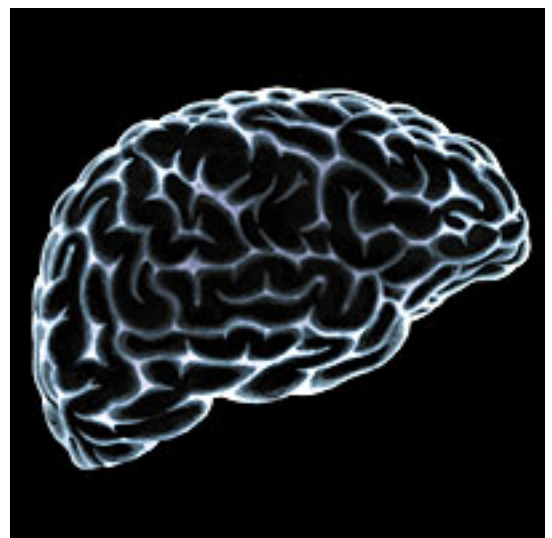
Brains are highly complex organs. It is difficult to develop a good model of a human brain in the lab. Research with animals can help to give insights but there's no substitute for the real thing.

Brain tissue is not covered by standard organ donation schemes and many people are not aware of the current shortage of tissue for research. People both with and without dementia can play a valuable role in the future of dementia research by registering as a [brain donor](#). Research using brain tissue has led to some of the most important breakthroughs in dementia research.

## Brains for Dementia Research

[Brains for Dementia Research](#) (BDR) is a network of brain bank facilities across England and Wales that are funded by Alzheimer's Society and Alzheimer's Research UK.

BDR aims to set a gold standard for brain donation by coordinating brain banks across the country and providing high quality tissue to researchers.



### BRAINS FOR DEMENTIA RESEARCH

Increasing knowledge - Finding a cure

A partnership between the Alzheimer's Research Trust and Alzheimer's Society in association with the Medical Research Council

We hope to enable more people to get involved in brain donation, thus boosting the number of brains available for this important research.

BDR is unique because every brain donor is monitored throughout their later life. This means that a complete medical history is available to accompany their donated brain tissue. This is crucial to allow researchers to make the most of donated tissue.

BDR run an online database of brain tissue. Researchers can search the database and apply to BDR for samples.

If you are over 65 and interested in becoming a brain donor please [contact BDR](#) for more information.

Alzheimer's Society National Dementia Helpline

England, Wales and Northern Ireland: 0300 222 11 22

9.00am-5.00pm Monday-Friday

10.00am-4.00pm Saturday-Sunday

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