

Global Recognition for Dementia Research Excellence



- In July, we successfully achieved certification with GCSA - The Global Quality Standard for Clinical Research Sites
- GCSA is an internationally recognised and industry ratified standard that formally demonstrates our commitment to the highest quality and consistent delivery of world-class dementia research



We're officially GCSA certified!



“The team at MARC are absolutely delighted to have achieved our GCSA certification. As an experienced research team, our department has evolved over the years. It is lovely to have an external organisation give objective feedback that is so constructive and brings confidence to the team in the way that we are working. The certification process allowed us to showcase the exciting dementia research we are so proud to be involved in. This accreditation is fantastic recognition not only for MARC, but also more widely for The Academy of Research and Improvement, and the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. Most of all, credit must go to our amazing volunteers - without whom there would be no research. We are hugely grateful.” Suzanne Dodge, MARC Manager

The GCSA team were particularly impressed by the strength of our research culture, the professionalism of staff, and the site's dedication to continuous improvement. To read the full press release click or search online, https://iaocr.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/250731_MARC-GCSA_PR_vFINAL.pdf

Research trials into Dementia with Lewy Bodies

- We're one of the leading UK sites delivering research into Dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB) - the third most common type of dementia.
- People living with DLB often experience memory problems, sleep disturbances, visual hallucinations and slowed movement
- Currently we're delivering 3 research trials to better understand the disease and find better treatment options:

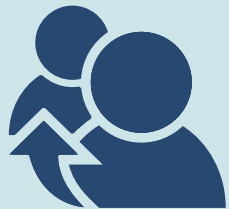


BRIC is a 2-year observational study investigating how brain inflammation might play a role in cognitive problems for people with DLB.

COBALT is a trial investigating whether Memantine improves health and functioning for people with DLB. Memantine is already licensed to help treat symptoms in Alzheimer's disease.

TopHat is a trial testing whether Ondansetron, a drug already used in the NHS as an anti-sickness treatment, will be both effective and well tolerated as a treatment for visual hallucinations in people with Parkinson's disease or Lewy Body Dementia.

Who and how can I refer?



- People with a **diagnosis of Mild Cognitive Impairment or Dementia**
- People **aged 55-75 without** a diagnosis of **memory problems**
- Someone can refer themselves or via a health and social care professional
- Email your/their details to MARC@southernhealth.nhs.uk or call **02382318757**

Dementia Research Conference - Recordings Available! ((•))



On 2nd July, memory clinic professionals from across the South Coast came together for the **Wessex Dementia Research Conference**. The afternoon featured leading experts sharing the **latest research** and **clinical updates** in **dementia diagnosis and care**. You can now watch the full recordings online via the Dementia Researcher website: <https://www.dementiaresearcher.nihr.ac.uk/watch-the-recordings-wessex-dementia-research-conference/>

Team News

Achievements



Congratulations to **Dr Lena Azbel-Jackson** for her **10th** year working with us. Lena is one of our study coordinators, delivering a portfolio of commercial and academic clinical research. Lena has a background in Psychology, completing her doctorate at University of Reading on the topic of emotion regulation. Thank you Lena for your great contribution to MARC and the research community. To read Lena's work, click or search online, <https://doi.org/10.1080/02699931.2015.1049515>



Community events

This summer Alice and Nadia were at [Southampton's Mela Festival](#) - a vibrant celebration of Modern and Traditional Asian Culture. It was a fantastic opportunity to connect with our diverse local community. At our stall, we:

- **Shared dementia information** in **multiple languages**
- Listened to **personal stories** and **answered questions**
- Spoke with **BBC Radio Solent** about the importance of dementia awareness and being representative in research



Awards

Well done **Dr Claire Gee** for winning the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Trust Resident Doctor **Research Star Award!** We are very pleased to announce that Dr Gee has started a new position with us, as a **Senior Research Doctor**. Currently, Dr Gee is the Principal Investigator (lead medical doctor) on commercial clinical trial POLARIS and leads academic research studies, PEBBAL2 and BRIC.



Tune into Podcast on Blood-Based Biomarkers

Dr Amanda Heslegrave talks with **Dr Jay Amin** and Dr Mark Roskey about one of the most promising developments in dementia diagnostics: **blood-based biomarkers**. Blood tests for dementia are moving closer to clinical practice, offering the possibility of **earlier and easier diagnosis of dementia**. But while the science advances rapidly, questions remain about how ready the healthcare system is to adopt them. **Listen now**, click or search:

<https://www.dementiaresearcher.nihr.ac.uk/podcast-clinical-opportunity-for-blood-based-biomarkers/>



Tune into more, click or search:

[Dementia researcher podcasts](#)

[Dementia UK podcasts 'My life with dementia'](#)

