



## DEMENTIA IN AUSTRALIA

Every one of us is likely to know someone who has dementia. An estimated 487,500 Australians are living with dementia today, and this is projected to increase to 1.1 million by 2058.

Dementia is the leading cause of death in Australian women and the second leading cause of disease burden in people over the age of 65 years.

## THE AUSTRALIAN DEMENTIA NETWORK

The Australian Dementia Network (ADNeT) brings together Australia's leading researchers, clinicians, people living with dementia and their families to create a powerful network for dementia prevention, treatment and care.

ADNeT's unique dementia community draws together the expertise of researchers in 17 universities and research institutions across Australia.

## COLLABORATION IS KEY

The Australian Dementia Network is proudly inclusive to all groups and communities, collaborating with Dementia Australia on public involvement and home to Early Mid-Career Researchers as well as the Younger-Onset Dementia Special Interest Group.

“Through our research, we strive to improve the quality of clinical care for people with dementia and mild cognitive impairment and accelerate the development of new therapies.”

- Professor Christopher Rowe, ADNeT Director

## OUR INITIATIVES

In the short 4 years of ADNeT, we have established Australia's first Clinical Quality Registry (CQR) on dementia, launched memory clinics' national quality guidelines and service maps, enabled access to new diagnostic scans and blood tests, and boosted clinical dementia trials in Australia.

The collaborative work of ADNeT is the foundation to better and more equitable dementia prevention, diagnosis, treatment, care and cure.

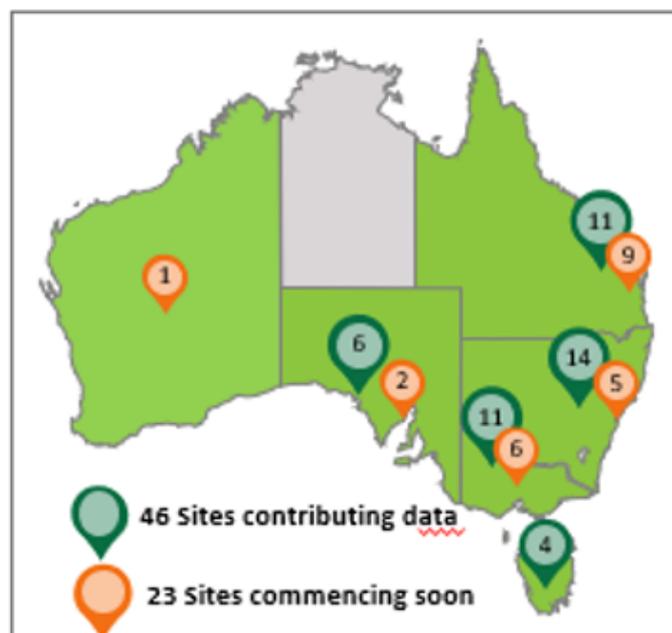
# ADNeT Registry

The ADNeT Clinical Quality Registry (CQR) is the first clinical quality registry established in Australia for dementia and mild cognitive impairment (MCI). It systematically measures the quality of diagnosis and care for people newly diagnosed with either dementia or MCI, including the important perspectives of people with dementia and their caregivers through co-designed surveys.

The aim, over time, is to register all persons diagnosed with dementia or MCI, independently of the diagnostic setting. The data, as with other clinical quality registries, is already used to drive improvements in diagnostics and care.

If your Clinic is interested in participating in the Registry or you would like more information, contact:  
[adnet.registry@monash.edu](mailto:adnet.registry@monash.edu) or 1800 314 421.

As of May 2022, ADNeT has recruited 69 clinics to participate in the Registry. Of these 69 clinics, 46 clinics are contributing data to the ADNeT Registry. Recruitment has exceeded 1000 patients and the number continues to grow exponentially. We are working to address barriers in expanding the ADNeT Registry in Western Australia and Northern Territory.



# ADNeT Memory Clinics

The ADNeT Memory Clinics (MC) initiative established a collaborative network of clinicians providing a framework for the operation of participating memory clinics. This includes harmonisation of diagnostic and post-diagnostic support pathways to ensure that all Australians have access to high-quality dementia assessments, no matter where they are located.

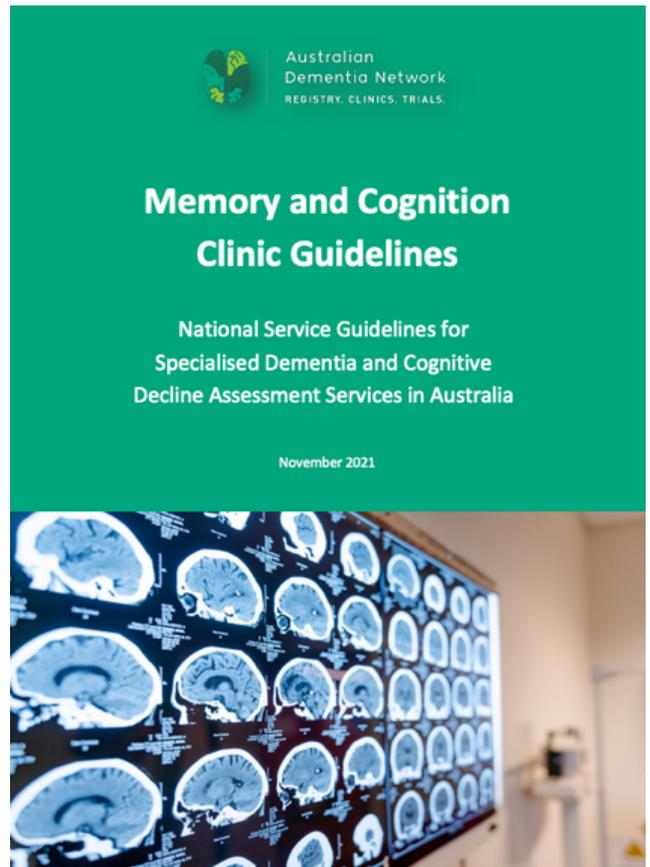
ADNeT MC is also pioneering a management impact study on implementing blood-based biomarkers into memory clinics.

The test will improve diagnostic accuracy allowing treatments to be started sooner.

Importantly, such blood tests would be a less invasive, more accessible and affordable test that has the ability to be implemented widely in clinical practice.

ADNeT MC developed the first National Service Guidelines for MC Clinics based on the overarching principles of person-centred care, equity, and respect. The Guidelines identify standards for the assessment and post-diagnostic support and care that should be ideally provided by MC Clinics.

These will be followed by a Quality Assurance Program and dedicated Guidelines for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities and for those with intellectual disability.



To help clinicians and the public find their nearest memory clinic, we have created a [Clinics Locator](#) on the ADNeT website with over 130 services listed.



To find out more about the latest projects, list your clinic on our national list or learn more about our Peer Support Program, please email [adnet.mc@unsw.edu.au](mailto:adnet.mc@unsw.edu.au)

Watch past webinars on our [YouTube channel](#) or register for the newsletter via our website or our social media channels.

## GET IN TOUCH WITH ADNeT



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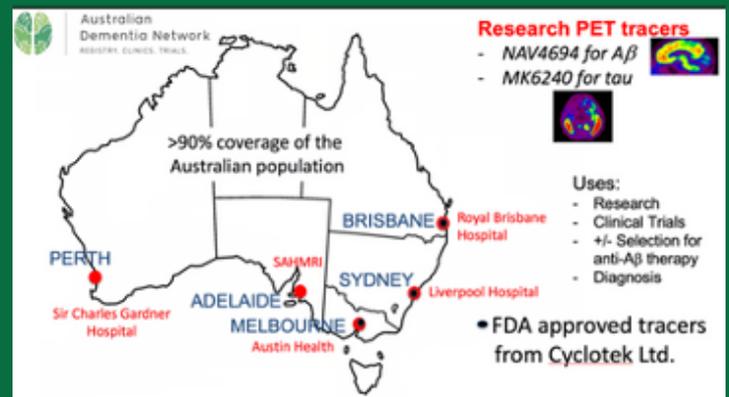
# ADNeT Screening and Trials

ADNeT Screening and Trials helps Australian researchers find participants to trial their therapeutic discoveries and for longitudinal observational research to learn more about the development of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

We have developed and implemented a national network using common operating and analysis procedures to enhance research and provide new technology such as novel brain scans and blood tests that identify people suitable for early treatment trials aimed at slowing down and, ultimately, preventing dementia.

Through close collaboration with international pharmaceutical partners to encourage large clinical trials to be brought to Australia, this initiative seeks to:

- *accelerate development of effective therapies to prevent or treat dementia, and*
- *provide more Australians access to the latest potential therapies through participation in trials*



**Further information:**

**To refer your patient to our program- see**

**[www.australiandementianetwork.org.au/clinician/refer-a-patient/](http://www.australiandementianetwork.org.au/clinician/refer-a-patient/)**

**Interested individuals can register to participate in clinical trials – see**

**[www.australiandementianetwork.org.au/i-am-a-member-of-the-public-or-consumer/volunteer-for-trials/](http://www.australiandementianetwork.org.au/i-am-a-member-of-the-public-or-consumer/volunteer-for-trials/)**