Finding ways to maintain a healthy brain requires research. Do you ever wish that you could contribute to the scientific efforts underway that will make that possible?

The help of one healthy volunteer can make a difference in finding ways to detect the earliest symptoms and ultimately prevent the onset of Parkinson, Alzheimer and other neurological diseases.

The first step toward maintaining a healthy brain and finding a cure for many neurological diseases is early detection and that could be as simple as testing sense of smell.

Very little is known about the early phases of Parkinson, Alzheimer and other neurological disorders. By the time the common symptoms appear, there may already have been significant changes in the brain. Loss of sense of smell often precedes the onset of these diseases in the earliest stages.

For more information contact:
Barbara Fussell, RN
mindspan-pars@indd.org
1.800.401.6067

Visit us at: www.mindspan-pars.org

MindSpan

A research study to see if smell testing can detect changes that may be occurring in the brain.

Consider Participating

MindSpan is a part of the PARS study
The first step towards a cure

What is this study all about?
Early detection of disease is the key to maintaining a healthy brain.

The purpose of the MindSpan study is to develop a set of tests to determine who may be at increased risk to develop neurological diseases. Thousands of people will be evaluated over the next 3-5 years.

The first step is to evaluate a 40 item scratch and sniff smell test.

Why are we interested in testing smell?
The importance of maintaining a healthy brain has come to the forefront of successful aging. Advances in medicine have added years to our lives. Taking control of our brain’s health will profoundly effect the quality of our increased lifespan.

In many patients with neurologic diseases, the first symptom to appear is loss of sense of smell.

Why is this important?
- Smell loss seems to occur even before any symptoms are apparent.
- By the time symptoms occur significant changes in the brain may have already taken place.
- By using smell testing in combination with other tests we hope to develop a way to detect disease before it starts.

You may be eligible to join if:
- Your age is 50 years or older.
- You don’t have a diagnosis of a neurological disorder such as Parkinson disease.
- You don’t have a diagnosis of Alzheimer or other form of dementia

Participation in the MindSpan study is easy. If you choose to partake in this research...
- You will be asked to complete a form with your contact information.
- We will send you a scratch and sniff smell test and a questionnaire to be completed by you at home.
- You may be contacted to continue the mail in questionnaires annually. Some individuals may be invited to our clinic to participate further. The level of your participation is optional.

Why would I want to participate in this research?
Most people participate because they would like to:
- Partner with researchers dedicated to advancing healthy aging.
- Be at the forefront of developments that may result from this important research.
- Have the opportunity to undergo a neurologic exam by experts in the field.

Who is conducting this study?
The Institute for Neurodegenerative Disorders [IND] is an independent, nonprofit research institute located in New Haven, CT.

Our research team is committed to developing strategies to prevent and cure neurologic diseases including Parkinson and Alzheimer disease.

Our goal is to develop simple screening tests to assess subjects at risk for disease so that treatment can be initiated as early as possible.

Learn more about us at: www.indd.org

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