



# International Alzheimer's Disease Research Portfolio: National Institute on Aging and Alzheimer's Association Collaborative Project

Lorenzo M. Refolo<sup>1</sup>, Heather Snyder<sup>2</sup>, Charlene Liggins<sup>3</sup>, Laurie Ryan<sup>1</sup>, Nina Sliverberg<sup>1</sup>, Suzana Petanceska<sup>1</sup>, and Maria C. Carrillo<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Division of Neuroscience, National Institute on Ageing, Bethesda, MD, USA

<sup>2</sup>Alzheimer's Association, Chicago, IL, USA

<sup>3</sup>Office of Planning, Analysis, and Evaluation, National Institute on Aging, Bethesda, MD, USA



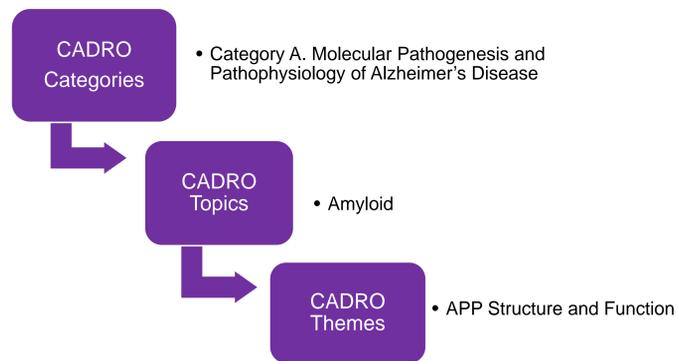
## Abstract

Alzheimer's disease (AD) is a recognized international public health crisis. There is an urgent need for public and private funding agencies around the world to coordinate funding strategies and leverage existing resources to enhance and expand support of AD research. To capture and compare their existing investments in AD research and research-related resources, major funding organizations are starting to utilize the **Common Alzheimer's Disease Research Ontology (CADRO)** to categorize their funding information. This information is captured in the **International Alzheimer's Disease Research Portfolio (IADRP)** for further analysis. As of July 2014 over 20 organizations from the US, Canada, Europe and Australia have contributed their information. The goal of the IADRP project is to enable funding organizations to assess the changing landscape of AD research and coordinate strategies, leverage resources, and avoid duplication of effort.

## Introduction

The International Alzheimer's Disease Research Portfolio (IADRP) database categorizes AD research portfolios using the CADRO of various funding organizations, including:

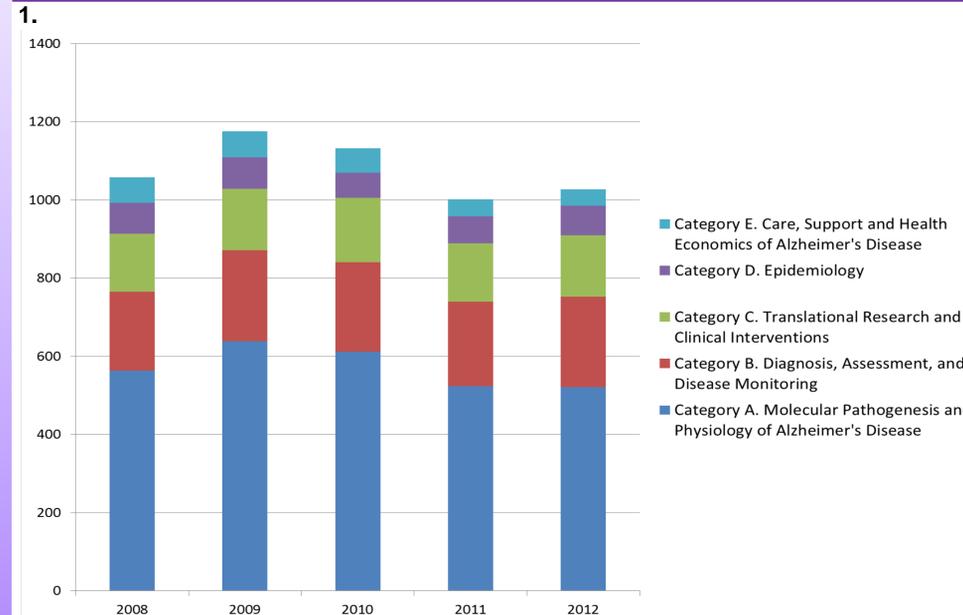
- National Institutes of Health
- Administration on Aging
- Department of Veterans Affairs
- Agency on Healthcare Research and Quality
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command
- Alzheimer's Association
- Alzheimer Drug Discovery Foundation
- Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute
- Alzheimer's Research UK
- Alzheimer's Society UK
- Alzheimer's Australia Dementia Research Foundation
- Alzheimer's Society Canada



## Objective

➤ The overall goal of the IADRP project is to inform strategic planning and encourage targeted collaborations among funding organizations through the use of a 3-tiered coding system.

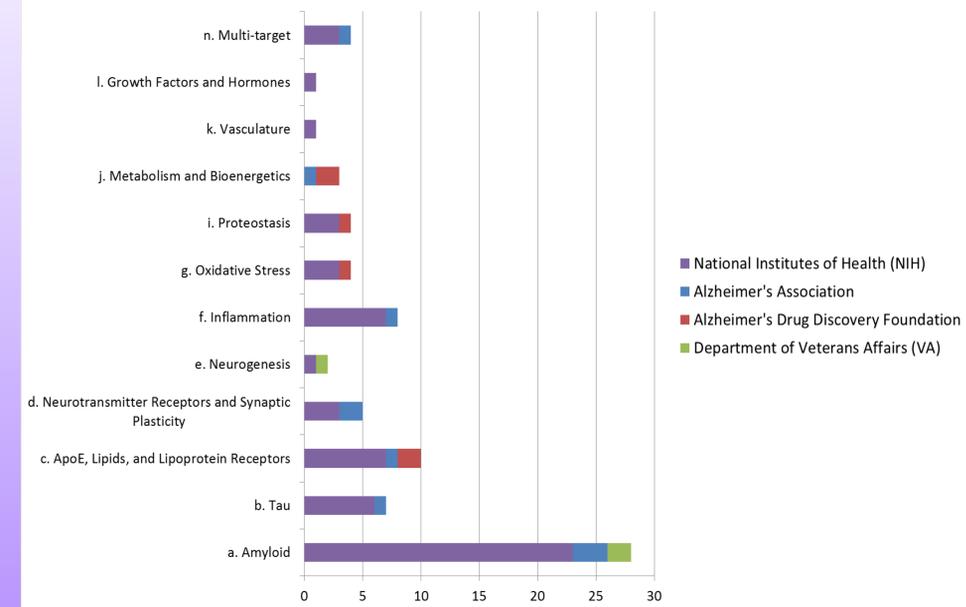
## Results



**Fig. 1.** Graphic summary of funded research projects by agencies included in the IADRP across the 5 scientific categories of the CADRO. \*The years 2009 and 2010 include additional funding via American Recovery & Reinvestment Act for AD research at NIH.



**Fig. 2.** Summary of projects by participating funders across CADRO research categories from 2008 through 2012 for the majority of funders and 2013 for the Alzheimer's Society of Canada.



**Fig 3.** Diverse therapeutic targets funded by participating organizations in 2012 in the themes captured under "Category C. Translational Research and Clinical Interventions-Topic 1: Drug Discovery (small molecule and biologics)."

## Conclusion

1. The coded projects are now included in the searchable, online IADRP database, where they are fully accessible to the research community and other AD stakeholders (<http://iadrp.nia.nih.gov/>).
2. The database currently includes funded research representing over 3800 unique grant projects, approximately 2600 principal investigators, and 500 grantee institutions in 25 countries.
3. The IADRP database enables users to search research projects across all 3 tiers of the CADRO, by different criteria, including: funding organization; grantee institution; funding announcements; and/or country.
4. Standardizing the classification of AD research projects across multiple funding organizations has created a unique opportunity to analyze and provide insight into the allocation and composition of AD research funding for major stakeholders.
5. The availability of the IADRP will advance the field of Alzheimer's disease research by providing a means for the following types of analyses:
  - Defining a baseline to frame any subsequent and future planning and investment of funding and resources
  - Determining examples of research and project areas that may reveal overlap and overemphasis
  - Assessing gaps and needs in critical areas of research and practice
  - Identifying potential opportunities for collaborations and investment, leveraging critical resources.

## References

Refolo LM, Snyder H, Liggins C, Ryan L, Silverberg N, Petanceska S, Carrillo MC. Common Alzheimer's disease research ontology: National Institute on Aging and Alzheimer's Association collaborative project. *Alzheimer's Dement* 2012; 8: 372-375.