

# Alzheimer's Disease Study

A clinical trial sponsored by the National Institute of Mental Health

*One of the Clinical Antipsychotic Trials of Intervention Effectiveness (CATIE) projects*

Many people with Alzheimer's disease develop symptoms including delusions, agitation, aggressive behavior, or hallucinations. These symptoms add to the many difficulties of living with Alzheimer's disease. The **Alzheimer's Disease Study** aims to find out the most effective medication treatments for these symptoms, and to improve the quality of life of people with Alzheimer's disease, their families, and caregivers.

Individuals with Alzheimer's disease may be eligible to participate if they experience one or more of the following:

- **delusions**, or irrational beliefs (such as believing that someone is out to get them, or that caregivers aren't who they say they are)
- **agitation** (being restless, or easily upset)
- **aggressive behavior** (being verbally or physically aggressive)
- **hallucinations** (seeing or hearing things that are not actually there)

The **Alzheimer's Disease Study** is comparing the effectiveness of four FDA-approved medications for these symptoms: olanzapine (Zyprexa®), quetiapine (Seroquel®), risperidone (Risperdal®), and citalopram (Celexa®). At the beginning of the study, some participants may receive placebo (inactive pills) before they receive one of the study medications, but they will not remain on placebo if they do not improve.

A specially trained physician and treatment team will carefully monitor each participant throughout the study and will coordinate with the participant's regular health care provider. Participants may continue taking medications for Alzheimer's and other health conditions (with some exceptions) and will continue to see their current physicians for routine medical care.

Participants who improve on a study medication may stay on it, and those who do not benefit will be offered another active treatment. In this way, participants may try each study medication to find which one is most helpful for them.



Medications and medical care that are part of the study are provided at no cost. Participants will be followed for 9 months, with approximately 12 outpatient clinic visits during this time.

A family member or caregiver who has regular contact with the patient must be available to participate in the study. Educational materials on Alzheimer's disease and advice on managing difficult behavior will be provided.

## **For more information, contact:**

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