



# With Your Brain in Mind

Monthly news and updates from the Stanford Alzheimer's Disease Research Center

*Looking inside the brain: What does the brain tell us?*

## Upcoming Events

More information on all events can be found on the Stanford ADRC website [here](#).

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**October 14**

**2017 Walk to End Alzheimer's – Silicon Valley, CA**



**Arena Green  
N Autumn St.  
San Jose, CA 95113**

**8a: Registration**

**9a: Ceremony**

**10a: Walk begins**

**[Link](#) for more information**

**To find other walks in the Bay Area, click [here](#).**

**Sept. 23,  
3:30p**

**Dance to Remember event and brain health**

**presentation, Cooley**

**Landing, East Palo Alto.**

Details to come – check our website or the next newsletter!

## Saturday, October 14, 2017

### Walk to End Alzheimer's



**Arena Green, N Autumn St., San Jose, CA 95113**

Route length: 3 miles or 1 mile shortcut

This event brings together families, friends, and professionals whose lives have been touched by Alzheimer's. Each year, the walk brings a special feeling of togetherness and hope in fighting this disease. We hope to see you there! Click [here](#) for more information.

## Of Sound Mind

Of Sound Mind is a series of videos on dementia and healthy cognitive aging sponsored by the Stanford Alzheimer's Disease Research Center. This series brings together experts in the field of cognitive aging to explore current research on dementia and discuss ways to keep your brain healthy. This series is hosted by Dr. Dolores Gallagher Thompson. See page 2 for more information on the latest episode.

Watch the series on YouTube [here](#), and visit the Of Sound Mind page on the Stanford ADRC website [here](#).

## Links

[Stanford ADRC's website](#)

[Stanford ADRC's Facebook page \(English\)](#)

[Stanford ADRC's Facebook page \(Español\)](#)



Photo: the new Stanford Neuroscience Health Center, opened in January 2016. Read more about it [here](#).

## In the News

### Feature: Of Sound Mind – The Gift of Brain Donation

#### OF SOUND MIND: THE GIFT OF BRAIN DONATION

Ever wondered why researchers collected the biological material they collect in cognitive research? Our guest is a neuropathologist from the Stanford ADRC who will be talking about what they do with the blood, spinal fluid and eventually the brain tissue they collect and what they hope to learn from it.



 [Watch video on YouTube](#)

Our latest episode features **Dr. Ed Plowey** from the Neuropathology and Biospecimens Core (featured in the Meet the Team section below) and **Iliana García**, the Latino Outreach Specialist for the Outreach, Recruitment, and Education Core.

Dr. Plowey discusses the importance of biospecimens – blood, cerebrospinal fluid, and brain tissue – in dementia research and how these are used to further our understanding of cognitive disorders. Dr. Plowey also explains the steps involved in a donor's decision to donate his brain for research. Ms. García discusses the prevalence of dementia in the Latino community, how the Stanford ADRC is seeking to increase education and awareness of dementia in the Latino community, and the invaluable legacy left for a brain donor's family.

Watch "The Gift of Brain Donation" [here](#).



## Meet the ADRC Team – a monthly feature

### Edward D. Plowey, MD, PhD

**Assistant Professor of Pathology and Neuropathology  
and Biospecimens Core Co-Leader, Stanford ADRC**

As a board-certified neuropathologist and the co-leader of the ADRC Neuropathology and Biospecimens Core, Dr. Plowey performs brain autopsy examinations for the Stanford ADRC. The autopsy consists of examining brain tissue post-mortem to confirm the underlying neuropathology/ies that likely contributed to a patient's cognitive impairment. Dr. Plowey's laboratory also archives and distributes biospecimens from ADRC patients, including plasma and cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), and performs Alzheimer's disease (AD) biomarker measurements on the CSF specimens.

Dr. Plowey's research focuses on the neuropathologic mechanisms in early, preclinical AD. Of particular interest to him and his colleagues is the accumulation of abnormally hyperphosphorylated tau in subcortical and cortical neurons during the teenage and young-to-mid-adult years that precedes the appearance of cortical Amyloid-beta plaques. His lab is interested in the mechanisms through which cortical and subcortical tauopathy may play a role in the induction of cerebral plaques – that is, how the accumulation of these proteins contributes to plaques in the brain. Dr. Plowey hypothesizes that abnormal tau accumulation in neurons perturbs the homeostatic metabolism of the Amyloid precursor protein (APP), resulting in the increased production of aggregate prone and neurotoxic Amyloid-beta peptides. The goal of Dr. Plowey's work is to discover novel targets to leverage for the prevention of AD in its preclinical stages.