



UK Dementia
Research Institute

Care Research & Technology Programme

Appointment of:
Associate Director



Founding funders:





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Welcome to the UK Dementia Research Institute

The UK Dementia Research Institute (UK DRI) is a joint £250 million investment into dementia research from the Medical Research Council (MRC), Alzheimer's Society and Alzheimer's Research UK. The UK DRI will deliver a step-change in the scientific understanding of dementia, generating new targets for drug development, reinvigorating the therapeutic pipeline and helping to transform care.

The new national institute will cover dementia across the research spectrum, spanning Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, Frontotemporal dementia, vascular dementia, Huntington's disease and beyond.

Bringing together over 400 world-leading scientists in biomedical, care and translational dementia research, the institute will carry out a rich, varied and integrated programme of research. The institute will form a vibrant and interactive community, centred on neuroscience working on around 50 five-year research programmes across the UK in order to:

- accelerate the pace of discovery research to identify new targets for drug development
- develop new approaches for delivering effective clinical trials to targeted patient groups
- attract new partnerships with the biopharmaceutical sector to develop new therapeutics and diagnostics
- develop and promote strategies for interventions that prevent the development or progression of dementia
- provide new insights and technology-based approaches to delivering more effective care and support to people with dementia and their carers.

Origins

The Prime Minister's Challenge on Dementia 2020 set out a clear target for research to deliver the first effective treatments and disease modifying therapies for dementia by 2025 and called for the establishment of a national Dementia Research Institute by 2020. The MRC took the reins as leader of the institute in November 2015 with a £150 million commitment. Alzheimer's Society and Alzheimer's Research UK joined as founding partners in early 2016, contributing an additional £100 million to the initiative.



Locations

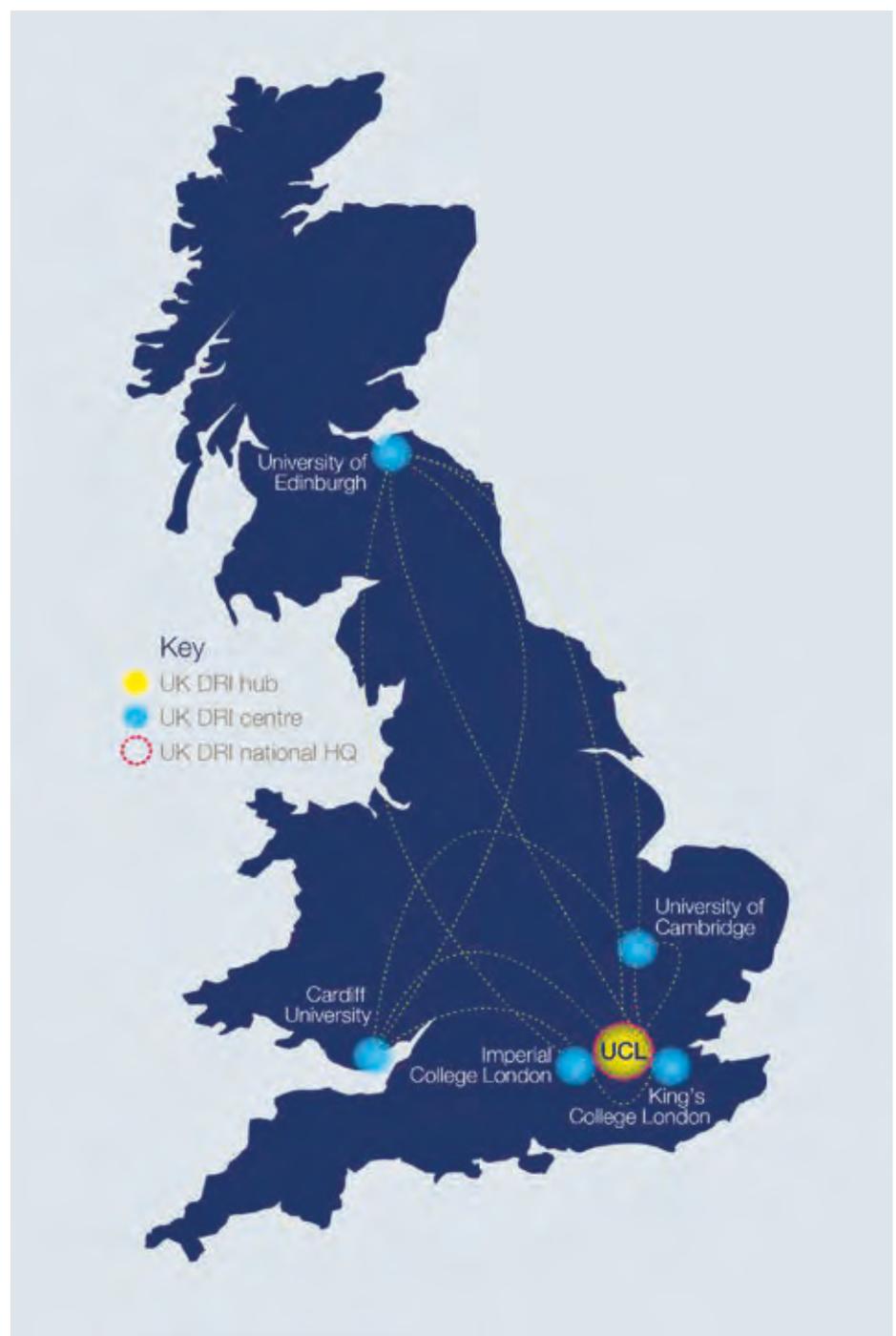
The institute is located across six leading UK universities: University of Cambridge, Cardiff University, University of Edinburgh, Imperial College London and King's College London, with its hub at UCL. This structure means that the best people are connected wherever their labs are based, as well as allowing us making the most of local cutting-edge tools and infrastructure.

Each centre is led by an Associate Director, who work together with the Director and Chief Operating Officer (COO) to form the leadership team. The national UK DRI headquarters team is based at UCL to provide support across the institute.

UK DRI centres and research groups will naturally specialise in certain research areas, but the institute is designed to be opportunistic and grasp all good ideas that could take us further in fighting the biggest health challenge of our generation. Themes will be established to facilitate cross-centre working and bring focus to key areas.

Growth

The centres were selected in spring 2017, along with 28 research programmes across them. The institute then launched a recruitment campaign in summer 2017 for programme leaders across our centres to double our number of programmes, which is rolling into 2018 until positions are filled.



Our vision



UK DRI Director Professor Bart De Strooper has set an ambitious vision for the institute, identifying the gaps in our knowledge of how the healthy brain functions and what leads to its degeneration. The UK DRI will achieve this by focusing on the biological mechanisms underpinning dementia.

Researchers at the UK DRI will embrace novel technologies and interdisciplinary approaches to build new knowledge and understanding that will lead to new treatments. Research will initially focus on developing better models of disease and translating research findings into new diagnostics and treatments and, in the longer term, cures.

We are now seeking to build in our care research programme

which will connect to the work of the wider institute and help bring more immediate impact to people affected by dementia.

Creativity and collaboration

The UK DRI will help build the next generation of dementia researchers, by attracting new researchers into the field and providing access to interdisciplinary training and cutting-edge resources. The institute will set a dynamic pace to establish a vibrant, ambitious and interactive neuroscience community of initially 400 scientists, with as many as 700 or 800 in the future. It will build on the strong dementias research base that already exists in the UK. Top talent and rising stars

from all over the world will come to the institute, from different fields across biomedical and translational research. Together this diverse range of expertise will fill and enrich knowledge gaps in dementias.

The UK DRI will provide the best tools, resources and support so our researchers can make the most of every opportunity and define their career. At the heart of the UK DRI is innovation. A creative ethos will run throughout the institute. A significant part of the budget will be used to expand and implement the new ideas generated by everyone working at the UK DRI, taking account of future partnership opportunities. The institute will also promote collaborative working, both across the institute and also plugging into dementia initiatives across the UK and beyond. The institute is looking to foster strong industry connections so that discoveries made in the laboratory can lead to new preventions and treatments for people with dementia as swiftly as possible.

Details of the research currently underway at the UK DRI is available at www.ukdri.ac.uk



We're looking for someone who embraces our creative and courageous culture and who can think outside of the box.

Professor Bart De Strooper, UK DRI Director



Our Care Research & Technology Programme

We wish to appoint an Associate Director with an exciting vision for how patient focussed research can lead to significantly improved quality of life for people affected by dementia.

With a £20 million budget and the world-class environment and infrastructure of the UK DRI, the Associate Director is expected to lead an innovative care research programme exploring how science and technology can be used to further our understanding of causes and consequences of dementia by studying the patient in daily life situations.

The Associate Director with a focus on care research & technology will join the UK DRI leadership team and shape this programme of research.

Scope

The purpose of this programme is to investigate how to better care for patients. This is not, however, a care delivery program, but rather a programme of rigorous research that will lead to improvements in our understanding of people with

dementia and carers, their needs, and how people can live better with their condition.

Whilst we welcome any ideas on how to achieve these goals, we are particularly interested in the following:

- Researching, developing and applying new technologies and engineering principles with a view to understanding and promoting new models of care, assessing capacity and progression, monitoring and managing behaviours and symptoms, promoting autonomy and other relevant outcomes.
- The exploitation and combining of rich and complex patient-based data sets, from multiple single variate measures to complex multi-parameter health system level data, using advances in computational and statistical sciences to advance models and understanding of patients and patient care. Although this programme will not fund the routine continuation of current cohorts, capturing and exploring data generated from novel devices and the development of new tools to exploit disparate

and complementary data sets is of interest.

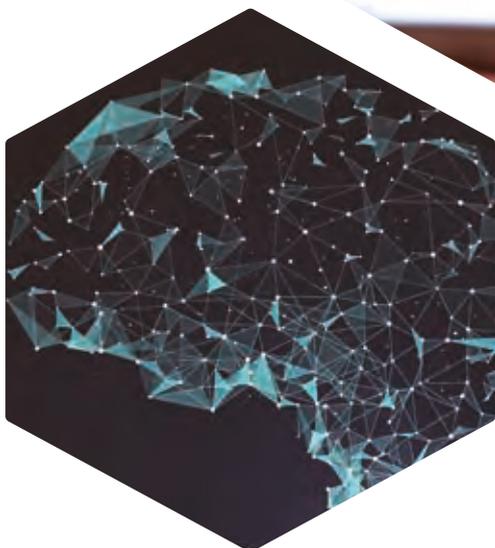
- Patient and care-focused research that also provides an opportunity to advance our understanding of the underlying aetiology and mechanisms of disease.

The following areas are not appropriate for this programme:

- Developing cell or animal models or other preclinical research tools; drug or biomarker discovery/development; creating or extending biobanks; education programmes; support for a preformed consortium or alliance; care delivery in the absence of a specific scientific agenda.

The scope of the proposed research should be sufficiently focused to enable a transformational change in our understanding, delivery or improvement in patient care. Programmes that propose incremental advances of existing care-focused research will not be funded.

The vision should set out how the programme will involve patients, the public and other relevant stakeholder groups.





UK DRI Associate Director for Care Research & Technology:

Person profile and duties

The UK DRI is looking to appoint an Associate Director who will focus on the UK DRI's care research agenda. The new Associate Director will be responsible for setting a vision and overseeing a coordinated programme of patient-focussed research. The proposed programme should show added benefit and value to being part of the UK DRI, and enrich the research that is already underway.

The Care Research & Technology Programme will benefit from an initial £20m, six-year commitment from the UK DRI. The Associate Director may be based at one of the existing UK DRI partner institutions or at a new institution that will become a seventh UK DRI centre.

The Associate Director will be responsible for presenting a vision for the programme, describing the specific research elements to be developed, and defining and developing the partnerships and collaborations needed to realize the aims. The Associate Director will have significant financial

responsibility including establishing appropriate annual budgets and allocating funds within the host centre and across other universities, centres and partnerships.

At the same time the Associate Director should subscribe fully the fundamental mission of the UK DRI which is to understand the fundamental processes that underlie dementia disorders and should work in a collegial way to build an integrated, collaborative environment throughout the different parts of the UK DRI.

We're looking for someone who can:

- Set out a bold vision for patient-centred research that may lead to significantly improved quality of life for people affected by dementia.
- Develop a research programme that is fully integrated into the UK DRI and will benefit from being part of the DRI's considerable infrastructure and resources.

- Mobilise current dementia researchers and clinicians and attract new non-dementia experts with relevant expertise.
- Engage and involve public, patients and other key stakeholder groups in the programme.
- Exploit opportunities for partnerships, commercialisation and further funding to enhance the programme.

The Associate Director will become part of the UK DRI leadership team, joining the Director, Chief Operating Officer and Associate Directors.

Duties and responsibilities of the UK DRI Associate Director

1. Leadership

- 1.1 Provide leadership, motivation and direction for the scientific programmes of the centre so as to maximise high-quality scientific delivery, output and outcomes.
- 1.2 Deliver the institute vision within the centre to ensure maximal impact for the institute investment.
- 1.3 Participate fully in strategic and quinquennial scientific reviews of the centre and the implementation of outcomes. Ensure the effective resourcing of the research programmes within delegated authority.
- 1.4 Drive collaborative activities of benefit to the Institute's mission that complement external UK strengths across diverse national areas of biomedical, clinical, care provision and population research, as well as engage novel technologies and international opportunities.
- 1.5 Promote and implement the opportunities for technology transfer and translation of research into clinical, health and social care.
- 1.6 Promote to the general public the DRI's role in UK and international dementia research to inspire engagement and participation in research.
- 1.7 Champion the involvement of patients and public in the design, delivery, and dissemination of research across the UK DRI.

- 1.8 Support and represent the broader corporate interests of the MRC, AS and ARUK, and in particular embed these organisations' core values within the centre, in terms of promoting scientific and methodological excellence, supporting long-term and cross-disciplinary science, promoting open science and effective public engagement.

- 1.9 Support (either in person or through allowing access to other key staff or visits to institute facilities) the fundraising activities of AS and ARUK.

2. Resource management

- 2.1 Plan and manage resources including staff, funds, capital assets, in an effective and efficient manner, ensuring adherence to institute/university policies and security of assets and records.
- 2.2 Manage the centre's budget to ensure that all funds deliver value for money, and implement agreed efficiency improvement programmes.
- 2.3 Manage the centre in accordance with relevant health and safety legislation and the institute's/university's health and safety policies and guidelines.
- 2.4 Seek opportunities for external funding provided they are consistent with the institute's scientific strategy and do not compromise DRI LTD, the MRC, AS and ARUK's reputation for independence and maintaining high ethical standards.
- 2.5 Take all necessary steps to protect the institute's intellectual property rights.

3. Staff development

- 3.1 Work closely with the DRI leadership and other Associate Directors to ensure coordinated and supportive leadership of the institute.
 - 3.2 Ensure that institute professors, institute fellows and programme leaders and other direct reports have a clear understanding of their areas of responsibility and accountability.
 - 3.3 Provide a high quality training and development environment in the centre.
 - 3.4 To lead and promote 'equality and diversity' activities which will provide a diverse workforce, a commitment to 'women in science' and fairness.
 - 3.5 Provide an effective and regular process for staff communication and consultation across all levels within the centre.
- ### 4. Governance and risk management
- 4.1 Ensure compliance with corporate reporting requirements. This includes provision of up-to-date information on current research programmes and on research outputs and achievements.
 - 4.2 Assess, prioritise and manage the risks inherent within the operation of the centre and the strategic framework set by the institute. Implement appropriate action where weak controls and risks are identified, for example, through audit reports.

5. Corporate citizenship

- 5.1 Promote and maintain the standards set out in the institute's code of conduct; ensure that they are communicated to and understood by centre staff.
- 5.2 Ensure that the centre research fully meets current ethical standards, and adheres to guidelines from the DRI LTD, MRC, AS and ARUK and other bodies on ethics and good research practice.
- 5.3 Identify and manage conflicts of interest which may arise in any aspect of the centre's activities.
- 5.4 Ensure that any personal external interests and activities that may present a potential conflict of interest to the UK DRI Ltd board/MRC/AS/ ARUK are reported to and resolved by the institute director.

6. External relationships

- 6.1 Promote, through the research of the centre and through the management of its external relations, the MRC's, AS's and ARUK's objectives relating to public communications and international relations.
- 6.2 Maintain effective relationships with the university and other key stakeholders locally and nationally.



Application process and guidance

Key dates

17 April 2018

Letters of intent due.

May 2018

Shortlisted applicants informed.

July 2018

Candidate interviews.



Overview

Candidates will be considered in a two-step process involving an initial letter of intent followed by a more detailed application by invitation only.

Letters of Intent will be reviewed by a Selection Committee, including UK DRI leadership, founding funders, lay representation including people affected by dementia, and additional specialized peer review as required. This review will take into account your research vision and strategy, and your personal research track record and leadership qualities.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to submit further details of their proposed programme and attend an interview currently scheduled for July 2018. The selection process will also involve a lay panel. Details of this process will be provided nearer the time.

The final decision will be made by UK DRI Director Professor Bart De Strooper.

Submitting a Letter of Intent

Applicants are required to submit the following:

- Your curriculum vitae.
- A cover letter (up to two pages) including your motivation for applying, details of your current employment and the expected institutional home for the proposed programme. Please also describe all major current professional commitments and how these will be managed in the event that you are offered the position.
- A letter of support from the proposed host institute, including an indication of what level of support they will provide. Although details of this institutional support will be discussed in more detail in the second phase of the application process, it is important to note that we do expect specific and substantial institutional support for the proposed UK DRI Care Research & Technology Programme.
- Research vision statement (up to five pages) including:
 - The area of need and/or the problem to be addressed, and how the proposed research will address these needs.
 - A description of the collaborative elements of the proposed programme: who will you work with and how will their contributions advance the mission of the Care Research programme?
 - A description of how the proposed Care Research & Technology Programme will fit within the broader UK DRI programme. How does your proposed research support the UK DRI's overall research agenda?
 - A description of why your proposed research agenda is particularly well suited to the UK DRI as opposed to another structure, institute or funding mechanism.
 - An outline of how your research will involve the public, patients and other relevant stakeholder groups.

Each document (cover letter; CV; letter of support; and research statement) should be presented as an individual PDF and all four PDFs emailed to the address below. References should not be provided at this stage.

Letters of Intent will be held in confidence and will only be shared with the Selection Committee.

Letters of Intent should be emailed to: grantenquiries@alzheimers.org.uk by midday on 17th April 2018.

Eligibility

Applicant

- Applicants must demonstrate a strong interest in dementia and a strong motivation to improve the quality of life for people with dementia, their carers and all those affected. Applicants may come from any background, field or discipline but must demonstrate a good understanding of the scientific developments in the field of dementia research.
- It is expected that the successful applicant will be full time dedicated to the role of UK DRI Associate Director. Combined positions will only be considered if mutual benefit can be demonstrated.

Institution

- Although the host institution must be an academic or NHS institution based in the UK, applicants need not have an existing contract with a host UK institution at the time of application. Applicants who do not have an existing contract with an appropriate UK institution

must however demonstrate an in principle agreement with an appropriate UK institution that will employ them and provide a suitable environment for the proposed Care Research & Technology Programme.

- The host institution must be able to demonstrate a strong track record and critical mass of research in areas related to dementia and the proposed programme.
- The host institution is expected to demonstrate a clear and quantifiable commitment to the new programme and the DRI, typically providing appropriate space, matching funding and other resources.

The application process is open to international applications and subject to independent peer review.

Financial and contractual considerations

Letters of Intent do not require a detailed budget. The following information is provided as guidance only, based on already established principles of working in the UK DRI. We will discuss specific funding needs with the successful applicant.

- Although the ultimate decision on the Care Research & Technology Programme budget will be determined by UK DRI Director, Professor De Strooper, we anticipate that the total six-year programme budget will be in the order of £20m.

- The UK DRI Associate Director is expected to dedicate at least 50% of their time to the UK DRI. The UK DRI will contribute 50% of the agreed Associate Director's contribution, to be matched to be met by the HEI.
- Funding for refurbishment and necessary building costs may be included if required. All refurbishment and building cost should be matched at a ratio of 2:1 by the host institute and must be directly related to the specific research programme. (Support for ancillary buildings or support services will not be considered.)
- Funds may be provided for recruiting mission-critical investigators to the proposed programme. Recruitment packages of between £1-3m will be considered.
- The final budget may include funds for administrative and other support, up to 10% of the requested research costs.
- The host institution will be required to agree UK DRI Ltd terms and working principles in line with those agreed with the existing six UK DRI institute partners.
- The UK DRI, including the Care Research & Technology Programme, is subject to quinquennial review, which is scheduled for 2022. Any follow-on funding will be dependent on progress identified at this review.

For questions about the application process, please contact:

Dr James Pickett

Head of Research, Alzheimer's Society:
ukdri@alzheimers.org.uk

For questions about the UK DRI and its ongoing programmes and culture, please contact:

Dr Adrian Ivinson

UK DRI Chief Operations Officer, UCL:
a.ivanov@ucl.ac.uk



Other related opportunities

Funders work together to coordinate funding and opportunities for social science and care research in dementia. Links are provided below to other recently announced complementary funding opportunities:

ESRC-NIHR dementia research initiative 2018 – prevention, interventions and care delivery

An ESRC/NIHR dementia research initiative opens in January 2018 and seeks to fund large social science grants to bring theoretical understanding and social context together with clinical application and policy development in the areas of dementia prevention, interventions and care delivery.

<http://www.esrc.ac.uk/funding/funding-opportunities/>

JPND Health and Social Care for Neurodegenerative Diseases

The EU Joint Programme in Neurodegenerative Disease Research (JPND) call for multinational research projects on Health and Social Care for Neurodegenerative Diseases opens in January 2018. It aims to address health and social care delivery at the macro level (system and infrastructures) as well as at the individual level of patients, their carers and families, through novel and ambitious research relevant to a number of neurodegenerative diseases, including Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

<http://www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu/initiatives/annual-calls-for-proposals/open-calls/>



UK Dementia Research Institute

Vision

A world where research conquers dementia.

Mission

To boost, connect and revolutionise dementia discovery science.

To bring forward the day when we can ultimately prevent dementia.

To accelerate finding new ways to diagnose and treat dementia effectively.

To improve quality of life for everyone affected by dementia.

Values

Our five values reflect what we are, how we do things and where we want to be.

The UK Dementia Research Institute is:

1. Courageous

We embrace the unconventional, unite diverse expertise and are brave enough to take risks to reap rewards.

2. Welcoming

We share the best ideas, skills and tools. We progress careers.

Our doors are open: we build connections with leading researchers globally and learn from people affected by dementia.

3. Energetic

We work at pace, using the best science to catalyse discoveries.

4. Perceptive

We are forward-thinkers and adapt quickly to opportunities that take us further, faster.

5. Determined

We challenge ourselves and each other to work at the forefront of discovery, striving daily for world-leading quality in our science.

