

SIU Med School Part of National Alzheimer's Disease Study

Individuals who are diagnosed with mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease are needed to participate in a national multi-site study of the drug bapineuzumab at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. The drug is being evaluated for its effectiveness in the treatment of Alzheimer's Disease by SIU's Center for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders.

“This study is important because it will give us a better understanding about the disease and hopefully lead to better treatment options,” said Dr. Tom Ala, associate professor of neurology at SIU, who is directing the study.

Volunteers must be between the ages of 50 and 89, and be willing to take cognitive tests, live at home with a caregiver capable of accompanying the patient on clinic visits, and not have a history of clinically evident stroke.

Each participant will receive a physical examination and other tests prior to the pharmaceutical trial starting date and during 15 follow-up visits over 18 months. There is no charge to the participants for the tests and medications related to the study, which is sponsored by Pfizer Pharmaceuticals.

If you are interested in participating in the study, contact Barbara Lokaitis at blokaitis@siumed.edu or call 217-545-9737 weekdays.