



Banner Alzheimer's Institute

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Banner Alzheimer's Institute to open \$16.3 million Imaging Center

State-of-the-art center to foster the continuation of pioneering imaging research

PHOENIX, Ariz. (Feb. 5, 2013) – The opening of a \$16.3 million state-of-the-art Imaging Center further cements the internationally-recognized work occurring at Banner Alzheimer's Institute (BAI) and advances statewide collaboration in Alzheimer's disease and other neuroscientific, cardiology and oncology research.

The Imaging Center, located at BAI's campus in Phoenix, was made possible by \$9.2 million in funding from the National Institutes of Health and \$7.1 million in philanthropic support from individuals, corporations and foundations. The center, which opens later this spring, will provide a shared scientific resource for researchers throughout the state and it will complement the scientific strengths of its partnering institutions.

The 18,000-square-foot facility features state-of-the-art imaging equipment including positron emission tomography (PET), CT and MRI technology. In addition, a cyclotron and radiochemistry lab will allow the production of radiotracers to support PET studies across Arizona in the areas of neurology, oncology and cardiology. Radiotracers are used by PET researchers to study a range of biochemical and physiological processes in the brain and body. In addition, BAI's computational analysis laboratory will continue to develop, test, and use software to analyze PET and MRI images with unprecedented power.

"We are grateful to the National Institutes of Health, and extraordinary charitable contributions facilitated by Banner Alzheimer's Foundation for the state-of-the-art imaging resources needed to make potentially transformational differences in the scientific fight against Alzheimer's disease, advance cancer research, unravel mysteries of the human mind and brain and support important biomedical research collaborations throughout the state," said Dr. Eric Reiman, CEO of Banner Research, BAI executive director, and director of the Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium.

The new Imaging Center will help BAI researchers in the effort to find treatments to ending Alzheimer's before it impacts another generation. It will also add to the arsenal of research tools used by researchers in the Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium, a leading model of statewide collaboration in biomedical research.

"Members of Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium played a huge role in our effort to secure funding for the Imaging Center and will continue to be key participants in our imaging research," added Reiman.

The Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium includes Arizona State University, Barrow Neurological Institute, Mayo Clinic Arizona, Banner Sun Health Research Institute, Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen), University of Arizona and Banner Alzheimer's Institute.

In addition to the new Imaging Center, Dr. Reiman, Dr. Pierre Tariot, and their colleagues have developed the international Alzheimer's Prevention Initiative (API) to find effective treatments to prevent Alzheimer's disease as quickly as possible. With its first prevention trial launching later this year, API will begin to evaluate the most promising therapies and do so as quickly as possible. The API is intended to evaluate promising prevention therapies in individuals at the highest genetic risk for Alzheimer's disease, help set the stage for the field to rapidly evaluate the range of promising therapies and find ones that work as quickly as possible.

A key component of API is its national Alzheimer's Prevention Registry. People who are passionate about combatting the disease are encouraged to sign-up at <https://registry.endalznow.org/>. They will receive regular updates about the latest advances in the prevention of Alzheimer's disease, the promotion of brain health, and opportunities to participate in prevention studies.

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About Banner Alzheimer's Institute

Through its research and care, Banner Alzheimer's Institute (BAI) is dedicated to the goal of ending Alzheimer's disease without losing another generation. It is helping to launch a new era of Alzheimer's research—treatment and prevention at the pre-symptomatic stage—and to establish a new comprehensive model of care. Established in 2006 by Banner Health, one of the country's largest nonprofit health care systems, BAI has a three-fold focus: to conduct revolutionary studies in the detection, treatment and prevention of Alzheimer's; to set a national standard of patient and family care; and to forge scientific collaborations that bring together institutions and disciplines internationally. For more information, visit www.banneralz.org.

About the Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium

The Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium (AAC) is the nation's leading model of statewide collaboration in Alzheimer's disease research. The AAC is a 501(c)(3) organization that includes the state-supported Arizona Alzheimer's Research Center (AARC), the National Institute on Aging (NIA)-funded Arizona Disease Core Center (Arizona ADCC), and independently funded research programs. Its seven member institutions include: Arizona State University, Banner Alzheimer's Institute, Banner Sun Health Research Institute, Barrow Neurological Institute, Mayo Clinic Arizona, the Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen), and the University of Arizona.

About Banner Alzheimer's Foundation

Banner Alzheimer's Foundation (BAF) is the philanthropic resource for Banner Alzheimer's Institute. Established by the nonprofit Banner Health in 2006, BAF is dedicated to securing charitable contributions in support of BAI's mission to end Alzheimer's disease without losing another generation and to set a comprehensive standard of care for patients and families. For more information, visit www.banneralz.org/waystogive.

About the National Institutes of Health

NIH, the nation's medical research agency, includes 27 Institutes and Centers and is a component of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. NIH is the primary federal agency conducting and supporting

basic, clinical, and translational medical research, and is investigating the causes, treatments, and cures for both common and rare diseases. For more information about NIH and its programs, visit <http://www.nih.gov>.