

LAB TESTING FOR ALZHEIMER'S RISK



After you and your study partner sign the informed consent form to join the TRAILBLAZER-ALZ 3 study, the research team will check to be sure you meet all the study requirements. As part of the study screening process, a blood sample will be taken to test for P-tau. The results of the test will determine whether or not you can join the study. If you are able to join the study, then it is very likely that there are changes in your brain due to Alzheimer's disease.



In Alzheimer's disease, changes in the brain **BEGIN 10 TO 20 YEARS** before thinking or memory problems appear.

WHAT IS P-TAU?

A protein called P-tau (tau rhymes with cow) can be a sign of changes in the brain due to Alzheimer's disease. Changes in the brain caused by P-tau are sometimes called tau tangles. When they first begin to form, these tau tangles do not cause any thinking or memory problems. But, over time, these tangles can grow and block the brain's normal function. P-tau can be detected using a blood test.

Having the P-tau protein **DOES NOT** necessarily mean that you will develop memory and thinking problems related to Alzheimer's disease.

Your screening blood sample will also be tested for APOE.

[Learn More](#) 

WHAT IS APOE?

APOE is a gene that everyone has, and everyone has 2 copies of the gene—one from your mother and one from your father. The APOE genes can be any combination of e2, e3, or e4. For example, one person could have one APOE e2 plus one APOE e4, while another person might have two APOE e3. You are born with your type of the gene and this does not change over your lifetime. People who have the APOE e4 gene are more likely to develop memory and thinking problems due to Alzheimer's disease than people who do not have any APOE e4. The APOE e4 gene is only one of many risk factors for developing memory and thinking problems due to Alzheimer's disease.

Having the APOE e4 gene DOES NOT necessarily mean that you will develop memory and thinking problems related to Alzheimer's disease.

Why test for APOE in the TRAILBLAZER-ALZ 3 study?

Understanding how the investigative medicine works in people with different genes will help researchers to understand more about Alzheimer's disease and how best to treat it.

It is YOUR CHOICE to know the results of the APOE test.



Will I get the results of the APOE test?

If you meet certain study entry requirements during the screening process, you may be given the choice of learning the result of your APOE test. You can decide to be told the results at any point during the study.

If you decide to learn the results of your APOE test, the research team will talk with you to help you understand your results. The testing and support are provided without charge through the clinical trial.