

NEWCASTLE BRAIN TISSUE RESOURCE

Newcastle Brain Tissue Resource is an established brain bank run by Newcastle University, in conjunction with the Medical Research Council, and local NHS trusts which allows for the vital study of brain tissue. It is part of the Brains for Dementia Research network funded by the Alzheimer's Society and Alzheimer's Research Trust.

Samples are provided to approved researchers who can demonstrate the ethical and scientific soundness of their projects.

To find out more contact:

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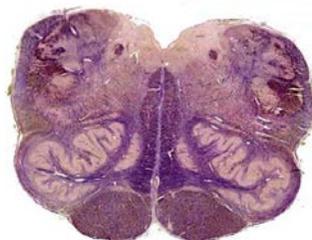
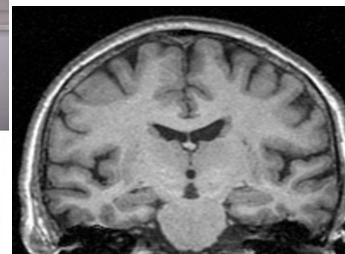
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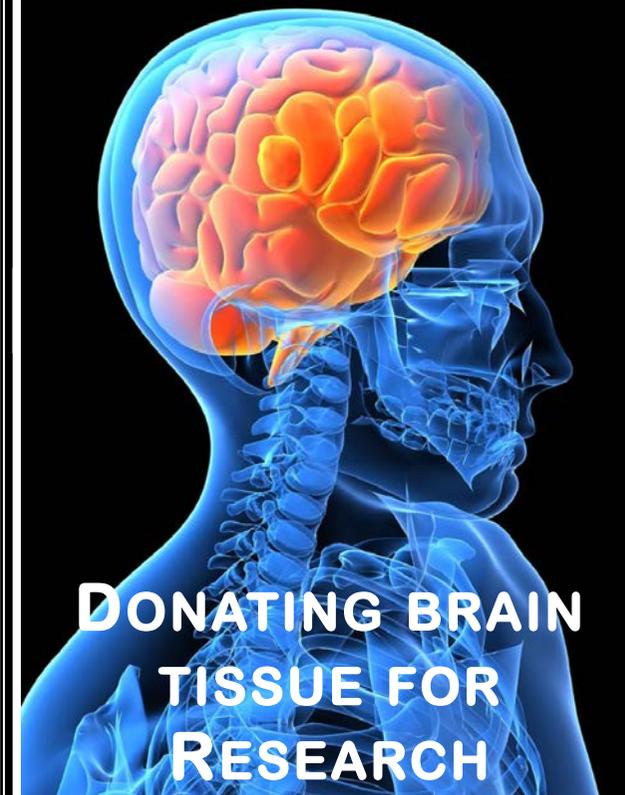
Following the death of a prospective donor
please telephone 0191 208 1345 (24 hours)



Thank you for considering donation

The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals 
NHS Trust

Version 1.3, October 2013



“From Knowledge Will Come A Cure”

Newcastle Brain Tissue Resource



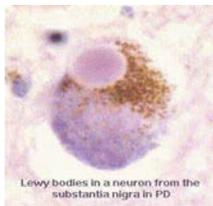
BRAINS FOR DEMENTIA RESEARCH
Increasing knowledge - Finding a cure

A partnership between the Alzheimer's Research Trust and
Alzheimer's Society in association with the Medical Research Council

The facts

As the proportion of over 60's in our population grows, disorders associated primarily with ageing, such as dementia, Parkinson's Disease and stroke will be even more of a problem.

We still need to know much more about how these diseases, and other rarer disorders such as vascular dementia and mitochondrial diseases, develop and progress.



There is still no substitute for examining samples of real brain tissue. Such studies allow us to see what changes underlie particular memory and neurological problems.

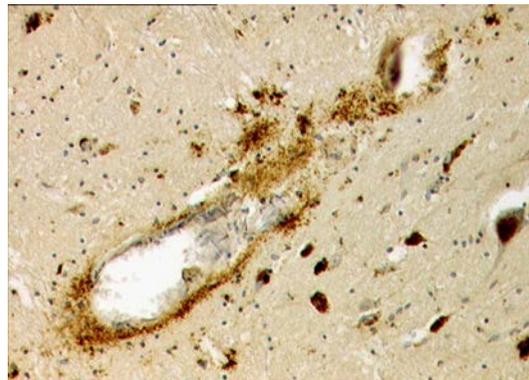
Donation of normal brain tissue post mortem is extremely important. It helps us understand how the brain is affected by normal ageing. Detailed comparisons between normal tissue and tissue affected by disease leads to a better understanding of the causes of disease so that treatments can be improved.

Donation for research

By agreeing to donate tissue after your death you can make a valuable contribution to medical research into disorders associated with ageing.

Donations are especially valuable where we have detailed clinical information about the person concerned and the presence or absence of particular symptoms, so we may ask you to complete a short questionnaire-based assessment.

Although it is your decision to make, we usually consult the next of kin at the time of donation.



This picture shows a blood vessel surrounded by abnormal amyloid protein, and neurons filled with a similar insoluble protein in the brain of a person who had Alzheimer's.

If you have no living relatives or prefer to involve someone other than your family, you can nominate a representative to make a decision on your behalf.

What does it involve?

Brain tissue is very specialized, so it is not enough to take just a sample. The whole brain needs to be studied, as the location as well as the nature of any changes may be very important.

We make all of the necessary arrangements and great care is taken to ensure that funeral arrangements are not delayed.

The donation procedure does not take long and there are no visible signs that donation has taken place. No extra costs are incurred by the donor's family.

Even if a post-mortem has been requested by the Coroner, there is usually no reason why a brain donation cannot take place.

It is usually better to make plans for donation well in advance to allow your family time to discuss it.

Once you and your family felt sure that you would like to take part, we would ask you to sign a form stating your intentions.