



**South Staffordshire and
Shropshire Healthcare**
NHS Foundation Trust

Trust Headquarters
St George's Hospital
Corporation Street
Stafford ST16 3SR
tel 01785 783041

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P R E S S R E L E A S E

More participants needed to complete UK-led Alzheimer's disease drug trial

South Staffordshire and Shropshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (SSSFT) is part of a national research project looking at a drug which may slow the progress of Alzheimer's Disease.

More participants are needed and SSSFT is looking to recruit local people to take part. There are 22 other sites across England, Scotland and Northern Ireland with 140 people already signed up.

The research study, known as [RADAR](#) (Reducing pathology in Alzheimer's Disease through Angiotensin taRgeting) is investigating if a drug normally used to treat high blood pressure (hypertension) has additional properties that could slow down the progression of Alzheimer's disease (AD) in people with and without hypertension. Approximately almost half a million people in the UK have Alzheimer's disease, which is the most common form of dementia that affects memory and brain function in older individuals.

The [RADAR study](#) is a double-blinded placebo-controlled randomised trial, meaning that some participants will be randomly assigned to receive either the study drug, losartan, or a placebo (an identical looking pill with no active medicine) once a day for 12 months. Nobody, including the doctors and nurses involved, will know until the study is analysed who received which. This is one of the most powerful study designs available.

Initially all participants who are eligible to enrol will receive two weeks of losartan and then two weeks of the placebo to ensure they are happy taking the medication before entering the year-long trial.

People with Alzheimer's disease who have high or normal blood pressure can take part if they meet certain eligibility criteria and RADAR will use brain imaging to measure whether losartan reduces the rate of brain shrinkage which normally occurs

in AD. It will also use standard questionnaires on memory performance and quality of life – important indicators of whether the drug might be helpful.

If members of the public are interested in participating in the study, please contact the Research and Innovation Team at SSSFT. Further information about the study is available on www.radar-trial.org.uk.

Email: research@sssft.nhs.uk

Telephone: 01785 783170 (Staffordshire) 01743 210140 (Shropshire)

Or you can register your interest for the RADAR study (and other dementia research) on the Join Dementia Research website: www.joindementiaresearch.nihr.ac.uk

END

Editor's note: for more information about the study and local participation contact the Research and Innovation team at SSSFT on 01785 783170 or email research@sssft.nhs.uk

Issued by: Amanda Godfrey, Communications Manager 01785 783041

Amanda Godfrey
Communications Manager
South Staffordshire and Shropshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
St George's Hospital
Corporation Street
Stafford ST16 3SR
01785 783041
Switchboard 0300 790 7000