

Robert N. Sawyer, Jr., M.D.
Interim Chairman, Dept. of
Neurology; Interim Chief, The Ja-
cobs Neurological Institute

**Alzheimer's Disease and Mem-
ory Disorders Center**
(716) 859-3484
Kinga Szigeti, M.D., Ph.D.

Baird MS Center
(716) 859 - 7511
Margaret Bucello, RN, NP
David Hojnacki, M.D..
Colleen Miller, N.P., D.N.S.
Bianca Weinstock-Guttman, M.D.

General Neurology
(716) 859-7511
Leonardo Fugoso, M.D.

Movement Disorder Center
(716) 932-6080
Thomas Guttuso, M.D.

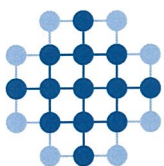
Neuromuscular Disorders
(716) 932-6080
Edward Fine, M.D.
Nicholas Silvestri, M.D.

Neuropsychology
(716) 859-3484
Ralph Benedict, Ph. D.
Joy Parrish, Ph.D.

Neuro-ophthalmology
(716) 859-7596
Norah Lincoff, M.D.

Stroke Center
(716) 932-6080
Marilou Ching, M.D.
Bijal Mehta, M.D.
Vladan Radovic, M.D.
Robert N. Sawyer, Jr., M.D.

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September 2011

Dear Colleague,

We are excited to announce the opening of the Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Disorders Center, of the Department of Neurology, SUNY at Buffalo. We are located in the Jacobs Neurological Institute at the Buffalo General Hospital. The ADMDC is a state-of-the-art center specializing in cognitive disorders. Our mission is to provide compassionate care for patients and families affected by Alzheimer's disease and other cognitive disorders. We have a multidisciplinary approach with a team of professionals caring for the patients and their families.



The team includes neurologists, neuropsychologists, neuroimagers, social worker and nursing to address all the needs of the patients and caregivers. The Center is headed by Kinga Szigeti, M.D., Ph. D., a board-certified neurologist with specialty training in genetics and cognitive disorders. The ADMDC cares for the whole spectrum of cognitive disorders with an emphasis on early diagnosis and intervention to achieve the best possible outcome. We are also investigating the utility of biomarkers to enhance the diagnostic accuracy and to estimate conversion rates in Mild Cognitive Impairment. Research endeavors at the ADMDC aim to find genetic signals that identify at risk individuals with the ultimate goal to be able to intervene before the symptoms start.

The Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Disorders Center evaluation is a four step process which typically takes place over the course of two weeks. First, the patient and their family will have an initial visit with the neurologist to discuss their concerns. At the first visit, the neurologist will review previous medical records, take a clinical history, and conduct an interview of the patient in the presence of the family. Family members will be asked to provide information about the problems that have been observed. Most patients also have blood drawn at the conclusion of this visit. Next (step two), patients of the ADMDC are sent for imaging of the brain (i.e., CT, MRI, and/or PET), and comprehensive neuropsychological testing designed for the differentiation between normal aging, mild cognitive impairment, and the various types of dementia. At the follow up visit (step three), the patient and family will meet with the neurologist to discuss the results of testing. A diagnosis will be made, and options for treatment will be discussed. Lastly (step four), the patient and family meet with a social worker who will assess the patient's current living situation and provide counseling on issues relevant to the management of the patient's condition. At this time, a consultation letter will be sent to the referring physician with recommendations.

Thank you for considering the Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Disorders Center for your patients' cognitive needs. Please contact Jodi Berner at 859-3484 to refer a patient to our center. Feel free to contact me directly at Szigeti@buffalo.edu if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Kinga Szigeti, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor of Neurology