



Washington State University  
Memory in Older Adulthood  
and Dementia  
Research Program  
(509) 335-4033, extension 2

### PRINCIPLE INVESTIGATORS

Dr. Maureen Schmitter-Edgecombe, Ph.D. Professor, Department of Psychology, WSU, (509) 335-0170; and Dr. Diane Cook, Professor, School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, WSU, (509) 335-4985. This project has been reviewed and approved by the Washington State University Institutional Review Board **for human subject participation.**

### SPONSOR

Life Sciences Discovery Fund,  
Washington State

*Washington State University*

# Memory in Older Adulthood and Dementia

*Research Program*

*Your participation is needed!*



*With your help we can develop memory programs and assistive technologies for person with dementia that will:*

- *increase patient well-being*
- *delay everyday disability*
- *reduce caregiver burden*

# MEMORY IN OLDER ADULTHOOD AND DEMENTIA RESEARCH PROGRAM

## OUR PURPOSE

To examine different types of memory abilities and how they relate to activities that older adults are involved with everyday. The project goal is to better understand memory disorders in older adulthood and to develop programs and assistive technologies to help maintain independent living at home.

## WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR

We are seeking persons age 50 years or older. We hope to test 100 older adults who report experiencing no memory problems, 50 older adults who report experiencing mild memory problems, and 50 older adults who have been diagnosed with a progressive memory disorder such as Alzheimer's disease.

## TIME INVOLVED

Participation includes a 30-40 min phone interview to see if you are eligible for the study. Those who are eligible will be asked to participate in two testing sessions, each lasting between 2.5 – 3 hrs.

## TASKS INVOLVED IN PARTICIPATION

The research involves an interview,

several paper and pencil tests that are like "brain teasers", and performance of everyday activities in a smart apartment (e.g., cooking oatmeal). You will also be asked to fill out surveys about your memory and everyday problem-solving abilities.

*To be in the study you must be able to speak English fluently and have no history of significant brain surgery, stroke, brain damage sustained earlier from a known cause (e.g., hypoxia), or a known cause (e.g., epilepsy) other than a possible progressive dementia if you are experiencing memory problems*

## INDIVIDUAL BENEFITS

You will be given your results from tests of attention, memory, language, and problem solving relative to others your age. This information may be useful in your current or future medical care.

## SOCIETAL BENEFITS

You will be contributing information that could help us to better understand memory disorders and that could lead to programs and smart home technologies that improve everyday memory skills and independent living for older adults.

## WHERE AND WHEN

This study is being conducted at **Washington State University**, Pullman campus. One session may occur at the WSU Spokane campus. Scheduling is flexible.

## CONTACT

To obtain additional information or if you are interested in participating, please call the WSU research message line and leave your name and phone number at: **(509) 335-4033** (extension 2). Your call will be returned by a member of the Memory in Older Adulthood and Dementia Research Program.

Call (509) 335 - 4033  
(extension 2)