

How do sex and gender shape Alzheimer's and related dementias — and how can integrating them improve care for everyone?

The Sex & Gender in Neurodegeneration Consortium coordinates a global effort to integrate sex and gender into ADRD research — harmonizing data, standardizing measurement and building the evidence base for more precise prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

S|GN is building the field's inaugural harmonized dataset, including

~2,000

newly assayed sex hormone measures from ~5 cohorts

1 in 5

a woman's estimated lifetime risk of Alzheimer's at age 65

» A coordinated, large-scale approach

Closing the gaps in how sex and gender shape ADRD takes integration, standardized measurement and cross-cohort analysis at a scale no single lab can reach.

» An integrated research ecosystem

Backed by the AD Data Initiative, S|GN unites datasets across reproductive transitions, aging, cognitive decline and biomarkers.

» Built in three phases

Aggregate and harmonize existing data; generate targeted new data where gaps remain; expand cohort participation across geographies.

Initial working-group themes

- Sex-disaggregated analyses of APOE
- Proteomics of sex-specific effects
- Recruitment, adherence and retention of participants

Dataset lifecycle

2026

Cohort onboarding and sex-hormone assays underway; data harmonization in progress.

End 2026

Harmonization completes; a member embargo period begins for early consortium access.

2027

Access opens to the broader research community as a shared resource.