



## Progress in Longevity Medicine Seminar Series

# Brain Imaging, Genomics and the Prevention of Alzheimer's Disease

## Eric M Reiman, MD

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**Date/Time:** Friday, November 9, 2007; 5:30 pm (dinner included)

**Location:** The Arizona Club, 201 North Central Avenue, 37th Floor

**Cost:** Free

**Abstract:** Alzheimer's disease (AD) is the most common form of disabling memory and thinking problems in older people. Given the toll that this disorder takes on patients and families and the growing financial toll that it takes on our community, there is an urgent need to find effective treatments to stop and prevent it. In this presentation, I will briefly review the urgency of the problem and the scientific progress now being made in the study of AD and discovery of promising disease-slowing and prevention therapies. I will describe how we are using brain imaging techniques in the unusually early detection and tracking of AD and the evaluation of genetic and non-genetic risk factors--and how we plan to use these techniques to find effective disease-slowing and prevention therapies in the shortest possible time. I will suggest that we have entered a new era in the genetic study of AD and other common and genetically complex conditions, review findings from our genome-wide association study of AD, and suggest what we can expect from this field in the next few years. Finally, I will review the resources we have right here in Arizona to find effective treatments to stop and end AD without having to lose a generation.

### Objectives:

- To learn about scientific progress in the discovery of promising Alzheimer's disease-slowing and prevention therapies.
- To learn about the role of brain imaging in the unusually early detection and tracking of Alzheimer's disease, the evaluation of possible risk factors, and the cost-effective evaluation of putative disease-slowing and prevention therapies.
- To learn about the new developments in the genetic study of Alzheimer's disease.

(More)

**Biography:** Dr. Reiman is Executive Director of the Banner Alzheimer's Institute, Clinical Director of the Neurogenomics Division at the Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen), Professor and Associate Head of Psychiatry at the University of Arizona, and Director of the Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium. His research interests include brain imaging, genomics, the unusually early detection and tracking of Alzheimer's disease (AD), and the rigorous and rapid evaluation of promising Alzheimer's disease-slowing and prevention therapies.

Dr. Reiman and his colleagues have used imaging techniques to detect and track brain changes in cognitively normal carriers and non-carriers of the apolipoprotein E (APOE)  $\epsilon$ 4 allele, a common Alzheimer's susceptibility gene. They have shown how imaging techniques could help identify effective primary prevention therapies without having to study a many healthy volunteers or wait many years to determine if they go on to develop symptoms.

Under Dr. Reiman's leadership, the Banner Alzheimer's Institute was established to end Alzheimer's disease without losing a generation; to create a new standard of care for patients and families by helping them address both their medical and non-medical needs; and through the Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium to help forge a model of statewide collaboration in biomedical research.

Dr. Reiman is the author of more than 120 publications and the principal investigator or co-principal investigator of grants from the National Institutes of Health, the state of Arizona and private foundations. He directs the Arizona Consortium, which involves about 120 researchers from 8 of the leading biomedical research institutions in Arizona.

To RSVP or for additional information, please contact Carol Jackson at (602) 778-7499 or via email at [carol.jackson@kronosinstitute.org](mailto:carol.jackson@kronosinstitute.org).

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