The Imaging Dementia – Evidence for Amyloid Scanning (IDEAS) Study will determine the clinical usefulness and impact on patient-oriented outcomes of a brain positron emission tomography (PET) scan that detects amyloid plaques, a core feature of Alzheimer’s disease, in patients with mild cognitive impairment (MCI) or dementia of uncertain cause.

A total of 18,488 Medicare beneficiaries meeting specific Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC) will be enrolled over 24 months at sites throughout the United States as part of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Coverage with Evidence Development (CED) research program.

The IDEAS Study will include the three amyloid PET imaging radiopharmaceuticals that have been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for clinical use: F-18 florbetapir (Amyvid™), F-18 flutemetamol (Vizamyl™), and F-18 florbetaben (Neuraceq™).

The IDEAS Study will address two specific aims:

- Assess the impact of amyloid PET on the management of patients meeting Appropriate Use Criteria (AUC)
- Assess the impact of amyloid PET over 12 months on major medical outcomes such as hospital admissions and emergency room visits in patients enrolled in the study compared to matched patients not in the study

According to IDEAS-Study Principal Investigator Dr. Gil Rabinovici, diagnostic clarity helps:

- Predict the individual’s expected trajectory
- Prompt individual and their families to develop targeted strategies to manage medical co-morbidities
- Develop care plan to better protect personal safety in the setting of cognitive Impairment

The IDEAS Study is currently collecting emails from dementia experts wishing to be considered for inclusion in the study and from PET imaging centers to which those experts expect to refer their patients for amyloid imaging. The IDEAS Study will be recruiting patients in January 2016. For more information, please visit the IDEAS website www.ideas-study.org or contact the IDEAS team at IDEAS-Study@acr.org

The IDEAS Study is led by the Alzheimer’s Association and the American College of Radiology Imaging Network (ACRIN) and managed by the American College of Radiology (ACR).