

Dementia Trials Accelerator (DTA): UK services for clinical trials in dementia

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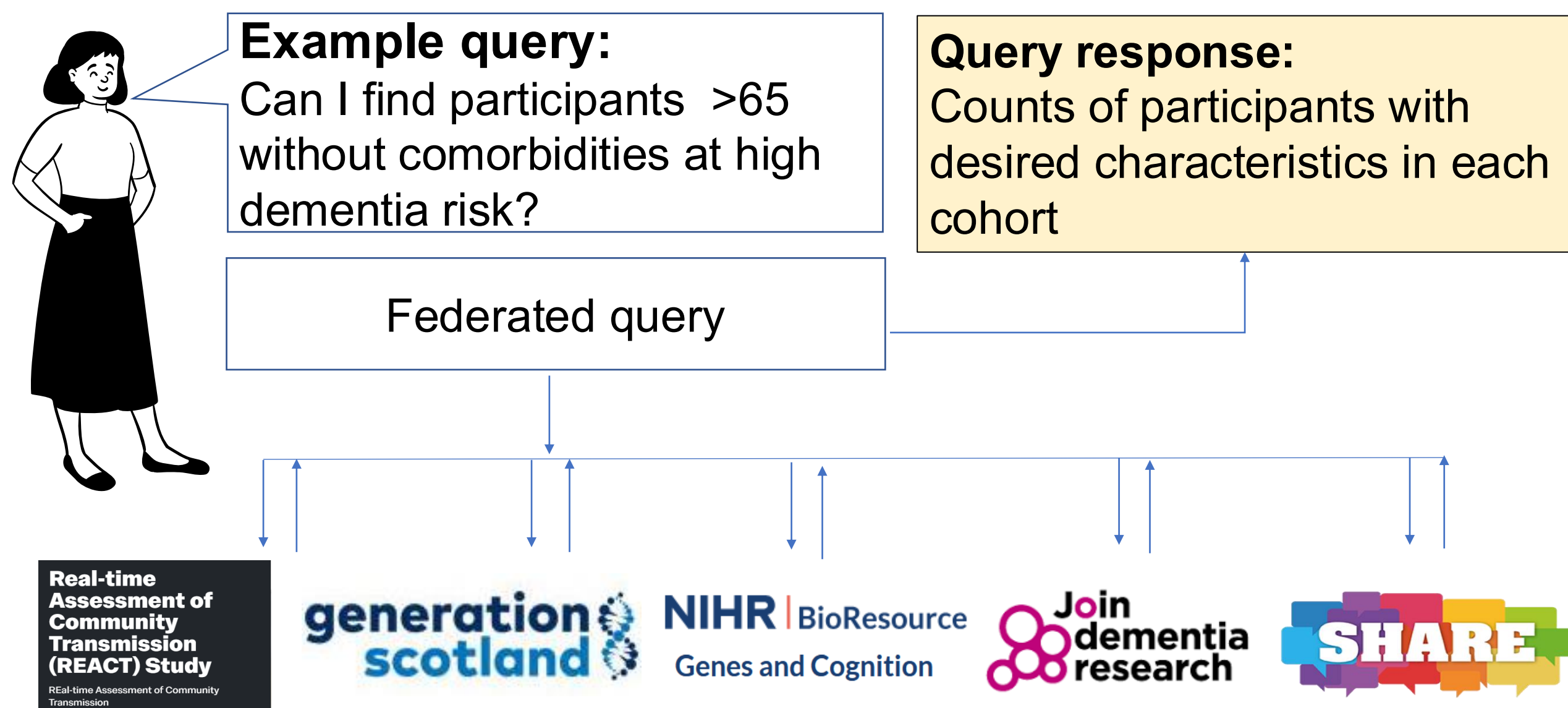
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Background

Alzheimer's disease trials have recruited slowly in the UK. Challenges include diagnostic delays, measuring biomarkers, and underrepresentation.

To address these problems, the Dementia Trials Accelerator (DTA) will use UK research and NHS datasets to identify and contact people for measurement of trial inclusion criteria, cognition, and blood biomarkers for RCTs of dementia prevention and treatment.

Cross-cohort search



Five pioneer cohorts, data queried in situ: data never moves
Data mapped to **Observational Medical Outcomes Partnership** common data model

This service will offer a trialist - from a pharmaceutical company, CRO, trial site, or academic group - the following services:

- Queries across multiple cohorts returning counts of participants with characteristics relevant to trial recruitment for trial feasibility (pre-screen)
- Chaperone communication with cohorts to approach relevant potential participants directly for trial recruitment (re-contact).

We welcome pioneer users of the service and additional cohorts to work in partnership: www.hdr.uk.ac.uk/research/brain-health-and-neurodegeneration/dementia-trials-accelerator/



Community-based phenotyping and trial ready cohort

Real-time Assessment of Community Transmission (REACT) Study

COGNITRON

INUVI

University of BRISTOL

UK Dementia Research Institute

65-75 year-old participants in existing consented cohorts or registers

Online consent, health questionnaire, cognitive test, with trial inclusion and exclusion criteria

Participants offered a clinic appointment for anthropometry, blood draw and MMSE

Plasma + DNA

Measurement of P-tau217, GFAP, NFL

- DTA owned dataset including demographics, trial inclusion/exclusion criteria, cognition, results of AD relevant biomarkers and stored plasma/DNA
- Data shared with parent cohort

Enhancing the offer of existing cohorts and NHS registers with tests of cognition, trial inclusion and exclusion criteria, and AD-relevant biomarkers will improve screening for dementia-prevention and early-treatment trials.

A cohort of ~10,000 participants began recruitment in 2026, with an aim to be representative of the UK population.

The DTA service will offer trialists and researchers:

- Mediated contact with potential participants at different cognition and biomarker thresholds for new trials.
- Access to plasma collected and cooled rapidly (cold chain and stored -80°C), DNA with associated cognition and questionnaire data.

We welcome pioneer users of this service. Applications for studies with UK ethics review will be considered by a panel including participant representatives.

Conclusions

The Dementia Trials Accelerator is a participant-centred pre-screening service to improve the speed and inclusiveness of dementia prevention and treatment studies. If you're interested in DTA services, talk to us at AAIC:

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