ABC-DS
Sites
University of Pittsburgh (Coordinating Center),
Pittsburgh, PA
Columbia University Irving Medical Center, New
York, NY
The New York State Institute for Basic Research in
Developmental Disabilities, Staten Island, NY
Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts General
Hospital, Boston, MA
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Visit Us At:
www.nia.nih.gov/research/abc-ds

ABC-DS
Alzheimer Biomarker Consortium – Down Syndrome

Thank You from ABC-DS
A warm thank you from ABC-DS
Page 2

Participant Spotlight
Nate and Carli
Page 3

Social Media
Follow us on Our Socials!
Page 4

Have Fun with ABC-DS
Word Search and Connect the Dots and Color
Page 5 & 6

June 2022 | Issue 1
A biomarker is something we can measure in the body. This measurement can tell us more information about the person's body, such as: the presence of a disease or how severe the disease might be.

What biomarkers are being studied in ABC-DS?

- Cognitive (related to the brain)
- Genetic (related to genes and chromosomes in the body)
- Neuroimaging (related to MRI and PET scans)
- Blood-based (related to blood and metabolism)
- Fluid (related to Amyloid and Tau proteins)

Thank You

"We want to thank all our Participants, Study Partners, Families, and Community Partners for supporting the ABC-DS study. Without you, this research would not be possible. By choosing to be in this study, you are helping us take an important step forward towards defeating dementia and Alzheimer's disease."

1. We couldn't do this without you.

Research without the community it's supposed to serve is not representative and talks "at" the community. The community then feels like subjects instead of involved.

Choosing ABC-DS to help foster Down Syndrome research creates the change in the Research community and a connection to the DS community.

2. Research

Research is about first finding the dots and connecting them to create a greater picture.

When Down Syndrome was first "discovered", DS became a visible dot in the larger picture of Chromosomes. Alzheimer Disease was a dot in the larger picture of the Brain. Now we know these two "dots" are linked. We are exploring these "dots" for intervention, prevention and continued quality of life.

~ The ABC-DS Family is supported by national down syndrome society
Participant Spotlight

Nate & Carli

Nate enrolled in the study at the University of Pittsburgh to help people with Down syndrome!

When Nate is not participating in the study, he is fulfilling his interests and hobbies. He loves to plan, shop and host parties as well as sing, dance, and play his flute/recorder. Nate not only loves playing music, he loves the Dave Matthews Band and sees them every time they are in town. Nate also loves going out to eat out at restaurants and particularly loves going with his dad on Fridays.

Nate is very active — he is on a bowling team, as well as plays softball, soccer, and basketball in Special Olympics. He shows his dance moves in his HipHop Dance class. Nate doesn’t stop there, he is a boxer too. His favorite place to work out is the YMCA while wearing a Puma muscle shirt that his best bud bought him!

When Nate isn’t being active, he loves relaxing on the boat on a nice sunny day. He is also an avid watcher of Dancing with the Stars.

Nate’s ambitions are to get a job and have his own apartment some day!

*Carli is the first enrollee for the study site Washington University School of Medicine.

Carli has declared:

”I have to help find a cure for Alzheimer’s to help other people with Down Syndrome and old people like my mom”.

Carli has made it a mission to complete the study!

*Read the full article about Carli at The Washington Post* For people with Down Syndrome, a longer life, but under a cloud. Pictures of Carli—Whitney Curtis for The Washington Post
Welcome to the Down Syndrome Podcast Series provided by UPMC Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh and hosted by Kishore Veilody, MD, medical director of Children’s Down Syndrome Center. The podcasts focus on a wide range of topics related to Down syndrome for parents, caregivers, educators, and medical professionals. Podcasts are updated regularly and feature discussions with medical experts.

If you have a topic that you would like them to discuss, please send an email to DownSyndromeCenter@chp.edu.

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1. Biomarker
2. Great
3. Thank You
4. Twenty One
5. Down
6. Syndrome
7. Chromosome
8. Spotlight
9. ABCDS
10. You are the Best
Facts Section

Of the 3 common types of Down syndrome, 95% of cases are due to Trisomy 21 also known as Nondisjunction, 3% are due to Translocation and 2% due to Mosaicism.