The Older Australian Twin Study

Cohort Acronym
OATS

Cohort type
General population-based cohort

Disease
Alzheimer's disease, Dementia (unclassified), Frontotemporal dementia, Lewy body disease, Mild cognitive impairment (MCI), Parkinson's disease, Subjective memory complaints (SMC) or subjective cognitive decline (SCD), Vascular dementia

Participant type
No diagnosis

Profile
Recruitment Period 2007
Sample size at start or planned sample size if still recruiting 389
Estimated Current Sample Size 0 to 4,999
Age at Recruitment >65
Gender Male and Female
Abstract

The Older Australian Twins Study is a longitudinal, multi-centre study that investigates healthy brain ageing in older twins (65+ years). OATS commenced in New South Wales in January 2007, in Queensland in December 2007, and in Victoria in February 2008. Since the OATS study started we have followed our twin volunteers up every two years to check on their psychological and physical health. Participants undergo rigorous medical and cognitive function tests, with many participants' also providing bloods samples and having a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scan of their brain. In 2015 we finished our 4-year follow ups. OATS assessed 623 participants at baseline, 450 at the 2-year follow up, and 389 completed their 4-year follow-up.

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Country Australia
Contact details
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Website https://cheba.unsw.edu.au/project/older-australian-twins-study
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Variables Collected

Brain related measures:
Behaviour, Cognitive function, Mental health, Neurological
Funtional rating:
Caregiver, Individual physiological, Individual psychological
Anthropometric:
Blood pressure, Height, Hip circumference, Waist circumference, Weight
Physical:
Cardiovascular, Hearing and Vision, Reproductive, Respiratory
Biological samples:
Blood
Genotyping:
Gene screening
Brain imaging:
Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI)
Brain banking:
Consent for brain donation
Lifestyle:
Alcohol, Dietary habits, Physical activity, Smoking
Socio-economic:
Education, Ethnic group, Family circumstances, Informal support, Marital status, Occupation and employment, Unpaid care
Health service utilisation:
Formal health and social care service utilisation including private care