

Who will be suffering from losing the Alzheimer's gamble?

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Jocelyn Kaiser wrote an article entitled "The Alzheimer's gamble" (1). Alzheimer's investigators and researchers have been straying (1). Although the research grant has been increasing, there are no radical curatives for treating Alzheimer diseases so that patients and their families are lost in a maze. There are three reasons why the pharmaceutical industry is giving up the search for an Alzheimer's cure (2). The first is a complication of the disease itself: for years, it's asymptomatic (2). The second is that there are no good methods to tell if someone has the early, biological stages of the disease (2). The problem of identifying the disease leads to the third hurdle: finding candidates for effective clinical trials (2).

The bottleneck of drug-development processes is safety assurance. As long as safety assurance is satisfied and informed consents from patients and collaborations with their advocate are confirmed, we should lower the threshold for testing a variety of radical curatives. We must seriously think who will be suffering from losing the Alzheimer's gamble.

References:

1. Jocelyn Kaiser, The Alzheimer's gamble, Science 31 Aug 2018: Vol. 361, Issue 6405, pp. 838-841
2. <https://qz.com/1282482/why-the-pharmaceutical-industry-is-giving-up-the-search-for-an-alzheimers-cure/>