

Media Release

Memory study headed for Corrigin

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Corrigin residents will participate in the Western Australia Memory study this month, made possible by funding from WA Primary Health Alliance.

Forty-six older people have volunteered to take a simple memory test and blood test that will identify genetic risk factors of Alzheimer's disease in later life.

The testing will take place with the support of local GP Dr Ramakrishna.

Shire of Corrigin President, Lyn Baker, said the community had shown great interest in the study and, in particular, having their memory function tested.

"This is an opportunity for the residents of Corrigin to take part in a larger study that will give researchers greater insight into Alzheimer's disease," Ms Baker said.

WAPHA's regional manager, Fiona Bush, said the organisation is delighted to be able to provide funding to enable Associate Professor Hamid Sohrabi and his team from Edith Cowan University to visit Corrigin and undertake baseline testing.

"We're happy to support the local community in being involved in this important research," Ms Bush said.

Follow-up testing for participants will take place in Perth after 18 months.

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About WAHPA: WAPHA oversees the strategic commissioning functions of the Perth North, Perth South and Country WA Primary Health Networks (PHNs). The WA PHNs are three of 31 PHNs established by the Australian Government nationally to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of medical services for the community. We work across the WA healthcare system with doctors, allied health professionals, Area Health Services and service providers to improve the coordination of care for people who are at risk of poor health outcomes. For more information, visit www.wapha.org.au