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Wayne State Receives NIH Grant to Develop AD Diagnosis, Focusing on African Americans

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Voyko Kavcic, Ph.D., a Research Assistant Professor in the Institute of Gerontology at Wayne State University (<https://wayne.edu/>) received a grant from the National Institute on Aging of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) (<http://www.nih.gov/>) to study earlier diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease (AD). The grant consists of \$420,000 over two years to support research on whether electroencephalograms (EEGs) and cognitive tests can detect early signs of AD.

Kavic is particularly interested in detecting signs of mild cognitive impairment (MCI), which can be an early sign of AD. MCI consists of subtle problems in language, mental functioning and memory. MCI usually does not create major problems with day-to-day functioning, so it can often be missed. Detecting MCI is particularly important for elderly African Americans, who develop MCI and Alzheimer's twice as often as Caucasians, but are less likely to be treated earlier in the disease.