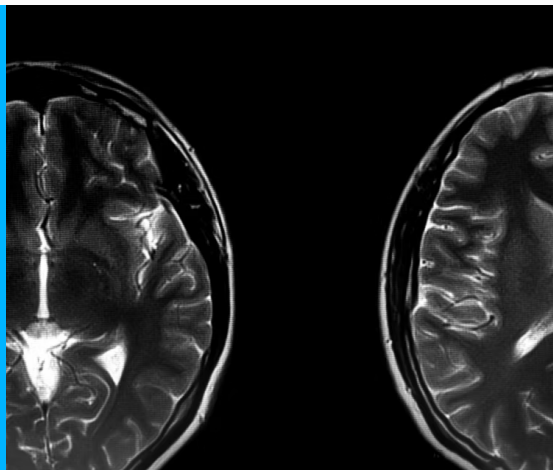




 predictftd.eu
 [@PREDICTFTD](https://www.youtube.com/@PREDICTFTD)
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Accelerating the Validation of Predictive Liquid Biomarkers for Frontotemporal Dementia Diagnosis and Subclassification



PREDICTFTD NEWSLETTER 02



Funded by
the European Union

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OHE shares ongoing work

The True Cost and Burden of Frontotemporal Dementia

To support this work, OHE is conducting a targeted literature review on the costs and burden of FTD, covering health-related and financial impacts on patients, caregivers, and wider society. Key findings include:

Evidence Base: Around 300 studies were screened, of which 30 were included in the final review. The majority focused on health outcomes, while only a few provided cost-of-illness (COI) estimates.



High burden and societal costs

Patients and carers experience significant burden in this form of dementia, with greater declines in quality of life than in other types of dementia. In addition to direct healthcare costs, societal costs—especially productivity losses—are substantial due to the younger age of those affected.



Diagnosis-related costs excluded

None of the COI studies captured diagnostic costs, where delays and misdiagnoses not only contribute to diagnostic costs and caregiver burden, but also (additional) downstream impacts.



OHE's review will be published on the project's official website.

Visit the PREDICTFTD website for updates and further information.

Nasal (Olfactory) Swab Leaflet

1

A simple nasal swab sampling



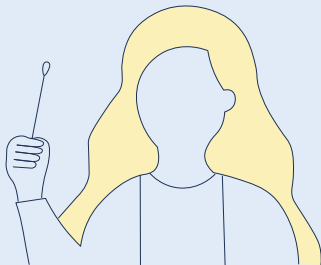
LOW
DISCOMFORT



FAST



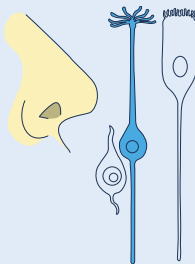
SAFE



2

Collection of olfactory* cells

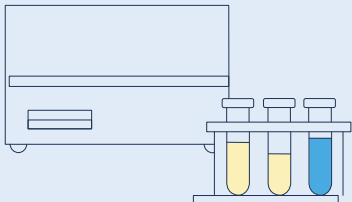
These cells can tell us about your brain health



3

Olfactory cells analysis

Advanced tests detect the pathological** proteins causing the disease before the symptoms



Minimally Invasive

Requires no anesthesia, and can be done bedside. Much safer and simpler than biopsies of nervous tissue.



High Diagnostic Yield for Neurodegenerative Biomarkers

Proteins (TDP-43, Tau, alpha-synuclein) often accumulate early in this region, increasing detection sensitivity compared to other tissues.

You can find the full leaflet on [PREDICTFTD website](#).

New Podcast: Understanding Dementia Beyond Alzheimer's Disease

EU-funded PREDICTFTD and DORIAN GRAY projects have come together for a new podcast episode exploring the diversity of dementia and the role of European research in improving our understanding of different forms of the condition.

The conversation brings together experts from across Europe:

Cindy Birck
Alzheimer Europe

Laura Ziccardi
Sapienza Università di
Roma & Sant'Andrea
University Hospital

Sergi Borrego
Hospital Clínic de
Barcelona

Dementia is Not a Single Disease

While Alzheimer's disease is its most widely recognised form, dementia encompasses a range of conditions with different causes, symptoms and progression patterns. Understanding these differences is essential for improving early and accurate detection and ensuring that people receive appropriate care and support.

The conversation also highlights how European research initiatives such as PREDICTFTD and DORIAN GRAY are developing new approaches to improve prediction, support prevention and advance diagnosis.

Listen to the podcast

[ESC 365 - DORIAN GRAY & PREDICT-FTD](#)

FTD Awareness Week 2026

Why Awareness Week

Breaking the stigma, fostering understanding, and pushing for earlier, more accurate diagnoses

FTD Awareness Week is an important opportunity to increase understanding of frontotemporal dementia (FTD), challenge misconceptions, and, most importantly, listen to the voices of people living with FTD and their families.



Nina and Petri

"It is very difficult to explain to people that FTD will present in a different way in each person. You give up on some things, but you are still doing many things like before, such as picking berries or renovating the summer house. It is not the end of our life, we just have to find a way to live it. Memory issues aren't the most visible part of the lives of people with FTD. FTD differs from other memory disorders in this way, which is why raising awareness is so important."



Roslynn

"You cannot always understand what is happening in the initial stages – until you are certain with the diagnosis, but even when the diagnosis is there. Sometimes my mum would have okayish moments as well! So, what I would say is, just don't rush. Be with the person at that moment, in that circumstance, in that situation."

Meetings and Dissemination Events

6-8 October 2025

The 35th Alzheimer Europe Conference

The PREDICTFTD project was participating in the 35th Alzheimer Europe Conference titled "Connecting science and communities: The future of dementia care", that took place on 6-8 October 2025 in Bologna, Italy. We connected with colleagues, shared insights, and explored the future of dementia care together.



26-27 March 2026

PREDICTFTD Consortium Meeting in Desenzano del Garda, Italy

The PREDICTFTD consortium met in person on 26-27 March 2026 in Desenzano del Garda, Italy. The meeting was kindly hosted by Gianluigi Zanusso and the University of Verona team.

Over the course of two productive days, partners reviewed the project's progress and discussed the next steps towards achieving the shared goal of enabling an earlier diagnosis of frontotemporal dementia (FTD).

The meeting opened with updates from across the project, covering progress in the ongoing work packages and a demonstration of how the project's data systems are coming together. Participants also attended a keynote presentation on the latest developments in frontotemporal dementia, followed by discussions on biomarkers, patient engagement, and priorities for the next phase of the project.



8–11 October 2026

PREDICTFTD Presented at ISFTD 2026 in Philadelphia

Members of the PREDICTFTD consortium participated in the 15th International Conference on Frontotemporal Dementias (ISFTD 2026), held on 8–11 October 2026 in Philadelphia, USA.

Organised by the International Society for Frontotemporal Dementias, ISFTD is the only international conference dedicated entirely to frontotemporal dementia (FTD) and related disorders. The conference brings together leading researchers, clinicians, healthcare professionals, and representatives of the FTD community from around the world to share the latest scientific advances and foster international collaboration. Its scientific programme covers a broad range of topics, including genetics, neuroimaging, biomarkers, clinical research, and emerging therapeutic approaches.

During the conference, Harro Seelaar presented the PREDICTFTD poster, entitled “Accelerating the Validation of Predictive Liquid Biomarkers for Frontotemporal Dementia Diagnosis and Subclassification: PREDICTFTD.” The poster introduced the project’s main objectives and outlined the research activities planned for the coming years.



PREDICTFTD consortium members Annika Brouwer and Harro Seelaar at ISFTD 2026 in Philadelphia, USA.

May 2026

Public Involvement Update

Members of the PREDICTFTD Public Involvement Board came together online with colleagues from the Office of Health Economics and Alzheimer Europe to discuss the value of faster and more accurate diagnostic tools for frontotemporal dementia (FTD).

People living with FTD, alongside carers and supporters, shared their experiences of the diagnostic journey and reflected on how earlier and more precise diagnosis could impact access to care, family life, and emotional well-being. Their insights are helping to shape the development and evaluation of new tools within the project.

Read more: https://lnkd.in/d_rb_XfT



26 May 2026

Not All Dementias are Alzheimer's Disease

PREDICTFTD coordinator Prof. Harro Seelaar (Erasmus MC) participated in the latest Alzheimer Europe Academy session, "Not all dementias are Alzheimer's disease". The session brought together participants from across Europe, including representatives of Alzheimer associations, people living with dementia, carers, clinicians, researchers and industry partners.

During the workshop, Dr. Harro shared a clinician's perspective on frontotemporal dementia (FTD). We are pleased to see frontotemporal dementia included in these important conversations on dementia care, policy and research. Thank you to Alzheimer Europe for organising the session and creating space for discussion on the diversity of dementias.

Read more about the session here:
<https://lnkd.in/dsEJAzn>



15 June 2026

Kuopio Neuroscience 50th Anniversary

The FinFTD Minisymposium, held in Kuopio, gathered clinicians, researchers, and neuroscience professionals to discuss current trends in frontotemporal dementia (FTD) research. The event took place as part of the Kuopio Neuroscience 50 years Symposium anniversary program.

The morning session offered a focused overview of key developments across clinical, epidemiological, and translational FTD research. Topics included advances in fluid biomarkers, survival and epidemiological patterns, expanding clinical phenotypes of FTD, and the potential of patient-derived iPSC models in translational neuroscience.

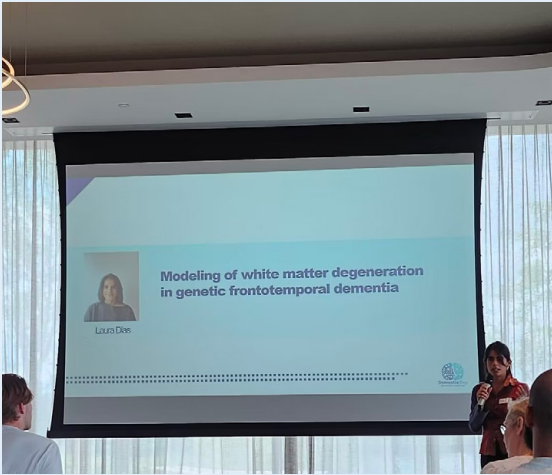


July 2026

Dementia Day 2026

A great day at Dementia Day 2026 – Building Bridges Together at Alzheimercentrum Erasmus MC! We are happy to share that Laura Dias, PhD candidate within PREDICTFTD, won the the poster prize for work on "Modeling of White Matter Degeneration in Genetic Frontotemporal Dementia."

The event also featured the interactive workshop "How to Answer Your Dementia Research Question with AI," co-organized by Laura Dias and Esther Bron. Hosted by the BigR group, the workshop introduced participants to different AI approaches for dementia research and gave them the opportunity to explore which methods are most relevant to their own research questions through hands-on activities. Congratulations to the team!



9 July 2026

PREDICTFTD at the CEPR Conference on the Economics of Longevity and Ageing

How can we better understand the economic impact of dementia?

Mireia Jofre-Bonet, Chief Research Officer at the Office of Health Economics (OHE) and a partner in the PREDICTFTD project, participated in a panel discussion on the economic impacts of dementia at the CEPR Conference on "The Economics of Longevity and Ageing", held at the University of Cambridge from 9–11 July 2026.

The discussion explored the economic costs of dementia and how different forms of dementia create distinct challenges for individuals, families and health systems.



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New PREDICTFTD Publication Explores Disease Progression Through Fluid Biomarkers

A new publication from the PREDICTFTD project investigates disease progression modelling of fluid biomarkers in genetic frontotemporal dementia.

The study reveals different temporal ordering of early CSF protein changes across genetic FTD groups and shows accurate estimation of disease stages, particularly in GRN and MAPT mutation carriers.

The findings highlight potential early biomarkers and provide new insights into disease dynamics. The modelling approach could also become a valuable tool for patient stratification and clinical trial design in genetic FTD.

Read the publication: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1186/s13195-026-02159-5>



We are proud to create a diagnostic tool for early FTD detection, enabling tailored care and treatment.