

Frequently Asked Questions

What is MindCrowd?

[MindCrowd](#) is an online research study to understand the genetics of how the human brain remembers. Specifically, MindCrowd researchers want to know how the way people remember things might change as they age. If researchers better understand the way memory changes as people age, they may be able to understand what changes occur in people who have a brain disease that affects their memory (like Alzheimer's disease). MindCrowd is part of a research study conducted by the [Translational Genomics Research Institute](#) (TGen) in Phoenix, Ariz.

Who is behind the MindCrowd project?

[Dr. Matt Huentelman](#) is the founder and principal scientist behind the MindCrowd project. Dr. Huentelman is an associate professor in the neurogenomics division at TGen and the head of its Neurobehavioral Research Unit.

How does the online test work and how will the information be used?

Participants will take online memory tests and receive the results of the tests. MindCrowd will use the information provided and test results to create a "Registry" or group of people that it may contact for future studies on memory. In some future studies, participants may be asked to provide a saliva sample. In order to contact participants for future studies, MindCrowd participants will be asked to provide a name and e-mail address. Dr. Huentelman will contact certain participants via e-mail to determine whether they are interested in participating in future memory studies.

How long does the test take to complete?

The online memory test takes approximately 10 minutes to complete.

Who should take the test?

Individuals aged 18-years and older are encouraged to take the test. MindCrowd is hoping to get a broad range of test-taking data for a clearer understanding of how memory is affected by aging.

Are there any risks and what will I learn?

There are no physical risks involved in participating in this study. Participants are free to end the study at any time. Participants will also receive feedback about the memory tests and know how their results compare with others.

What do my test results mean? Can they tell me about my risk for Alzheimer's disease?

MindCrowd is testing only a small fraction of your overall cognitive performance. The test results reflect your performance for that specific cognitive domain and do not indicate your overall cognitive ability or intelligence. This test cannot be used to determine your risk for Alzheimer's disease. The cognitive tests utilized for Alzheimer's disease diagnosis should be administered in person by a certified examiner. If you are interested in learning more about Alzheimer's disease and how it is diagnosed please visit the [Alzheimer's Association](#) website.

Will you share my information with other people?

MindCrowd will not share any information that is given. All information is stored in an online, secure database. If participants decide to give MindCrowd a name and e-mail address, they will be stored separately from other personal data and test results.

What if I change my mind and don't want to participate in the MindCrowd study anymore?

Participation in the MindCrowd study is completely voluntary. Participation may stop at any time during the research activity. Simply, contact Dr. Huentelman at mhuentelman@tgen.org to withdraw from the study.

Will you contact me in the future?

Some test participants may be re-contacted in the future via e-mail to participate in additional research studies. Participation in future studies is completely voluntary.

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