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Alzheimer’s Association Statement
Bapineuzumab Phase 3 Results (Study 302 in ApoE4 carriers)

Chicago July 23, 2012 – The Alzheimer’s Association, in its role as the leading advocate for the more than 5 million people with Alzheimer’s in the U.S., their caregivers and family members, closely observes the trials of experimental Alzheimer’s and dementia therapies.

While we have high hopes for every Alzheimer’s and dementia therapy trial, history shows that progress is incremental and we will have setbacks along the way. These setbacks also provide critical information to the research community for application in future studies. The Alzheimer’s Association is not surprised by these newly-announced results based on reports from earlier studies in carriers of the ApoE4 Alzheimer’s risk gene.

While not the overall positive results we would all hope for, a positive finding is that the side effects profile appears to be manageable based on the data currently released. This gives us hope for the potential usability of drugs of this type (immunotherapies that target a protein called beta amyloid in the brain) in future studies.

Trials of several Alzheimer’s drugs with varied mechanisms of action have shown differing results in people with the ApoE4 Alzheimer’s risk gene and those without it. This may also be the case with bapineuzumab. We learn more about Alzheimer’s disease from every study and results from additional Phase 3 studies of this drug, in an additional population of people who carry the ApoE4 gene as well as people who do not carry the gene, are expected soon.

The Alzheimer's Association remains unwaveringly committed to finding better therapies and prevention for Alzheimer's disease and related disorders as well as providing 24/7 support for people and families facing Alzheimer’s disease today. We are eager for the launch of upcoming Alzheimer’s disease prevention trials, which were featured at the just-concluded Alzheimer’s Association International Conference (AAIC), and also about how the field will benefit from projects such as the worldwide Alzheimer Disease Neuroimaging Initiative, which now includes whole genome sequencing for all participants, and the International Genomics of Alzheimer's Project.

The urgency is clear. By midcentury, care for people with Alzheimer's will cost the U.S. more than $1 trillion every year. This will be an enormous and unsustainable strain on the healthcare system, families, and federal and state budgets. Better treatments and prevention strategies are absolutely necessary to reduce the financial and personal toll the disease takes on individuals, families and the healthcare system now and in the immediate future.

The first-ever U.S. National Plan to Address Alzheimer's was unveiled in May, and now this plan must be speedily and effectively implemented. An additional $100 million is needed now for Alzheimer's research, education, outreach and community support.

This summer, the Alzheimer’s Association is hosting town hall events in local communities across the country. These events will allow you and your fellow members of the Alzheimer’s community to publicly voice your opinions about the impact that a successfully implemented National Alzheimer’s Plan, visit alz.org/plan to participate.

Alzheimer’s Association
The Alzheimer’s Association is the world's leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer’s care, support and research. Our mission is to eliminate Alzheimer’s disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer’s. For more information, visit www.alz.org.

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