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## **An Analysis of the Relationship between Atherosclerosis and Alzheimer's Disease**

Katie Larsen  
*Illinois Wesleyan University*

Wayne Dornan, Faculty Advisor  
*Illinois Wesleyan University*

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Oral Presentation 3.3

**AN ANALYSIS OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN  
ATHEROSCLEROSIS AND ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE**

Katie Larsen and Wayne Dornan\*

Psychology Department, Illinois Wesleyan University

Several animal studies have brought the cholinergic hypothesis of Alzheimer's Disease (AD) into question. In addition, recent clinical studies have shown that the number of neuritic plaques and neurofibrillary tangles does not yield a conclusive diagnosis of AD. A reassessment of risk factors involved in AD development has led to finding that atherosclerosis is associated with dementia. The present study is a clinical analysis of the relationship between atherosclerosis severity, based on autopsy assessment, and severity of AD, based on scores from cognitive tests and functional assessments. Age at onset of AD occurring with atherosclerosis will be determined both through examination of medical records and interviews with family members.