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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FDA Approves First Blood Test to Help Diagnose Alzheimer's Disease

IRVINE, CA, May 20, 2025 — The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved the first blood test to assist in the diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease. Alzheimer's Orange County (AlzOC) recognizes this development as a notable advancement in the ongoing effort to improve diagnostic options for individuals experiencing cognitive decline.

The test, from Fujirebio Diagnostics Inc., identifies blood-based biomarkers associated with beta-amyloid plaques— one of the hallmarks of Alzheimer's disease. While it is not a definitive diagnostic tool, the blood test may help physicians determine whether further evaluation is warranted.

Currently, Alzheimer's diagnosis relies on clinical assessments supported by brain imaging or spinal fluid analysis, which can be expensive or inaccessible for many patients. The newly approved blood test provides a less invasive option, though it must be ordered by a physician and is not intended for individuals without symptoms.

As with any new tool, this test should be approached carefully and discussed with qualified health care professionals as part of a comprehensive diagnostic process," said Jim McAleer, President and CEO at Alzheimer's Orange County. "Regardless, seeking support when someone begins to notice cognitive changes in their loved one is vital so they can get the answers and help that can make a positive difference."

As an organization dedicated to serving individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's and related dementias, AlzOC provides a variety of community-based services including a helpline, educational classes, support groups, an adult day health center, and more.

To learn more, visit <u>www.alzoc.org</u> or call our helpline at 844-373-4400.



About Alzheimer's Orange County

Alzheimer's Orange County provides programs and services that span the continuum of care of Alzheimer's and related forms of dementia to Orange County, California residents living with Alzheimer's or dementia, including older adults and frail seniors, along with their families, caregivers, and the community. Alzheimer's Orange County began as an independent 501(c)(3 nonprofit in 1982 with a primary mission of providing care and support for those impacted with dementia and their caregivers in Orange County. Alzheimer's is a devastating neurodegenerative illness that weakens the memory and other cognitive and emotional functions. For more information, call the Helpline at 844-373-4400, or visit www.alzoc.org. Find Alzheimer's Orange County on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn.