

EADC Fellow Program 2025 – Cologne to Geneva

During my one-month research stay at the Memory Clinic of the Geneva University Hospitals (HUG), I had the opportunity to advance analyses using data from the PreTAD study, an ongoing international collaboration between research teams in Cologne, Geneva, and Barcelona. The main focus of my work during this period was to investigate anticipated impacts of Alzheimer's disease risk disclosure and examine how psychological factors influence these impacts.

Beyond the analytical work, my stay provided valuable clinical insights. I was able to observe routine diagnostic procedures in the memory clinic setting, including patient consultations, neuropsychological assessments, and lumbar punctures, which allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of clinical workflows and diagnostic pathways at HUG. I also received insight into several ongoing research initiatives, including the development of the emerging Brain Health Service.

The exchange with colleagues was highly enriching, both scientifically and personally. I appreciated the welcoming atmosphere, the opportunity to discuss ideas, and many informal interactions during lunch breaks. My stay also coincided with the launch of the Lancet Alzheimer's Disease Series, which I had the opportunity to attend, as well as a regional public event focused on dementia education and awareness.

Outside the clinical and scientific setting, I spent my weekends exploring the region, including hikes in the Mont Blanc area and around Montreux, making the stay not only professionally rewarding but also personally memorable. Overall, this research stay marked an important step in strengthening international collaboration and broadening my clinical and scientific perspective on Alzheimer's disease research.



Michelle Gerards

Klinik und Poliklinik für Psychiatrie und Psychotherapie
Universitätsklinikum Köln

