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QR Pharma to starts trial on Alzheimer's drug

Philadelphia Business Journal - by [John George](#)

QR Pharma Inc. said Wednesday it began a clinical trial of its lead compound, Posiphen, in patients with early-stage Alzheimer's disease

The trial will measure biochemical changes in the cerebrospinal fluid and blood plasma of mild cognitively impaired patients.

Posiphen, a small orally active compound, has been shown in cell cultures of normal mice, transgenic mice with Alzheimer's and Down Syndrome mice to inhibit the production of amyloid-b precursor protein, or APP, which has been linked to Alzheimer's.

"The more we learn about Posiphen the more we see how it interferes with a basic pathway that leads to dementia in Down Syndrome, Alzheimer's disease and likely other conditions, such as head trauma and stroke," said Maria Maccicchini, the CEO of QR Pharma in Radnor, Pa.