Working Group: Cognitive Assessment in Alzheimer's Disease and Its Precursors

- Chairs: Holly Posner, MD, MS and Phil Harvey, PhD
- Feb 2014, Washington DC
- Objective: The final outline for a white paper resulting from this group’s work was presented, reviewed and refined
- The paper will highlight major issues in the design of clinical trials targeting preclinical and MCI states of AD and provide recommendations for future considerations. These include: population selection, looking for assessments with better psychometric properties including targeting the level of cognitive function, limitations and benefits of informant-based and performance-based functional assessment, regulatory advice, and payer needs.
- Additionally, the WG suggested additional focus on: 1) inclusion/exclusion criteria for the transition from preclinical AD to MCI including models of Age-associated Memory Impairment (AMI), along with other operational definitions of preMCI, 2) need to incorporate a full psychometric assessment during development and move scales with the best properties, including sensitivity and repeatability, forward for evaluation in clinical trials, 3) biomarker challenges of approximating correlates of molecular changes with very early disease, 4) the "vision" of being able to use technology to sample behavior, 5) future with simpler early proof of concept POC evaluations with biological markers, eg, sleep or olfactory deficits, 6) how to best estimate risk when designing a prevention trial.