



# $\alpha$ -Synuclein as a Target in Neurodegenerative Diseases

NASDAQ: ACIU | KOL Webinar, March 2022



Version: 28.03.2022

# Disclaimer

*This presentation contains statements that constitute “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward-looking statements are statements other than historical fact and may include statements that address future operating, financial or business performance or AC Immune’s strategies or expectations. In some cases, you can identify these statements by forward-looking words such as “may,” “might,” “will,” “should,” “expects,” “plans,” “anticipates,” “believes,” “estimates,” “predicts,” “projects,” “potential,” “outlook” or “continue,” and other comparable terminology. Forward-looking statements are based on management’s current expectations and beliefs and involve significant risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results, developments and business decisions to differ materially from those contemplated by these statements. These risks and uncertainties include those described under the captions “Item 3. Key Information – Risk Factors” and “Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects” in AC Immune’s Annual Report on Form 20-F and other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These include: the impact of Covid-19 on our business, suppliers, patients and employees and any other impact of Covid-19. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and AC Immune does not undertake any obligation to update them in light of new information, future developments or otherwise, except as may be required under applicable law. All forward-looking statements are qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement.*

*This presentation is strictly confidential, is being distributed to a limited range of invited persons solely for their own information, may not be distributed to the press or any other person, and may not be reproduced or published, in whole or in part, in any form.*

*SupraAntigen<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of AC Immune SA in the following territories: AU, CH, EU, GB, JP, RU and SG. Morphomer<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of AC Immune SA in CH, CN, GB, JP, NO, and RU.*

# Agenda

Introduction

**Gary Waanders, PhD, MBA**

Head of Investor Relations and Communications, AC Immune

Strategy & Pipeline Overview

**Andrea Pfeifer, PhD**

Chief Executive Officer, AC Immune

A-syn<sup>1</sup> Introduction

**Marie Kosco-Vilbois, PhD**

Chief Scientific Officer, AC Immune

Importance of Biomarkers in NDD<sup>2</sup>  
A-syn PET<sup>3</sup> Tracer Clinical Data

**Oskar Hansson, MD, PhD**

Professor of Neurology, Lund University

Consulting Neurologist, Skåne University Hospital

A-syn program development plans

**Johannes Streffer, MD**

Chief Medical Officer, AC Immune

Conclusion and Q&A

**Andrea Pfeifer, PhD**

Chief Executive Officer, AC Immune

(1) Alpha-synuclein; (2) Neurodegenerative diseases; Positron emission tomography





## Strategy and pipeline overview

Andrea Pfeifer, PhD, Chief Executive Officer

# Investment highlights



## **Broad, diversified pipeline in neurodegeneration**

Six Phase 2 programs; seven clinical readouts in 2022



## **Key differentiation: Precision medicine**

Integrates therapeutics and diagnostics



## **Multiple global partnerships**

>CHF 3 billion in potential milestones



## **Clinically validated technology platforms**

Best-in-class small molecules and biologics



## **Strong balance sheet**

Funded through Q1 2024

Pioneering  
precision medicine  
for neurodegenerative  
diseases

# Growth initiatives for 2022 and beyond

GOALS	Global Leadership	Drives Near and Mid-term Growth		Long-term Growth
	Diverse pipeline	Therapeutics	Precision medicine	New areas
	Validated programs	5 clinical programs	2 clinical PET <sup>5</sup> tracers	Preclinical programs
	<p>Key NDD<sup>1</sup> targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tau</li> <li>• Abeta</li> <li>• A-syn<sup>2</sup></li> </ul> <p>Multiple modalities</p> <p>4 partnerships</p>	<p>4 clinical readouts in 2022</p> <p>Tau</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Phase 2 (R)<sup>3</sup></li> </ul> <p>Abeta</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Phase 2 &amp; 1 Phase 1b (R)</li> </ul> <p>A-syn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Phase 2 trial (I)<sup>4</sup></li> </ul>	<p>3 clinical readouts in 2022</p> <p>Clinical</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Tau PET tracer (R)</li> <li>• 1 A-syn PET tracer (R)</li> </ul> <p>Discovery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TDP-43<sup>6</sup> PET tracer</li> </ul>	<p>Emerging targets in NDD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A-syn</li> <li>• TDP-43</li> <li>• NLRP3<sup>7</sup>-ASC<sup>8</sup></li> </ul>

(1) Neurodegenerative disease; (2) Alpha-synuclein; (3) (R) – readout; (4) (I) – initiation; (5) Positron emission tomography; (6) TAR DNA-binding protein 43; (7) (NOD)-like receptor protein 3; (8) Apoptosis-associated speck-like protein containing a CARD, also PYCARD

# Broad and robust pipeline in neurodegenerative diseases

Driven by validated proprietary technology platforms for sustained growth

## Clinical Stage Programs

TARGET	PRODUCT CANDIDATE	INDICATION	DISCOVERY	PRECLINICAL	PHASE 1	PHASE 2	PHASE 3	PARTNER	
Tau	<b>ACI-35.030</b> (anti-pTau vaccine)	AD <sup>1</sup> treatment	[Progress bar: Discovery to Phase 1]				reported H1		
	<b>Semorinemab</b> (anti-Tau antibody)	AD treatment (mild-to-moderate) <sup>2</sup>	[Progress bar: Discovery to Phase 1]				data H2		
	<b>Morphomer® Tau aggregation inhibitor</b>	Rare Tauopathies (ACI-3024)	[Progress bar: Discovery to Phase 1]						
		AD treatment	[Progress bar: Discovery to Phase 1]						
	<b>Tau-PET<sup>3</sup> tracer</b>	AD diagnostic	[Progress bar: Discovery to Phase 1]				data H2		
		PSP <sup>4</sup> diagnostic	[Progress bar: Discovery to Phase 1]				data H2		
Abeta	<b>Crenezumab</b> (anti-Abeta antibody)	AD prevention <sup>5</sup>	[Progress bar: Discovery to Phase 1]				data H1		
	<b>ACI-24</b> (anti-Abeta vaccine)	AD treatment (Down syndrome <sup>6</sup> )	[Progress bar: Discovery to Phase 1]				data H2 <sup>9</sup>		
		AD treatment	[Progress bar: Discovery to Phase 1]						
a-syn <sup>7</sup>	<b>ACI-7104</b> (anti-a-syn vaccine)	PD <sup>8</sup> , a-synucleinopathies	[Progress bar: Discovery to Phase 1]						
	<b>a-syn-PET tracer</b>	a-synucleinopathies (e.g. MSA <sup>10</sup> )	[Progress bar: Discovery to Phase 1]				reported H1		

- Biologic
- Small Molecule
- Diagnostic

(1) Alzheimer's disease; (2) Open label extension study is ongoing; (3) Positron emission tomography; (4) Progressive supranuclear palsy; (5) Prevention trial API-ADAD in Colombia; (6) Down syndrome-related Alzheimer's disease; (7) alpha-synuclein; (8) Parkinson's disease; (9) Refers to expected readout from a Phase 1b/2 trial of an optimized formulation of ACI-24 in patients with AD and patients with Down syndrome; (10) Multiple system atrophy

# Clinical catalysts to drive further value creation

Seven clinical data readouts expected in 2022

		2022		
		H1	H2	
Tau	ACI-35.030 (anti-pTau vaccine)	✓		Phase 1b/2a interim analysis (highest dose) of ACI-35.030
			●	Decision to enter into late-stage development
	Semorinemab (anti-Tau antibody)		●	Report new Phase 2 Lauriet data (biomarkers)
		Tau-PET <sup>1</sup> Tracer (PI-2620)		●
			●	Phase 2 results in AD <sup>2</sup>
Abeta	ACI-24 (anti-Abeta vaccine)	●		ACI-24 (optimized vaccine formulation) Phase 1b/2a First-Patient-In (AD)
			●	Phase 1b in AD readout and decision to move into DS <sup>3</sup>
	Crenezumab (anti-Abeta antibody)	●		Top line results of Phase 2 Alzheimer's prevention trial
a-syn <sup>4</sup>	ACI-7104 (anti-a-syn vaccine)		●	Phase 2 First-Patient-In
	a-syn-PET tracer	✓		First clinical proof of concept in alpha-synucleinopathies ( e.g. MSA <sup>5</sup> )

(1) Positron emission tomography; (2) Alzheimer's disease; (3) Down syndrome-related AD; (4) alpha-synuclein; (5) Multiple system atrophy





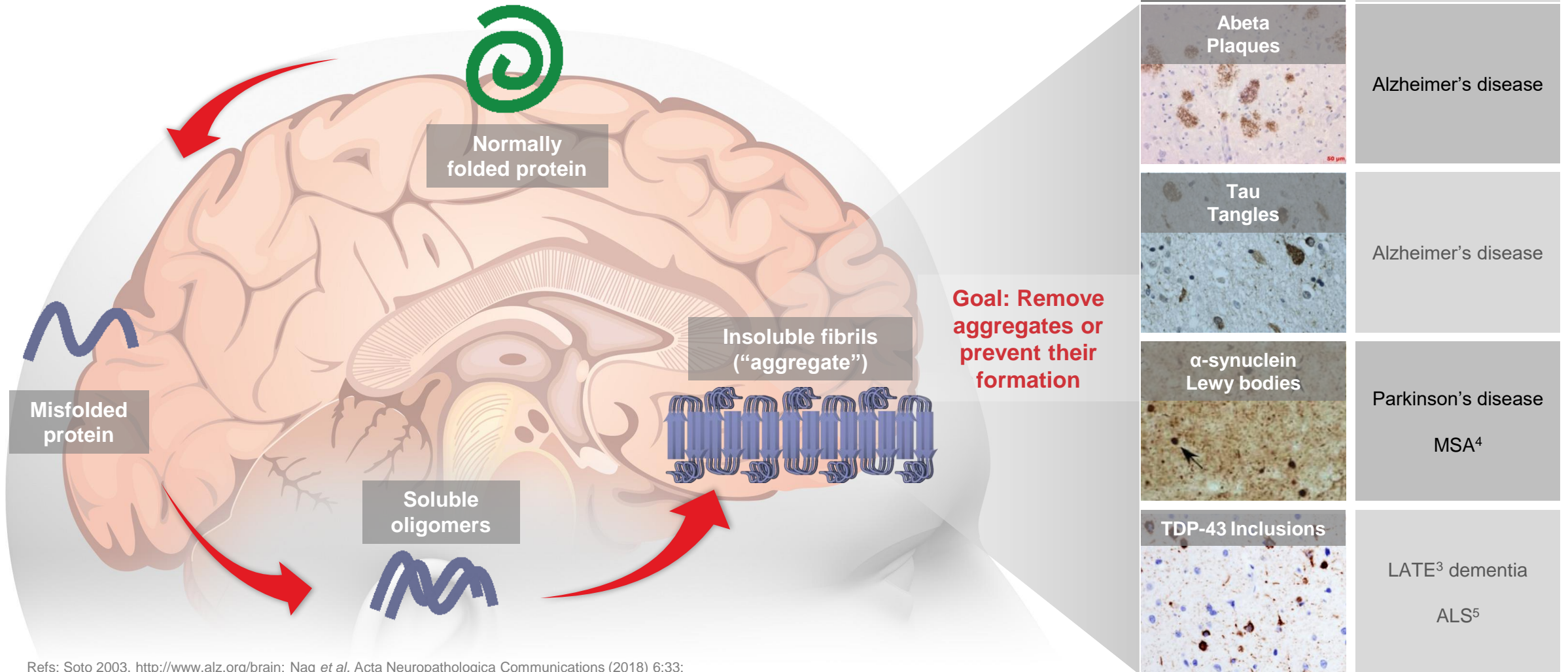
# The role of alpha-synuclein in neurodegenerative disease

Marie Kosco-Vilbois, PhD, Chief Scientific Officer



# Misfolded proteins: Leading causes of neurodegenerative diseases

Abeta, Tau, a-synuclein, and TDP-43<sup>1</sup> are important NDD<sup>2</sup> drug targets



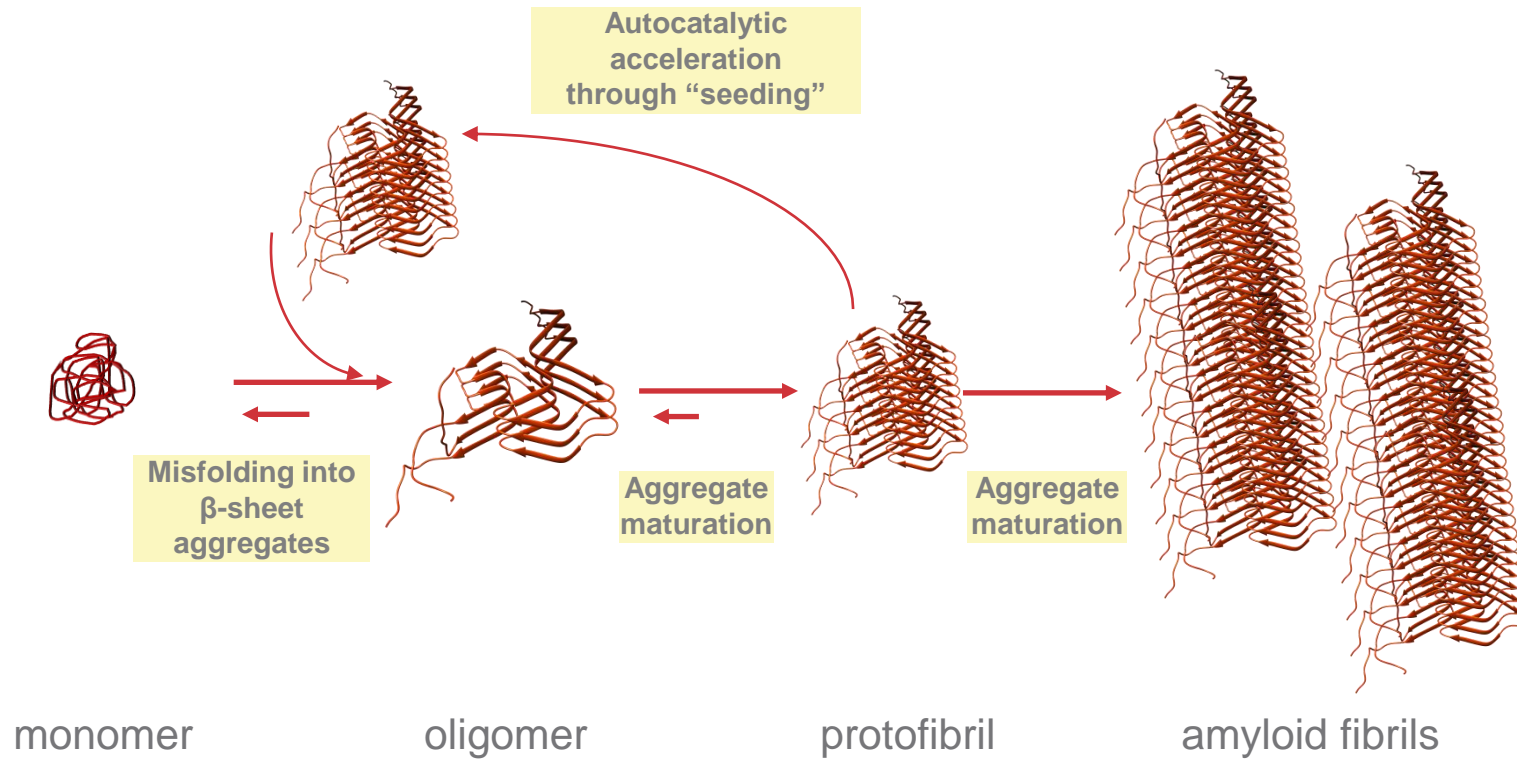
Refs: Soto 2003, <http://www.alz.org/brain>; Nag *et al.* Acta Neuropathologica Communications (2018) 6:33;

(1) TAR DNA-binding protein 43; (2) Neurodegenerative disease; (3) Limbic-predominant age-related TDP-43 encephalopathy; (4) Multiple system atrophy; (5) Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis

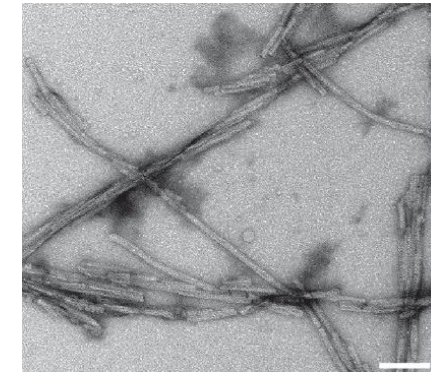


# Pathological oligomeric $\alpha$ -syn<sup>1</sup> is causally linked to NDD<sup>2</sup>

Misfolded  $\alpha$ -syn monomers mature to form amyloid fibrils

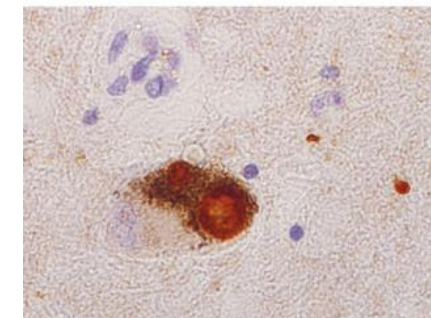


$\alpha$ -syn fibrils



Guerrero-Ferreira et al., 2018

Lewy bodies

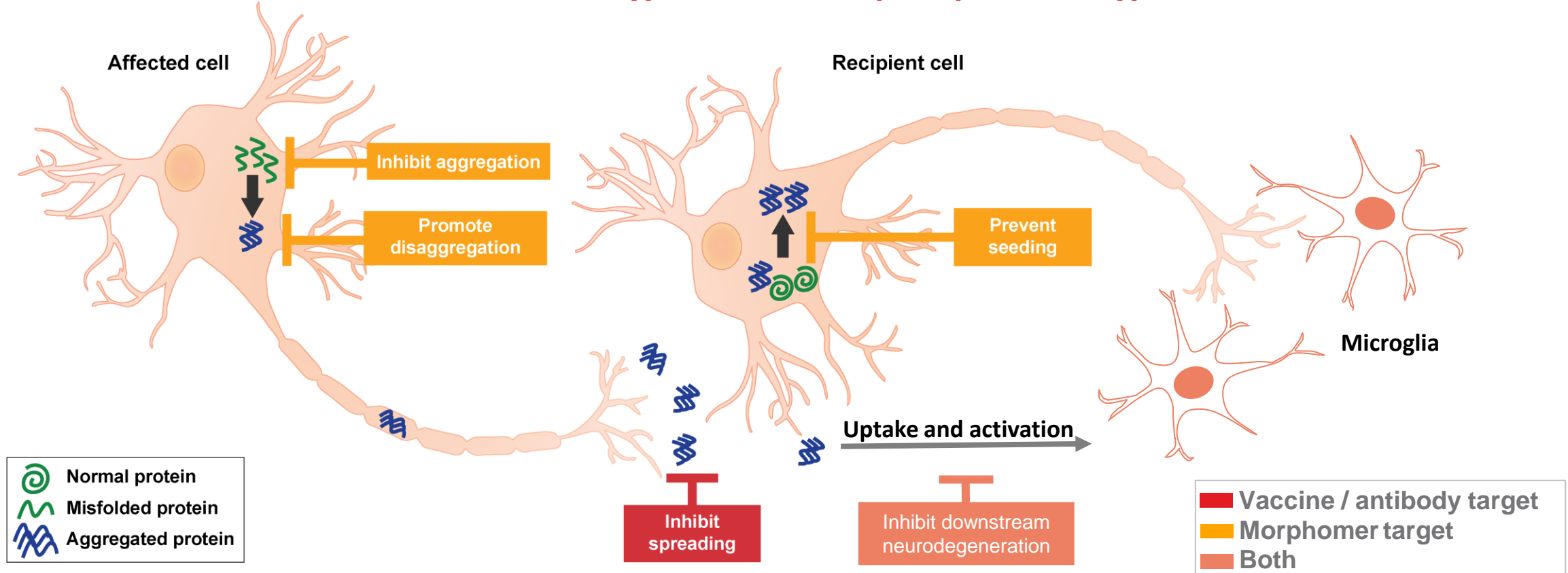


Peng et al., 2017

$\alpha$ -syn misfolding and aggregation are the molecular basis for  $\alpha$ -synucleinopathies, e.g. PD, DLB<sup>3</sup> and MSA<sup>4</sup>

(1) Alpha-synuclein; (2) Neurodegenerative disease; (3) Dementia with Lewy bodies; (4) Multiple system atrophy

# AC Immune intervention strategies for a-syn<sup>1</sup> pathologies



- Molecular seeding and spreading are potential drivers of disease progression
- AC Immune is targeting each step of a-syn pathology with the SupraAntigen® & Morphomer® platforms

(1) Alpha-synuclein; (2) Parkinson's disease;

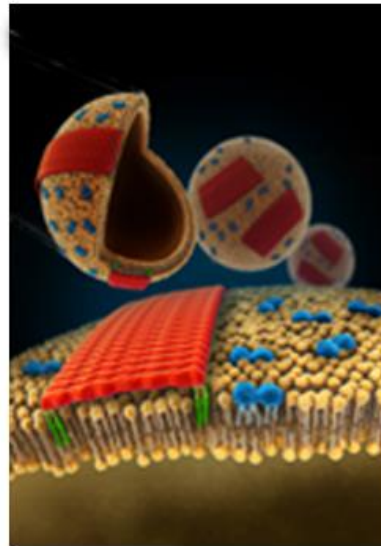
# Conformation-specific platforms driving therapeutic and diagnostic pipeline

*Developing breakthrough mono- and combination therapies for neurodegenerative diseases*

## Clinically Validated Technology Platforms

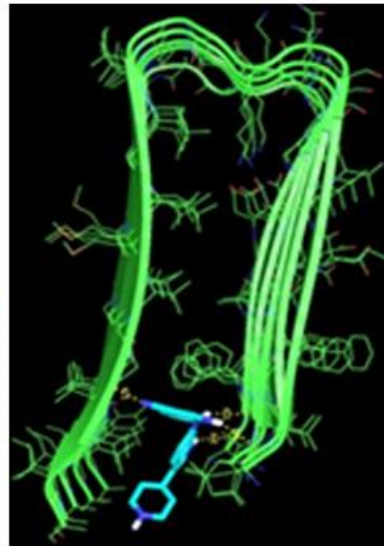
### SupraAntigen<sup>®</sup>

Vaccines and antibodies specific to disease causing conformations



### Morphomer<sup>®</sup>

Conformation-sensitive small molecules



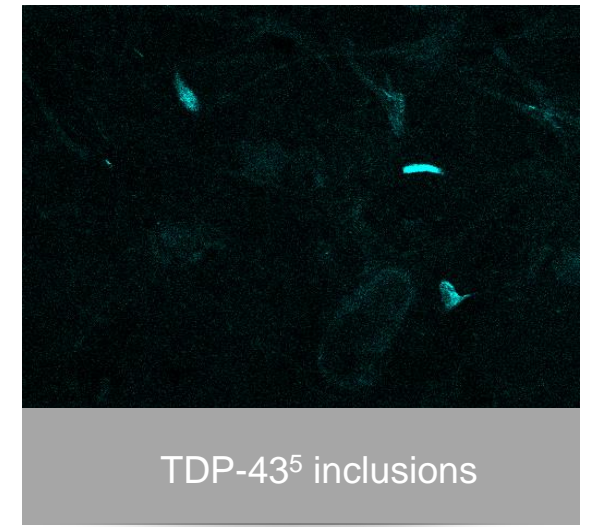
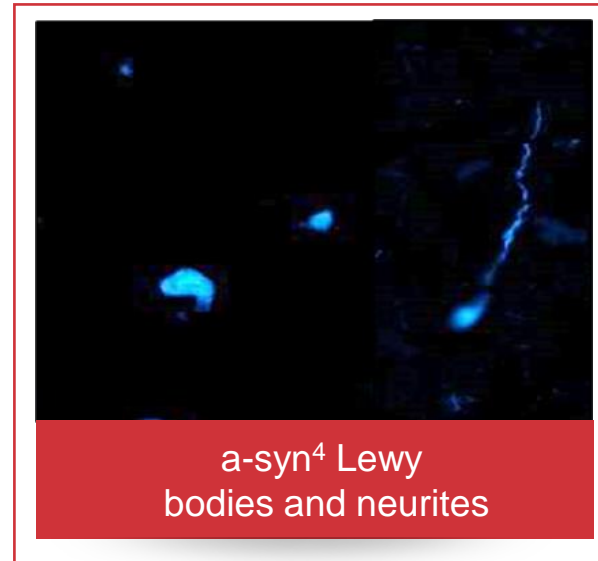
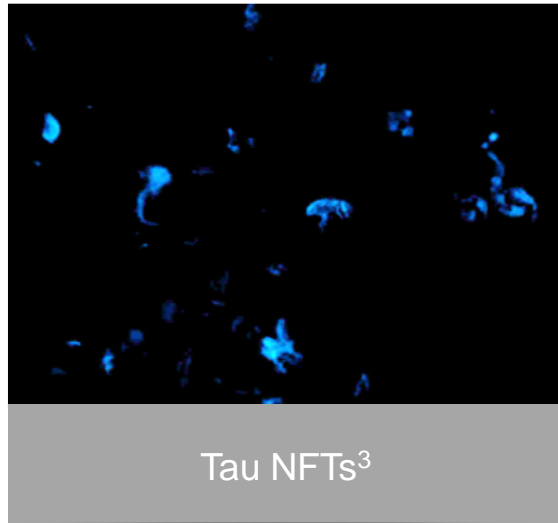
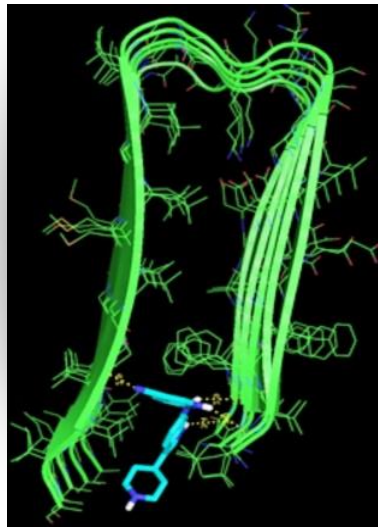
Images: Hickman et al., JBC 2011; Kroth et al., JBC 2012

(1) The goal of precision medicine is to deliver optimally targeted and timed interventions tailored to the individual disease drivers



# The Morphomer<sup>®</sup> platform: enables our precision medicine approach

Developing a suite of PET<sup>1</sup> tracers against emerging targets in NDD<sup>2</sup>



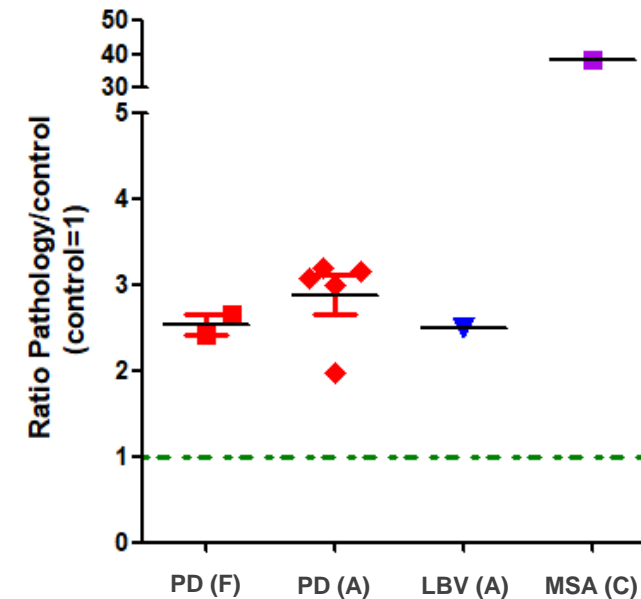
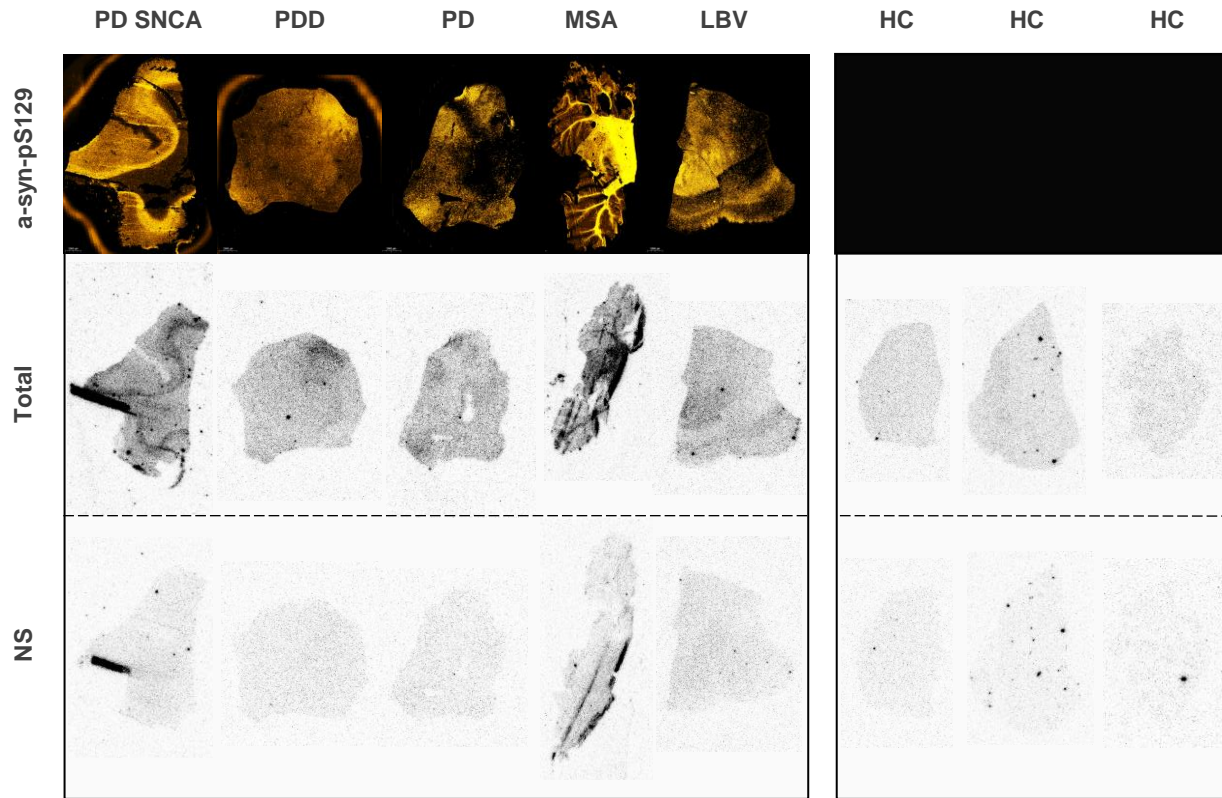
## Leverage the Morphomer<sup>®</sup> small molecule platform:

- Non-peptidic, small molecules with CNS<sup>6</sup>-drug properties for brain penetration
- Conformation-specificity (pathologic protein species)
- Selectivity against co-pathologies (Abeta, Tau, TDP-43)
- Pharmacokinetics suitable for brain PET imaging

(1) Positron emission tomography; (2) Neurodegenerative disease; (3) Neurofibrillary tangles; (4) Alpha-synuclein; (5) TAR DNA binding protein-43 (6) Central nervous system

# ACI-12589 shows specific binding in a broad spectrum of a-synucleinopathies

Potential to diagnose a range of a-synucleinopathies



In collaboration with Prof. A. Varrone, Karolinska Institute



Karolinska Institutet



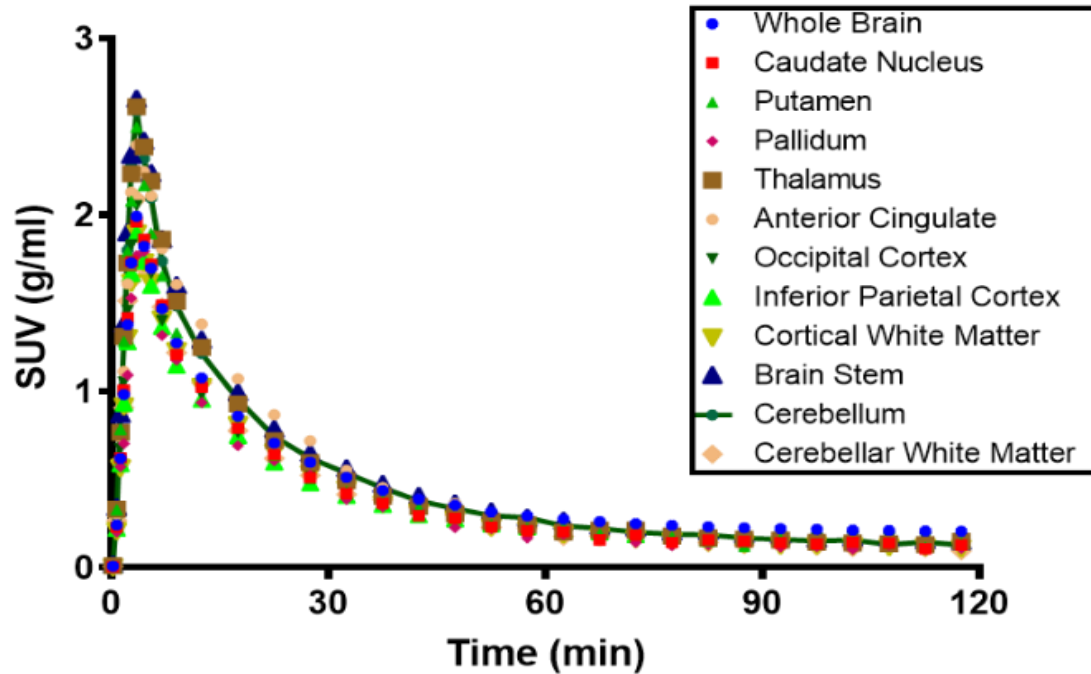
ACI-12589 shows target engagement across a wide range of a-synucleinopathies

PD SNCA, Parkinson's disease with SNCA G51D mutation; PDD, Parkinson's disease with dementia; PD, idiopathic Parkinson's disease; MSA, multiple system atrophy; LBV, Lewy body variant of Alzheimer disease; HC, healthy control; (F), Frontal cortex; (A), amygdala; (C), cerebellum; Total = Total binding (1.7nM); NS = Non-specific binding (1µM)

# ACI-12589 has suitable PK<sup>1</sup> profile for a brain PET<sup>2</sup> tracer

ACI-12589 PK profile in non-human primates (NHP)

Time-activity curves in different brain regions



NHP ID	Brain Uptake (min to C <sub>max</sub> )	Brain Uptake (% ID/g)	Peak(half peak (min)	Remaining at 120 min (% of C <sub>max</sub> )
Target	< 10	>3	<30	<10
ACI-12589	3.5	4.4	14	10

NHP PK shows rapid brain uptake, homogeneous distribution, and rapid and complete washout

(1) Pharmacokinetic (2) Positron emission tomography

# Conclusion on preclinical data package

1

**Morphomer® platform delivered** the first a-syn<sup>1</sup> targeting PET<sup>2</sup> tracer candidate, ACI-12589

2

**Screening system optimized** for high-performance imaging molecules

3

**Selected tracers with CNS<sup>3</sup>-drug profiles** suitable for brain penetration and PET imaging

4

**ACI-12589 selective for pathological a-syn** with minimal activity across co-pathologies

5

**ACI-12589 advanced** into clinical development as first-in-class a-syn PET tracer

Pioneering  
precision medicine  
for neurodegenerative  
diseases

(1) Alpha-synuclein; (2) Positron emission tomography; (3) Central nervous system





LUND  
UNIVERSITY

# Importance of biomarkers in neurodegenerative disease and review of clinical a-syn PET tracer data

Oskar Hansson, Professor of Neurology

---

CLINICAL MEMORY RESEARCH UNIT,  
FACULTY OF MEDICINE, LUND UNIVERSITY, LUND, SWEDEN







# Biomarkers to improve clinical practice

---

- The clinical diagnosis of most neurodegenerative diseases is mediocre
  - Often 20-40% of the patients are misdiagnosed in specialized clinics
  - >50% are misdiagnosed in primary care
- Misdiagnosis results in suboptimal treatment and care
  - Delayed or incorrect symptomatic therapies
  - Incorrect information about disease and prognosis

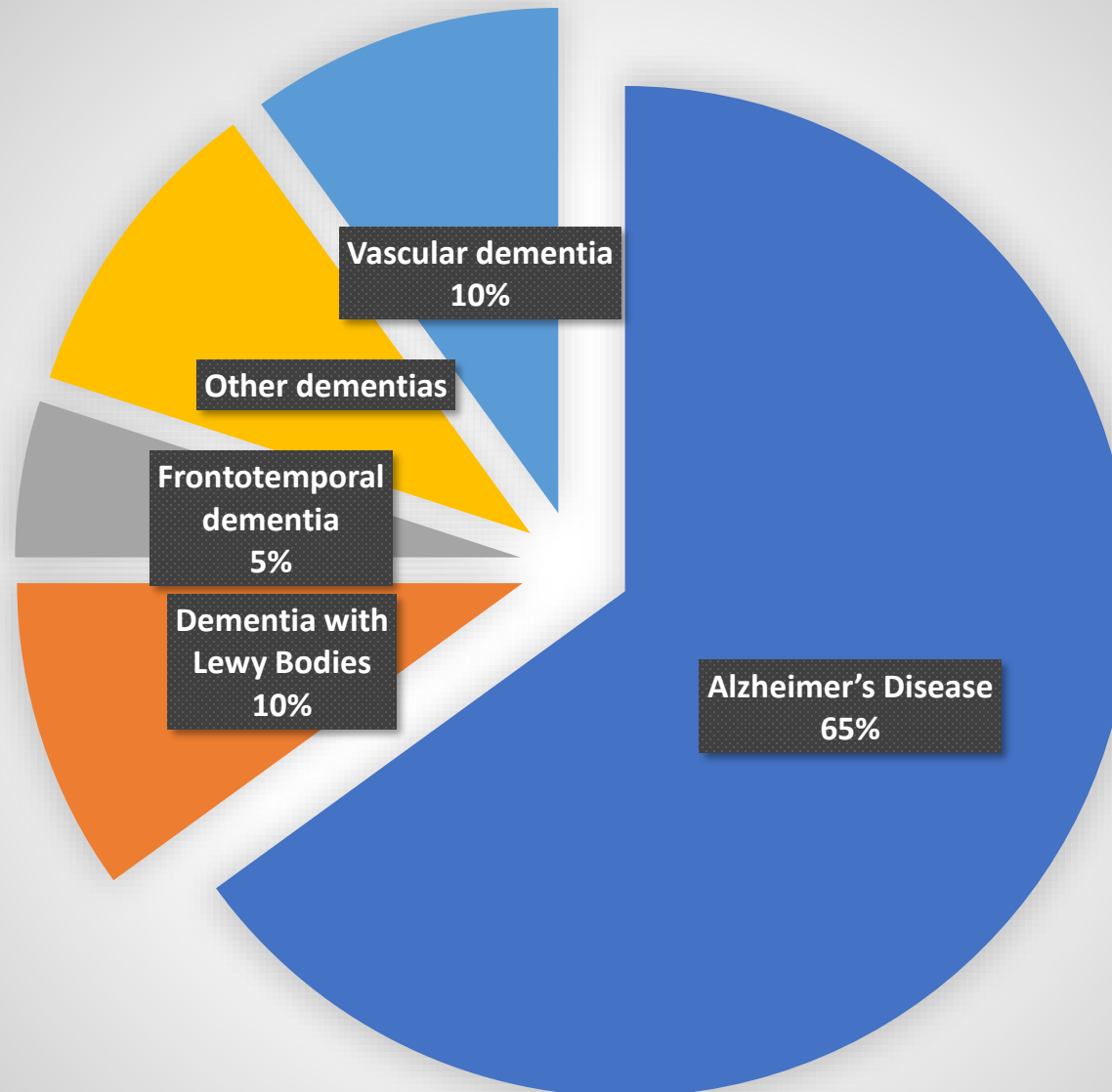


# Biomarkers to improve drug development

- Enable early diagnosis – Selection of individuals with preclinical or prodromal disease
- Identify relevant subgroups – Disease stratification depending on therapy
- Ensure relevant target engagement – Select most promising drugs candidates
- Monitor downstream disease processes – Surrogate biomarkers (slow clinical progression)
- Improve knowledge about pathogenesis – New drug targets or combinations of targets



# Dementia disorders



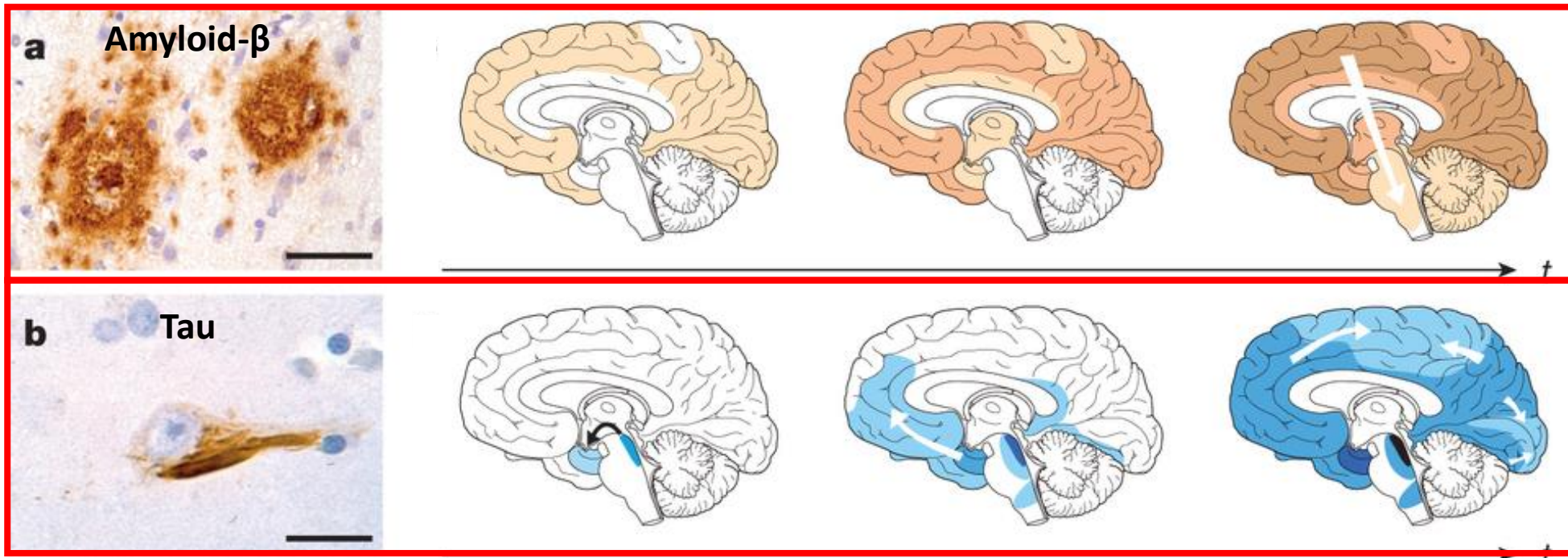


# Key pathologies in Alzheimer's disease

No symptoms  
(10-30 years)

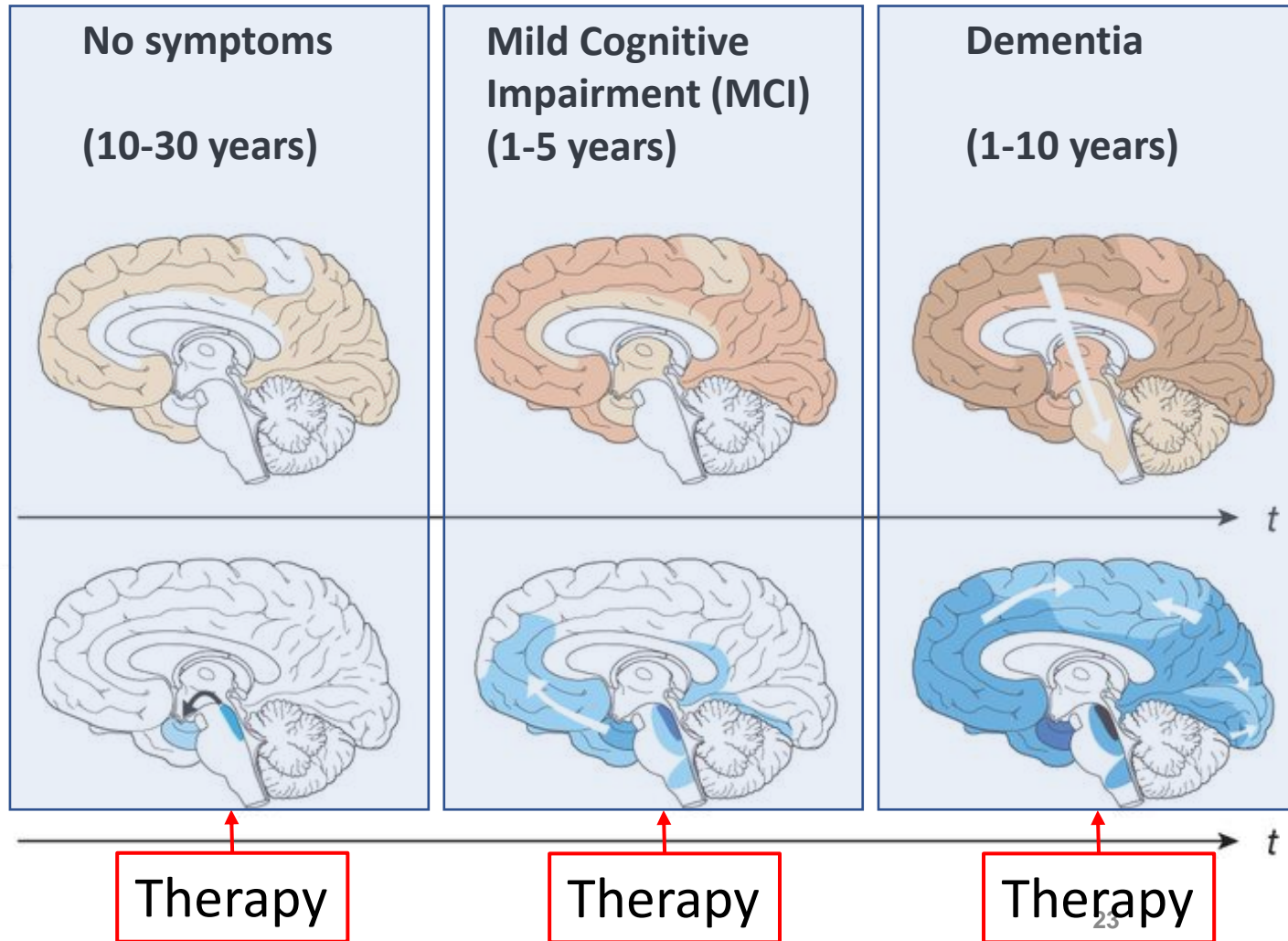
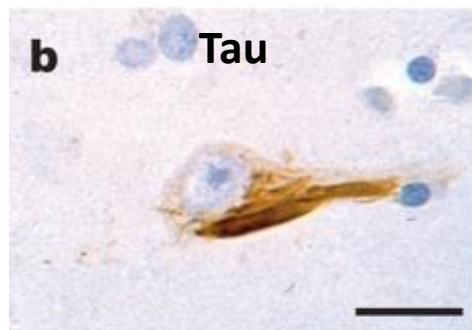
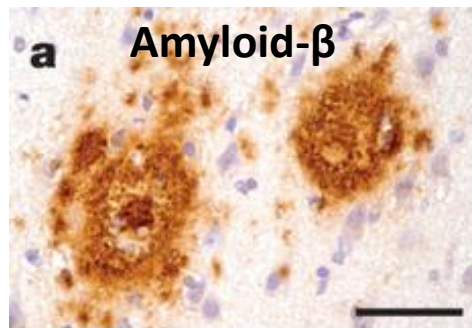
Mild Cognitive  
Impairment (MCI)  
(1-5 years)

Dementia  
(1-10 years)





# Key pathologies in Alzheimer's disease



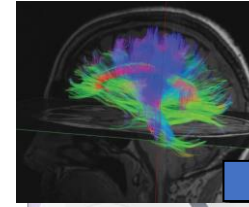
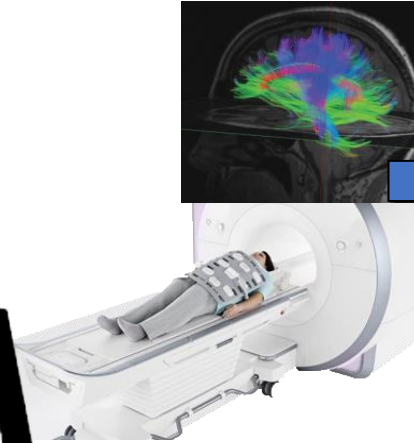
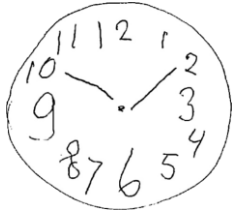




# Alzheimer diagnostics – a multidisciplinary approach

## Clinical assessments

- Cognitive tests
- Psychiatric & neurological assessments
- ADL function



## MRI or CT

- Exclude other pathologies
- Regional atrophy patterns
- Cerebrovascular disease (Microbleeds)

Concordance between clinical diagnosis of AD dementia and neuropathology is not good (sensitivity 70-80% and specificity 50-70%)

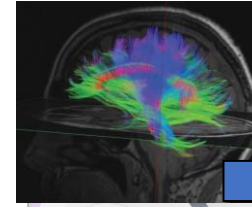
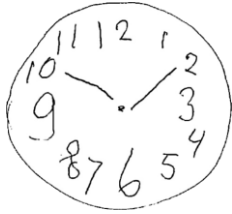
Even lower diagnostic accuracy in patients with "MCI due to AD"



# Alzheimer diagnostics – a multidisciplinary approach

## Clinical assessments

- Cognitive tests
- Psychiatric & neurological assessments
- ADL function

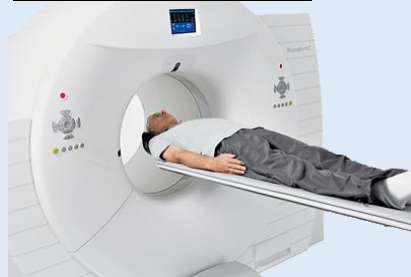
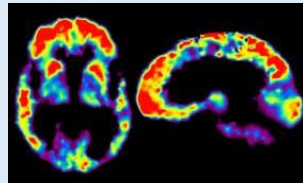


## MRI or CT

- Exclude other pathologies
- Regional atrophy patterns
- Cerebrovascular disease (Microbleeds)

## PET-imaging

- A $\beta$
- Tau



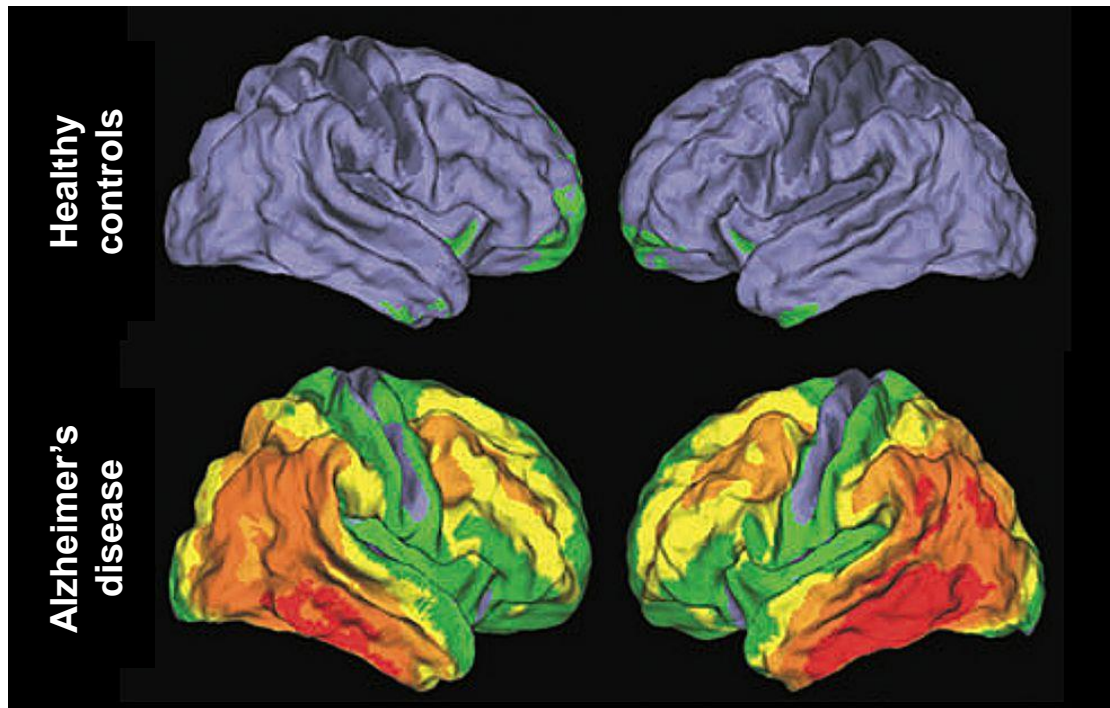
## Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF)

- A $\beta$
- T-tau
- P-tau
- NfL



# PET imaging of Tau in Alzheimer's disease

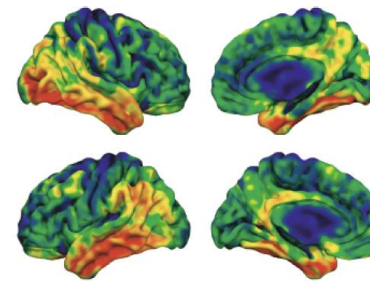
Tau-PET can distinguish between Alzheimer and all other neurodegenerative diseases



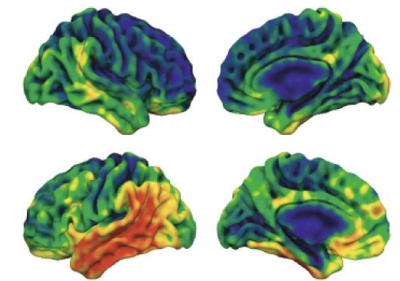
Ossenkoppele et al.  
JAMA, 2018.

Tau-PET can detect 4 different subtypes of Alzheimer's disease

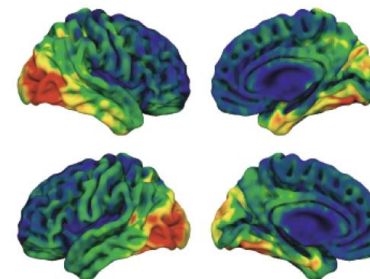
Temporoparietal pattern  
(‘amnesic-predominant’ phenotype)



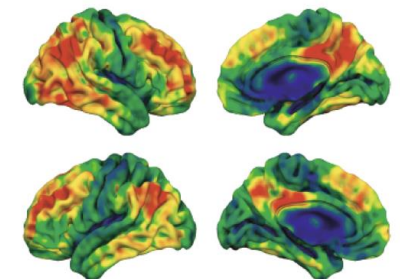
Asymmetric pattern  
(‘language-predominant’ phenotype)



Posterior pattern  
(‘visual-predominant’ phenotype)



Medial temporal sparing pattern  
(‘dysexecutive-predominant’ phenotype)

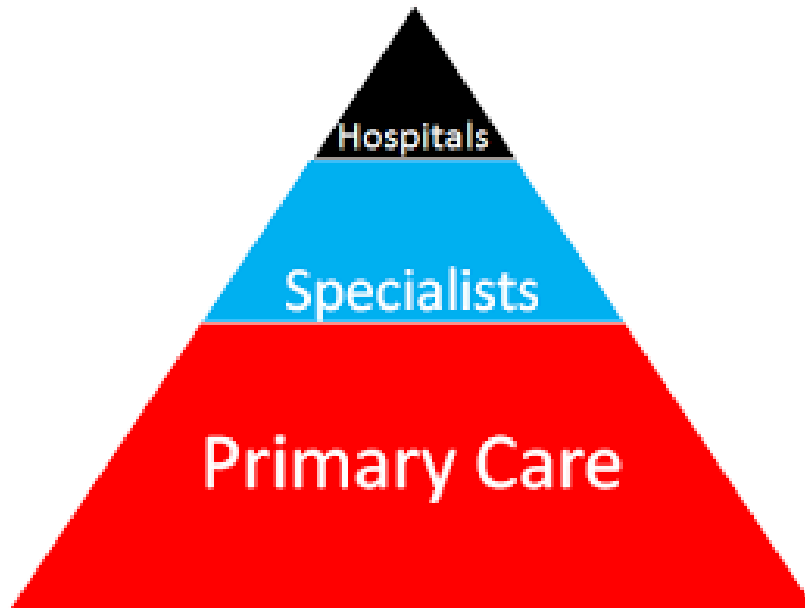


Vogel et al.  
Nature Medicine, 2021.

Tau pathology  
Low High



# Alzheimer diagnostics – Primary care



**50-70% of demented subjects are not correctly diagnosed today in primary care**



**Blood-based biomarkers might improve the diagnostic work-up of AD**





# Novel blood test for Alzheimer!



"All the News That's Fit to Print"

## The New York Times

VOL. CLXIX... No. 58,769 © 2020 The New York Times Company NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2020 \$3.00



Attorney General William P. Barr defended the government's protest response on Tuesday before the House Judiciary Committee.

### At Start, F.B.I. Saw Protesters As Threatening

#### Memo Talks of 'Inciters' and 'Instigators'

This article is by Zolan Kanno-Youngs, Sergio Olmos, Mike Bahar and Adam Goldman.

WASHINGTON — From the earliest days of the recent protests against police brutality and racism, some top federal law enforcement officials viewed the demonstrators with alarm and called for an aggressive federal response that was months later continues to escalate.

A memo from the deputy director of the F.B.I., dated June 2, demanded an immediate mobilization as protests gathered after George Floyd's death while in police custody a week earlier. David L. Bowditch, the F.B.I.'s No. 2, declared the situation "extraordinary" and wrote that in addition to investigating "violent protesters, instigators" and "inciters," bureau leaders should collect information with "robust social media explanation teams" and examine what appeared to be "highly organized behavior."

Mr. Bowditch suggested that the bureau could make use of the Hobbs Act, put into place in the 1940s to punish racketeering in labor groups, to charge the protesters.

"When 8/11 occurred, our files did not agree about whether there was danger ahead for them," he wrote, citing aides that the continuing coronavirus pandemic should not hold them back. "They ran head-on into peril."

The memo came after a week-end in which protests gave way to looting in some cities and the day after federal agents forcibly cleared peaceful protesters from the White House as President Trump could walk through Lafayette Square. Since then, the federal response has become a focal point of the Trump administration and of Mr. Trump's reelection campaign. The Bowditch memo is a stark contrast with a president who has regularly inflamed racial tensions.

"This election is not just about voting against Donald Trump," Mr. Biden said, standing before four American flags in a community center gym. "It's about raising to this moment of crisis, understanding people's struggles and building a future worthy of their courage and their ambition to overcome."

Mr. Biden's plan is the fourth piece of his "Build Back Better" proposal, an economic agenda that also encompasses manufacturing, climate and infrastructure and caregiving plans, and to aim at Mr. Trump's economic policies, the economy and his impact on working families, a potential vulnerability that has emerged during the coronavirus crisis.

The speech on Tuesday came with just under 100 days to Election Day, and a scorching national debate over racism in American society. Mr. Biden's times to hold a substantial

Continued on Page A19

### Trump Family Legacy: Empathy Is for the Weak

By ANNE KARNI and KATIE ROGERS

WASHINGTON — The Marble Collegiate Church on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan was packed with developers, politicians and New York celebrities, more than 600 in all, for the funeral of Fred C. Trump, the builder whose so-called brick-veneer towers transformed Brooklyn and Queens.

Three of his out-of-town children, who had grown up listening to the sermons of the church's most famous minister, Norman Vincent Peale, offered loving eulogies to their father. Then it was Donald Trump's turn.

He began by talking about himself. He had learned of his father's

salut for the Trump Organization. "Donald's eulogy was all about Donald, and everybody in Vincent Peale's church knew it," Gwendolyn Blair, a Trump family biographer, also attended the funeral. She, too, could not help but take note of the eulogy, which she described in her book "The Trumps."

"Was it surprising?" Ms. Blair said in an interview. "No. Was it stunning? Yes."

Whether he is dealing with the loss of a family member, the deaths of nearly 150,000 Americans in a surging pandemic, more than 30 million people out of work or the racial unrest brought on by the killings of African-Americans by white police officers, President Trump

Continued on Page A18

### Biden Marries Racial Equity To a Recovery

By THOMAS KAPLAN and KATIE GILLOCK

WILMINGTON, Del. — Joseph R. Biden Jr. unveiled wide-ranging plans on Tuesday to address systemic racism in the nation's economy, saying this year's election was about "understanding people's struggles" and plotting to tear down barriers for minority-owned businesses.

In an address near his home in Wilmington, Mr. Biden made the argument that racial justice is central to his overall policy vision in areas like housing, infrastructure and support for small businesses, while aiming to draw a stark contrast with a president who has regularly inflamed racial tensions.

"This election is not just about voting against Donald Trump," Mr. Biden said, standing before four American flags in a community center gym. "It's about raising to this moment of crisis, understanding people's struggles and building a future worthy of their courage and their ambition to overcome."

Mr. Biden's plan is the fourth piece of his "Build Back Better" proposal, an economic agenda that also encompasses manufacturing, climate and infrastructure and caregiving plans, and to aim at Mr. Trump's economic policies, the economy and his impact on working families, a potential vulnerability that has emerged during the coronavirus crisis.

The speech on Tuesday came with just under 100 days to Election Day, and a scorching national debate over racism in American society. Mr. Biden's times to hold a substantial

Continued on Page A19



An Overwhelming Toll Covid-19 has funeral homes in South Texas fighting to keep up. Above, in Brownsville, Page A5.

### New York City Hailed Contact-Tracing Corps; Workers Saw Chaos

By SHARON OTTERMAN

One said the city was "putting out propaganda" about the program's effectiveness.

Another wrote, "I don't think this is the type of job we should just 'wing it,' and that's the sense I've been getting sometimes."

A third tracer said, "The lack of communication and organization is crazy."

The authorities around the world — especially in East Asia and Western Europe — have rapidly enacted contact-tracing programs, which are used to identify and then isolate groups of people who may be infected with the coronavirus.

Mayor Bill de Blasio has declared that the city's new Test & Trace Corps, which has 11,000 members and others, will not be different from the health department's outbreak that has sprung up in New York in the spring and summer.

But contact-tracing programs have presented an array of challenges to government officials, including identifying difficult-to-reach people.

Continued on Page A6

### Blood Test Is 'Big Step Forward' In Early Detection of Alzheimer's

By PAM BELLUCK

A newly developed blood test for Alzheimer's has diagnosed the disease as accurately as methods that are far more expensive or invasive, scientists reported on Tuesday, a significant step toward a longtime goal for patients, doctors and dementia researchers.

The test has the potential to make diagnosis simpler, more affordable and widely available.

The test determined whether people with dementia had Alzheimer's instead of another condition. And it identified signs of the degenerative, deadly disease 20 years before memory and thinking problems were expected in people with a genetic mutation that causes dementia, according to research published in JAMA and presented at the Alzheimer's Association International Conference.

Such a test could be available for clinical use in as little as two to three years, the researchers and other experts estimated, providing a possibly accessible way to diagnose whether people with cognitive issues were experiencing Alzheimer's, rather than another type of dementia that might require different treatment or have a different prognosis. A blood test like this might also eventually be used to predict whether someone with no symptoms would develop

Continued on Page A20

**Bill Gates** @BillGates · Jul 29

It's hard to overstate how important finding a reliable, affordable, and easy-to-use diagnostic is for stopping Alzheimer's. This is a big step towards that goal.

'Amazing, Isn't It?' Long-Sought Blood Test for Alzheimer's in Reach

Scientists say such tests could be available in a few years, speeding research for treatments and providing a diagnosis for dementia ...

nytimes.com

862 5.2K

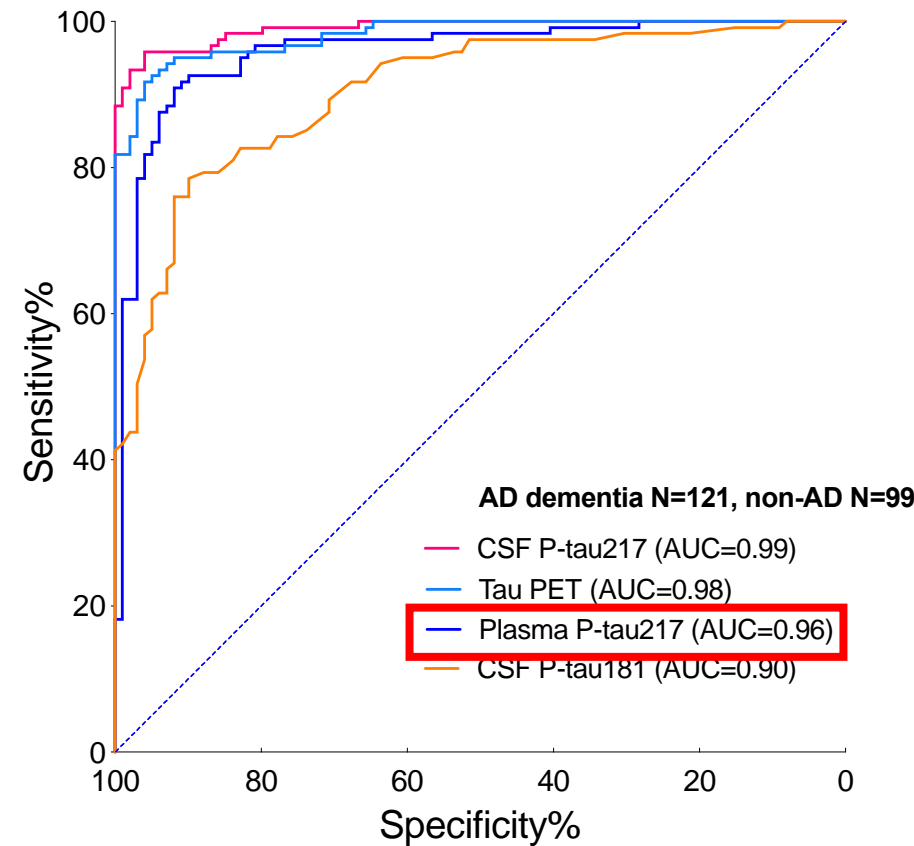
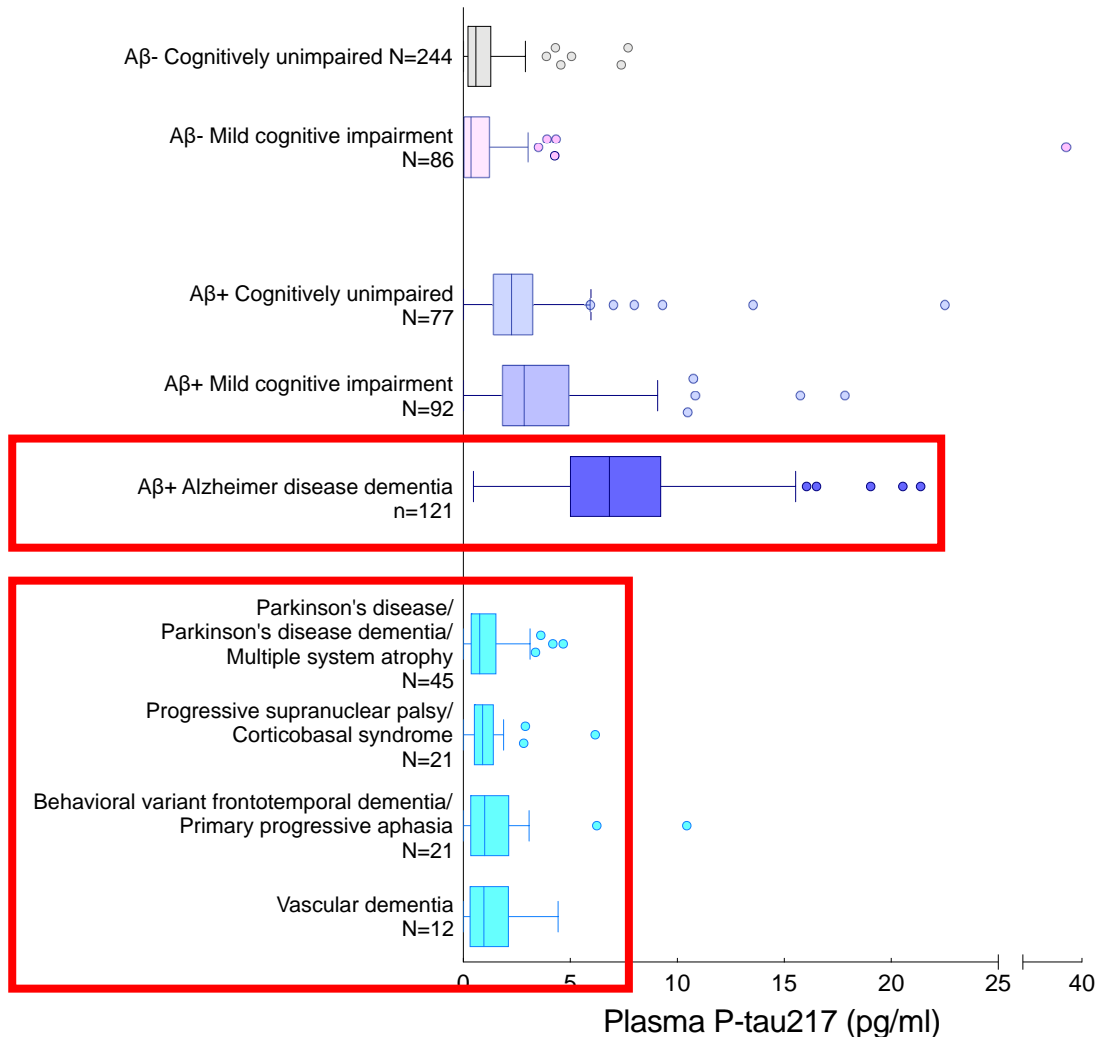




# Plasma P-tau can distinguish Alzheimer's disease from other dementia disorders

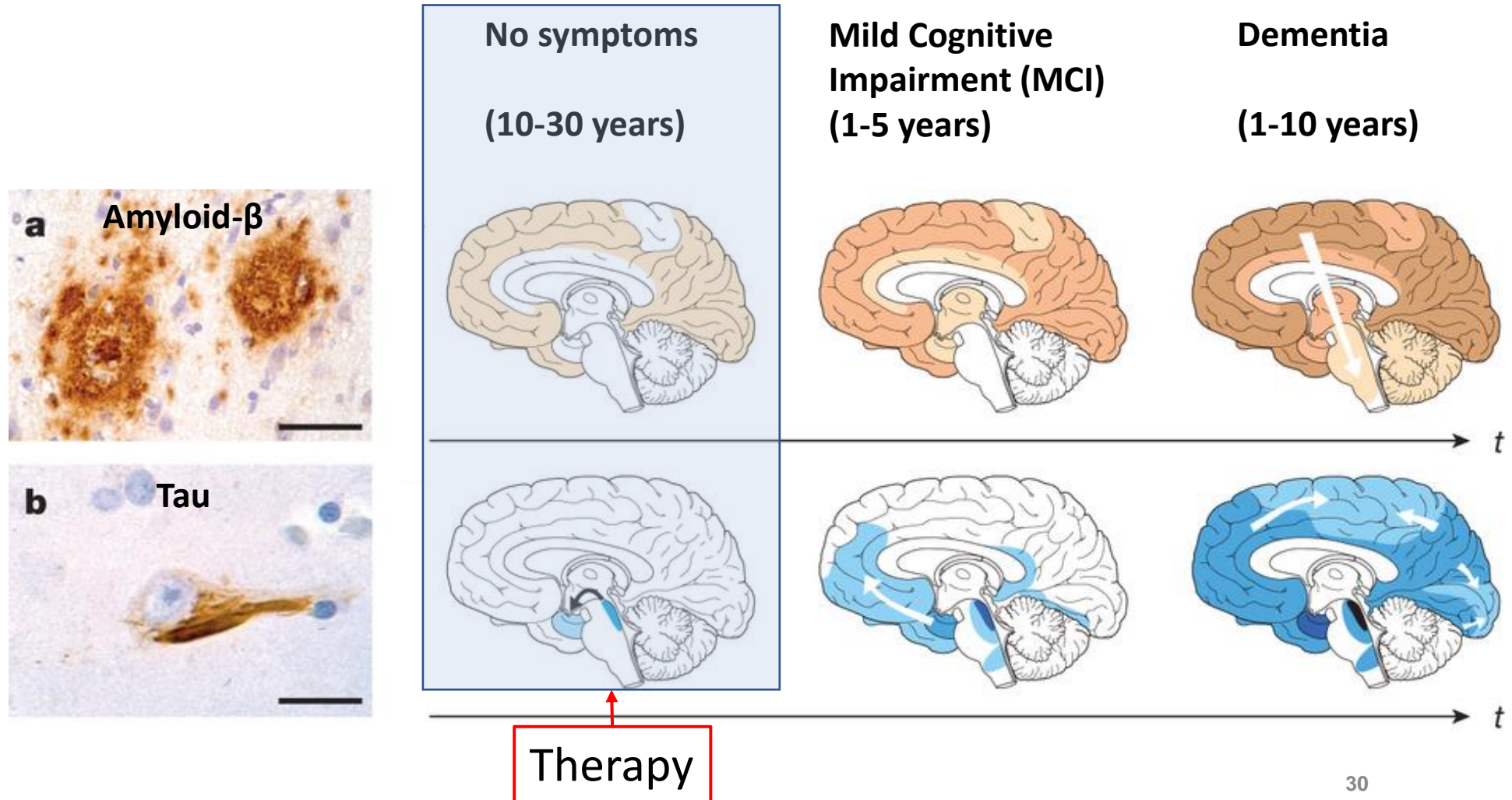
Plasma P-tau217 levels are increased by 500-700% in AD dementia

Plasma P-tau can differentiate AD from non-AD diseases similar to Tau-PET and CSF P-tau





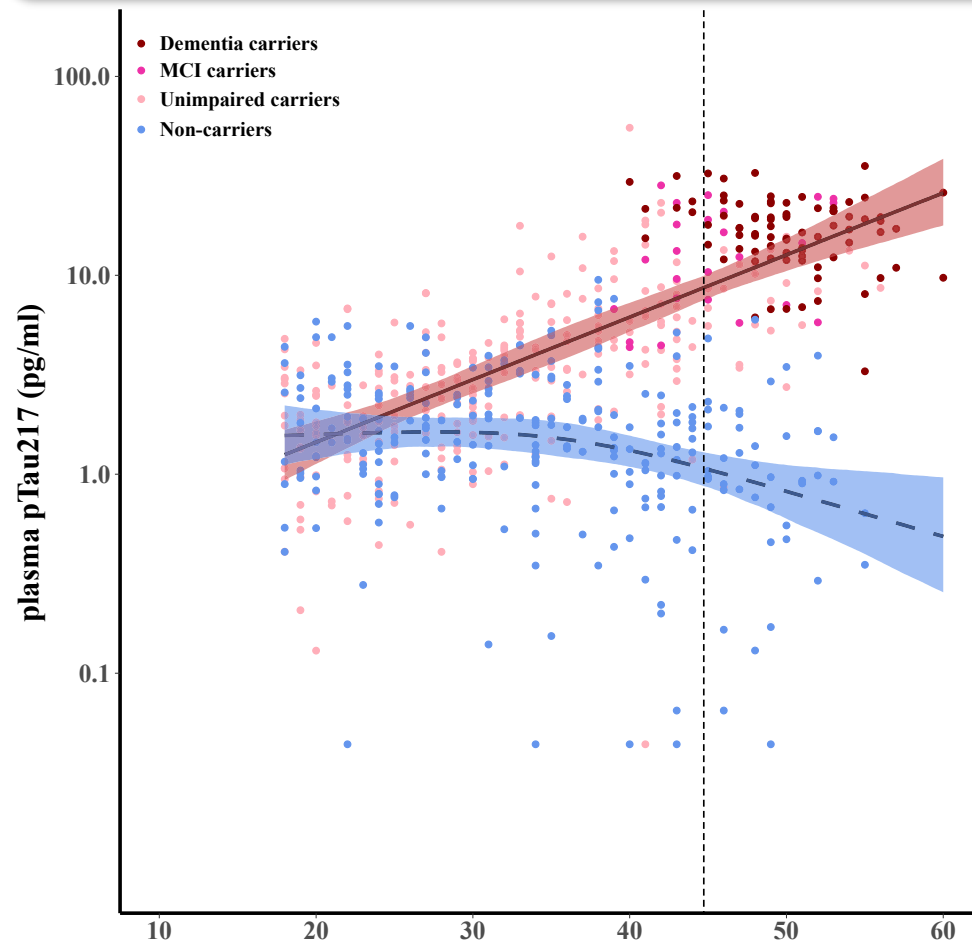
# Plasma biomarkers and pre-symptomatic AD



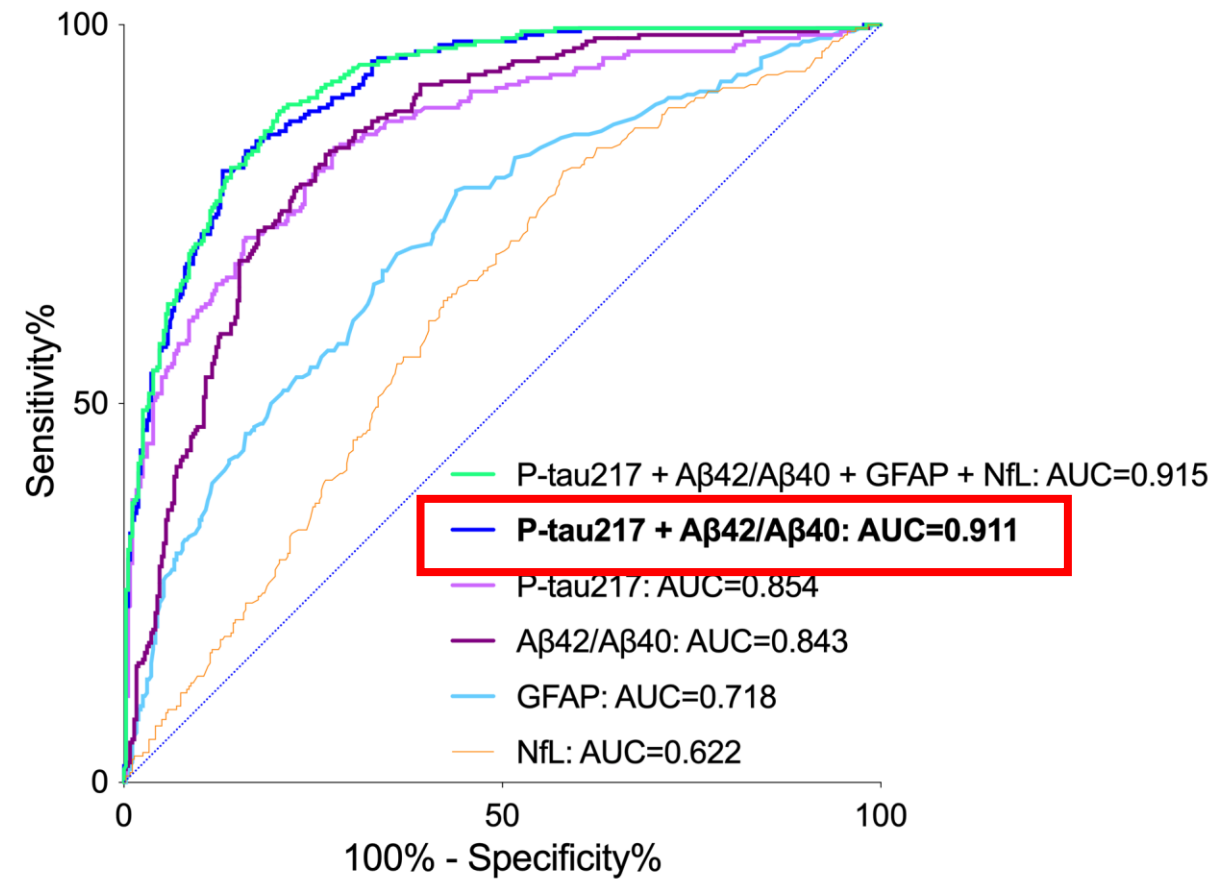


# Detection of pre-symptomatic Alzheimer's disease using plasma tests

Plasma P-tau changes 20 years before onset of cognitive impairment



A combination of plasma A $\beta$ 42/40 and P-tau can predict cerebral A $\beta$  pathology

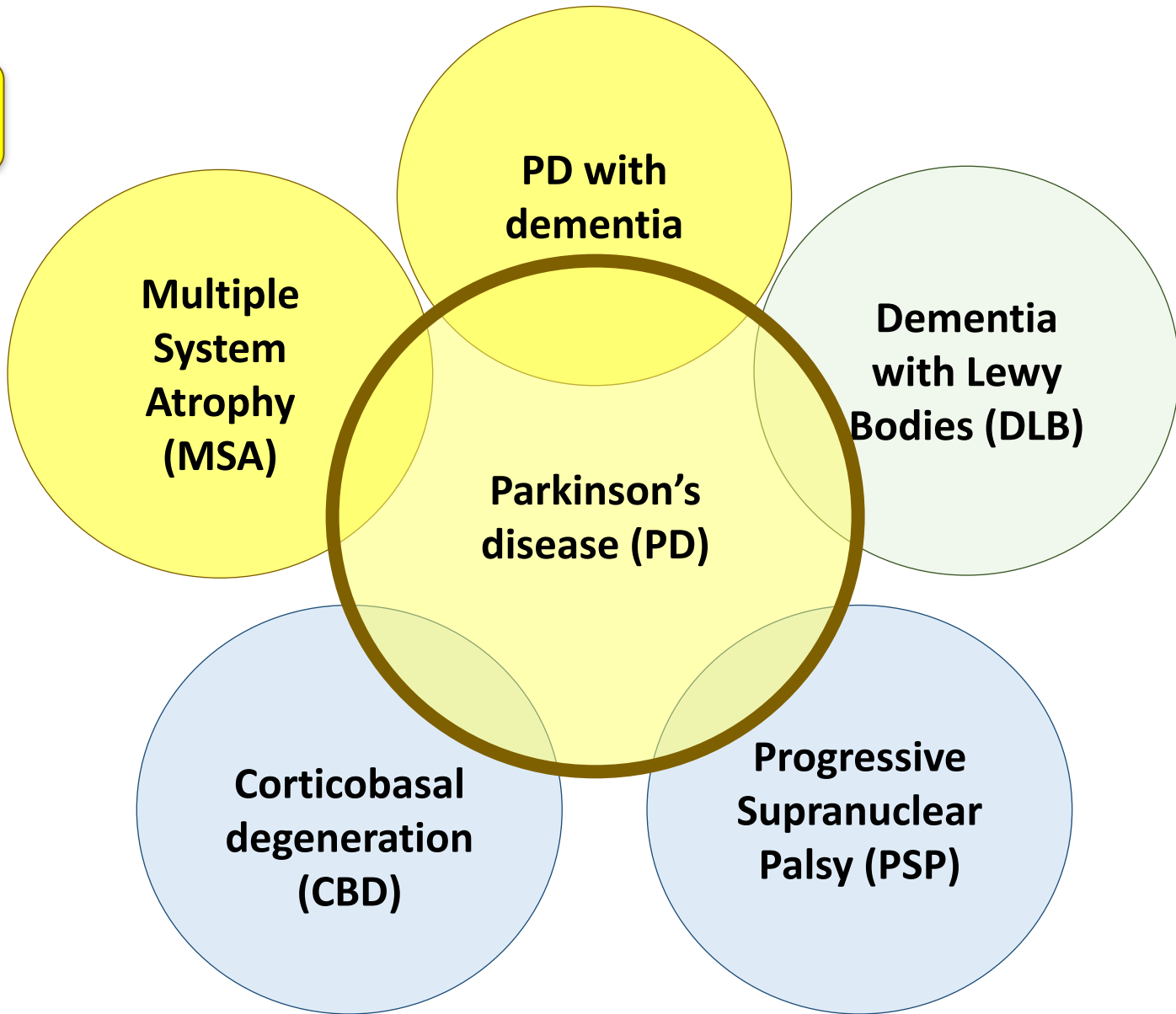




# Diseases causing Parkinsonian Syndromes

**$\alpha$ -Synuclein**

**$\alpha$ -Synuclein & Tau**

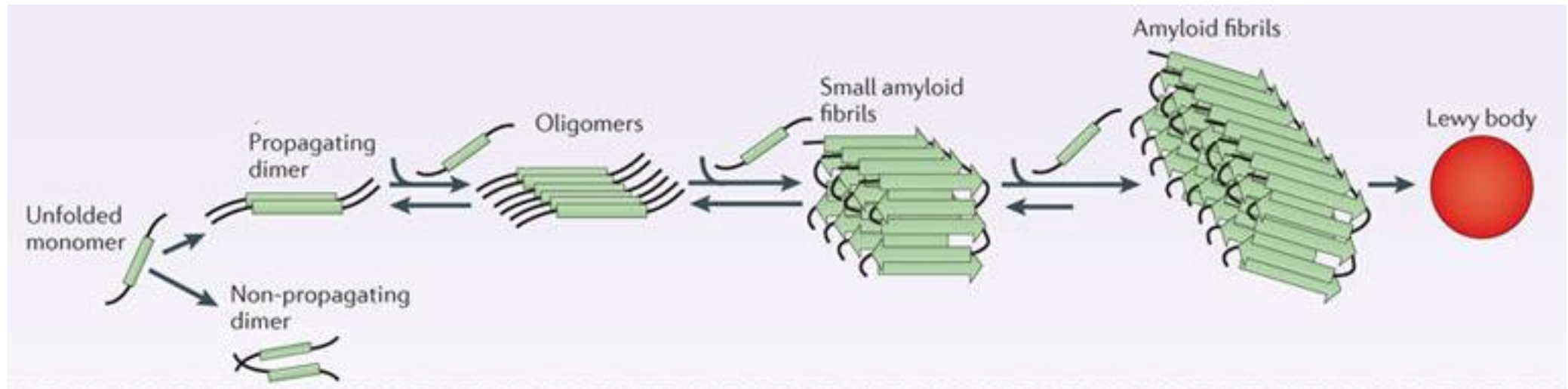


**Tau**

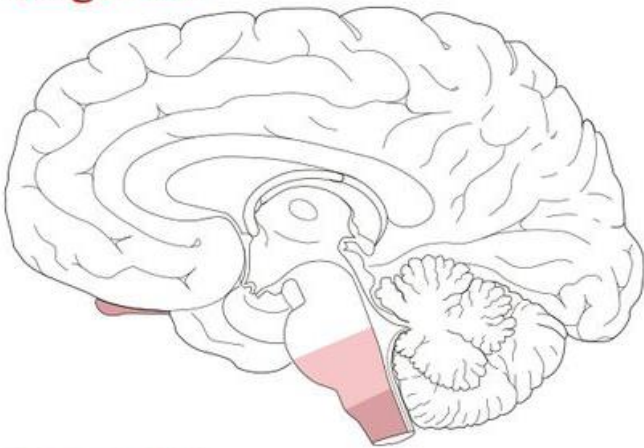




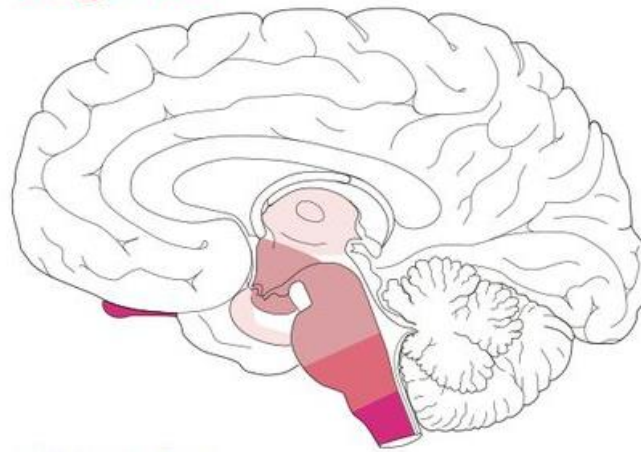
# $\alpha$ -Synuclein aggregates and spreads in the brain in Parkinson's disease



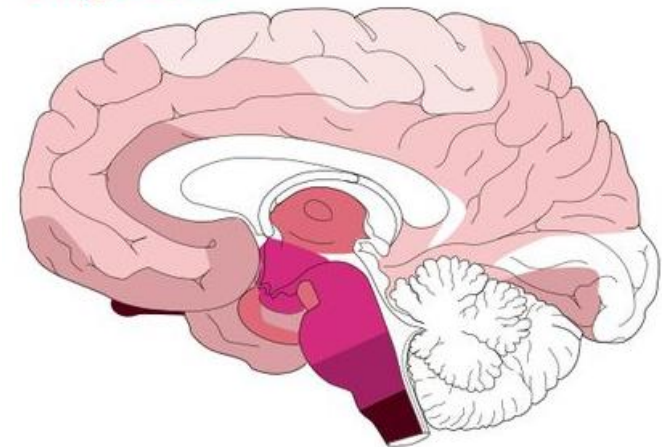
**Stages 1-2**



**Stages 3-4**



**Stages 5-6**



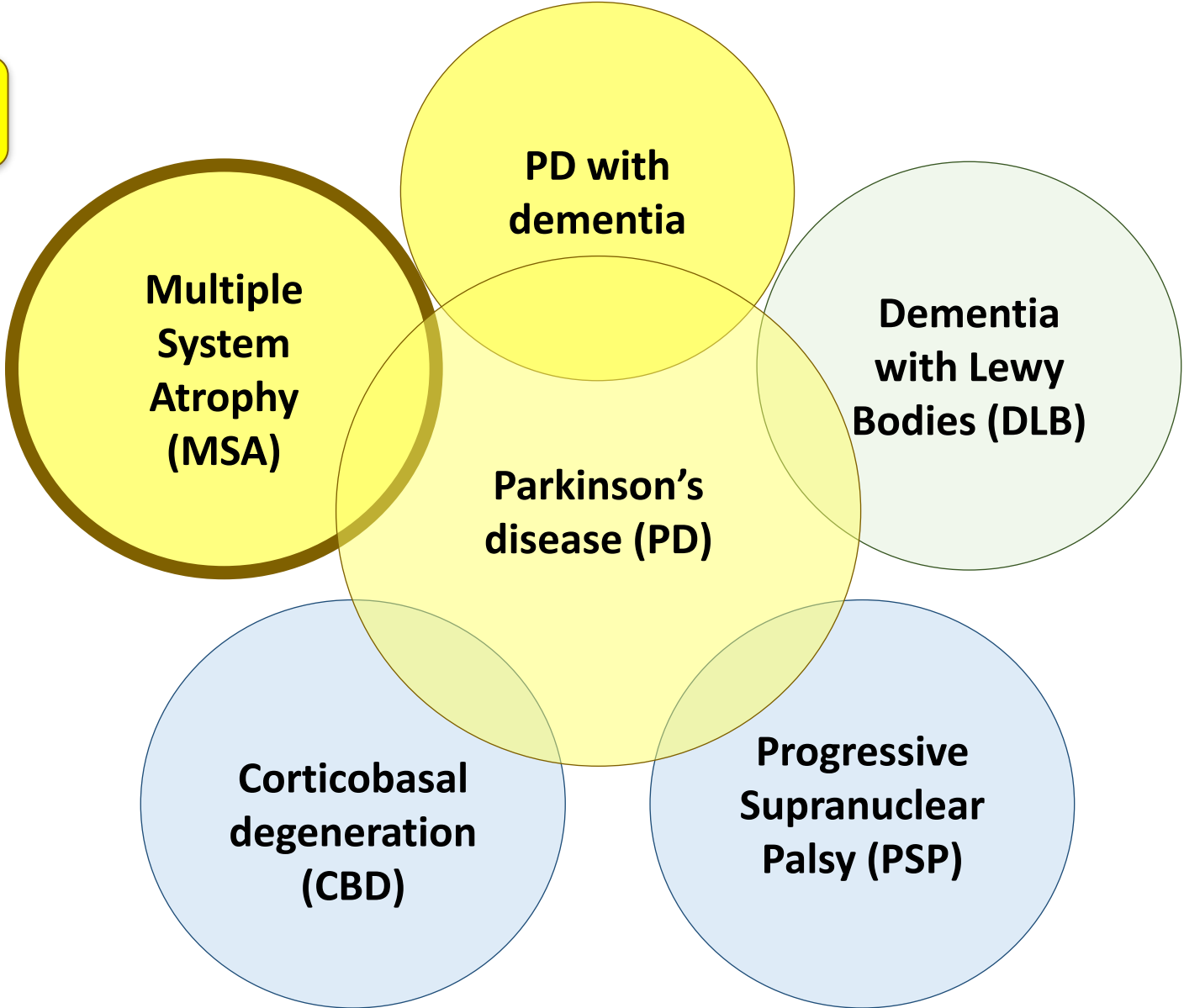




# Diseases causing Parkinsonian Syndromes

**$\alpha$ -Synuclein**

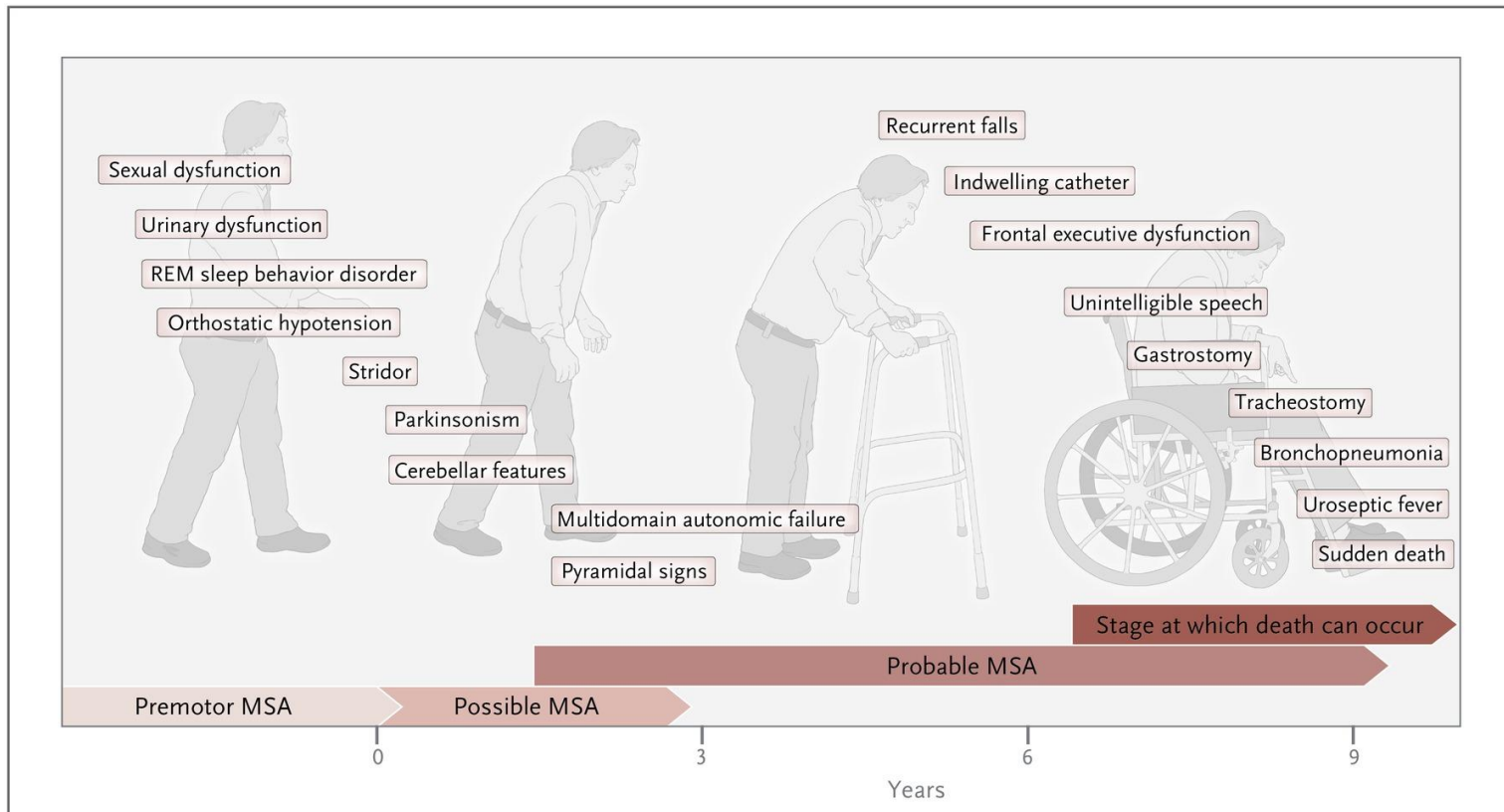
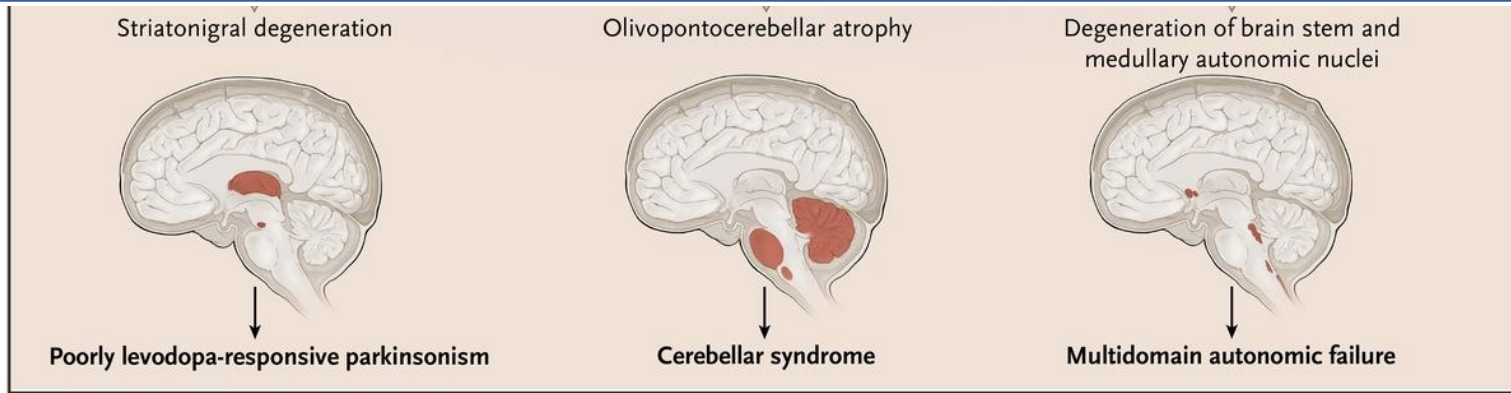
**$\alpha$ -Synuclein & Tau**



**Tau**

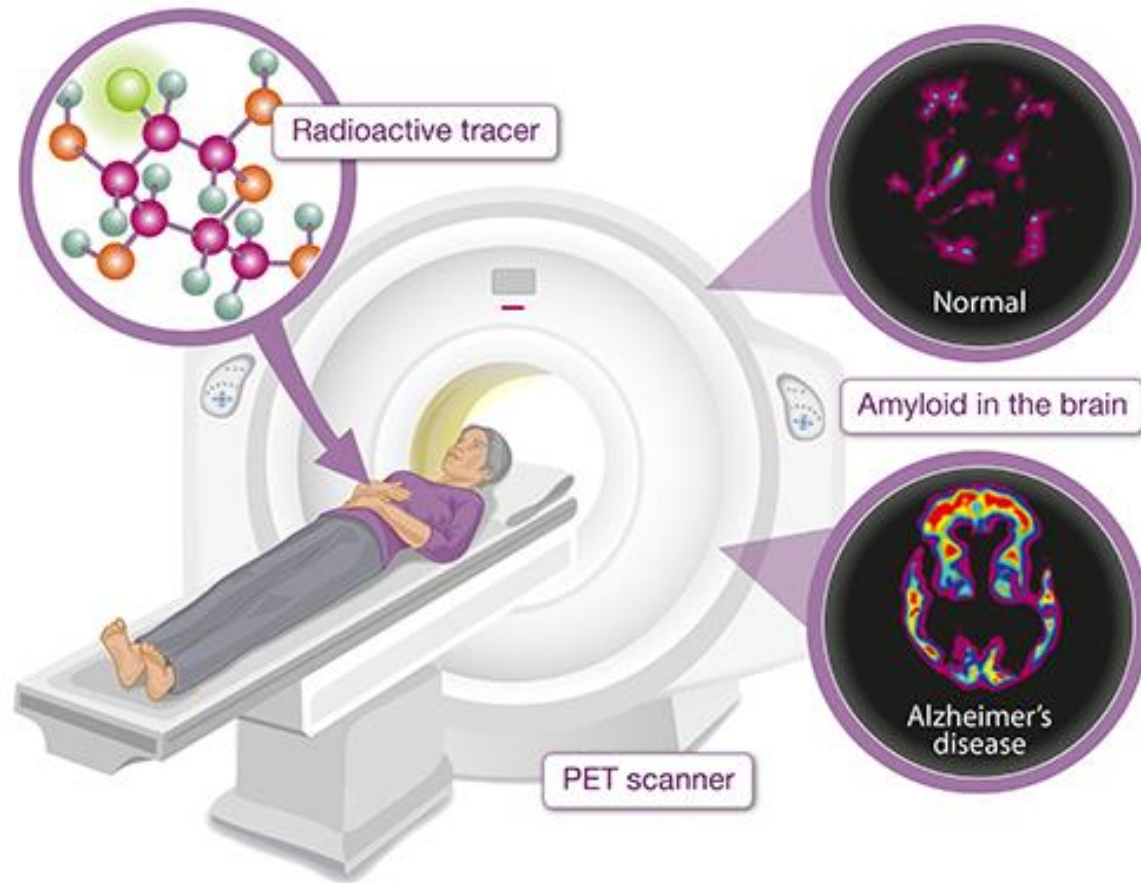


# Multiple-System Atrophy (MSA)





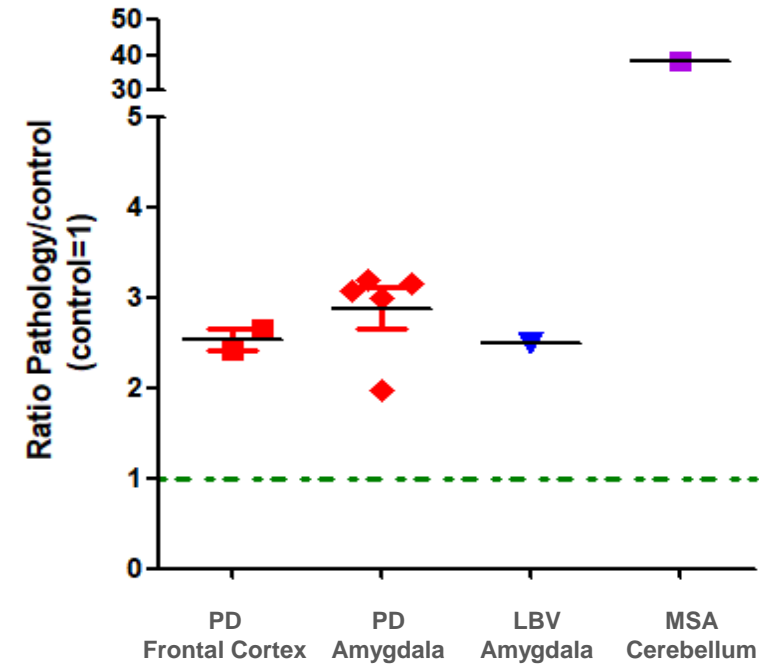
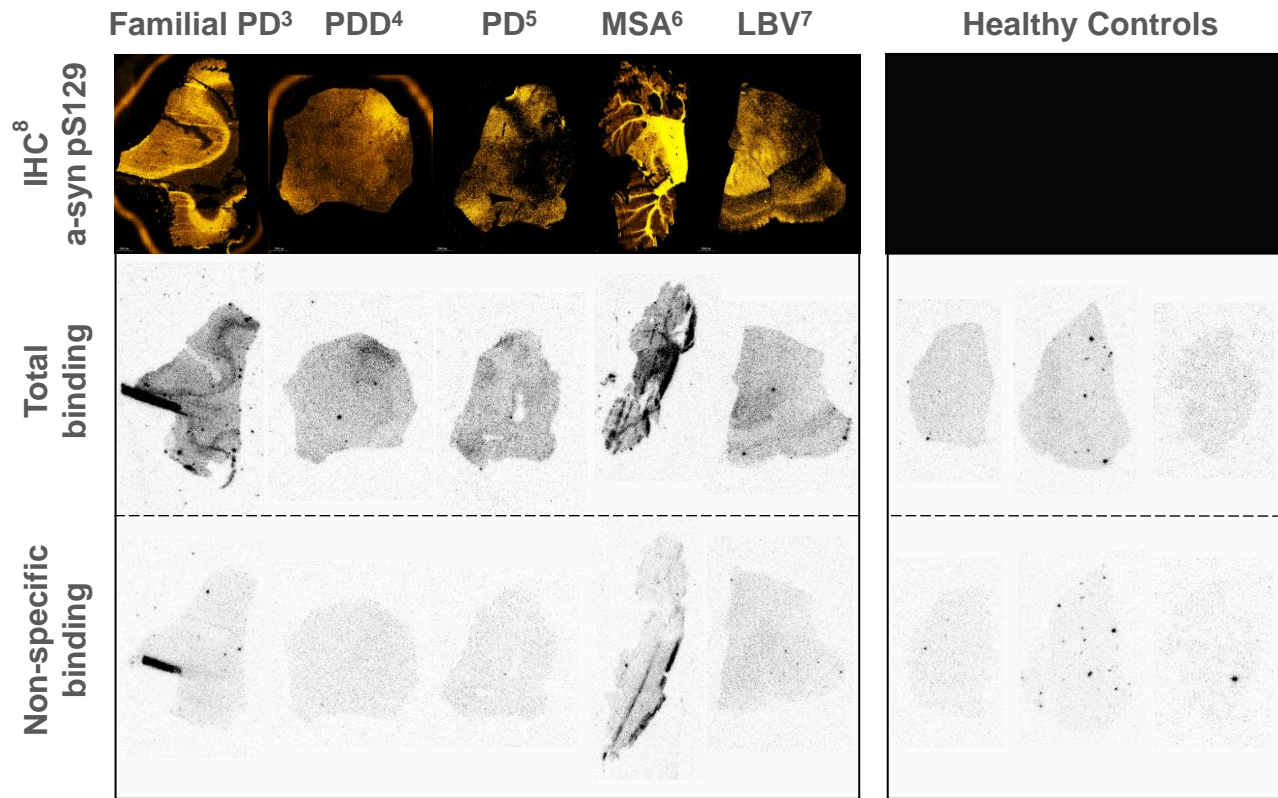
# $\alpha$ -Synuclein PET imaging



- Improved diagnosis in clinical practice of Parkinsonian disorders
- Drug development against toxic  $\alpha$ -synuclein
  - Target engagement
  - Diagnosis
  - Subtypes

# ACI-12589: a potential $\alpha$ -syn<sup>1</sup> PET<sup>2</sup> tracer

[18F]ACI-12589 specific binding on brain tissue from different  $\alpha$ -synucleinopathy cases



- Classical autoradiography experiments confirms specific binding across a wide range of  $\alpha$ -synucleinopathies

(1) alpha-synuclein; (2) Positron emission tomography; (3) Parkinson's disease with G51D SNCA mutation; (4) Parkinson's disease with dementia; (5) Parkinson's disease ; (6) Multiple system atrophy; (7) Lewy body variant of Alzheimer's disease; (8) Immunohistochemistry

# Participant characteristics

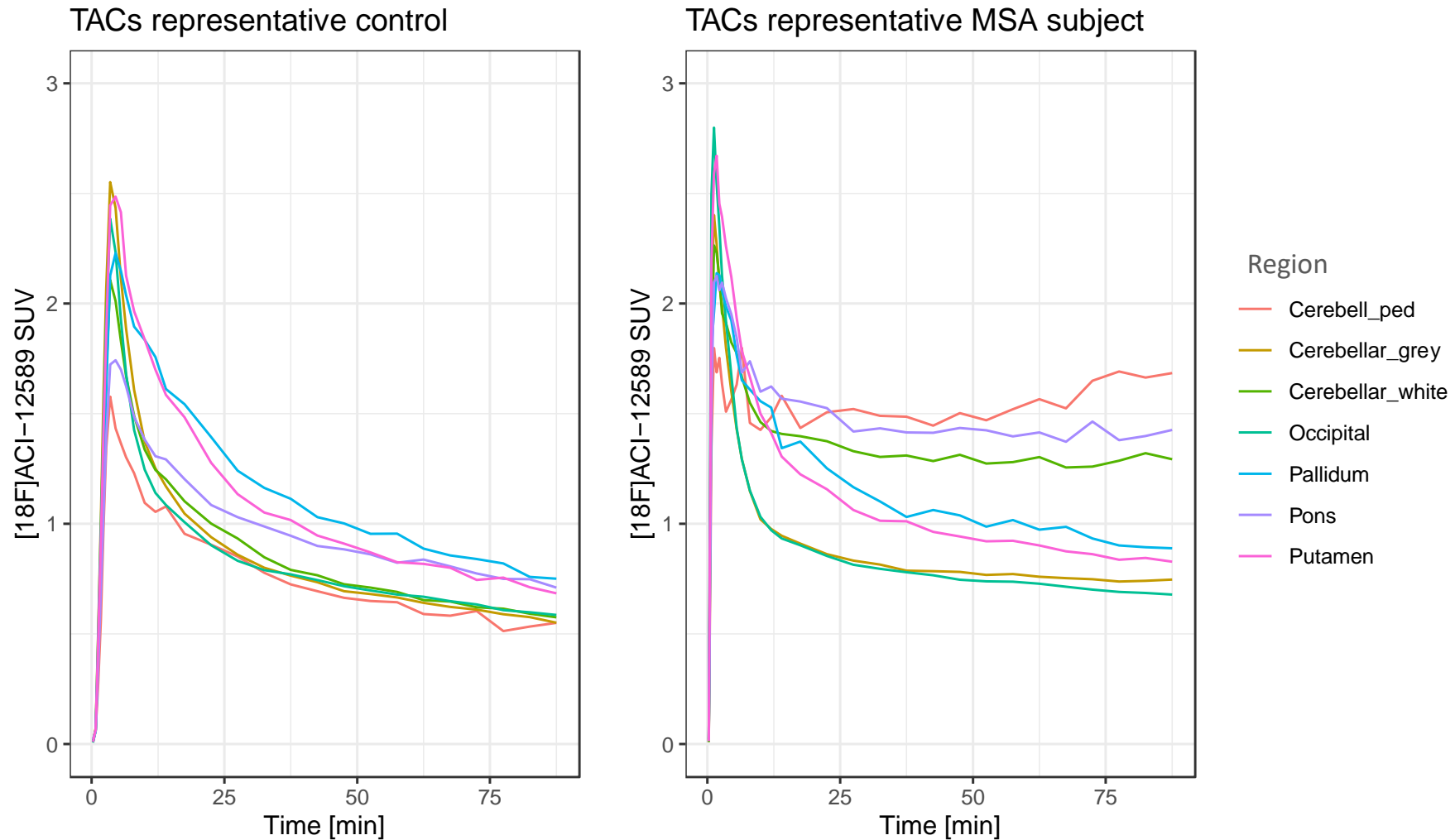
25 participants  
with a-synuclein  
related disorders  
scanned

Dynamic 0-90 min  
scans with arterial  
blood sampling

	Control	PD	MSA	DLB
<b>n</b>	8	7	8	2
<b>Sex (M/F)</b>	5/3	6/1	3/5	2/0
<b>Age (<math>\pm</math> SD)</b>	63 $\pm$ 11	67 $\pm$ 7	62 $\pm$ 8	81 $\pm$ 1
<b>Inj Dose (MBq)</b>	314 $\pm$ 39	311 $\pm$ 60	297 $\pm$ 15	289 $\pm$ 1
<b>UMSARS I + II</b>	N/A	N/A	50 $\pm$ 24	N/A
<b>UPDRS-III</b>	N/A	65 $\pm$ 16	N/A	N/A



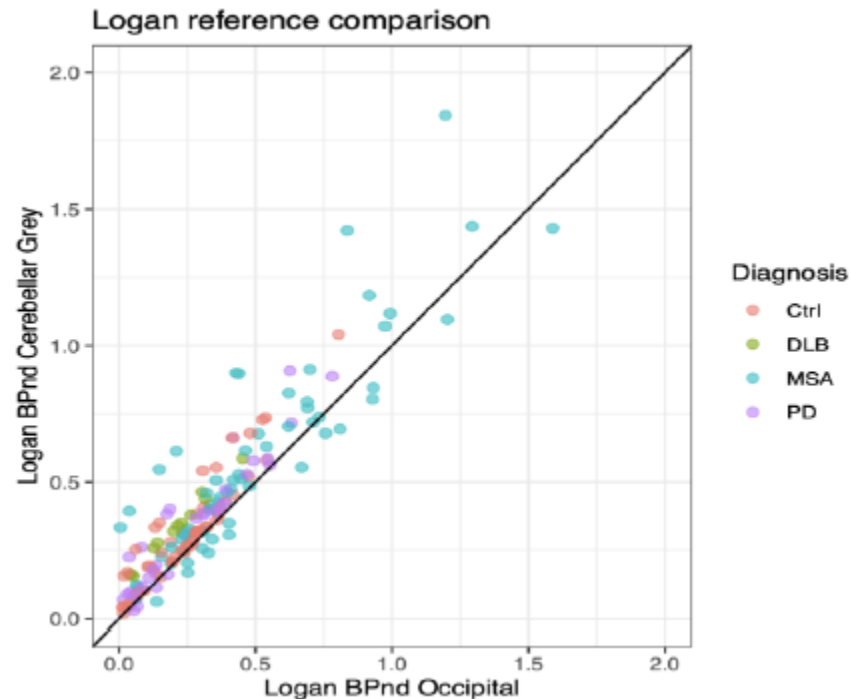
# Kinetic modelling – Time Activity Curves



Cerebell\_ped = Cerebellar peduncles; MSA = Multiple system atrophy; SUV = Standardized Uptake Value Ratio; TAC – Time activity curve

# Kinetic modelling - reference regions

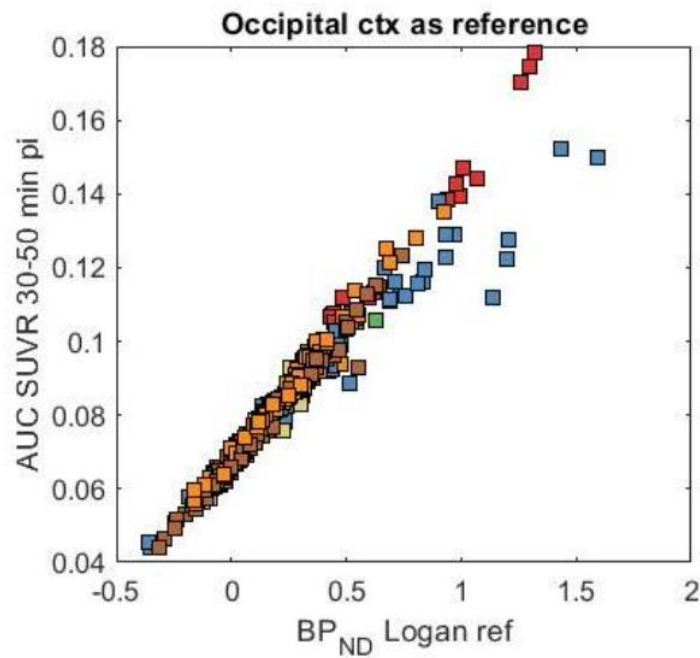
- No difference in cerebellar grey matter or occipital cortex  $V_T$ s between diagnostic groups
- High correlation between data derived using cerebellar grey matter and occipital cortex reference regions



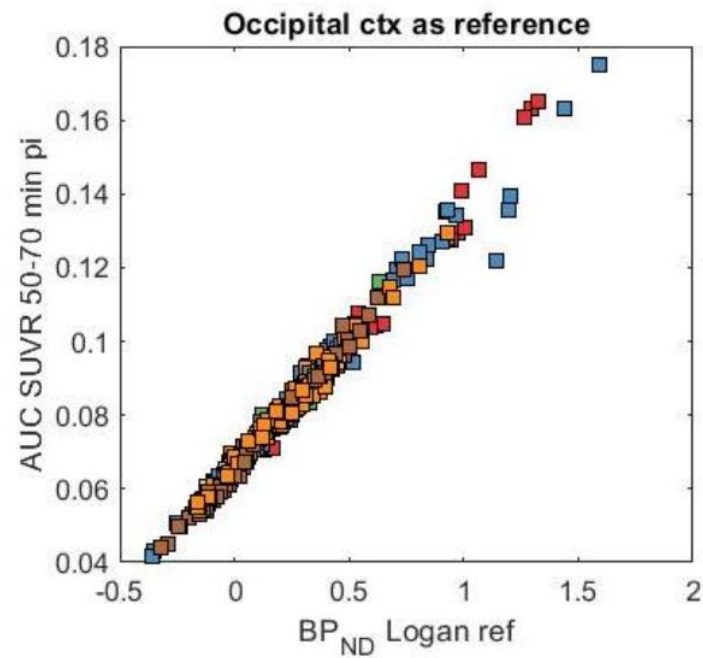
Both cerebellar cortex and occipital cortex suitable reference regions

# Kinetic modelling - SUVR

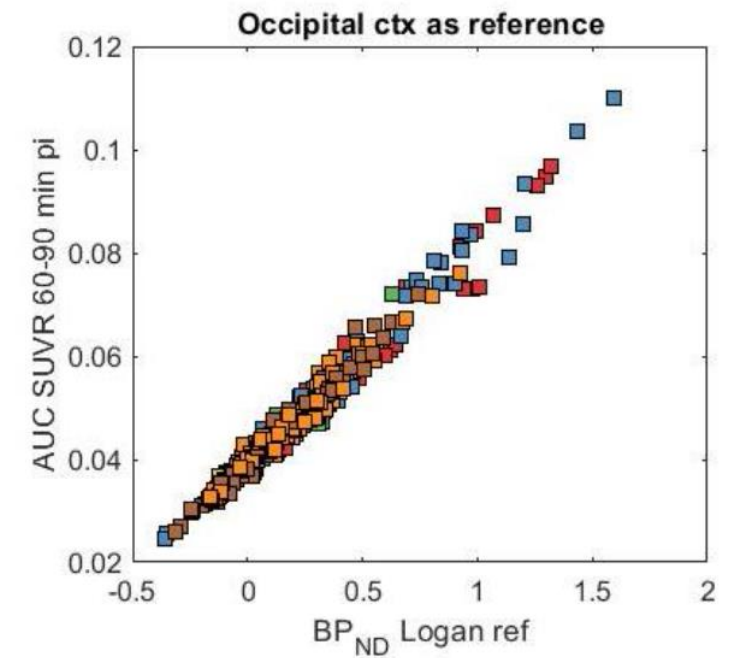
- Strong correlations between SUVR values and Logan ref  $BP_{ND}$ s (and MA1  $BP_{ND}$ s). Best at 50-70 min and 60-90 min intervals



30-50 min

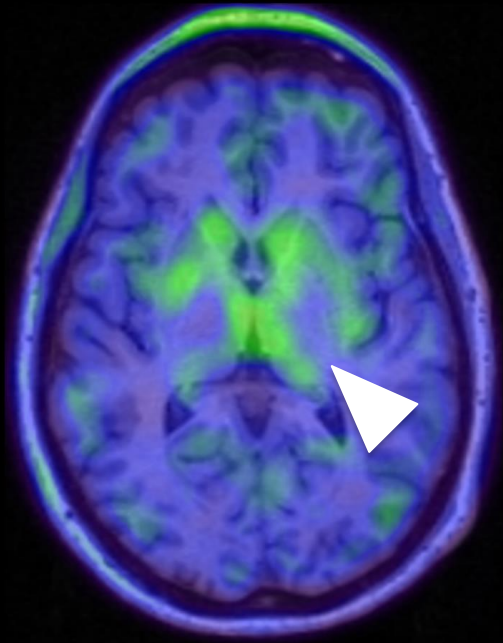


50-70 min

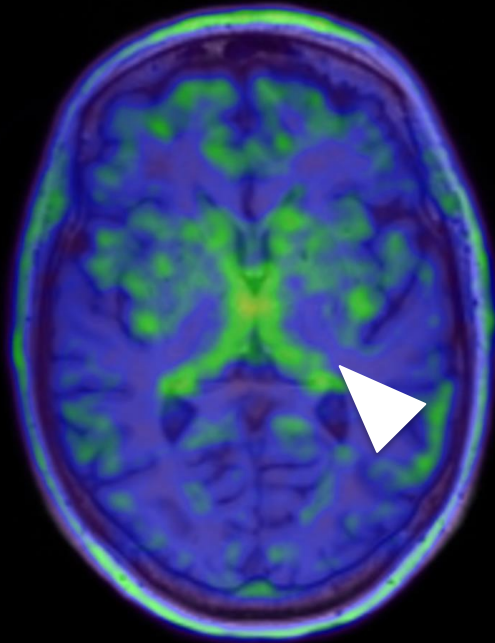


60-90 min

Control, 52



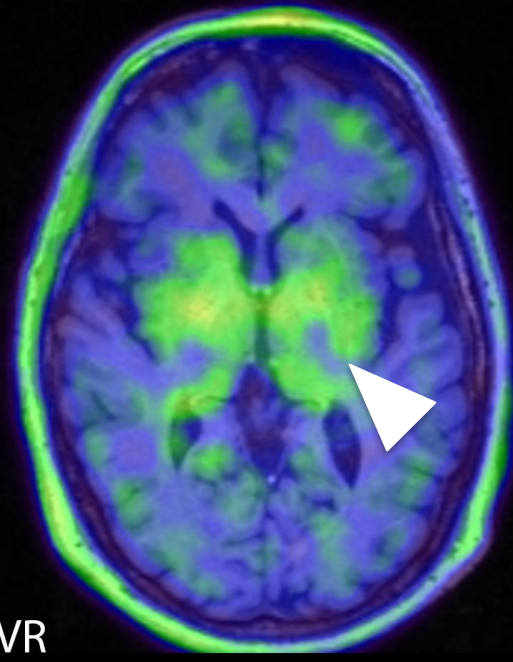
Control, 68



MSA-P, 54



PD, 73



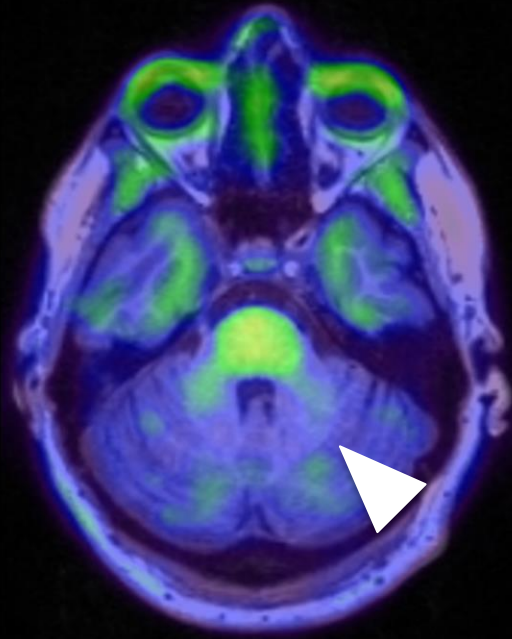
Increased basal ganglia uptake in MSA-P patients. Some unspecific uptake in controls

SUVRs 60-90 min

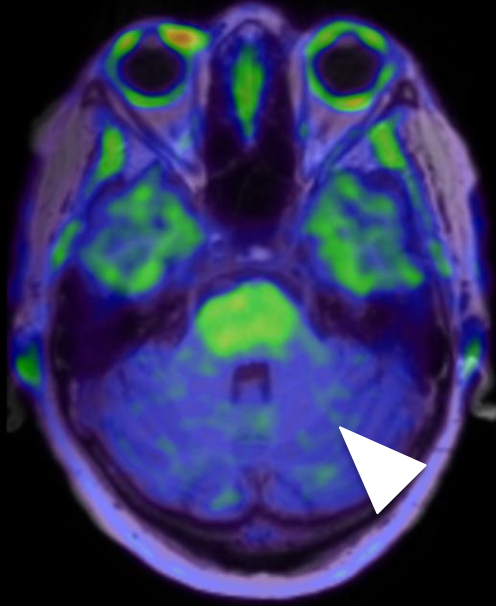




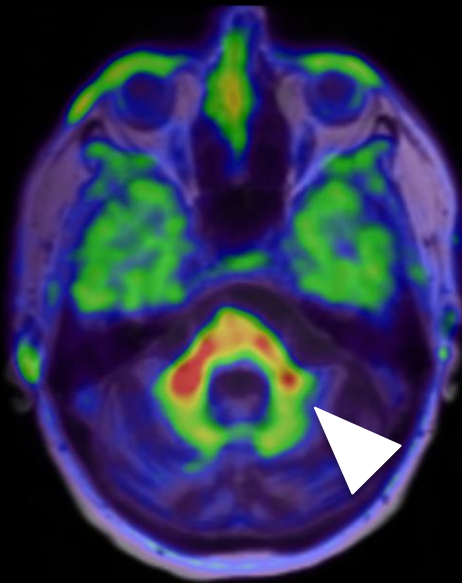
Control, 52



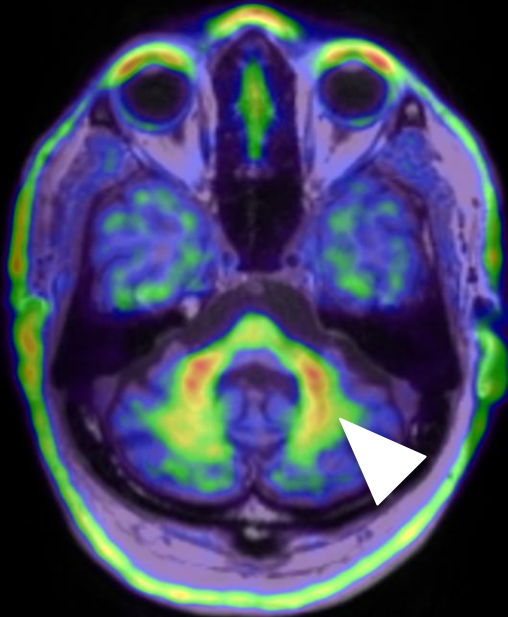
Control, 69



MSA-C, 55



MSA-C, 63



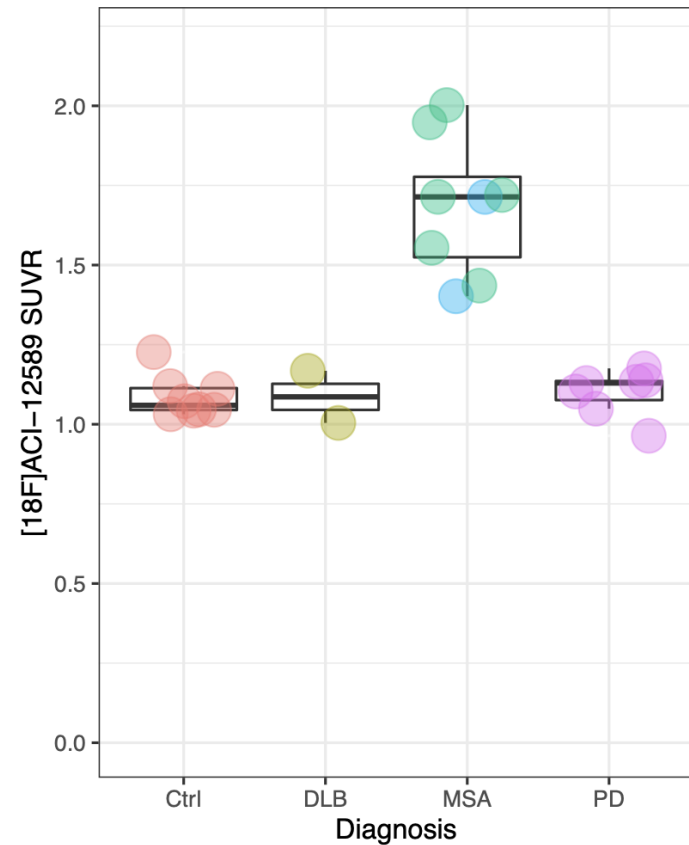
Clear increase in retention in MSA patients in cerebellar white matter and cerebellar peduncles

SUVRs 60-90 min

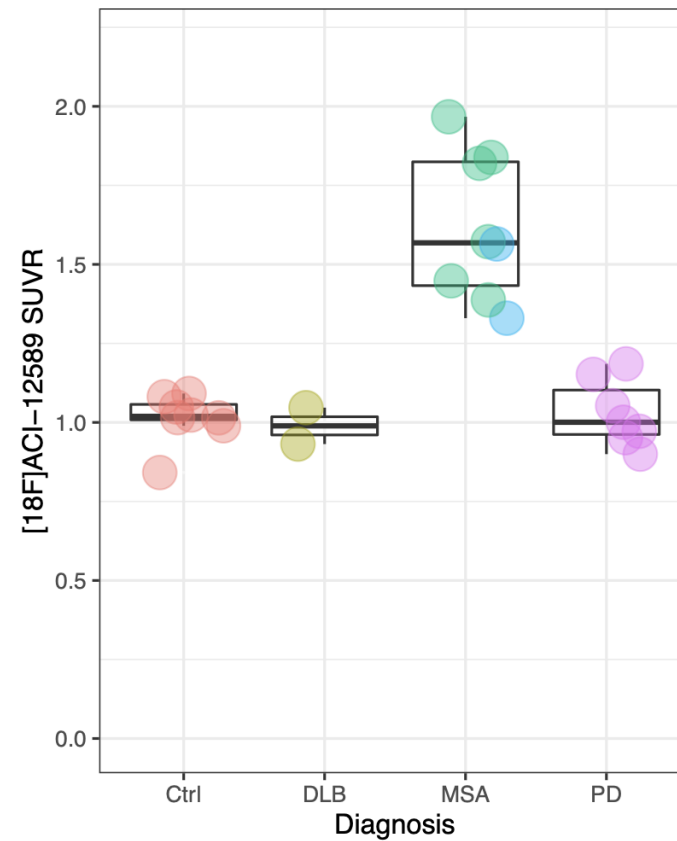


# Cerebellar white matter [ $^{18}\text{F}$ ]ACI-12589 retention

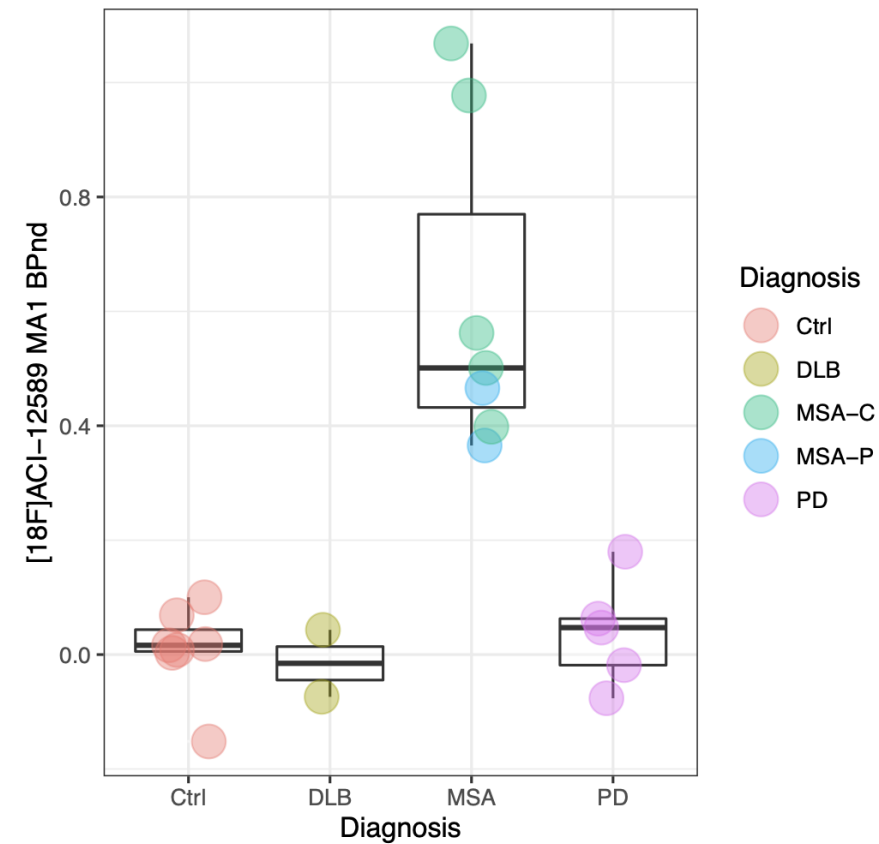
### Cerebellar white matter SUVR



### Cerebellar white matter SUVR\_occ



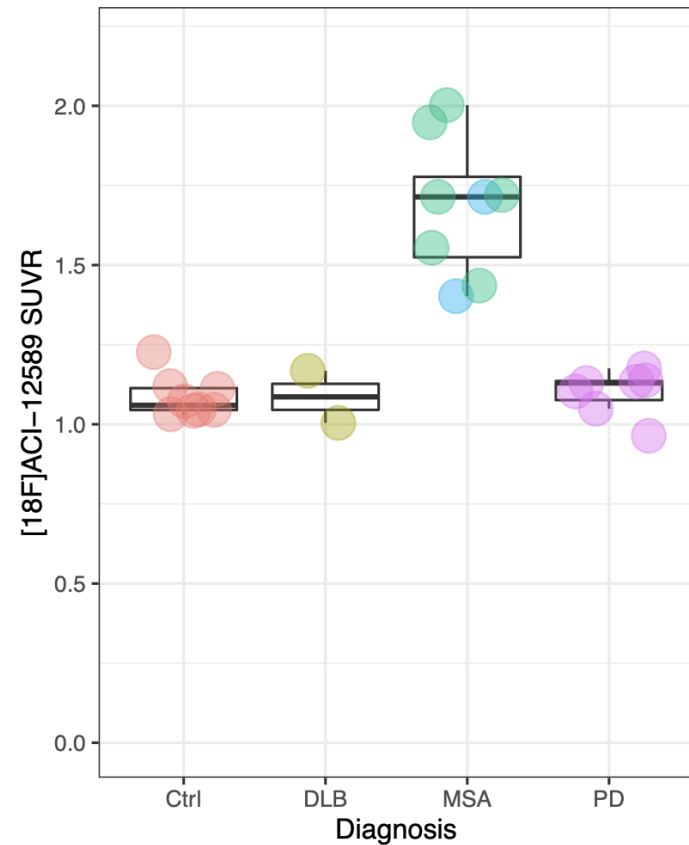
### Cerebellar white MA1 BPnd



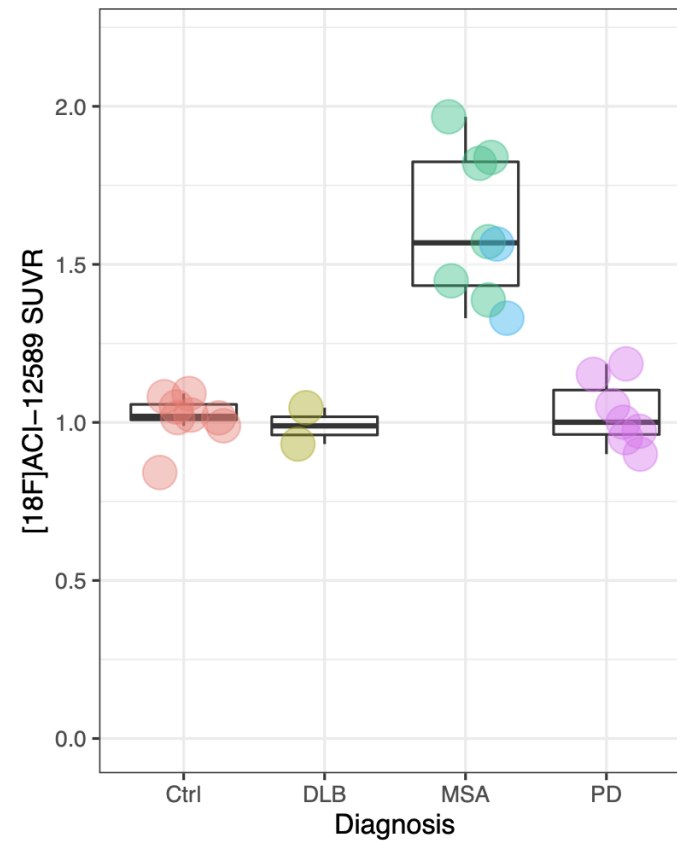
BPnd = Binding Potential, non-displaceable; Ctrl = Control; DLB = Dementia with Lewy Bodies; MA1 = Ichise multilinear analysis; MSA-C = Multiple system atrophy – cerebellar phenotype; MSA-P = Multiple system atrophy – parkinsonian phenotype; PD = Parkinson's Disease; SUVR = Standardized Uptake Value Ratio

# Cerebellar white matter [ $^{18}\text{F}$ ]ACI-12589 retention

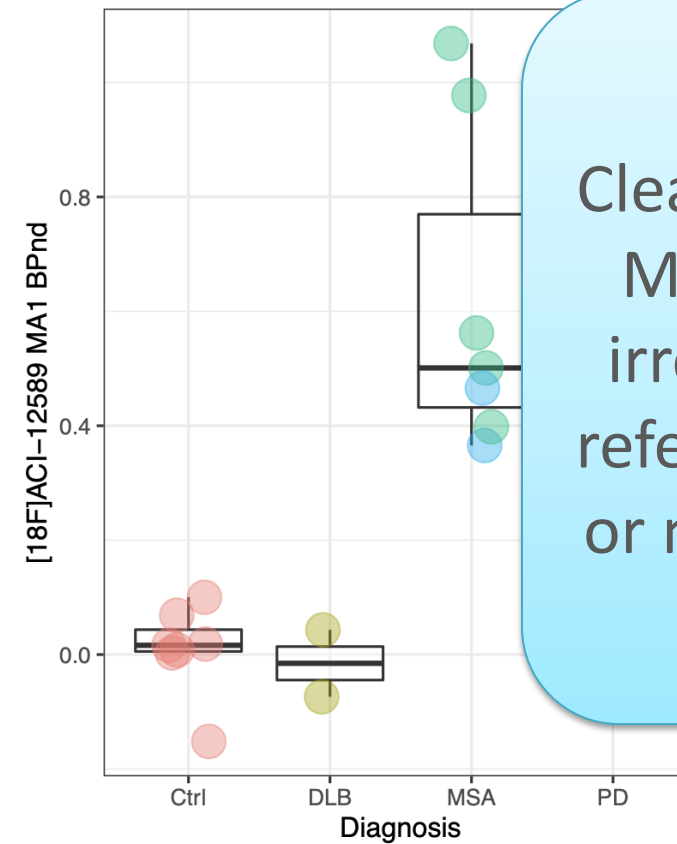
Cerebellar white matter SUVR



Cerebellar white matter SUVR\_occ



Cerebellar white MA1 BPnd



Clear increase in MSA patients irrespective of reference region or method used

BPnd = Binding Potential, non-displaceable; Ctrl = Control; DLB = Dementia with Lewy Bodies; MA1 = Ichise multilinear analysis; MSA-C = Multiple system atrophy – cerebellar phenotype; MSA-P = Multiple system atrophy – parkinsonian phenotype; PD = Parkinson's Disease; SUVR = Standardized Uptake Value Ratio

# Conclusions

- [ $^{18}\text{F}$ ]ACI-12589 shows a rapid brain uptake and fast signal equilibrium.
- SUVR can be used with occipital or cerebellar grey reference region.
- No relevant binding to MAO-B in cerebellar white matter
  
- Strong binding in expected regions in MSA
- Completely separates MSA from other synucleinopathies and controls
- [ $^{18}\text{F}$ ]ACI12589 is a promising radiotracer for supporting a diagnosis of MSA and  $\alpha$ -synuclein drug target engagement
- Further studies needed in Parkinson's Disease





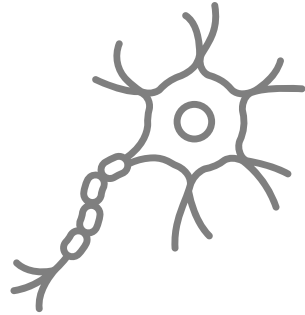
# Clinical development plans for programs targeting alpha-synuclein

Johannes Streffer, MD, Chief Medical Officer

# A-syn<sup>1</sup> PET<sup>2</sup> tracers can improve the diagnosis and treatment of NDD<sup>3</sup>

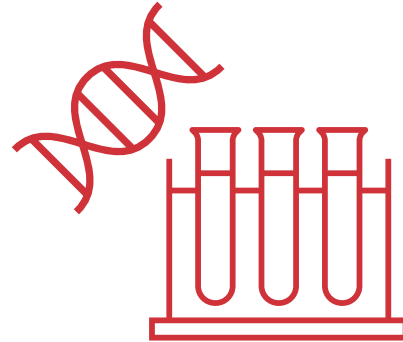
An effective PET tracer is needed to best enable precision medicine for a-synucleinopathies

Early Diagnosis and Treatment is Key in NDD



- Once neurons are damaged, they cannot be repaired or replaced with current therapies

Early diagnosis of a-syn-opathies<sup>4</sup> is not possible with current techniques



- Dopaminergic imaging correlates poorly with disease severity
- Genetic testing is ineffective in most cases
- Low abundance of a-syn limits utility of fluid biomarkers

Benefits of PET tracers for imaging have been validated



- Patient stratification
- Better clinical trials when focused using PET tracer for recruitment and monitoring
- May enable combination treatment of co-pathologies

(1) Alpha-synuclein; (2) Positron emission tomography; (3) Neurodegenerative disease; (4) Alpha-synucleinopathies; (5) Alzheimer's disease

# ACI-12589: First clinically-validated a-syn<sup>1</sup> PET<sup>2</sup> tracer

First clinical PoC<sup>3</sup> for ACI-12589 opens new avenues in translational medicine

1

ACI-12589 effectively detected a-syn in human brains and distinguished MSA<sup>4</sup> from healthy controls and other a-syn-opathies<sup>5</sup>

2

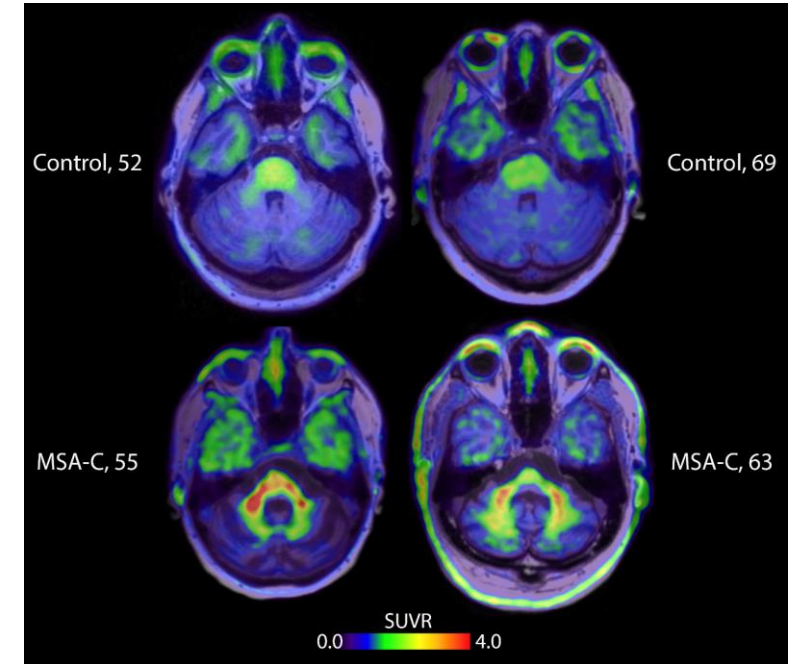
ACI-12589 has the potential to enable the early diagnosis of MSA, which is extremely challenging with current techniques

3

First clinical PoC opens regulatory pathway to discuss biomarker-based development for an orphan indication

4

Learnings from development in MSA may allow for future applications in PD<sup>6</sup> with ACI-12589 or next-generation tracers



ACI-12589 is taking the first step towards a-syn-based precision medicine

(1) Alpha-synuclein; (2) Positron emission tomography; (3) Proof-of-concept; (4) Multiple system atrophy; (5) Alpha-synucleinopathies; (6) Parkinson's disease;

# Next steps for ACI-12589 a-syn<sup>1</sup> PET<sup>2</sup> tracer development

1

**Clinical Proof-of-Concept data in Multiple system atrophy (MSA) at AD/PD™ 2022**

2

**MSA (Orphan) – planned studies**

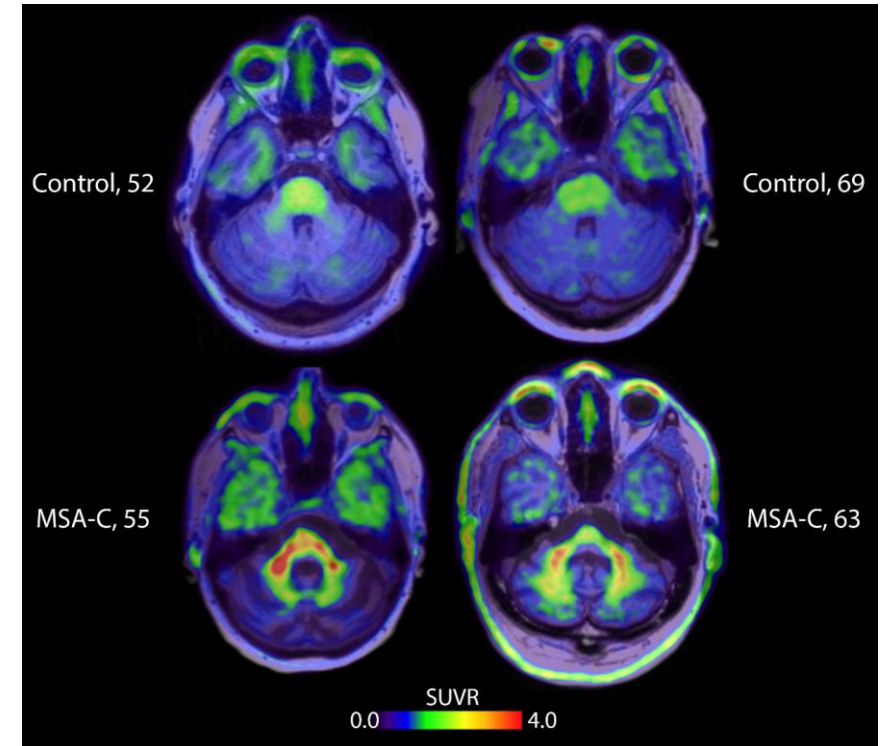
- Dosimetry
- Test – Retest
- Longitudinal progression
- Pharmacodynamic marker establishment

3

**Evaluation in Parkinson's and other neurodegenerative diseases**

4

**Collaboration and partnership discussions**







Indication	U.S. Patient Population	Global Patient Population
MSA (Orphan)	15,000-50,000 <sup>4</sup>	~316,000 <sup>6</sup>
PD <sup>3</sup>	960,000 <sup>5</sup>	>6.1M <sup>5</sup>

(1) alpha-synuclein; (2) Positron emission tomography; (3) Parkinson's disease; (4) NINDS Multiple System Atrophy Fact Sheet; (5) GBD 2016 Parkinson's Disease Collaborators Lancet Neurology 2018; (6) Vanacore et al., Neurological Sciences 22: 97–99 (2001)



# AC Immune's precision medicine approach to Parkinson's disease

Complementary portfolio covers full spectrum of treatment modalities targeting a-syn<sup>1</sup>

Product candidates	Leading therapies and diagnostics:			
	vaccine	diagnostic	antibody	small molecule
				
Current focus <sup>2</sup>	PD <sup>3</sup>	a-synucleinopathies	PD, NeuroOrphan	PD
Status	Preparing adaptive Phase 2 study	First clinical PoC <sup>4</sup> (MSA <sup>5</sup> specific)	Preclinical	Discovery

 Initiation of dosing in Phase 2 vaccine study expected in H2 2022

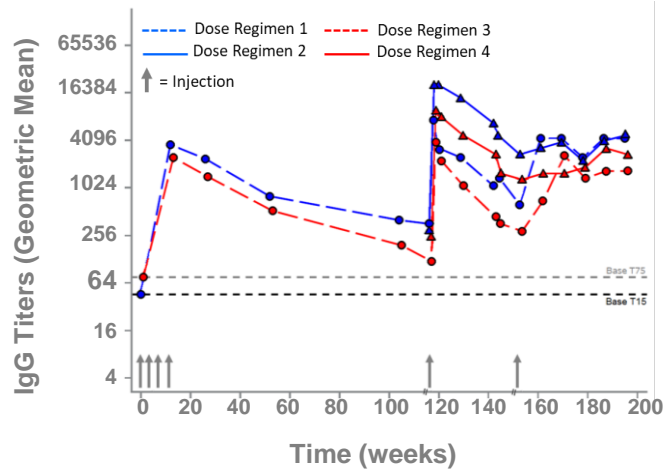
(1) Alpha-synuclein; (2) Programs can be expanded into additional a-synucleinopathies, (3) Parkinson's disease; (4) Proof of concept; (5) Multiple system atrophy

# Anti-a-syn<sup>1</sup> vaccine is clinically validated<sup>2</sup> in Parkinson's disease

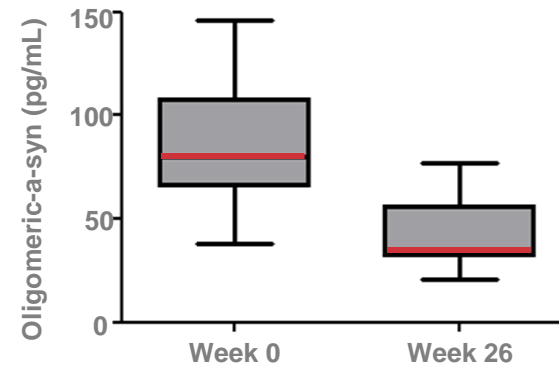
Phase 1 results in *The Lancet Neurology* support best-in-class profile

THE LANCET  
Neurology

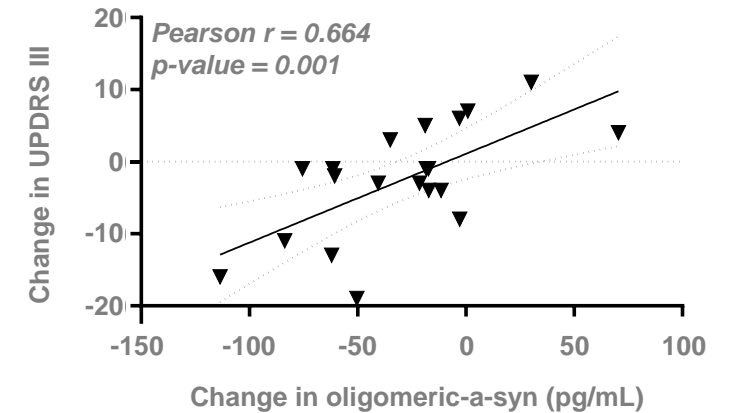
Strong and boostable antibody response



50% reduction<sup>3</sup> of pathological a-syn in CSF<sup>4</sup>



Changes<sup>5</sup> in oligo-a-syn and UPDRS III correlate



1

Safe and well tolerated with no safety concerns noted in patients followed for more than 3.5 years

3

Target engagement evidence: 50% reduction in pathological (oligomeric) a-syn in the CSF

2

Strong and boostable antibody responses

4

Signal of clinical efficacy: stabilization of UPDRS<sup>6</sup> III scores correlated with reductions in oligomeric a-syn

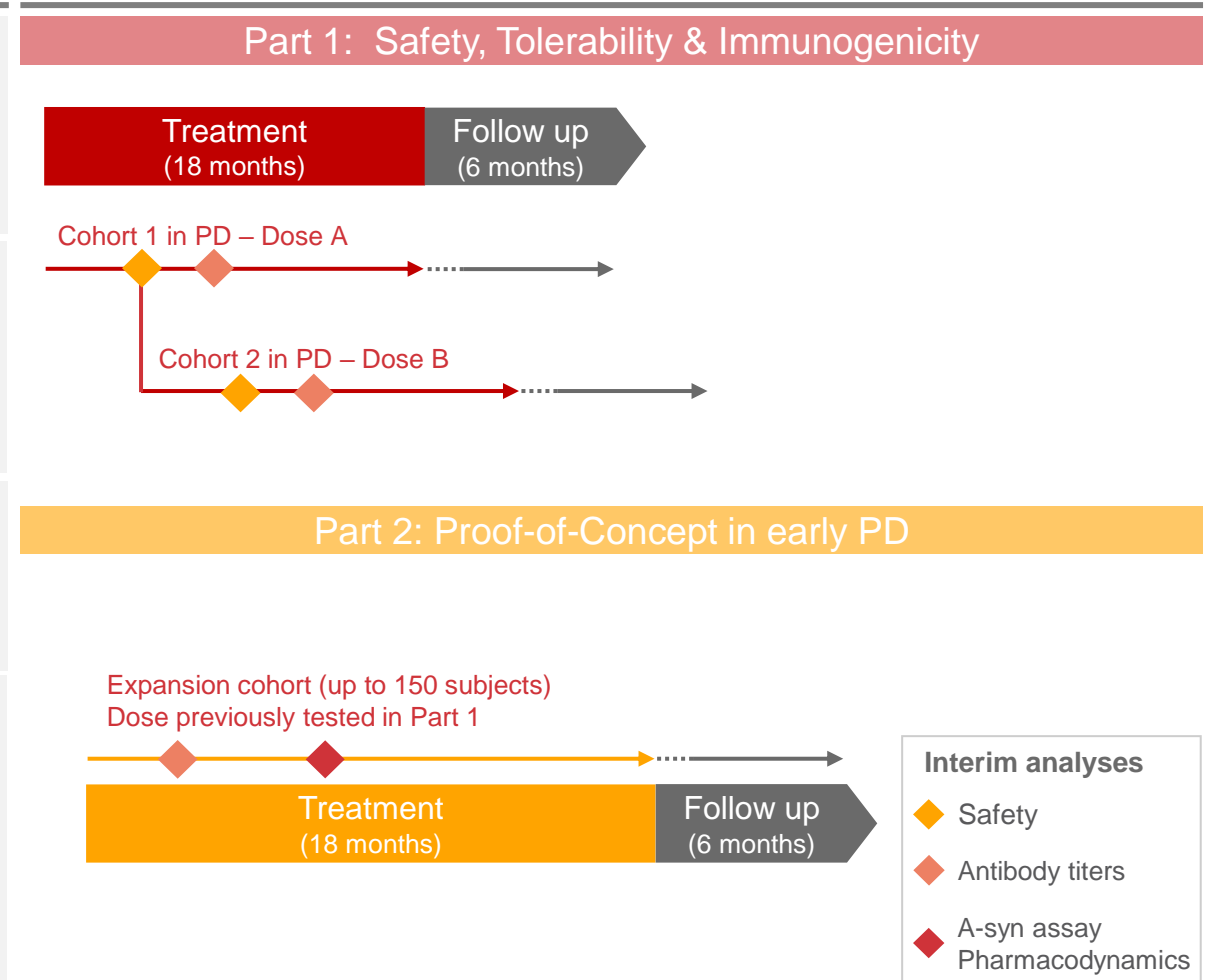
(1) alpha-synuclein; (2) Volc *et al.*, *Lancet Neurol.* 2020; (3) Data from 75 µg dose group; (4) Cerebrospinal fluid; (5) Change in oligomeric a-syn calculated at week 26, change in UPDRS III calculated at week 100; (6) Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale

# ACI-7104: an adaptive biomarker-based Phase 2 study in early PD<sup>1</sup>

## Placebo-controlled Phase 2 Study Overview

<b>Inclusion criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Idiopathic PD untreated or treated with MAO-B<sup>2</sup> inhibitor</li> <li>A diagnosis of PD for 2 years or less at screening (not demented / no cognitive impairment)</li> <li>Dopaminergic deficit by DaT SPECT<sup>3</sup></li> </ul>
<b>Study design</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seamless transition                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All participants from Part 1 will contribute to final analysis</li> </ul> </li> <li>Biomarker based interim analyses                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Early immunogenicity to tailor dose and/or dose regimen</li> <li>Understand biological signal for early transition to filing</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Part 1: Safety &amp; PK/PD<sup>4</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key immunogenicity measures</li> <li>Measures of pathological a-syn<sup>5</sup> and a-syn aggregation (phospho-a-syn and a-syn oligomers)</li> </ul>
<b>Part 2: PoC<sup>6</sup> in early PD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motor and Non-Motor Functioning (UPDRS<sup>7</sup> based)</li> <li>Neurodegeneration of dopaminergic terminals (DaT SPECT or VMAT2<sup>8</sup> imaging)</li> <li>Digital biomarkers of motor and non-motor function</li> <li>Advanced MRI (including ASL<sup>9</sup> and DTI<sup>10</sup>)</li> <li>Functional and patient reported outcomes</li> </ul>

## Dosing Schematic



(1) Parkinson's disease; (2) Monoamine Oxidase Type B; (3) Dopamine Transporter Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography; (4) Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics; (5) alpha-synuclein; (6) Proof-of-concept; (7) Unified Parkinson's disease rating scale; (8) Vesicular monoamine transporter 2; (9) Arterial spin labeling; (10) Diffusion tensor imaging

# Summary

1

**Breakthrough in a-syn<sup>1</sup> PET<sup>2</sup> imaging** demonstrates the excellence of our Morphomer<sup>®</sup> platform

2

**a-syn PET tracer distinguished MSA<sup>3</sup>** from healthy controls and other a-synucleinopathies

3

**Effective a-syn PET imaging** to accelerate clinical trials of a-syn therapeutics in biomarker-based studies

4

**Development of next-gen<sup>4</sup> a-syn PET tracers** for other a-synucleinopathies informed by experience in MSA

5

**AC Immune leadership in a-syn and NDD<sup>5</sup>** underscored by broad pipeline of best-in-class agents

Pioneering  
precision medicine  
for neurodegenerative  
diseases

(1) Alpha-synuclein; (2) Positron emission tomography; (3) Multiple system atrophy; (4) Next generation; (5) Neurodegenerative diseases





## Q&A

Andrea Pfeifer, PhD, Chief Executive Officer