

Expert Event

Advances in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease

– Small molecule **Gamma-Secretase Modulators (GSMs)** as promising disease-modifying treatments

PRESENTED BY

Henrik Zetterberg



Professor
University of Gothenburg
University College London

Martin Jönsson



CEO
AlzeCure Pharma

Johan Sandin



CSO
AlzeCure Pharma

Professor Zetterberg will provide an overview of cutting-edge science in the Alzheimer's space & comment on the recent developments

Together with AlzeCure's CEO & CSO Prof. Zetterberg will also discuss the potential impact on the sector including AlzeCure



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Today's presenters



Professor
Henrik Zetterberg
MD, PhD,

- › Professor of Neurochemistry and has a research background in molecular biology and clinical chemistry
- › Professorship both in Gothenburg, Sweden & at University College London, UK
- › Education: MD, PhD from Sahlgrenska Academy, Gothenburg University

EXPERIENCES



CEO
Martin Jönsson

- › Extensive experience in various senior management positions with >25 years of international experience in the pharma & biotech industry
- › Education: MSc in BA from Lund University, Ottawa, Canada & Freiburg, Germany



CSO
Johan Sandin
PhD &
co-founder

- › Expert in in vivo Pharmacology with >20 years experience from the drug discovery Neurology
- › Education: Ph.D. in Neuropharmacology, Karolinska Institutet



Agenda

Advances in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease

- Small molecule **Gamma-Secretase Modulators** (GSMs) as promising disease-modifying treatments
- 15:00 **Welcome address, agenda & company overview**
 - Martin Jönsson, CEO, AlzeCure
- 15:10 **Alzheimer's disease and the amyloid hypothesis**
 - Professor Henrik Zetterberg¹, MD, PhD, Gothenburg University & University College London
- 15:50 **Alzstatin: a small molecule disease-modifying therapy against Alzheimer's disease**
 - Dr Johan Sandin, PhD, CSO, AlzeCure
- 16:05 **Q&A**
- 16:25 **Concluding remarks**
 - Martin Jönsson, CEO, AlzeCure

AlzeCure Pharma
February 19, 2024

AlzeCure Pharma Company Overview

Martin Jönsson, CEO



AlzeCure Pharma – in brief

- Working in **Alzheimer's Disease** (AD) and **Pain** – Huge unmet medical need & multi-billion sales potential
- Spin-out from **AstraZeneca** – as a result of their exit from the CNS area
- Founded in **2016** out of a research foundation sponsored by **Alzheimerfonden**
- Based at Novum Science Park, **Karolinska Institute**, Stockholm, Sweden
- Three project platforms with multiple **small molecule** candidates with **first-in-class properties**
 - **Alzstatin®** – An innovative preventive & disease-modifying treatment against Alzheimer's (AD)
 - **NeuroRestore®** – A novel symptomatic treatment for cognitive disorders, e.g. AD with neuroprotective & disease modifying potential
 - **Painless** – Innovative projects for osteoarthritic & neuropathic pain
- Listed on **Nasdaq First North Premier** Growth Market, **Sweden**, since Nov. 2018 (Ticker: ALZCUR)



A pipeline of small-molecule programs

- Multiple candidates increase chance of success

Platform	Candidate	Target	Indication	Research phase	Preclinical phase	Phase I	Phase II	Phase III
NeuroRestore®	ACD856	Positive allosteric modulator (PAM) of Trk-receptors)	Alzheimer's Disease, TBI - Traumatic brain injuries Parkinson's disease, Sleep disorders, Depression					
Alzstatin®	ACD679	Gamma secretase modulator (GSM)	Alzheimer's Disease					
	ACD680	Gamma secretase modulator (GSM)	Alzheimer's Disease					
PainLess	ACD440	TRPV1 antagonist	Neuropathic Pain					
	ACD137	Negative allosteric modulator (NAM) of TrkA-receptors	Osteoarthritic Pain & other severe pain conditions					

Positive read-out Phase I trial

Safety, Tolerability & Target engagement

Selected new additional CD

ACD680

Positive read-out Phase IIa

Safety, Tolerability & Pain

Selected new CD

ACD137

Phase completed

Phase ongoing



Progress & Increased Activity in the Alzheimer's field

Scientific validation & de-risking

- Validation of treatment approach: - Amyloid protein targeting
- Positive out-comes in clinical trials: - incl in phase III + approvals
- Vastly improved biomarkers & diagnostics identifying patients
=> *Increased probability of success in future studies*

Increased investments

- Additional Big Pharma companies entering & re-entering the field
- More funds and private equity investment in Alzheimer's companies & projects

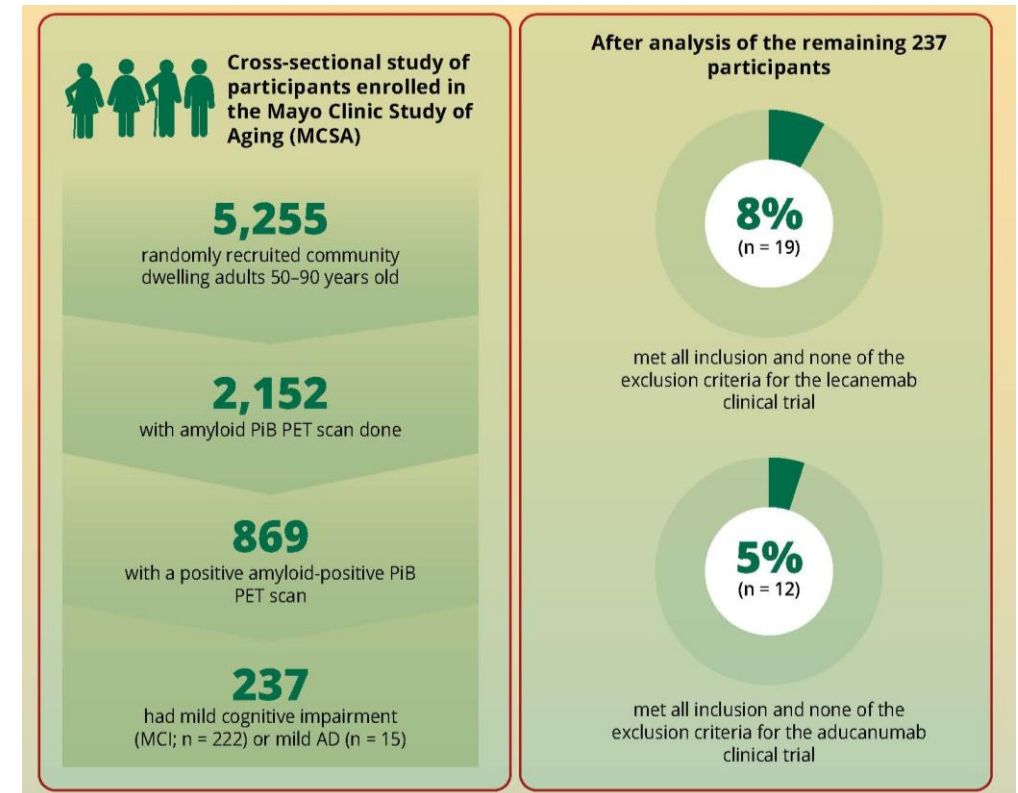
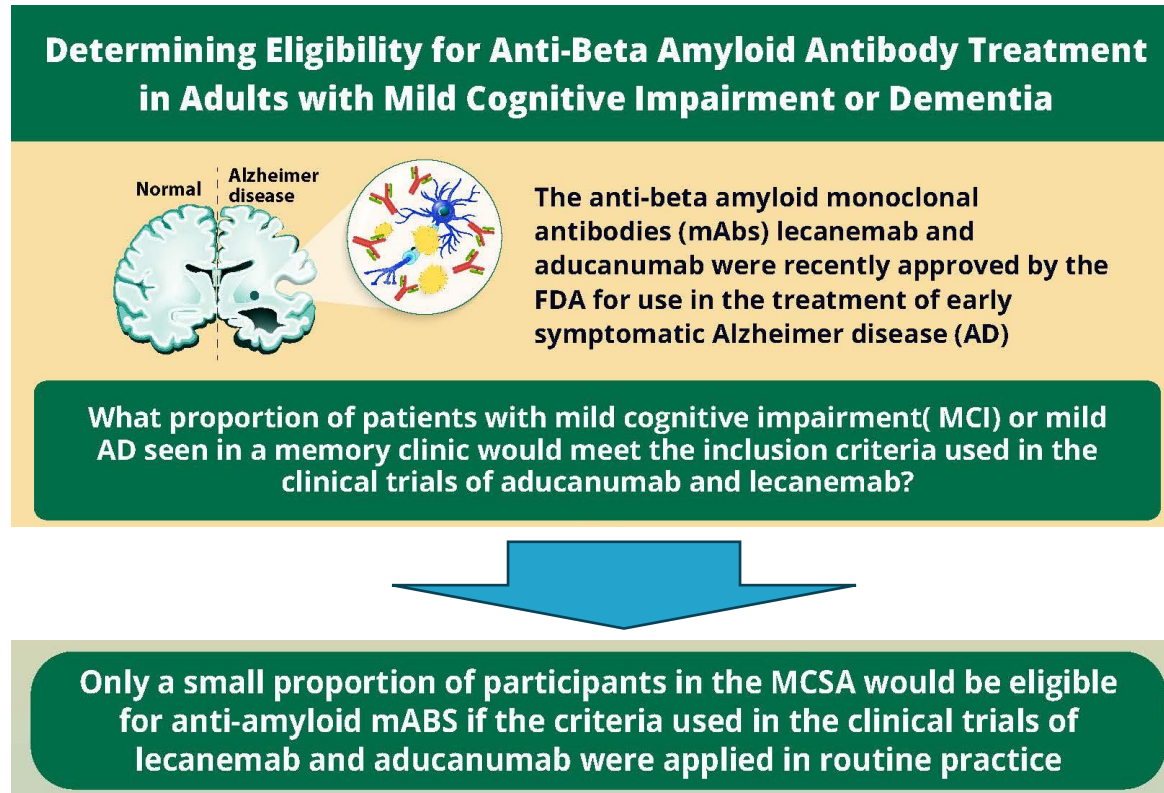
However ...

Still No Curative or Cognitive Enhancing Treatments

against Alzheimer's have so far not been developed



Only 5-8% of Alzheimer's patients* are estimated to be eligible for anti-bodies treatment



- Huge unmet medical need remains for alternative Alzheimer's treatments

Two Alzheimer's platforms - 1st-in-class properties & potential game-changers

MEETING NEEDS OF AD PATIENTS – ADDRESSING SHORT TERM NEEDS WITH LONG-TERM BENEFITS

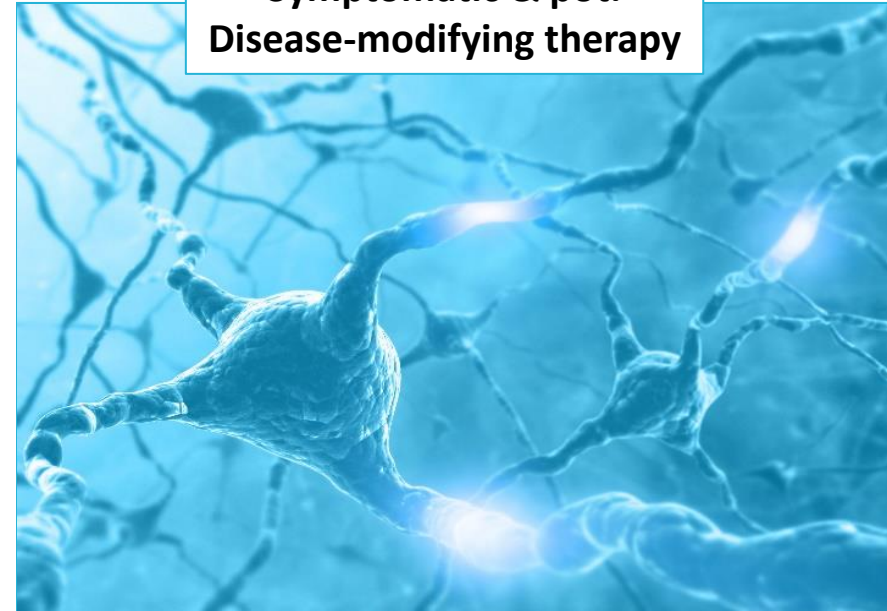
Preventive Disease-modifying therapy



Alzstatin[®]

Gamma-secretase modulator
Targeting Amyloid Production
- Novel Oral Small Molecule

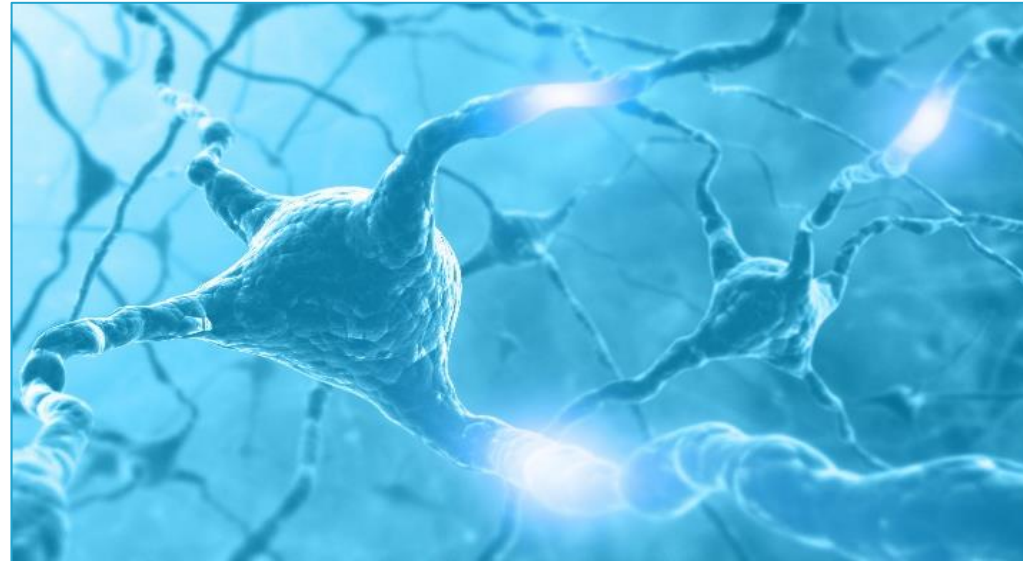
Symptomatic & pot.
Disease-modifying therapy



NeuroRestore[®]

Trk-PAM
Improving Neuronal & Cognitive Function
- Novel Oral Small Molecule

Improving Learning & Memory Capabilities



NeuroRestore[®]

Trk-PAM

Improving Neuronal Function & Cognition

- Novel Oral Small Molecule

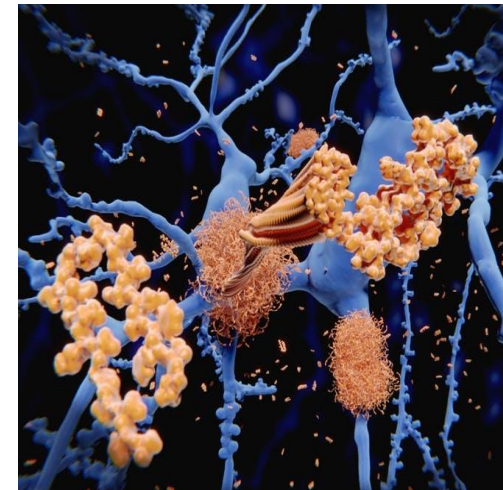
Shown safety, tolerability & target
engagement in clinical trial phase 1

=> Preparation for phase 2



The Relevance of BDNF & NGF Signaling in Alzheimer's

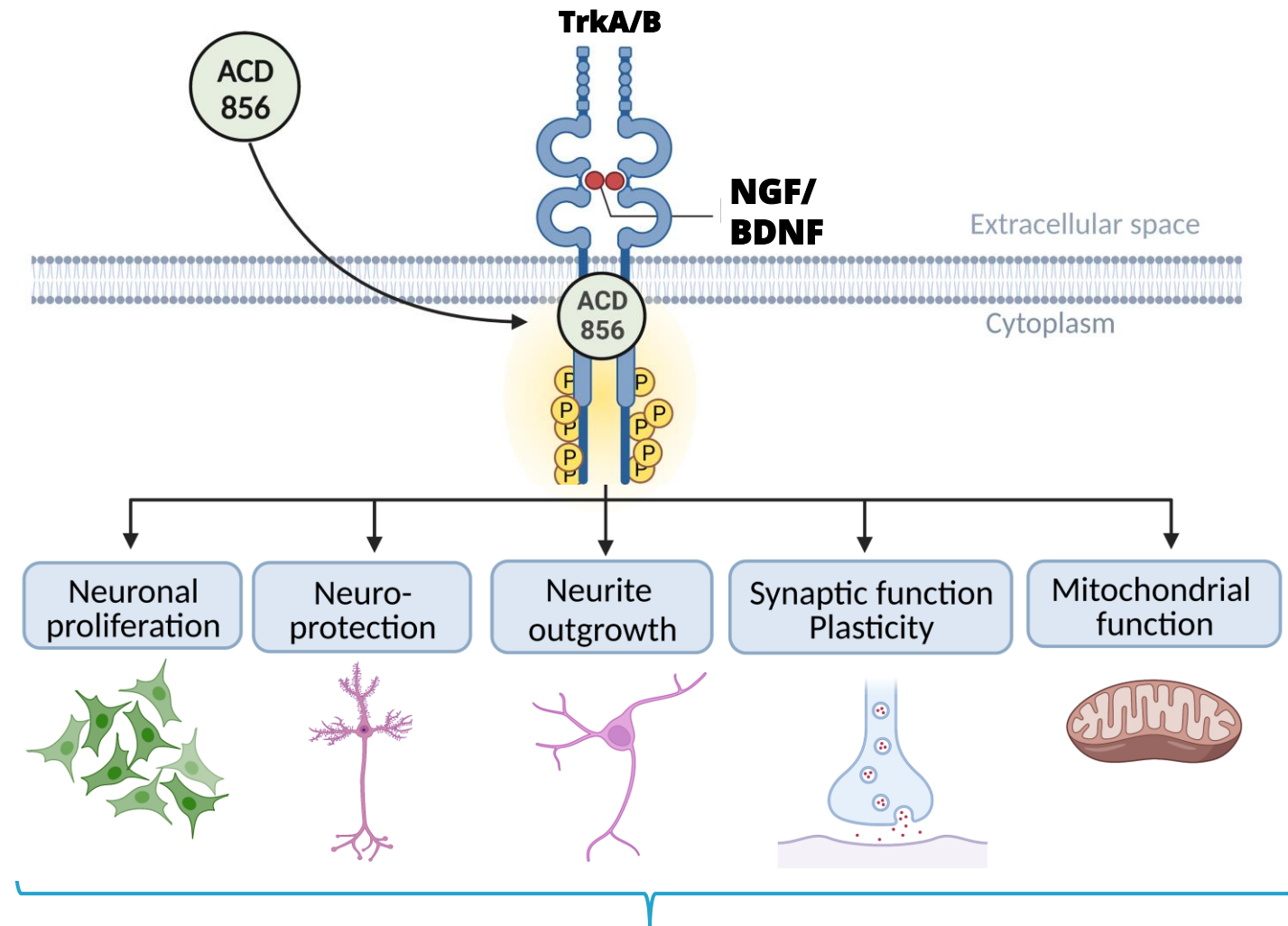
- The neurotrophins Brain-Derived Neurotrophic Factor (BDNF) and Nerve Growth Factor (NGF) are **key for brain health and cognition**
- BDNF& NGF bind to their respective receptors, TrkB and TrkA
- BDNF& NGF signaling are implicated in several key neuronal functions, including **cholinergic function**, hippocampal neurogenesis and **synaptic plasticity**
- **Loss of NGF-dependent cholinergic neurons** in the basal forebrain and hippocampal atrophy are early hallmarks of Alzheimer's disease and **correlates with cognitive decline**
- **Certain genetics** in man, like the BDNF-Val66Met polymorphism, leads to **lower levels of BDNF**, and is associated with **more rapid cognitive impairment** and **increased disease progression** in Alzheimer's



Reduced BDNF and/or NGF-levels could limit the brain's ability to withstand pathological conditions

ACD856 - MoA & data supports Disease Modifying Potential

- ACD856 is a novel small molecule positive modulator of Trk-receptors **enhancing the signaling** of neurotrophins such as **NGF & BDNF**
- The enhanced signaling leads to immediate **symptomatic effects** & with potential **long-term benefits**
- The long-term effects of ACD856 could include **improved neuronal function, increased mitochondrial function & enhanced cognition, etc**



Parrado Fernandez C et al. *Int J Mol Sci.* 2023 Jul 6;24(13):11159.
<https://doi.org/10.3390/ijms241311159>

**Potential for Disease Modifying Effect +
Improved Learning, Memory & Depression**



ACD856 – Preclinical Data Suggests Disease Modification Effects

ACD856:

- Induces **neurite outgrowth** in PC12 cells at concentrations similar to what is found in CSF in the MAD study
- **Increases levels of synaptic markers** in PC12 cells
- Leads to **increased phosphorylation** of Trk-receptors
- **Improves mitochondrial function** and is **neuroprotective** in an energy-deprived neurotoxicity assay
- **Enhances synaptic plasticity** in the hippocampus – an area critically involved in cognitive function
- Demonstrates **long-term plasticity effects** after repeated dosing

Data Suggest a Disease Modifying Effect, Mediated by Increased Plasticity that Could Explain the Pro-Cognitive & Anti-Depressant Effects

TrkA-PAM by Eisai: Disease-Modifying Therapy for Neurodegenerative Diseases

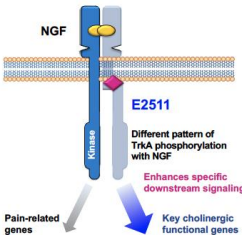
FIRST-IN-HUMAN (FIH), SINGLE- AND MULTIPLE-ASCENDING-DOSE (SAD/MAD) STUDIES IN HEALTHY SUBJECTS OF E2511, A NOVEL TROPOMYOSIN RECEPTOR KINASE A (TrkA) POSITIVE ALLOSTERIC MODULATOR (PAM)

Pau Aceves¹, Nancy Hall², Cuiyuan Cai³, Jagadeesh Aluri², Satish Dayal¹, Takuya Yagi², Julia Chang², Masaki Mikamoto³, Garth E. Ringheim², Tomioka Takesuya³, Naoki Hiramatsu³, Robert Gordon¹, Luigi Giorgi¹
1. Eisai Ltd., Hatfield, United Kingdom. 2. Eisai Inc., Nutley, NJ, USA. 3. Eisai Co, Ltd., Tsukuba, Japan.

Introduction

- Cholinergic innervation is affected early in multiple neurodegenerative diseases and correlates with cognitive dysfunction^{1,2}
 - The progressive senescence and eventual loss of cholinergic neurons in Alzheimer's disease (AD) is correlated with cognitive impairment
- Nerve growth factor (NGF) plays a major role in the maintenance and function of cholinergic neurons⁴ (see Figure 1)

Figure 1. Activation of specific trophic signaling of TrkA



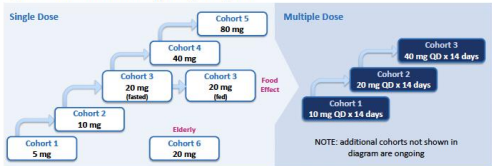
- Activation of NGF-induced trophic signaling via TrkA has potential as a disease modifying therapy to restore cholinergic innervation in neurodegenerative diseases, including AD^{5,6}
- E2511 is a novel orally bioavailable small molecule TrkA biased PAM that has shown reinnervative effects on cholinergic neurons in nonclinical studies without NGF-associated hyperalgesia

Methods

- The main objectives of the E2511 FIH Phase 1 studies (SAD [completed] and MAD [ongoing]) are to evaluate the safety, tolerability and pharmacokinetics (PK) in healthy subjects
- Both SAD and MAD are randomized, double-blind and placebo-controlled studies
- The SAD evaluated 5 cohorts in adults and one cohort in elderly subjects (Figure 2); food effect was also evaluated in Cohort 3
- Repeat dosing with E2511 (once daily for 14 days) is currently under evaluation in the MAD study (3 cohorts completed; Figure 2)
- Safety was evaluated through the review of adverse events, physical examinations, clinical laboratory tests, vital signs, electrocardiogram and electroencephalograms
- Serial blood samples were collected for determination of plasma E2511 concentrations
- In MAD Cohorts 1 to 4, CSF was collected via lumbar puncture (LP) for PK/PD assessments in two occasions (1 predose and 1 postdose)

Methods (continued)

Figure 2. SAD and MAD Study Design Diagram



Results

Subjects

- A total of 40 and 24 healthy adult subjects have been dosed in the SAD and MAD studies, respectively (Table 1); and 5 Elderly subjects (3 E2511: 2 placebo) in the SAD

Table 1. SAD and MAD Baseline Subject Characteristics

	Single Dose							Multiple Dose						
	EZS11							EZS11						
	Placebo N=10	5 mg N=6	10 mg N=6	20 mg N=6	40 mg N=6	80 mg N=6	EZS11 Total N=43	Total N=43	Placebo N=6	10 mg N=6	20 mg N=6	40 mg N=6	EZS11 Total N=18	Total N=24
Age, mean years (SD)	34 (9)	38 (13)	40 (13)	34 (8)	35 (9)	36 (9)	36 (10)	36 (10)	45 (5.8)	27 (4)	36 (9)	32 (5)	32 (7)	35 (8)
Female, %	40	50	33	17	33	33	33	35	0	33	50	33	39	29
Race, %														
White	70	67	67	33	67	100	67	68	33	50	67	17	44	42
Black or African American	20	33	33	50	17	0	27	25	67	17	0	67	28	38
Asian	10	0	0	0	17	0	3	5	0	33	17	17	22	17
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	0	17	0	0	3	3	0	0	17	0	6	4
Weight, mean kg (SD)	71 (12)	73 (14)	75 (14)	71 (13)	76 (14)	72 (9)	73 (12)	72 (12)	84 (13)	76 (16)	74 (12)	73 (10)	74 (13)	77 (13)
BMI, mean kg/m ² (SD)	25 (3)	25 (2)	25 (3)	24 (4)	26 (1)	25 (4)	25 (3)	25 (3)	26 (3)	25 (4)	25 (4)	25 (3)	25 (4)	25 (4)

Safety

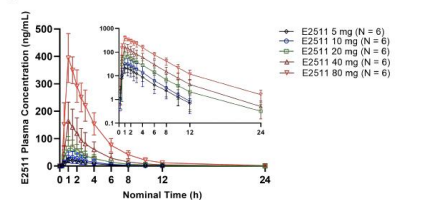
- Single and multiple oral (PO) doses of E2511 were safe and well-tolerated across the investigated doses in adult and elderly healthy subjects
- Most common (≥2) treatment-emergent adverse event (TEAE) in the SAD was contact dermatitis (same incidence in active and placebo-treated subjects [10%])
- Most common (≥2) TEAEs in the MAD were post-LP syndrome, headache, back pain and nausea; generally thought to be related to the LP procedures
- No subjects were withdrawn due to drug-related safety events
- There were no dose dependent, serious or severe TEAEs
- There were no clinically significant changes in the evaluated safety parameters (safety laboratory, vital signs, ECG, EEG and physical exam) on E2511 compared to placebo
- SAD exposure-response analyses confirmed no effects on the Holter ECG parameters, including HR, cardiac repolarization (QTcF), and cardiac conduction (PR, QRS)

Results (continued)

SAD: E2511 Clinical Pharmacokinetic Results

- Rapidly absorbed (t_{max} : 1 hour); with a plasma half-life of 3.19 hours (Figure 3)
- Plasma exposures (C_{max} and AUC) increased dose proportionally over the dose range of 5 to 80 mg (power model exponent [90% CI]: 1.09 [0.92, 1.25] for C_{max} and 1.08 [0.91, 1.25] for AUC_{0-24h})

Figure 3. SAD: E2511 Plasma Concentration-Time Profiles and PK Parameters



Parameter (SD)	5 mg/kg (n=6)	10 mg/kg (n=6)	20 mg/kg (n=6)	40 mg/kg (n=6)	80 mg (n=6)
C_{max} ng/mL	21.5 (40.8)	29.9 (59.0)	63.7 (53.8)	156 (50.8)	402 (38.2)
t_{max} hours ¹	1.0 (1.0, 1.5)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)	1.3 (1.0, 3.1)	1.0 (0.6, 1.5)	1.1 (1.0, 1.5)
AUC _{0-24h} h·ng/mL	75.6 (43.9)	97.5 (91.8)	222 (55.7)	497 (55.1)	1400 (23.5)
AUC _{0-∞} h·ng/mL	75.9 (44.1)	97.8 (92.2)	223 (55.9)	500 (55.2)	1410 (23.6)
CL/F, L/h	65.9 (44.0)	102 (32.2)	89.7 (55.9)	80.2 (55.2)	56.8 (23.7)
V _d /L	249 (44.9)	401 (57.2)	420 (37.1)	407 (52.4)	314 (26.5)
$t_{1/2}$ hours	2.61 (39.6)	2.72 (40.5)	3.25 (29.4)	3.52 (8.38)	3.83 (8.79)

Geometric mean (NCV) values shown unless otherwise noted.

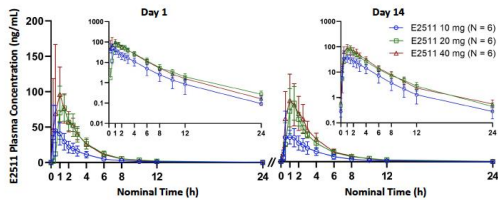
1: Median (range)

- Food (standardized high-fat, high calorie meal) led to a decrease of 19% in C_{max} and 15% in AUC compared to fasted conditions (at a dose of 20 mg)
- Plasma exposures in elderly and younger adult subjects were deemed comparable (at a dose of 20 mg), as Elderly plasma PK exposures (N=3) were fully contained within the observed range of younger adults (N=6, at same dose)

MAD: E2511 Clinical Pharmacokinetic Results

- There was little or no accumulation observed following 14 days of dosing (Figure 4)
- There was no evidence of time dependent-kinetics

Figure 4. MAD: E2511 Plasma Concentration-Time Profiles and PK Parameters



Parameter (SD)	10 mg QD		20 mg QD		40 mg QD	
	Day 1 (n=6)	Day 14 (n=6)	Day 1 (n=6)	Day 14 (n=5)	Day 1 (n=6)	Day 14 (n=6)
C_{max} ng/mL	47.4 (88)	81.7 (50.2)	86.1 (32.3)	91.8 (22.3)	110 (59.9)	95.0 (35.9)
t_{max} hours ¹	1.0 (0.3, 1.5)	1.0 (0.5, 2.5)	1.3 (1.0, 1.5)	1.0 (0.5, 1.5)	1.0 (0.5, 2.0)	1.0 (0.5, 2.0)
AUC _{0-24h} ng·h/mL	116 (57.1)	140 (24.6)	247 (22.7)	271 (16.2)	276 (34.6)	309 (30.8)
CL/F, L/h	85.7 (57.4)	71.7 (24.6)	80.4 (22.8)	73.7 (16.2)	145 (34.7)	129 (30.8)
V _d /L	355 (43.3)	478 (26.7)	431 (20.7)	448 (20.9)	682 (25.4)	792 (39.0)
$t_{1/2}$ hours	2.87 (46.9)	4.63 (19.2)	3.72 (20.8)	4.21 (12.7)	3.27 (31.0)	4.25 (17.8)
R_{ss} C _{max} ²	N/A	1.06 (132)	N/A	0.997 (48.3)	N/A	0.863 (34.9)
R_{ss} AUC ³	N/A	1.2 (37.8)	N/A	1.03 (25.2)	N/A	1.12 (19.1)
Res ⁴	N/A	1.2 (38.1)	N/A	1.02 (25.1)	N/A	1.12 (19.1)

Geometric mean (NCV) values shown unless otherwise noted. N/A: not applicable.

1: Median (range).

2: R_{ss} C_{max}: Accumulation ratio determined based on C_{max} [Day 14]/ C_{max} [Day 1].

3: R_{ss} AUC: Accumulation ratio determined based on AUC_{0-24h} [Day 14]/AUC_{0-24h} [Day 1].

4: R_{ss} Time dependency ratio was determined based on AUC_{0-24h} [Day 14]/AUC_{0-24h} [Day 1].

Conclusions

- E2511 presents an adequate single and multiple dose safety profile in healthy adults up to the currently highest evaluated doses (80 mg PO in SAD; 40 mg QD PO in MAD)
- E2511 has shown predictable single and multiple dose PK with a short plasma half-life that is consistent with human PK projections based on non-clinical data
 - Dose-proportional plasma PK over the dose range of 5 to 80 mg (in the SAD) and time-invariant PK (up to at least 40 mg QD in the MAD)
 - Mild effect of food on rate and extent of plasma E2511 exposure supports dosing without regard to food
 - Plasma E2511 exposures (C_{max} , AUC) in a small group of elderly subjects suggest there is no need for dose adjustment in the target population
- These results support further development of E2511 as a disease-modifying therapy for neurodegenerative diseases

References

- Ferreira-Vieira TH, et al. Curr Neuropharmacol. 2016;14(1):101-15. 2. Hampel H, et al. Brain. 2018;141(7):1917-33. 3. Mufson EJ, et al. Expert Rev Neurother. 2008;8(11):1703-18. 4. Ginsberg SD, et al. J Neurochem. 2006;97(2):475-87. 5. Hefti F. J Neurosci. 1986;6(8):2155-62. 6. Hagg T, et al. Exp Neurol. 1988;101:303-12. 7. Hilgert M, et al. Neurochem Res. 2003;28:467-72. 8. Wu K, et al. Brain Res. 2005;1061:107-13.

Acknowledgments

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If you have any questions about this poster, please email or call Eisai Medical Information at EMI_Medinfo@eisai.com or 888-274-2378

The data is
**validating &
increasing
interest in
NeuroRestore**

” These results support further development of E2511 as a
disease-modifying therapy for neurodegenerative diseases”



AlzeCure's ACD856 in Comparison to Eisai's E2511

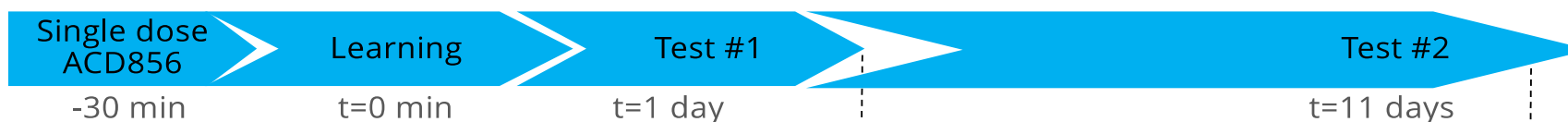
	Eisai E2511	AlzeCure NeuroRestore ACD856
Mechanism of Action	Positive allosteric modulator	Positive allosteric modulator
Target	TrkA	TrkA, TrkB and TrkC
Type	Novel small molecule (<400 Da)	Novel small molecule (<400 Da)
IP	Patent granted	Granted patent in US, Japan, EU, and several other territories are processing applications
Stage of dev.	Phase I: SAD/MAD, half-life = 3.2 h	Phase I: SAD/MAD, half-life = 19 h
Effect on neurite outgrowth	No, not reported	Yes, in two different in vitro models
Neuroprotective	Yes, in two in vivo models	Yes, in two in vitro models
Effect on neuro-transmitters	Yes ACh	Yes Serotonin, noradrenaline and dopamine
Effect on cognition	Not reported	Yes, cognitive enhancement in several models
Effect on depression	Not reported	Yes, anti-depressant & long-term effects + additive to SSRI

ACD856 – Evidence of Improvements to Learning & Memory

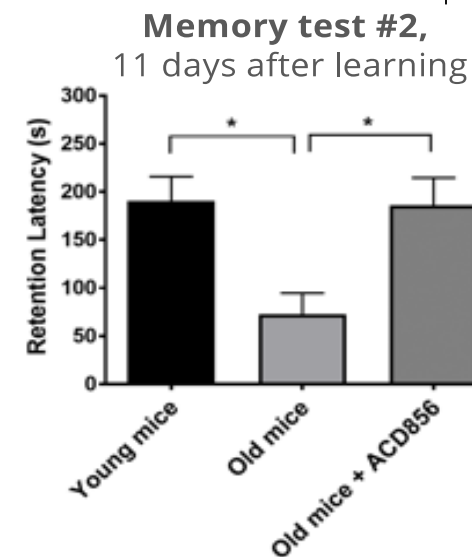
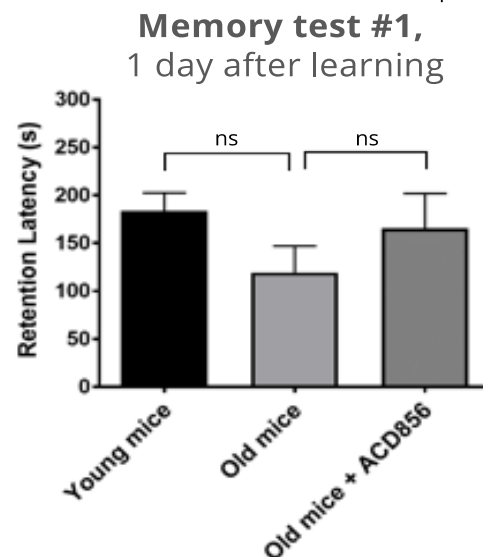
Stages of memory formation



ACD856 has shown in preclinical models the capacity to improve the ability to learn and remember information

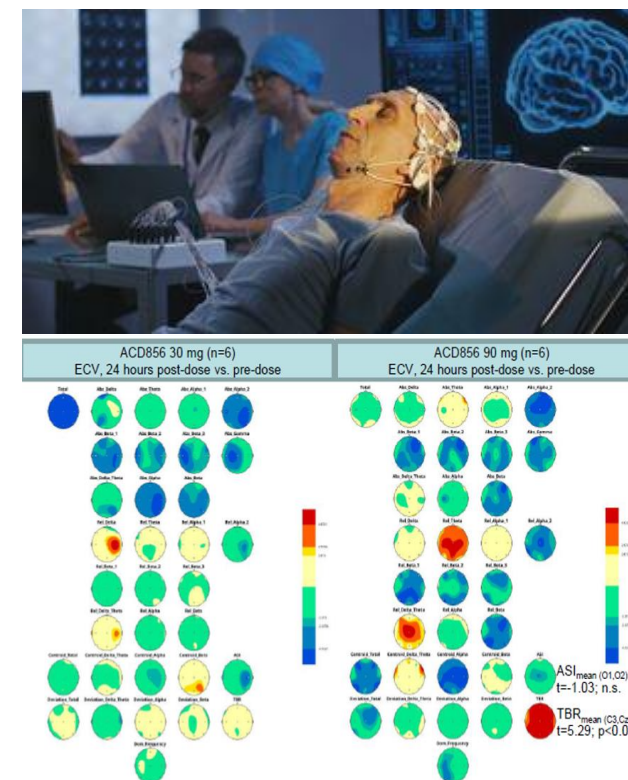


ACD856 improves age-induced memory impairment in 18-month-old animals to the level of young animals



Phase I Study Summary

- ACD856 is **safe & well tolerated**
 - Single and repeated dosing with ACD856 did not result in any serious adverse events in healthy volunteers at the tested dose levels
- ACD856 has an **excellent PK profile** suitable for **once daily** oral dosing
 - ACD856 has a rapid absorption, a long half-life of ~ 20 hours, high bioavailability and a linear dose-dependent exposure
- ACD856 **present in CSF** with a ratio of ACD856 in CSF to unbound average ACD856 levels in plasma at **> 37%**
 - **ACD856 pass the BBB** and measured concentrations in CSF confirms a **high exposure** at the level of the brain
- ACD856 MAD qEEG results shows clear **CNS target engagement**
 - EEG pattern supports pro-cognitive as well as antidepressant effects of ACD856



Vigilance control brain maps for 30 and 90 mg cohorts

=> Being prepared for ph 2



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Alzheimer's and the amyloid cascade hypothesis

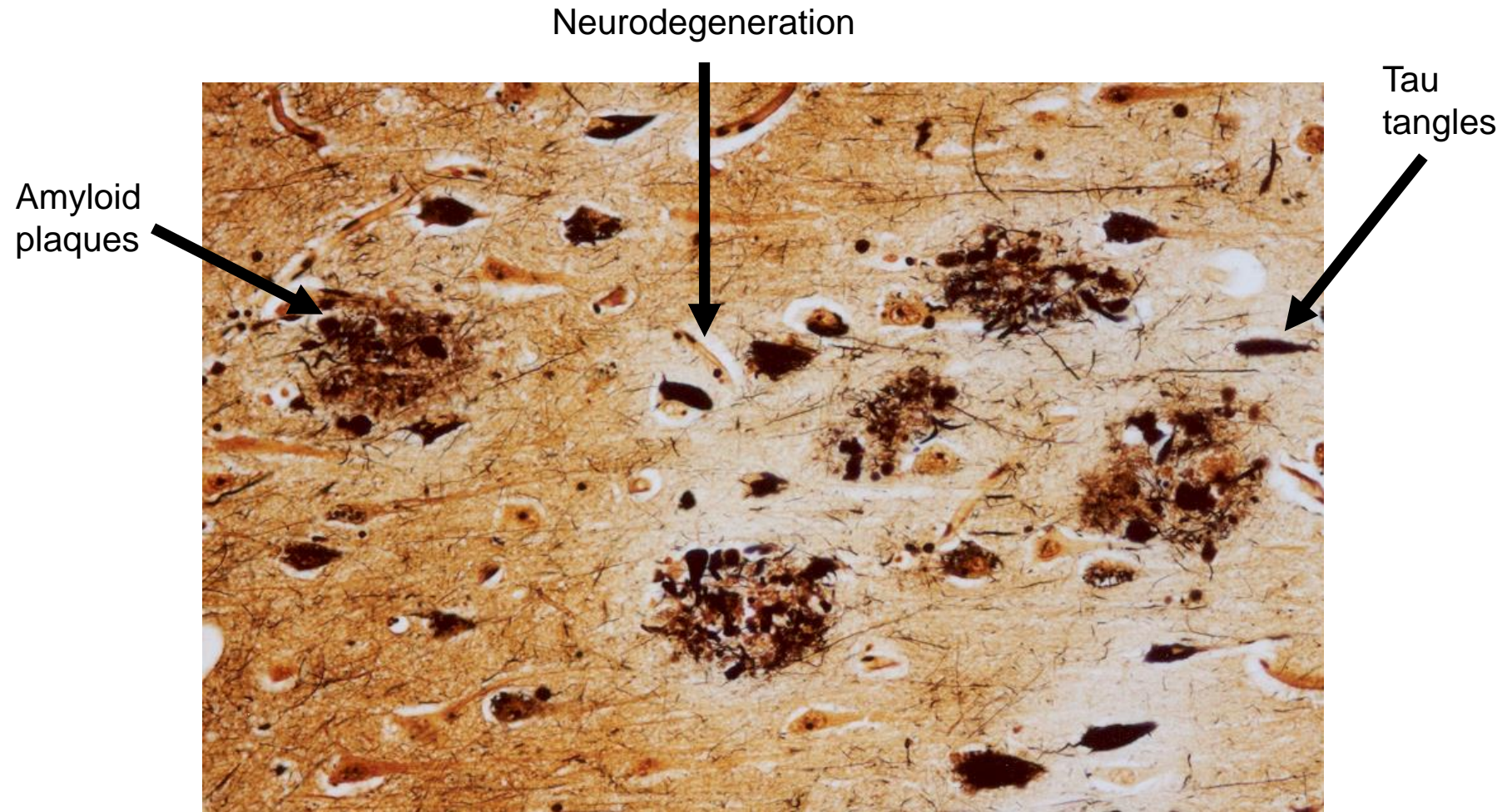
Henrik Zetterberg, MD, PhD

Professor of Neurochemistry

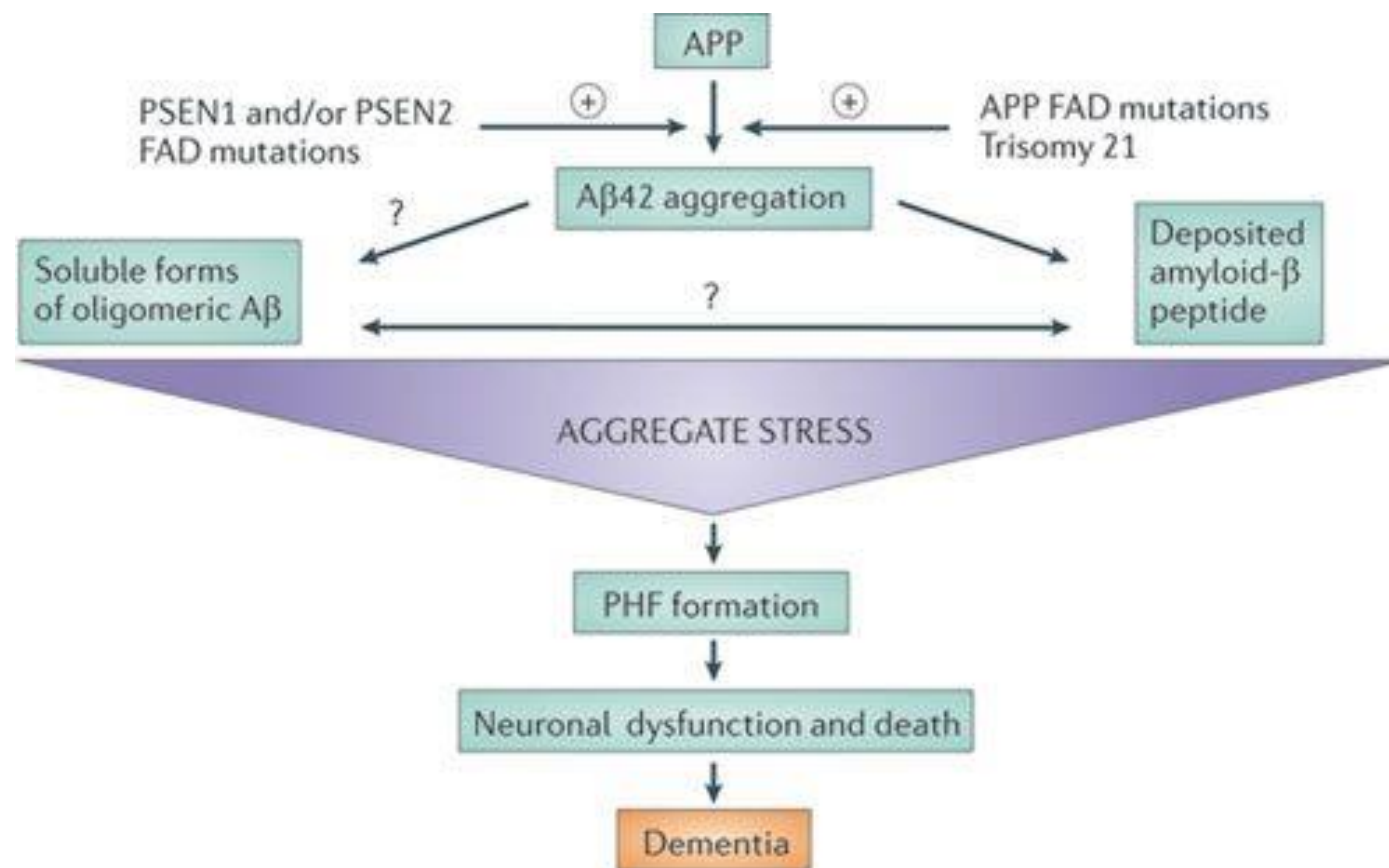
University of Gothenburg and University College London

The Sahlgrenska Academy

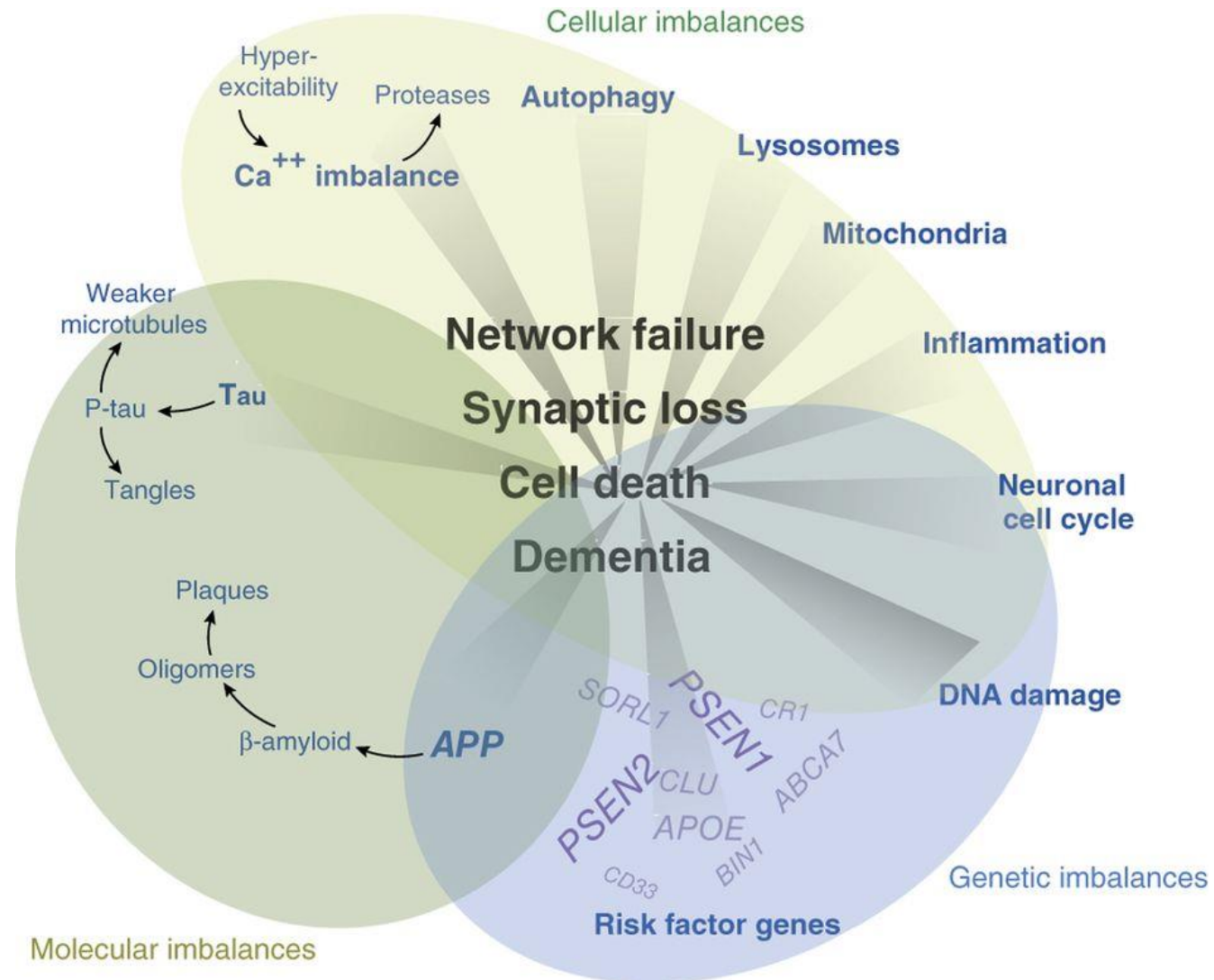
The neuropathology of Alzheimer's disease



The amyloid cascade hypothesis on Alzheimer's disease – still viable?



The amyloid cascade hypothesis on Alzheimer's disease – still viable?



Risk factors for Alzheimer's disease

High age	key risk factor	
APOE ε4 allele	heterozygote	3-4 times increase in risk
	homozygote	10-12 times increased risk
Diabetes mellitus	Relative risk 1.46	95% CI 1.20 – 1.77
Mid-life hypertension	Relative risk 1.61	95% CI 1.16 – 2.24
Mid-life obesity	Relative risk 1.60	95% CI 1.34 – 1.92
Physical inactivity	Relative risk 1.82	95% CI 1.19 – 2.78
Smoking	Relative risk 1.59	95% CI 1.15 – 2.20



unv.is/

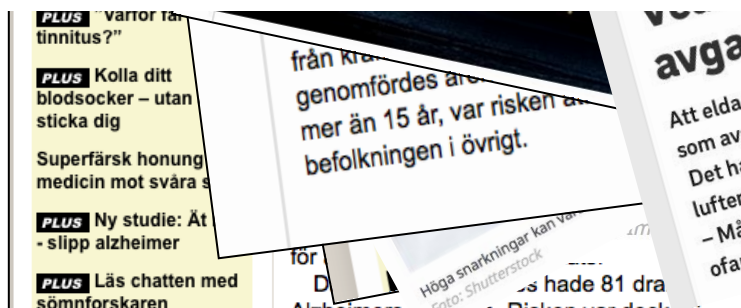
expressen.se/halsoliv/inloggad/daglig-bastu-minskar-risken-for-alzheimers

Daglig bastu minskar risken för Alzheimers

Source: <http://expressen.se/halsoliv/inloggad/daglig-bastu-minskar-risken-for-alzheimers>

 [Show more from expressen.se](#)

Det är första gången som sambandet mellan bastuba medelålders män från östra Finland och resultatet är r



Stjärnkock: "Nudlar ger alzheimers"

Publicerad 1 okt 2010 kl 10.03, uppdaterad kl 10.06



AD pathology can be identified using biomarkers

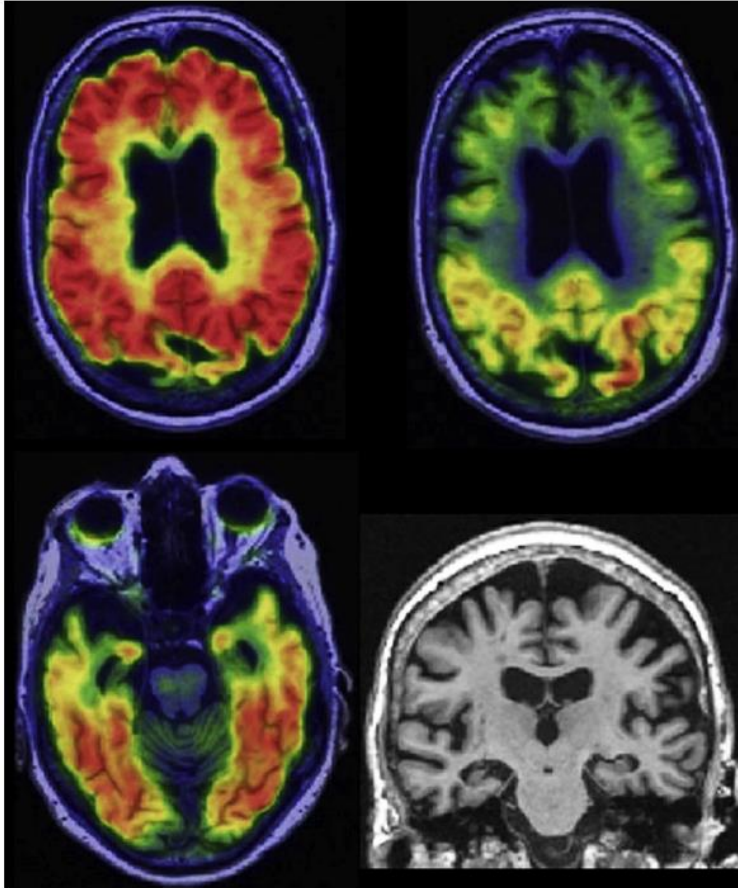
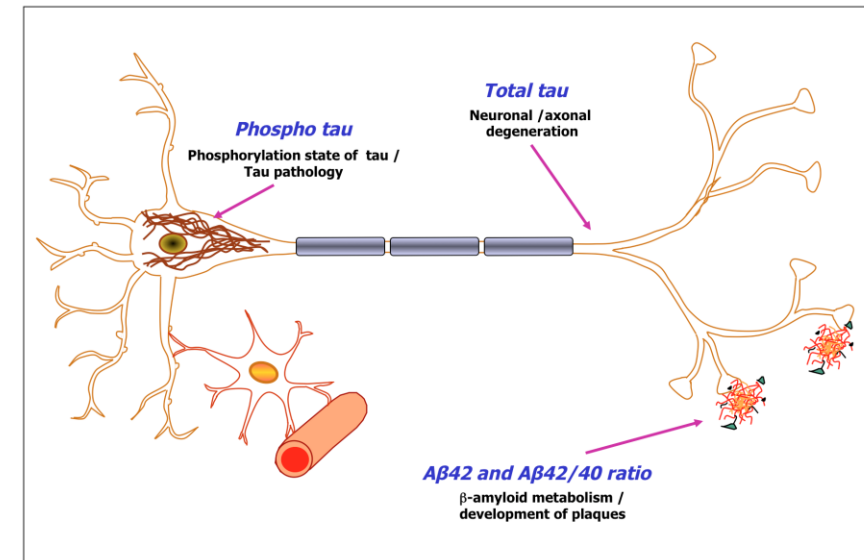
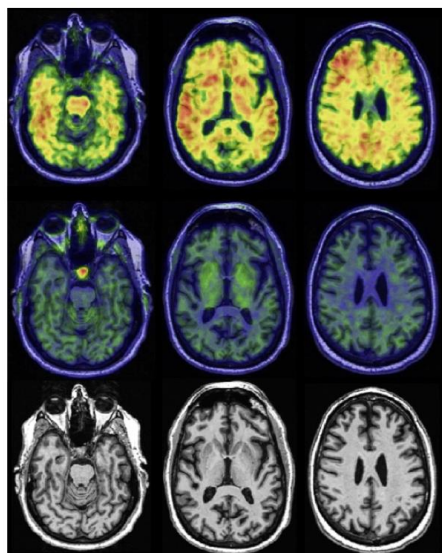


Fig. 1. Alzheimer's disease with dementia. A 75-year-old woman with amnesic multidomain dementia. Participant in the Mayo Alzheimer's Disease Research Center. Abnormal amyloid PET with Pittsburgh compound B (top left), tau PET with flortaucipir (top right and bottom left), and atrophy on MRI (bottom right). Biomarker profile A+T+(N)+.



		Cognitive stage		
		Cognitively Unimpaired	Mild Cognitive Impairment	Dementia
Biomarker Profile	A ⁻ T(N) ⁻	normal AD biomarkers, cognitively unimpaired	normal AD biomarkers with MCI	normal AD biomarkers with dementia
	A ⁺ T(N) ⁻	Preclinical Alzheimer's pathologic change	Alzheimer's pathologic change with MCI	Alzheimer's pathologic change with dementia
	A ⁺ T ⁺ (N) ⁻	Preclinical Alzheimer's disease	Alzheimer's disease with MCI(Prodromal AD)	Alzheimer's disease with dementia
	A ⁺ T(N) ⁺	Alzheimer's and concomitant suspected non Alzheimer's pathologic change, cognitively unimpaired	Alzheimer's and concomitant suspected non Alzheimer's pathologic change with MCI	Alzheimer's and concomitant suspected non Alzheimer's pathologic change with dementia
	A ⁻ T ⁺ (N) ⁻	non-Alzheimer's pathologic change, cognitively unimpaired	non-Alzheimer's pathologic change with MCI	non-Alzheimer's pathologic change with dementia
	A ⁻ T(N) ⁺			
	A ⁺ T ⁺ (N) ⁺			

- Amyloid and tau pathology (+/- neurodegeneration) = Alzheimer's disease
- Amyloid pathology only = Alzheimer's pathologic change



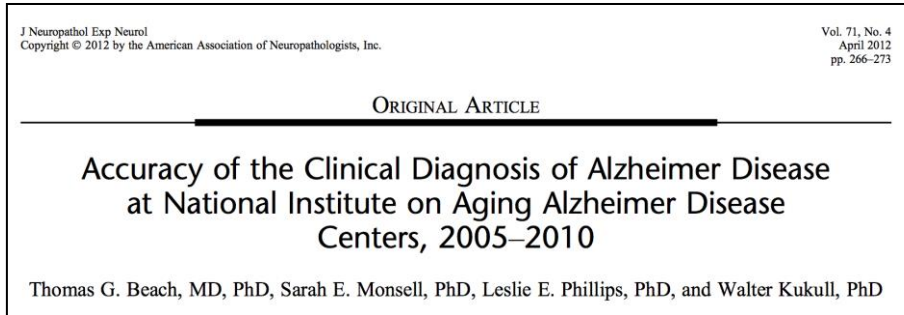
Amyloid PET - positive

Tau PET - negative

MRI - normal

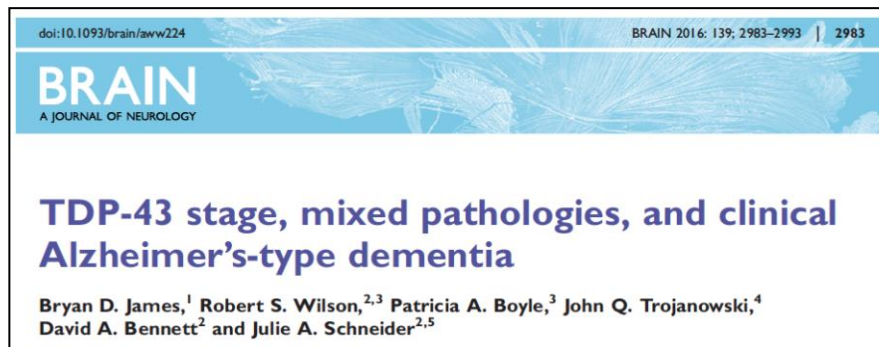
>30% of cognitively unimpaired elderly have brain amyloidosis (preclinical Alzheimer's disease)

Late-onset Alzheimer's disease



	No AD pathology	Yes AD pathology	
No probable AD (clinical)	213	180	NPV=54 %
Probable AD (clinical)	88	438	PPV=83 %
	Specificity = 70.8%	Sensitivity = 70.9%	

- Clinical criteria for AD have poor diagnostic accuracy



- A β - plaques
- PHF-tau – tangles
- TDP-43 inclusions
- α -synuclein / Lewy bodies
- Neuronal and synaptic degeneration
- Microvascular pathology
- Hippocampal sclerosis

- Late-onset Alzheimer-type dementia show multiple pathologies in different combinations

Risk factors for Alzheimer's disease

High age	key risk factor
APOE ε4 allele	heterozygote 3-4 times increase in risk homozygote 10-12 times increased risk

Diabetes mellitus	Relative risk 1.46	95% CI 1.20 – 1.77
Mid-life hypertension	Relative risk 1.61	95% CI 1.16 – 2.24
Mid-life obesity	Relative risk 1.60	95% CI 1.34 – 1.92
Physical inactivity	Relative risk 1.82	95% CI 1.19 – 2.78
Smoking	Relative risk 1.59	95% CI 1.15 – 2.20

Epidemiological studies are not based on biomarkers

- preclinical AD is found in 20-30% of cognitively unimpaired elderly
- pure clinical diagnosis have poor diagnostic accuracy
- late onset AD is heterogeneous with multiple pathologies

→ Risk factors for Alzheimer's disease (= amyloid and tau pathology) ?
Cerebrovascular pathology lowering threshold for AD-type pathology ?
Neurodegeneration in old-age dementia ?

Risk factors for Alzheimer's disease in biomarker studies

Research

JAMA Neurol. doi:10.1001/jamaneurol.2017.0244

JAMA Neurology | Original Investigation

Evaluation of Amyloid Protective Factors and Alzheimer Disease Neurodegeneration Protective Factors in Elderly Individuals

Prashanthi Vemuri, PhD; David S. Knopman, MD; Timothy G. Lesnick, MS; Scott A. Przybelski, BS; Michelle M. Mielke, PhD; Jonathan Graff-Radford, MD; Melissa E. Murray, PhD; Rosebud O. Roberts, MB, ChB, MS; Maria Vassilaki, MD, MPH; Val J. Lowe, MD; Mary M. Machulda, PhD; David T. Jones, MD; Ronald C. Petersen, MD, PhD; Clifford R. Jack Jr, MD

DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS This cohort study conducted a prospective analysis of 942 elderly individuals (70–≥90 years) with magnetic resonance imaging and Pittsburgh compound B–positron emission tomography scans enrolled in the Mayo Clinic Study of Aging, a longitudinal population-based study of cognitive aging in Olmsted County, Minnesota.

Table 2. Characteristics by Amyloid and Neurodegeneration Status for Continuous Variables and Categorical Variables

Characteristic	A–N– (n = 277)	A–N+ (n = 142)	A+N– (n = 274)	A+N+ (n = 249)	P Value ^a	
					A– vs A+	N– vs N+
Intellectual enrichment, mean (SD)						
Education, y	14.5 (2.9)	14.1 (3.0)	14.5 (2.8)	14.1 (2.8)	.68	.14
Job score	3.2 (1.5)	3.3 (1.4)	3.4 (1.5)	3.1 (1.4)	.75	.19
Midlife cognitive activities	20.6 (9.4)	20.5 (9.5)	21.0 (8.5)	21.1 (9.6)	.68	.49
Midlife risk factors						
Physical inactivity, mean (SD)	11.6 (4.3)	11.8 (4.6)	11.8 (4.5)	12.0 (4.8)	.59	.52
Obesity, No. (%)	92 (33)	45 (32)	80 (29)	94 (38)	.11	<.001
Ever smoked, No. (%)	128 (46)	78 (55)	126 (46)	119 (48)	.49	.02
Diabetes, No. (%)	16 (6)	11 (8)	19 (7)	16 (6)	.64	.12
Hypertension, No. (%)	111 (40)	58 (41)	102 (37)	100 (40)	.96	.07
Dyslipidemia, No. (%)	153 (55)	87 (61)	184 (67)	130 (52)	.07	.10

→ The “classical” AD risk factors (low education, midlife cardiovascular disease and smoking) do not confer risk of amyloid pathology, and thus not for Alzheimer’s disease

Drug treatment of Alzheimer's disease



→ Symptomatic drugs / cognitive enhancers

- improve symptoms but no effects on progression of pathology or neurodegeneration

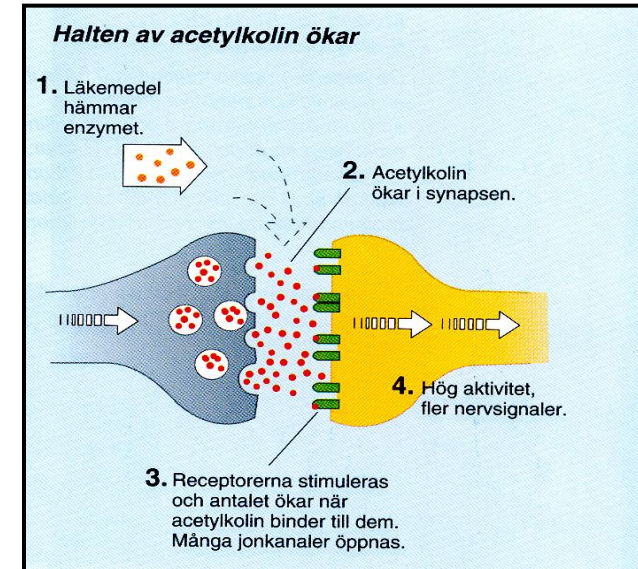
→ Disease-modifying drugs

- designed to target a specific pathophysiology / pathology
- no short-term symptomatic effect, but slowing of progression
- marked focus on anti-amyloid drugs, but recently also on tau

Symptomatic drugs/cognitive enhancers

Acetylcholinesterase inhibitor

- Improves cognition (no effect on underlying disease)
- Mild to moderate AD dementia
- E.g., donepezil, rivastigmine and galantamine

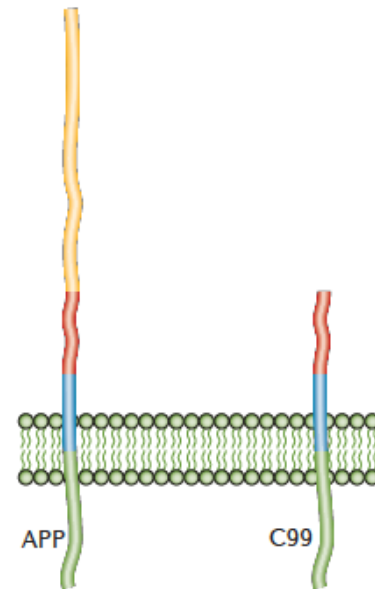


Partial NMDA receptor antagonist

- Moderate to severe AD dementia
- Memantine

Alzheimer's disease

*Colin L. Masters¹, Randall Bateman², Kaj Blennow³, Christopher C. Rowe⁴,
Reisa A. Sperling^{5,6} and Jeffrey L. Cummings⁷*



→ Several anti-amyloid have been tested and are in late stage clinical trials

γ -Secretase inhibitor treatment for Alzheimer's mice

0022-3566/08/3272-411-424\$20.00
THE JOURNAL OF PHARMACOLOGY AND EXPERIMENTAL THERAPEUTICS
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JPET 327:411-424, 2008

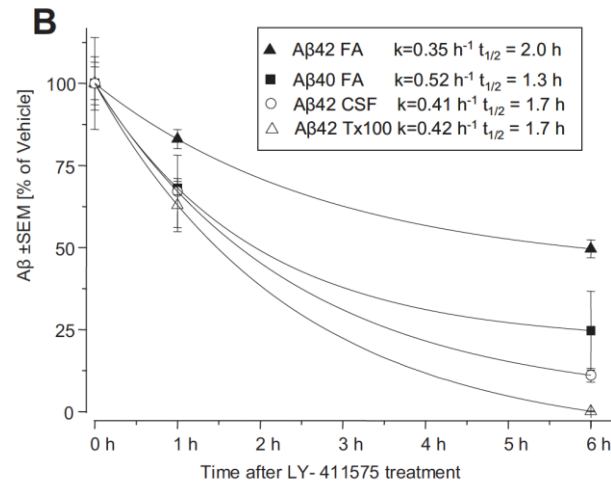
Vol. 327, No. 2
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Printed in U.S.A.

Dynamics of A β Turnover and Deposition in Different β -Amyloid Precursor Protein Transgenic Mouse Models Following γ -Secretase Inhibition[§]

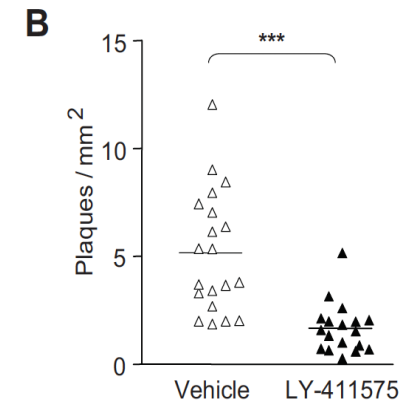
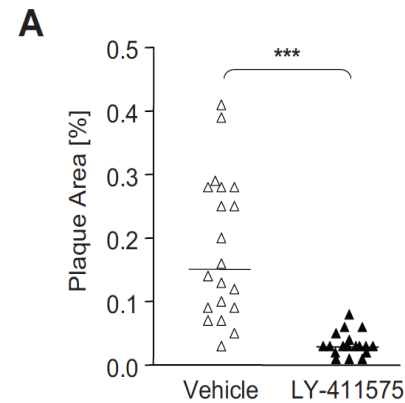
Dorothee Abramowski, Karl-Heinz Wiederhold, Ulrich Furrer, Anne-Lise Jaton, Anton Neuenschwander, Marie-Joséphine Runser, Simone Danner, Julia Reichwald, Domenico Ammaturo, Dieter Staab, Markus Stoeckli, Heinrich Rueeger, Ulf Neumann, and Matthias Staufenbiel

APP24 mice (hAPP, Swedish, and London mutations)
LY-411575 = semagacestat

Acute treatment



9 months of treatment



- Dose-dependent reduction in brain and CSF amyloid levels
- Marked (80%) reductions in amyloid plaque counts

γ -Secretase inhibitor treatment for Alzheimer patients



METHODS

We conducted a double-blind, placebo-controlled trial in which 1537 patients with probable Alzheimer's disease underwent randomization to receive 100 mg of semagacestat, 140 mg of semagacestat, or placebo daily. Changes in cognition from baseline to week 76 were assessed with the use of the cognitive subscale of the Alzheimer's Disease Assessment Scale for cognition (ADAS-cog), on which scores range from 0 to 70 and higher scores indicate greater cognitive impairment, and changes in functioning were assessed with the Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study-Activities of Daily Living (ADCS-ADL) scale, on which scores range from 0 to 78 and higher scores indicate better functioning. A mixed-model repeated-measures analysis was used.

Table 2. Estimated Mean Change from Baseline for the Coprimary and Secondary Outcomes, According to a Mixed-Model Repeated-Measures Analysis.*

Outcome	Placebo	Semagacestat, 100 mg	Semagacestat, 140 mg	P Values	
				Semagacestat, 100 mg, vs. Placebo	Semagacestat, 140 mg, vs. Placebo
ADAS-cog score				0.15	0.07
No. of participants with results	486	483	497		
Mean change in score (95% CI)	6.4 (5.48 to 7.40)	7.5 (6.44 to 8.53)	7.8 (6.72 to 8.85)		
ADCS-ADL†				0.14	<0.001
No. of participants with results	480	481	490		
Mean change in score (95% CI)	-9.0 (-10.37 to -7.67)	-10.5 (-11.94 to -9.07)	-12.6 (-14.1 to -11.2)		
CDR-SB‡				0.06	<0.01
No. of participants with results	485	480	494		
Mean change in score (95% CI)	2.4 (2.06 to 2.67)	2.8 (2.47 to 3.13)	3.1 (2.73 to 3.41)		
NPI§				0.28	0.05
No. of participants with results	473	463	472		
Mean change in score (95% CI)	1.9 (0.69 to 3.12)	2.9 (1.58 to 4.21)	3.7 (2.36 to 5.08)		
MMSE				0.23	0.03
No. of participants with results	400	328	303		
Mean change in score (95% CI)	-3.4 (-3.95 to -2.86)	-3.9 (-4.51 to -3.30)	-4.3 (-4.99 to -3.68)		

CONCLUSIONS

As compared with placebo, semagacestat did not improve cognitive status, and patients receiving the higher dose had significant worsening of functional ability. Semagacestat was associated with more adverse events, including skin cancers and infections. (Funded by Eli Lilly; ClinicalTrials.gov number, NCT00594568.)

➔ Evidence of target engagement and amyloid plaque removal in mice
may not directly translate to disease-modifying effect / clinical benefit in AD patients

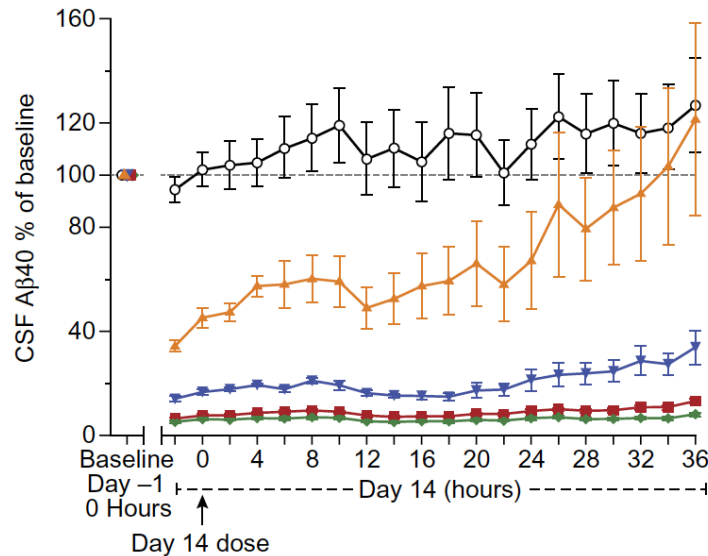
ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

The BACE1 inhibitor verubecestat (MK-8931) reduces CNS β -amyloid in animal models and in Alzheimer's disease patients

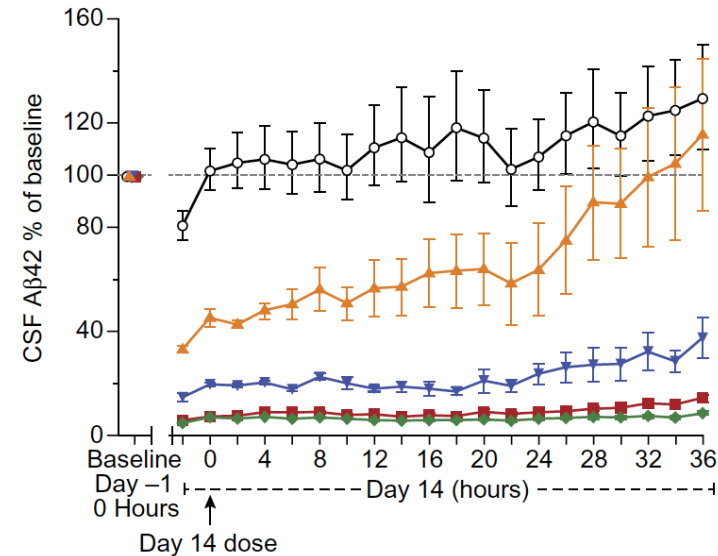
Matthew E. Kennedy,^{1*} Andrew W. Stamford,^{2*} Xia Chen,¹ Kathleen Cox,³ Jared N. Cumming,² Marissa F. Dockendorf,³ Michael Egan,⁴ Larry Ereshefsky,⁵ Robert A. Hodgson,^{1†} Lynn A. Hyde,¹ Stanford Jhee,⁵ Huub J. Kleijn,^{3*} Reshma Kuvelkar,¹ Wei Li,² Britta A. Mattson,⁶ Hong Mei,³ John Palcza,⁷ Jack D. Scott,² Michael Tanen,⁸ Matthew D. Troyer,^{9§} Jack L. Tseng,^{9¶} Julie A. Stone,³ Eric M. Parker,^{1*} Mark S. Forman^{9*}

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American Association
for the Advancement
of Science.

A



B



→ Dose-dependent marked reduction in β -amyloid production with BACE1 inhibitor treatment

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Randomized Trial of Verubecestat for Mild-to-Moderate Alzheimer's Disease

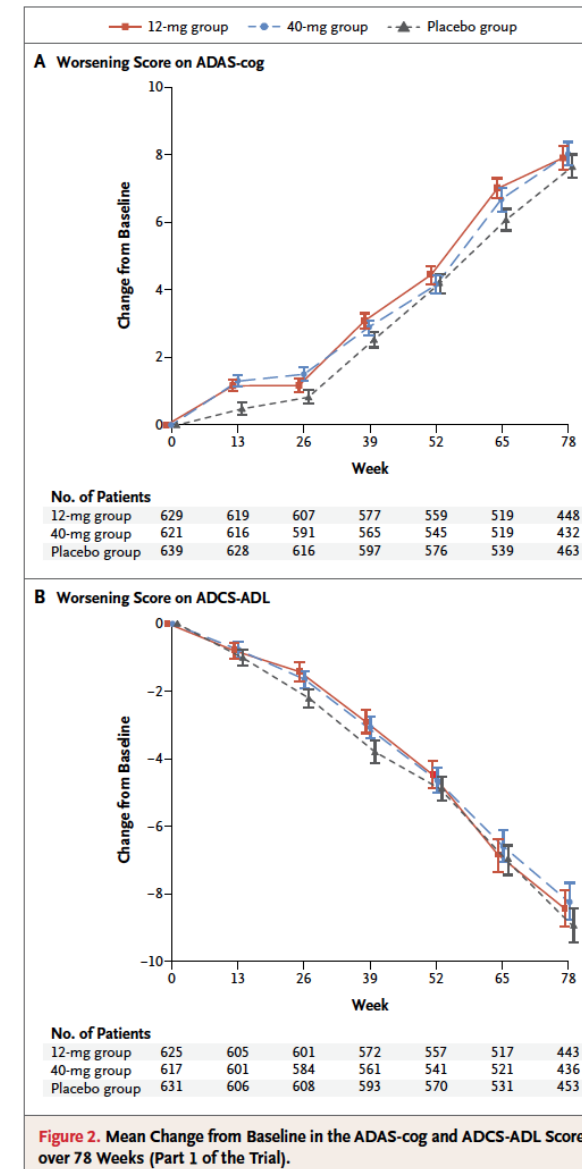
Michael F. Egan, M.D., James Kost, Ph.D., Pierre N. Tariot, M.D., Paul S. Aisen, M.D., Jeffrey L. Cummings, M.D., Sc.D., Bruno Vellas, M.D., Ph.D., Cyrille Sur, Ph.D., Yuki Mukai, M.D., Tiffini Voss, M.D., Christine Furtek, B.S., Erin Mahoney, B.A., Lyn Harper Mozley, Ph.D., Rik Vandenberghe, M.D., Ph.D., Yi Mo, Ph.D., and David Michelson, M.D.

METHODS

We conducted a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, 78-week trial to evaluate verubecestat at doses of 12 mg and 40 mg per day, as compared with placebo, in patients who had a clinical diagnosis of mild-to-moderate Alzheimer's disease. The coprimary outcomes were the change from baseline to week 78 in the score on the cognitive subscale of the Alzheimer's Disease Assessment Scale (ADAS-cog; scores range from 0 to 70, with higher scores indicating worse dementia) and in the score on the Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study Activities of Daily Living Inventory scale (ADCS-ADL; scores range from 0 to 78, with lower scores indicating worse function).

RESULTS

A total of 1958 patients underwent randomization; 653 were randomly assigned to receive verubecestat at a dose of 12 mg per day (the 12-mg group), 652 to receive verubecestat at a dose of 40 mg per day (the 40-mg group), and 653 to receive matching placebo. The trial was terminated early for futility 50 months after onset, which was within 5 months before its scheduled completion, and after enrollment of the planned 1958 patients was complete. The estimated mean change from baseline to week 78 in the ADAS-cog score was 7.9 in the 12-mg group, 8.0 in the 40-mg group, and 7.7 in the placebo group ($P=0.63$ for the comparison between the 12-mg group and the placebo group and $P=0.46$ for the comparison between the 40-mg group and the placebo group). The estimated mean change from baseline to week 78 in the ADCS-ADL score was -8.4 in the 12-mg group, -8.2 in the 40-mg group, and -8.9 in the placebo group ($P=0.49$ for the comparison between the 12-mg group and the placebo group and $P=0.32$ for the comparison between the 40-mg group and the placebo group). Adverse events, including rash, falls and injuries, sleep disturbance, suicidal ideation, weight loss, and hair-color change, were more common in the verubecestat groups than in the placebo group.

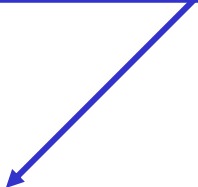


➔ Evidence of target engagement may not directly translate to disease-modifying effect / clinical benefit

Lack of clinical effect and/or side effects (among others, cognitive worsening) have made researchers and companies afraid of gamma- and beta-secretase as drug targets

Two (at least) options remain viable and in need of further study:

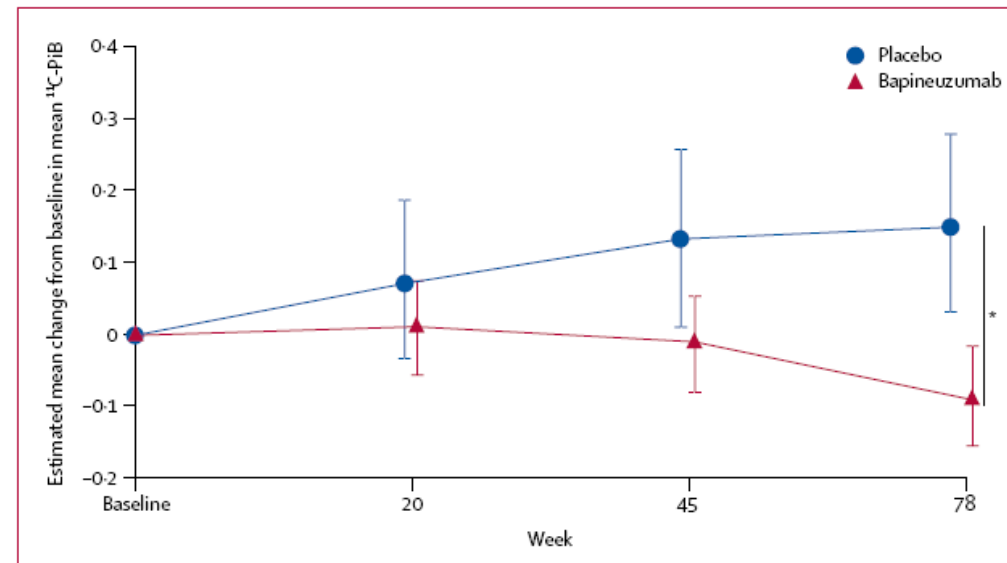
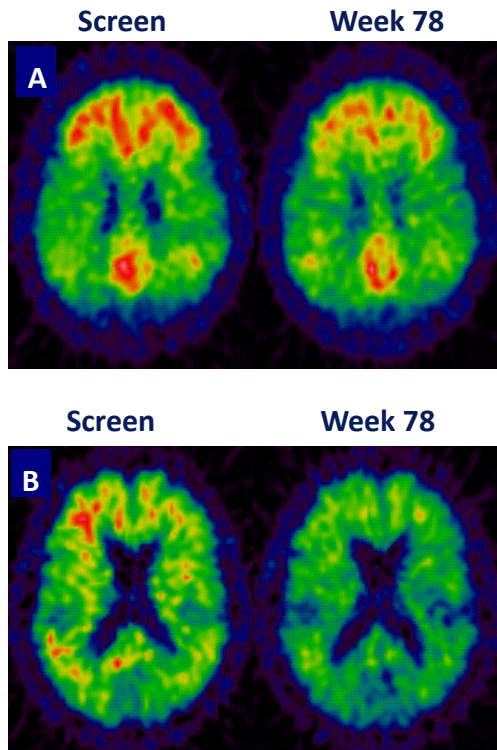
1. gamma-Secretase modulation (e.g., reduce Abeta42, increase Abeta38 without influencing overall gamma-secretase activity)
2. Low-dose BACE1 inhibition (not 70-90% inhibition but maybe 20-30%?)



Both have strong support from genetics, as primary prevention strategies against amyloid build-up in the brain and Alzheimer's disease

¹¹C-PiB PET assessment of change in fibrillar amyloid- β load in patients with Alzheimer's disease treated with bapineuzumab: a phase 2, double-blind, placebo-controlled, ascending-dose study

Juha O Rinne, David J Brooks, Martin N Rossor, Nick C Fox, Roger Bullock, William E Klunk, Chester A Mathis, Kaj Blennow, Jerome Barakos, Aren A Okello, Sofia Rodriguez Martinez de Llano, Enchi Liu, Martin Koller, Keith M Gregg, Dale Schenk, Ronald Black, Michael Grundman



→ Treatment with β -amyloid antibodies
may reduce plaque load in Alzheimer patients

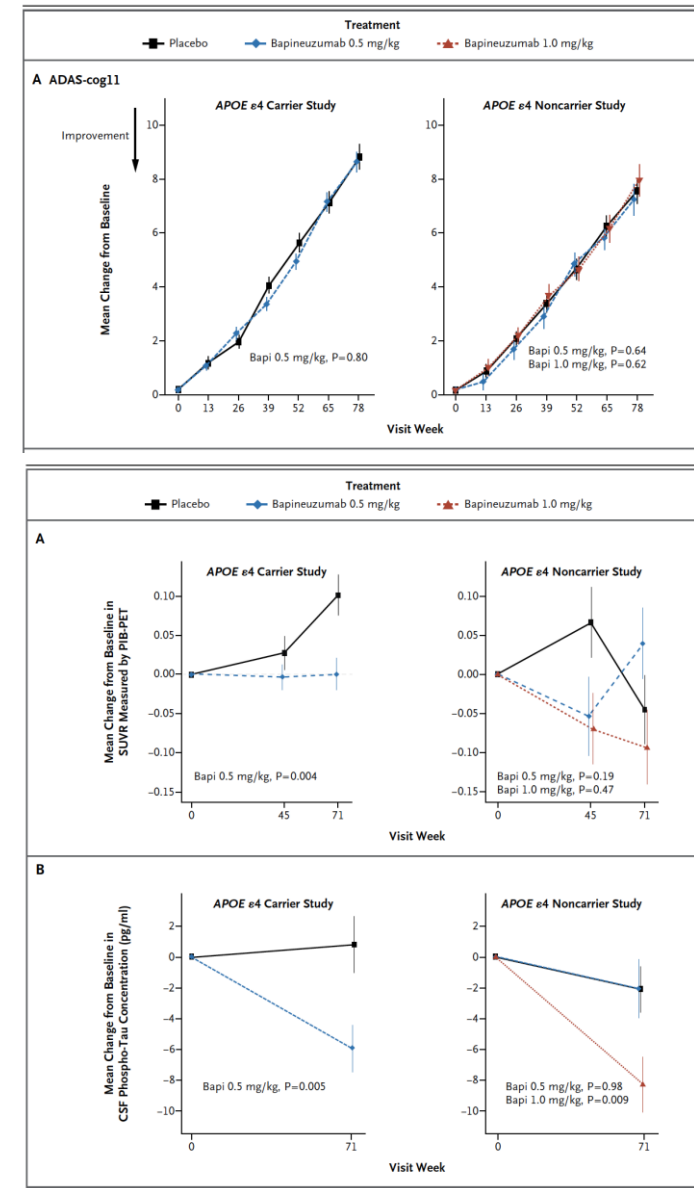
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Two Phase 3 Trials of Bapineuzumab in Mild-to-Moderate Alzheimer's Disease

Stephen Salloway, M.D., Reisa Sperling, M.D., Nick C. Fox, M.D., Kaj Blennow, M.D., William Klunk, M.D., Murray Raskind, M.D., Marwan Sabbagh, M.D., Lawrence S. Honig, M.D., Ph.D., Anton P. Porsteinsson, M.D., Steven Ferris, Ph.D., Marcel Reichert, M.D., Nzeera Ketter, M.D., Bijan Nejadnik, M.D., Volkmar Guezler, M.D., Maja Miloslavsky, Ph.D., Daniel Wang, Ph.D., Yuan Lu, M.S., Julia Lull, M.A., Iulia Cristina Tudor, Ph.D., Enchi Liu, Ph.D., Michael Grundman, M.D., M.P.H., Eric Yuen, M.D., Ronald Black, M.D., and H. Robert Brashear, M.D., for the Bapineuzumab 301 and 302 Clinical Trial Investigators*

METHODS

We conducted two double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled, phase 3 trials involving patients with mild-to-moderate Alzheimer's disease — one involving 1121 carriers of the apolipoprotein E (APOE) $\epsilon 4$ allele and the other involving 1331 noncarriers. Bapineuzumab or placebo, with doses varying by study, was administered by intravenous infusion every 13 weeks for 78 weeks. The primary outcome measures were scores on the 11-item cognitive subscale of the Alzheimer's Disease Assessment Scale (ADAS-cog11, with scores ranging from 0 to 70 and higher scores indicating greater impairment) and the Disability Assessment for Dementia (DAD, with scores ranging from 0 to 100 and higher scores indicating less impairment). A total of 1090 carriers and 1114 noncarriers were included in the efficacy analysis. Secondary outcome measures included findings on positron-emission tomographic amyloid imaging with the use of Pittsburgh compound B (PIB-PET) and cerebrospinal fluid phosphorylated tau (phospho-tau) concentrations.



→ Treatment with the β -amyloid antibody bapineuzumab did not improve cognition, but effects on amyloid load and CSF P-tau suggest minor disease-modifying effect

The antibody aducanumab reduces A β plaques in Alzheimer's disease

Jeff Sevigny^{1*}, Ping Chiao^{1*}, Thierry Bussière^{1*}, Paul H. Weinreb^{1*}, Leslie Williams¹, Marcel Maier², Robert Dunstan¹, Stephen Salloway³, Tianle Chen¹, Yan Ling¹, John O'Gorman¹, Fang Qian¹, Mahin Arastu¹, Mingwei Li¹, Sowmya Chollate¹, Melanie S. Brennan¹, Omar Quintero-Monzon¹, Robert H. Scannevin¹, H. Moore Arnold¹, Thomas Engber¹, Kenneth Rhodes¹, James Ferrero¹, Yaming Hang¹, Alvydas Mikulskis¹, Jan Grimm², Christoph Hock^{2,4}, Roger M. Nitsch^{2,4§} & Alfred Sandrock^{1§}

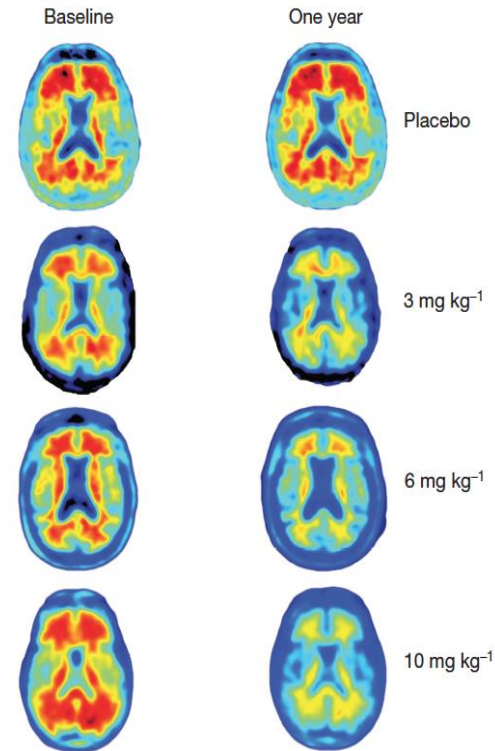
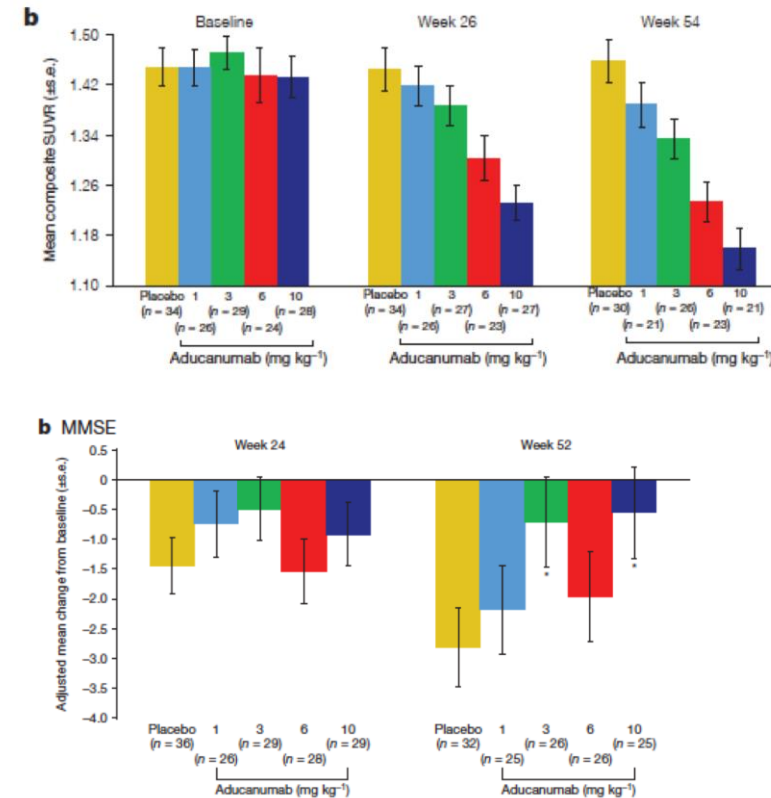
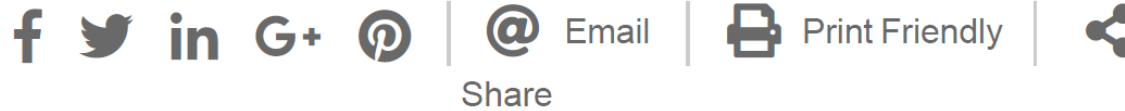


Figure 1 | Amyloid plaque reduction with aducanumab: example amyloid PET images at baseline and week 54.



- ➔ Reduction in amyloid PET clearly indicates target engagement
- ➔ Reduction in neurodegeneration biomarkers needed to support disease-modification

Biogen Plans Regulatory Filing for Aducanumab in Alzheimer's Disease Based on New Analysis of Larger Dataset from Phase 3 Studies



October 22, 2019 06:30 ET | **Source:** Biogen Inc.

New analysis of larger dataset showed that aducanumab reduced clinical decline in patients with early Alzheimer's disease as measured by the pre-specified primary and secondary endpoints

Based on discussions with the FDA, the Company plans to submit a Biologics License Application in early 2020

Biogen aims to offer aducanumab to eligible patients previously enrolled in clinical studies

The positive results of this new analysis were driven primarily by greater exposure to high dose aducanumab in the larger dataset as compared to data available at the time of the futility analysis

FDA ACCEPTS BIOGEN'S ADUCANUMAB BIOLOGICS LICENSE APPLICATION FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE WITH PRIORITY REVIEW

August 7, 2020 at 7:30 AM EDT

- *Priority Review accelerates FDA review time, with a Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA) target action on March 7, 2021*
- *If approved, aducanumab would be the first treatment to meaningfully change the course of Alzheimer's disease*

July 6, 2018

BioArctic announces positive topline results of BAN2401 Phase 2b at 18 months in early Alzheimer's Disease

The full 18 month analysis of the 856 patient BAN2401 Phase 2b clinical study in early Alzheimer's disease demonstrated statistically significant and dose-dependent slowing in clinical decline and reduction of amyloid beta accumulated in the brain.

First late-stage study successfully demonstrating potential disease-modifying effects on both clinical function and amyloid beta accumulation in the brain.

Stockholm, Sweden, July 6, 2018 – BioArctic AB (publ) (Nasdaq Stockholm: BIOA B) today announced positive topline results from the Phase 2b study with BAN2401, an anti-amyloid beta protofibril antibody, in 856 patients with early Alzheimer's disease. The study achieved statistical significance on key efficacy endpoints at 18 months on slowing progression in Alzheimer's Disease Composite Score (ADCOMS) and on reduction of amyloid accumulated in the brain as measured by using amyloid-PET (Positron Emission Tomography).

New global Phase 3 program of BAN2401 initiated in preclinical (asymptomatic) Alzheimer's disease

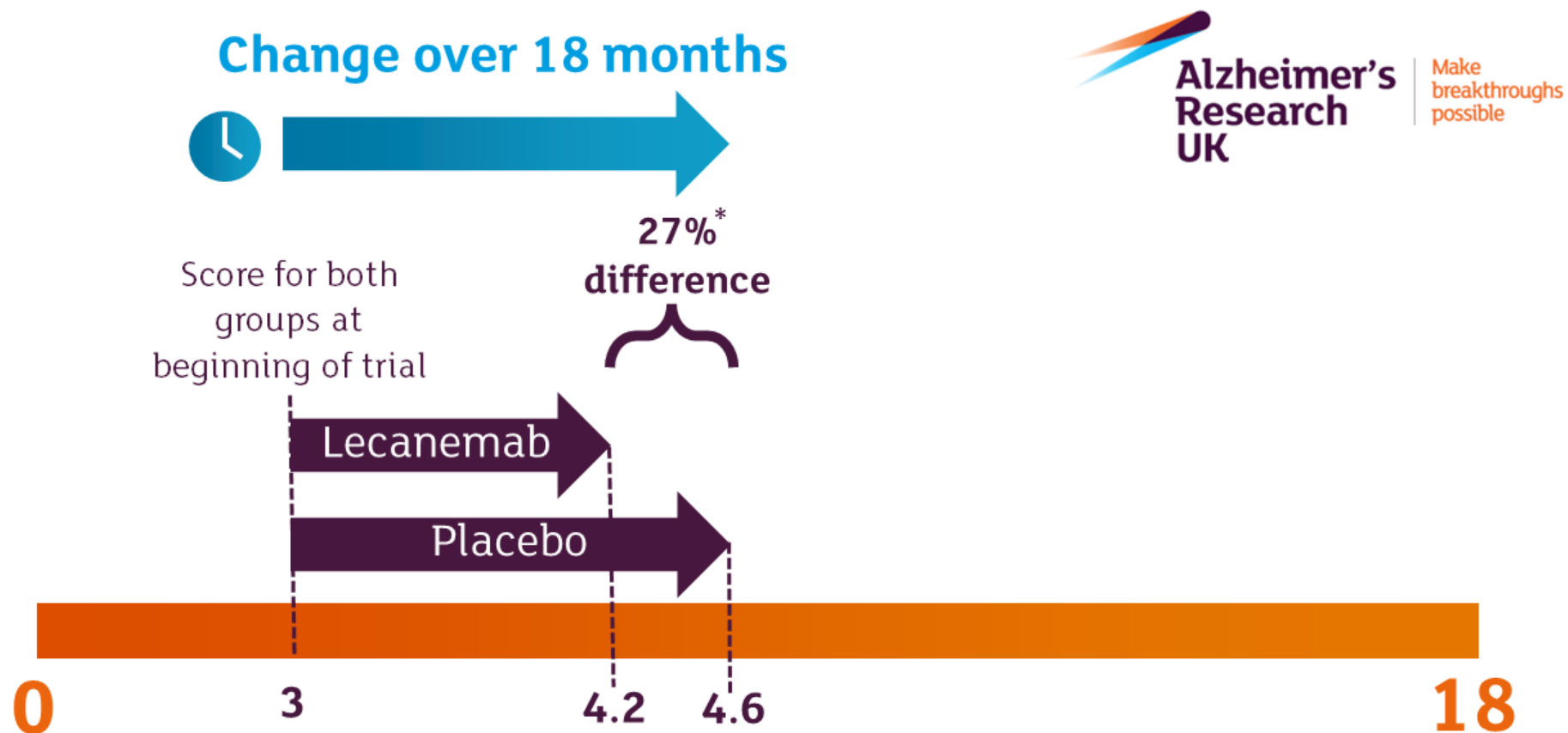
July 14, 2020 - Other press release

Stockholm, July 14, 2020 – BioArctic AB (publ) (Nasdaq Stockholm: BIOA B) announced today that its business partner Eisai, in collaboration with Alzheimer's Clinical Trials Consortium ...

Many other anti-A β antibody trials are moving forward

Promising results on biomarkers, less clear on cognition

Lecanemab removes amyloid and shows clinically meaningful benefit



CDR-SB score used to measure cognitive decline – greater score means greater cognitive impairment

**diagram not to scale*

FDA NEWS RELEASE

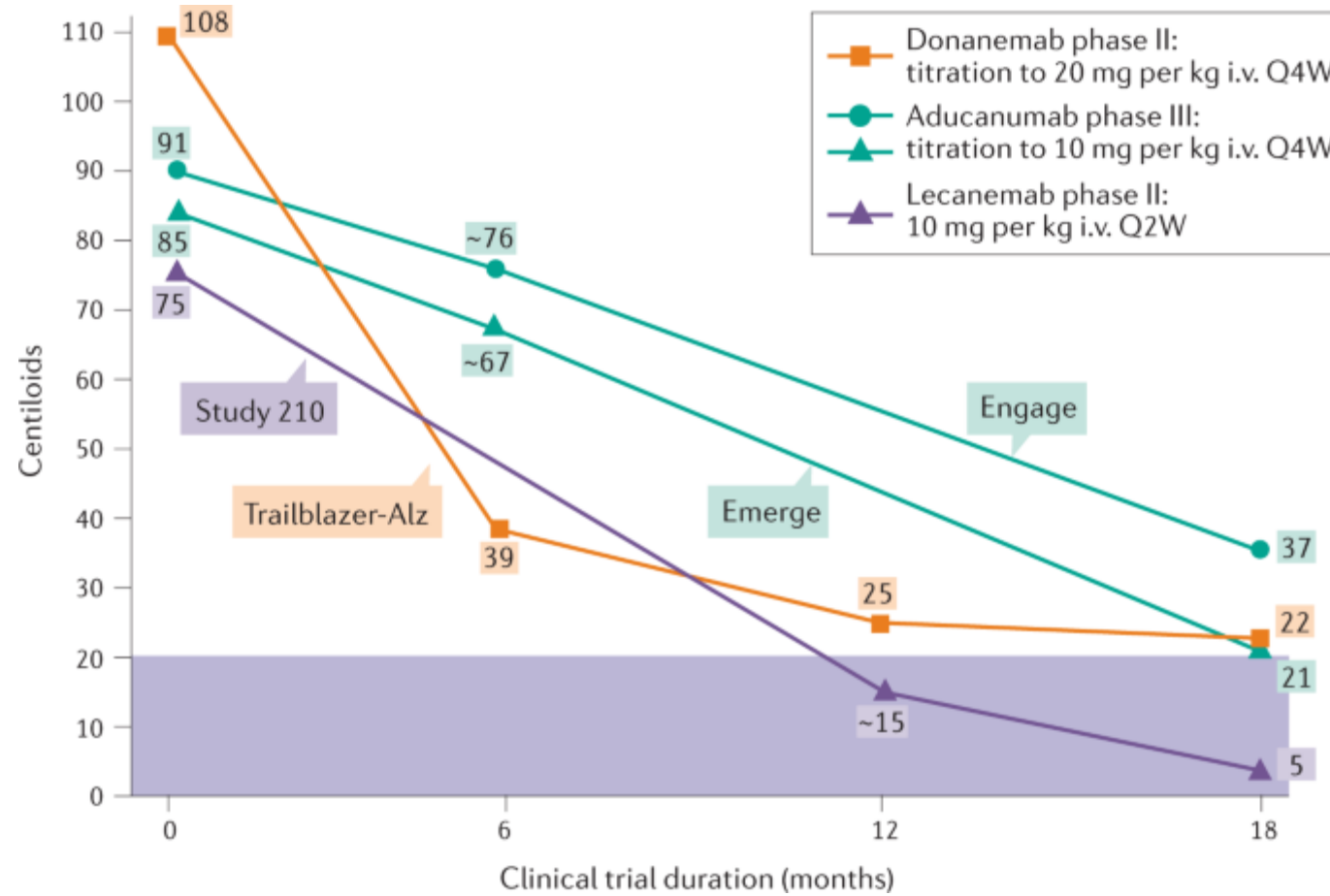
FDA Converts Novel Alzheimer's Disease Treatment to Traditional Approval

Action Follows Confirmatory Trial to Verify Clinical Benefit

For Immediate Release:

July 06, 2023

Time to significant amyloid removal determines if a drug can show a clinically meaningful effect



Target Class

- Amyloid
- Epigenetic
- Inflammation/Immunity
- Metabolism/Bioenergetics
- Neurogenesis
- Neurotransmitter Receptors
- Other
- Oxidative Stress
- Proteostasis/Proteinopathies
- Synaptic Plasticity/Neuroprotection
- Tau
- Vasculature



Problems with antibody-based removal of established amyloid pathology:

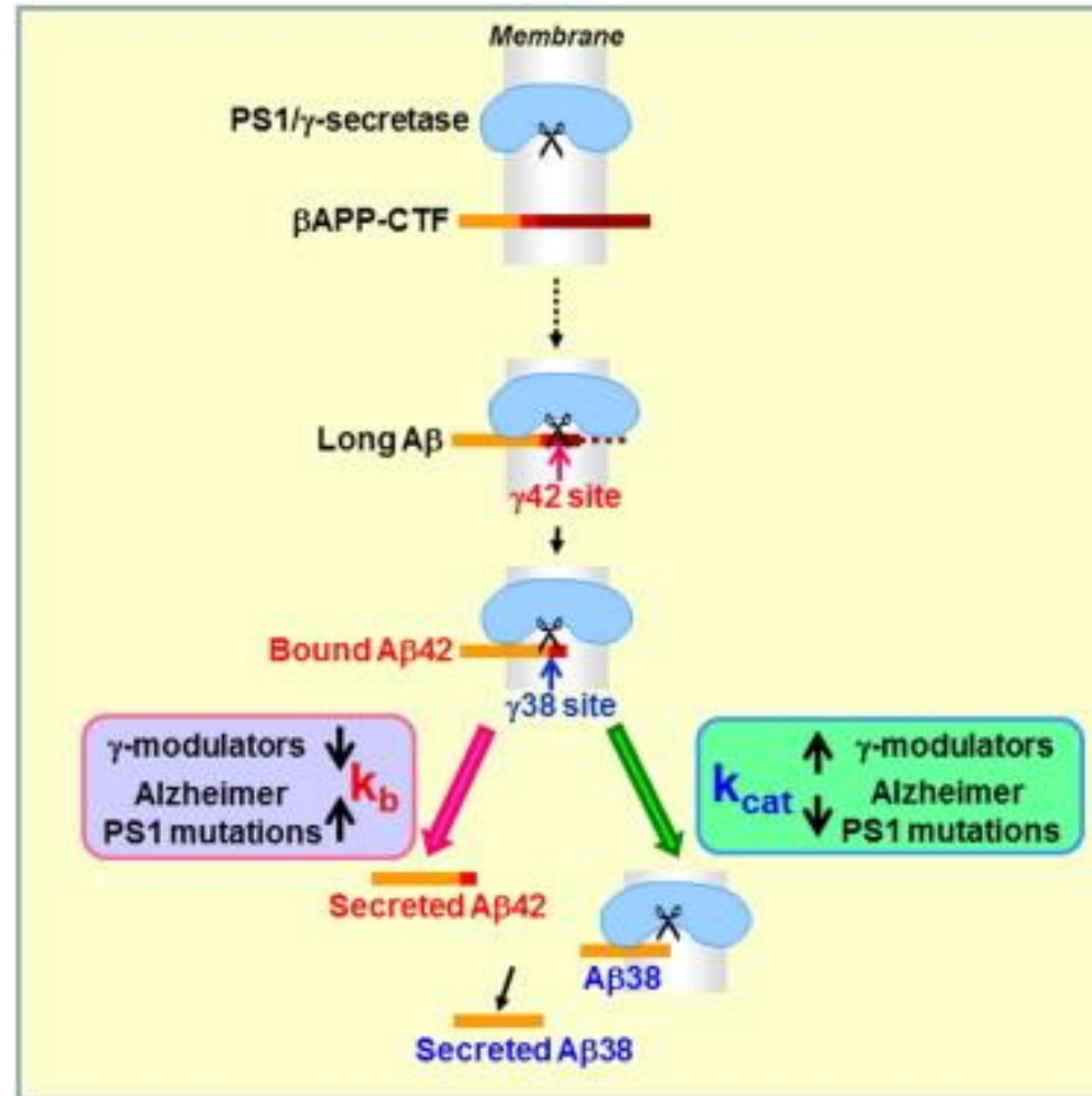
Amyloid-related imaging abnormalities

Expensive

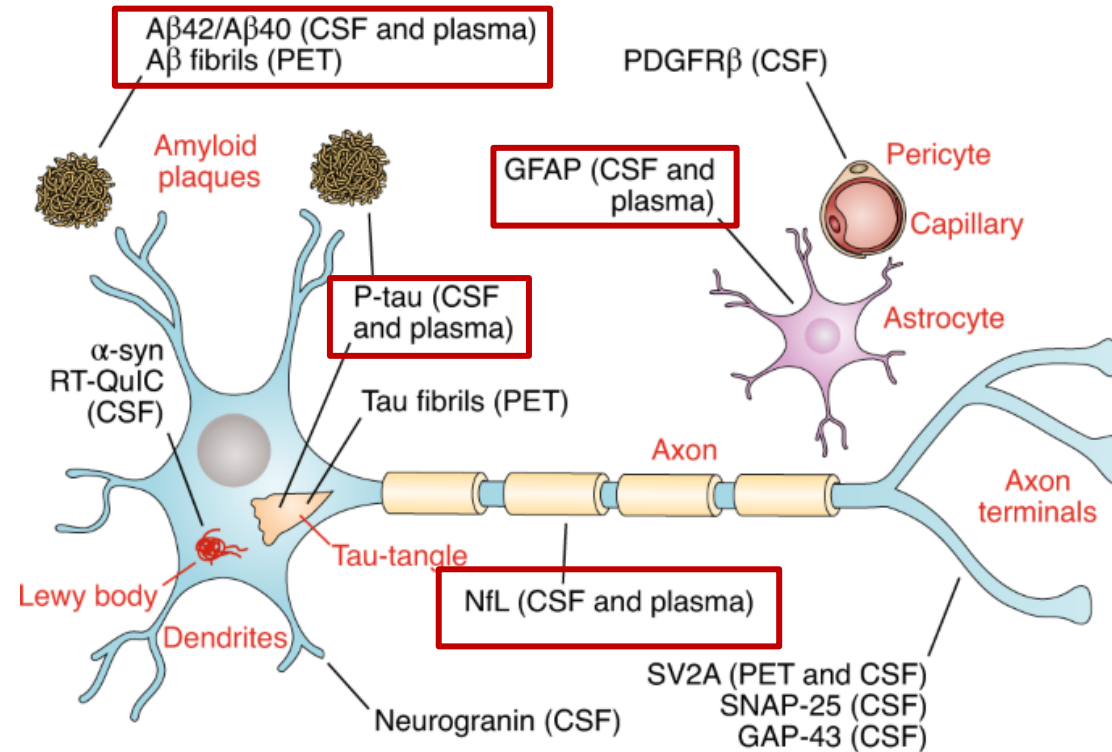
Neuronal network damage may have already occurred

Tau pathology may have taken off

The case for gamma-secretase modulation

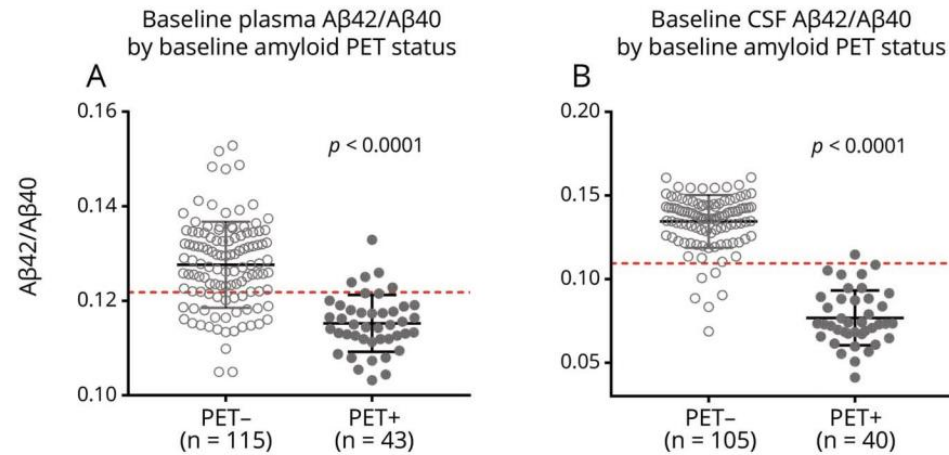


Available targeted protein biomarkers for dementias

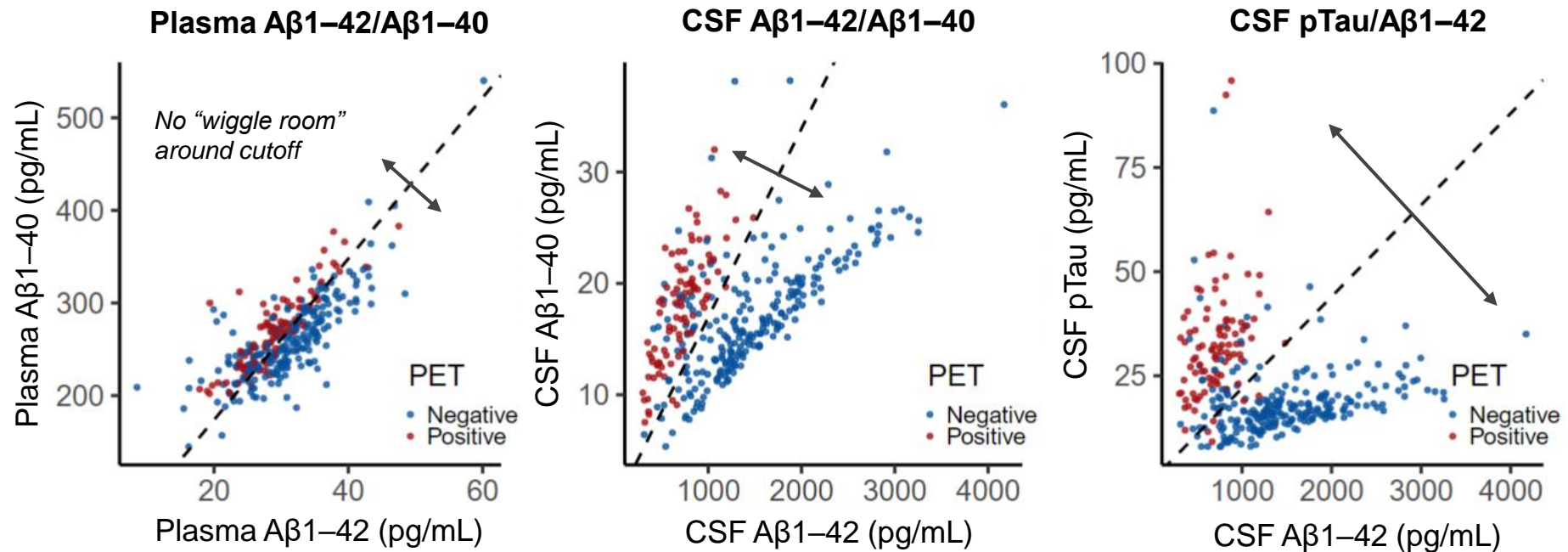


Plasma amyloid β

- The fold changes of plasma A β 42/40 between PET A β + and PET A β - are not large



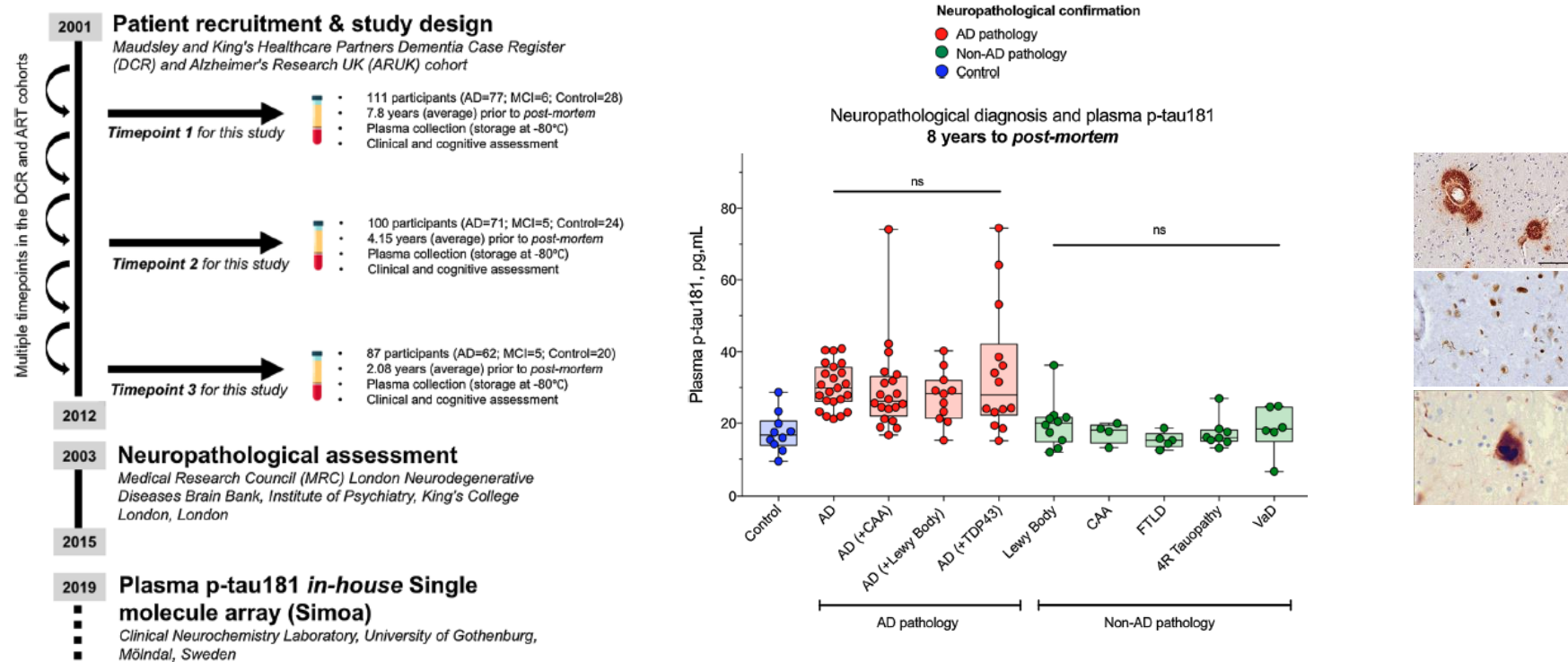
Plasma amyloid β



Rabe C *et al.*, 2022

Plasma p-tau indicates AD pathology (including amyloid)

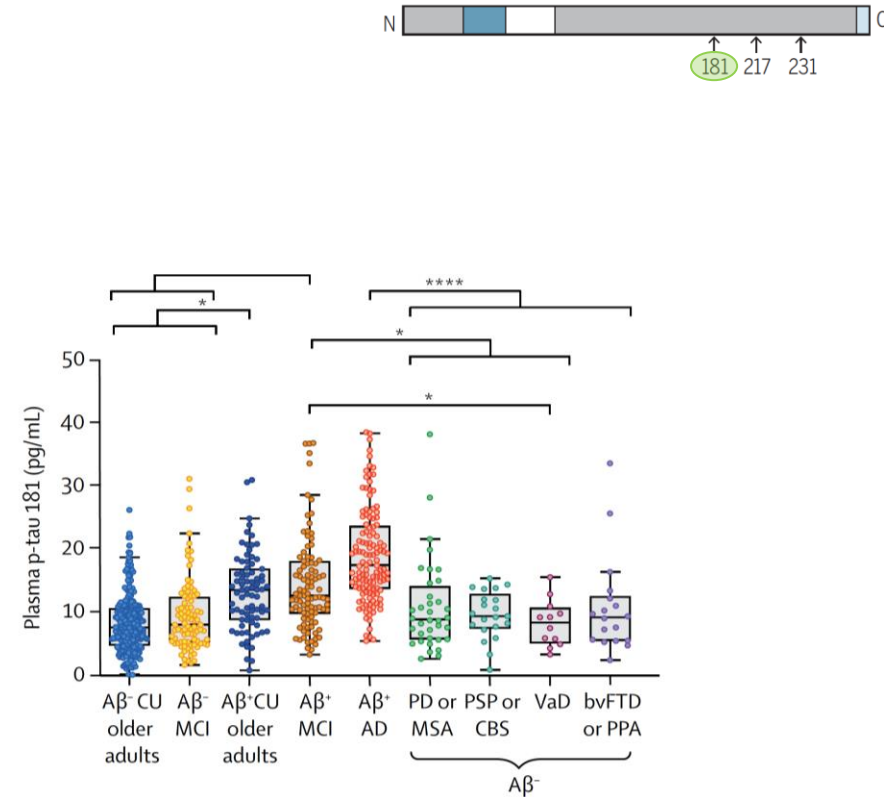
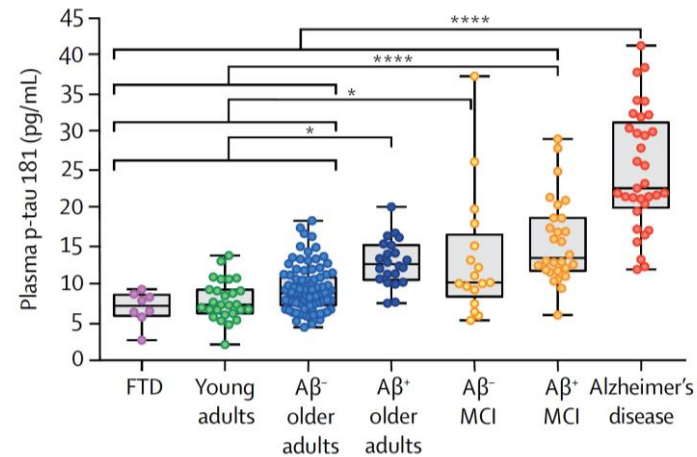
Plasma p-tau indicates AD pathology (including amyloid)



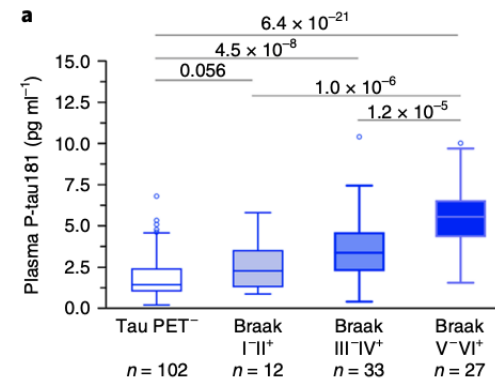
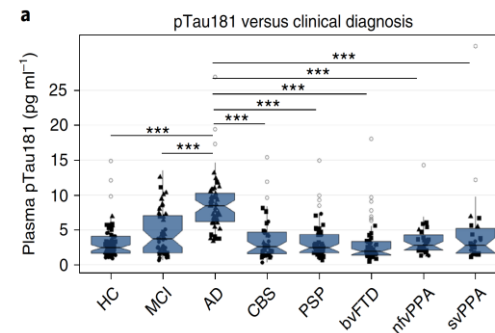
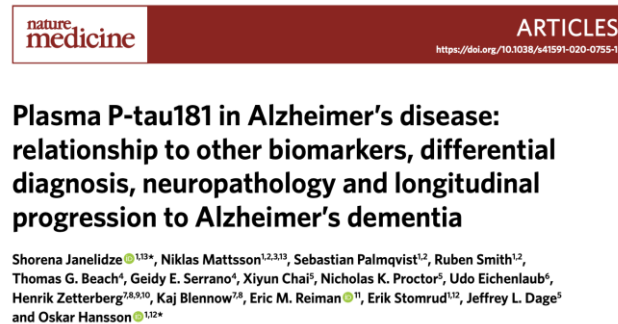
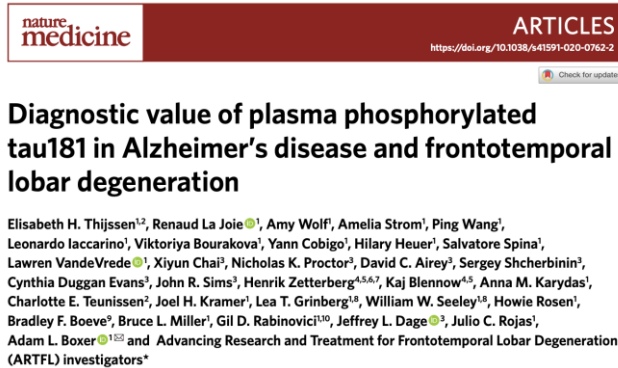
Plasma p-tau in the Alzheimer's disease continuum

Blood phosphorylated tau 181 as a biomarker for Alzheimer's disease: a diagnostic performance and prediction modelling study using data from four prospective cohorts

Thomas K Karikari*, Tharick A Pascoal*, Nicholas J Ashton, Shirena Janelidze, Andréa Lessa Benedet, Juan Lantero Rodriguez, Mira Chamoun, Melissa Savard, Min Su Kang, Joseph Theriault, Michael Schöll, Gassan Massarweh, Jean-Paul Soucy, Kina Höglund, Gunnar Brinkmalm, Niklas Mattsson, Sebastian Palmqvist, Serge Gauthier, Erik Stomrud, Henrik Zetterberg, Oskar Hansson†, Pedro Rosa-Neto†, Kaj Blennow†

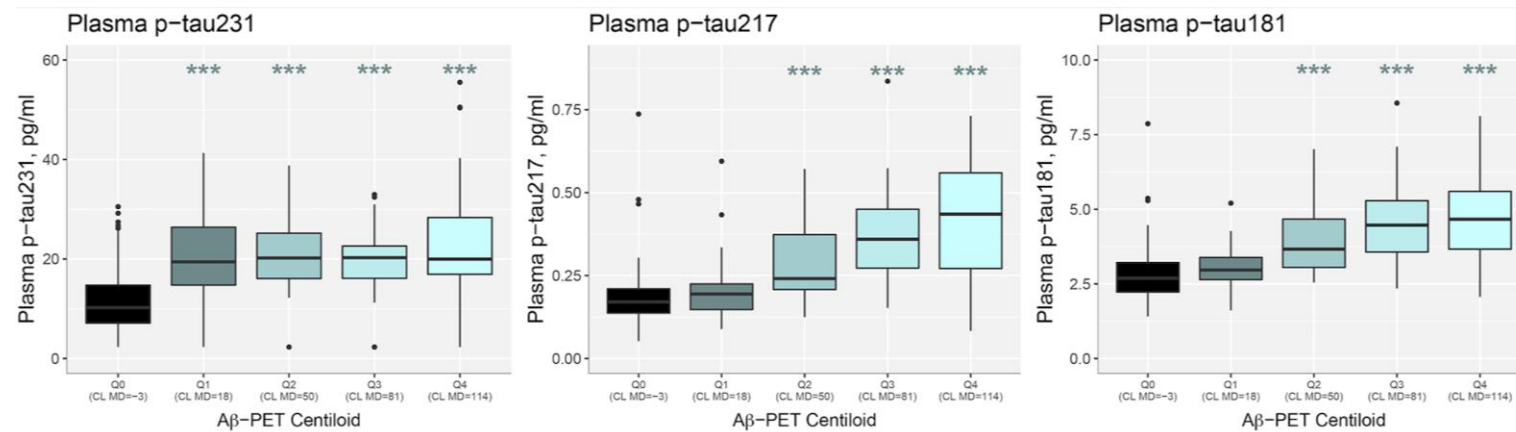


Plasma p-tau in the Alzheimer's disease continuum



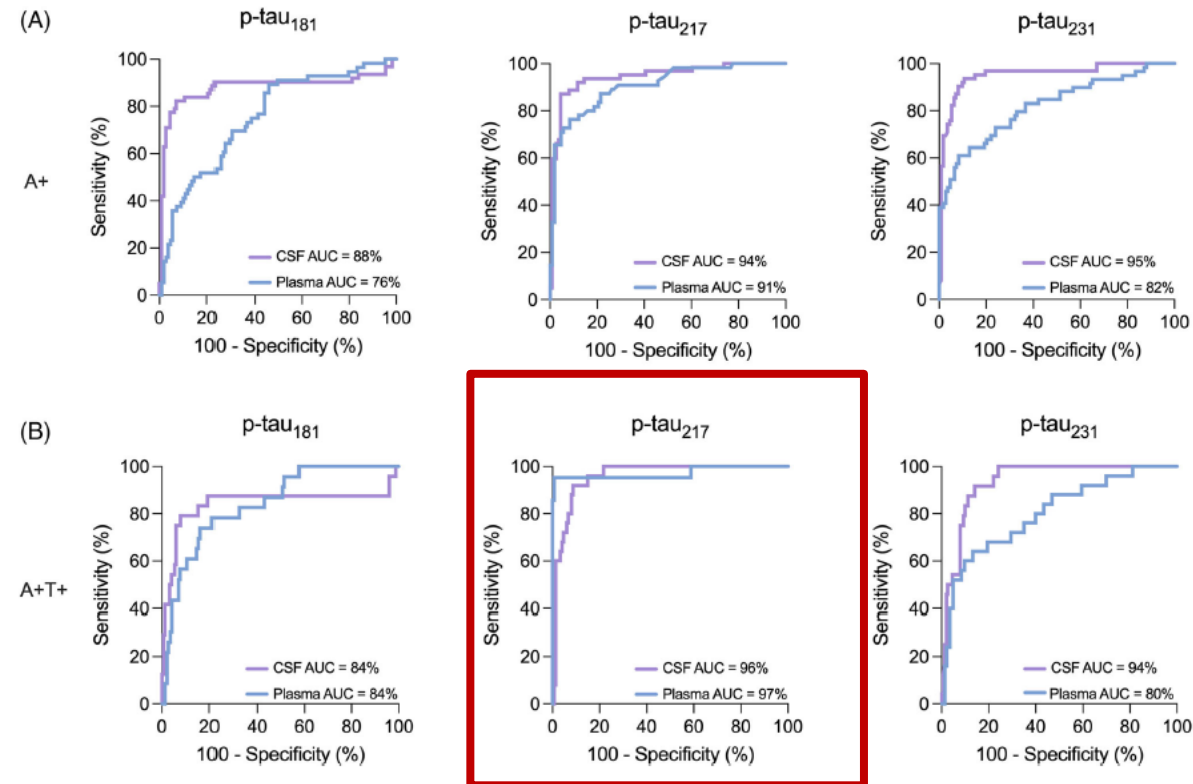
Thijssen et al., 2020 Nature Medicine (PMID: 32123386) / Janelidze et al., 2020 Nature Medicine (PMID: 32123385) / Mielke et al., 2018 Alzheimer's & Dementia (PMID: 29626426)

Different phospho-forms of tau can be measured in plasma



Ashton *et al.*, Nature Med. 2022

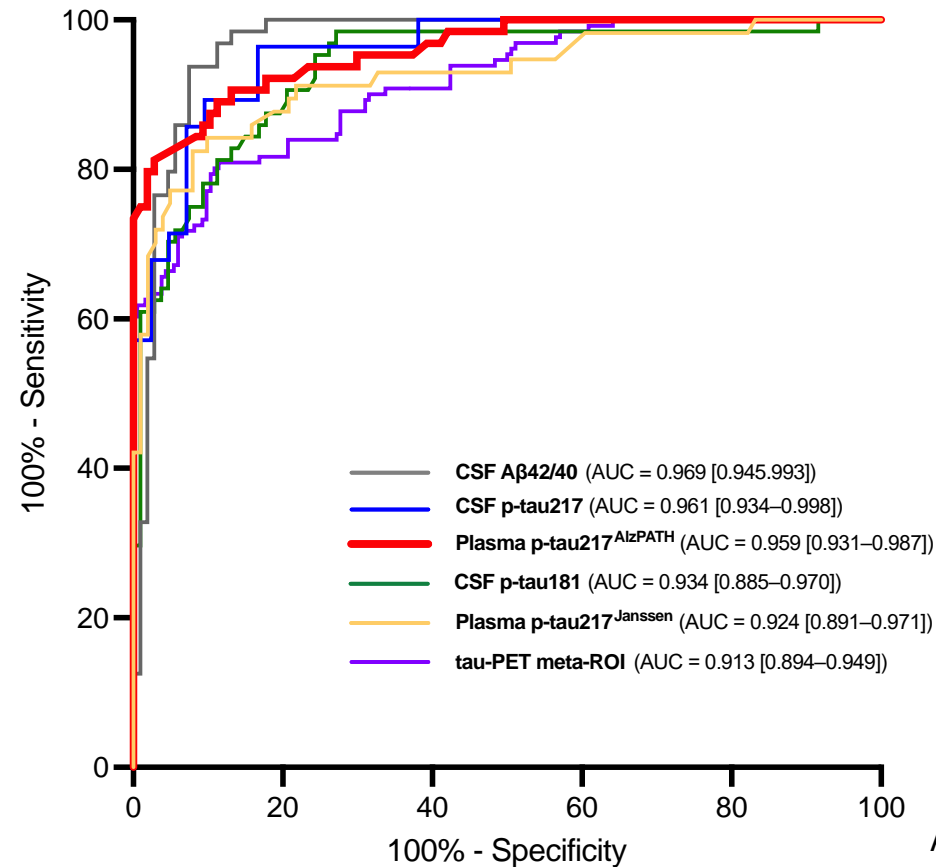
Equivalence of plasma p-tau₂₁₇ with cerebrospinal fluid in the diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease



Therriault *et al.*, A&D, 2023


Plasma p-tau217 to screen for A β pathology – results from TRIAD and WRAP

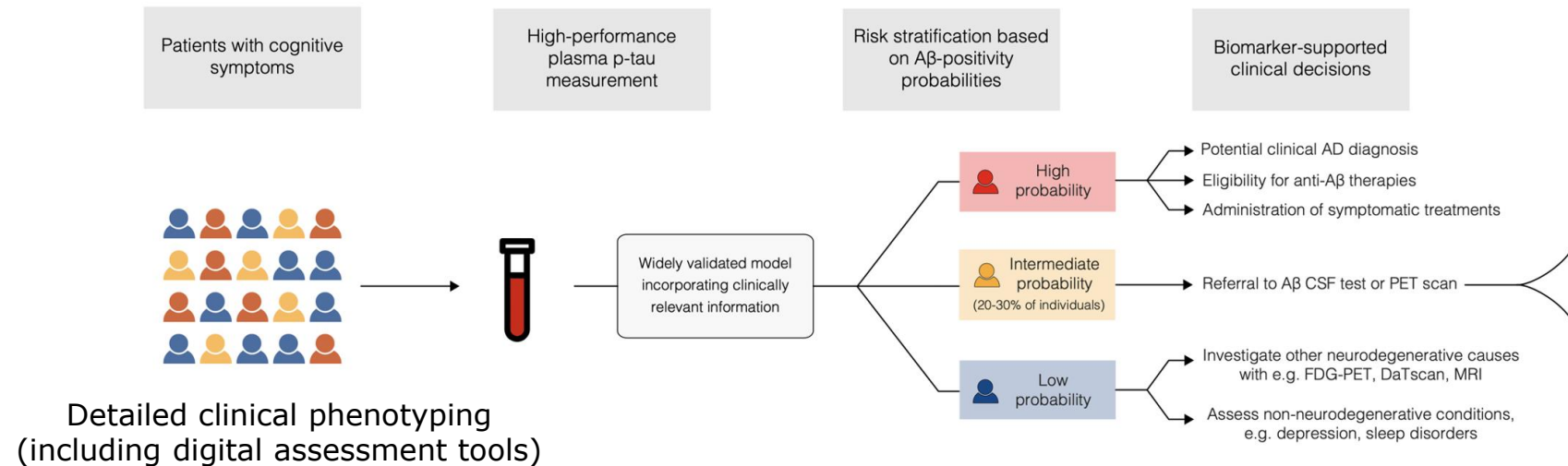
Figure 1A – predicting amyloid PET positivity



Ashton *et al.*, JAMA Neurol 2024

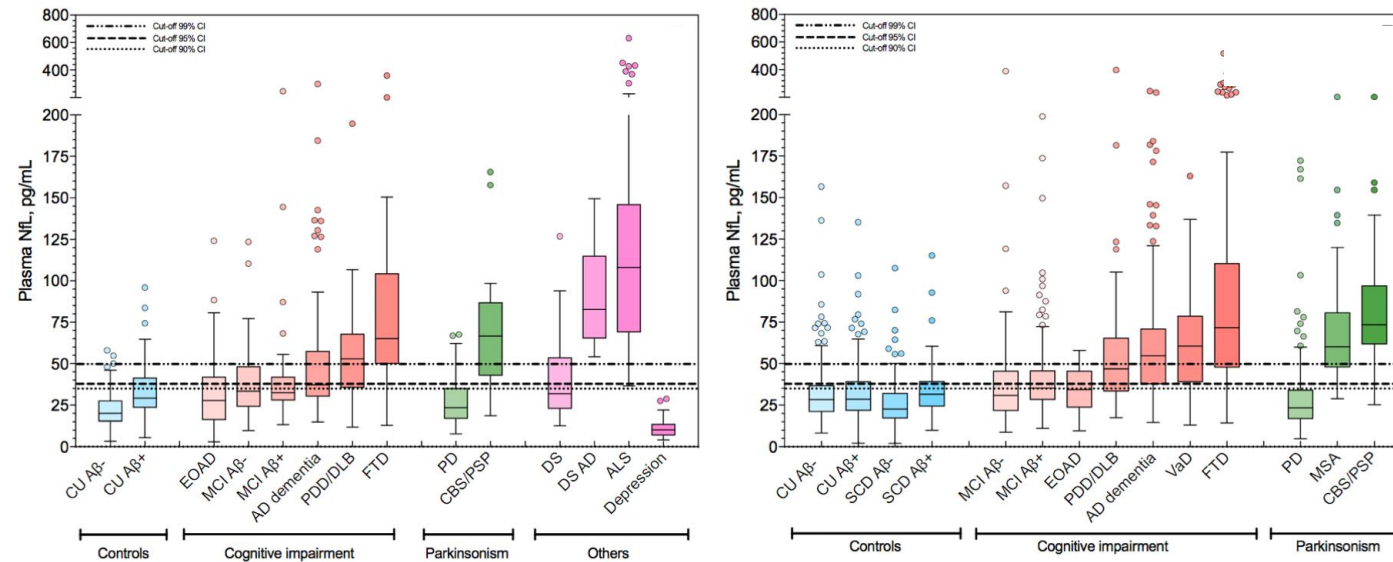
A two-step workflow based on plasma p-tau to screen for A β pathology

 **THE SWEDISH BIOFINDER STUDY** – a case study in Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI)



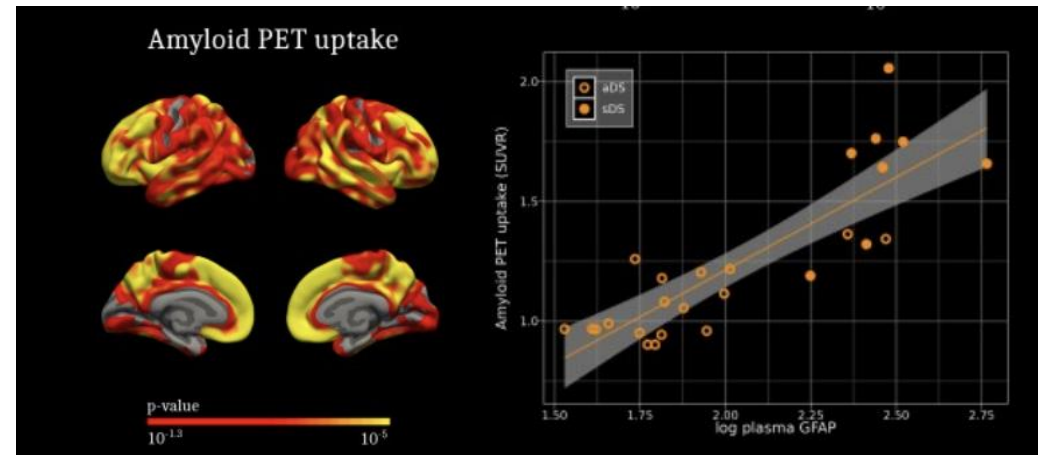
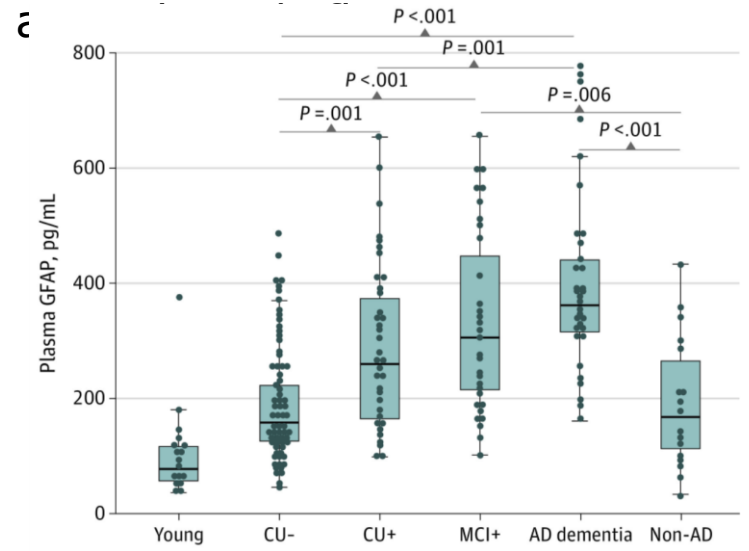
Plasma neurofilament light

Blood **neurofilament light (NfL)** is a measure of axonal injury irrespective of cause



Plasma glial fibrillary acidic protein

Blood **glial fibrillary acidic protein (GFAP)** is a marker for reactive



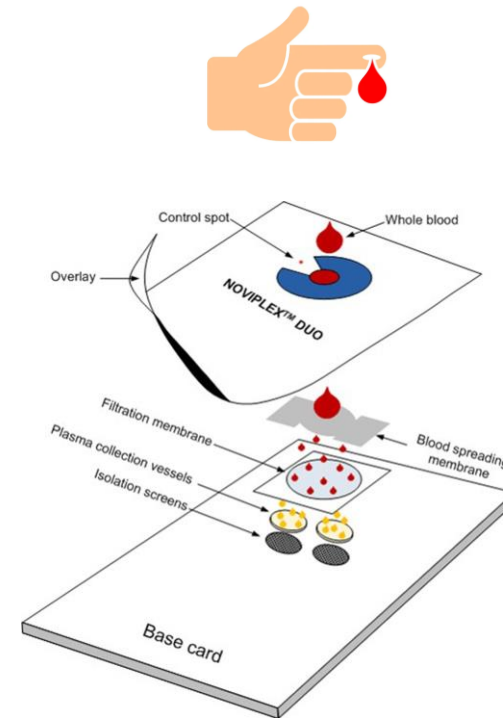
Representative, preliminary results, pending publication in a peer-reviewed journal

Blood spot collection

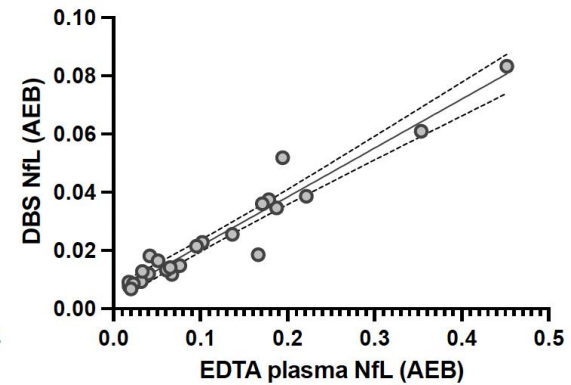
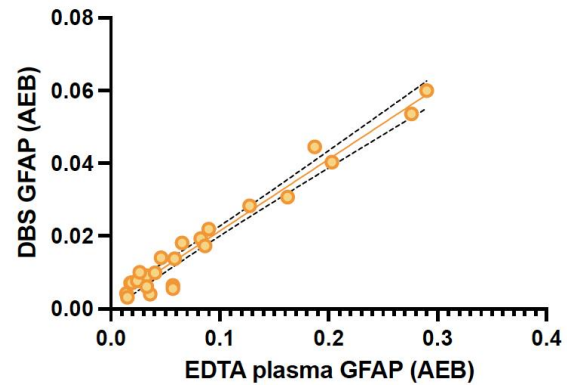
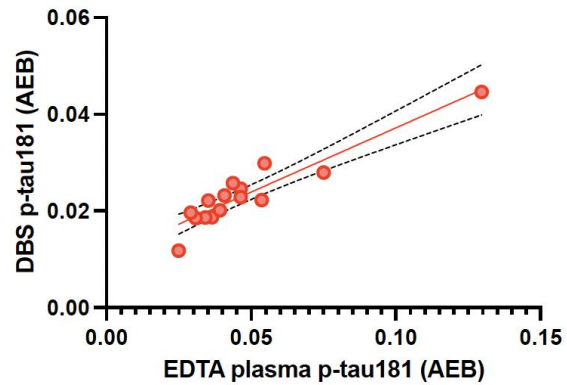
Advantages

- 65uL of whole blood
(no need for centrifugation for plasma).
- Stable at room temperature >1-month
(Transferrable by normal post or stored without cooling/freezing)
- Capillary blood is possible
(Remote self-collection, paediatric neurology, onset sports injuries, field clinics)
- Dementia biomarkers are measurable by Simoa with a modified extraction protocol

Nick Ashton
Haley Weninger
Lara Grötschel
Joel Simrén
Hanna Huber
Laia Montoliu-Gaya

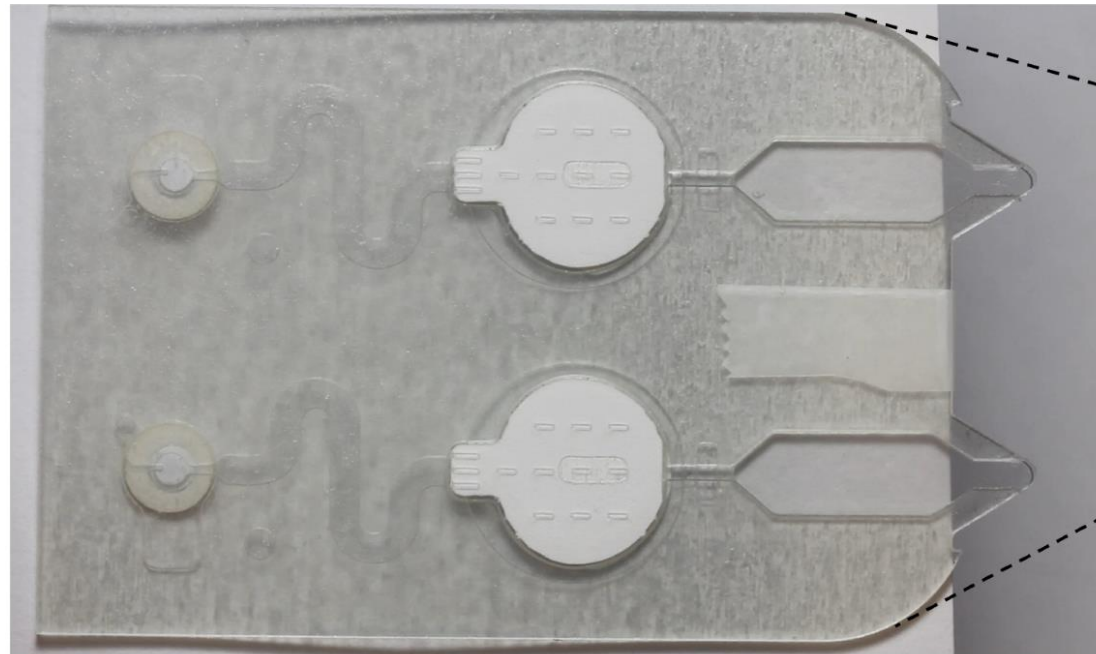


Blood spot collection – venous blood





Capitainer[®]CF

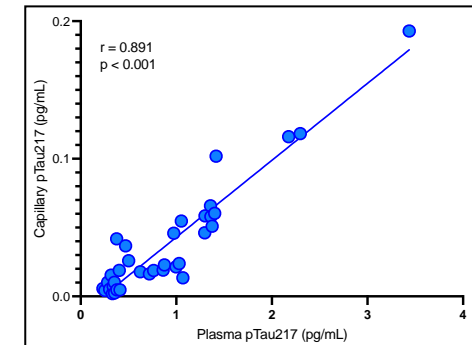
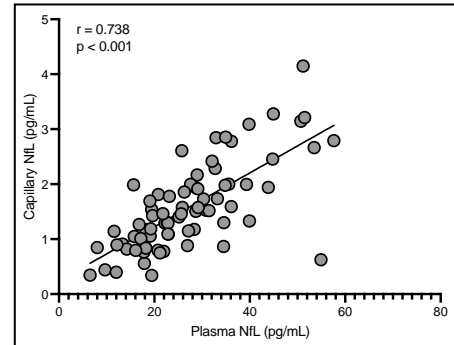
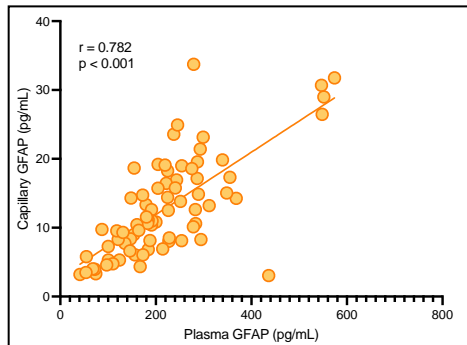


Storage Metering Filtration Pre metering
70 μ l



DROP-AD: detecting AD blood biomarkers using a finger-prick

- Current blood processing protocols require strict procedures – useful in primary care?
- How do we monitor people overtime (including those on DMT) for personalised management?
- Detecting pre-clinical changes – if/when that it is required?



Summary – blood biomarkers for diagnosis

ATN biomarkers in blood:

A = plasma A β 42/A β 40 and P-tau

T = plasma P-tau

N = plasma NfL

G/I = plasma GFAP and other inflammatory proteins

V = placental growth factor (?)

Summary – the therapeutic landscape

Antibody-based removal of existing amyloid pathology is clinically meaningful

Side effects

When should one stop?

Gamma-secretase modulation could be a safe primary prevention strategy in high-risk individuals

Gamma-secretase modulation could prevent amyloid pathology from returning following antibody-mediated amyloid removal

Accessible biomarkers exist for all of the Alzheimer's continuum

Thanks!!

henrik.zetterberg@gu.se

h.zetterberg@ucl.ac.uk

**To all patients, relatives, team members,
collaborators and funders**



February 19, 2024



Alzstatin

- a small molecule disease modifying therapy
against Alzheimer's disease

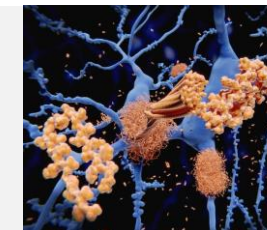
Johan Sandin, CSO

Alzstatin® - Gamma-Secretase Modulator for Preventive Treatment of Alzheimer's

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Emanates from Big Pharma

- › AlzeCure staff was **part of the conception** of the project at AstraZeneca
- › Approximately **SEK 150m** already **invested** on project development
- › Only Biotech with a gamma-secretase modulator (GSM)



Strong linkage to disease

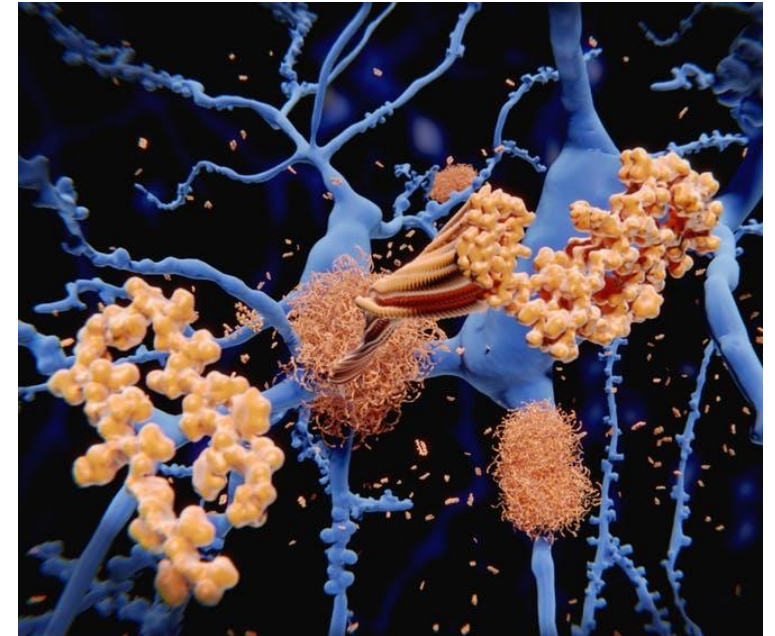
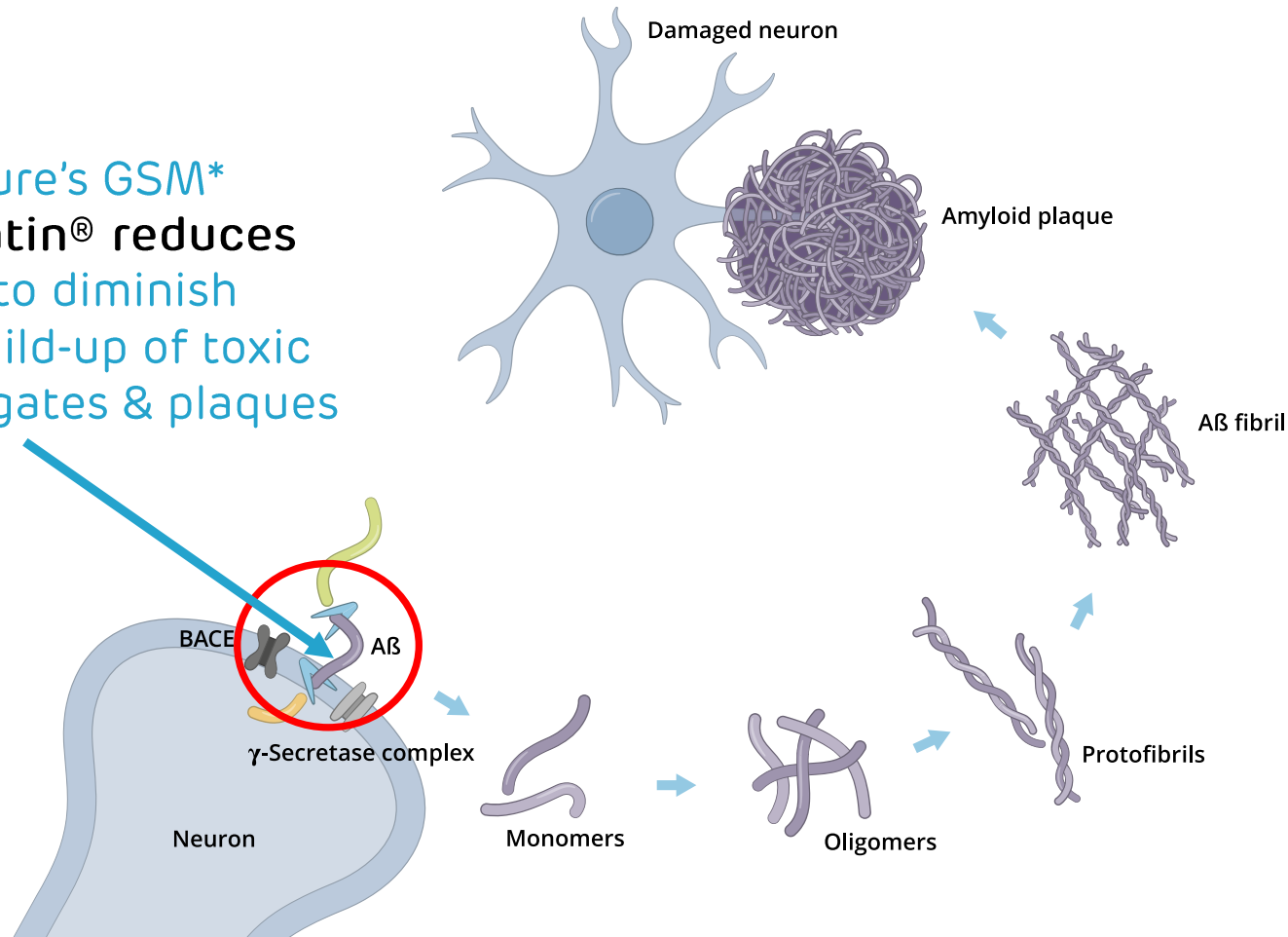
- › Gamma-secretase is a **key enzyme** producing **toxic Aβ42**
- › **Genetic linkage to disease** - majority of all familial mutations are linked to the gamma-secretase complex causing early onset of disease
- › Alzstatin compounds **reduce** production of **Aβ42**

Positive preclinical data

- › Two drug candidates, ACD679 and ACD680, in pre-clinical development phase
- › Compounds **potently reduce Aβ42 production** - up to 60% in vivo
- › GSM's also **produce shorter peptides** with suggested added beneficial effects

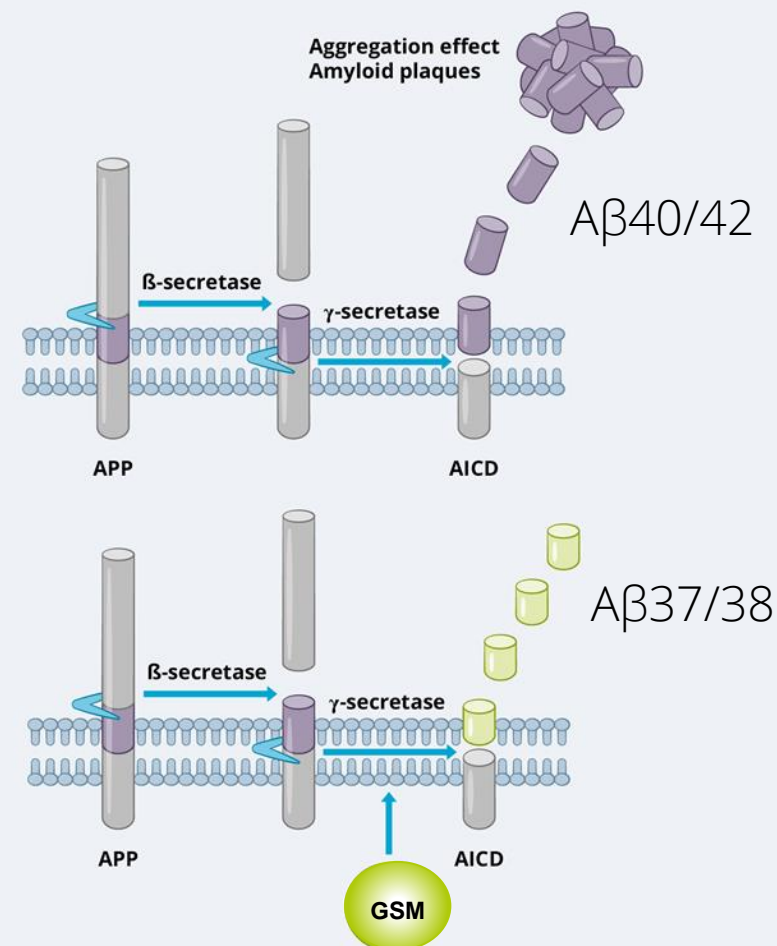
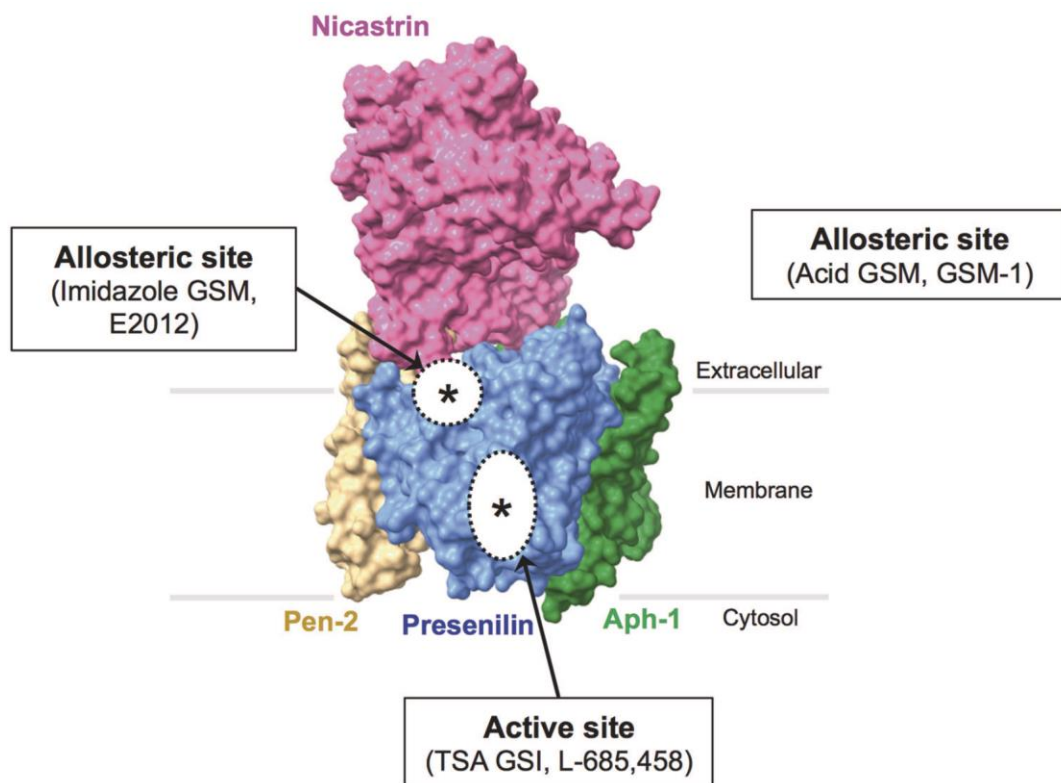
The Amyloid Cascade - Validated pathway that generates toxic A β fragments, resulting in damage to neurons and brain structures

AlzeCure's GSM*
Alzstatin® reduces
A β 42 to diminish
the build-up of toxic
aggregates & plaques



Mechanism of gamma-secretase modulators

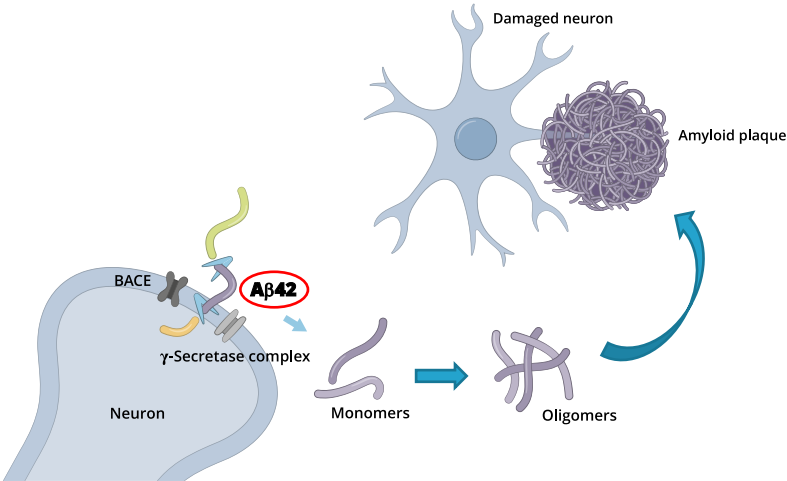
Gamma-secretase complex



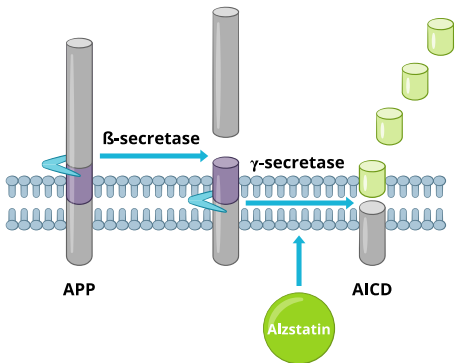
Alzstatin modulates the gamma secretase enzyme which results in the formation of shorter fragments that prevents the aggregation effect

Alzstatin, an Alzheimer's Disease Modifier – Preventing or Delaying Disease Progression

Aβ42 peptide is the main **culprit in AD progression**



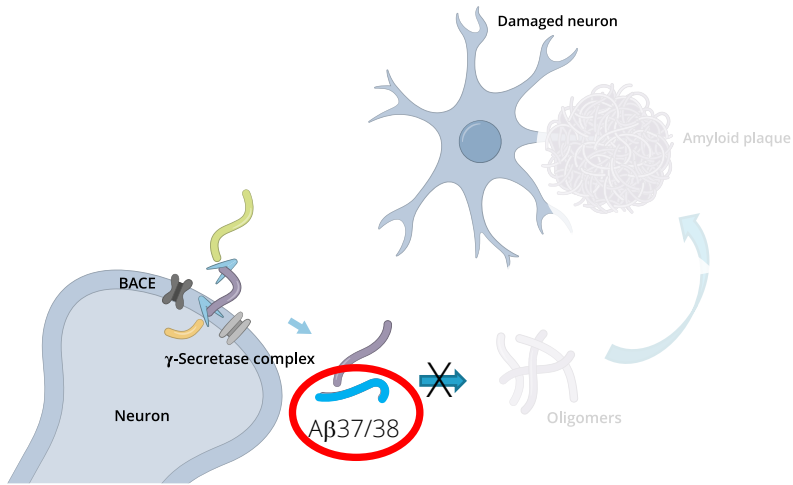
GSMs modulate the enzyme, **reducing Aβ42 & Aβ40** and shifting its cleaving pattern towards shorter forms and thereby **limits toxic oligomerization**



Alzstatin targets the gamma-secretase

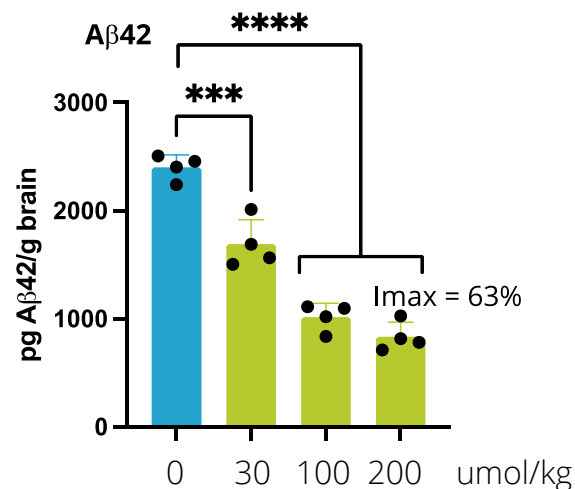
	Prone to self-aggregate	Inhibits formation of amyloid plaques	Toxic to cells
Aβ42	✓ ✓		✓ ✓
Aβ40	✓		✓
Aβ38		✓	
Aβ37		✓	

Alzstatin **produces more** non-toxic **Aβ37/38** which do not form amyloid aggregates, including oligomers

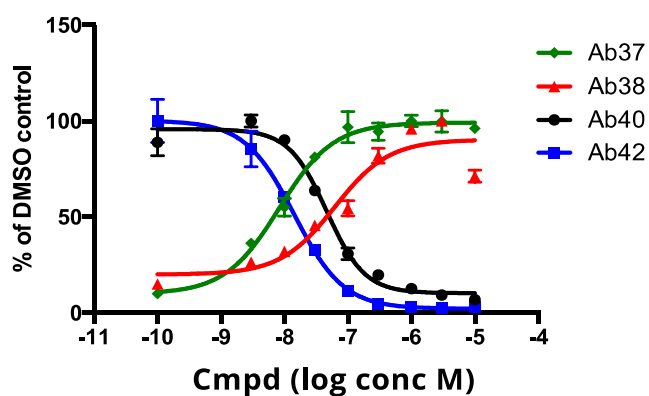


Aβ42 peptide is aggregation prone and toxic, while the **shorter forms Aβ37/38 exhibit protective properties**

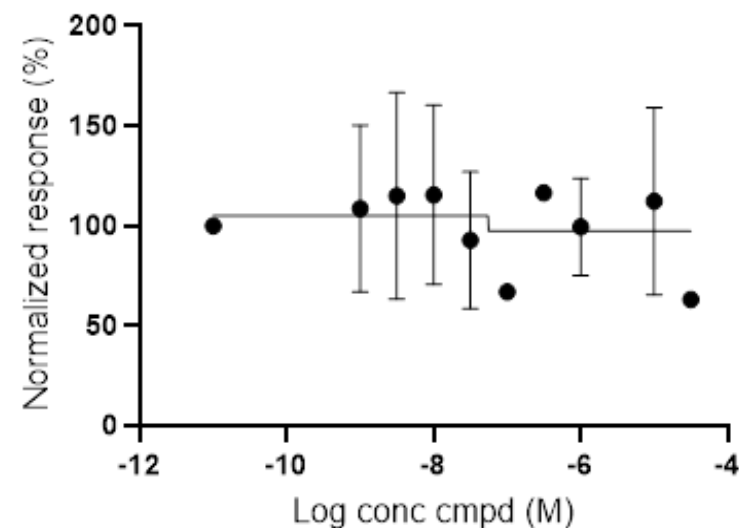
Alzstatin – Potent & Selective Reduction of A β 42



Alzstatin compounds potently and dose-dependently **reduces the amount of toxic brain A β 42** in mice after a single dose



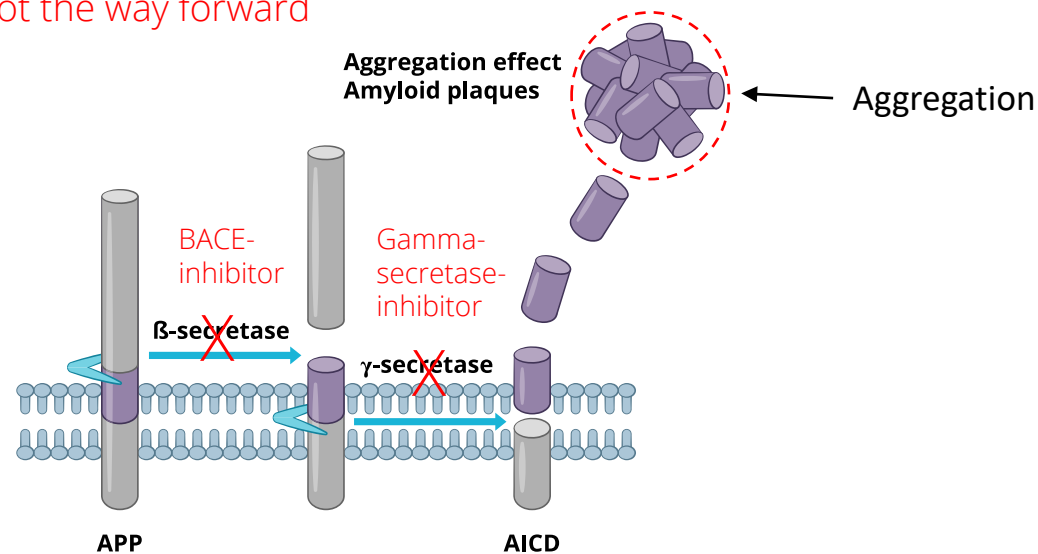
GSMs reduce the amount of toxic A β 42 & A β 40, while **increasing the amount of the protective A β 37 & A β 38** species



Alzstatin compounds do not have any effect on total A β levels

Differentiation from BACE* and Gamma secretase inhibitors

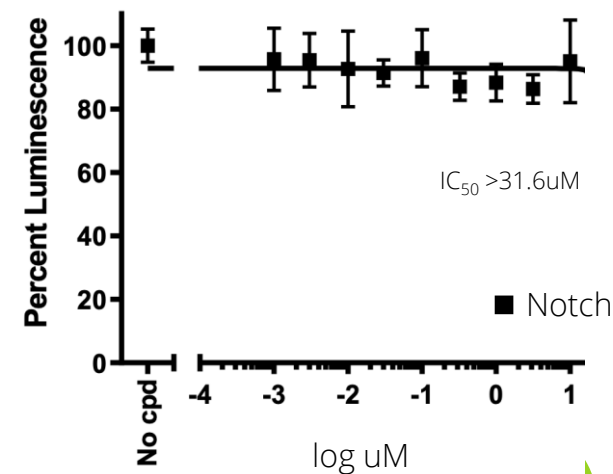
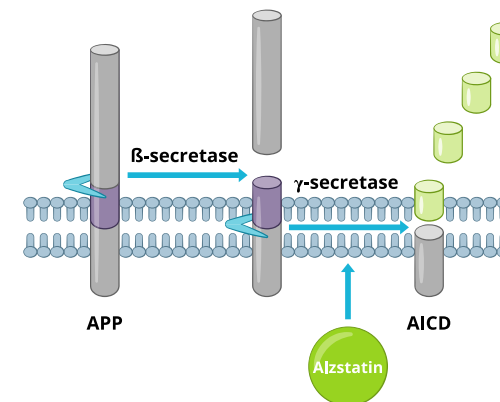
Both BACE- and gamma-secretase inhibitors caused significant side-effects due to inhibition of other key substrates of the enzyme → **inhibition** not the way forward



A β 42 - main culprit in Alzheimer progression

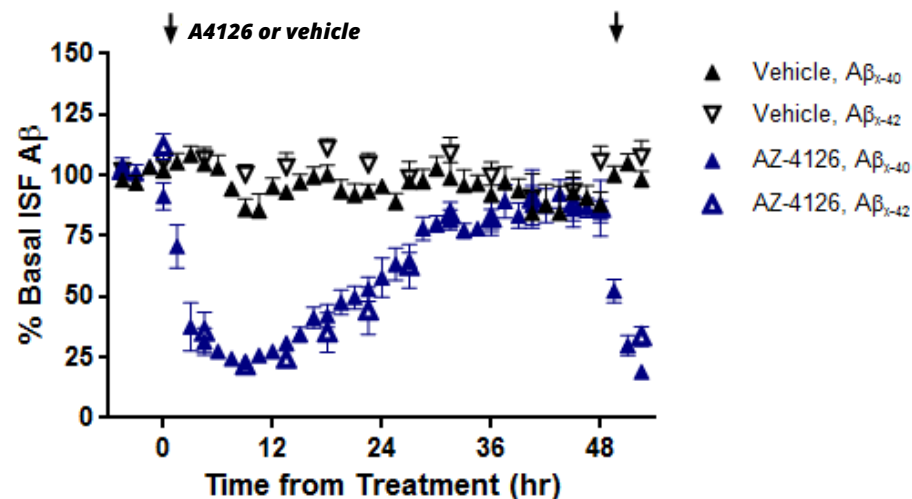
GSM is a safer MoA than an inhibitor, e.g. BACE- or gamma-secretase inhibitor

Alzstatin **targets gamma secretase** as a **modulator** – does **not** block enzyme activity

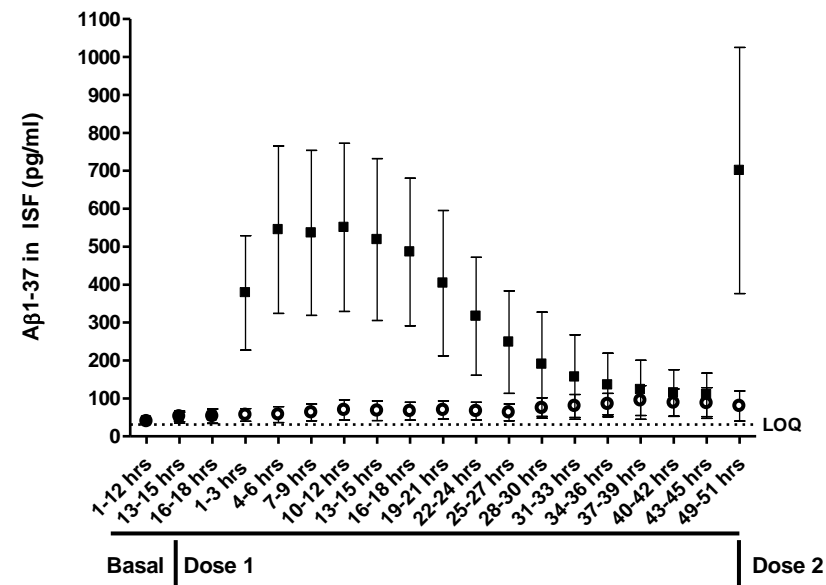


Alzstatin compounds **does not block the cleavage of other gamma-secretase substrates**, such as Notch

Alzstatin compounds effectively modulate A β production in the brain in vivo



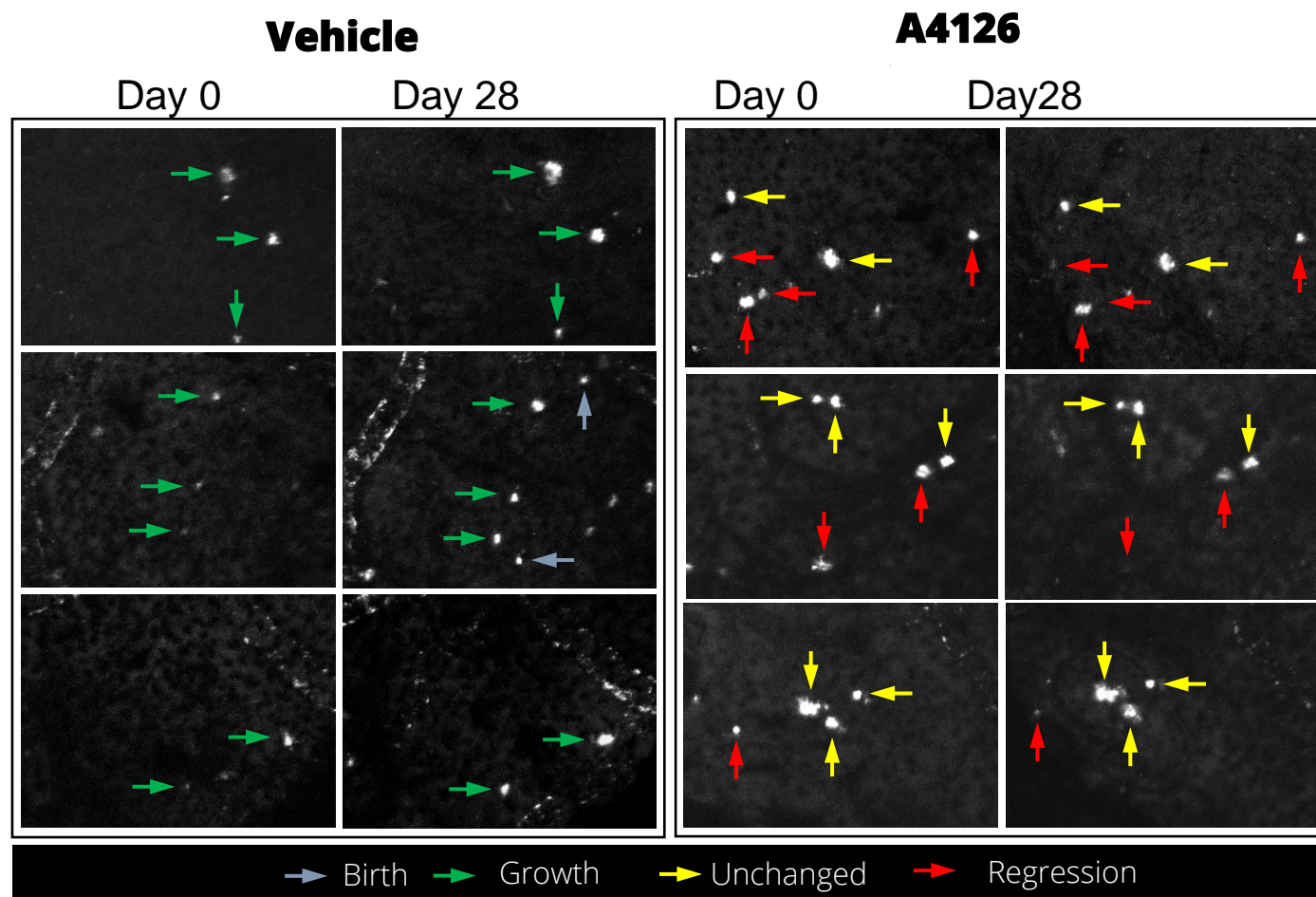
Tg2576 mice (6 months) treated with 100 μ mol/kg A4126 (p.o.) show significant lowering of A β 42 and A β 40 in interstitial fluid



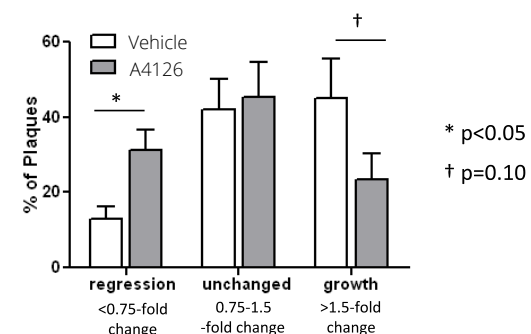
100 μ mol/kg A4126 show significant increase in A β 37 in interstitial fluid

Systemic administration of a GSM results in a large decrease in A β 42/40 and an increase in A β 37 in the interstitial fluid in an established mouse AD model

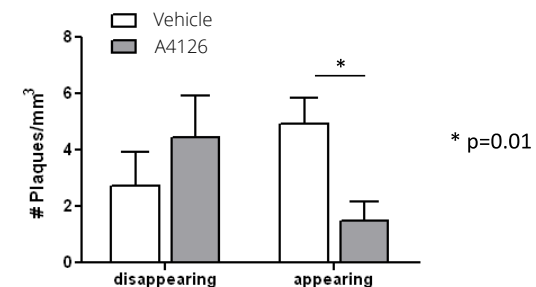
AlzeCure's GSM affects amyloid aggregation in APP/PS1 mice



Distribution of Plaque Growth and Regression



Plaque appearance or disappearance



28-day GSM treatment:

- **Attenuates amyloid plaque growth**
- **Decreases new plaque appearance**
- **Induces modest plaque regression**

Beneficial effect of shorter A β peptides

RESEARCH ARTICLE OPEN ACCESS

Association of CSF A β_{38} Levels With Risk of Alzheimer Disease–Related Decline

Nicholas Cullen, BS, Shorena Janelidze, PhD, Sebastian Palmqvist, MD, PhD, Erik Stomrud, MD, PhD, Niklas Mattsson-Carlsson, MD, PhD, and Oskar Hansson, MD, PhD, for the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative

Neurology® 2022;98:e958–e967. doi:10.1212/WNL.00000000000013228

Correspondence
Mr. Cullen
nicholas.cullen@med.lu.se

Patients/populations that have:

- Higher A β_{38} has a slower decline in MMSE
- High A β_{38} has a slower conversion in to AD

Chemical
Science



EDGE ARTICLE

View Article Online
View Journal | View Issue



Cite this: *Chem. Sci.*, 2022, 13, 2423

All publication charges for this article have been paid for by the Royal Society of Chemistry

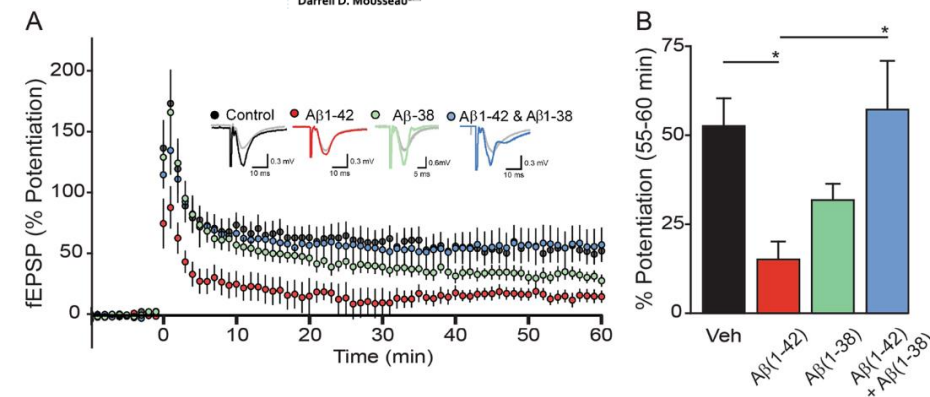
Amyloid- β peptide 37, 38 and 40 individually and cooperatively inhibit amyloid- β 42 aggregation†

Gabriel A. Braun,^{†a} Alexander J. Dear,^{†abcd} Kalyani Sanagavarapu,^{§a} Henrik Zetterberg^{efgh} and Sara Linse^{†*a}

scientific reports

OPEN The A β (1–38) peptide is a negative regulator of the A β (1–42) peptide implicated in Alzheimer disease progression

Maa O. Quartey¹, Jennifer N. K. Nyarko¹, Jason M. Maley², Jocelyn R. Barnes³, Maria A. C. Bolanos⁴, Ryan M. Heistad¹, Kaeli J. Knudsen¹, Paul R. Pennington¹, Josef Buttigieg⁵, Carlos E. De Carvalho⁵, Scot C. Leary⁶, Matthew P. Parsons³ & Darrell D. Mousseau^{1,2,5}



A β_{38} reverses the negative impact of A β_{42} on long-term potentiation in acute hippocampal slices and on membrane conductance in primary neurons

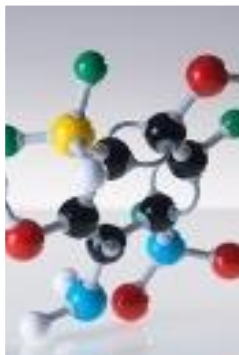
Shorter peptides attenuates A β_{42} toxicity in *C. elegans* and *Drosophila*

Higher levels of A $\beta_{37/38}$ appear beneficial



How Alzstatin is expected to differ from the Antibodies*

- Key advantages



Small molecule therapy

- Small molecules generally pass much more readily across the BBB to its target site - the brain
- Provides a more cost-effective treatment for chronic use than biologics



Oral formulation => Home treatment

- Don't need to go to the hospital once or twice a month for an infusion of the drug



Stand-alone or combination therapy

- Suitable both as stand-alone therapy as well as combination therapy together with anti-amyloid antibodies



Fewer side effects

- Not expected to have the side effects of brain oedema and brain microbleedings (ARIA)
- => Is not expected to demand regular brain scans, => minimizing hospital visits and costs

Early Value Driving Proof-of-Mechanism in Phase I

- **Proof of Mechanism & Central Target Engagement**

- Phase I - SAD/MAD studies to be performed
 - Evaluation of safety and tolerability after single and repeated administration
- Possible to explore biomarker effects **showing central target engagement**
 - A β 42/40 – show **reduction of toxic A β -species**
 - A β 37/38 – show **increase of shorter protective A β -species**, establishing gamma-secretase involvement and MoA
 - Biomarker strategy employed previously by Pfizer (PMID: 31314925)
 - Measurements done both in CSF & plasma utilizing readily **available kits**



- **BBB-penetrant Small Molecule for Oral Use**

- **Not expected to cause brain oedema** (ARIA-E) and brain microbleeds (ARIA-H) associated with mAb therapies*

Multiple target populations - maintenance and preventive therapy

Maintenance therapy in patients with established Alzheimer's

- Treatment after initial plaque clearance by monoclonal antibody treatment (as initially proposed by Lilly) e.g., with: Lecanemab (Eisai/Biogen/Bioarctic), Donanemab (Lilly), Remternetug (Lilly)



Combination therapy together with monoclonal antibody treatment - early AD

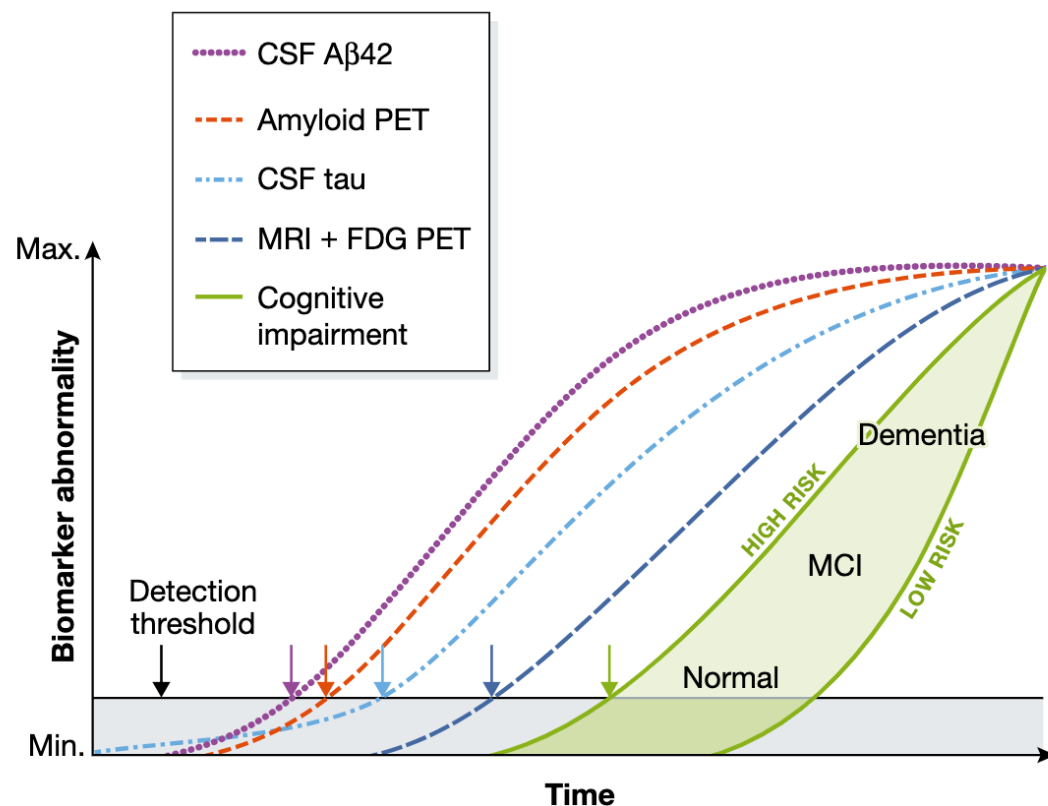
- Combine plaque clearance by monoclonal antibody treatment and reduction of A β 42 production by GSM

Preventive therapy based on genetic risk factors* & biomarkers (long-term possibility)

- Early stand-alone treatment before onset of symptoms and any major neurodegeneration occurs (prior to rapid increase in Tau pathology)
- Prevents build-up of amyloid – an early pathological feature of AD
- Familiar forms of the disease (incl. Downs syndrome) suitable for initial proof of concept clinical studies



Well established biomarkers in the field



Possible blood/CSF biomarkers

A β 42/40/38/37 and different ratios thereof
Tau: T-tau, pTau181, pTau217, and pTau231

NFL - neurodegeneration
GFAP - neuroinflammation

**Collaboration with Prof. Zetterberg
will enable us to select best
biomarkers**

Blood biomarker development will allow for early patient selection & detection,
but at present confirmation by PET/CSF biomarkers is needed

Summary

Advantages with Alzstatin

- ✓ Decreases A β 42 production – reduces all forms of amyloid aggregates (oligomers, fibrils etc.)
- ✓ Increases the shorter peptides A β 37 and A β 38 - suggested to have protective properties
- ✓ Do not block enzyme activity and spares important physiological signaling – key for safety
- ✓ Genetically supported mechanism - mode of action is the reverse of most familiar Alzheimer mutations
- ✓ Small molecule compound – allows for cost-effective oral administration & good CNS exposure
- ✓ PoM data achievable already in phase 1 clinical trials
- ✓ Could also be used together with other disease-modifier therapies, e.g. antibodies
- ✓ Potential to prevent or slow disease progression

Bart De Strooper on Alzforum regarding Lecanemab Phase 3 results:

“These results strongly suggest that we revisit previous drug targets such as γ -secretase and BACE, as small compounds modulating these activities might be, in the long run, the only cheap and feasible prevention for AD.”



Karolinska Institutet Novum Science Park
Hälsovägen 7, 141 57 Stockholm
SWEDEN

www.alzecurepharma.com





Expert Event

Advances in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease

– Small molecule **Gamma-Secretase Modulators (GSMs)**
as promising disease-modifying treatments

Q&A session

Closing remarks & Take Home Messages



Take Home Messages

On the Alzheimer's market & unmet medical needs

- **Early detection** of the risk to develop Alzheimer's, **up to 15 years before clinical symptoms**, opens up the **need for new treatments** aiming to minimize toxic amyloid load
- There is a **huge unmet medical need** in the Alzheimer's therapy market, **even if antibodies are available** (- only 5-8% of Alzheimer's pts are eligible)
- There are still **no curative or preventive Alzheimer's treatments approved**
- **Gamma-secretase modulators** is a new and **promising class of Alzheimer's therapies**, with **several different target patient populations**

Take Home Messages

On AlzeCure Pharma

- AlzeCure is a clinical stage Alzheimer's and CNS company with **several novel first-in-class and/or best-in-class assets**
- AlzeCure's ambition is to develop Alzheimer's **therapies that both stop disease progression and improve cognition**
- **NeuroRestore ACD856**, currently in **preparation for clinical phase 2 studies**, is being developed as a cognitive enhancer with potential neuroprotective and neurodegenerative properties
- **Alzstatin**, AlzeCure's **gamma-secretase modulator** program, is currently in preclinical phase and is **planned to initiate clinical phase 1 studies in 2025**
- **Efficacy data & Proof of Mechanism** could be **established already in phase 1** for our gamma-secretase modulator, which is expected to be a strong value driver

Download the presentation

- The recorded presentation and slide sets will be made available on AlzeCure's web page

– www.alzecurepharma.com



Scan code to get to the page
with the presentations

Get updates on the programs & AlzeCure's advancement

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Thank You for attending

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