

Overview

- Review of currently available treatments for Parkinson's, including complex therapies
- Discuss ongoing clinical trials of disease-modifying agents and preliminary results
- Discuss recent developments in Parkinson's biomarkers and introduce new concept of biological definition of the disease

Conflict of interest

None

Other disclosures

Advisory Boards: Britannia, Boston Scientific, Benevolent AI, Roche, Abbvie.

Honoraria: Britannia, Abbvie, GE Healthcare, Boston Scientific.

Grants: Independent Research Fund Denmark, Danish Parkinson's disease Association, Parkinson's UK, Center of Excellence in Neurodegeneration (CoEN) network award, GE Healthcare Grant, Multiple System Atrophy Trust, Weston Brain Institute, EU Joint Program Neurodegenerative Disease Research (JPND), EU Horizon 2020 research, The Michael J. Fox Foundation, F. Hoffmann-La Roche.

Parkinson's

- Progressive neurodegenerative disease
- it occurs everywhere in the world
- 95% of cases begin over age 50
- 1-2% > age 60
- Incidence increases with age
- Men more frequently affected than women (1.5 times)

AN
ESSAY
ON THE
SHAKING PALSY.

CHAPTER I.

DEFINITION—HISTORY—ILLUSTRATIVE CASES.

SHAKING PALSY. (*Paralysis Agitans.*)

Involuntary tremulous motion, with lessened muscular power, in parts not in action and even when supported; with a propensity to bend the trunk forwards, and to pass from a walking to a running pace: the senses and intellects being uninjured.

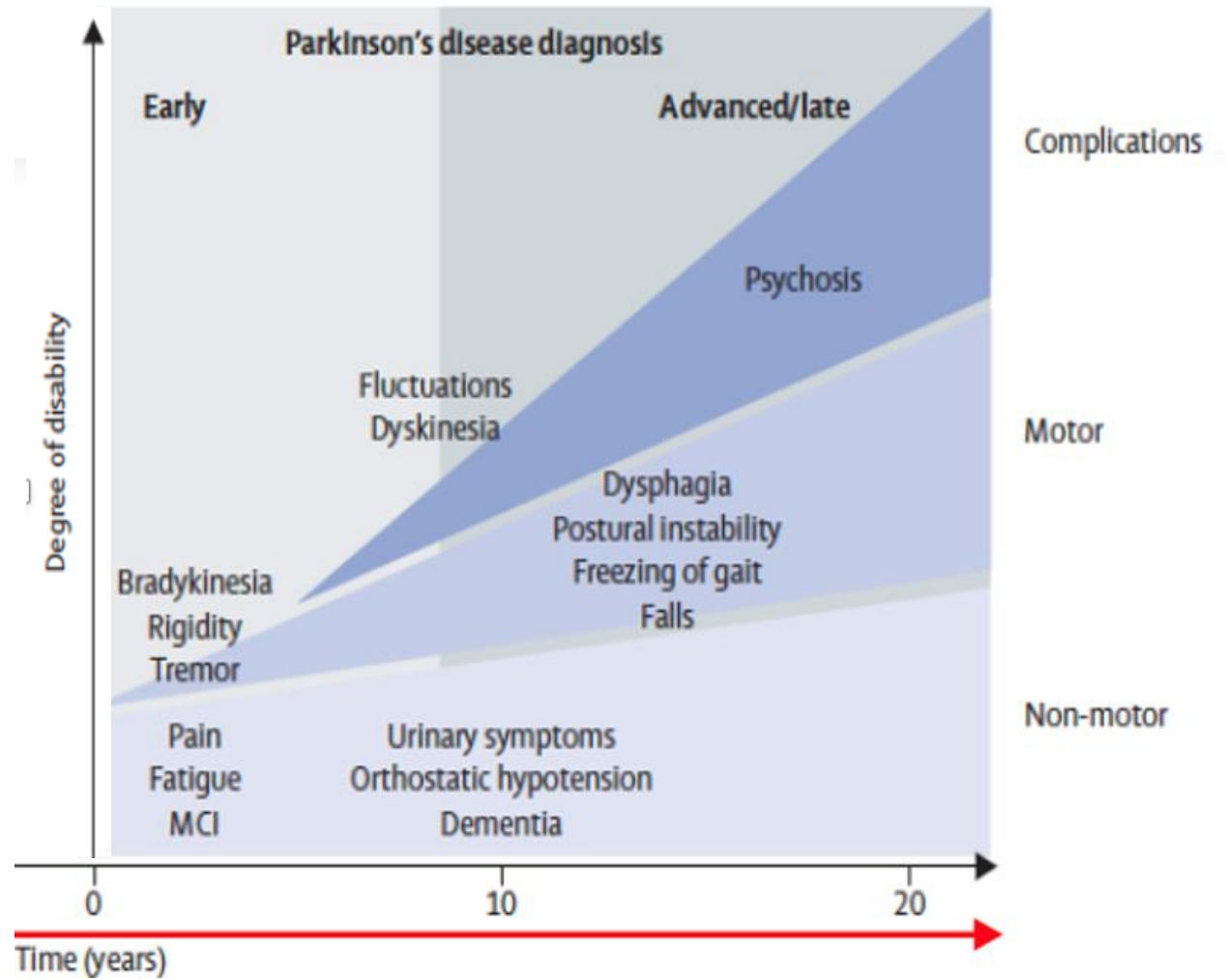
THE term Shaking Palsy has been vaguely employed by medical writers in general. By some it has been used to designate or-

153

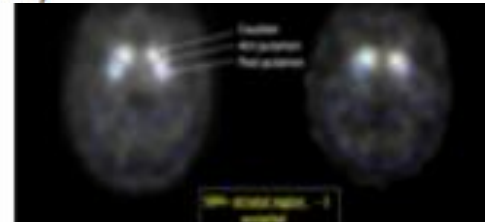
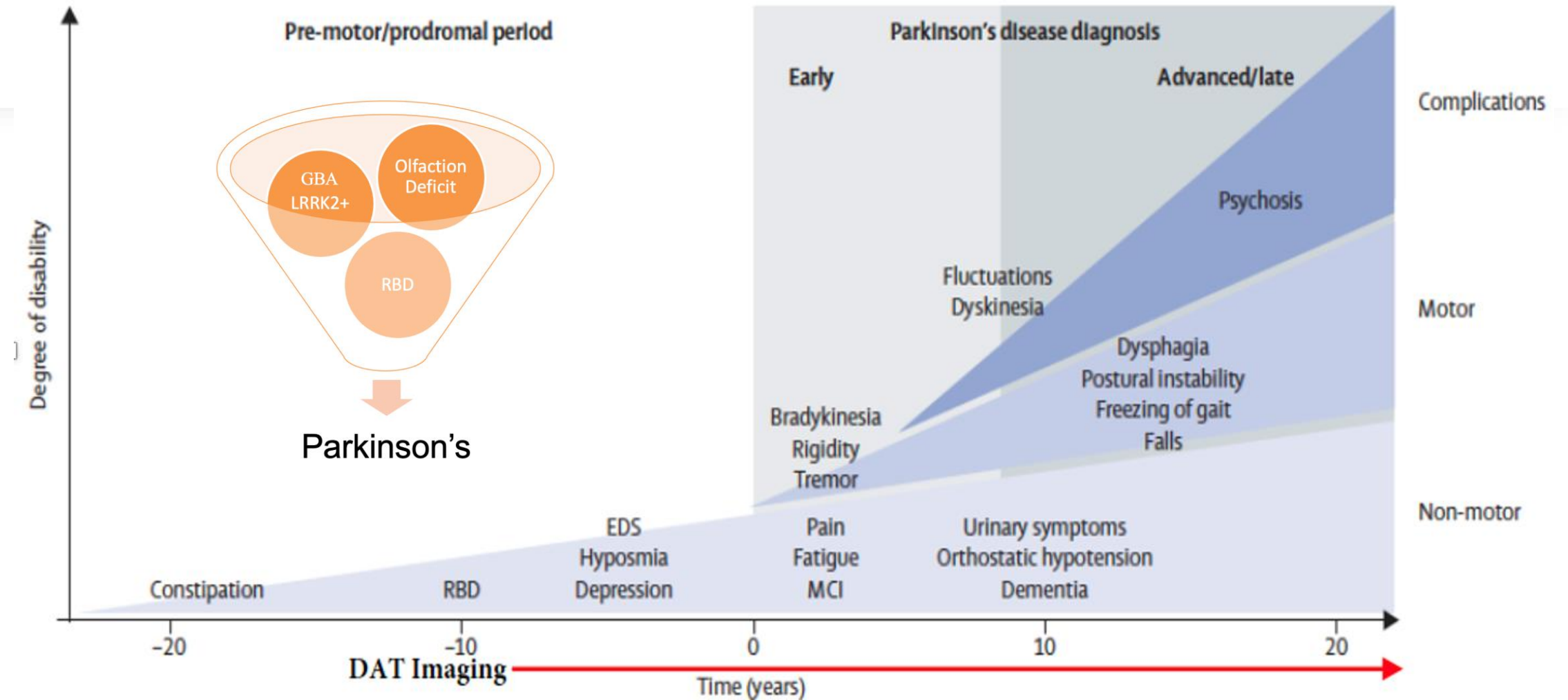


James Parkinson, 1817

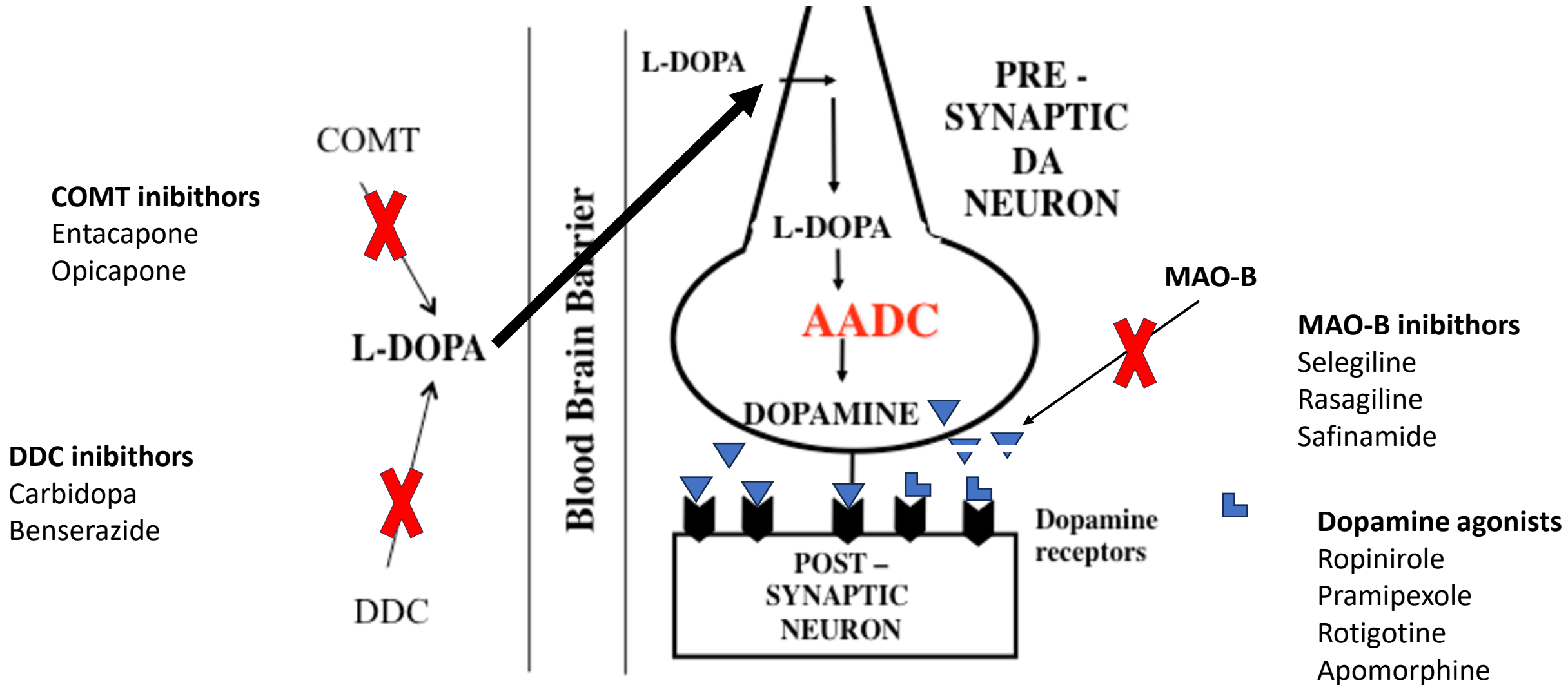
Natural History of Parkinson's



Natural History of Parkinson's



Dopamine Replacement Therapy



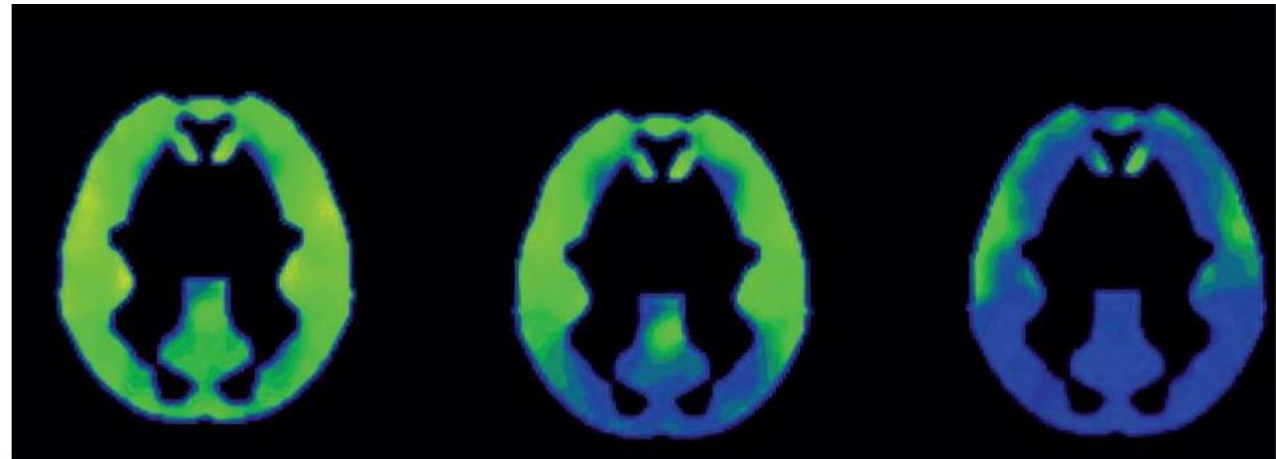
Non-dopaminergic Therapy

- **Amantadine** for Dyskinesias
- **Anticholinergics** for tremor

Acetylcholine esterase
imaging

^{11}C -NM4PA PET

Also found in RBD patients

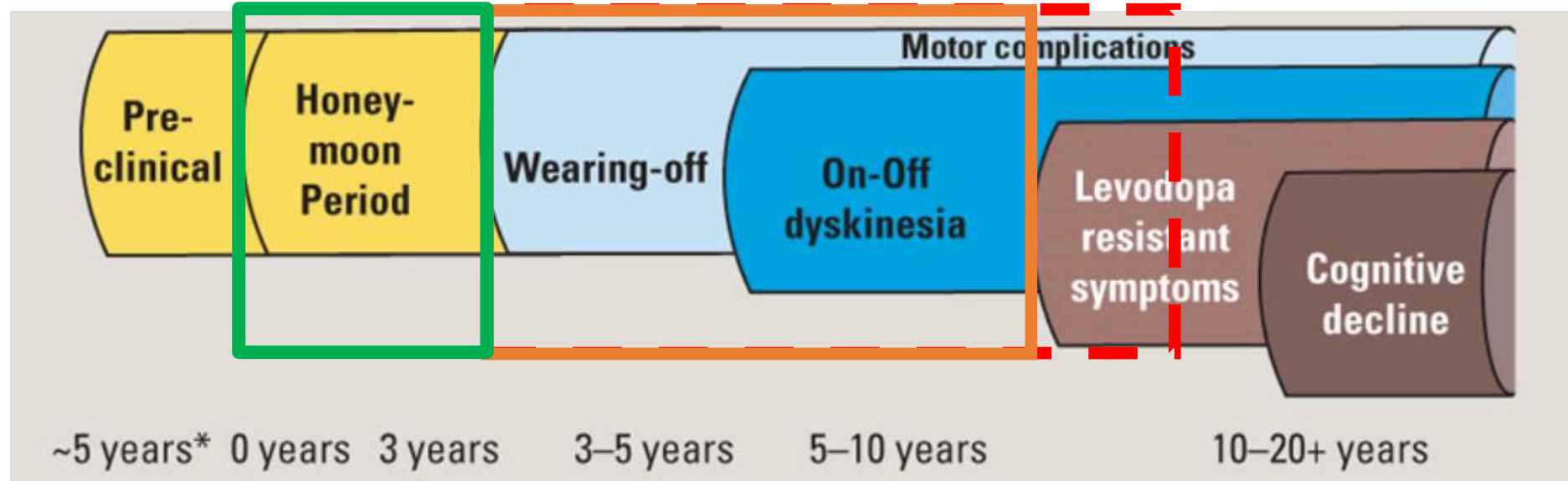


Normal

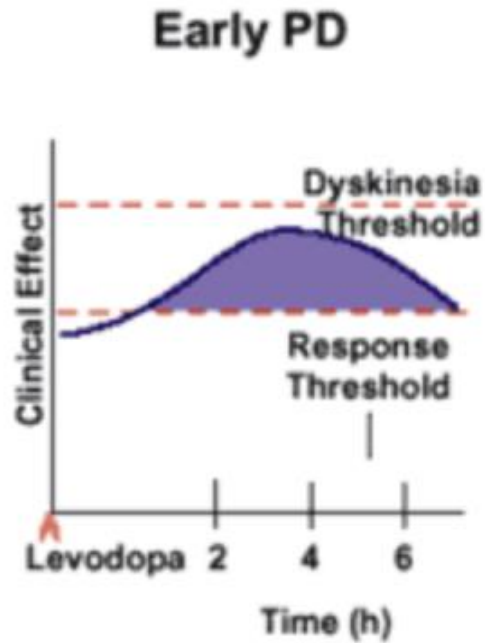
PD

PDD
(Dementia)

Progression of Parkinson's and Therapeutic Response

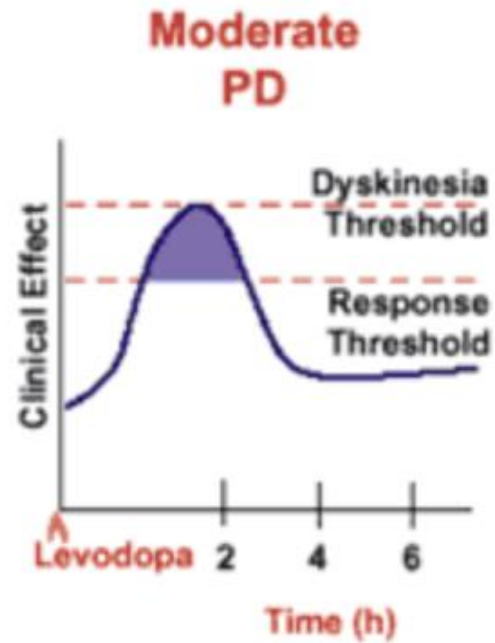


Changes in Levodopa Response over Time



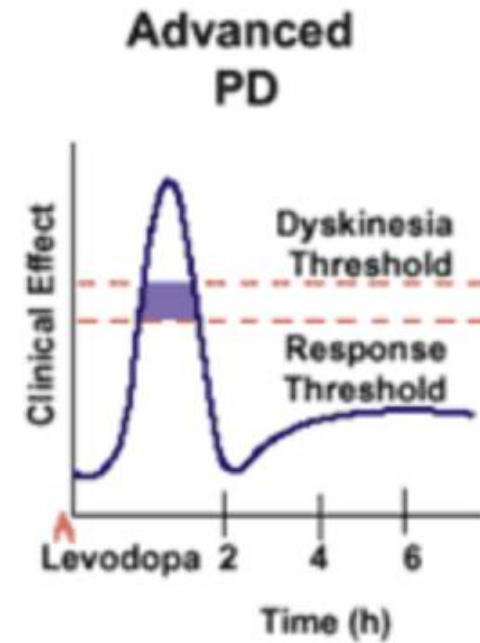
Long duration
motor response

Low incidence
of dyskinesia



Shorter duration
motor response

Increased incidence
of dyskinesia



Short duration
motor response

'On'-time consistently
associated with
dyskinesia



Deep Brain Stimulation

Complex Therapies in PD

Who to choose?



**Intestinal
Levodopa/Carbidopa
Infusion**



**Subcutaneous
Apomorphine Infusion**



**Subcutaneous
Foslevodopa/foscarbidopa
Infusion**

5-2-1 Criteria



The 5-2-1 criteria have been proposed to determine when a patient's PD has progressed to an advanced state



5-2-1 Criteria



Patients are considered to have advanced PD when they meet at least one of the 5-2-1 criteria:

- taking L-Dopa at least five times a day
- having at least 2 hours with “OFF” symptoms during the day
- or having at least 1 hour of troublesome, uncontrolled dyskinesia



Absolute Criteria for Considering Referral Complex Therapies



- Parkinson's for at least 4 years
- Presence of bothersome disease- related symptoms and/or side effects
- Motor improvement with dopaminergic medications
- Absence of other significant medical conditions
- Absence of ongoing severe, medically resistant neuropsychiatric diseases



Aetiology of Parkinson's

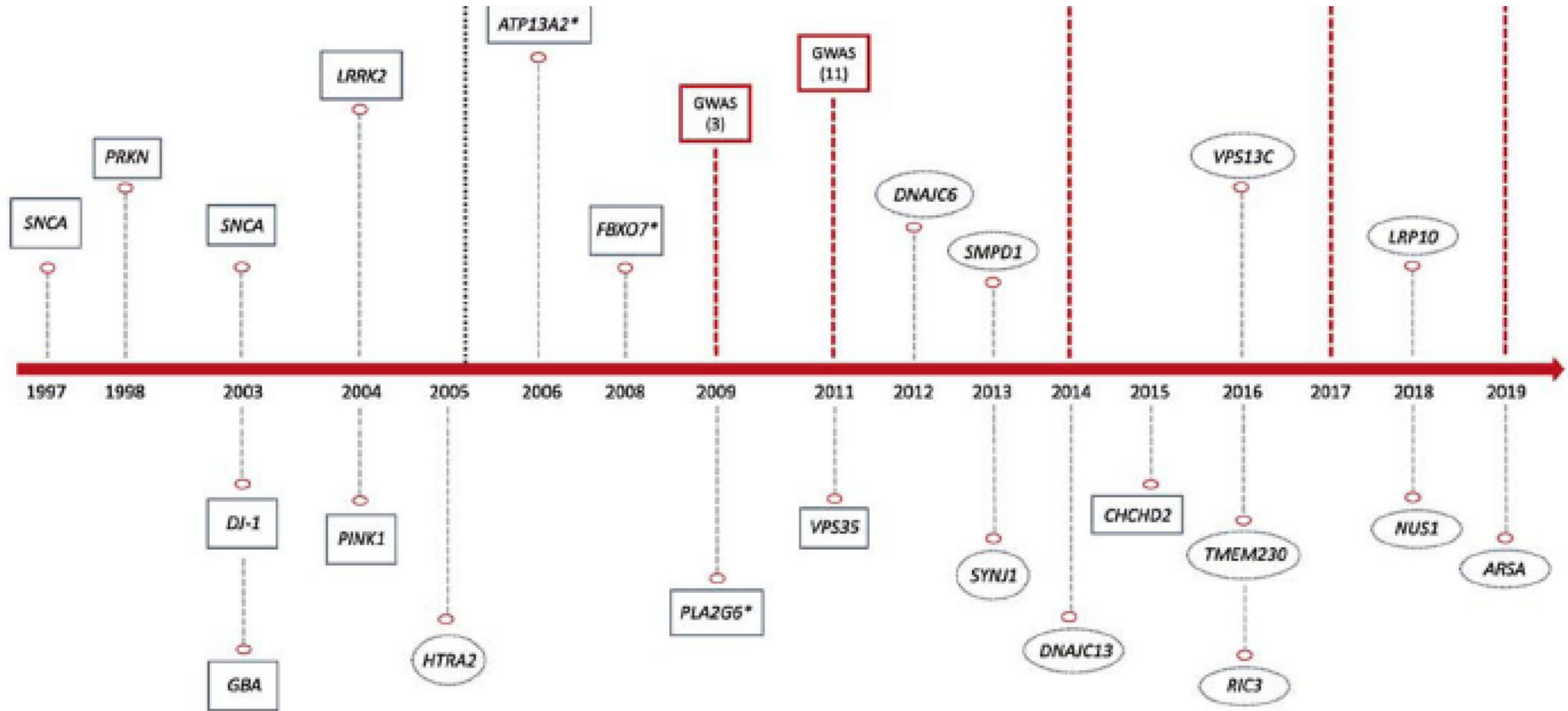


The aetiology of PD is unknown and a number of possible factors must be considered

It is likely that the cause of PD is multifactorial with contributions from

- aging
- impaired oxidative mechanisms
- exposure to toxins/viruses
- head injuries
- genetic predisposition

The genetics of Parkinson's over Time



Red squares represent genome-wide association studies and number of discovered risk loci in brackets

Green squares represent controversial or not widely validated genes linked to typical Parkinson disease

CAN GBA and LRRK2 PLAY A ROLE ALSO IN NON-MUTATED PD?



SCIENCE TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE | RESEARCH ARTICLE

PARKINSON'S DISEASE

LRRK2 activation in idiopathic Parkinson's disease

Roberto Di Maio^{1,2,3}, Eric K. Hoffman^{1,2}, Emily M. Rocha^{1,2}, Matthew T. Keeney^{1,2}, Laurie H. Sanders^{1,2,4}, Briana R. De Miranda^{1,2}, Alevtina Zharikov^{1,2}, Amber Van Laar^{1,2}, Antonia F. Stepan⁵, Thomas A. Lanz⁵, Julia K. Kofler⁶, Edward A. Burton^{1,2,7}, Dario R. Alessi⁸, Teresa G. Hastings^{1,2}, J. Timothy Greenamyre^{1,2,7*}

ROPAD - LRRK2 International PD, An international multicenter epidemiological observational study

Newcastle cohort

PD in our Clinics
N = 165

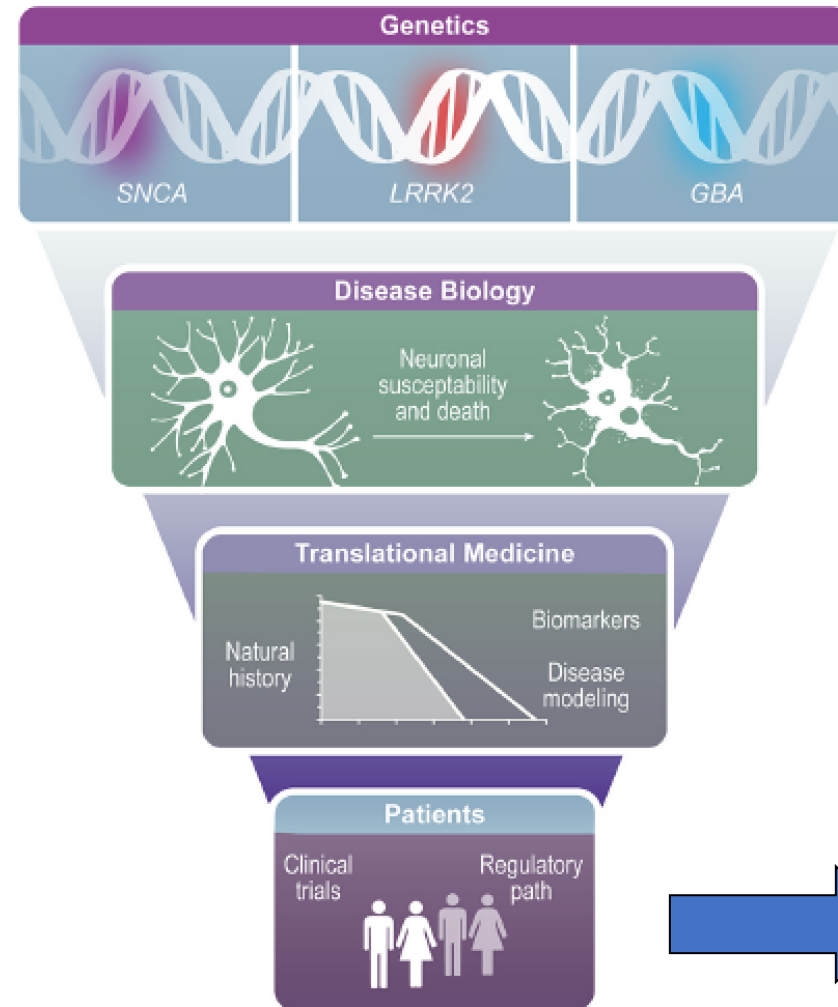
LRRK2
8 (4.85%)

GBA
13 (7.9%)

Parkin
4 (2.4%)

Similar phenotype
Similar treatment
No changes of therapy
You do not treat genetic cases in a different way

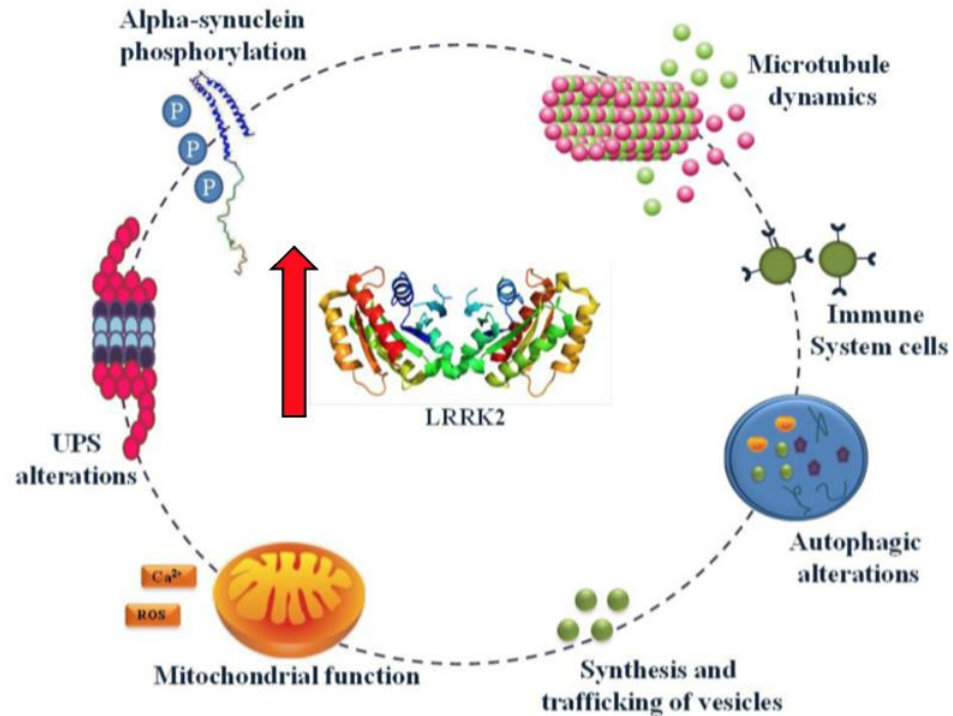
Genetic-based Interventions



Source: Shihabuddin et al .2018

**Personalised
Medicine**

Targeted Therapy in LRRK2-associated Parkinson's



Esteves et al., 2014

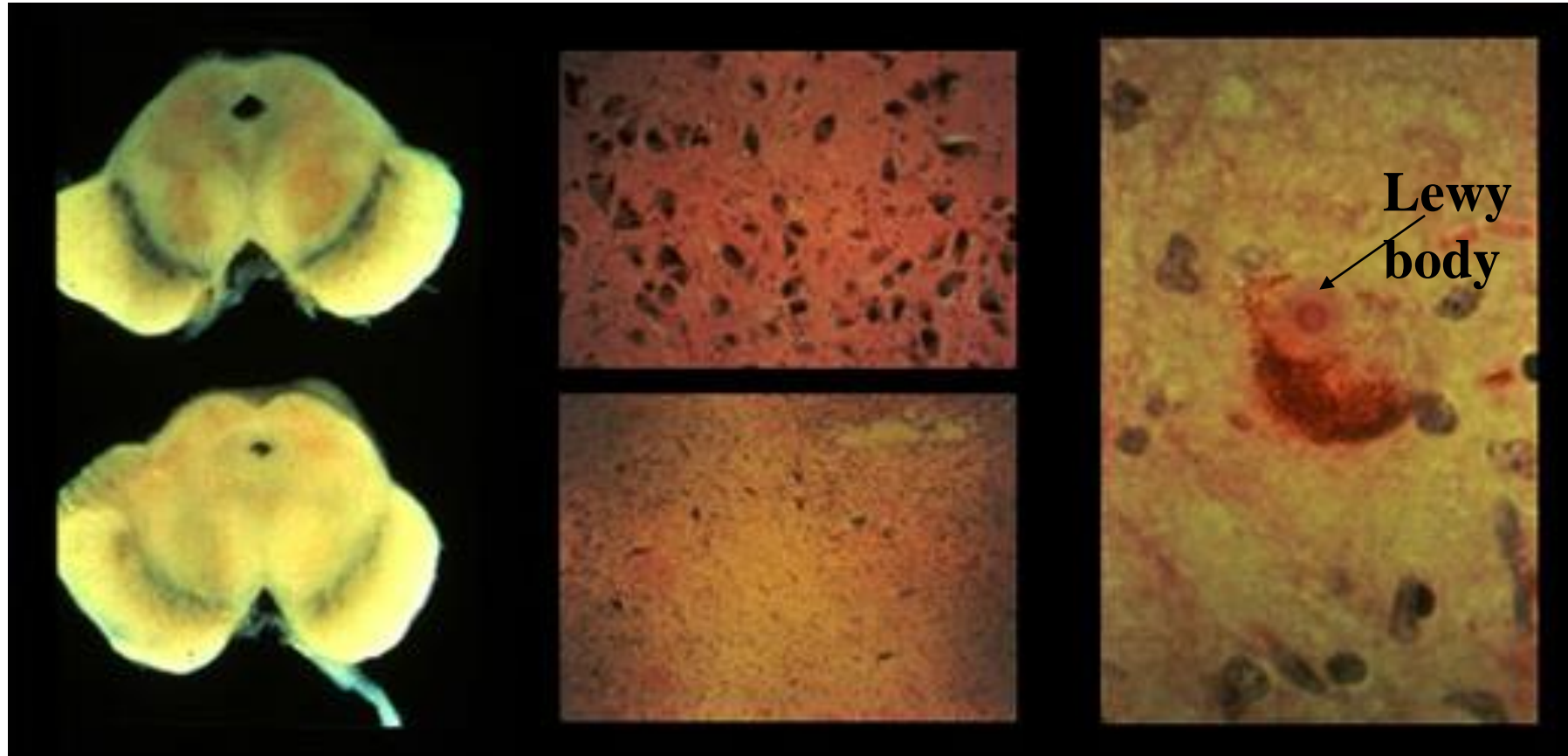
**DNL151 / BIIB122 is a LRRK2 inhibitor
co-developed by Denali and Biogen**

NIH U.S. National Library of Medicine
ClinicalTrials.gov

A Study to Assess the Safety of BIIB122 Tablets and if it Can Slow the Worsening of Early-Stage Parkinson's Disease in Participants Between the Ages of 30 and 80 (LUMA)

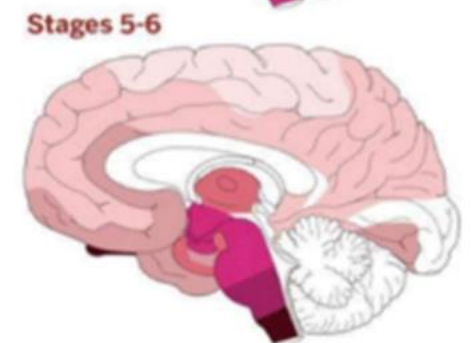
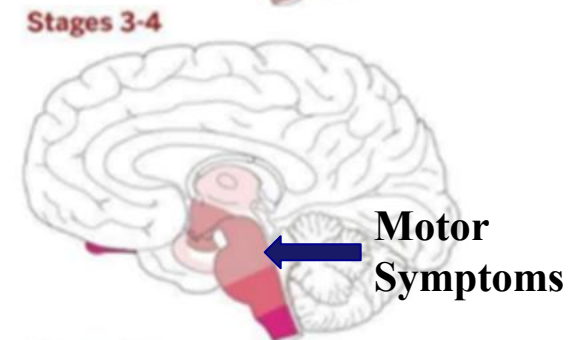
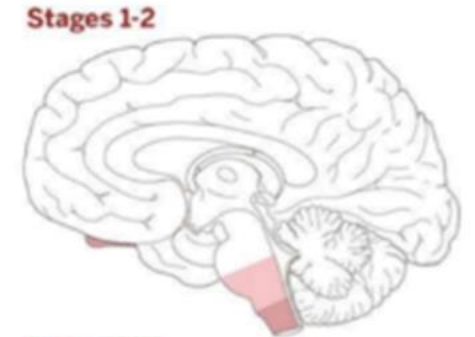
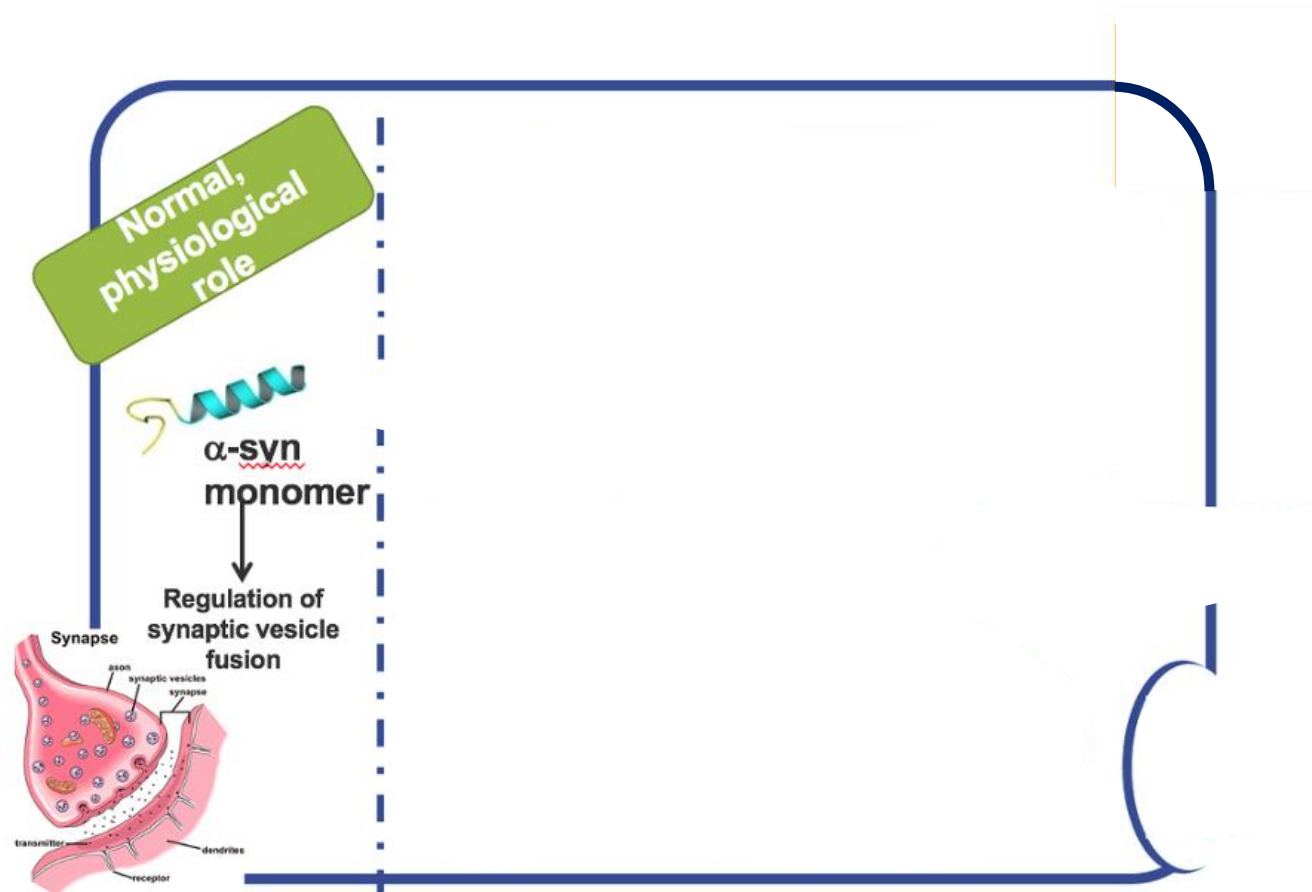
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:
NCT05348785

Pathological Changes in PD



The major component of Lewy bodies and Lewy neurites is an aggregated form of alpha-synuclein

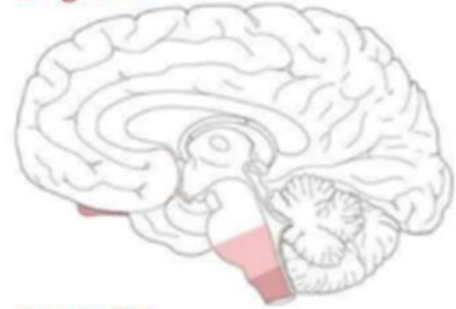
Alpha-Synuclein Misfolding in Parkinson's



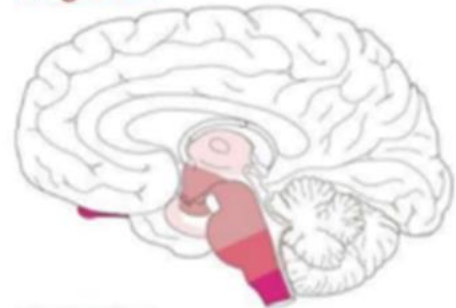
Braak Stages

Clinical Trials of Disease-modifying agents

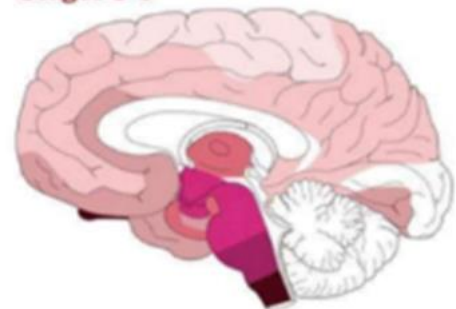
Stages 1-2



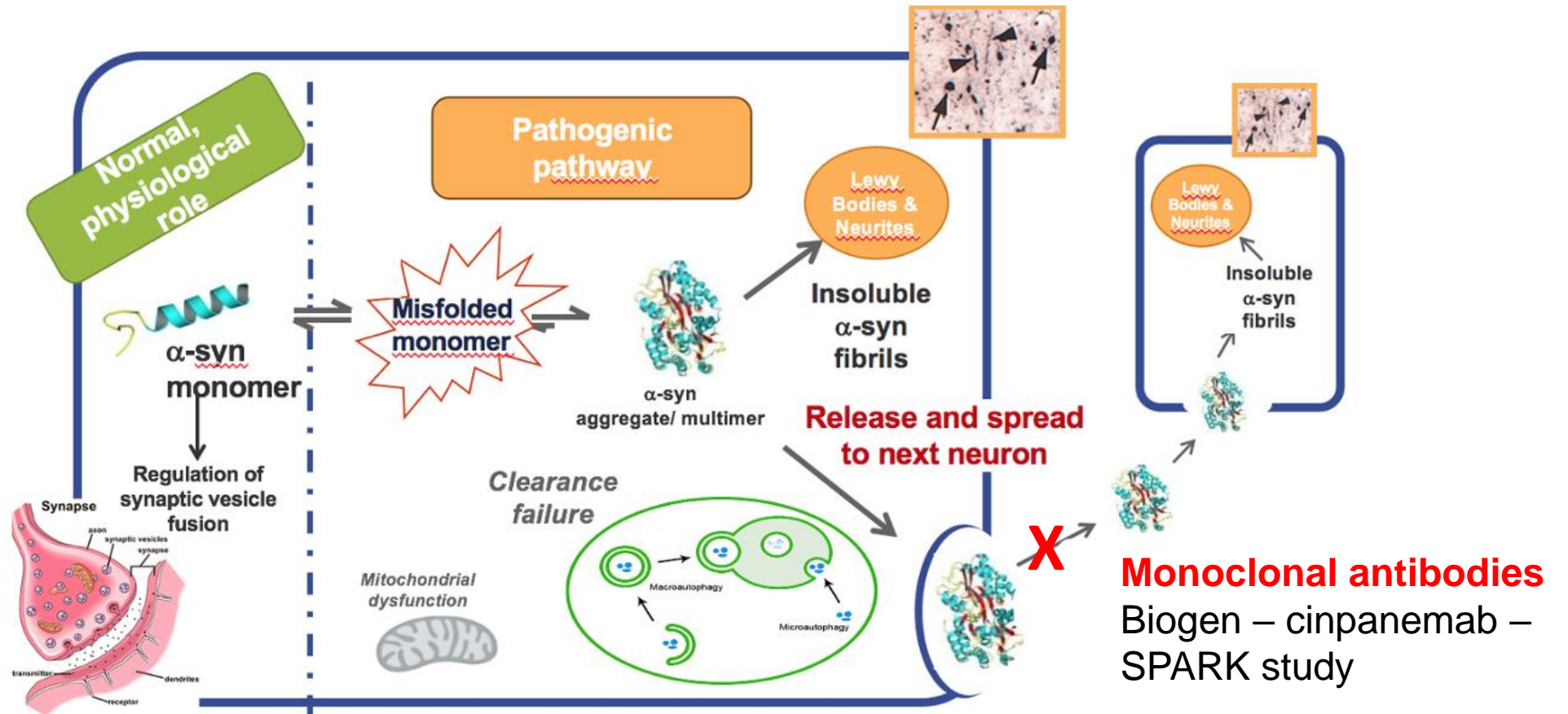
Stages 3-4



Stages 5-6



Alpha-Synuclein Misfolding in Parkinson's



Monoclonal antibodies
Biogen – cinpanemab –
SPARK study

Roche - Prasinezumab
Pasadena and Padova studies

PASADENA Study

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

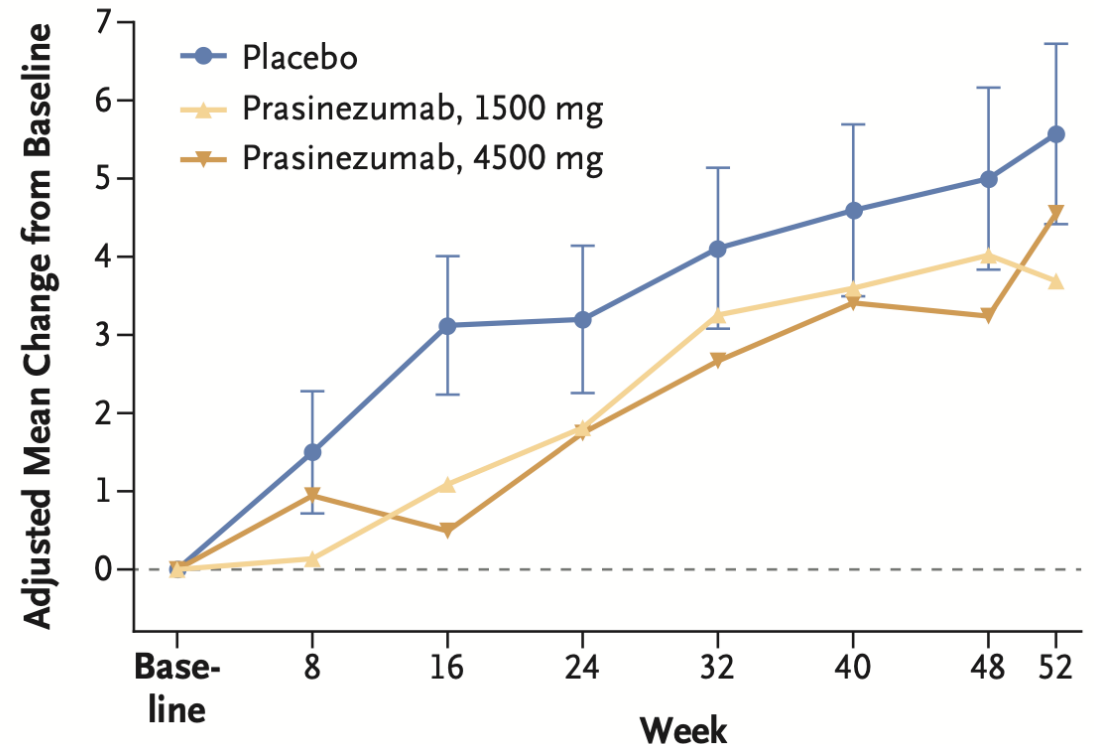
Trial of Prasinezumab in Early-Stage Parkinson's Disease

G. Pagano, K.I. Taylor, J. Anzures-Cabrera, M. Marchesi, T. Simuni, K. Marek, R.B. Postuma, N. Pavese, F. Stocchi, J.-P. Azulay, B. Mollenhauer, L. López-Manzanares, D.S. Russell, J.T. Boyd, A.P. Nicholas, M.R. Luquin, R.A. Hauser, T. Gasser, W. Poewe, B. Ricci, A. Boulay, A. Vogt, F.G. Boess, J. Dukart, G. D'Urso, R. Finch, S. Zanigni, A. Monnet, N. Pross, A. Hahn, H. Svoboda, M. Britschgi, F. Lipsmeier, E. Volkova-Volkmar, M. Lindemann, S. Dziadek, Š. Holiga, D. Rukina, T. Kustermann, G.A. Kerchner, P. Fontoura, D. Umbricht, R. Doody, T. Nikolcheva, and A. Bonni, for the PASADENA Investigators and Prasinezumab Study Group*

2022

No Change in Sum of Scores on MDS-UPDRS Parts I, II, and III from Baseline to Week 52

Change in Score on MDS-UPDRS Part III from Baseline to Week 52



The PASADENA Trial

PASADENA

First year
placebo-controlled

All patients treated with prasinezumab after first year.
Start or change of symptomatic therapy permitted

Delayed-start

Placebo

Prasinezumab

Early-start

Prasinezumab

0
Years from baseline

1

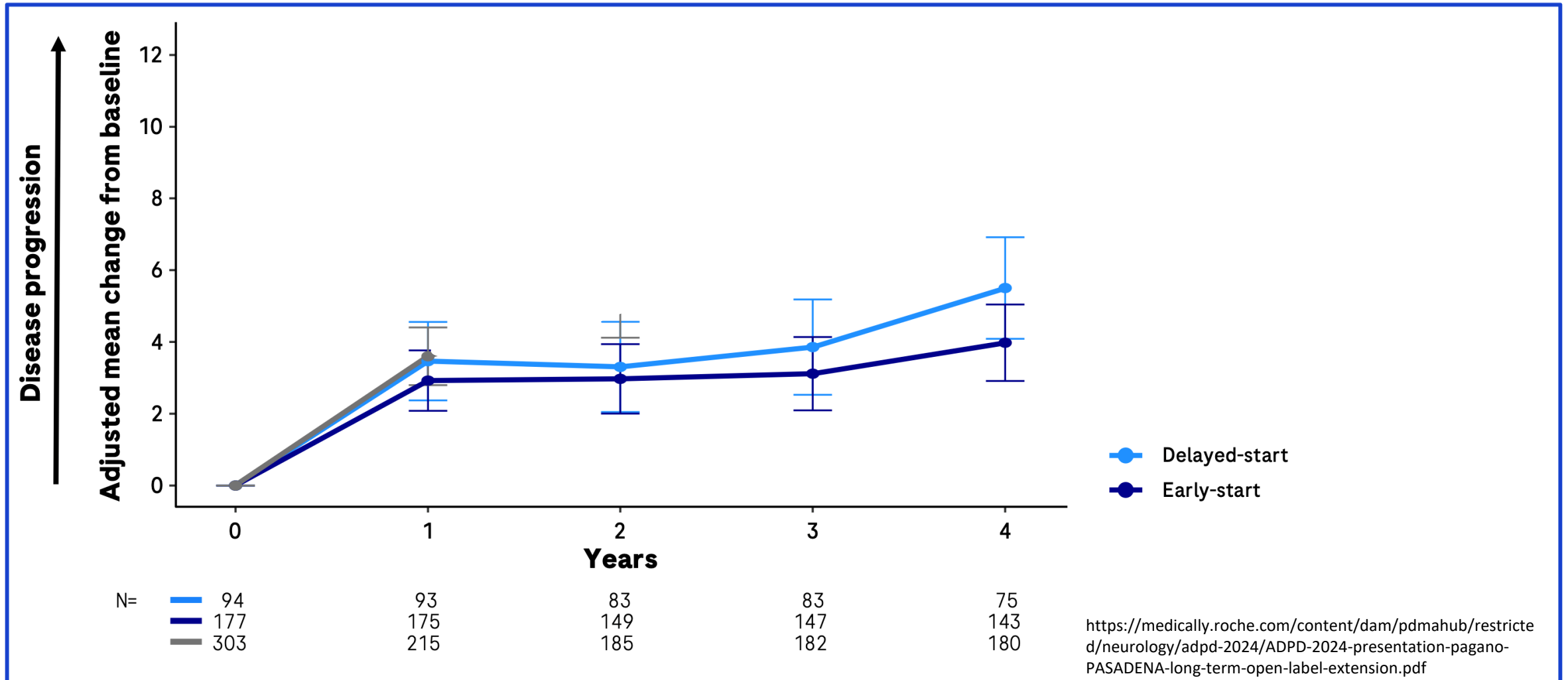
2

3

4

Median ~6.5-month interruption of treatment due to safety follow-up and start of OLE

Progression of MDS-UPDRS Part III OFF (motor examination) in Prasinezumab-treated individuals



PADOVA Study

 U.S. National Library of Medicine

ClinicalTrials.gov

A Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Intravenous Prasinezumab in Participants With Early Parkinson's Disease (PADOVA)

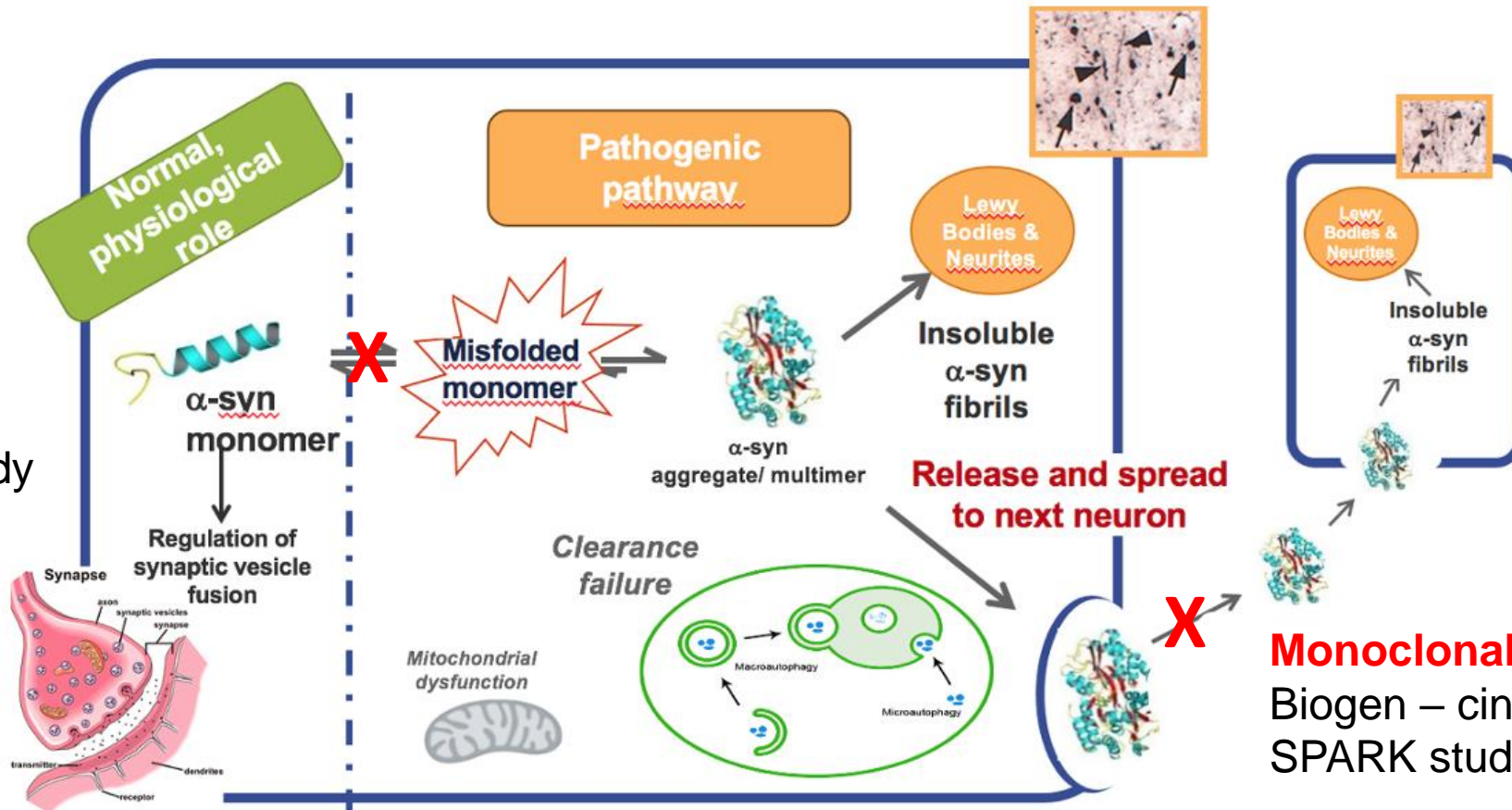
ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:
NCT04777331

Brief Summary:

This is a multicenter, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study that will evaluate the efficacy and safety of intravenous (IV) prasinezumab versus placebo in participants with Early Parkinson's Disease (PD) who are on stable symptomatic PD medication.

Alpha-Synuclein Misfolding in Parkinson's

UCB0599
Minzasolmin
Orchestra study



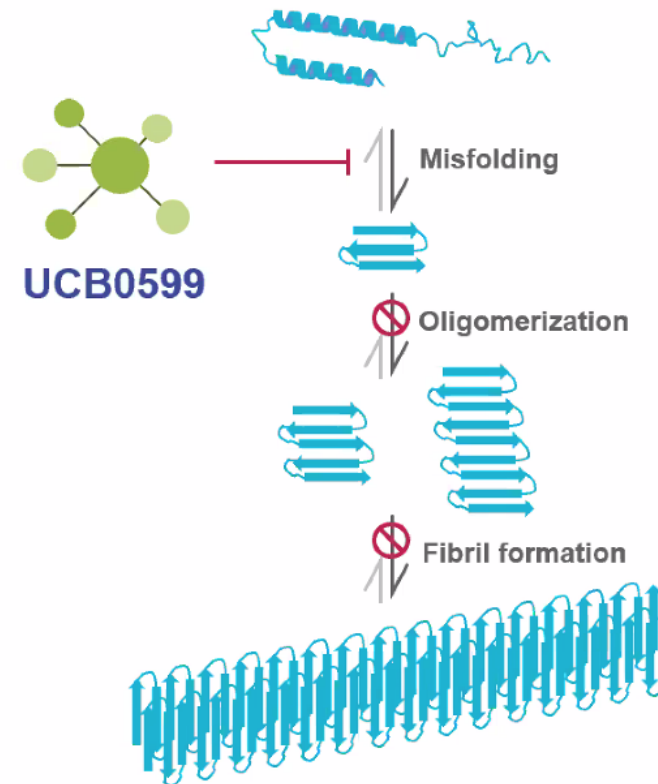
Monoclonal antibodies
Biogen – cinpanemab –
SPARK study

Roche - Prasinezumab
Pasadena and Padova studies

Orchestra Study (Minzasolmin vs Placebo)

UCB0599 is an Oral alpha-Synuclein (ASYN) Misfolding Inhibitor

- **ASYN adopts a misfolded structure** and **aggregates** into oligomers, which are believed to be the toxic species responsible for the spread of pathology from neuron to neuron in PD progression
- **UCB0599 is an orally administered**, small molecule inhibitor of ASYN misfolding
- **UCB0599 interacts with ASYN early** in the pathological process, **preventing the initial misfolding steps** that lead to fibril formation and consequent progression of PD



Orchestra Study (Minzasolmin vs Placebo)

 U.S. National Library of Medicine

ClinicalTrials.gov

A 18-month Study to Evaluate the Efficacy, Safety, Tolerability and Pharmacokinetics of Oral UCB0599 in Study Participants With Early-stage Parkinson's Disease

ClinicalTrials.gov Identifier:
NCT04658186

Brief Summary:

The purpose of the study is to assess the safety and tolerability of UCB0599 and to demonstrate the superiority of UCB0599 over placebo with regard to clinical symptoms of disease progression over 12 and 18 months in participants diagnosed with early-stage Parkinson's Disease.

< Research News

Breaking News: Parkinson's Disease Biomarker Found

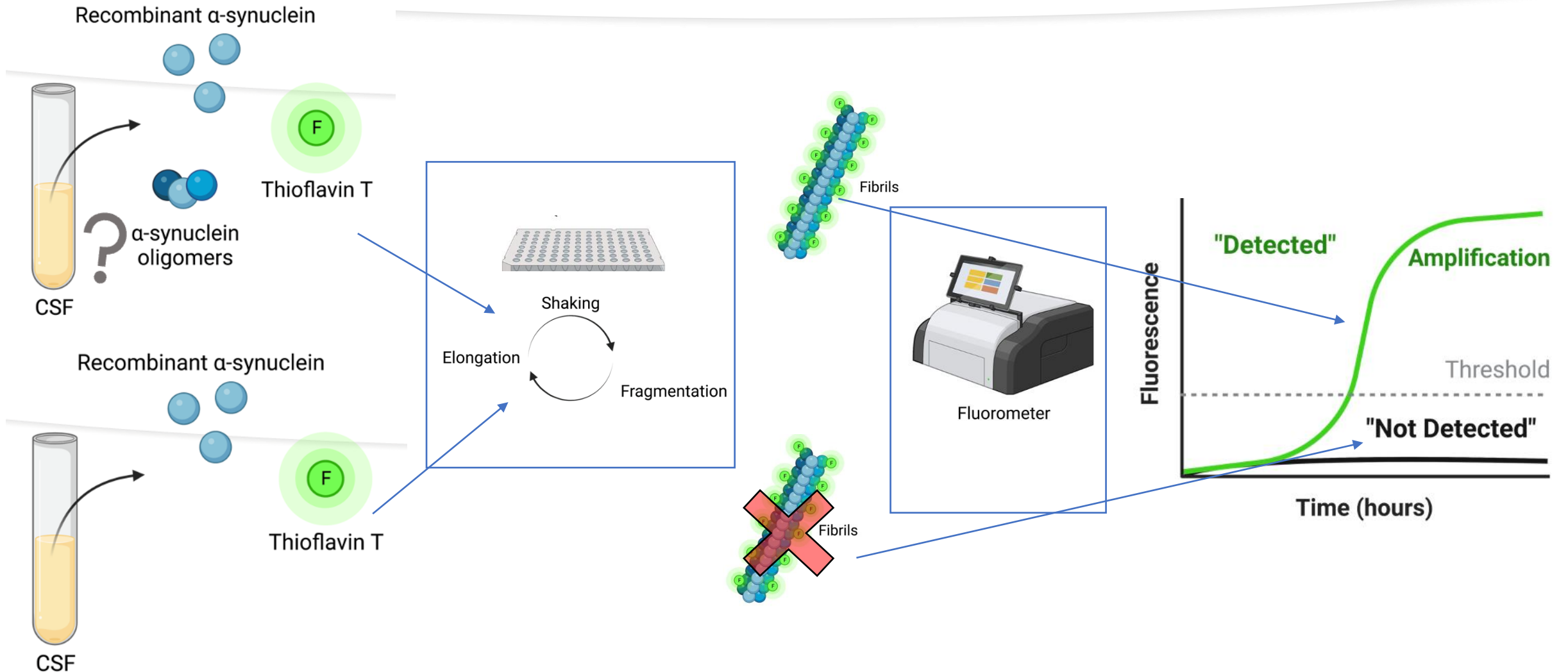
April 13, 2023

A recently developed highly accurate biological test called the α -synuclein seeding amplification assay (α Syn-SAA) is capable of objectively and reliably detecting the presence of abnormal alpha-synuclein in the cerebrospinal fluid in people with PD

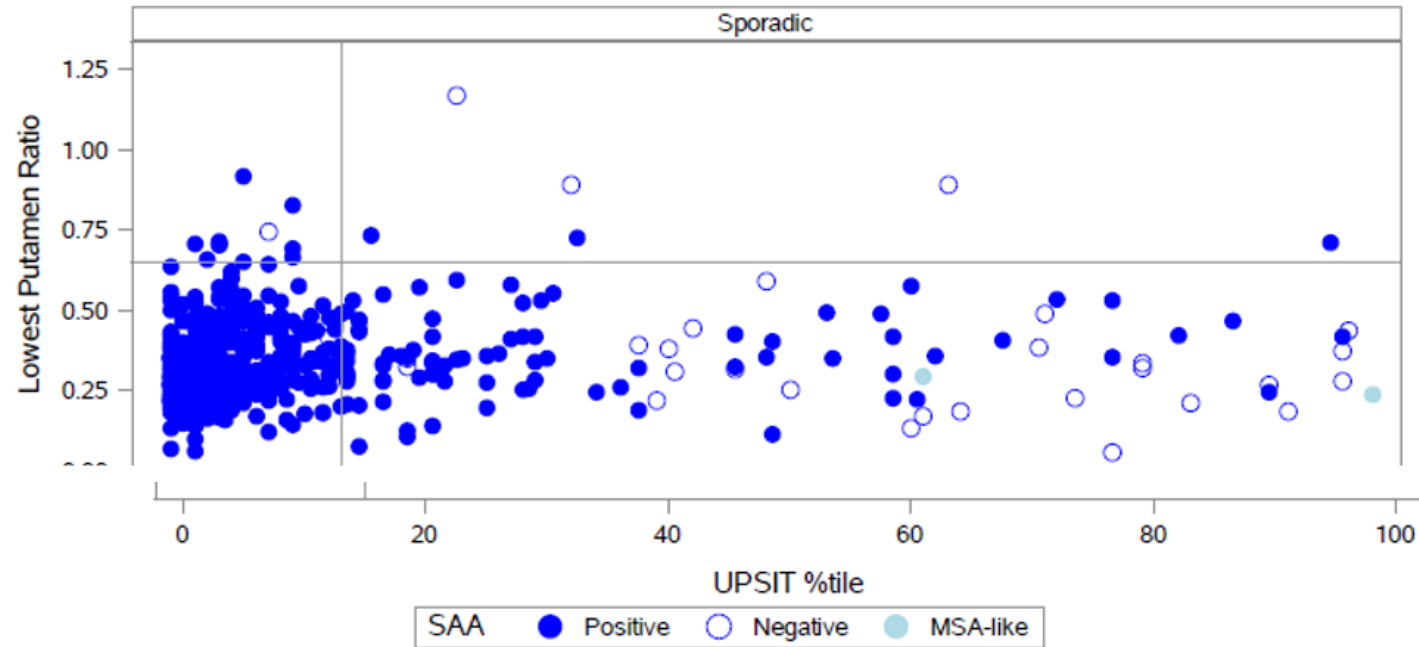


Seed Amplification Assay (SAA) = RT-QuIC and PMCA assays

Real-Time Quaking-Induced Conversion (RT-QuIC) and Protein-Misfolding Cyclic Amplification (PMCA)

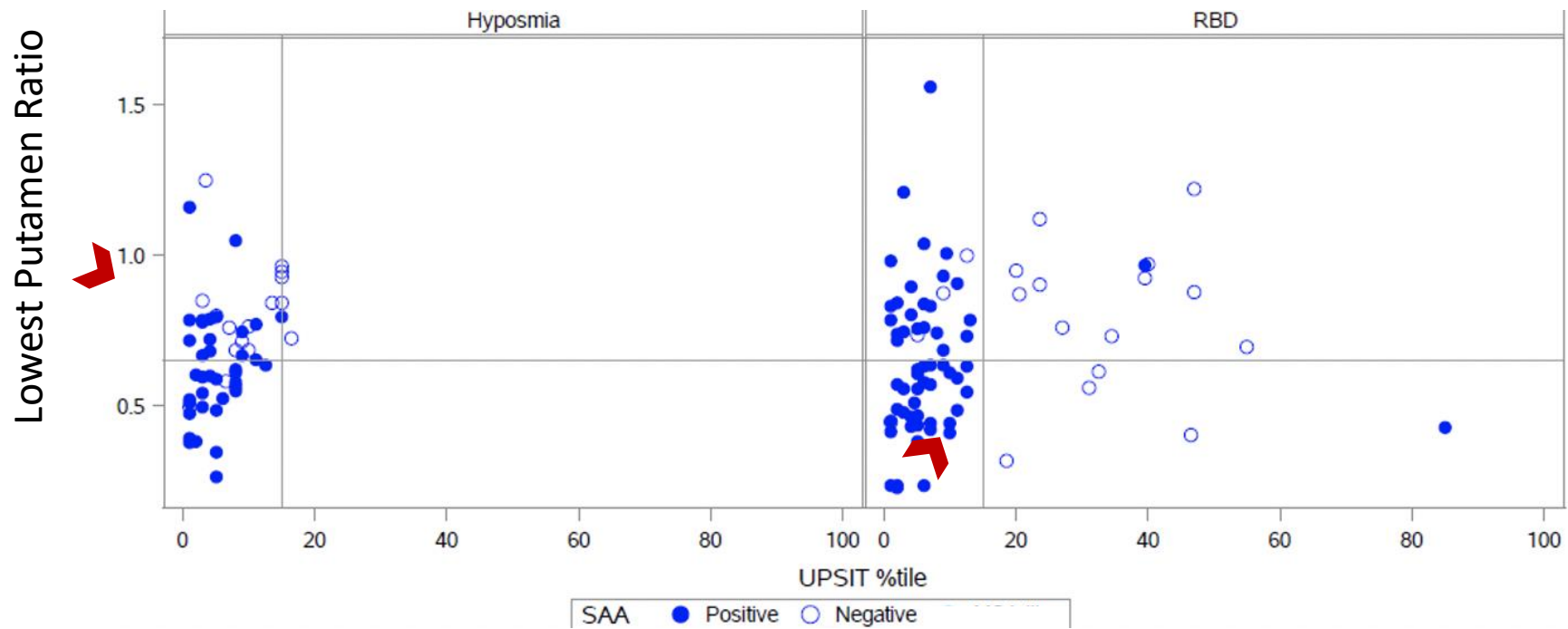


Defined PD/ DLB individuals



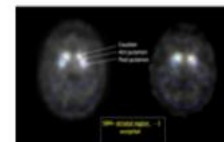
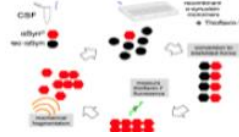
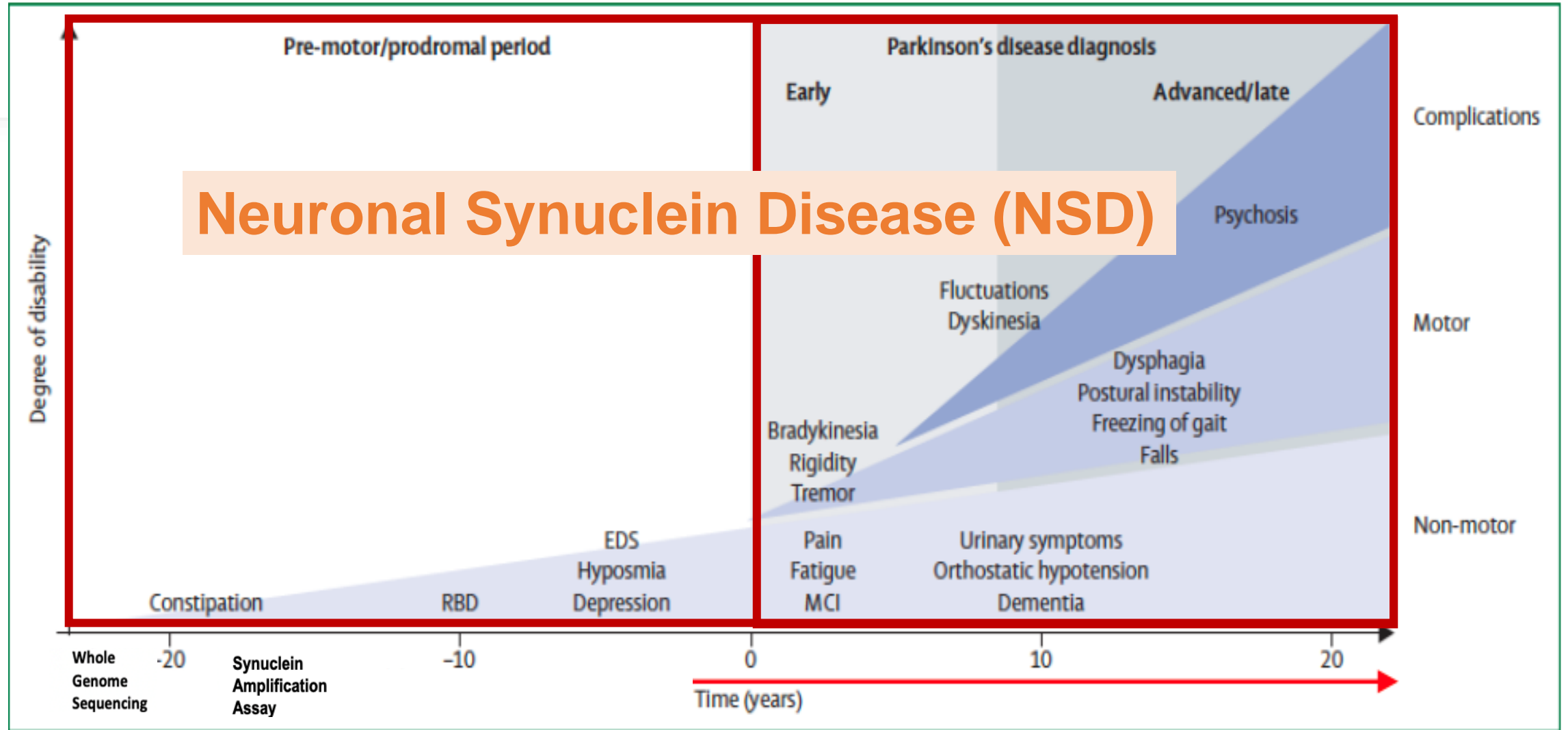
- Sporadic PD - Sensitivity 93%, Specificity 94%
- 97% (548/567) of all PD with UPSIT \leq 15th %ile are SAA positive

Hyposmic and RBD individuals



- Most hyposmics and RBD are SAA positive
 - 70% (38/54) hyposmics, 75% (58/77) RBD
- RBD - 93% (56/60) with UPSIT \leq 15th %ile are SAA positive
- SAA positive appears to precede DAT deficit in RBD and hypomies prior to the onset of clinical PD

Biological Definition of Parkinson's





Position Paper



A biological definition of neuronal α -synuclein disease: towards an integrated staging system for research

Tanya Simuni, Lana M Chahine*, Kathleen Poston, Michael Brumm, Teresa Buracchio, Michelle Campbell, Sohini Chowdhury, Christopher Coffey, Luis Concha-Marambio, Tien Dam, Peter DiBiao, Tatiana Foroud, Mark Frasier, Caroline Gochanour, Danna Jennings, Karl Kiebertz, Catherine M Kopil, Kalpana Merchant, Brit Mollenhauer, Thomas Montine, Kelly Nudelman, Gennaro Pagano, John Seibyl, Todd Sherer, Andrew Singleton, Diane Stephenson, Matthew Stern, Claudio Soto, Caroline M Tanner, Eduardo Tolosa, Daniel Weintraub, Yuge Xiao, Andrew Siderowf, Billy Dunn, Kenneth Marek*

Lancet Neurol 2024; 23: 178–90

See [Comment](#) pages 129 and 133

*Contributed equally

Department of Neurology,
Northwestern University

Parkinson's disease and dementia with Lewy bodies are currently defined by their clinical features, with α -synuclein pathology as the gold standard to establish the definitive diagnosis. We propose that, given biomarker advances enabling accurate detection of pathological α -synuclein (ie, misfolded and aggregated) in CSF using the seed amplification assay, it is time to redefine Parkinson's disease and dementia with Lewy bodies as neuronal α -synuclein disease rather than as clinical syndromes. This major shift from a clinical to a biological definition of Parkinson's

Conclusions

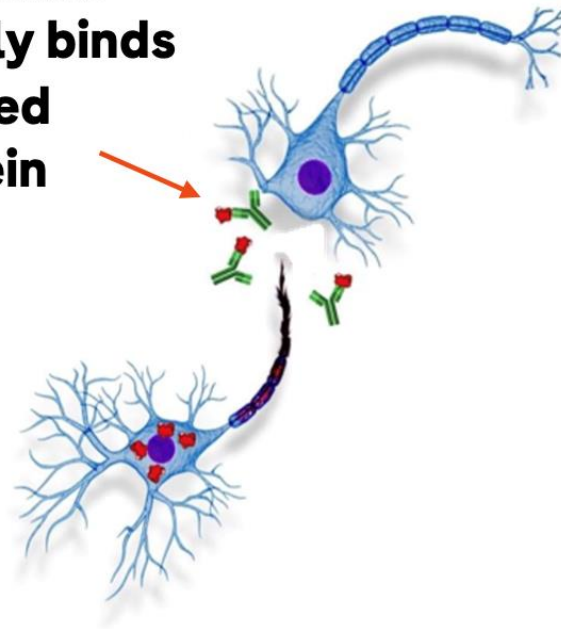
- Disease modifying drugs are currently being investigated with promising preliminary results
- Abnormal alpha-synuclein can now be detected in people with PD and individuals at risk of PD
- NSD applies to all those who have biomarker evidence of synucleinopathy, not only those with clinical symptoms

Thank you!

The PASADENA Trial

Prasinezumab's mode of action

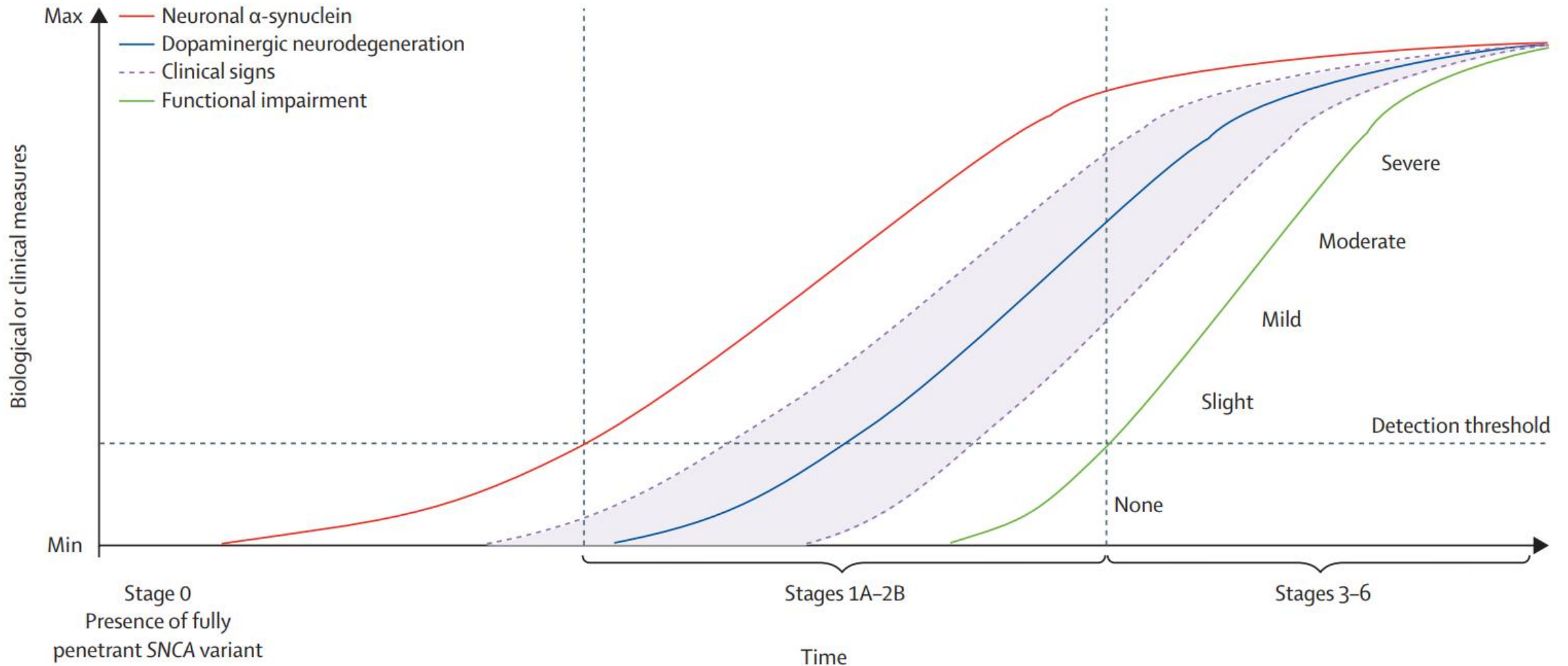
Prasinezumab selectively binds aggregated α -synuclein



Proposed effects:

- Reducing neuronal toxicity
- Preventing cell-to-cell transfer of pathogenic α -synuclein aggregates
- Slowing disease progression

Hypothetical model of dynamic biomarkers of the neuronal α -synuclein disease-integrated staging system (NSD-ISS)



Note: Shapes and slopes of the curves and their temporal relationship are qualitative and hypothetical

The proposed neuronal α -synuclein disease integrated staging system

		Neuronal α -synuclein biomarker (S)	Dopamine dysfunction biomarker (D)	Clinical signs and symptoms attributable to neuronal α -synuclein disease	Functional impairment attributable to neuronal α -synuclein disease
Genetic risk					
R ^L	(G) Genetic risk variants–low age-adjusted risk	Absent	Absent	No clinical signs or symptoms	No functional impairment
R ^H	(G) Genetic risk variants–high age-adjusted risk	Absent	Absent	No clinical signs or symptoms	No functional impairment
Stage definition					
0	Fully penetrant SNCA variant (G+)	S–	D–	No clinical signs or symptoms	No functional impairment
1A	Characteristic pathological changes, but no evidence of clinical signs or symptoms	S+	D–	No clinical signs or symptoms	No functional impairment
1B	Characteristic pathological changes plus dopaminergic dysfunction, but no evidence of clinical signs or symptoms	S+	D+	No clinical signs or symptoms	No functional impairment
2A	Characteristic pathological changes and subtle detectable clinical signs and symptoms, but no functional impairment	S+	D–	Subtle clinical signs or symptoms that can be motor or non-motor: hyposmia, RBD, cognitive impairment, constipation, dysautonomia, depression, and anxiety	No functional impairment
2B	Characteristic pathological changes plus dopaminergic dysfunction and subtle detectable clinical signs and symptoms, but no functional impairment	S+	D+	Subtle clinical signs or symptoms that can be motor or non-motor: hyposmia, RBD, cognitive impairment, constipation, dysautonomia, depression, and anxiety	No functional impairment
3	Characteristic pathological changes plus dopaminergic dysfunction and clinical signs and symptoms causing slight functional impairment	S+	D+	Motor and non-motor signs and symptoms defined by a slight degree of functional impairment	Slight: functional impairment with minimal impact on activities of daily living
4	Characteristic pathological changes plus dopaminergic dysfunction and clinical signs and symptoms causing mild functional impairment	S+	D+	Motor and non-motor signs and symptoms defined by a mild degree of functional impairment	Mild: functional impairment severe enough to cause some impairment in activities of daily living, but those related to personal care are intact, such as bathing, dressing, walking, using the toilet, and eating
5	Characteristic pathological changes plus dopaminergic dysfunction and clinical signs and symptoms causing moderate functional impairment	S+	D+	Motor and non-motor signs and symptoms defined by a moderate degree of functional impairment	Moderate: functional impairment severe enough to require assistance with activities of daily living
6	Characteristic pathological changes plus dopaminergic dysfunction and clinical signs and symptoms causing severe functional impairment	S+	D+	Motor and non-motor signs and symptoms defined by a severe degree of functional impairment	Severe: functional impairment severe enough to depend on others for activities of daily living