



# Model-Informed Biomarker Qualification: Alzheimer and Parkinson Disease Neuroimaging Biomarkers

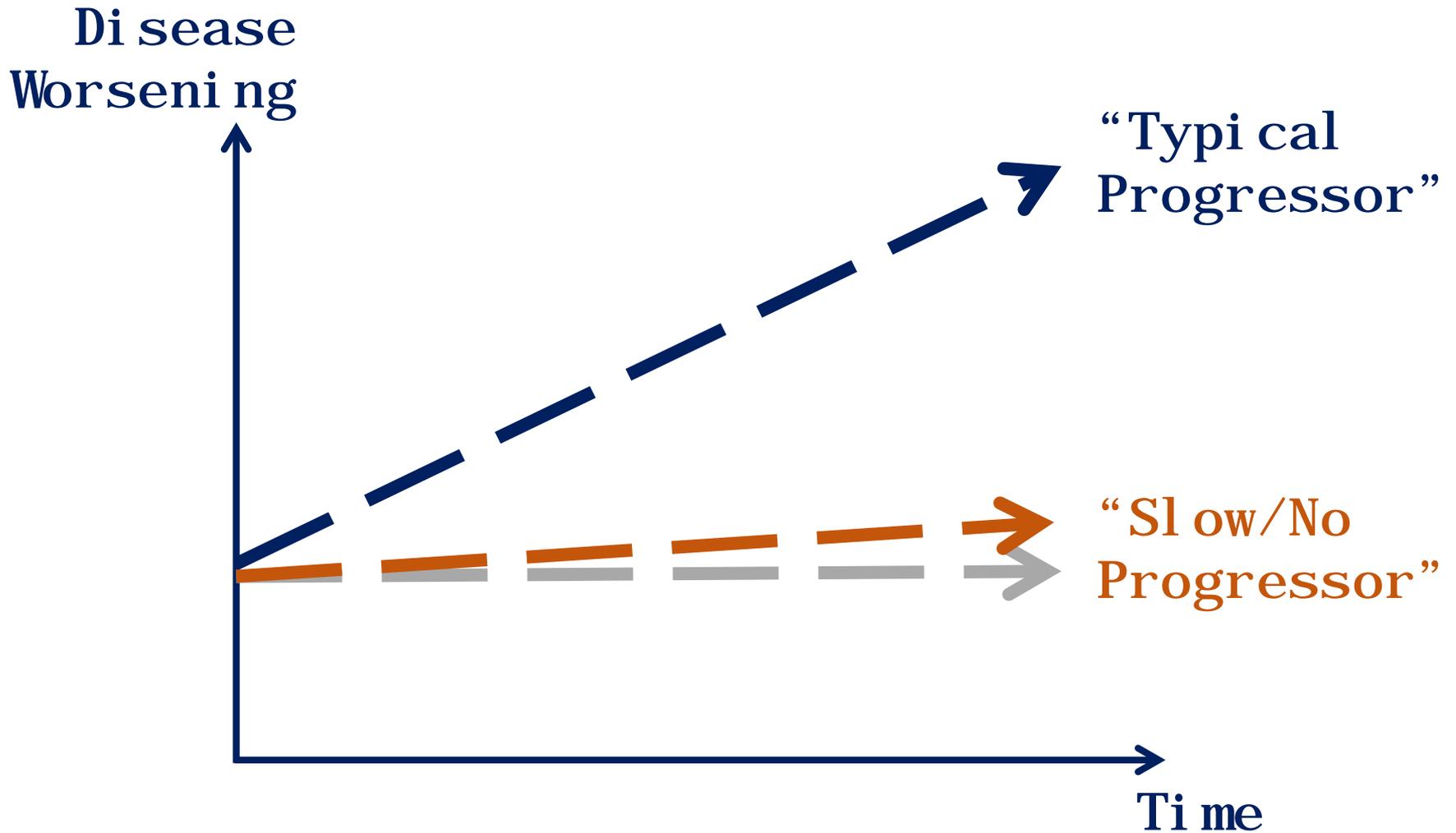
Daniela J Conrado



DConrado@c-path.org  
Critical Path Institute

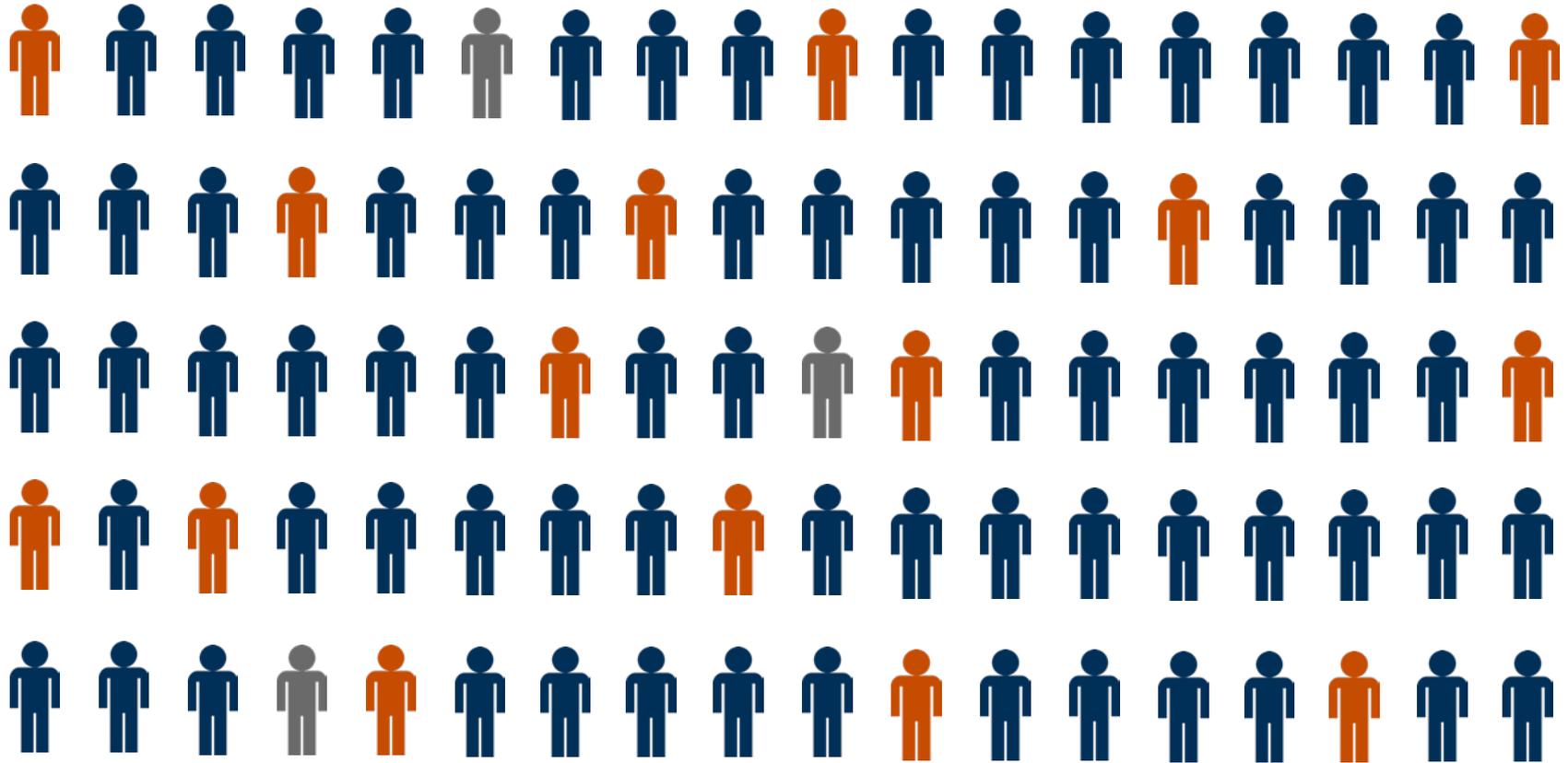


# Not Uncommon in AD/PD Trials



AD = Alzheimer disease  
 PD = Parkinson disease

# How Can Clinical Trialists Know Up Front Who Will Be A “Typical Progressor”?



# How Can Clinical Trialists Know Up Front Who Will Be A “Typical Progressor”?



# Take-Home Messages

- Neuroimaging as a prognostic enrichment biomarker can help with AD/PD clinical trial enrollment.
- Disease progression modeling and Monte-Carlo simulations can support biomarker qualification.

Please don't leave.  
We will tell you **HOW!**

# This Presentation

## In scope

Prognostic enrichment biomarker

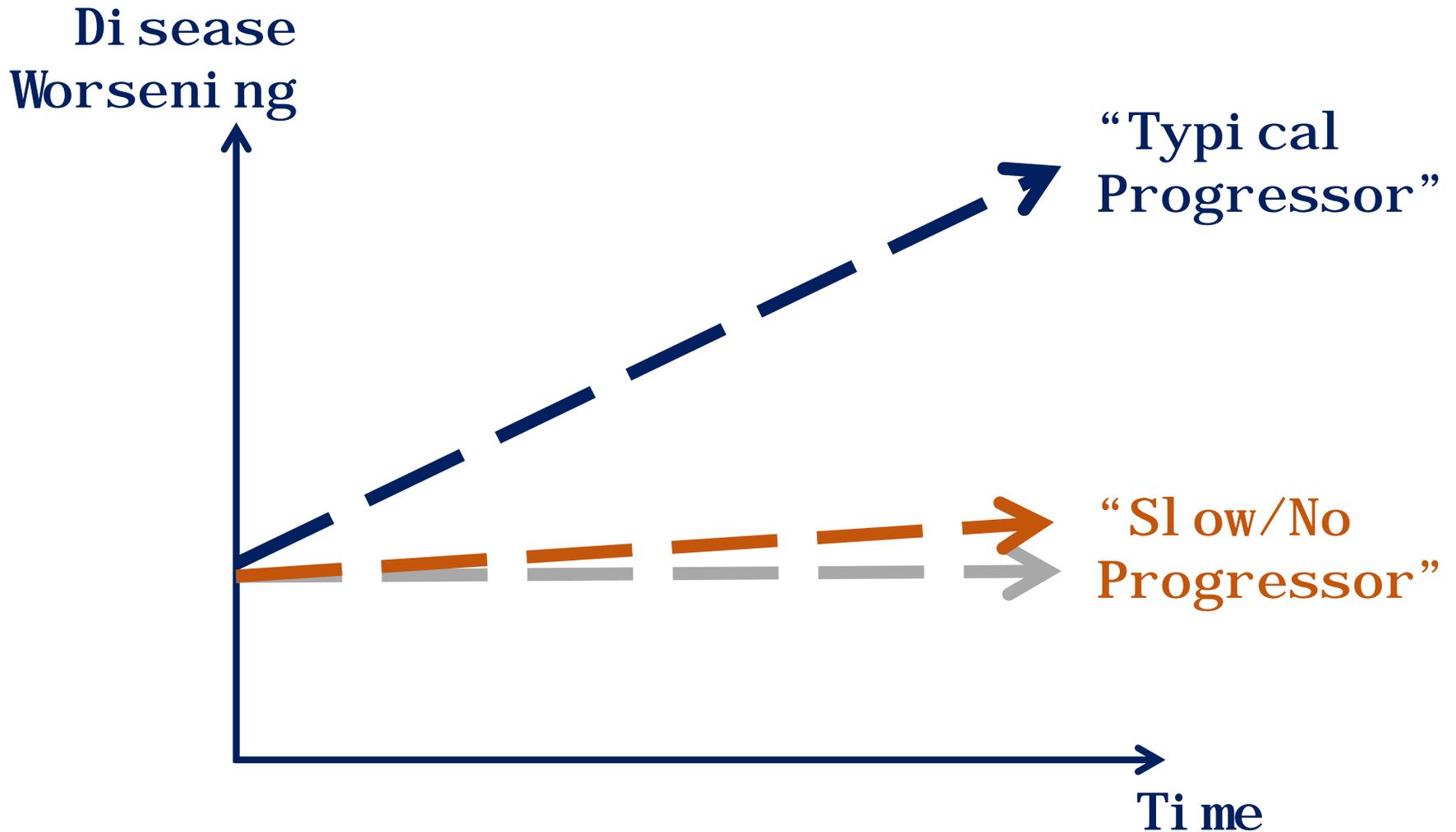
## Out of scope

- Diagnostic biomarker
- Susceptibility/risk biomarker
- Predictive biomarker
- Safety biomarker
- Monitoring biomarker
- Pharmacodynamic/response biomarker

# This Presentation

- Two examples:
  - Alzheimer disease (AD)
  - Parkinson disease (PD)
- Definition of acronyms are at the bottom of the slides

# The Need in AD/PD: Why Now?



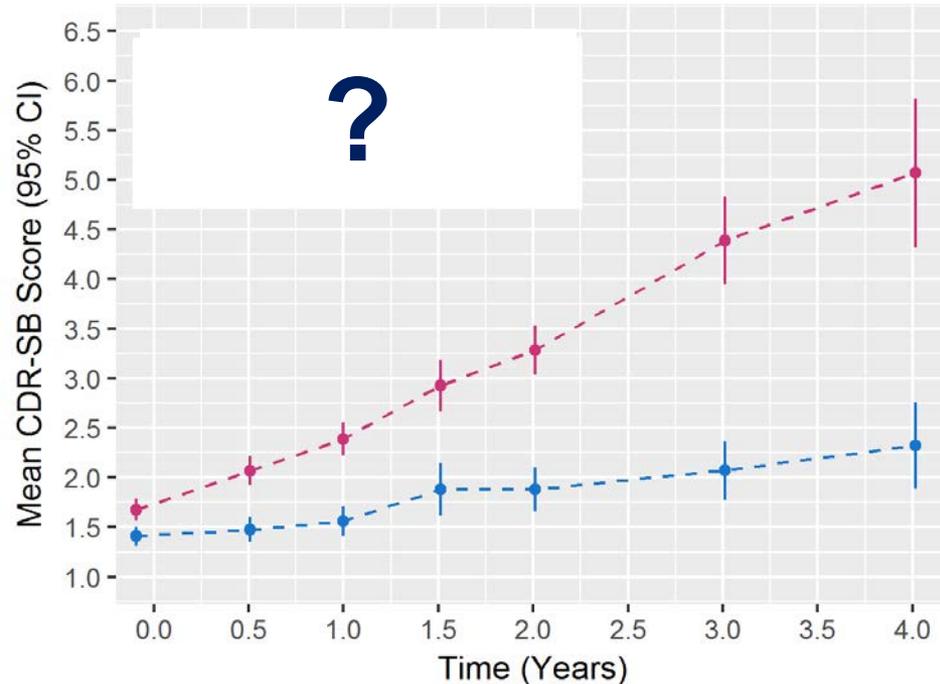
AD = Alzheimer disease  
 PD = Parkinson disease

# The Need in AD/PD: Why Now?

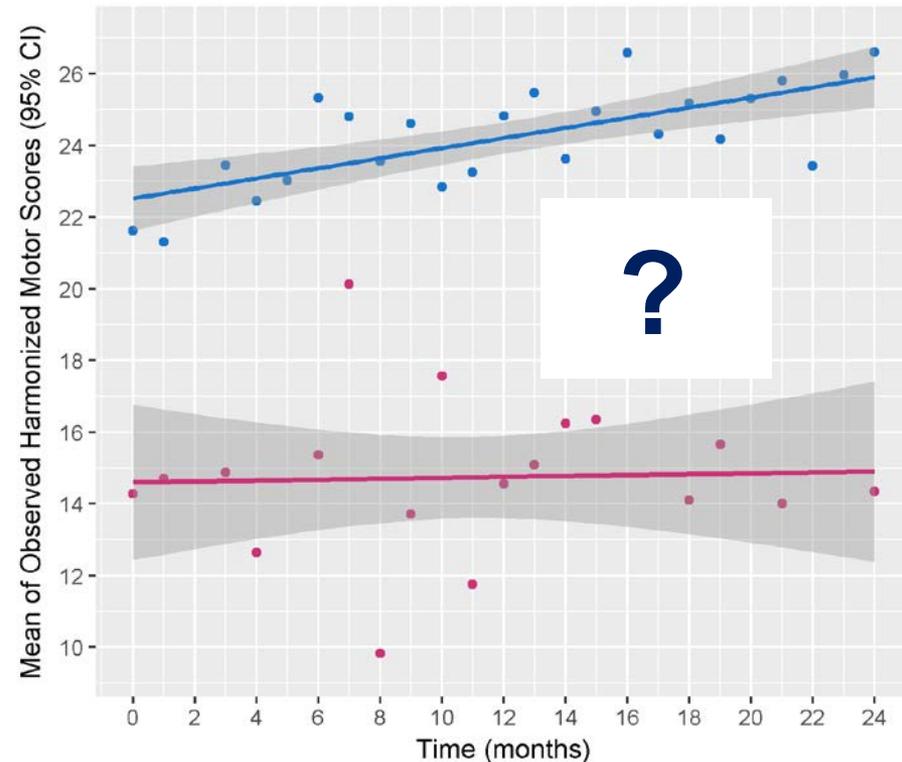
- There is an increased focus on evaluating drug candidates at **earlier disease** stages.
- Selection of patients in trials of early AD/PD is challenging due to **pathophysiological uncertainty** and **patient heterogeneity**.

# Typical vs. Slow Progressors

## MCI ADNI-1 + ADNI-2



## Early PD PPMI + PRECEPT

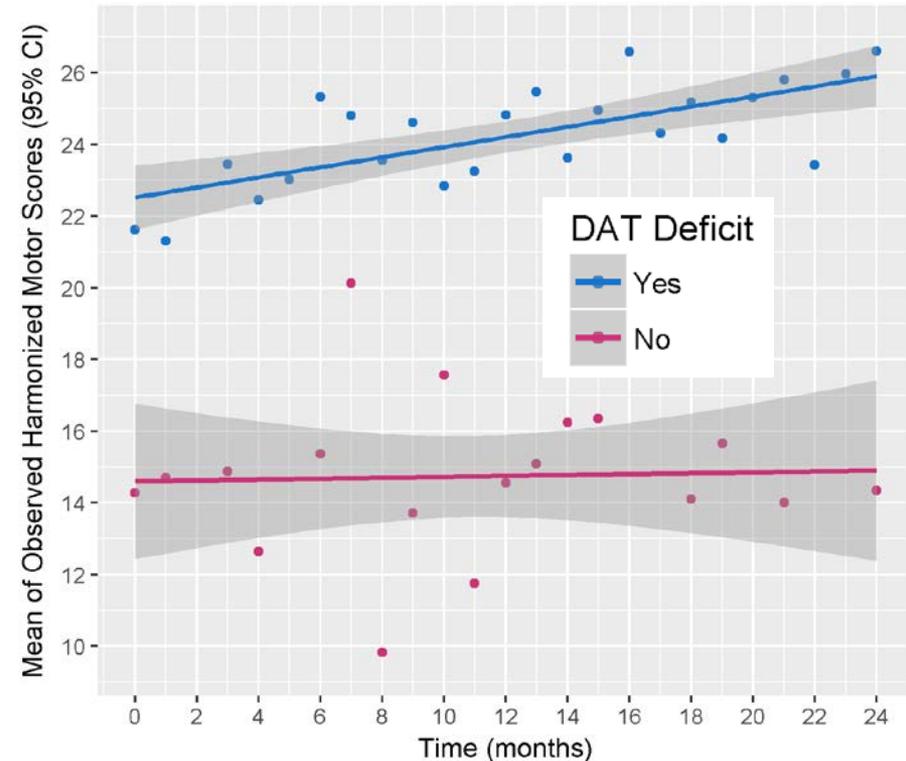
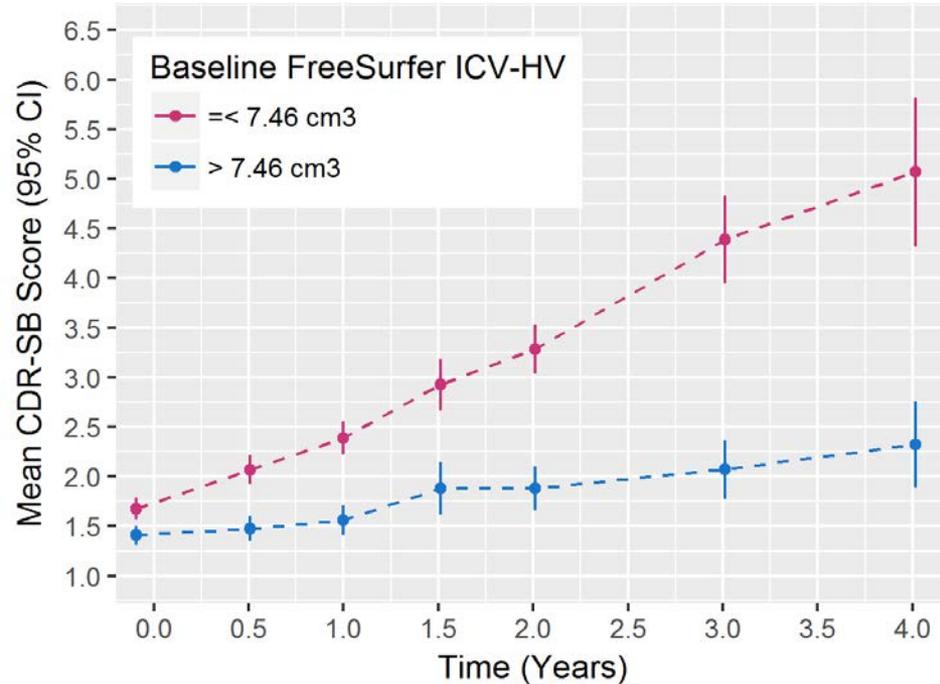


MCI = mild cognitive impairment  
 PD = Parkinson disease  
 ADNI = Alzheimer's disease neuroimaging initiative  
 PPMI = Parkinson's progression marker initiative  
 PRECEPT = Parkinson Research Examination of CEP-1347 trial

# Neuroimaging at Baseline Helps Predict Progression

## MCI ADNI-1 + ADNI-2

## Early PD PPMI + PRECEPT



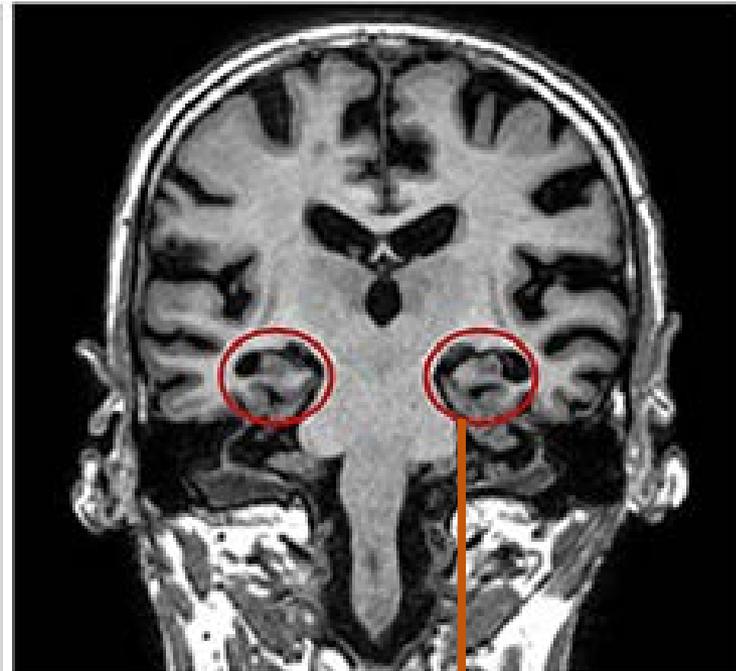
DAT = dopamine transporter  
 DAT type of assessment = visual  
 ICV-HV = intracranial volume-adjusted hippocampal volume  
 FreeSurfer™ = an algorithm for calculating ICV-HV  
 7.46 cm<sup>3</sup> = median of the ICV-HV in dataset

# Enrichment Biomarker for MCI Trials: Hippocampal Volume

MRI Healthy Control



MCI



<http://journal.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/fnins.2016.00443/full>

Loss of hippocampus volume shown by a larger dark area

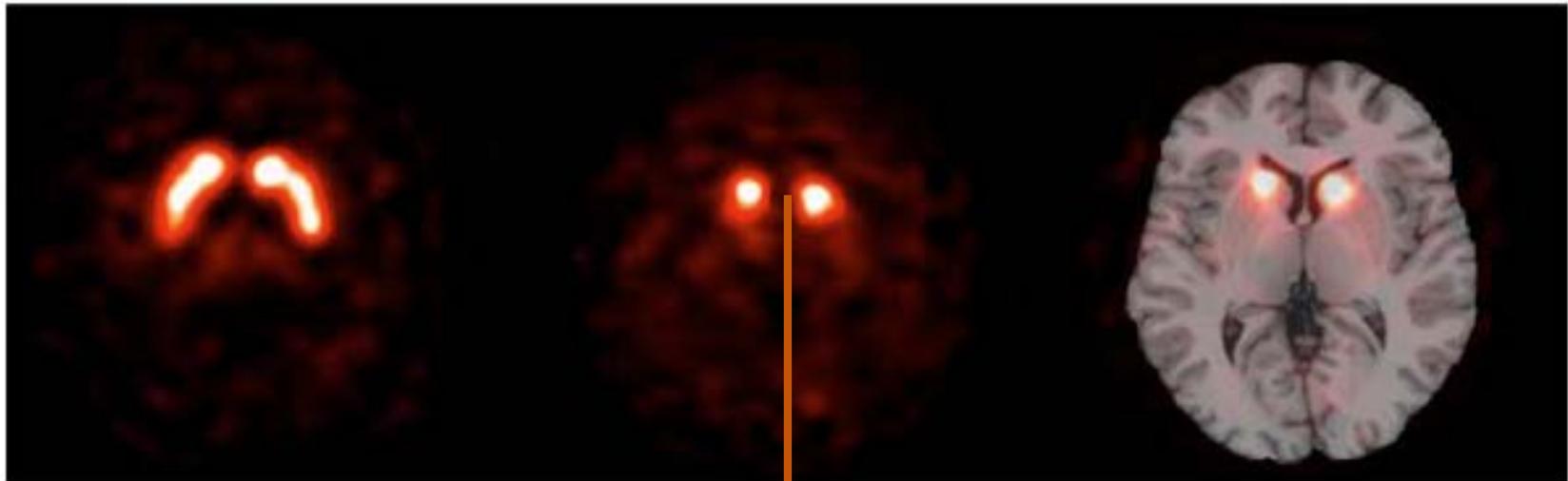
MCI = mild cognitive impairment  
MRI = magnetic resonance imaging

# Enrichment Biomarker for Early PD Trials: Dopamine Transporter

Healthy Control  
SPECT

PD  
SPECT

PD  
MRI + SPECT



Stephenson D et al. [https://c-path.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/ppmi\\_dat\\_poster\\_final\\_4-29-16\\_rev.pdf](https://c-path.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/ppmi_dat_poster_final_4-29-16_rev.pdf)

Dopamine transporter deficiency shown by reduced binding of the ligand

PD = Parkinson disease

MRI = magnetic resonance imaging

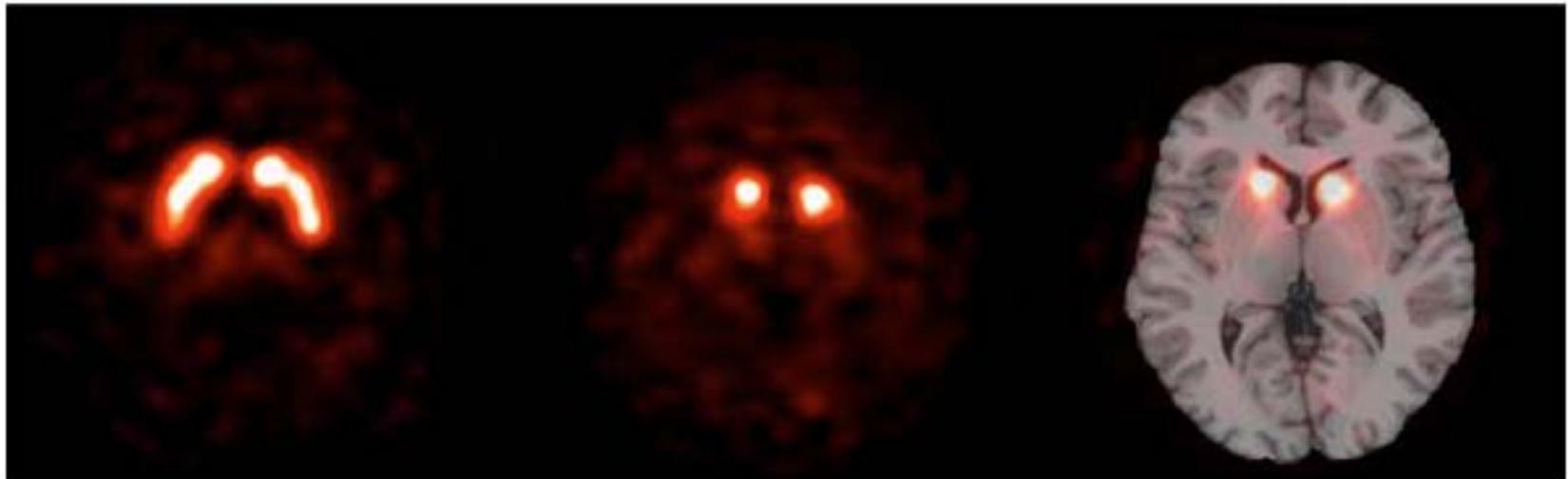
SPECT = single-photon emission computed tomography

# Enrichment Biomarker for Early PD Trials: Dopamine Transporter

Healthy Control  
SPECT

PD  
SPECT

PD  
MRI + SPECT



Stephenson D et al. [https://c-path.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/ppmi\\_dat\\_poster\\_final\\_4-29-16\\_rev.pdf](https://c-path.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/ppmi_dat_poster_final_4-29-16_rev.pdf)

PD subjects with a scan without evidence of dopaminergic deficit = **SWEDD**

# Pathophysiological Plausibility of the Biomarkers

- Hippocampal volume (HV) loss is implicated in the Alzheimer disease pathology.
- Dopamine transport (DAT) loss is implicated in the Parkinson disease pathology.

# C-Path's Consortia Pursue Qualification of HV and DAT

## CRITICAL PATH FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Biogen

AbbVie

Boehringer Ingelheim

Eisai



Eli Lilly

Roche

Johnson & Johnson

Genentech

Merck

Pfizer Takeda

Novartis



### Non-profit Research Organizations

- Alzheimer's Association
- UsAgainstAlzheimer's Network
- Alzheimer's Research UK
- Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation
- CHDI Foundation

### Government and Regulatory Agencies

- EMA
- NINDS
- NIA
- FDA
- NIH

## CRITICAL PATH FOR PARKINSON'S

**PARKINSON'S<sup>UK</sup>**  
CHANGE ATTITUDES.  
FIND A CURE.  
JOIN US.

Biogen

AbbVie



GE Healthcare

GSK

Lundbeck

Merck

Pfizer

UCB

Individual Advisors

NINDS

Persons with Parkinson's

### Academic Experts

### UK Academic Institutions

- University of Oxford
- University of Cambridge
- Newcastle University
- University of Glasgow

### Patient-Advocacy Organizations

- Parkinson's Foundation
- Michael J. Fox Foundation
- Davis Phinney Foundation
- The Cure Parkinson's Trust

HV = hippocampal volume; DAT = dopamine transporter

# C-Path's Consortia Pursue Qualification of HV and DAT



## CRITICAL PATH FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Obtain FDA qualification  
of HV neuroimaging as a  
prognostic enrichment  
biomarker for amnesic  
MCI trials



## CRITICAL PATH FOR PARKINSON'S

Obtain EMA qualification  
of DAT neuroimaging as  
a prognostic enrichment  
biomarker for early PD  
trials



# Evaluating the Enrichment Utility of HV and DAT



## CRITICAL PATH FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

**ADNI-1 or Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative Part 1**

N = 381, observational

**ADNI-2 or Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative Part 2**

N = 321, observational

**CDISC**

**InDDEx or Investigation into Delay to Diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease with Exelon Trial (Placebo Arm)**

N = 349, clinical trial

Sample size = 1051 subjects with MCI  
External validation set = InDDEx  
Endpoint = CDR-SB



## CRITICAL PATH FOR PARKINSON'S

**PPMI or Parkinson's Progression Markers Initiative**

N = 481, observational

**CDISC**

**PRECEPT or Parkinson Research Examination of CEP-1347 Trial (Placebo Arm)**

N = 191, clinical trial

Sample size = 672 subjects with early PD  
Endpoint = MDS-UPDRS part III

# Linear Early PD Progression: MDS-UPDRS Part III

Rate of change in MDS-UPDRS  
Part III scores was described by  
a linear mixed-effects model

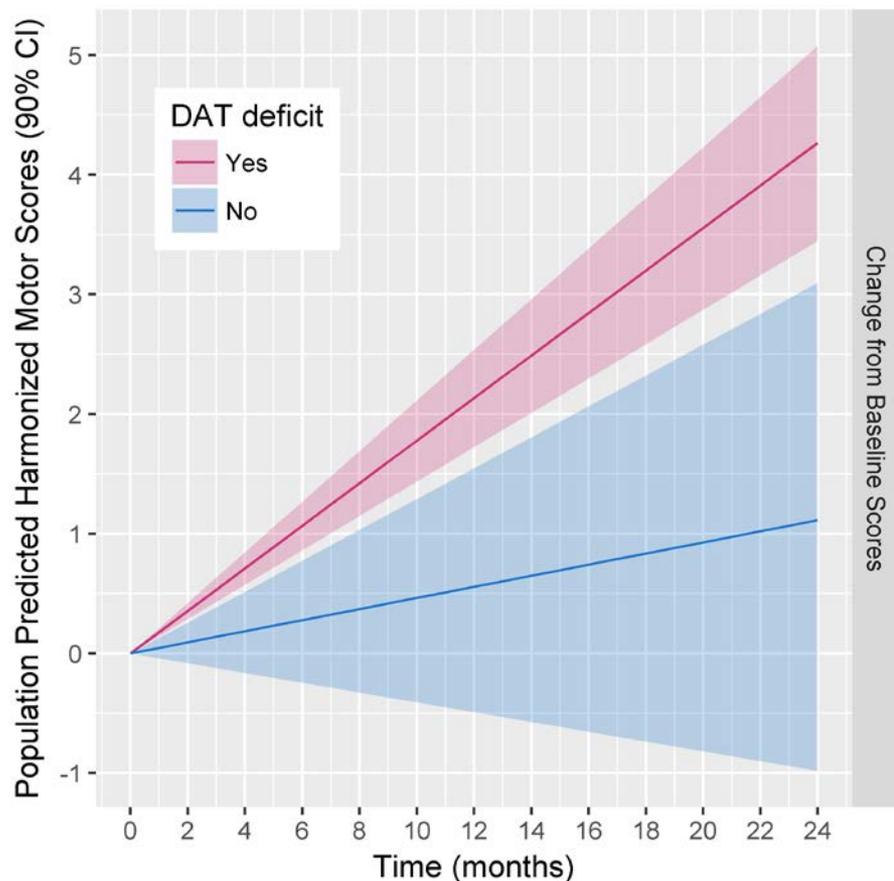
$$\frac{d\text{Score}_i}{dt} = r_i$$

The linear mixed-effects model included as covariates:

- effect of DAT status on progression rate
- (effect of baseline on progression rate)
- effect of DAT status on baseline
- effect of age on baseline

Conrado DJ et al. Clin Transl Sci.  
2018 Jan; 11(1): 63-70

# DAT Status is a Predictor of Progression Rate



Average progression in PD subjects without DAT deficit (SWEDD) is less than half of that in PD subjects with DAT deficit

Conrado DJ et al. Clin Transl Sci. 2018 Jan; 11(1): 63-70

CI = confidence interval  
DAT = dopamine transporter

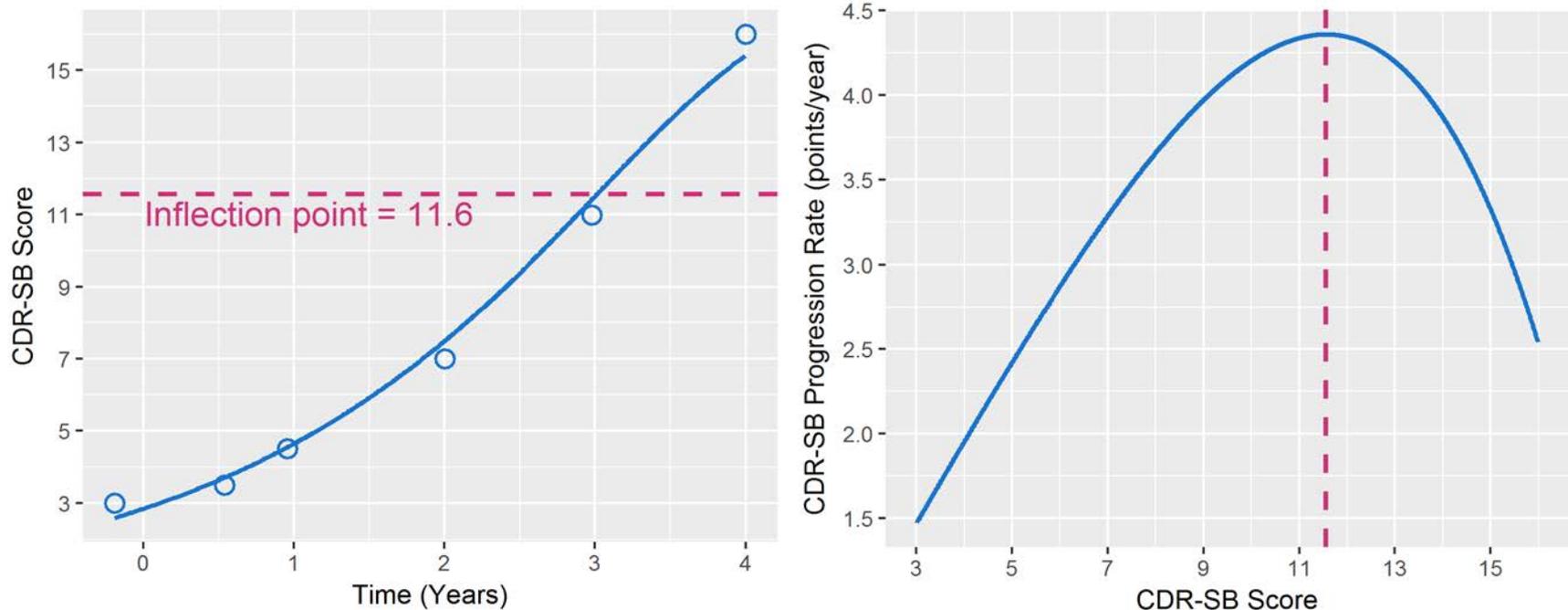
# Non-Linear MCI Progression: CDR-SB

Rate of change in CDR-SB scores was described by a generalized logistic model (mixed-effects beta regression)

$$\frac{d\text{Score}_i}{dt} = r_i \times \text{Score}_i \times \left[ 1 - \left( \frac{\text{Score}_i}{\max(\text{Score}_i)} \right)^\beta \right]$$

# Non-Linear MCI Progression: CDR-SB

Rate of change in CDR-SB scores was described by a generalized logistic model (mixed-effects beta regression)



# Non-Linear MCI Progression: CDR-SB

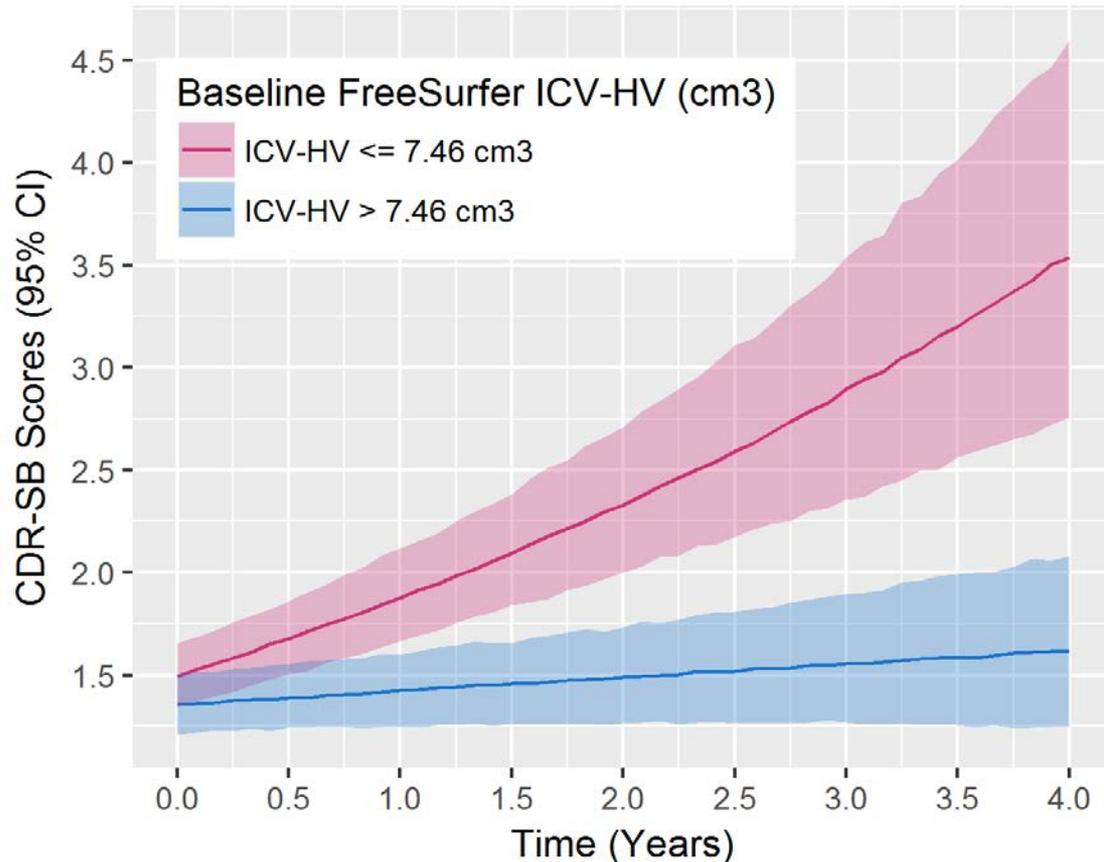
Rate of change in CDR-SB scores was described by a generalized logistic model (mixed-effects beta regression)

The nonlinear mixed-effects model included as covariates:

- effect of ICV-HV on progression rate
- effect of APOE- $\epsilon$ 4 genotype on progression rate
- effect of MMSE on baseline and progression rate
- effect of age on progression rate
- effect of sex on progression rate

*APOE- $\epsilon$ 4* = apolipoprotein E-encoding gene  $\epsilon$ 4 allele; MMSE = mini-mental state examination;  
ICV-HV = intracranial volume-adjusted hippocampal volume

# HV is a Predictor of Progression Rate



An 1 cm<sup>3</sup> decrease in baseline ICV-HV is associated with more than 50% increase in CDR-SB progression rate

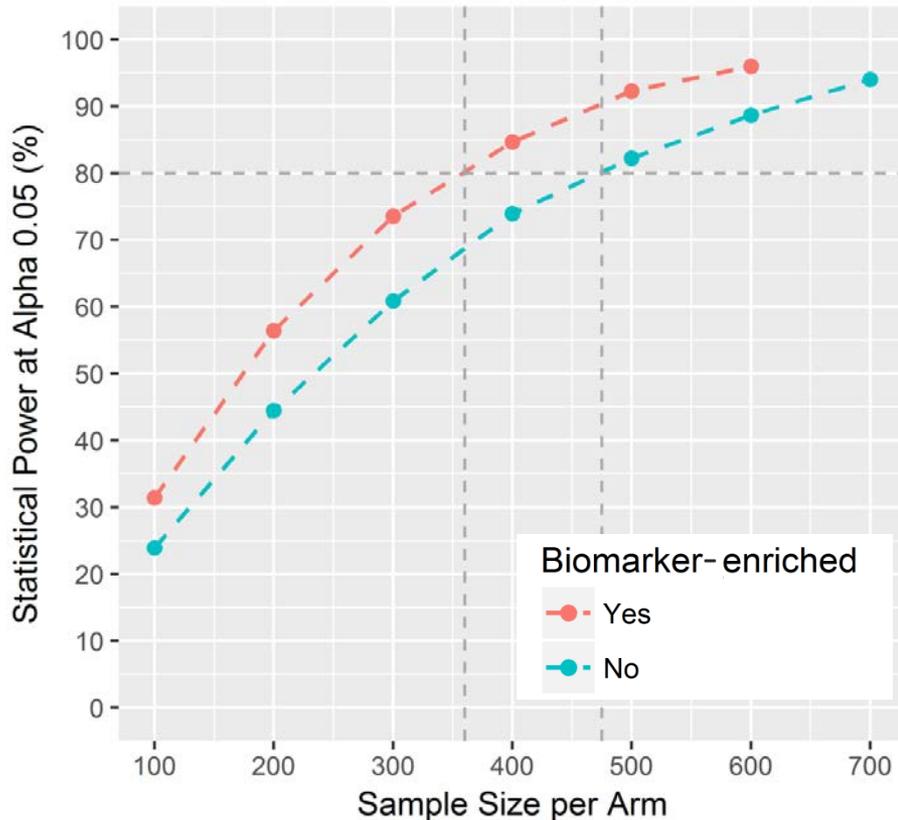
ICV-HV = intracranial volume-adjusted hippocampal volume  
CDR-SB = Clinical Dementia Rating Scale Sum-of-Boxes

# But That is Not Enough!

We need Monte-Carlo clinical trial simulations to show DAT/HV enrichment utility and magnitude

- **Enrichment utility** = ability of DAT/HV increase clinical trial efficiency, with efficiency being a measurable feature
- **Enrichment magnitude** = amount in which DAT/HV can increase the trial efficiency
- **Metric of trial efficiency** = trial size

# DAT-based Enrichment Reduces Early PD Trial Size



~ 24% reduction in sample size by enrolling only DAT deficient subjects

Conrado DJ et al. Clin Transl Sci. 2018 Jan; 11(1): 63-70

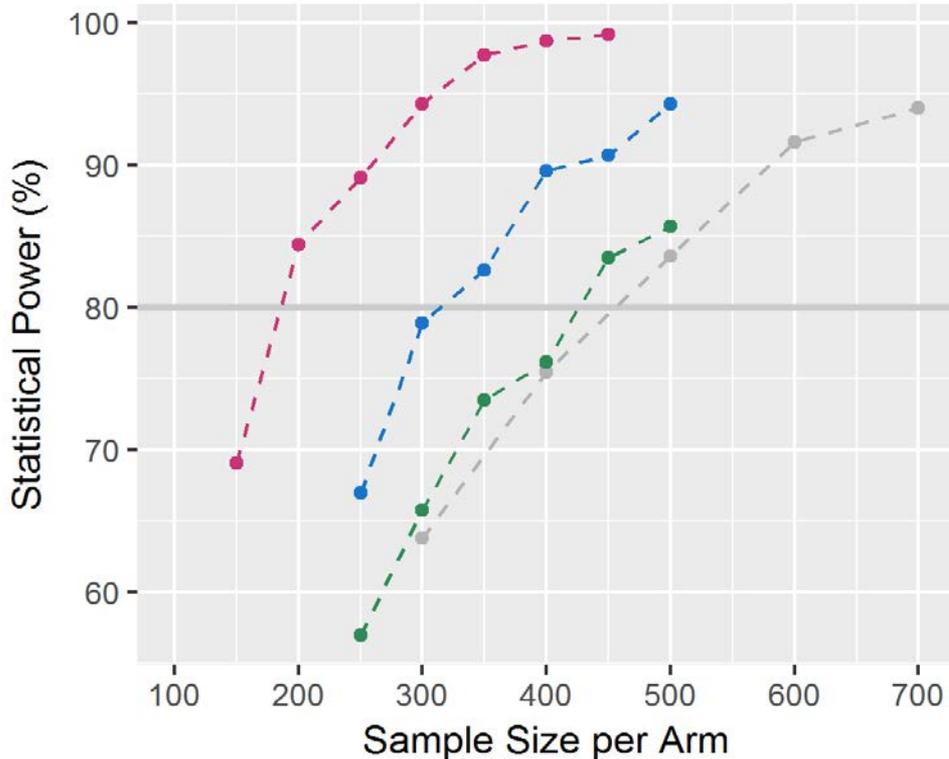
## Monte-Carlo Simulation Assumptions:

- 24-month placebo-controlled parallel group trials
- Enriched trial had only subjects with DAT deficit, while non-enriched trial included 15% of SWEDD.
- Drug effect of 50% reduction in the progression rate
- Power was calculated as the proportion of trials for which the effect of treatment on progression rate was beneficial with a two-tailed  $P$ -value  $< 0.05$

DAT = dopamine transporter

SWEDD = scan without evidence of dopaminergic deficiency

# HV-based Enrichment Reduces MCI Trial Size



~26% and ~55%  
reduction of sample  
size with baseline  
ICV-HV < 84.1<sup>th</sup> and  
< 50<sup>th</sup> percentile

Clinical trial with:

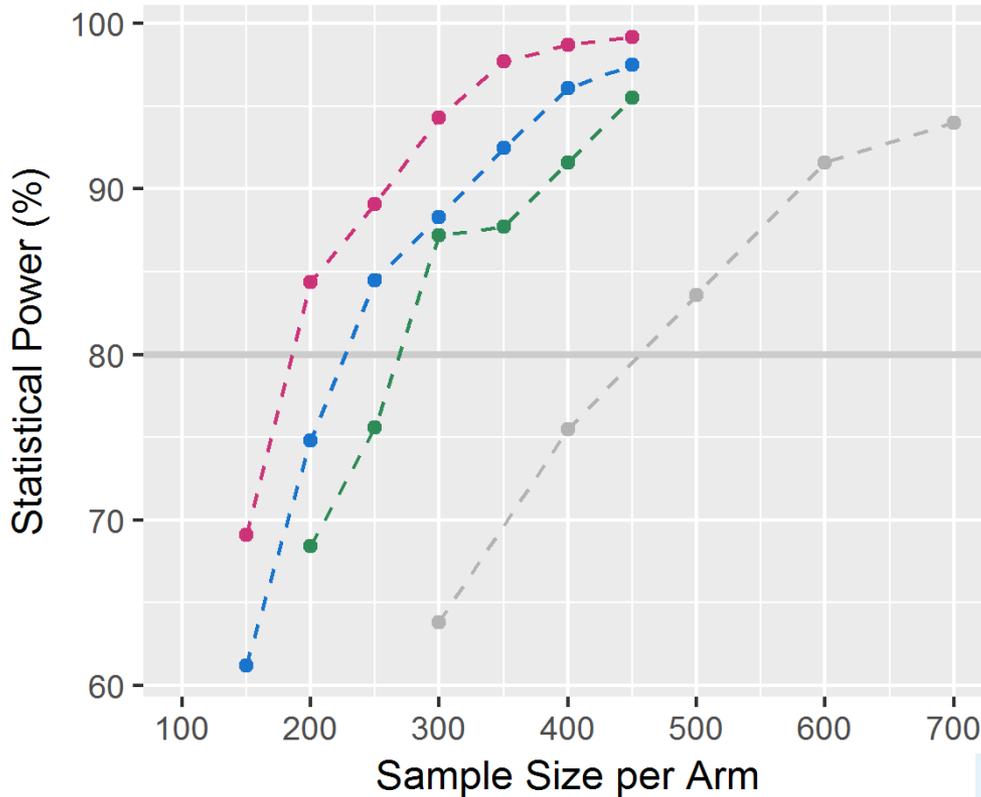
- No enrichment
- Only ICV-HV < 97.7<sup>th</sup> (+2SD) subjects
- Only ICV-HV < 84.1<sup>th</sup> (+1SD) subjects
- Only ICV-HV < 50<sup>th</sup> (median) subjects

## Monte-Carlo Simulation Assumptions:

- 24-month placebo-controlled parallel group trials
- Drug effect of 50% reduction in the progression rate
- Dropout model
- Power was calculated as the proportion of trials for which the effect of treatment on progression rate was beneficial with a two-tailed  $P$ -value < 0.05.

ICV-HV = intracranial volume-adjusted hippocampal volume

# Enrichment with HV vs. Other Covariates



## Clinical trial with:

- No enrichment
- Only APOE-e4 carrier subjects
- Only MMSE < median subjects
- Only ICV-HV < median subjects

## Monte-Carlo Simulation Assumptions:

- 24-month placebo-controlled parallel group trials
- Drug effect of 50% reduction in the progression rate
- Dropout model
- Power was calculated as the proportion of trials for which the effect of treatment on progression rate was beneficial with a two-tailed  $P$ -value < 0.05.

APOE-e4 = apolipoprotein E-encoding gene  $\epsilon$ 4 allele  
 MMSE = mini-mental state examination  
 ICV-HV = intracranial volume-adjusted hippocampal volume

# Take-Home Messages

- Neuroimaging as a prognostic enrichment biomarker can help with AD/PD clinical trial enrollment.
  - Identifies patients who are more likely to experience clinical changes, hence, benefit from an efficacious drug candidate.
- Disease progression modeling and Monte-Carlo simulations can support biomarker qualification.
  - Demonstrates biomarker enrichment utility and magnitude.

# EMA Draft Qualification Opinion on DAT is Online!



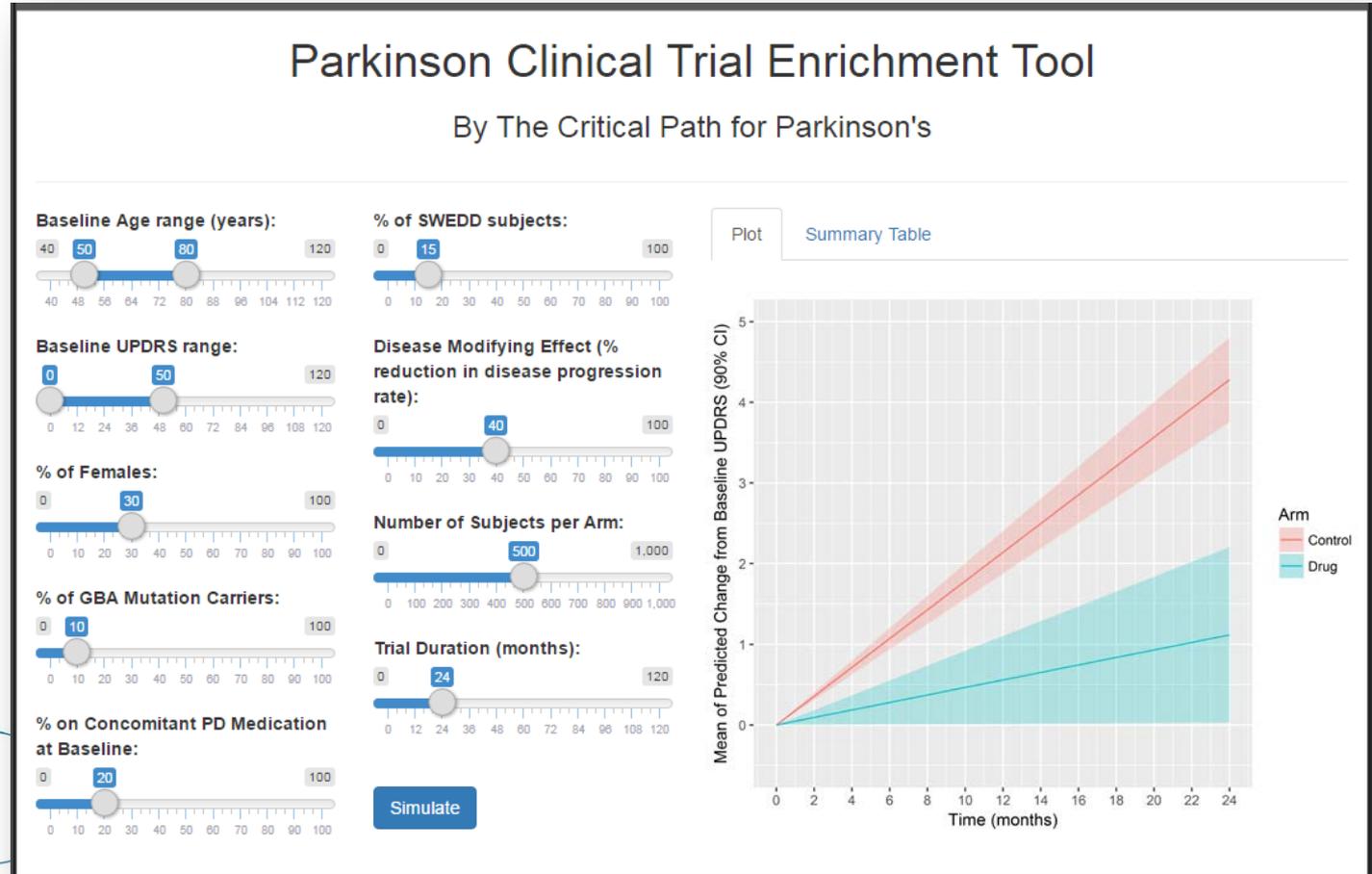
EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

Draft agreed by Scientific Advice Working Party	26 October 2017
Adopted by CHMP for release for consultation	09 November 2017 <sup>1</sup>
Start of public consultation	24 January 2018 <sup>2</sup>
End of consultation (deadline for comments)	07 March 2018 <sup>3</sup>

[http://www.ema.europa.eu/docs/en\\_GB/document\\_library/Regulatory\\_and\\_procedural\\_guideline/2018/01/WC500242219.pdf](http://www.ema.europa.eu/docs/en_GB/document_library/Regulatory_and_procedural_guideline/2018/01/WC500242219.pdf)

**Consultation period for public  
comments has recently ended**

# Open Access Model - based Clinical Trial Enrichment Tool



\*Simplified mockup based on hypothetical data

# Huntington's Disease: Our Newest Consortium

**Features**

C&EN April 2017

DRUG DEVELOPMENT

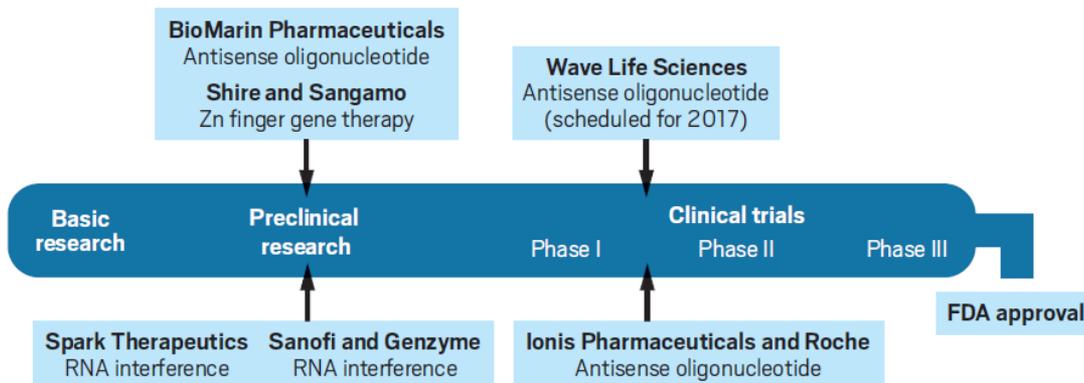
## A new day for Huntington's disease

First agents to possibly slow or even reverse the disease enter clinical trials

ERIKA GEBEL BERG, special to C&EN

### The Huntington's pipeline

Several companies have disease-modifying treatments for Huntington's at various stages of the development pipeline.



Accelerating therapeutic development for Huntington's disease



CRITICAL PATH INSTITUTE

*collaborate · innovate · accelerate*



HD-RSC  
HUNTINGTON'S CONSORTIUM

CRITICAL PATH INSTITUTE

Courtesy of Diane Stephenson, Executive Director, HD-RSC

[www.c-path.org](http://www.c-path.org)

# Promising Biomarkers for Huntington's Disease

## Neurofilament light protein in blood as a potential biomarker of neurodegeneration in Huntington's disease: a retrospective cohort analysis

*Lancet Neurol v16:601-609*

Journal of Huntington's Disease 6 (2017) 345  
DOI 10.3233/JHD-170269  
IOS Press

*Lauren M Byrne, Filipe B Rodrigues, Kaj Blennow, Alexandra Durr, Blair R Leavitt, Raymund A C Roos, Rachael I Scahill, Sarah J Tabrizi, Henrik Zetterberg, Douglas Langbehn, Edward J Wild*

Research Report

## Validation of Ultrasensitive Mutant Huntingtin Detection in Human Cerebrospinal Fluid by Single Molecule Counting Immunoassay

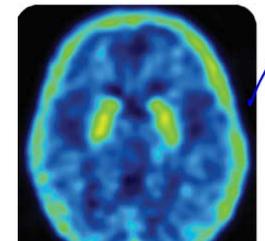
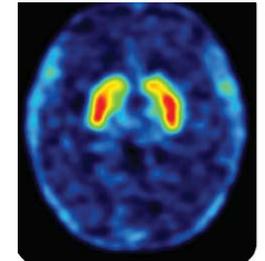
## Change in PDE10 across early Huntington disease assessed by [<sup>18</sup>F]MNI-659 and PET imaging

RESEARCH ARTICLE

*Movement Disorders, Vol. 30, No. 3, 2015*

## A Longitudinal Study of Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy Huntington's Disease Biomarkers

Aaron Sturrock, MRCP,<sup>1,2</sup> Corree Laule, PhD,<sup>3</sup> Katy Wyper, MSc,<sup>3</sup> Ruth A. Milner, MSc,<sup>4</sup> Joji Decolongon, MSc,<sup>2</sup> Rachelle Dar Santos, BSc,<sup>2</sup> Allison J. Coleman, BSc,<sup>2</sup> Kimberley Carter, BSc,<sup>2</sup> Susan Creighton, MSc,<sup>2</sup> Natalie Bechtel, MD,<sup>5</sup> Stefan Bohlen, MD,<sup>5</sup> Ralf Reilmann, MD,<sup>5,6</sup> Hans J. Johnson, PhD,<sup>7</sup> Michael R. Hayden, PhD,<sup>1,2</sup> Sarah J. Tabrizi, PhD,<sup>8</sup> Alex L. Mackay, DPhil,<sup>3</sup> and Blair R. Leavitt, MDCM, FRCP(C)<sup>1,2\*</sup>



Courtesy of Diane Stephenson, Executive Director, HD-RSC



# Acknowledgments



## C-Path Staff Advancing CPAD

**Stephen P Arnerić**  
Executive Director

**Volker D Kern**  
Senior Project Manager

**Nicky Kuhl**  
Project Coordinator

**Klaus Romero**  
Director of Clinical Pharmacology and Quantitative Medicine

**Daniela Conrado**  
Associate Director of Quantitative Medicine

**Jackson Burton**  
Associate Program Director, Quantitative Medicine

**Robert Stafford**  
Senior Data Specialist, Data Programming Team Lead

All other C-Path Support Staff.....



## CPP Team

### Co-Directors

- Dr. Maurizio Facheris, Member Co-Director
- Jill Gallagher, Co-Director, Parkinson's UK
- Dr. Diane Stephenson, Executive Director, Critical Path for Parkinson's Consortium, Critical Path Institute

### C-Path Team

- Klaus Romero, MD, MS, Director, Clinical Pharmacology
- Daniela Conrado, MS, PhD, Associate Director, Quantitative Medicine
- Renee Hynds, MPH, Project Manager
- Peggy Abbott, Project Coordinator
- Jackson Burton, PhD, Associate Program Director, Quantitative Medicine

### Parkinson's UK Team

- Dr. Arthur Roach, Director of Research
- Prof. David Dexter, Deputy Director of Research

## Pharmaceutical Industry

- AbbVie Inc.
- Biogen
- Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
- Eisai
- Eli Lilly and Company
- Roche/ Genentech
- Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceutical Research & Development, LLC
- Merck, Sharp & Dohme Corp.
- Novartis Pharmaceutical
- Pfizer, Inc.
- Takeda

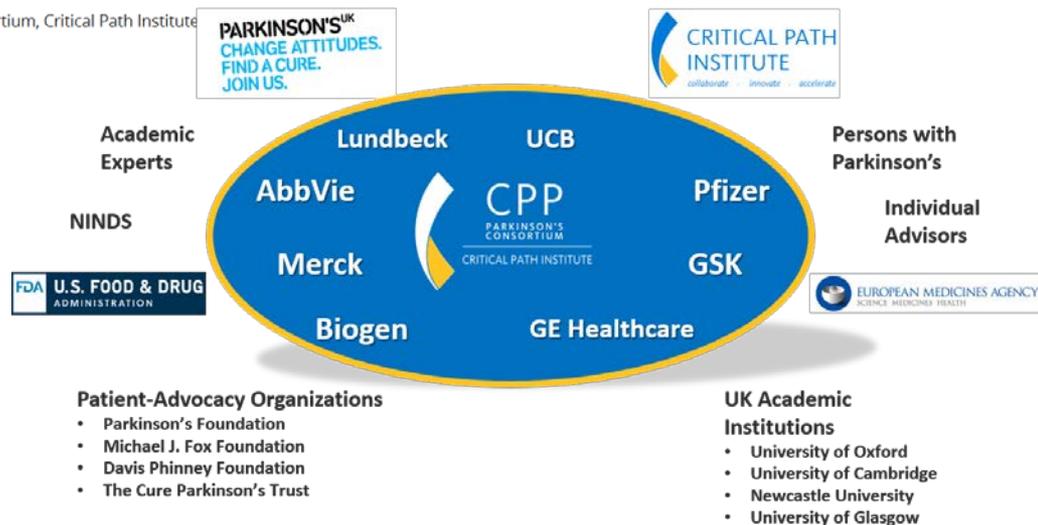
## Government and Regulatory Agencies

- European Medicines Agency (EMA)
- National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)
- National Institute on Aging (NIA)
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- National Institutes of Health (NIH)

## Non-profit Research Organizations

- Alzheimer's Association
- UsAgainstAlzheimer's Network
- Alzheimer's Research UK
- Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation
- CHDI Foundation

**Critical Path for Parkinson's—**  
*Enabling Efficient Advancement of New Parkinson's Therapies*



**More folks:**

- Emily Hartley (C-Path data scientist)
- Dan Hartley (C-Path data scientist)

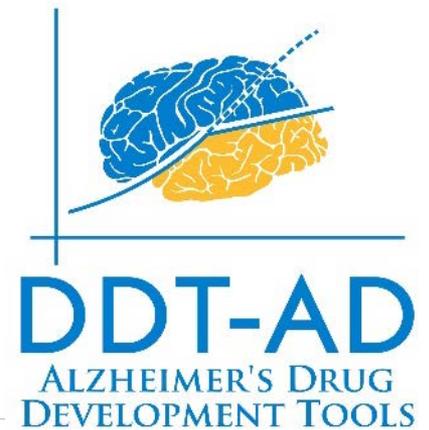
# Acknowledgments

We want to thank the Food and Drug Administration and Science Foundation Arizona for their significant funding of our work.



# Thank You and Join Us!

## NeuroCoP::DDT-AD Group Alzheimer's Drug Development Tools



Klaus



Richard



Brian



Bill



Mats



Mirjam



Dani and Greg



Jim



Sebastian



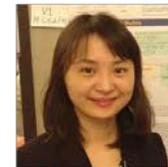
Raj



Jackson



David



Li Li



Tim Nicholas



Malidi

