

Structural and functional Imaging as biomarkers in proof of concept trials and as a gene discovery tool

Steven G. Potkin
UC Irvine



ISCTM Disclosure Information

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR CNS
CLINICAL TRIALS AND METHODOLOGY

Grant/Funding

- **Arena Pharmaceuticals**
- **AstraZeneca**
- **Bristol-Myers Squibb**
- **Diappon Sumitoma**
- **Elan**
- **Eli Lilly**
- **Forest Laboratories**
- **Janssen Pharmaceutica**
- **Novartis**
- **Organon**
- **Otsuka**
- **Pfizer**
- **Sanofi-Synthelabo**
- **ScheringPlough**
- **Roche**
- **Wyeth**

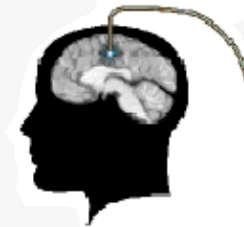
Consultancy/Advisory Board/Honoraria

- **Arena Pharmaceuticals**
 - **AstraZeneca**
 - **Bristol-Myers Squibb**
 - **Janssen Pharmaceutica**
 - **Novartis**
 - **Organon**
 - **Otsuka**
 - **Pfizer**
 - **Praecis**
 - **Roche**
 - **Vanda**
 - **Speakers Bureau**
 - **AstraZeneca**
 - **Bristol-Myers Squibb**
 - **Novartis**
 - **Pfizer**
 - **Otsuka**
-

Gene Therapy: Proof of Concept



+ NGF



Insert into brain



FDG PET to Monitor Gene Therapy



6 months low dose



12 months low dose



6 months high dose



Why didn't it work??

Is the **THEORY** wrong?

Or is it the **IMPLEMENTATION**?



- Was the transplantation successful?
- Are the gene products located appropriately?
- Was the dosing sufficient?
- Longitudinally: Is a booster treatment needed?

GOALS OF ADNI

- To develop “validated surrogate markers” for early detection and to monitor progression of AD
 - To develop improved biomarkers for AD clinical trials
 - To validate these biomarkers by correlating with clinical progression/autopsy
 - Funding \$67 mil: \$40 mil NIH, \$27 M private
-
-

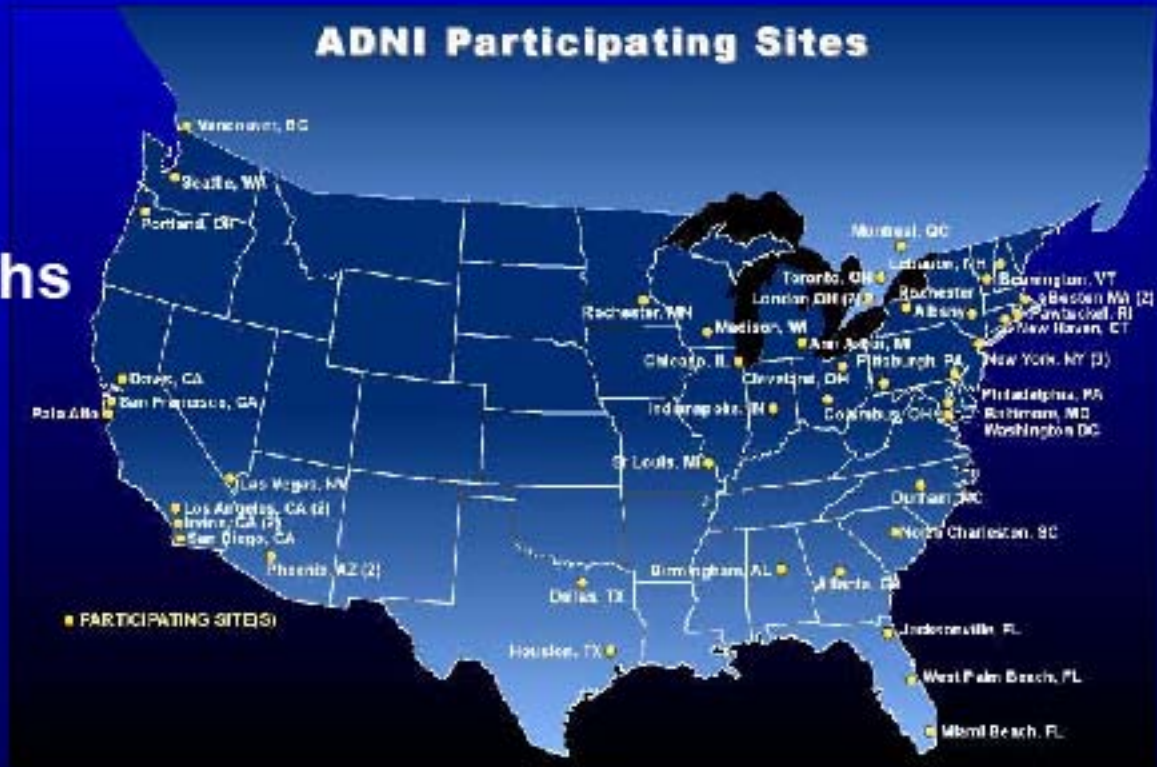
ADNI Sample

- Normals: MMSE 24-30; non-depressed
 - MCI: cognitive impairment confined to memory complaint and objective loss on WMS-R with preserved ADLs
 - Mild AD: MMSE 18-26; NINDS ADRDA probable AD
-
-

ADNI

Naturalistic study of AD progression

- 200 NORMAL 3 yrs
- 400 MCI 3 yrs
- 200 AD 2 yrs
- Visits every 6 months
- 57 sites
- Clinical, blood, LP
- Cognitive Tests
- 1.5T MRI



Some also have

- 3.0T MRI (25%)
- FDG-PET (50%)
- PiB-PET (approx 100)

Baseline Summaries

| | n | ADAS-Cog | MMSE | CDR SOB |
|---------|-----|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| NL | 229 | 6.11 (2.86) | 29.11 (1.00) | 0.03 (0.12) |
| MCI | 390 | 11.08 (4.23) | 26.98 (1.79) | 1.62 (0.88) |
| AD | 185 | 16.75 (5.75) | 23.31 (2.03) | 4.35 (1.59) |
| Overall | 804 | 10.95 (5.75) | 26.74 (2.67) | 1.80 (1.83) |

mean (sd)

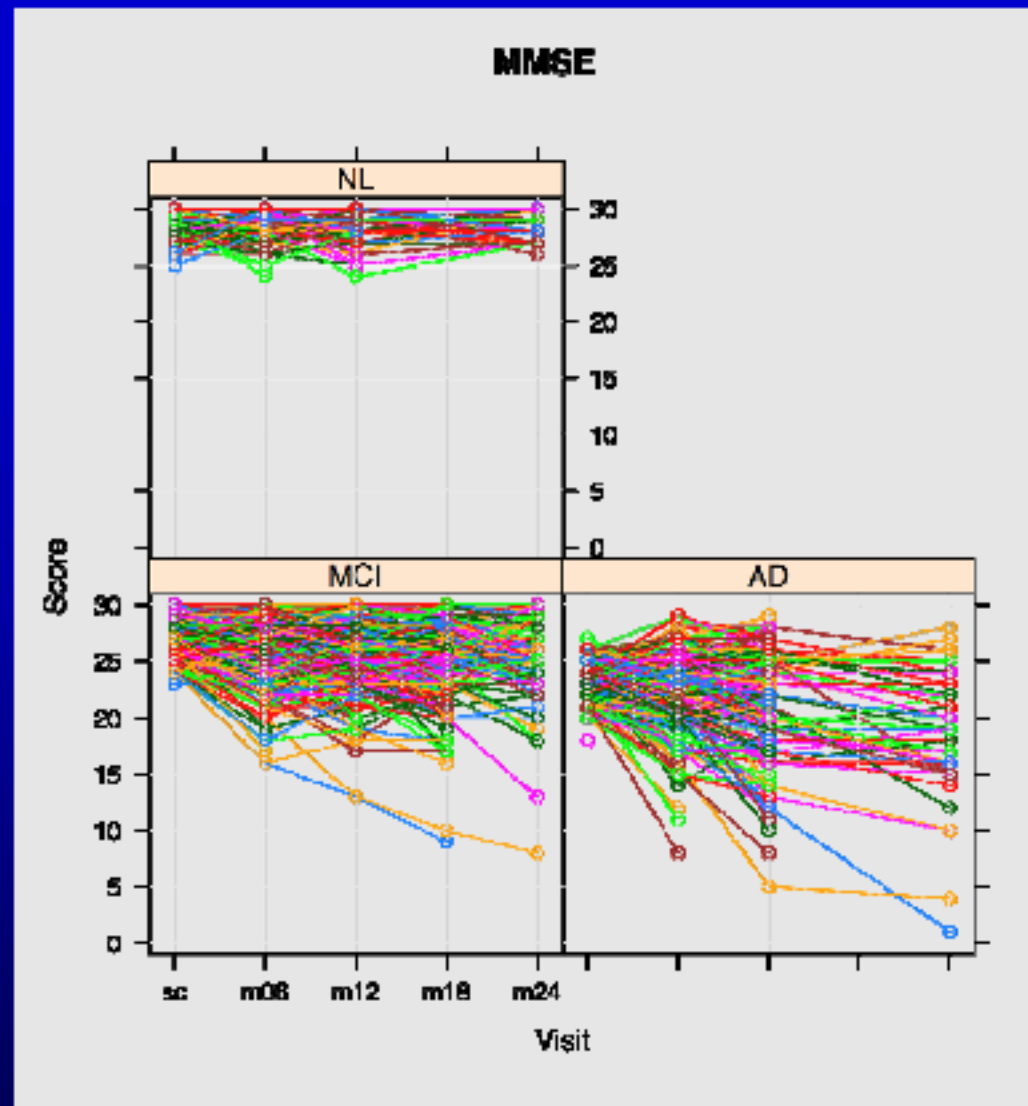
BIOSTAT CORE: Laurel Beckett, Danille Harvey, Anthony Gamst, Mike Donohue

POWER COMPARISONS

POWER OF CLINICAL/COGNITIVE TESTS

25% CHANGE 1YR STUDY (2 ARM)

| Cognitive test | Sample size: AD | Sample size: MCI |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| CDR sum of boxes | 424 | 764 |
| ADAS-COG 11 | 467 | 1982 |
| Verbal learning 5 trials | 849 | 8297 |



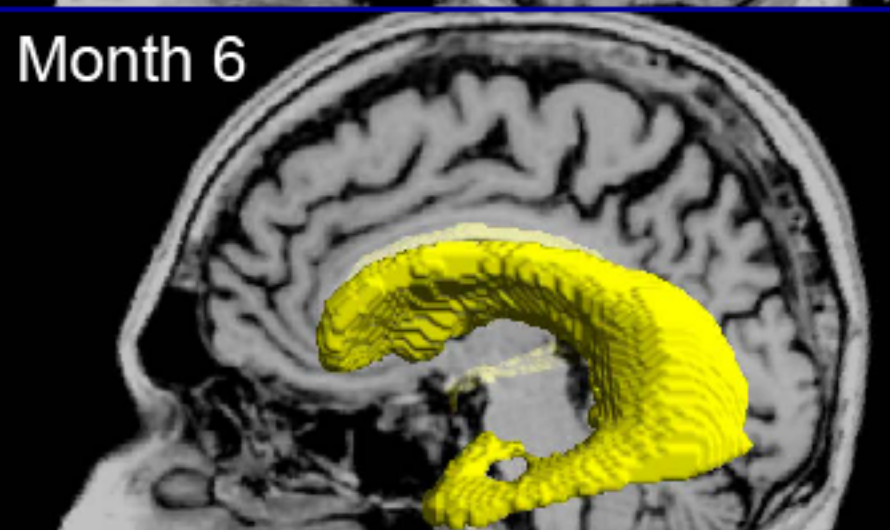
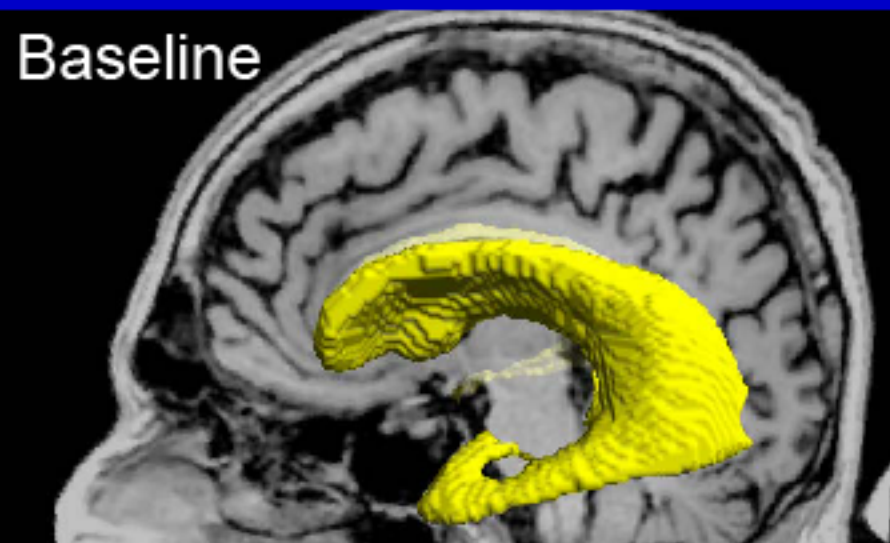
MCI → AD 26%

AUTOMATED VENTRICULAR VOLUME

Nestor, Bartha, Borrie

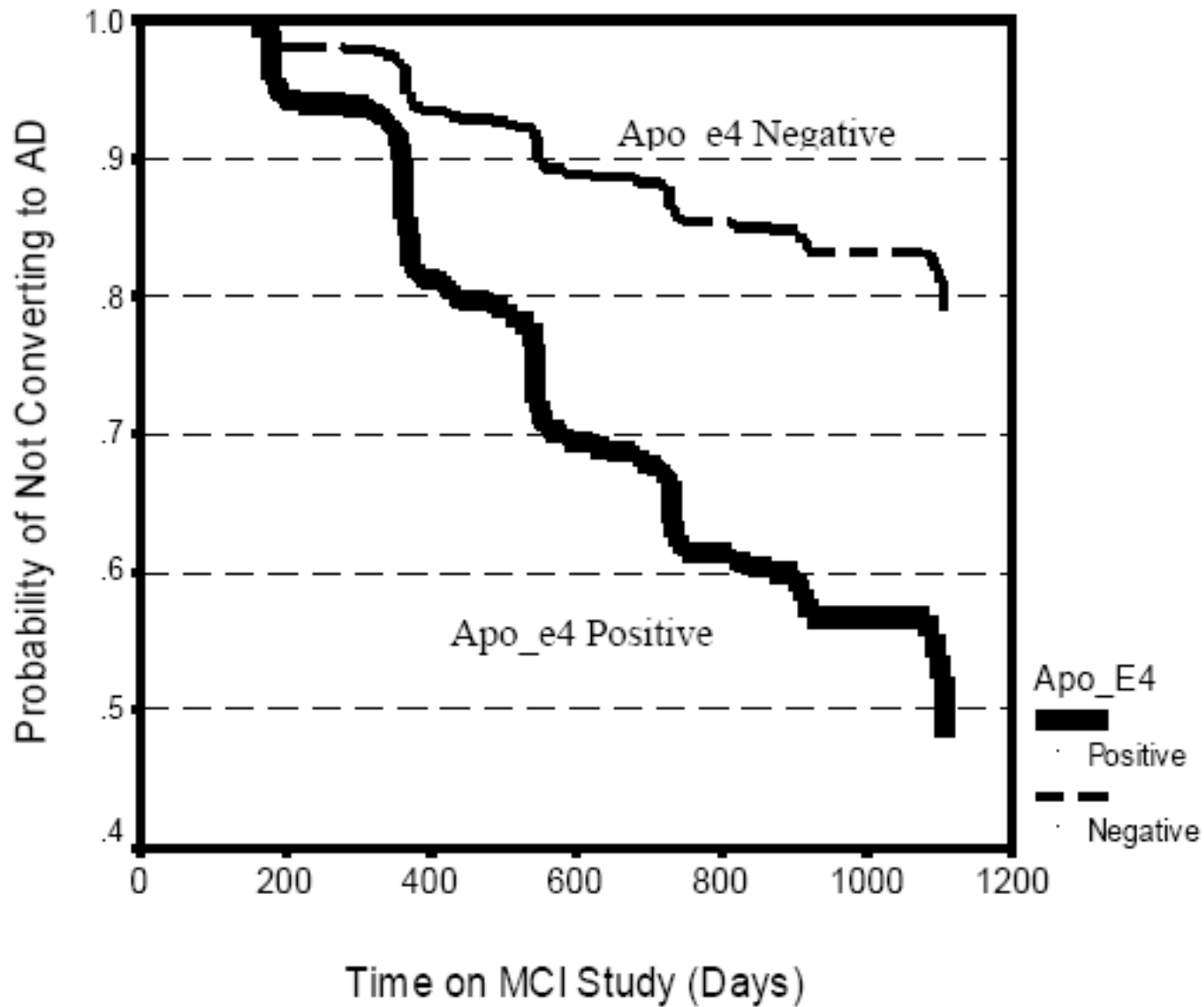
| Group | Absolute Change (cm ³) | Percent Change |
|-------|------------------------------------|----------------|
| NEC | 0.6 ± 1.4* | 1.5 ± 4.3* |
| MCI | 1.6 ± 2.4* | 3.4 ± 6.1* |
| AD | 2.6 ± 2.0* | 5.7 ± 4.9* |

* All groups significantly different ($p < 0.01$)

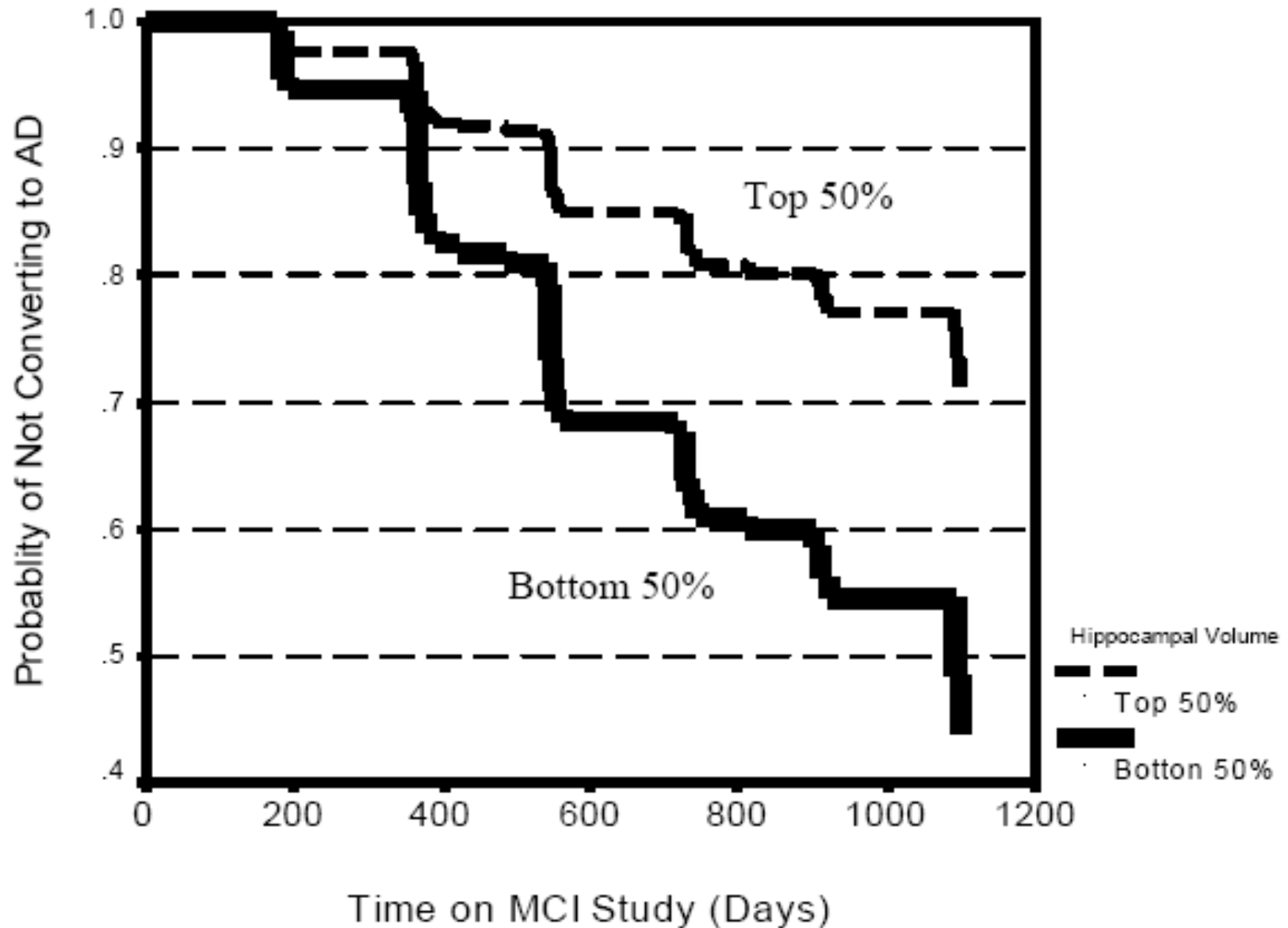


Nestor, S., et al., Ventricular enlargement as a possible measure of Alzheimer's disease progression validated using the Alzheimer's Disease Neuroimaging Initiative database. *Brain*. Published July 11, 2008, doi:10.1093/brain/awn146

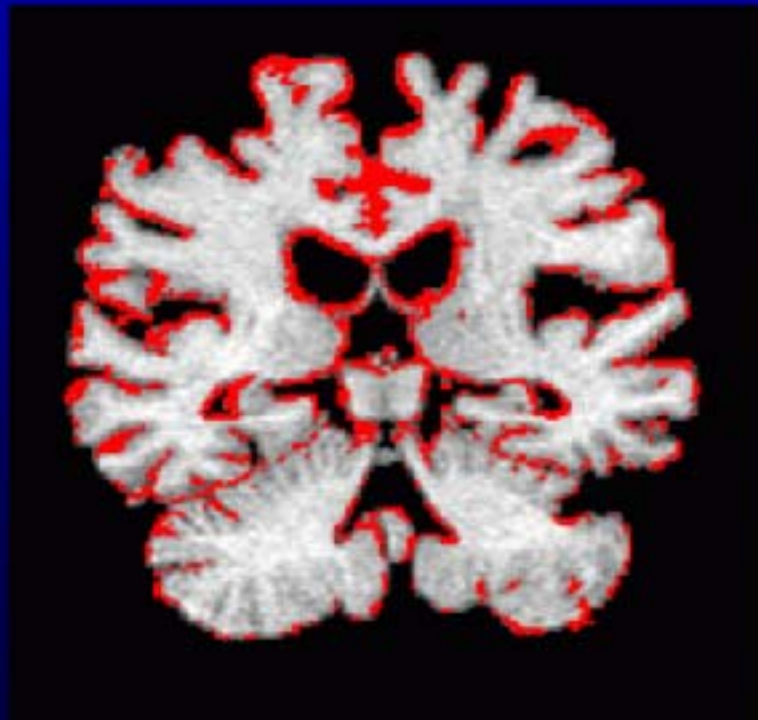
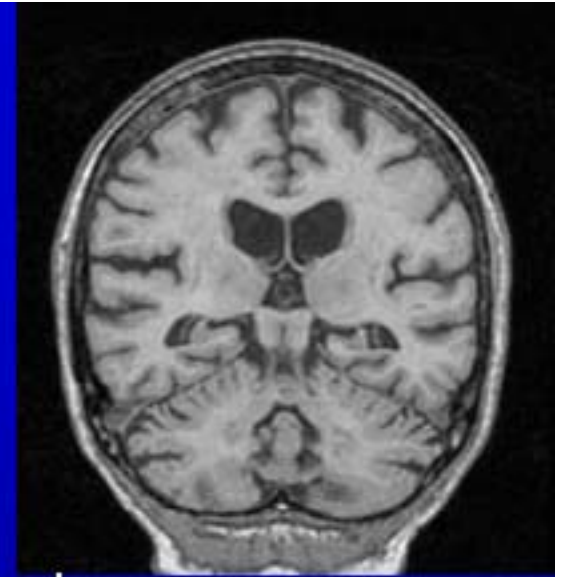
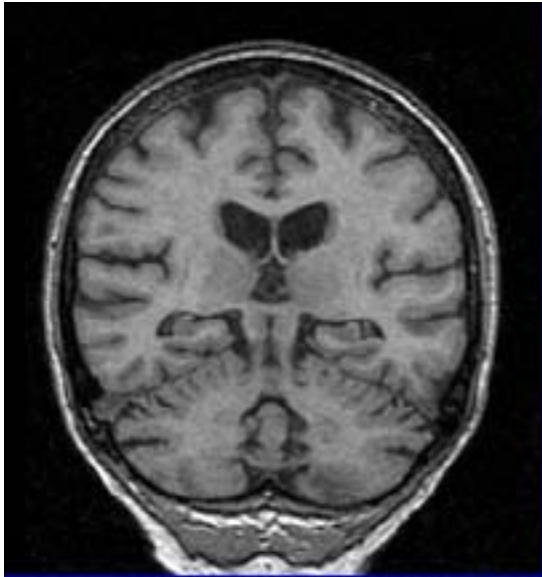
APOE4 and Transition



Hippocampal Atrophy and Transition

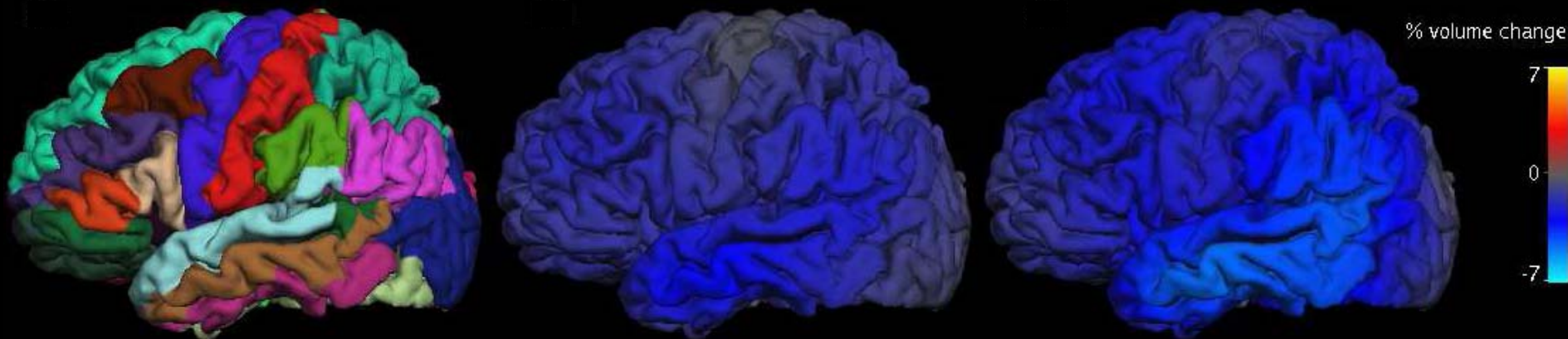
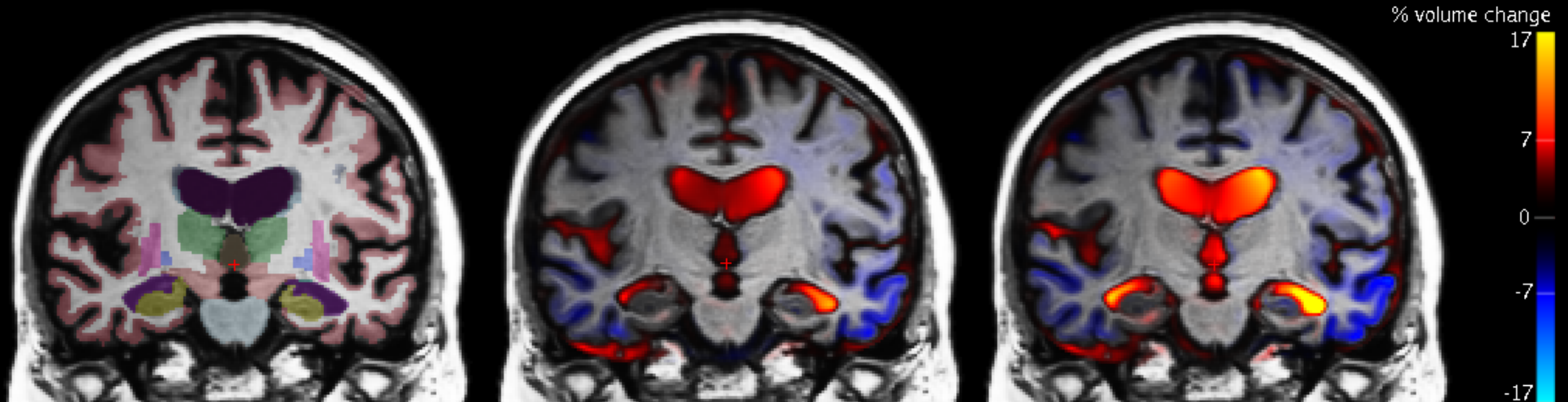


Boundary Shift Integral
Nick Fox et al



Quantification of Longitudinal Change

Individual ADNI Subject (70 y.o. Female, Diagnosed with MCI)



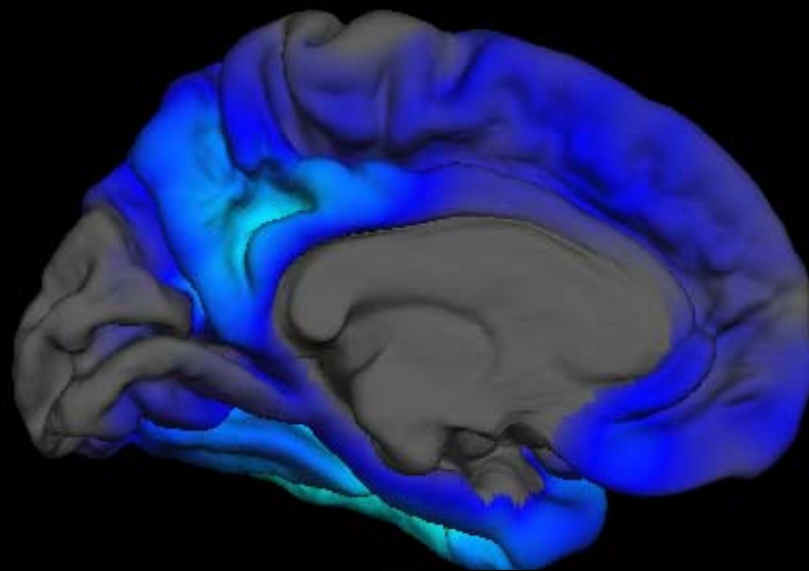
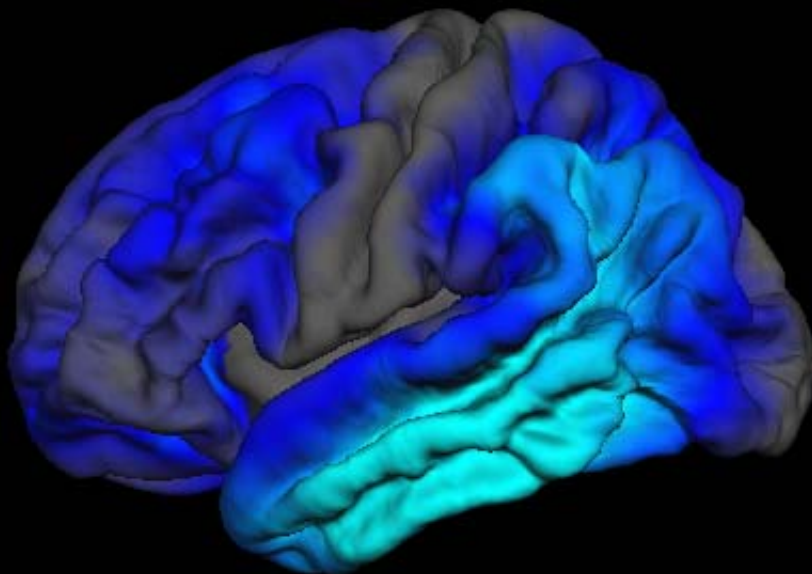
Anatomical Segmentation

Change over 6 Months

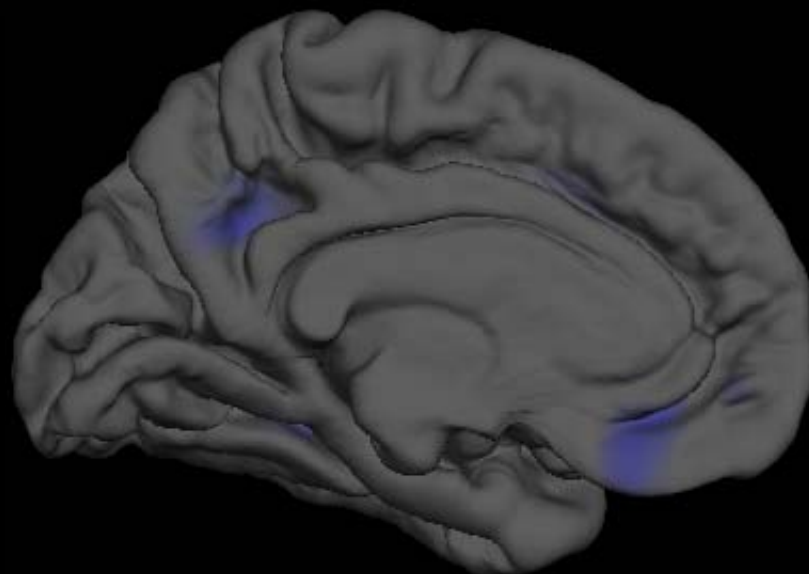
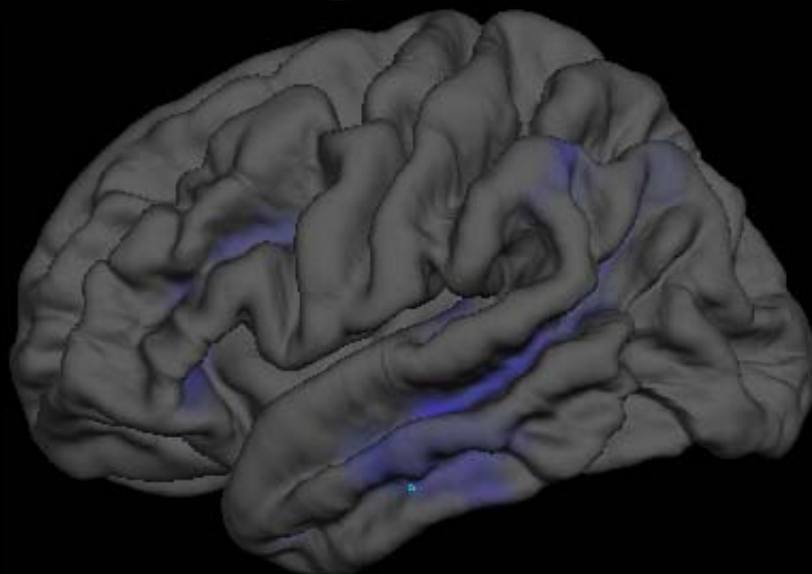
Change over 12 Months

Mean Cortical Thickness Change over 12 Months

Diagnosed as AD



Diagnosed as NC



+2%



-2%

Lateral View

Medial View

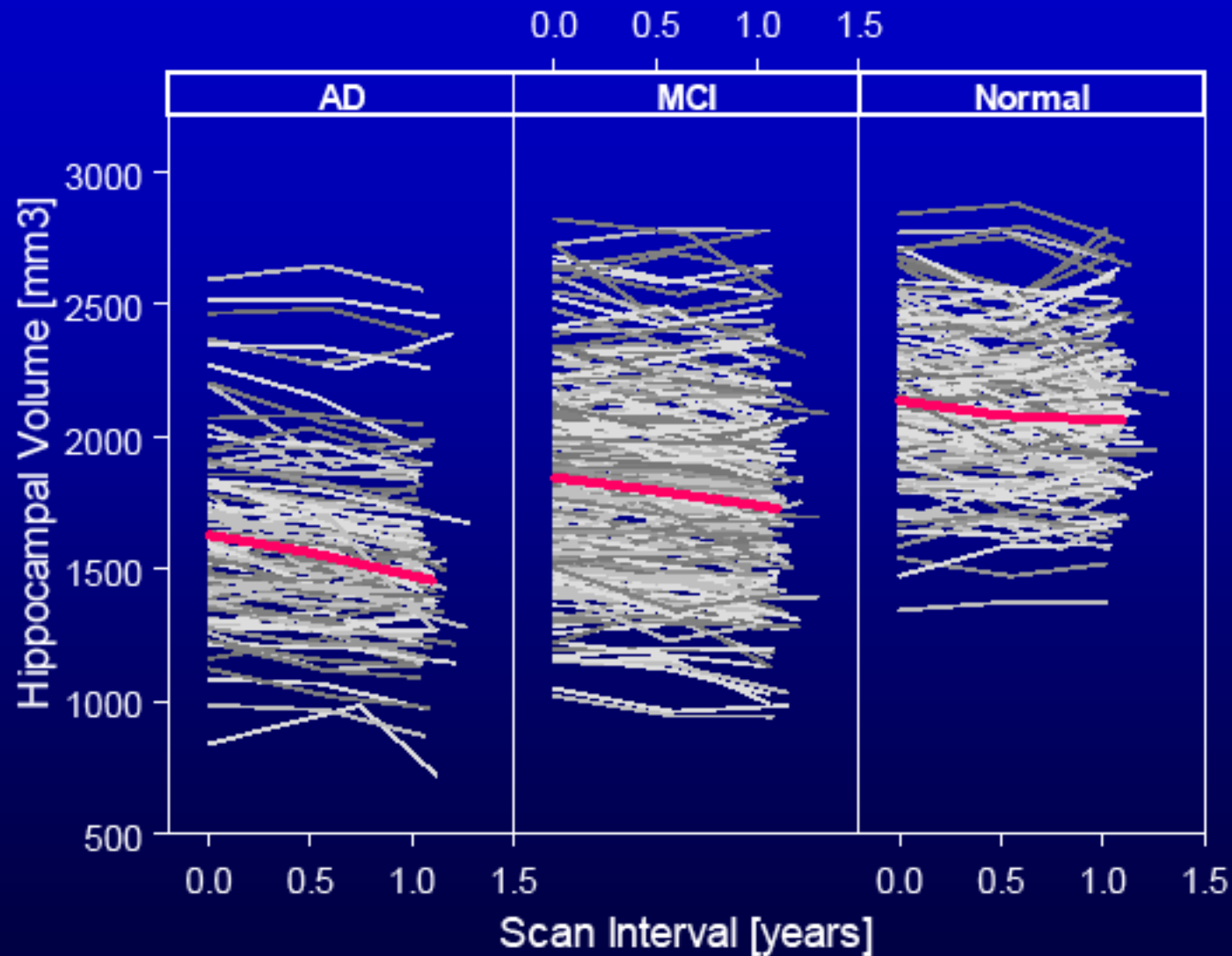
A.M. Dale, UCSD

Rates of Hippocampal Volume Loss

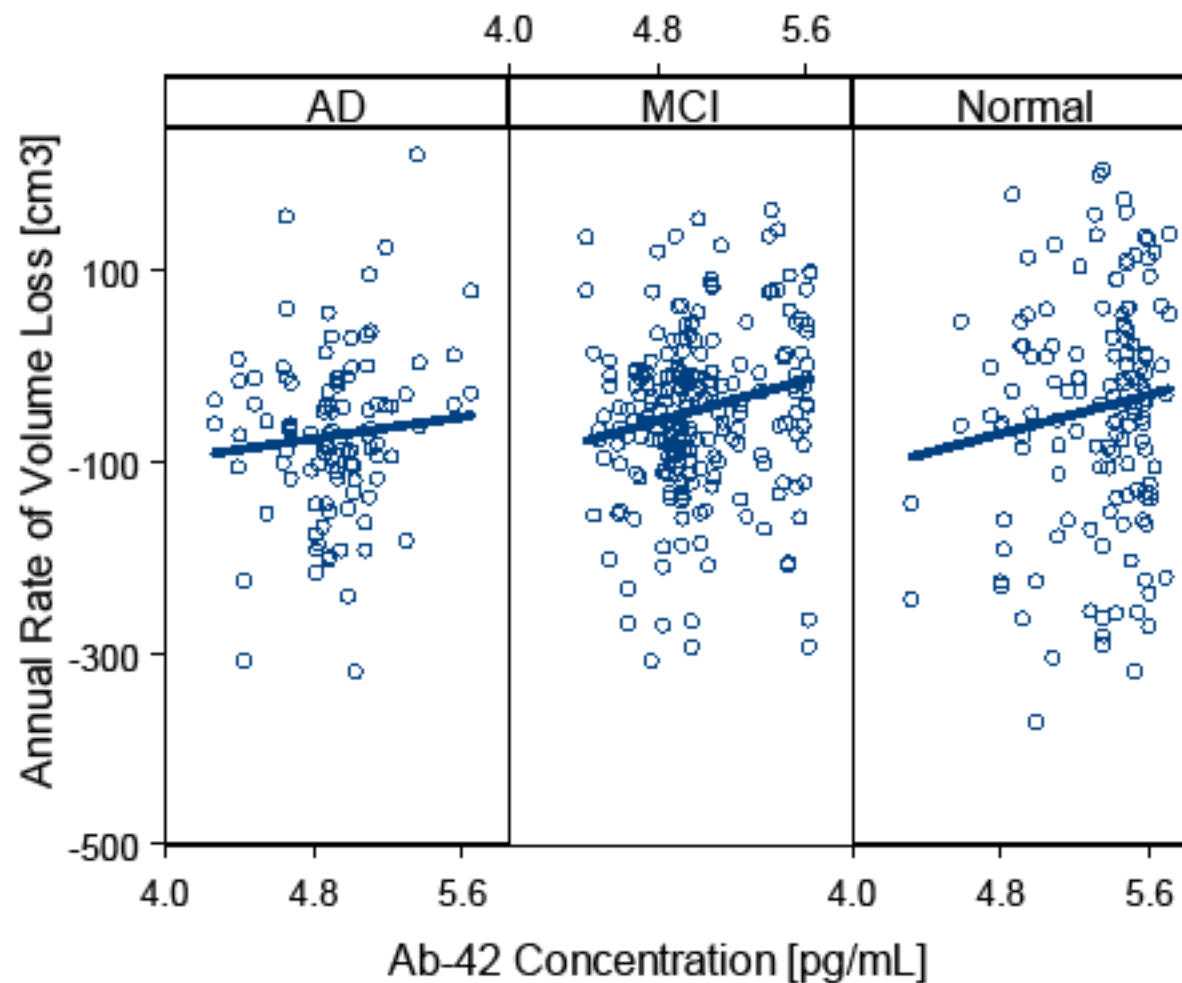
| | Normal | MCI | AD |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Baseline [mm³] | | | |
| Left | 2115 ± 26 | 1810 ± 24 | 1600 ± 34 |
| Right | 2158 ± 28 | 1880 ± 25 | 1656 ± 38 |
| Rates [mm³/year] | | | |
| <u>0 – 6 month</u> | (-1.2%) | (-2.7%) | (-3.8%) |
| Left | -27.3 ± 18.1 | -48.2 ± 11.6* | -56.8 ± 15.0* |
| Right | -28.1 ± 18.0 | -52.2 ± 11.6* | -76.5 ± 19.2* |
| <u>6-12 month</u> | (-0.8%) | (-2.9%) | (-6.3%) |
| Left | -19.5 ± 22.4 | -51.0 ± 12.4* | -112.7 ± 18.0* |
| Right | -17.5 ± 24.7 | -62.7 ± 14.1* | -97.5 ± 21.3* |

Presented at ICAD in a Talk: APOE 4 session

Individual Trajectories of Hippocampal Volume Loss



Effects of CSF Ab-42 (log transformed) on annual rate of hippocampal atrophy.



**BIOSTAT CORE: Laurel Beckett, Danille
Harvey, Anthony Gamst, Mike Donohue**

POWER COMPARISONS

POWER OF CLINICAL/COGNITIVE TESTS

25% CHANGE 1YR STUDY (2 ARM)

| Cognitive test | Sample size: AD | Sample size: MCI |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| CDR sum of boxes | 424 | 764 |
| ADAS-COG 11 | 467 | 1982 |
| Verbal learning 5 trials | 849 | 8297 |

Estimated sample size for 25% slope reduction, AD (n=34)

| Lab | MRI Measure | Sample size / gp | | |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------|---|---|
| Dale | Left Mid Temporal | 47 | ■ | |
| Dale | Whole Brain | 49 | ■ | |
| Fox | DBC BSI % Change | 61 | ■ | |
| Studholme | % Change (Temporal) | 70 | ■ | |
| Dale | Left hippo | 68 | ■ | |
| Dale | Ventricles | 88 | ■ | ■ |
| Fox | Ventricles/Brain | 96 | ■ | ■ |
| Schuff | Avg hipp vol | 160 | ■ | ■ |
| Alexander | Left Mid Temporal | 184 | ■ | ■ |
| Thompson | Avg Jaco Pre-sp Temp | 275 | | ■ |
| Alexander | Left Hippo Formation | 336 | | ■ |

Estimated sample size for 25% slope reduction. MCI (n=76)

| Lab | MRI Measure | Sample size / gp | | |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------|--|--|
| Studholme | % Change (Temporal) | 98 | | |
| Dale | Left Hippo | 102 | | |
| Fox | DBC BSI % Change | 118 | | |
| Dale | Whole Brain | 125 | | |
| Fox | Ventricles/Brain | 130 | | |
| Dale | Ventricles | 156 | | |
| Alexander | Left Mid Temporal | 213 | | |
| Alexander | Left Hippo Formation | 230 | | |
| Dale | Left Mid Temporal | 252 | | |
| Thompson | Avg Jaco Pre-sp Temp | 536 | | |
| Schuff | Avg hipp vol | 732 | | |

Correlations of change in MRI with change in ADAS-COG: AD

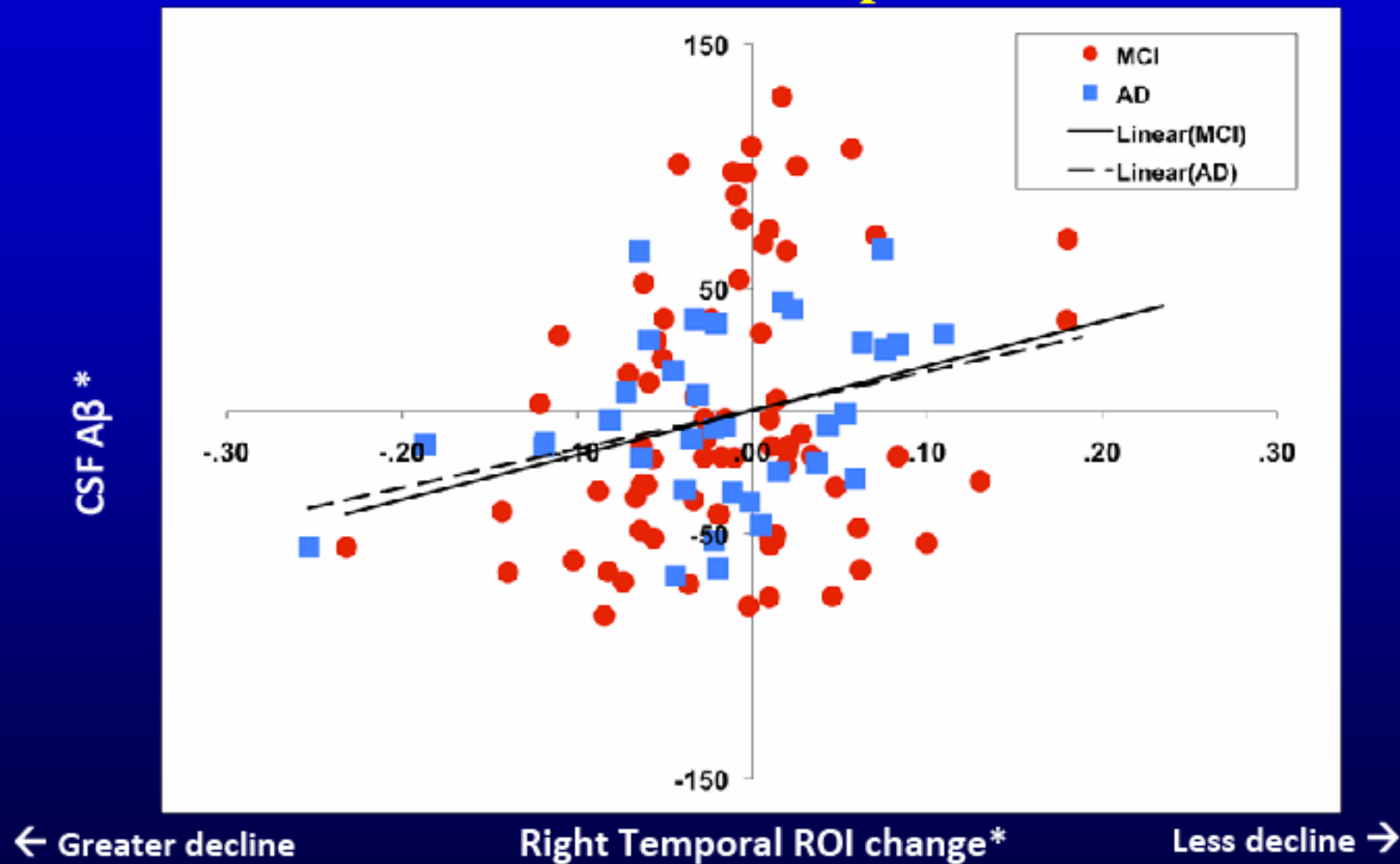
| Lab | Measure | Correlation |
|-----------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Dale | Whole Brain | -0.57 |
| Studholme | % Change (Temporal) | -0.21 |
| Dale | L Mid Temp | -0.38 |
| Fox | DBC BSI % Change | 0.33 |
| Schuff | Avg Hippo | 0.23 |
| Dale | R Hippo | 0.24 |
| Alexander | L Hippo Formation | 0.17 |
| Fox | Ventricles/Brain | 0.18 |
| Dale | Ventricles | 0.14 |
| Thompson | Avg Jacobian (Temporal) | 0.11 |
| Alexander | Mid Temp | 0.09 |

Data-driven regions improve over pre-specified ROI in voxel-based methods (TBM and VBM)

| Lab | MRI Measure | Sample size/gp | |
|-----------|----------------------------|----------------|-----|
| | | AD | MCI |
| Thompson | Avg Jaco Pre-Sp Temp | 275 | 536 |
| Thompson | TBM region | 67 | 73 |
| Alexander | L Mid Temp (Pre-sp) | 184 | 213 |
| Alexander | L Hippo Formation (Pre-sp) | 336 | 230 |
| Alexander | VBM region | 40 | 77 |

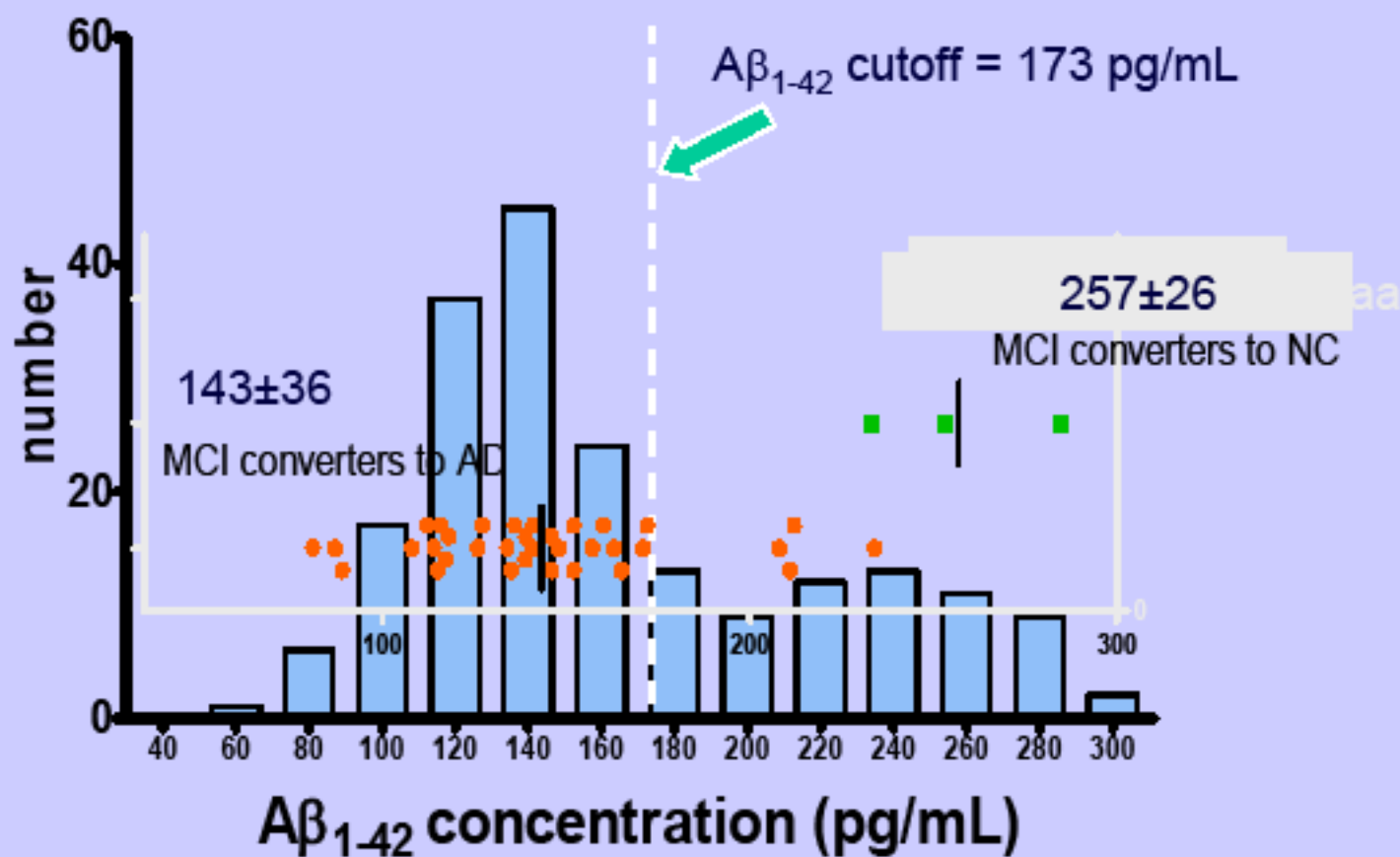
Results for data-driven regions not directly comparable until validated independently on separate test set

Change in Right Temporal ROI correlates with CSF A β for MCI and AD patients



*corrected for age, education, and baseline Right Temporal mean

MCI converters to AD at YEAR 1 (n=34)

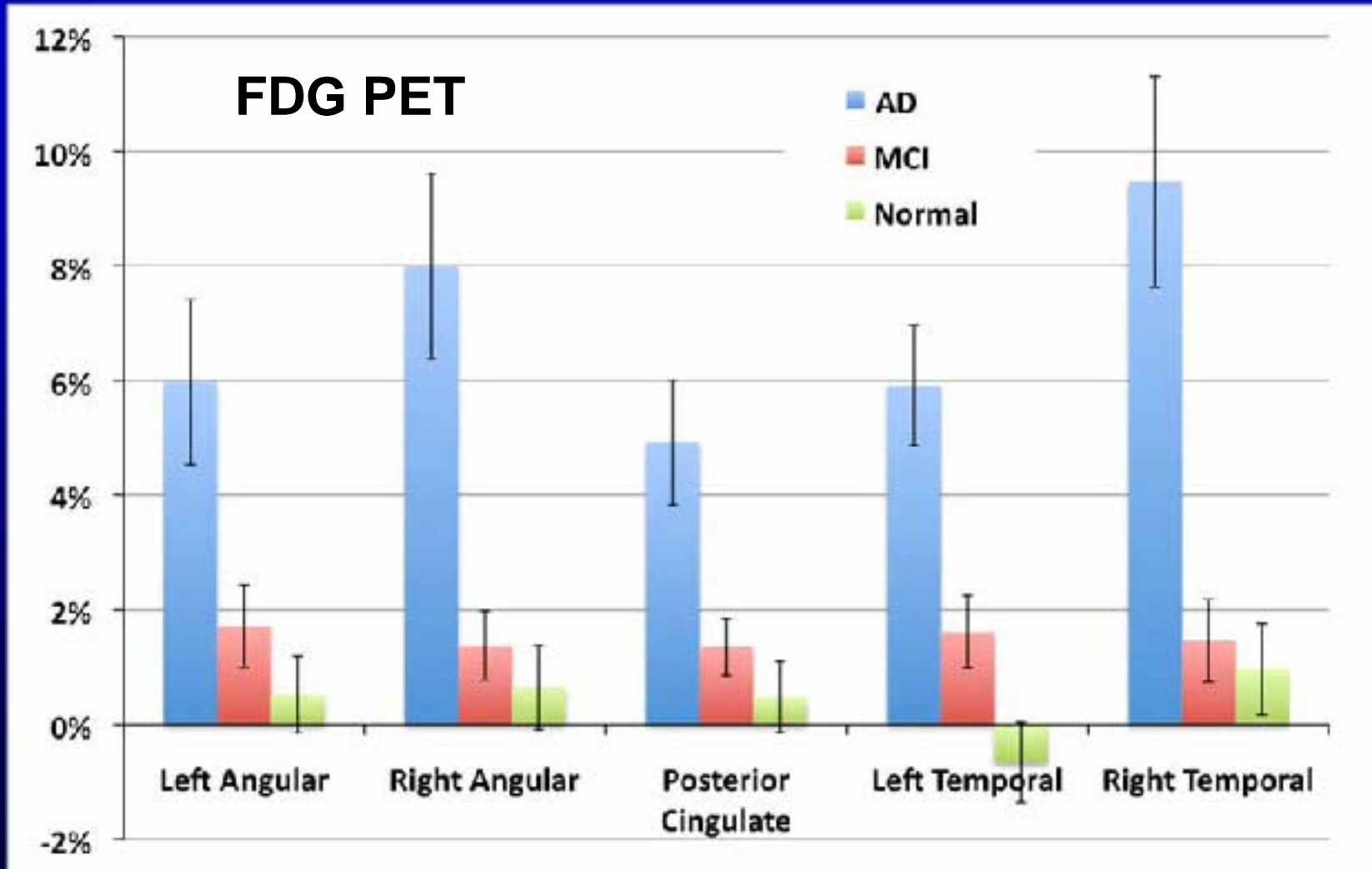


A β 42 Quartiles and Annual Brain Change (2 Labs)

| | < 159.2 (worst) | (159.2, 217) | (217, 252.8) | > 252.8 (best) |
|------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| Dale | -7986 (8932) | -1892 (3800) | -3204 (5470) | -4455 (4980) |
| Fox | -11.9 (13.4) | -3.2 (12.7) | -5.3 (9.5) | -5.3 (10.3) |

AD Patients show greater annual decline in glucose metabolism than MCI or Normal subjects

Percent annual decline

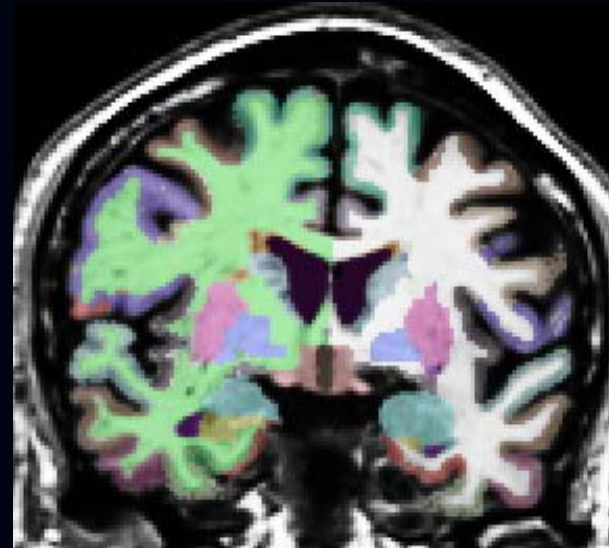


Structural ROIs Applied to FDG PET

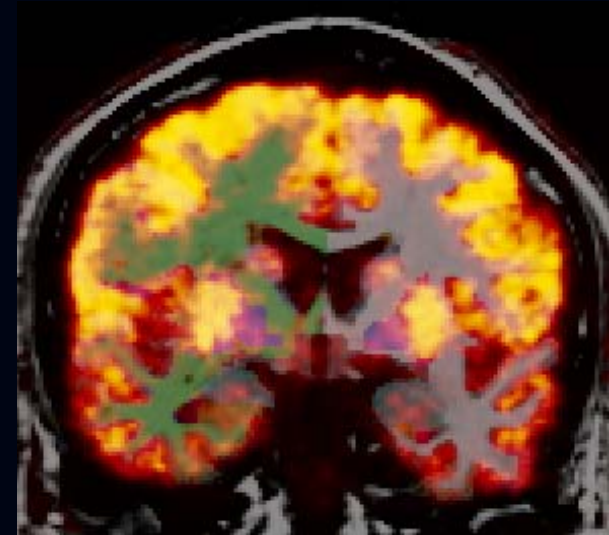
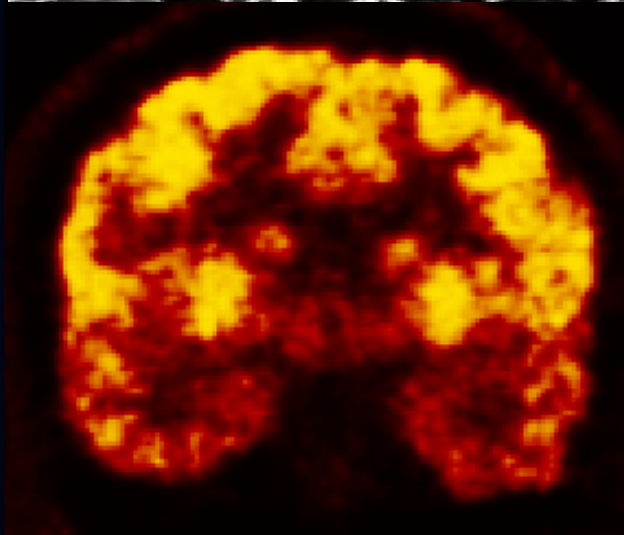
“Raw”

FreeSurfer ROI Overlay

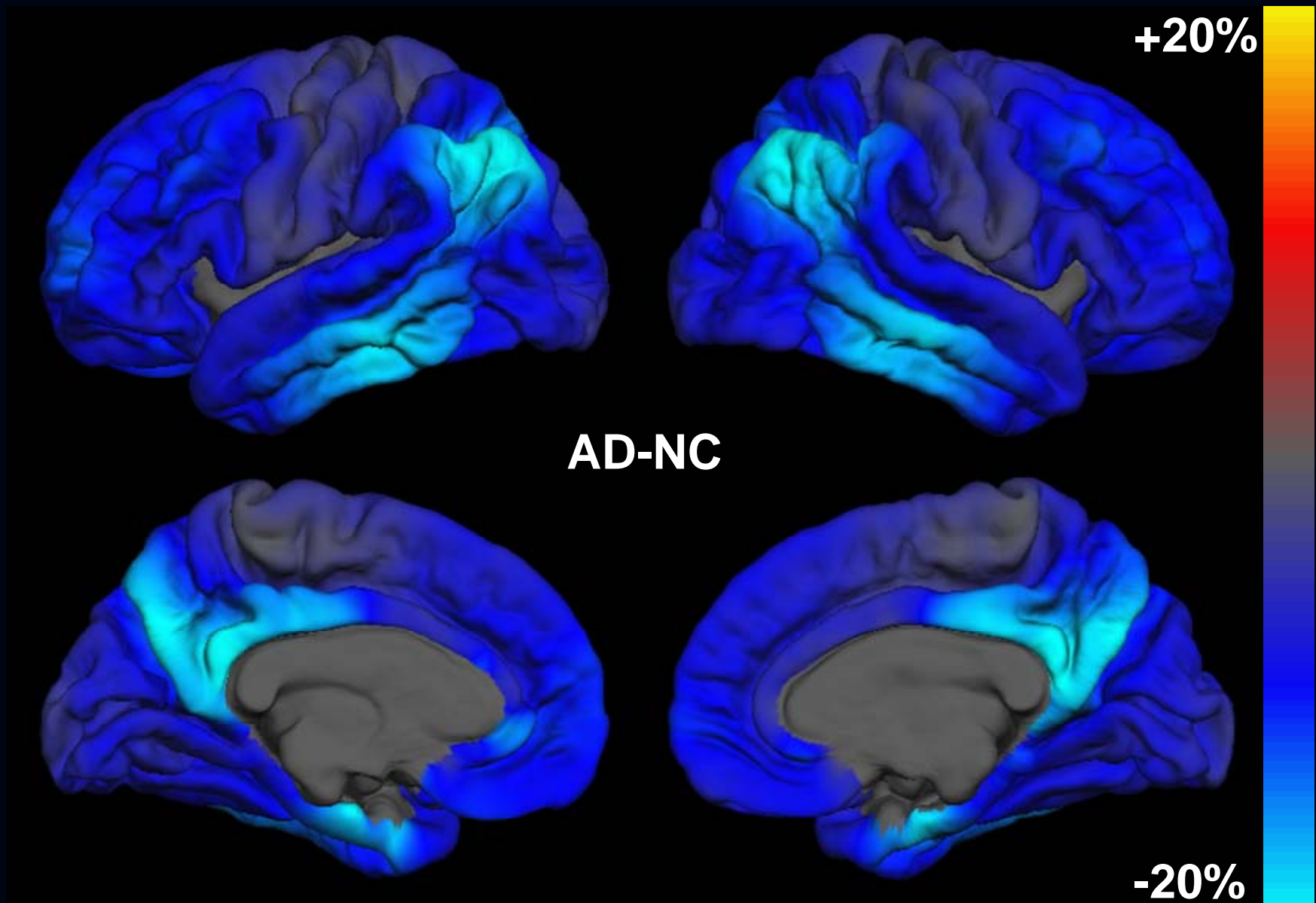
MRI



PET



Cross-Sectional FDG PET Difference in ADNI



Estimated sample sizes to detect 25% reduction in rate of FDG PET change: AD (n=32)

Laurel Beckett, Danielle Harvey: Biostat Core

| Lab | PET Measure | Sample size / gp | | | | |
|--------|------------------------|------------------|-------|------|------|--------|
| Reiman | Functional ROI | 160 | Green | Blue | Blue | Blue |
| Foster | Pixels > 3SD below NL | 403 | Green | Pink | Cyan | Blue |
| Jagust | Right Angular | 513 | Green | Pink | Cyan | Blue |
| Jagust | Right Temporal | 566 | Green | Pink | Cyan | Blue |
| Foster | Pixels > 2 SD below NL | 910 | Blue | Pink | Cyan | Blue |
| Jagust | Bilat Cingulum Post | 1216 | Blue | Pink | Cyan | Yellow |
| Foster | Average Assoc Cortex | 1272 | Blue | Blue | Cyan | Yellow |
| Jagust | Left Temporal | 1272 | Blue | Blue | Cyan | Yellow |
| Foster | Avg Front Assoc Cortex | 1433 | Blue | Blue | Blue | Yellow |
| Jagust | Left Angular | 2261 | Blue | Blue | Blue | Yellow |

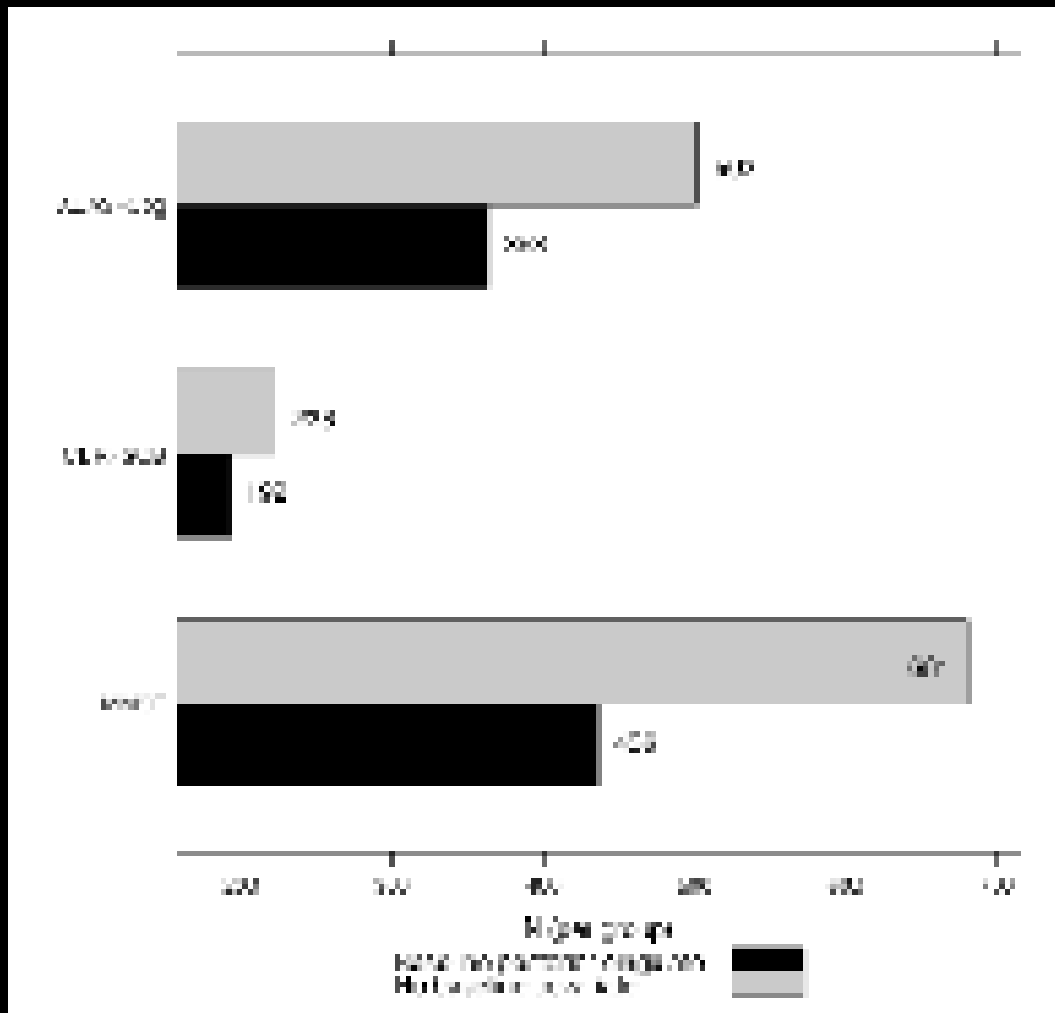
Correlations of change in PET with change in ADAS-COG in AD

| Lab | Measure | Correlation |
|--------|-------------------------|-------------|
| Reiman | Functional ROI | -0.34 |
| Jagust | Bilat Cingulum Post. | -0.26 |
| Jagust | Right Angular | -0.23 |
| Jagust | Left Angular | -0.23 |
| Foster | Avg Front Assoc. Cortex | -0.22 |
| Foster | Avg Assoc Cortex | -0.20 |
| Jagust | Left Temporal | -0.16 |
| Jagust | Right Temporal | -0.06 |
| Foster | >2 SD below NL | 0.07 |
| Foster | >3 SD below NL | 0.09 |

Estimated sample sizes to detect 25%
reduction in FDG PET change: MCI
(n=79)

| Lab | PET Measure | Sample size / gp | | | |
|--------|--------------------|------------------|--|--|--|
| Reiman | Functional ROI | 626 | | | |
| Foster | >3 SD below NL | 830 | | | |
| Foster | >2 SD below NL | 2033 | | | |
| Foster | Average assoc | 3077 | | | |
| Foster | Average frontal | 5674 | | | |
| Jagust | Left angular | >10,000 | | | |
| Jagust | Bilat. cing. post. | >10,000 | | | |
| Jagust | Left temporal | >10,000 | | | |

Baseline Posterior Cingulate Metabolism Lowers Sample Size in MCI



Random effects model for data at baseline, 6, 12, 18 and 24 months

Inclusion of baseline posterior cingulate metabolism as a covariate increases power

Number of patients per group needed to detect a treatment effect in a functionally defined ROI (P=0.05) with 80% power using FDG PET in a 12-month RCT*

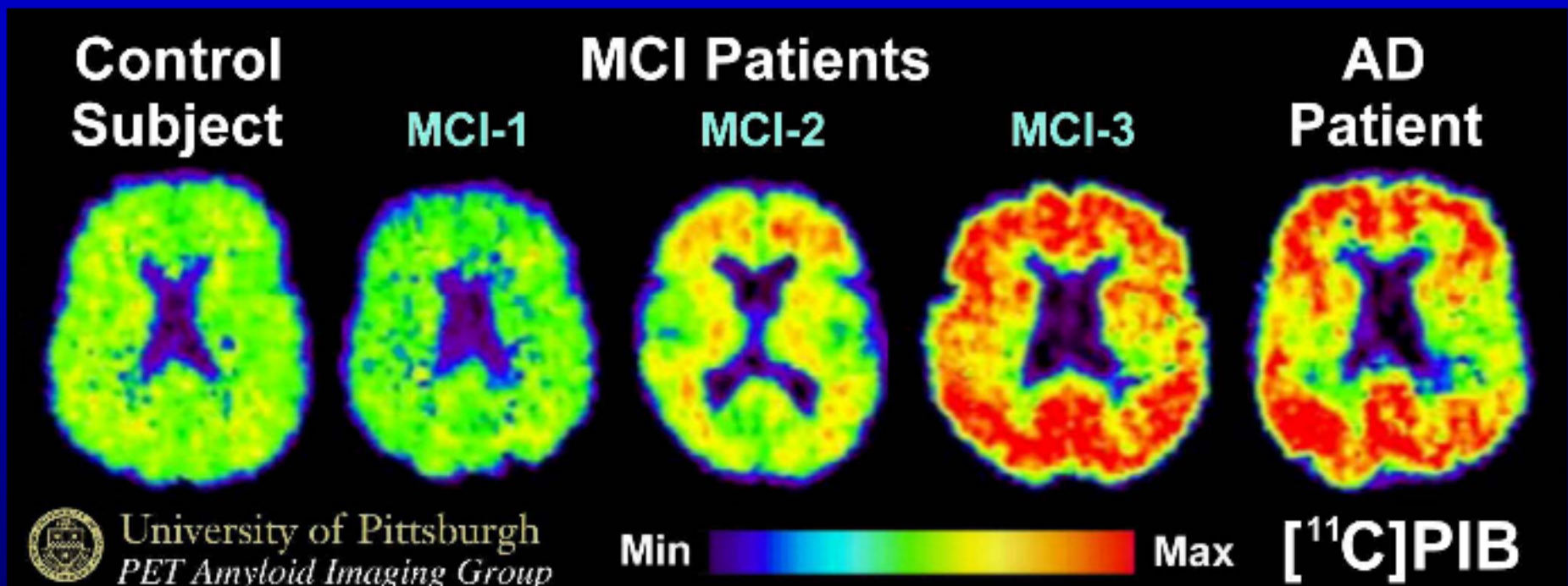
| | Treatment Effect | | | | |
|------------|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | 20% | 25% | 30% | 40% | 50% |
| AD (n=22) | 62 | 40 | 28 | 17 | 11 |
| MCI (n=64) | 633 | 406 | 283 | 159 | 103 |

*The estimates exclude scans from the HRRT & HiRez Biograph systems.

The MCI-related ROI has not been optimized yet, which may increase statistical power further.

PIB in Controls, MCI, AD

Chet Mathis, U Pittsburgh

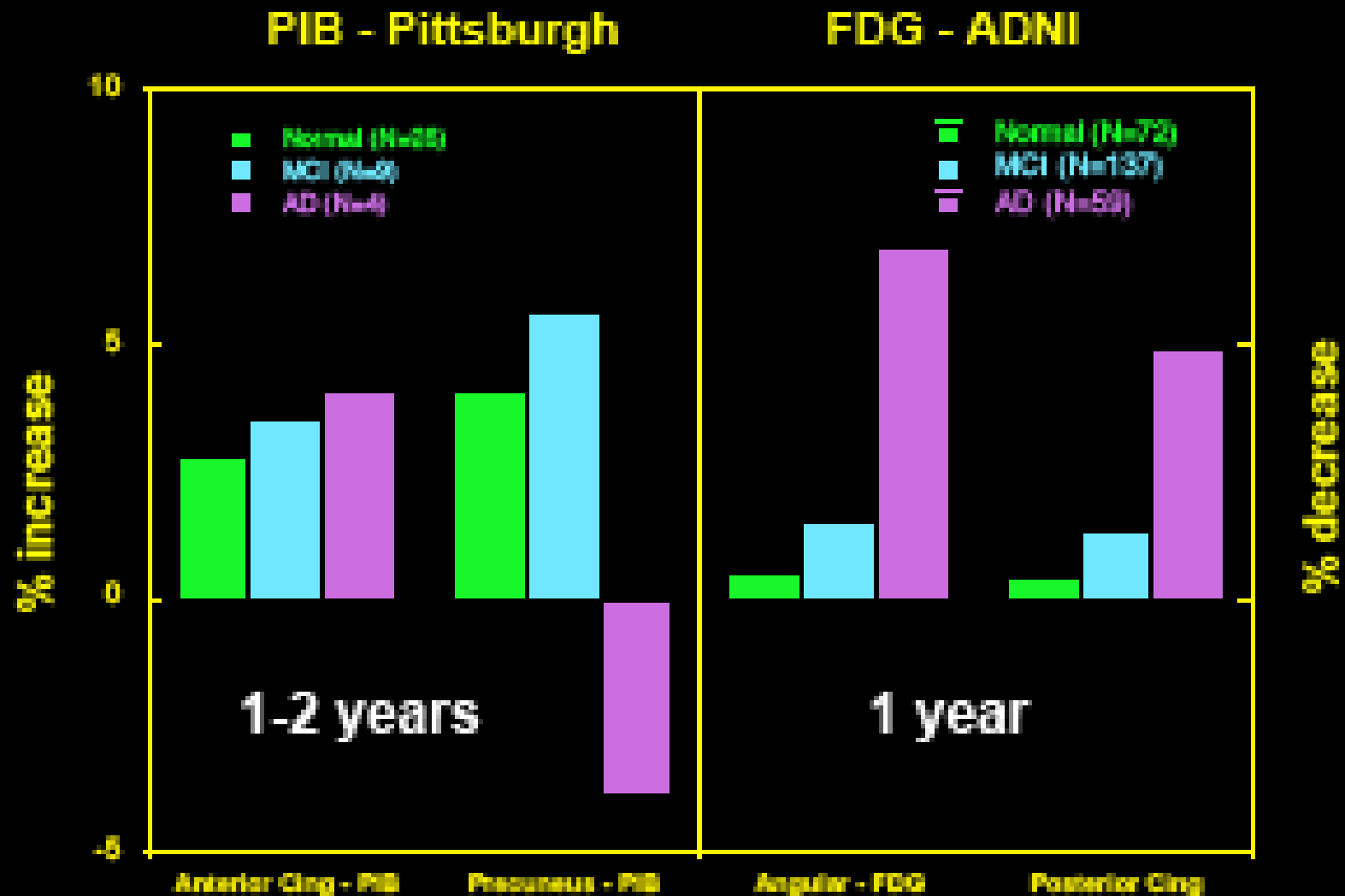


Some MCI's have control-like PIB retention, some have AD-like retention, and some have intermediate retention

Price et al., JCBFM 2005

Lopresti et al., J Nucl Med, in press

Longitudinal Change PIB and FDG



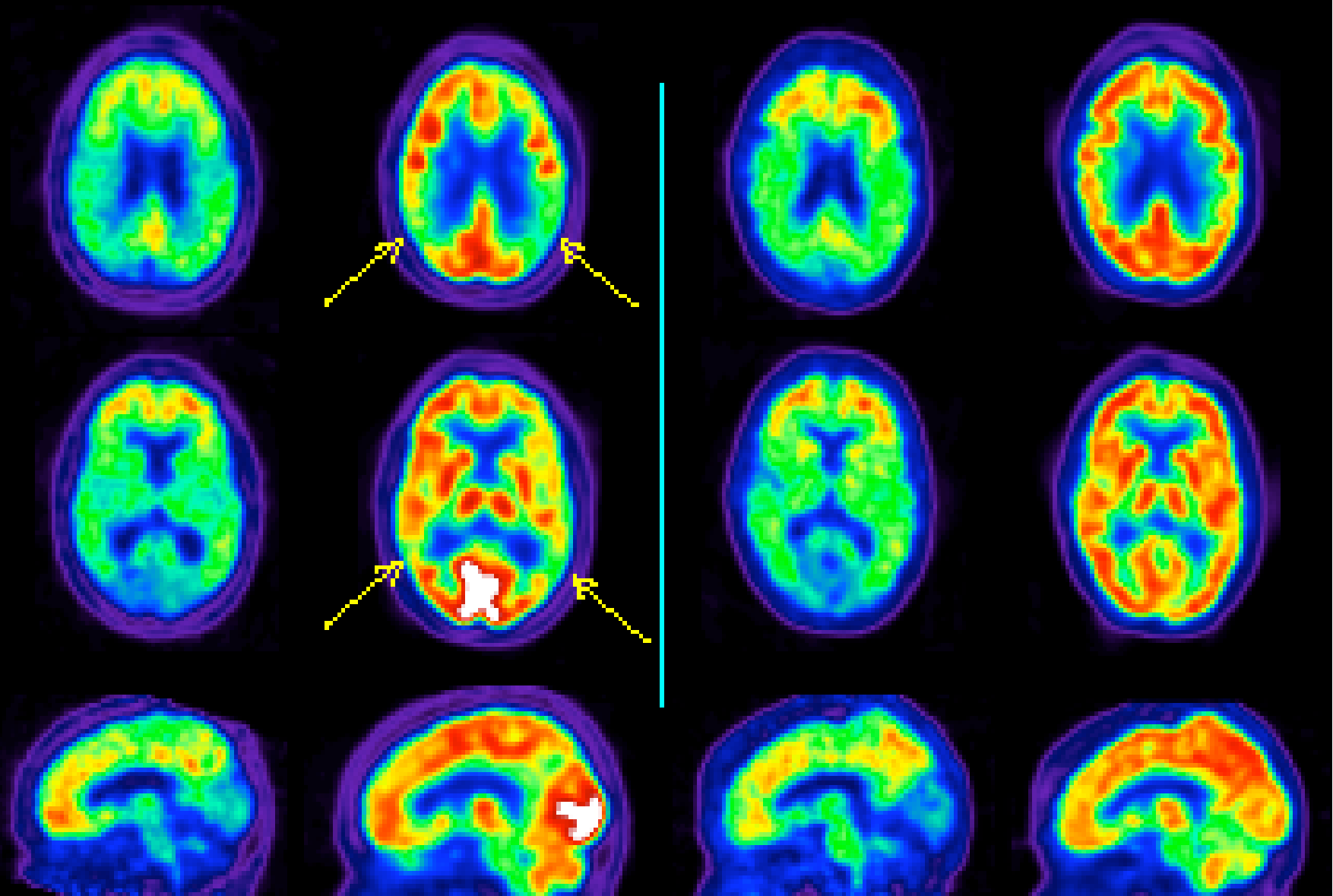
Demented or Not?

PIB

FDG

PIB

FDG



Imaging Genetics: combination of imaging, genetic and clinical data

- Candidate approach begins with a gene of interest and use brain imaging to understand the gene effects
 - Imaging as a strategy to find unknown risk genes
Fundamentally different from a standard candidate gene approach
New approach uses brain imaging as a quantitative phenotype and identifies which SNP influence it in the context of a GWAS
-
-

The candidate gene approach



F. Collins

The genome wide association approach



F. Collins

$$\text{Imaging Phenotype} = \text{Genotype} + \text{Group} + (\text{Genotype} * \text{Group})$$

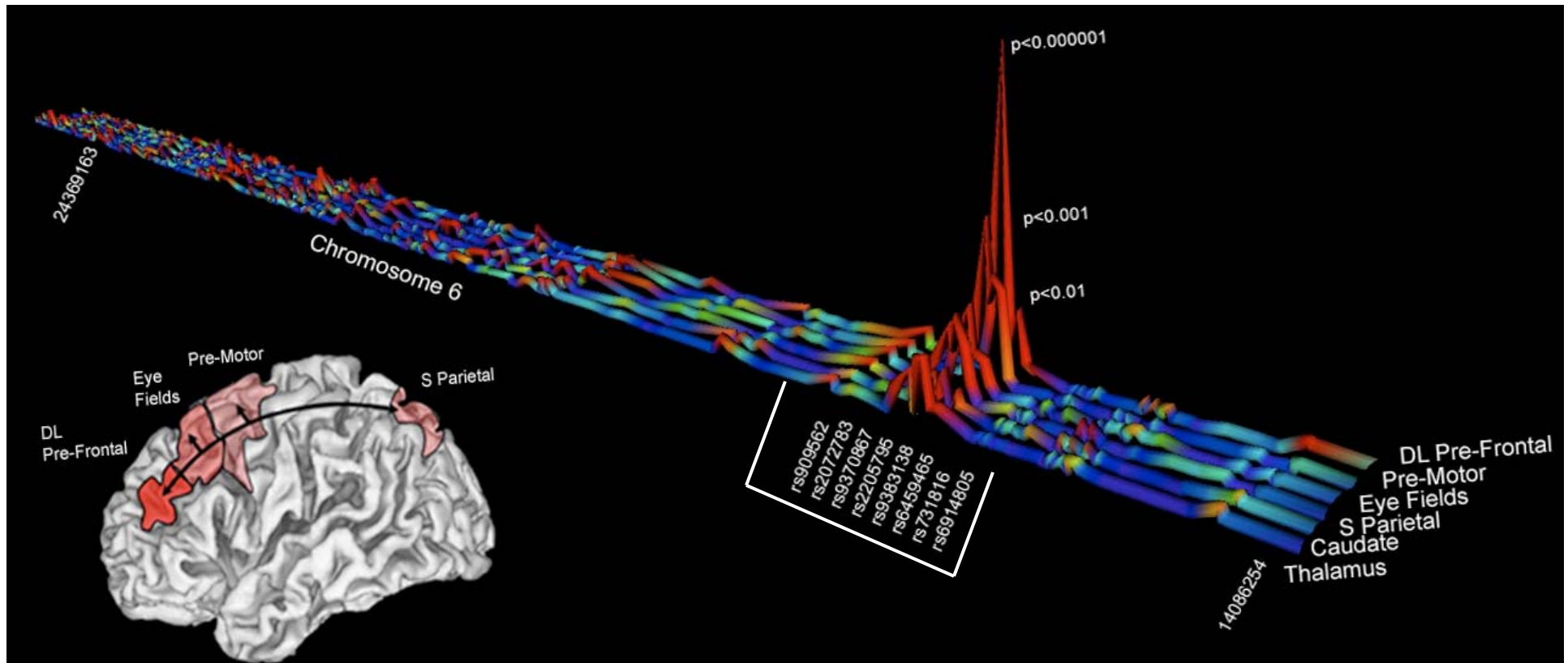
Imaging Phenotype is activation or volume in ROI

Genotype = SNP₁

Group= converts/noconverters

Determine which SNPs or genotypes influence these functional differences by a series of GLM

GLM can be expanded to consider covariates like age, education, medication, smoking, as well as gene-gene interaction



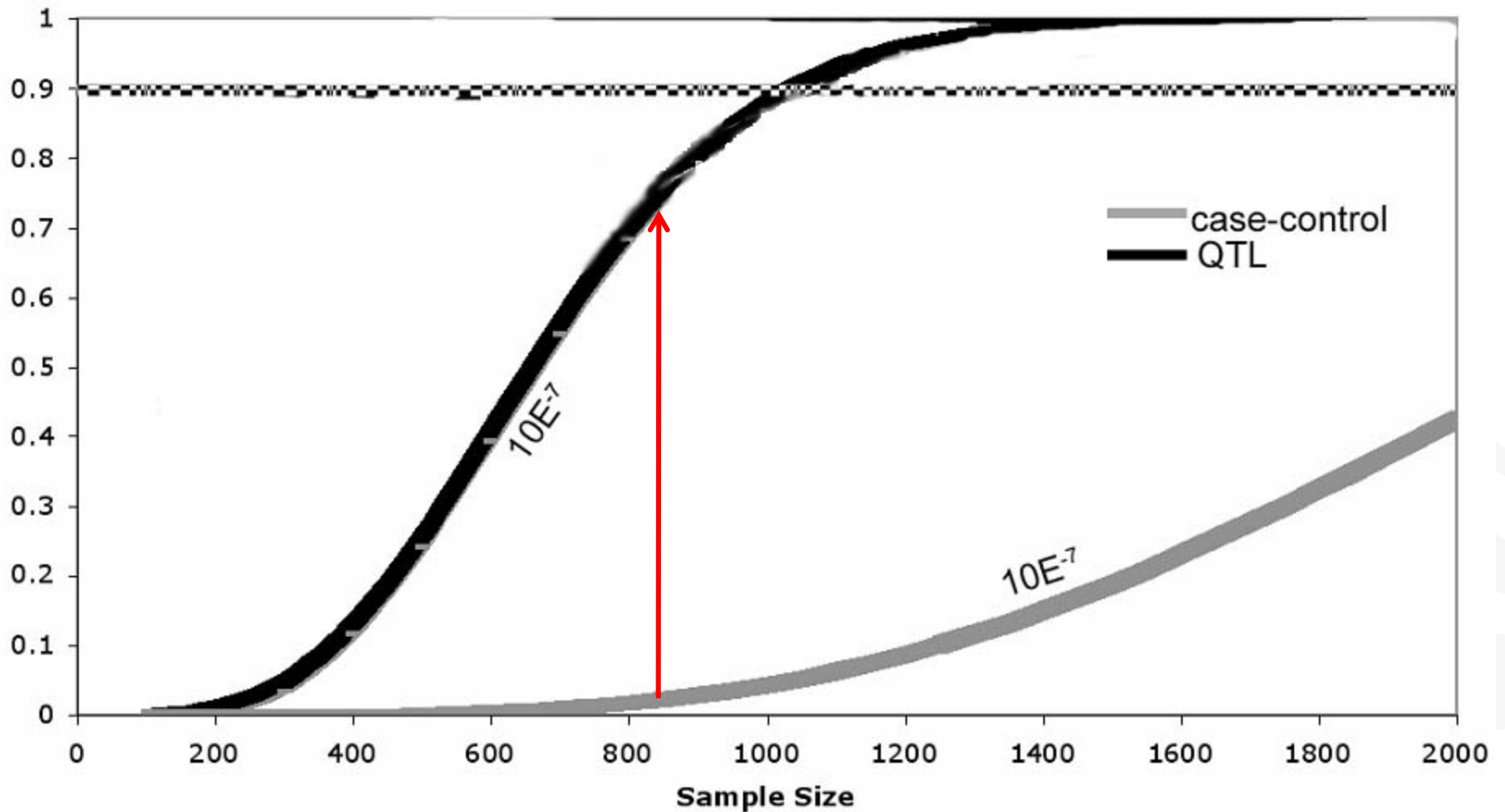
Looking down 10 million base pairs on Chromosome 6 to discover the genes that cause schizophrenia.

New gene detected in white bracket.

Peaks point to SNPs that influence fMRI brain activation in various brain regions

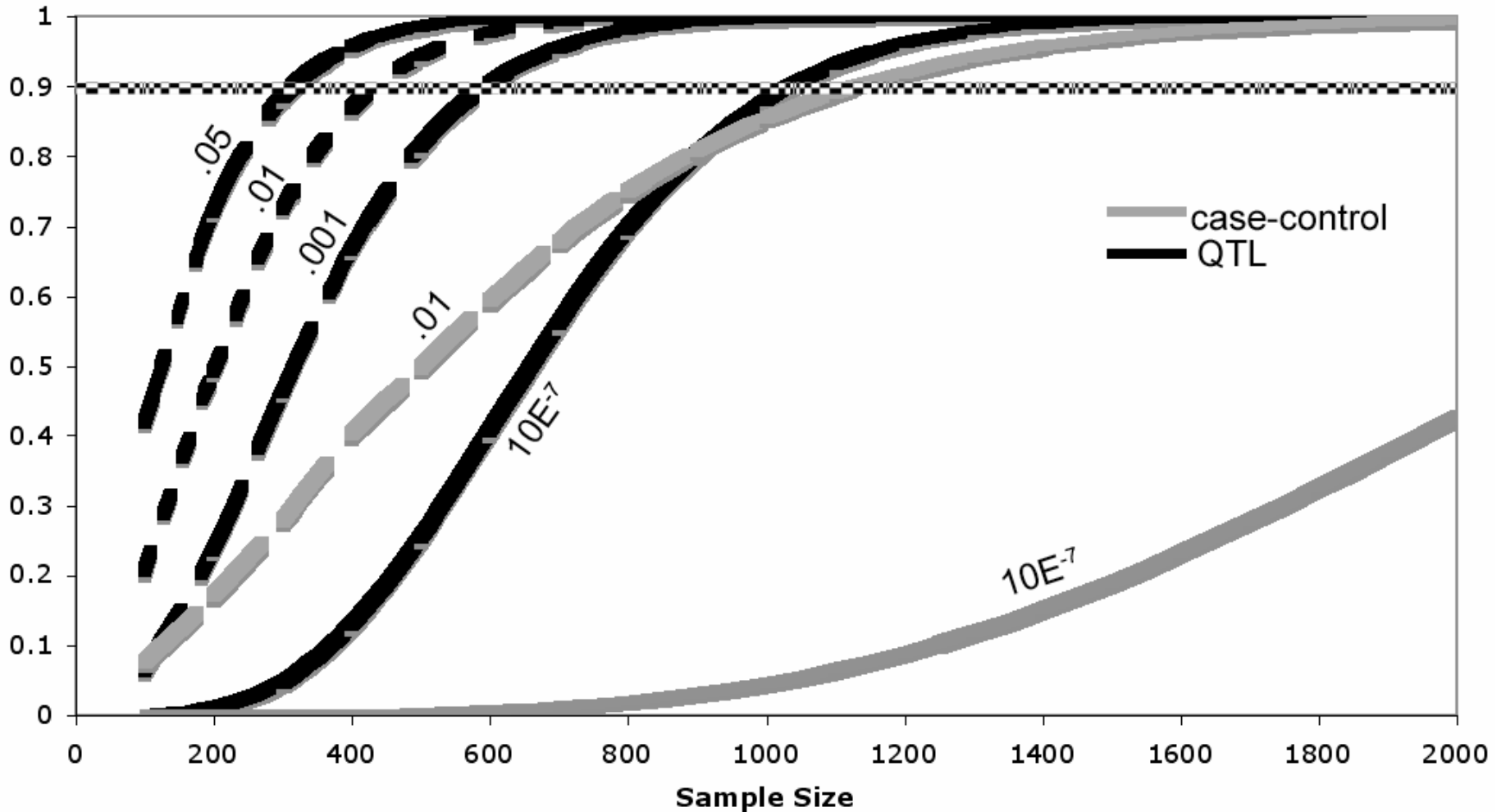
QTs increase power and reduce needed sample sizes

Power Distribution Curves



QTLs increase power and reduce needed sample

Power Distribution Curves



Proof of Concept: MOA or clinical result

Choose biomarkers based on 'a fit for purpose' :

- Sample enrichment, drug effect, MOA, supportive data,
- Surrogate outcome: MRI reflect underlying pathology MS
- Biomarkers highly correlated: univariate v multivariate

Discrepancies between biomarkers

- Diagnosis, severity, progression, MCI v AD

Difficulty in Prespecifying Details of Outcome Measures and Statistical Threshold Details

- Biomarker enrichment strategies for clinical trials
MCI or AD not the same: amyloid imaging, hippocampal atrophy, hypometabolism on PET, and reduced CSF beta amyloid and increased tau; APOE
 - Clinical endpoint not sensitive enough.
 - Detection of disease-modifying effects of emerging therapies in presymptomatic or minimally symptomatic populations.
-