

# The SARS-CoV-2 Spike Protein: An Engineered PRION Like Incapacitating Agent

**Kevin W. McCairn Ph.D.**

Vejon Health 2023

Post Vax/Long COVID Congress - The Silent Disaster

# 20+ Years Investigating Cortico-Basalganglia Neurodegenerative & Neuropsychiatric Disease

# ResearchGate



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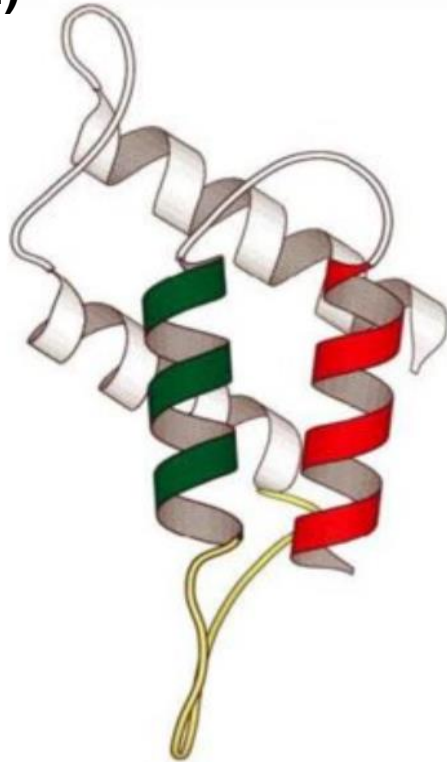
# What Are Amyloids & PRIONS?

Type	Protein/Peptide
<b>**Amyloidogenic**</b>	
A $\beta$	Amyloid beta - associated with Alzheimer's disease
$\alpha$ -synuclein	Associated with Parkinson's disease
Serum amyloid A	Associated with systemic amyloidosis
Tau	Associated with Alzheimer's disease and other tauopathies, such as frontotemporal dementia
<b>**Prion-Like**</b>	
PrP- Scrapie Form	Prion protein - associated with Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, kuru, fatal familial insomnia, and variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease

# What Are Amyloids & PRIONS?

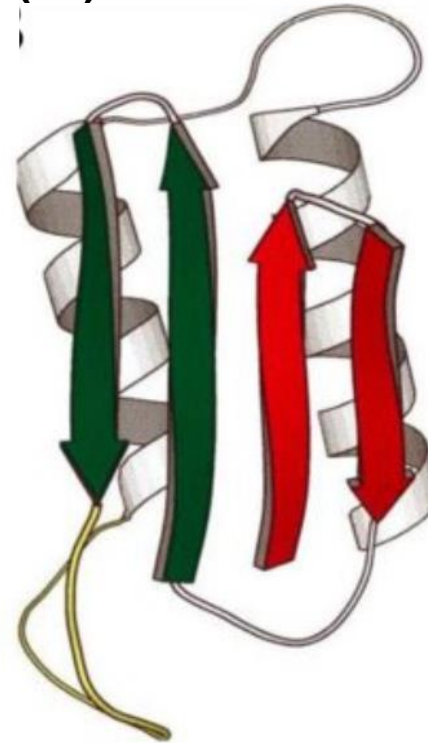
**Tissue: PRION**  
**(proteinaceous infective particle)**

**PrP(n)**



**Alpha Helical**

**PrP(sc)**



**Beta-Pleated Sheet**

# PRIONS & Amyloids Weaponization

## Prions as Bioweapons?

Much Ado About Nothing; or Apt Concerns Over Tiny Proteins used in Biowarfare

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**Tags:** [CBRN](#) [CBRNE](#) [National Security](#)

By: [James Giordano](#), [Jennifer Snow](#), [Joseph DeFranco](#)

🕒 09/13/2019



Although instances of biowarfare and bioterrorism have been rare in the 21st century, somewhat inconspicuous, but rapidly advancing bioscience and technology that are capable of being weaponized are becoming ever more difficult to surveille, regulate, and govern. One such emerging threat is

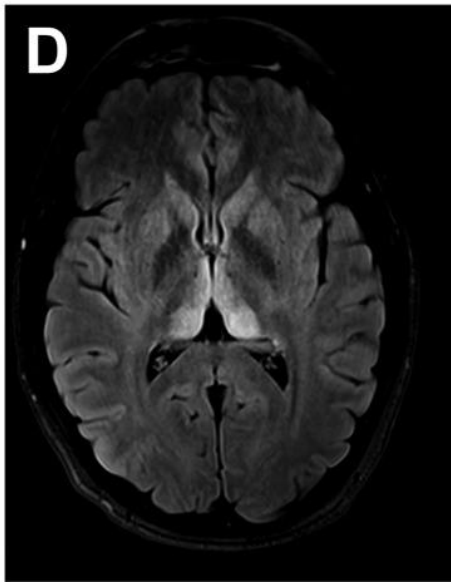
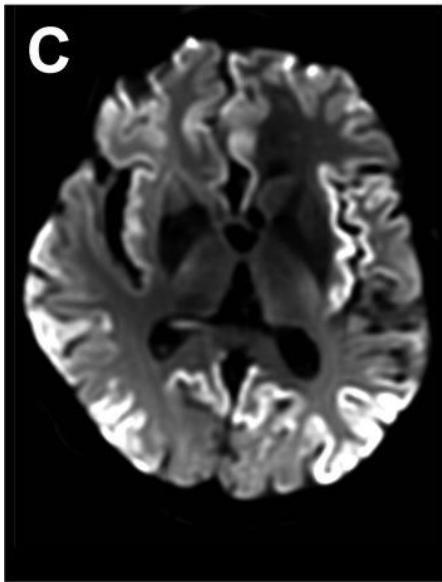
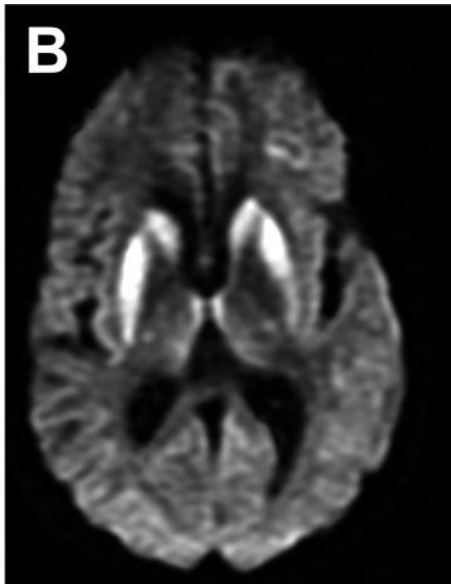
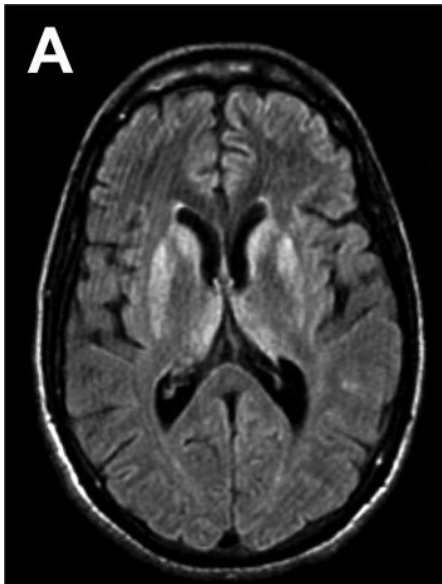
# Kuru Kuru A Transmissible PRION Disorder

## Canonical PRION Disorders



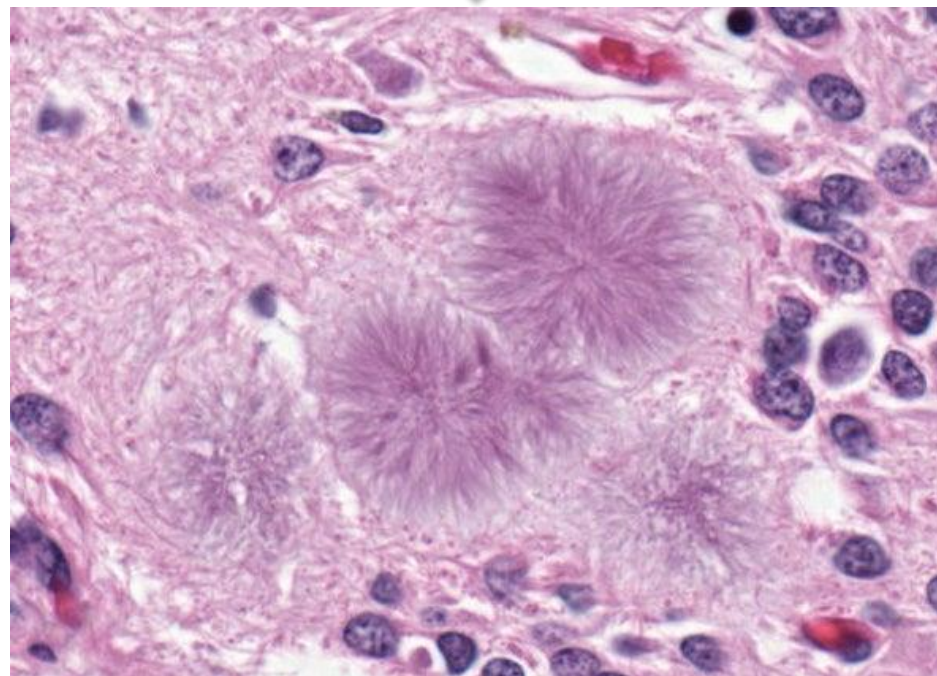
# Scientific Situational Awareness: Is There A Problem/Threat?

## Canonical PRION Disorders



← MRI Abnormalities

Tissue: Amyloid Plaques



<https://phil.cdc.gov/Details.aspx?pid=10130>

# Scientific Situational Awareness: Is There A Problem/Threat?

## Non-Canonical PRION Disorders

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REVIEW

### Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases: The prion concept in relation to assembled A $\beta$ , tau, and $\alpha$ -synuclein

MICHEL GOEDERT

SCIENCE · 7 Aug 2015 · Vol 349, Issue 6248 · DOI: [10.1126/science.1255555](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1255555)

↓ 1,718 ↗ 484



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#### Converging paradigms in neurodegeneration



Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease are progressive neurodegenerative diseases with increasing prevalence in our aging populations. Recent evidence suggests that some of the molecular mechanisms involved in the pathology of these diseases have similarities to those observed in infectious prion diseases such as bovine spongiform encephalopathy (mad cow disease). Goedert reviews how the spread of a variety of pathological protein aggregates is involved in neurodegenerative disease.

Science, this issue p. [10.1126/science.1255555](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1255555)





# Scientific Situational Awareness: Is There A Problem/Threat?

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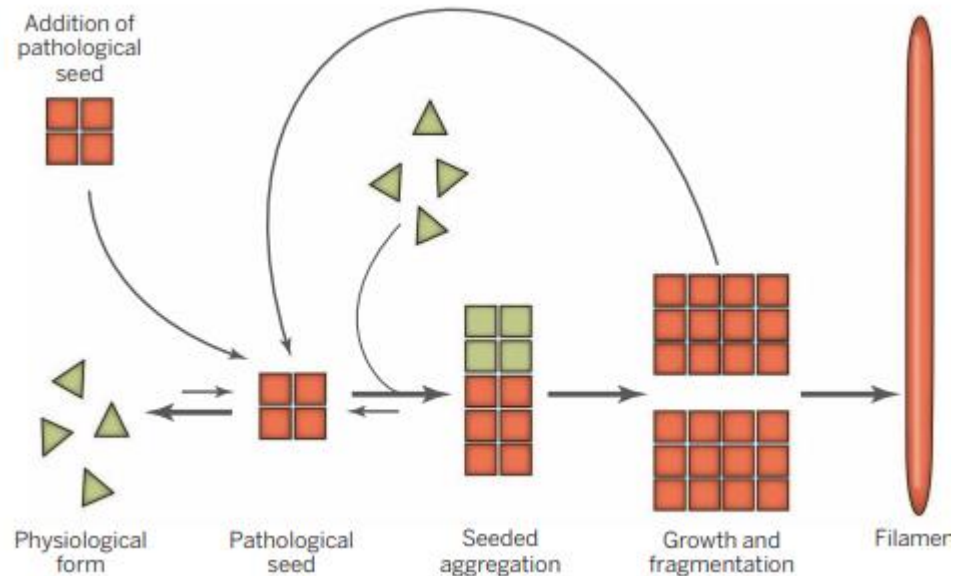
SCIENCE · 7 Aug 2015 · Vol 349, Issue 6248 · DOI: [10.1126/science.1255555](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1255555)

1,718 484

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# The SARS-CoV-2 Virus A Neurotropic GoF Chimera

## SARS-CoV-2 Has Amyloidogenic & PRION Like Properties

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HOME > SCIENCE > VOL. 370, NO. 6513 > IN SITU STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS OF SARS-COV-2 SPIKE REVEALS FLEXIBILITY MEDIATED BY THREE HINGES

RESEARCH ARTICLE

### In situ structural analysis of SARS-CoV-2 spike reveals flexibility mediated by three hinges

BEATA TURBONÓVÁ, MATEJŠEK SIKORL, CHRISTOPH SCHÜRMMANN, WIM J. H. HAGEN, SONJA WELLSCH, FLORIAN E. C. BLANC, SOREN VON BÜLOW, MICHAEL GECHT, KATRIN BAGOLA, L. J. MARTIN BECK, +11 authors [Authors Info & Affiliations](#)

SCIENCE • 18 Aug 2020 • Vol 370, Issue 6513 • pp 203-208 • DOI:10.1126/science.abb3223

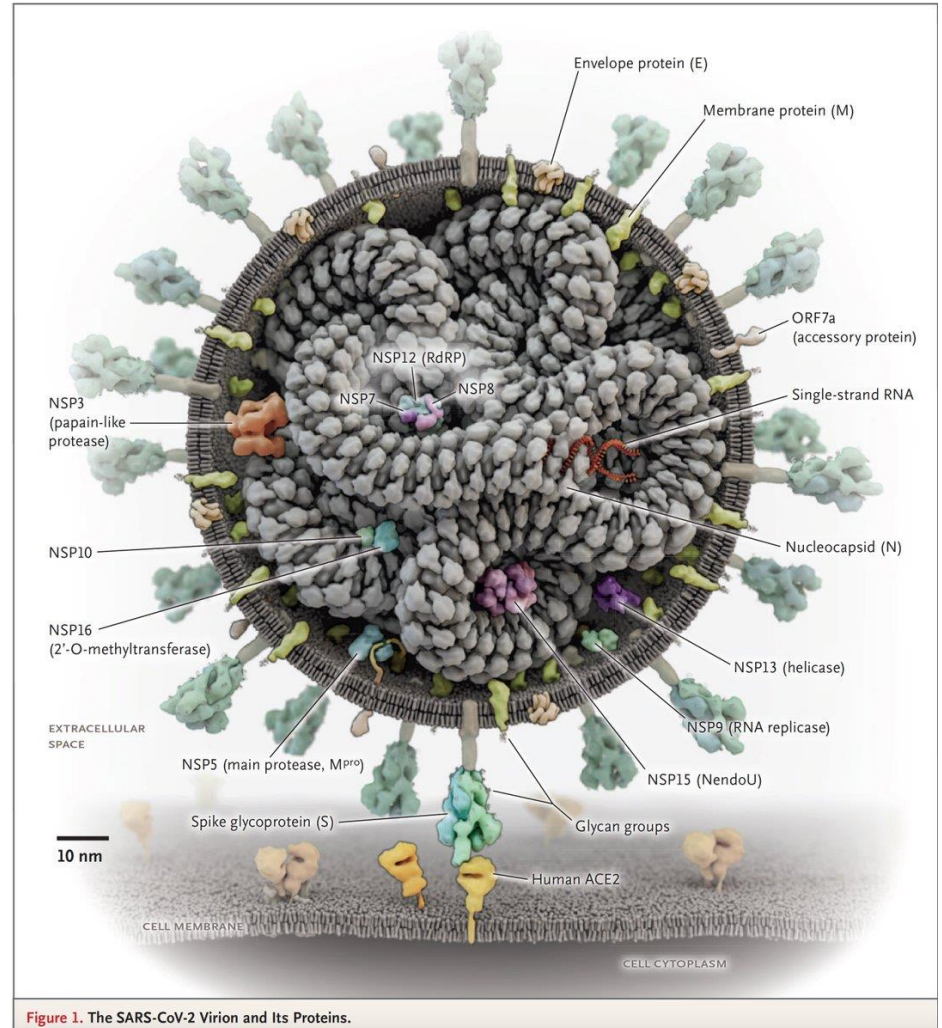
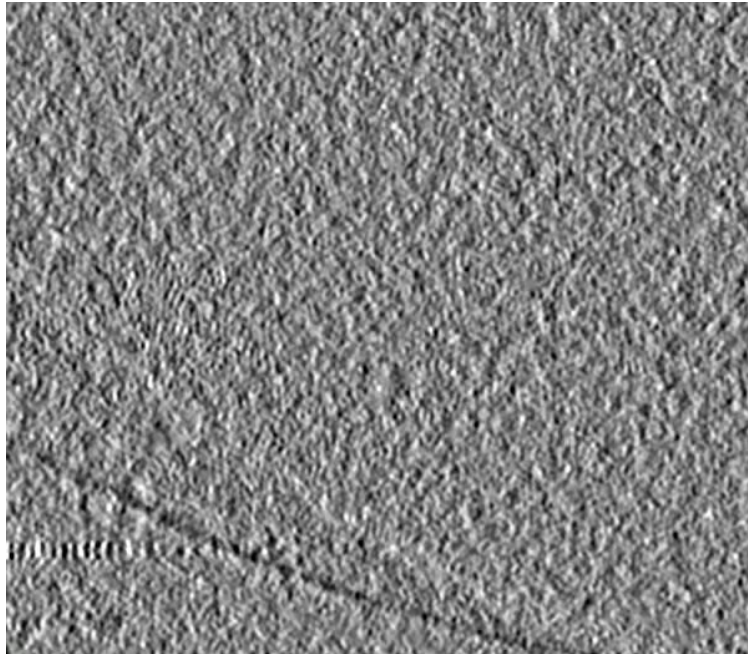


Figure 1. The SARS-CoV-2 Virion and Its Proteins.

# The SARS-CoV-2 Virus A Neurotropic GoF Chimera

nature communications



Article

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-023-40228-7>

## Neuroinvasion and anosmia are independent phenomena upon infection with SARS-CoV-2 and its variants

Received: 17 October 2022

Accepted: 11 July 2023

Published online: 26 July 2023

Check for updates

Guilherme Dias de Melo<sup>1</sup>, Victoire Perraud<sup>1,14</sup>, Flavio Alvarez<sup>2,3,14</sup>, Alba Vieites-Prado<sup>4,14</sup>, Seonhee Kim<sup>1</sup>, Lauriane Kergoat<sup>1</sup>, Anthony Coleon<sup>1</sup>, Bettina Salome Trüeb<sup>5</sup>, Magali Tichit<sup>6</sup>, Aurèle Piazza<sup>7</sup>, Agnès Thierry<sup>7</sup>, David Hardy<sup>6</sup>, Nicolas Wolff<sup>2</sup>, Sandie Munier<sup>8</sup>, Romain Koszul<sup>7</sup>, Etienne Simon-Lorière<sup>9</sup>, Volker Thiel<sup>10</sup>, Marc Lecuit<sup>11,12</sup>, Pierre-Marie Lledo<sup>13</sup>, Nicolas Renier<sup>4</sup>, Florence Larrous<sup>1,15</sup> & Hervé Bourhy<sup>1,15</sup> ✉

Anosmia was identified as a hallmark of COVID-19 early in the pandemic, however, with the emergence of variants of concern, the clinical profile induced by SARS-CoV-2 infection has changed, with anosmia being less frequent. Here, we assessed the clinical, olfactory and neuroinflammatory conditions of golden hamsters infected with the original Wuhan SARS-CoV-2 strain, its isogenic ORF7-deletion mutant and three variants: Gamma, Delta, and Omicron/BA.1. We show that infected animals develop a variant-dependent clinical disease including anosmia, and that the ORF7 of SARS-CoV-2 contributes to the induction of olfactory dysfunction. **Conversely, all SARS-CoV-2 variants are neuroinvasive, regardless of the clinical presentation they induce.** Taken together, this confirms that neuroinvasion and anosmia are independent phenomena upon SARS-CoV-2 infection. Using newly generated nanoluciferase-expressing SARS-CoV-2, we validate the olfactory pathway as a major entry point into the brain in vivo and demonstrate in vitro that SARS-CoV-2 travels retrogradely and anterogradely along axons in microfluidic neuron-epithelial networks.

# SARS-CoV-2 Spike Protein Is Highly Amyloidogenic

Gain of Function With PRION Disorders



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## Amyloidogenesis of SARS-CoV-2 Spike Protein

Sofie Nyström\* and Per Hammarström\*

✓ **Cite this:** *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2022, 144, 20, 8945–8950

Publication Date: May 17, 2022 ✓

<https://doi.org/10.1021/jacs.2c03925>

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# SARS-CoV-2 Spike Protein Is Highly Amyloidogenic

## Gain of Function With PRION Disorders

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### Amyloidogenesis of SARS-CoV-2 Spike Protein

Sofie Nyström\* and Per Hammarström\*

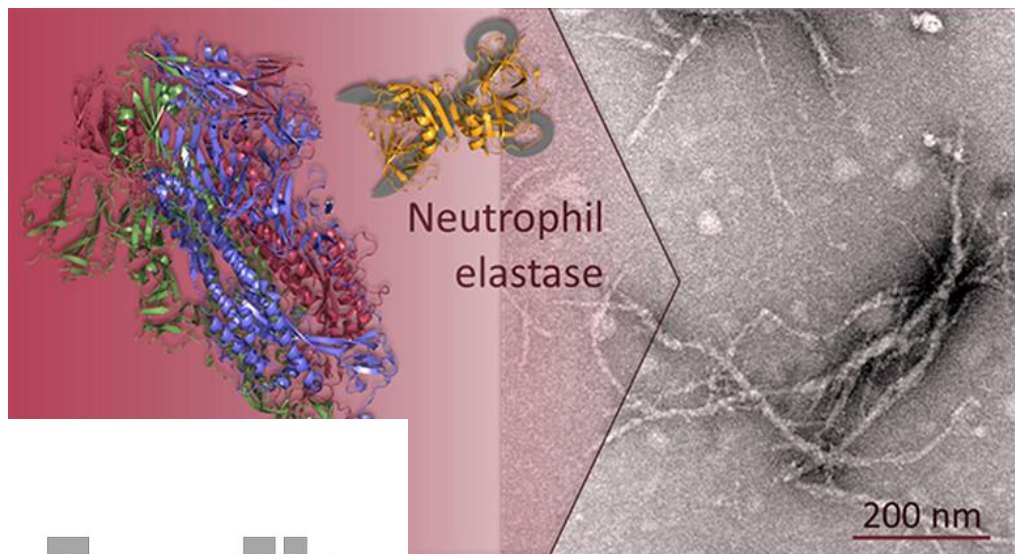
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Publication Date: May 17, 2022

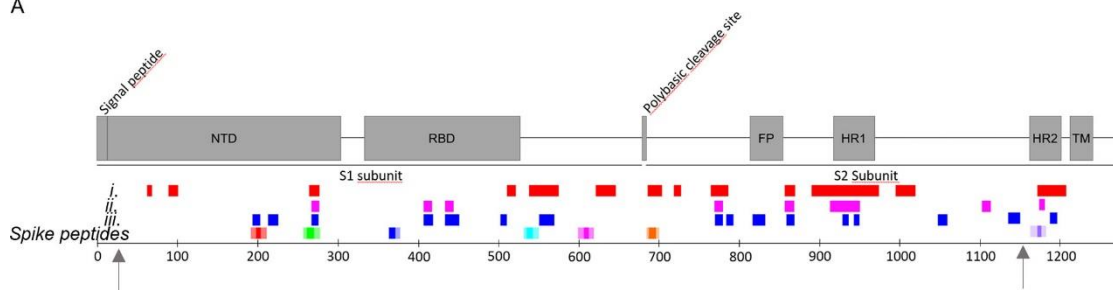
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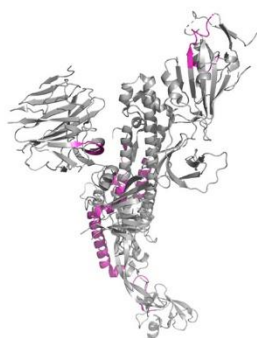
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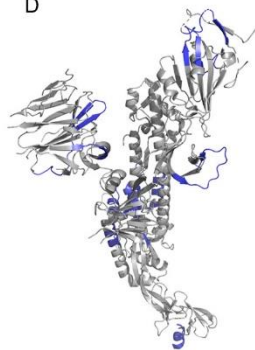
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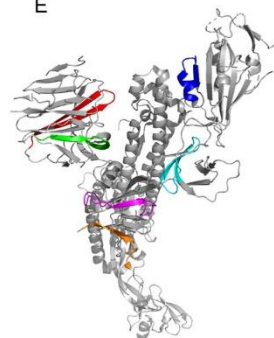
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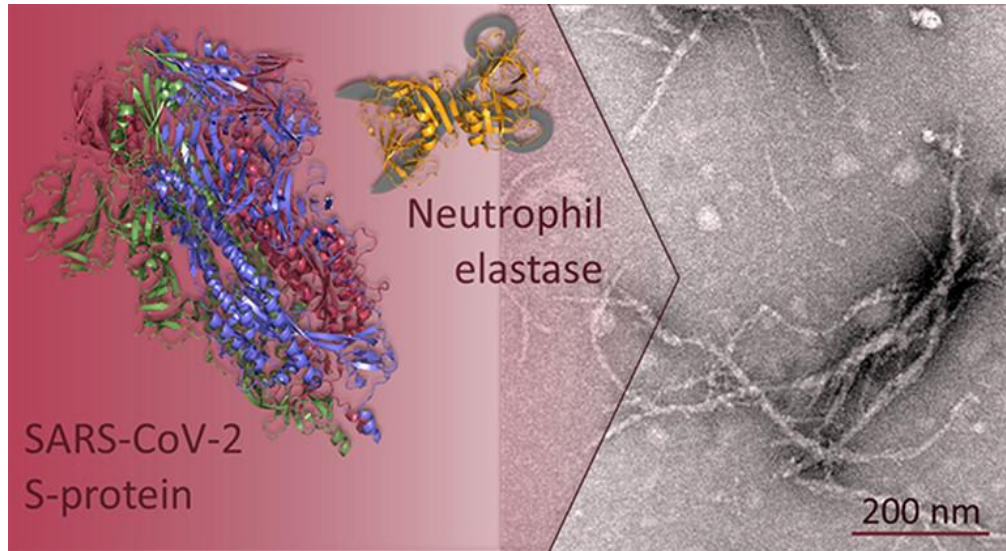
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E



# SARS-CoV-2 Spike Protein Is Highly Amyloidogenic

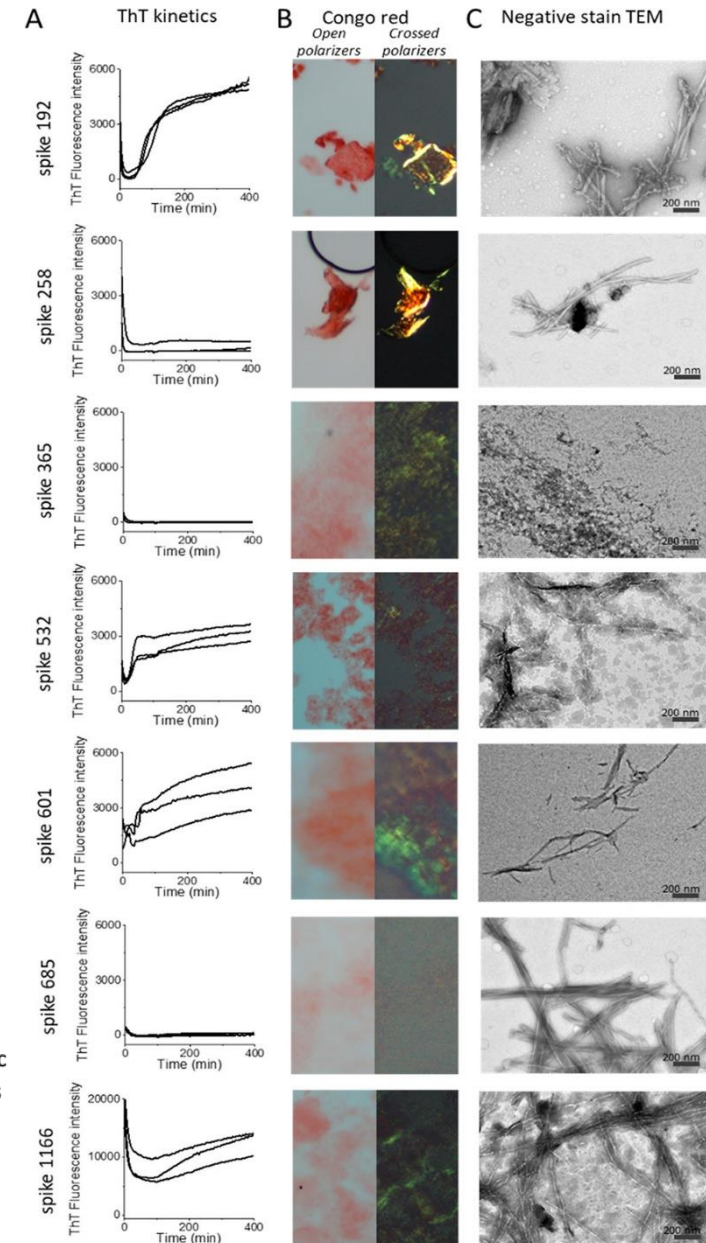


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MERS      EDEILEWFGITQTAQGVHLFSSRYVD----LYGG-----N-MFQFATLPVYD
SARS      SLDVSEKSG---NFKHLREFVFKNKDGFLYVYKGYQPIDVVRDLPSGFNTLKPIFKLPLGI
SARSCOV2  LMDLEGKQG---NFKNLREFVEKNIDGYFKIYSKHTPINLWRDLPGQFSALEPLVDLPIGI
          :: * . : : * : * : *
          176                                     233

OC43      TYDVNAT-----YLYFHFYQEGGTFYAYFTDTG-----FVTKF-----LFNVYLG
229E      NGTNTSH-----SVCNGCVGHSENVFAVESGGY-----IPSNF-----AFNNWFLL
NL63      NGRIVNY-----TVCDCNGYTDNIFSVQQDGR-----IPNGF-----SFNNWFLL
HKU1      FTYNVSTD-----WLYFFYQERGTFYAYADDSG-----MPTTF-----LFSLYLGT
SARSCOV2  LMDLEGKQGNFKNLREFVEKNIDGYFKIYSKHTPINLWRDLPGQFSALEPLVDLPIGI
          : : * : * : * : * : * : * : * : * : * : * : * : * : * : *
          176                                     233
    
```

**Figure S8 A)** WALTZ prediction of amyloidogenic sequences in Spike proteins from several corona viruses known to infect humans **B)** Sequence alignments of spike192 and flanking amino acids from the three corona viruses causing severe disease. MERS S-protein does not contain the amyloidogenic sequence, SARS S-protein contains a similar amyloidogenic sequence as SARS-CoV-2 S-protein in this part of the amino acid sequence. SARS-CoV-2 S-protein segment 194-213, highlighted in red was a peptide predicted for elastase cleavage.



# SARS-CoV-2 Spike Protein & Amyloidogenic Microclots

## SARS-CoV-2 spike protein S1 induces fibrin(ogen) resistant to fibrinolysis: implications for microclot formation in COVID-19

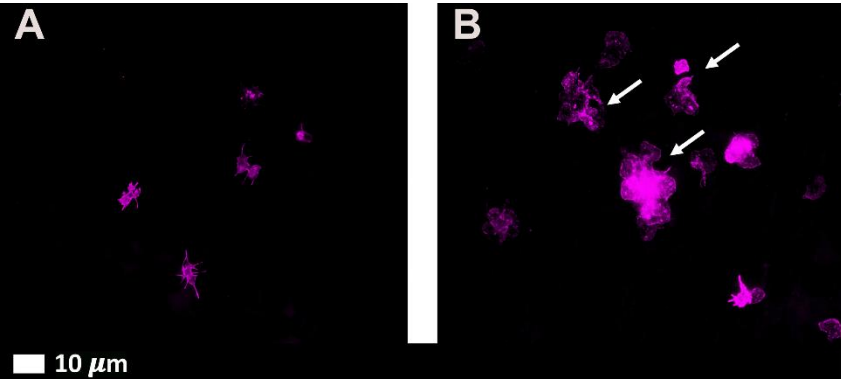


Lize M. Grobelaar; Chantelle Venter; Mare Vlok; Malebogo Ngoepe; Gert Jacobus Laubscher; Petrus Johannes Lourens; Janami Steenkamp; Douglas B. Kell; Etheresia Pretorius

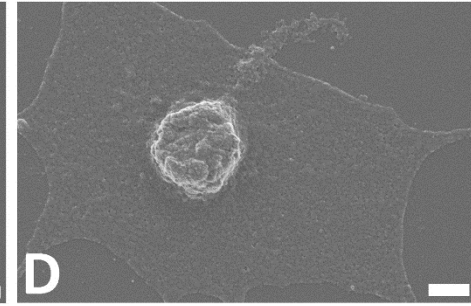
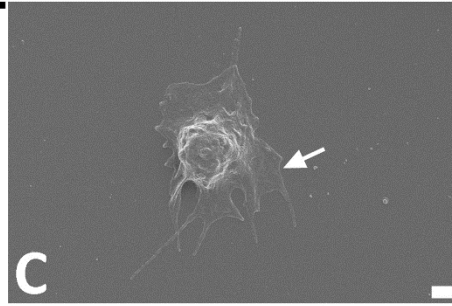
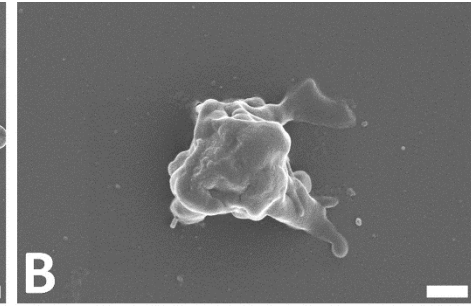
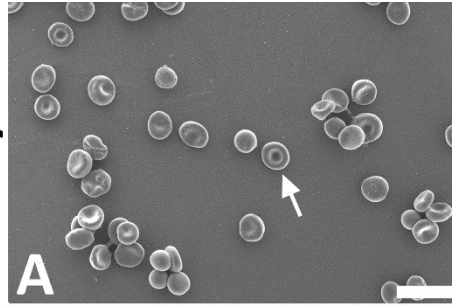
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Biosci Rep (2021) 41 (8): BSR20210611.

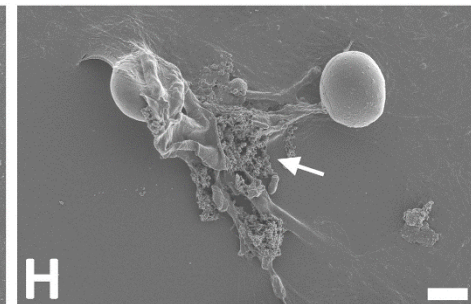
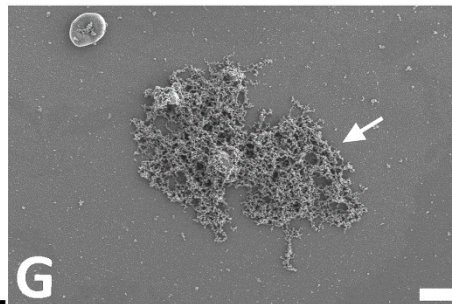
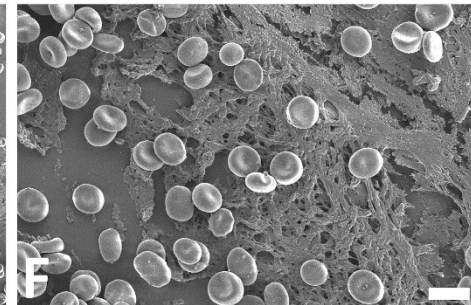
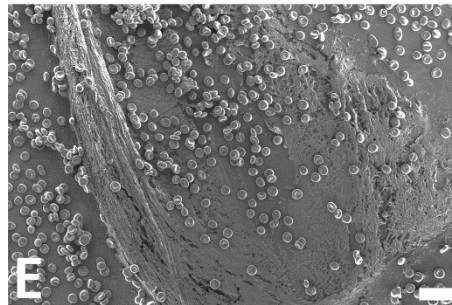
<https://doi.org/10.1042/BSR20210611> Article history



Healthy WB



Spike Protein



# SARS-CoV-2 Contains HIV Like Epitope Homologies (GP120)

## Gain of Function With PRION Disorders

Dr Ah Kahn Syed

Pseudonym. @arkmedic on twitter. MD PhD.

✓ Subscribed

Arkmedic's blog  
By Dr Ah Kahn Syed

Stuff you didn't know about medicine



**Absolute proof: The Gp-120 sequences prove beyond all doubt that "COVID-19" was man-made**

The "missing link" was there in Pradhan's paper all along, we just needed to ask the right question: "where are the genome sequences for the Gp-120 inserts"

Dr Ah Kahn Syed  
Apr 10

♥ 125

💬 90



bioRxiv  
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bioRxiv posts many COVID19-related papers. A reminder: they have not been formally peer-reviewed and should not guide health-related behavior or be reported in the press as conclusive.

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**Uncanny similarity of unique inserts in the 2019-nCoV spike protein to HIV-1 gp120 and Gag**

Prashant Pradhan, Ashutosh Kumar Pandey, Akhilesh Mishra, Parul Gupta, Praveen Kumar Tripathi, Manoj Balakrishnan Menon, James Gomes, Perumal Vivekanandan, Bishwajit Kundu  
doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.01.30.927871>

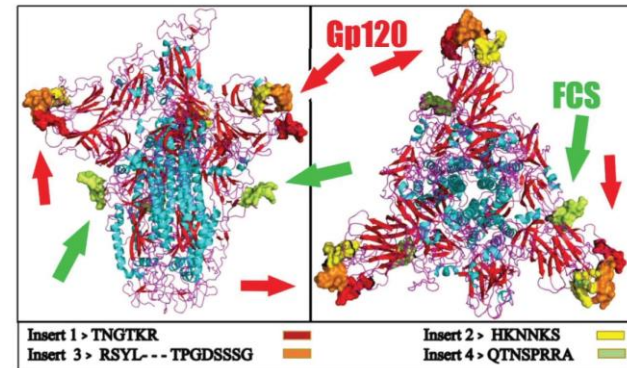
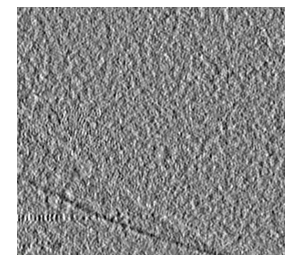


Figure 3. Modelled homo-trimer spike glycoprotein of 2019-nCoV virus. The inserts from HIV envelop protein are shown with colored beads, present at the binding site of the protein.



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RESEARCH ARTICLE

**In situ structural analysis of SARS-CoV-2 spike reveals flexibility mediated by three hinges**

Prashant Pradhan, Ashutosh Kumar Pandey, Akhilesh Mishra, Parul Gupta, Praveen Kumar Tripathi, Manoj Balakrishnan Menon, James Gomes, Perumal Vivekanandan, Bishwajit Kundu

DOI: [10.1126/science.abc1234](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.abc1234)

Science, Vol. 367, No. 6471, pp. 1234-1238, 2020



# SARS-CoV-2 Contains HIV Like Epitope Homologies (GP120)

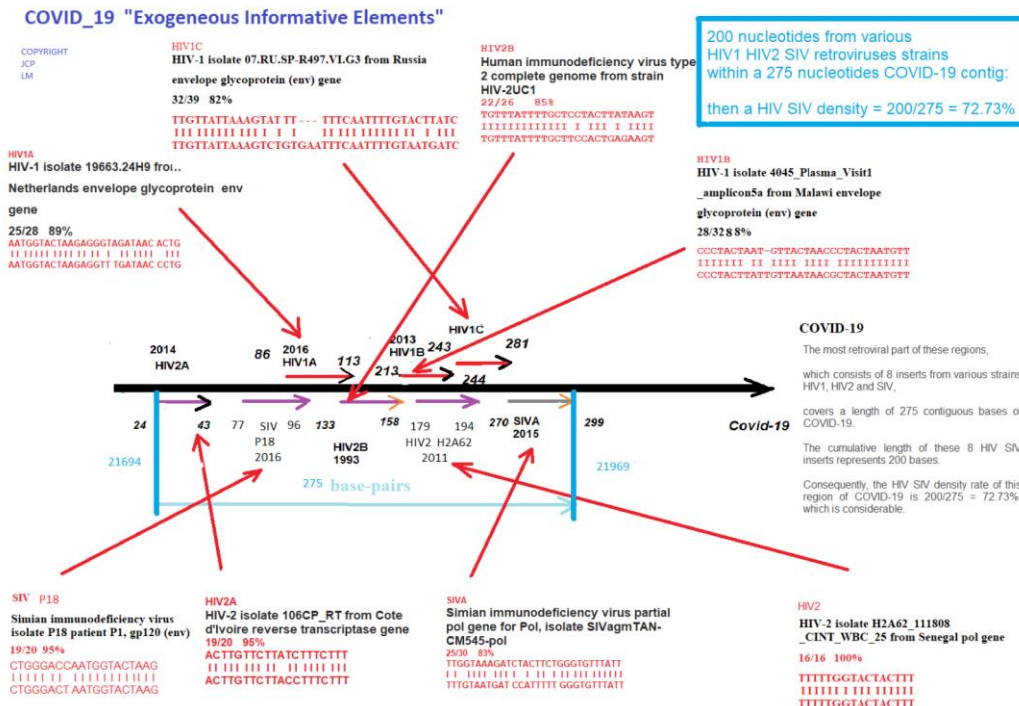
## Gain of Function With PRION Disorders

### COVID-19, SARS and Bats Coronaviruses Genomes Unexpected Exogenous RNA Sequences

Jean Claude Perez, Luc Montagnier

Jean-Claude Perez, PhD Maths & Computer Science Bordeaux University, RETIRED interdisciplinary researcher (IBM Emeritus, IBM European Research Center on Artificial Intelligence Montpellier), Bordeaux metropole, France

Luc Montagnier, Paris, France



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doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.01.30.927871>

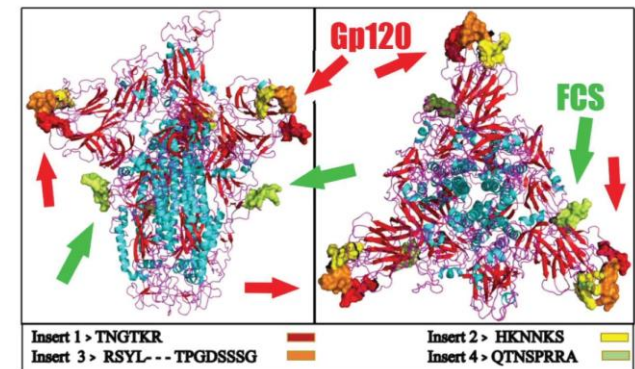


Figure 3. Modelled homo-trimer spike glycoprotein of 2019-nCoV virus. The inserts from HIV envelop protein are shown with colored beads, present at the binding site of the protein.



# HIV GP120 Is Neuroinflammatory & Amyloidogenic

Arch. Pharm. Res. (2021) 44:689–701  
https://doi.org/10.1007/s12272-021-01340-8

Online ISSN 1976-3786  
Print ISSN 0253-6269



## RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Amyloidogenic, neuroinflammatory and memory dysfunction effects of HIV-1 gp120

Young-Jung Lee<sup>3</sup> · In Jun Yeo<sup>1</sup> · Dong Young Choi<sup>2</sup> · Jaesuk Yun<sup>1</sup> · Dong Ju Son<sup>1</sup> · Sang-Bae Han<sup>1</sup> · Jin Tae Hong<sup>1</sup>

Received: 1 April 2021 / Accepted: 30 June 2021 / Published online: 23 July 2021  
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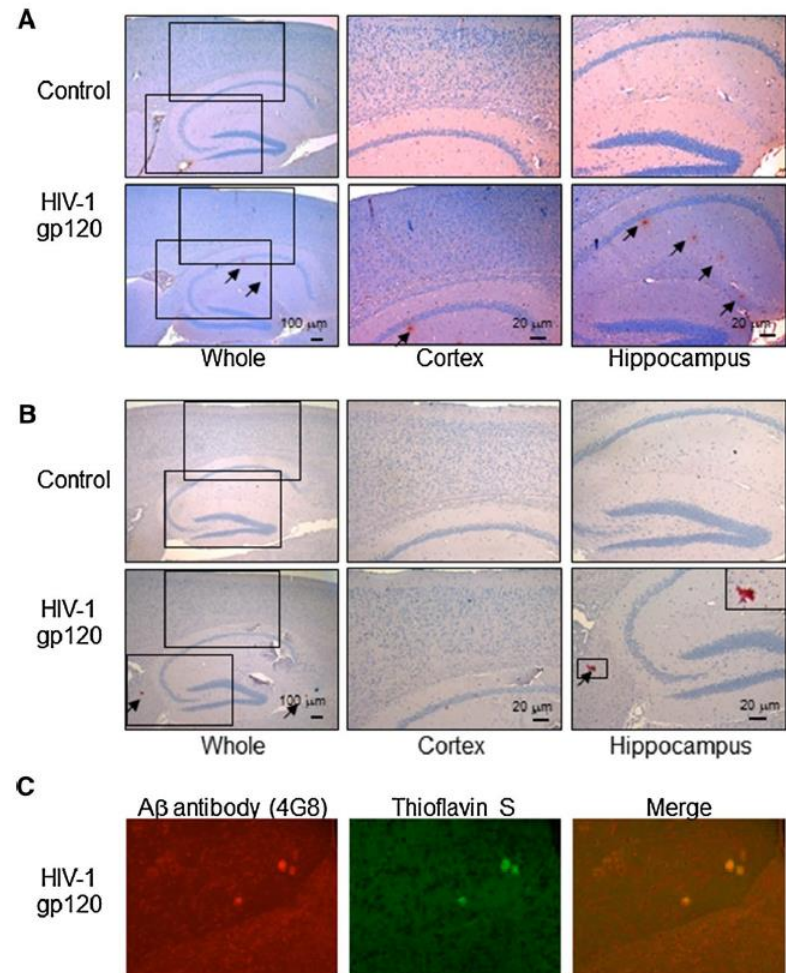
**Abstract** Human immunodeficiency virus 1 (HIV-1) infection can cause several HIV-associated neurocognitive disorders a variety of neurological impairments characterized by the loss of cortical and subcortical neurons and decreased cognitive and motor function. HIV-1 gp120, the major envelope glycoprotein on viral particles, acts as a binding protein for viral entry and is known to be an agent of neuronal cell death. To determine the mechanism of HIV-1 gp120-induced memory dysfunction, we performed mouse intracerebroventricular (i.c.v.) infusion with HIV-1 gp120 protein (300 ng per mouse) and investigated memory impairment and amyloidogenesis. Infusion of the HIV-1 gp120 protein induced memory dysfunction, which was evaluated using passive avoidance and water maze tests. Infusion of HIV-1 gp120 induced neuroinflammation, such as the release of iNOS and COX-2 and the activation of astrocytes and microglia and increased the mRNA and protein levels of IL-6, ICAM-1, M-CSF, TIM, and IL-2. In particular, we found that the infusion of HIV-1 gp120 induced the accumulation of amyloid plaques and signs of elevated

amyloidogenesis, such as increased expression of amyloid precursor protein and BACE1 and increased  $\beta$ -secretase activity. Therefore, these studies suggest that HIV-1 gp120 may induce memory impairment through A $\beta$  accumulation and neuroinflammation.

**Keywords** HIV-1 · gp120 · Amyloid beta · Neuroinflammation

### Introduction

Alzheimer's disease (AD) is the most common cause of dementia, accounting for 50–75% of all cases (Ferri et al. 2009; Lee et al. 2010) and the most common neurological complication. AD is defined by progressive synaptic impairment, excessive formation and accumulation of amyloid-beta (A $\beta$ ), and neuroinflammation (Blennow et al. 2006; Lee et al. 2010). Although the underlying mechanism of AD development remains unclear, experimental data have



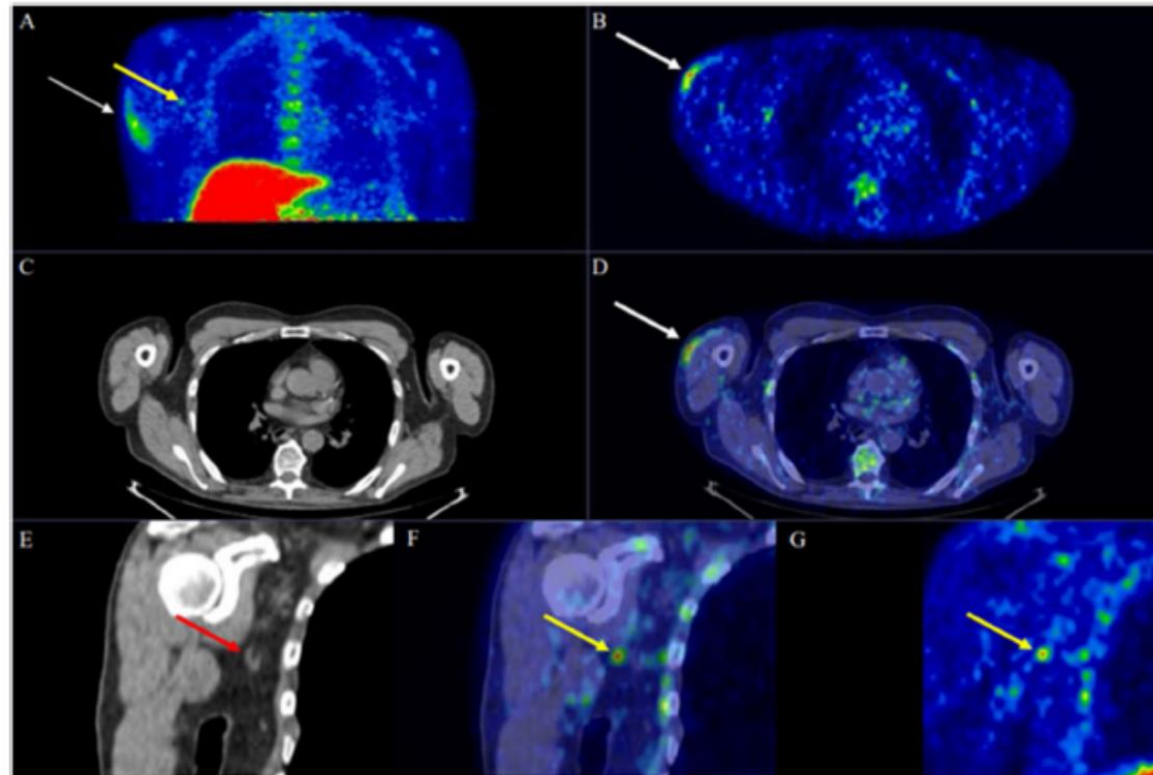
# mRNA Gene Transfection Causes Amyloidogenic Cascades

CASE REPORT



## Subcutaneous Uptake on [18F]Florbetaben PET/CT: a Case Report of Possible Amyloid-Beta Immune-Reactivity After COVID-19 Vaccination

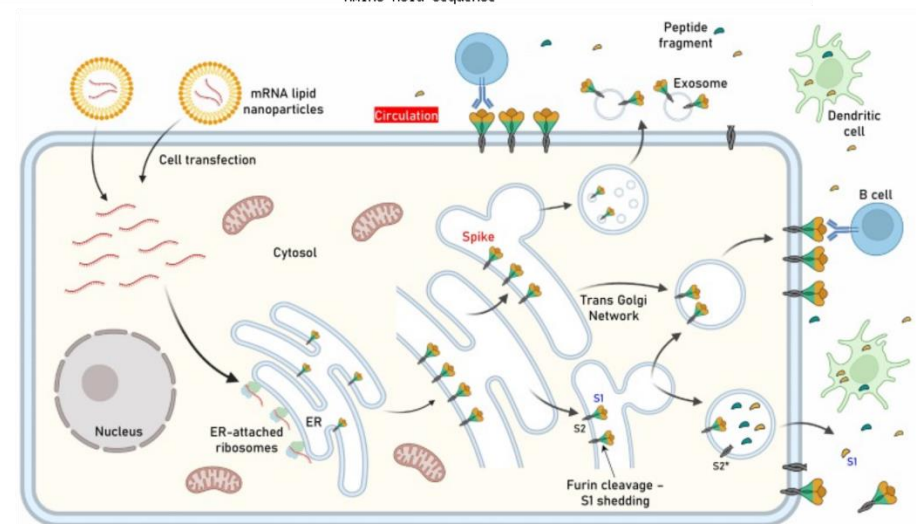
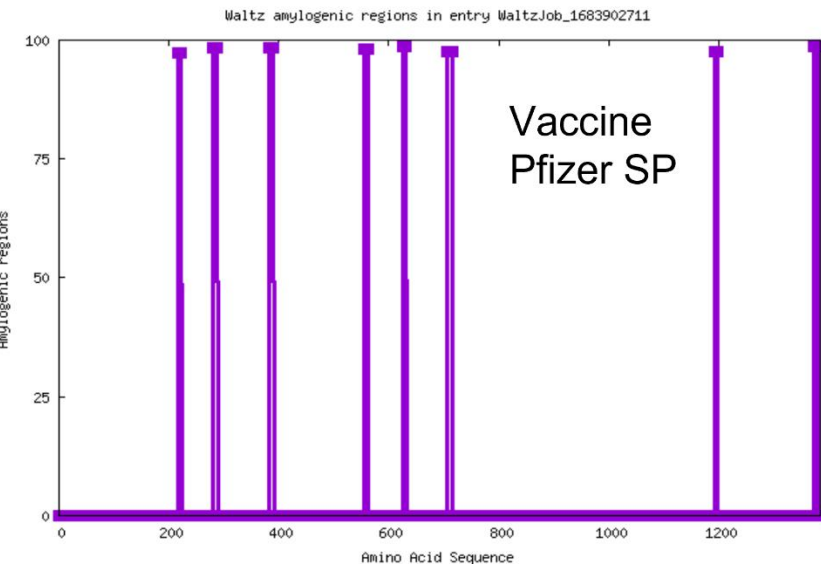
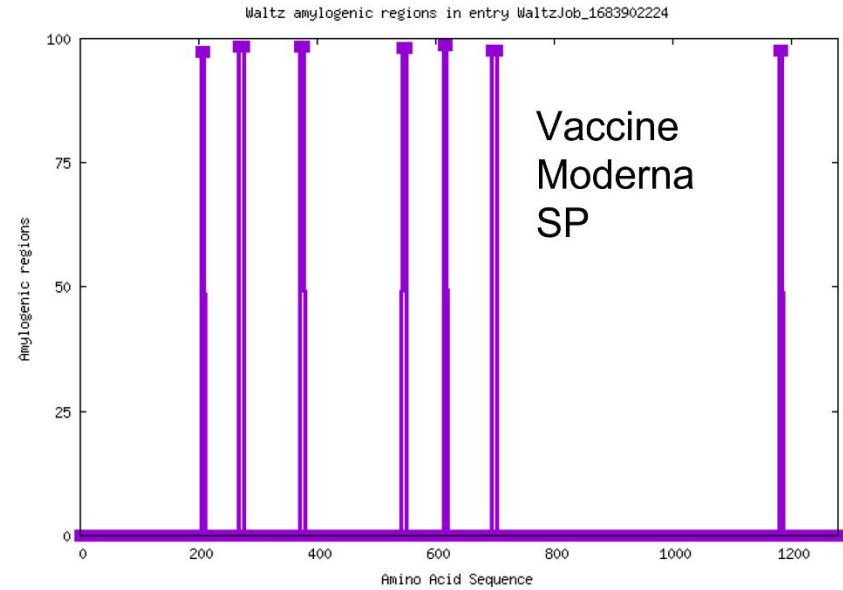
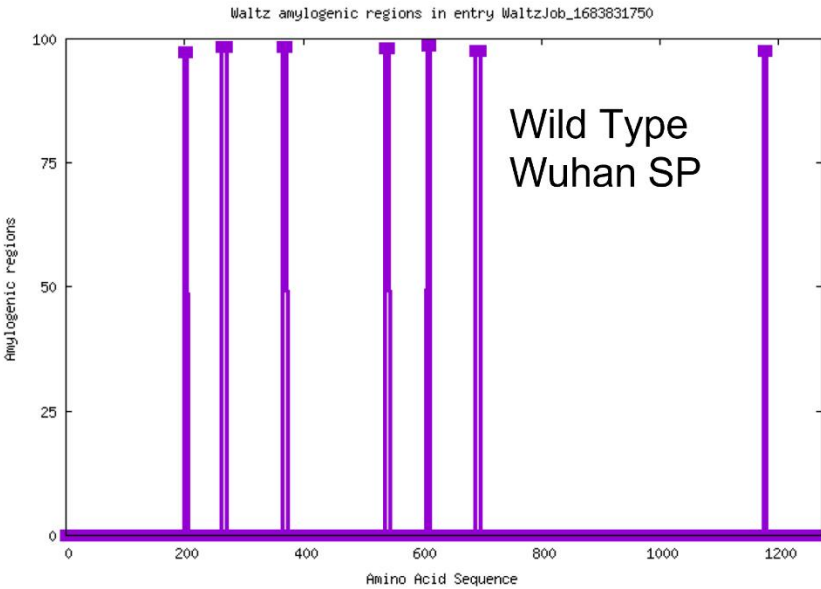
Riccardo Laudicella<sup>1,2,3</sup> · Irene Andrea Burger<sup>3,4</sup> · Francesco Panasiti<sup>1,2</sup> · Costanza Longo<sup>1,2</sup> · Salvatore Scalisi<sup>1</sup> · Fabio Minutoli<sup>2</sup> · Sergio Baldari<sup>2</sup> · Luigi Maria Edoardo Grimaldi<sup>5</sup> · Pierpaolo Alongi<sup>1</sup>



**Fig. 1** [18F]Florbetaben PET/CT: MIP (A), PET (axial-B, coronal-G), CT (axial-C, coronal-E), PET/CT (axial-D, coronal-F) images demonstrated ill-defined uptake in the right arm's subcutaneous tissues (SUVmax 5.6; **white-arrows**) and next to a possible right-axillar

lymph node (SUVmax 4.75; **yellow-arrows**) evident on low-dose CT scan without breathing control (**red arrows**). Reprinted with permission from Nuclear Medicine Unit, Fondazione Istituto G. Giglio, Cefalù (Palermo), Italy.

# mRNA Gene Transfection Causes Amyloidogenic Cascades



# mRNA Gene Transfection Correlated With CJD In France

## Gain of Function With PRION Disorders

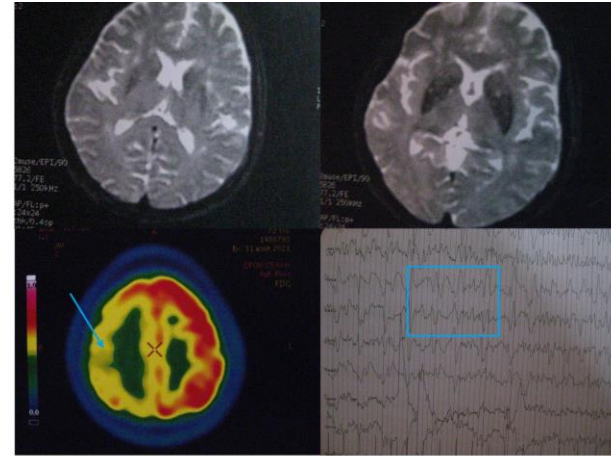
**Towards the emergence of a new form of the neurodegenerative Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease: Twenty six cases of CJD declared a few days after a COVID-19 “vaccine” Jab**

**Jean Claude Perez**, PhD Maths&Computer Science Bordeaux University ; Retired (IBM European Research center on Artificial Intelligence Montpellier France) ; Bordeaux metropole France; <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6446-2042> France

[jeanclaudeperez2@gmail.com](mailto:jeanclaudeperez2@gmail.com)

**Claire Moret-Chalmin**, MD. Neurologist, 13 rue Roger Martin du Gard 60600 Clermont France [clmoret@gmail.com](mailto:clmoret@gmail.com)

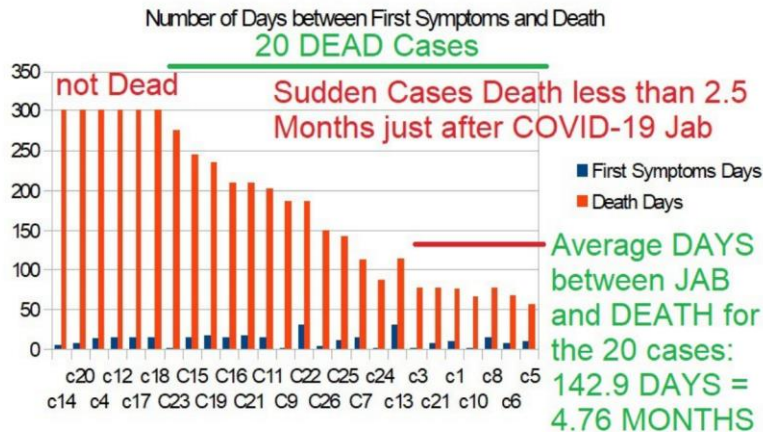
**Luc Montagnier R.I.P** MD. Virologist, Fondation Luc Montagnier Quai Gustave-Ador 62 1207 Genève, Switzerland



Case 4 (M.D): MRI, PET and EEG proofs

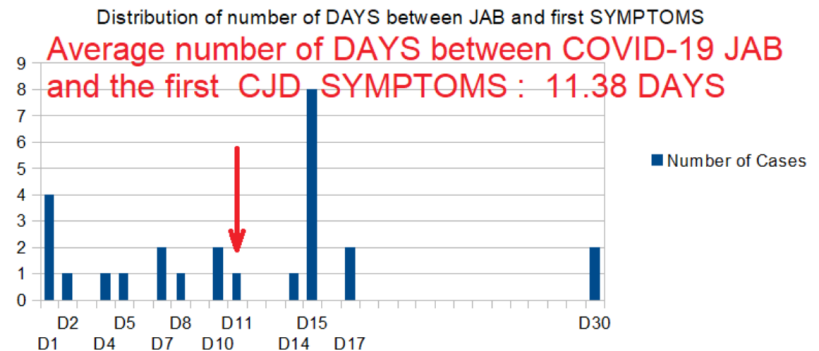
**Figure 31 – The case of M.D.:** MRI, PET and EEG (D. M) -Brain MRI ( Diffusion Weighted Imaging) and (Fluid-Attenuated Inversion Recovery : FLAIR) and (T2) : abnormalities of

26 cases of Creutzfeldt Jakob Disease after COVID-19 Jab



**Figure 34 –** The distribution of numbers of days between SARS-CoV2 Jab and first CJD Symptoms.

26 cases of the new Creutzfeldt Jakob Disease



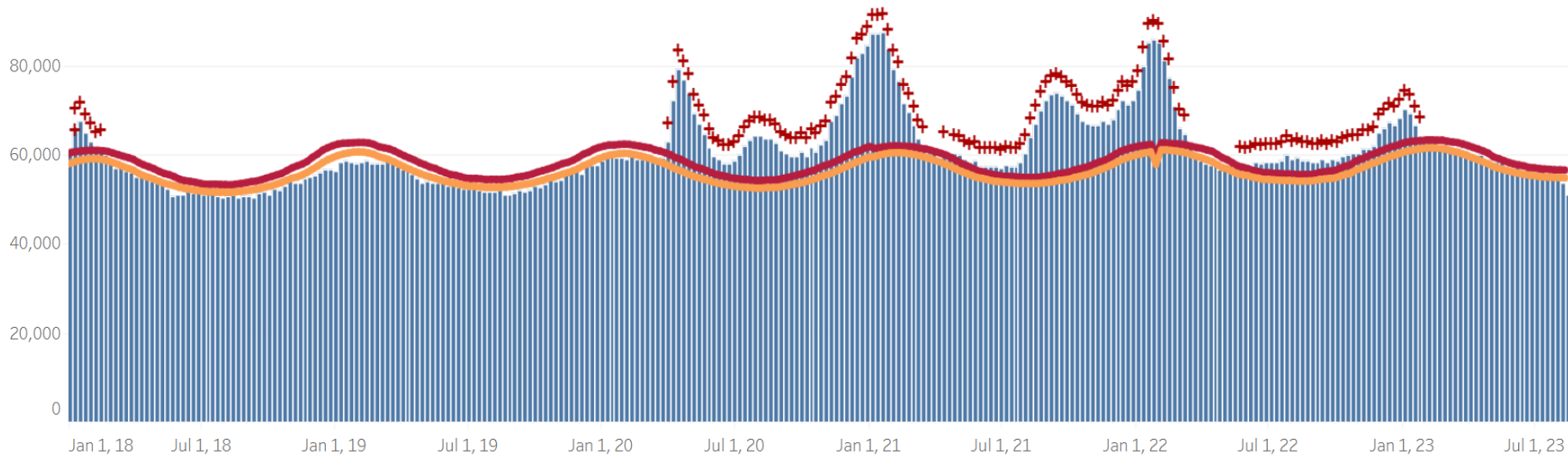
**Figure 33–** The distribution of numbers of days between SARS-CoV2 Jab and first CJD Symptoms.

# Sustained All Cause Mortality (Non-COVID) Has Defined Pandemic

[https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/covid19/excess\\_deaths.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/covid19/excess_deaths.htm)

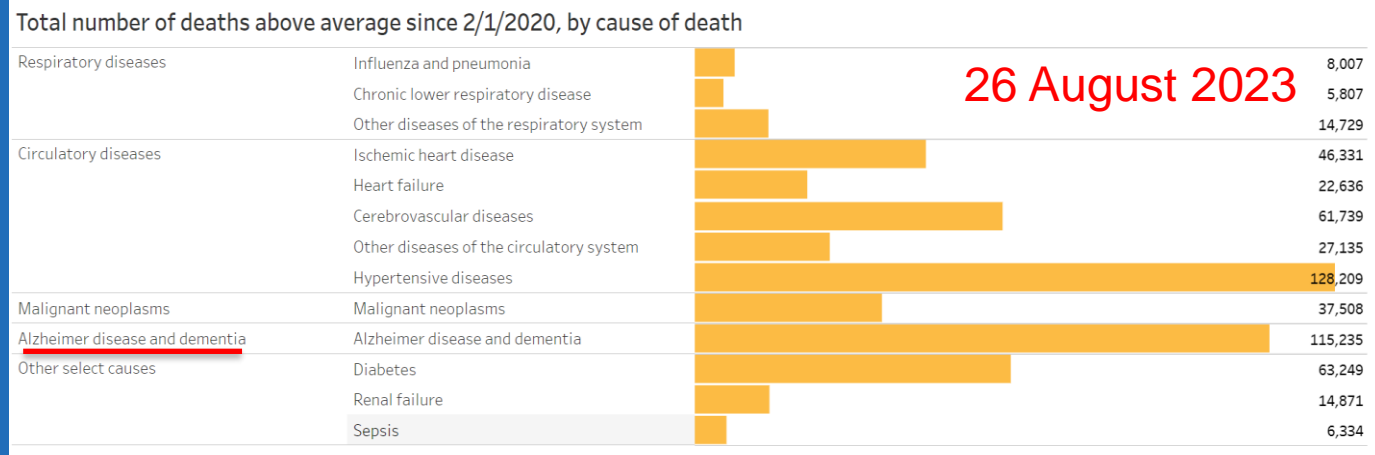
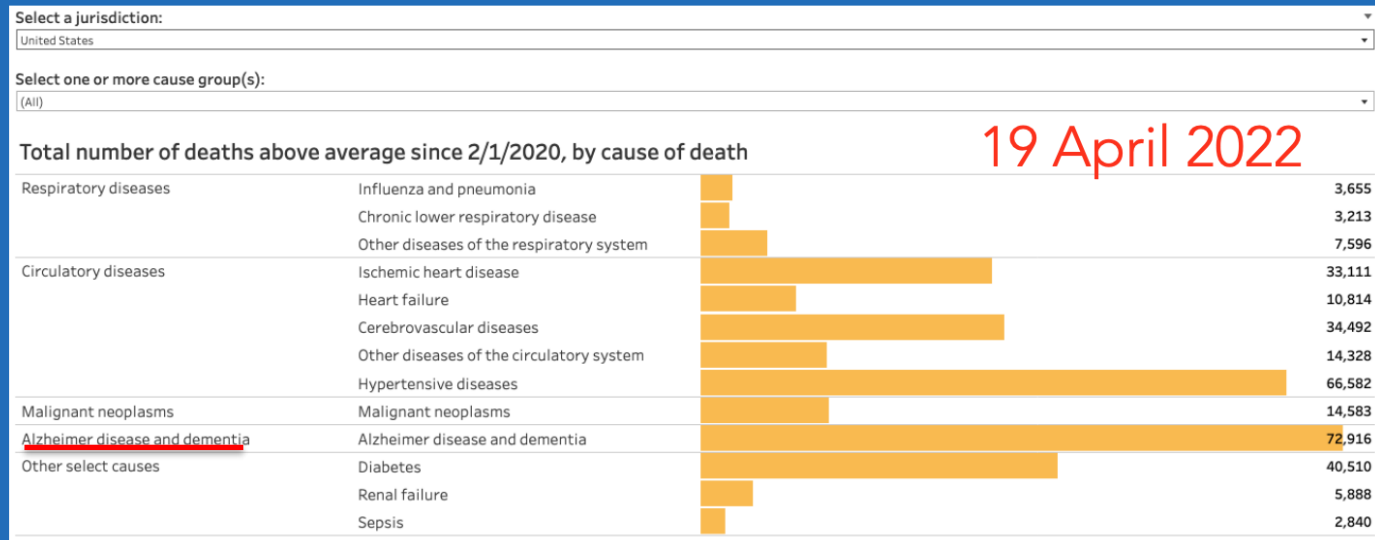
- + indicates observed count above threshold
- Predicted number of deaths from all causes
- average expected number of deaths
- upper bound threshold for excess deaths

Weekly number of deaths (from all causes)



# Sustained All Cause Mortality (Non-COVID) Has Defined Pandemic

In Absolute Numbers the People Tend to be over 45-years of Age, Caucasian & Dying from InflammoThrombotic & Prion Diseases.



[https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/covid19/excess\\_deaths.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/covid19/excess_deaths.htm)

# Sustained All Cause Mortality (Non-COVID) Has Defined Pandemic

% Excess Deaths (Non-COVID-19) by Age Group, Sex & Month (that week ended in)

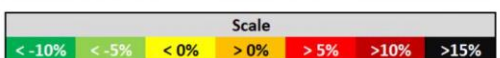
England

Weeks Ending 27Mar20 - 30Jun23

Source Data:- Office for Health Improvement and Disparities

Graphic:- @OutsideAllan

Year	Mont	0-24		25-49		50-64		65-74		75-84		85+		Total
		Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	
2020	3	-10.0%	-23.0%	-2.8%	2.1%	0.2%	-3.7%	-8.4%	-2.0%	-5.5%	-0.6%	-6.3%	-1.8%	-3.8%
2020	4	-5.8%	-20.5%	7.5%	0.2%	12.4%	16.1%	13.4%	18.2%	25.4%	25.9%	40.6%	36.1%	26.9%
2020	5	-15.8%	-12.0%	-1.6%	-2.3%	3.7%	4.9%	-1.8%	-4.2%	-0.5%	-1.8%	10.9%	0.2%	1.9%
2020	6	-23.9%	-21.7%	-8.0%	-7.3%	-6.0%	-2.4%	-3.3%	-8.0%	-8.6%	-10.6%	-11.3%	-13.2%	-9.4%
2020	7	-16.6%	-9.0%	0.7%	0.3%	-6.5%	2.6%	-3.1%	-4.8%	-7.1%	-7.4%	-9.2%	-13.9%	-7.2%
2020	8	1.4%	-1.3%	1.8%	5.9%	2.4%	4.1%	-5.2%	-2.5%	-0.7%	-1.2%	-2.7%	-5.4%	-1.8%
2020	9	-1.4%	-15.4%	5.6%	6.0%	1.6%	5.8%	0.2%	2.4%	0.4%	-0.1%	-2.2%	-1.9%	0.1%
2020	10	-24.0%	-11.4%	2.3%	7.4%	4.1%	4.0%	0.9%	-3.0%	-2.4%	-4.2%	-3.8%	-4.6%	-2.3%
2020	11	-11.3%	-6.1%	3.6%	5.1%	1.9%	5.9%	-7.5%	-2.9%	-8.1%	-7.0%	-7.3%	-10.7%	-5.8%
2020	12	-5.2%	-8.2%	5.5%	6.0%	-5.8%	3.1%	-10.2%	-10.9%	-14.9%	-16.1%	-14.9%	-17.7%	-12.6%
2021	1	-3.1%	-8.1%	0.3%	-11.0%	-10.4%	-6.3%	-17.0%	-16.4%	-19.9%	-23.1%	-22.8%	-26.7%	-20.1%
2021	2	2.0%	4.6%	2.9%	-1.2%	-8.2%	-3.7%	-12.6%	-15.1%	-18.2%	-17.4%	-19.3%	-24.9%	-16.7%
2021	3	16.4%	-1.2%	-4.0%	5.4%	-7.7%	-3.4%	-13.3%	-14.2%	-18.2%	-20.6%	-22.3%	-25.2%	-17.8%
2021	4	-12.5%	-13.8%	2.4%	-5.3%	-5.9%	0.6%	-9.0%	-11.4%	-13.5%	-14.3%	-16.3%	-19.3%	-13.1%
2021	5	-9.0%	7.9%	2.1%	1.2%	-5.6%	3.1%	-10.1%	-7.5%	-8.8%	-7.5%	-10.0%	-10.4%	-7.7%
2021	6	9.3%	3.5%	-2.4%	5.2%	-0.9%	6.6%	-4.6%	-5.0%	-5.1%	-3.3%	-5.6%	-7.2%	-3.9%
2021	7	-7.5%	0.7%	2.4%	3.8%	7.0%	7.2%	0.2%	2.2%	0.7%	1.7%	-0.3%	-2.0%	1.1%
2021	8	-9.0%	-5.6%	-0.5%	2.9%	5.8%	6.8%	5.3%	1.2%	2.7%	0.0%	3.9%	1.2%	2.6%
2021	9	-4.2%	-6.7%	6.2%	5.9%	8.3%	4.8%	7.7%	6.5%	6.0%	4.5%	4.1%	1.2%	4.6%
2021	10	1.0%	5.9%	1.0%	11.8%	9.9%	10.3%	3.5%	3.3%	0.1%	0.9%	1.2%	-0.1%	2.4%
2021	11	10.1%	9.9%	1.0%	3.4%	2.5%	9.0%	6.4%	6.5%	4.5%	0.6%	5.7%	0.1%	3.9%
2021	12	2.2%	5.3%	-4.2%	3.1%	6.8%	6.9%	1.9%	2.0%	0.8%	-3.8%	0.4%	-3.7%	0.0%
2022	1	-10.4%	-9.8%	-2.6%	-9.7%	-8.4%	-4.2%	-14.3%	-12.3%	-14.7%	-17.4%	-20.7%	-23.4%	-16.8%
2022	2	7.5%	16.2%	-2.7%	-4.6%	-3.8%	3.6%	-8.1%	-5.0%	-11.5%	-13.8%	-16.0%	-18.6%	-11.7%
2022	3	10.3%	8.7%	-6.1%	4.4%	-8.3%	3.4%	-7.5%	-6.3%	-9.2%	-12.0%	-14.7%	-15.2%	-10.3%
2022	4	-28.2%	-1.4%	-5.6%	-5.0%	-2.0%	-3.8%	-8.9%	-7.3%	-8.9%	-10.9%	-9.5%	-12.1%	-9.0%
2022	5	-12.3%	6.4%	4.9%	-5.0%	2.5%	8.9%	-0.1%	1.6%	1.7%	2.4%	3.2%	1.4%	2.3%
2022	6	17.9%	16.5%	14.8%	8.1%	18.4%	17.0%	8.9%	9.2%	10.4%	7.5%	8.8%	9.3%	10.0%
2022	7	12.2%	5.1%	6.0%	8.8%	4.6%	11.0%	4.7%	5.5%	7.1%	2.8%	8.3%	6.9%	6.5%
2022	8	10.5%	7.8%	-4.9%	10.2%	17.1%	12.5%	0.2%	7.2%	4.5%	5.6%	10.8%	4.1%	7.1%
2022	9	-0.6%	10.4%	9.5%	8.1%	13.7%	16.9%	7.9%	5.2%	5.8%	6.7%	7.6%	7.5%	7.8%
2022	10	3.3%	5.0%	16.7%	9.2%	11.8%	10.1%	7.5%	6.3%	6.3%	6.4%	9.0%	7.4%	7.9%
2022	11	11.7%	6.7%	7.9%	11.9%	10.5%	13.2%	9.9%	6.8%	2.5%	1.8%	6.6%	1.9%	5.5%
2022	12	26.3%	6.1%	6.3%	4.1%	13.4%	12.4%	6.4%	3.7%	9.6%	-0.5%	7.5%	3.6%	5.9%
2023	1	-4.3%	1.2%	18.4%	3.9%	13.1%	16.2%	7.6%	7.8%	10.4%	2.2%	10.2%	-0.2%	7.1%
2023	2	17.2%	16.7%	7.2%	11.0%	2.7%	11.4%	5.1%	2.7%	0.9%	-3.2%	-2.1%	-7.4%	-0.4%
2023	3	9.1%	13.2%	8.0%	9.1%	3.8%	9.6%	0.6%	-1.6%	-5.8%	-4.6%	-4.5%	-6.8%	-2.7%
2023	4	3.4%	14.5%	4.6%	3.4%	5.3%	11.6%	1.3%	1.5%	-0.1%	-2.1%	-1.9%	-2.0%	0.2%
2023	5	-2.1%	30.0%	16.5%	16.2%	8.1%	16.9%	2.0%	8.5%	5.8%	6.8%	8.0%	3.2%	7.4%
2023	6	20.9%	11.0%	4.3%	10.2%	10.8%	16.4%	2.9%	5.5%	3.9%	4.4%	2.8%	4.4%	5.2%





# Scientific Situational Awareness: Is There A Problem/Threat?








## Gain of Function PRION Disorders & Long COVID

Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology (2023) 43:2621–2626  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10571-023-01342-8>

REVIEW PAPER



### Potential Prion Involvement in Long COVID-19 Neuropathology, Including Behavior

George B. Stefano<sup>1</sup>  · Pascal Büttiker<sup>1</sup>  · Simon Weissenberger<sup>2</sup>  · Martin Anders<sup>1</sup>  · Jiri Raboch<sup>1</sup>  · Radek Ptacek<sup>1</sup>  · Richard M. Kream<sup>1</sup> 

Received: 3 March 2023 / Accepted: 22 March 2023 / Published online: 28 March 2023  
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#### Abstract

Prion<sup>1</sup> is a term used to describe a protein infectious particle responsible for several neurodegenerative diseases in mammals, e.g., Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. The novelty is that it is protein based infectious agent not involving a nucleic acid genome as found in viruses and bacteria. Prion disorders exhibit, in part, incubation periods, neuronal loss, and induce abnormal folding of specific normal cellular proteins due to enhancing reactive oxygen species associated with mitochondria energy metabolism. These agents may also induce memory, personality and movement abnormalities as well as depression, confusion and disorientation. Interestingly, some of these behavioral changes also occur in COVID-19 and mechanistically include mitochondrial damage caused by SARS-CoV-2 and subsequent production of reactive oxygen species. Taken together, we surmise, in part, long COVID may involve the induction of spontaneous prion emergence, especially in individuals susceptible to its origin may thus explain some of its manifestations post-acute viral infection.

**Keywords** SARS-CoV-2 · COVID-19 · Long COVID · Prion · Prion disorders · Mitochondria · Confusion · Depression

# Scientific Situational Awareness: Is There A Problem/Threat?

## Gain of Function PRION Disorders & Long COVID

Cellular and Molecular Neurobiology (2023) 43:2621–2626  
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REVIEW PAPER



Potential Prion Involvement  
Including Behavior

frontiers | Frontiers in Neuroscience

TYPE Opinion  
PUBLISHED 27 September 2022  
DOI 10.3389/fnins.2022.1002770

George B. Stefano<sup>1</sup> · Pascal Radek Ptacek<sup>1</sup> · Richard M.

Received: 3 March 2023 / Accepted: 22  
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### Abstract

Prion is a term used to describe e.g., Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease as found in viruses and bacterial folding of specific normal cell metabolism. These agents may cause vision and disorientation. Interest in mitochondrial damage caused by prion surmise, in part, long COVID is attributable to its origin may thus explain

**Keywords** SARS-CoV-2 · COVID-19

### OPEN ACCESS

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SPECIALTY SECTION  
This article was submitted to  
Neurodegeneration,  
a section of the journal  
Frontiers in Cellular and Molecular  
Neurobiology

## SARS-CoV-2, long COVID, prion disease and neurodegeneration

Yuhai Zhao<sup>1,2</sup>, Vivian R. Jaber<sup>2</sup> and Walter J. Lukiw<sup>2,3,4\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA, United States, <sup>2</sup>LSU Neuroscience Center, LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA, United States, <sup>3</sup>Department of Ophthalmology, LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA, United States, <sup>4</sup>Department of Neurology, LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA, United States

### KEYWORDS

Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease (CJD), long COVID-19, 'S1' spike protein, SARS-CoV-2, prion disease (PrD), Alzheimer's disease (AD), miRNA-146a, miRNA-155

# Scientific Situational Awareness: Is There A Problem/Threat?

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REVIEW PAPER



### Potential Prion Involvement Including Behavior

frontiers | Frontiers in Neuroscience

TYPE Opinion  
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George B. Stefano<sup>1</sup> · Pascal Radek Ptacek<sup>1</sup> · Richard M.

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#### Abstract

Prion<sup>1</sup> is a term used to describe e.g., Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease as found in viruses and bacterial folding of specific normal cell metabolism. These agents may cause vision and disorientation. Interest in mitochondrial damage caused by prion surmise, in part, long COVID is attributable to its origin may thus explain

**Keywords** SARS-CoV-2 · COVID

#### OPEN ACCESS

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SPECIALTY SECTION  
This article was submitted to  
Neurodegeneration,  
a section of the journal

## SARS-CoV-2 disease and

Yuhai Zhao<sup>1,2</sup>, Vivian

<sup>1</sup>Department of Cell Biology at  
Orleans, LA, United States, <sup>2</sup>LSI  
LA, United States, <sup>3</sup>Department  
United States, <sup>4</sup>Department of  
United States

#### KEYWORDS

Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease,  
prion disease (PrD), Alzheimer

## A Potential Role of the Spike Protein in Neurodegenerative Diseases: A Narrative Review

Stephanie Seneff<sup>1</sup>, Anthony M. Kyriakopoulos<sup>2</sup>, Greg Nigh<sup>3</sup>, Peter A. McCullough<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA <sup>2</sup> Research and Development, Nasco AD Biotechnology Laboratory, Piraeus, GRC <sup>3</sup> Naturopathy, Immersion Health, Portland, USA <sup>4</sup> Internal Medicine, Truth for Health Foundation, Tucson, USA

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#### Abstract

Human prion protein and prion-like protein misfolding are widely recognized as playing a causal role in many neurodegenerative diseases. Based on in vitro and in vivo experimental evidence relating to prion and prion-like disease, we extrapolate from the compelling evidence that the spike glycoprotein of SARS-CoV-2 contains extended amino acid sequences characteristic of a prion-like protein to infer its potential to cause neurodegenerative disease. We propose that vaccine-induced spike protein synthesis can facilitate the accumulation of toxic prion-like fibrils in neurons. We outline various pathways through which these proteins could be expected to distribute throughout the body. We review both cellular pathologies and the expression of disease that could become more frequent in those who have undergone mRNA vaccination. Specifically, we describe the spike protein's contributions, via its prion-like properties, to neuroinflammation and neurodegenerative diseases; to clotting disorders within the vasculature; to further disease risk due to suppressed prion protein regulation in the context of widely prevalent insulin resistance; and to other health complications. We explain why these prion-like characteristics are more relevant to vaccine-related mRNA-induced spike proteins than natural infection with SARS-CoV-2. We note with an optimism an apparent loss of prion-like properties among the current Omicron variants. We acknowledge that the chain of pathological events described throughout this paper is only hypothetical and not yet verified. We also acknowledge that the evidence we usher in, while grounded in the research literature, is currently largely circumstantial, not direct. Finally, we describe the implications of our findings for the general public, and we briefly discuss public health recommendations we feel need urgent consideration.

# Scientific Situational Awareness: Is There A Problem/Threat?




ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-021-25855-2>

OPEN

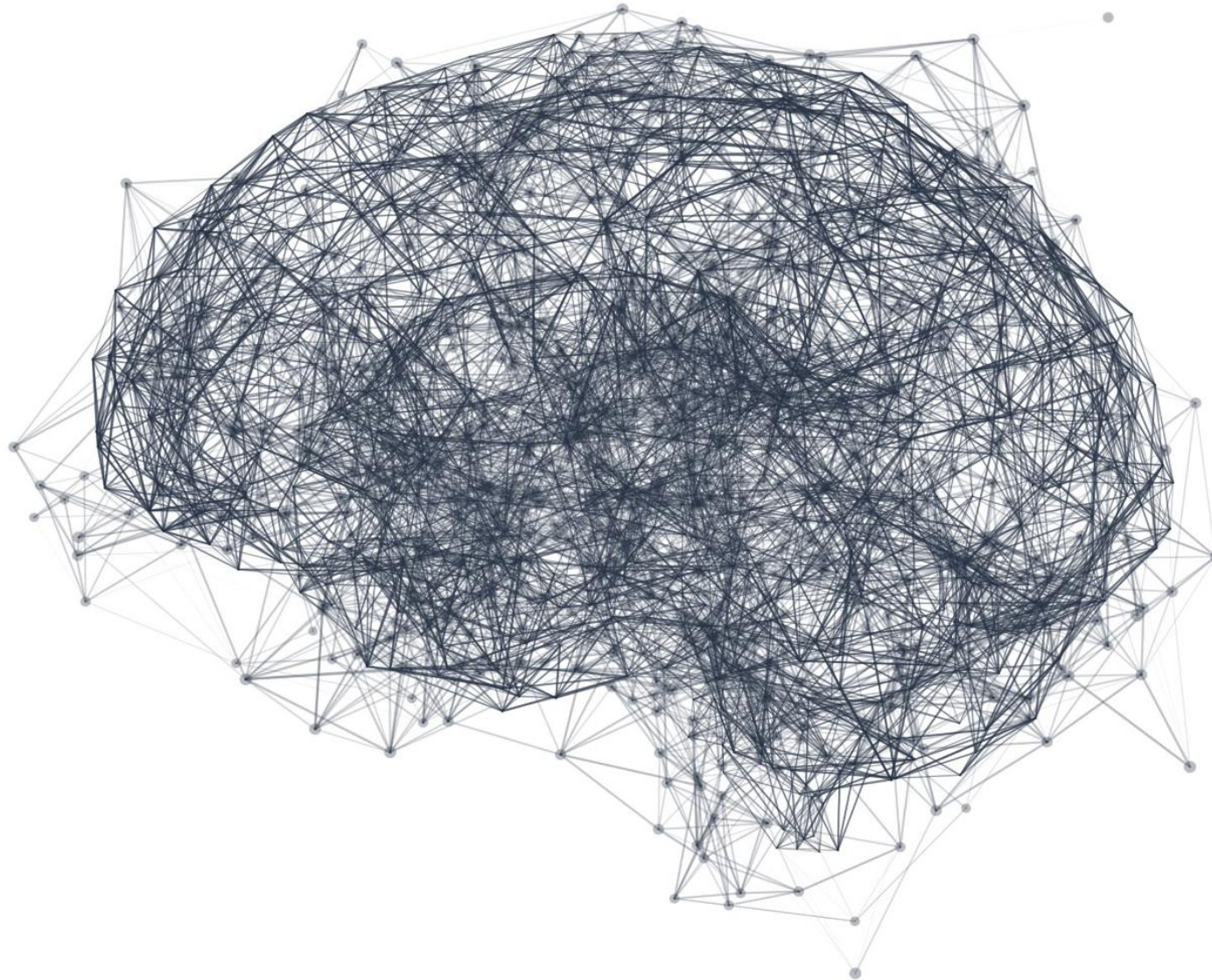


## Highly efficient intercellular spreading of protein misfolding mediated by viral ligand-receptor interactions

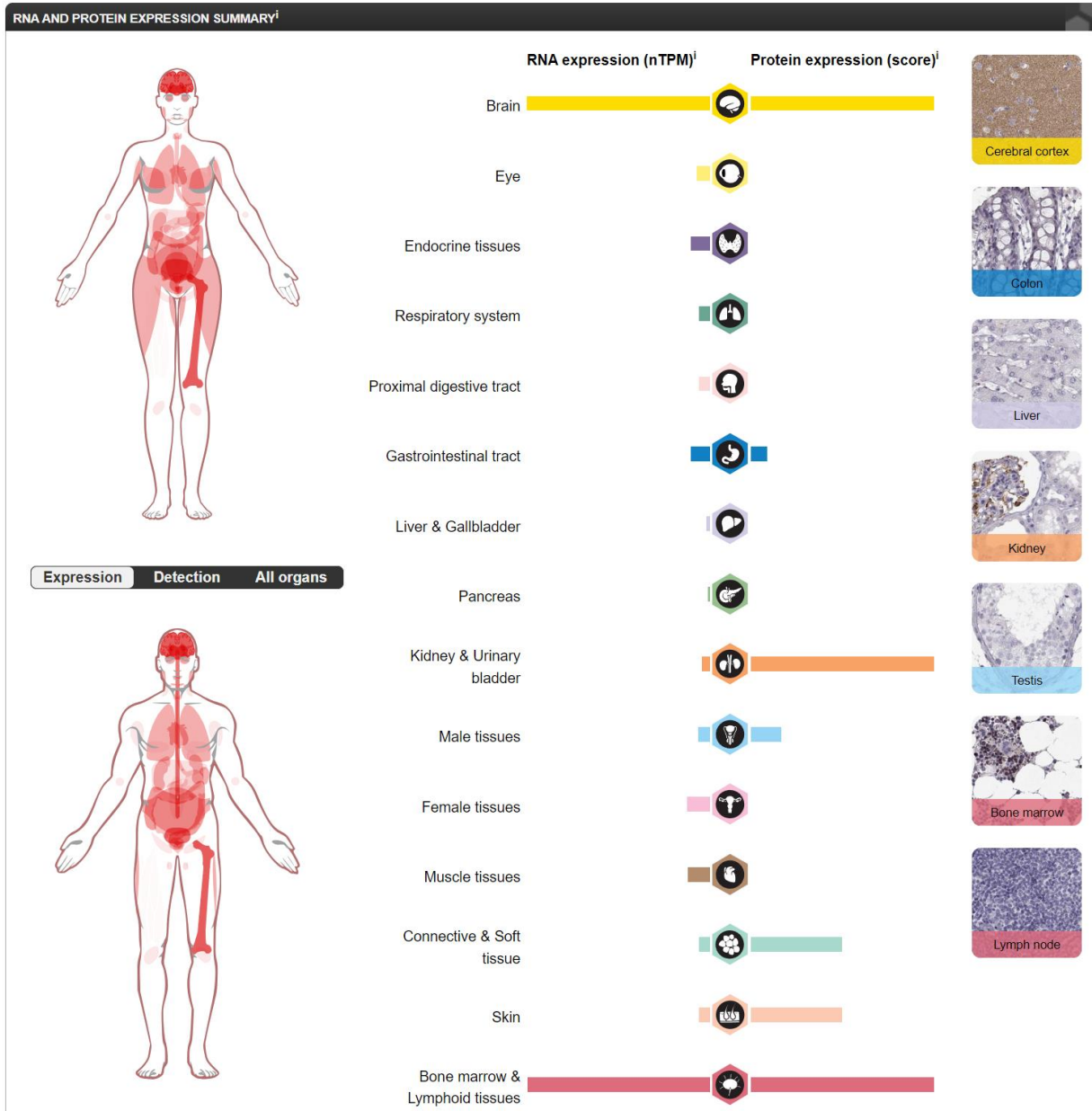
Shu Liu<sup>1,10</sup>, André Hossinger<sup>1</sup>, Stefanie-Elisabeth Heumüller<sup>1</sup>, Annika Hornberger<sup>1</sup>, Oleksandra Buravlova<sup>1</sup>, Katerina Konstantoulea <sup>2,3</sup>, Stephan A. Müller <sup>4,5</sup>, Lydia Paulsen<sup>1</sup>, Frederic Rousseau<sup>2,3</sup>, Joost Schymkowitz<sup>2,3</sup>, Stefan F. Lichtenthaler<sup>4,5,6</sup>, Manuela Neumann<sup>7,8</sup>, Philip Denner<sup>1</sup> & Ina M. Vorberg 

Protein aggregates associated with neurodegenerative diseases have the ability to transmit to unaffected cells, thereby templating their own aberrant conformation onto soluble homotypic proteins. Proteopathic seeds can be released into the extracellular space, secreted in association with extracellular vesicles (EV) or exchanged by direct cell-to-cell contact. The extent to which each of these pathways contribute to the prion-like spreading of protein misfolding is unclear. Exchange of cellular cargo by both direct cell contact or via EV depends on receptor-ligand interactions. We hypothesized that enabling these interactions through viral ligands enhances intercellular proteopathic seed transmission. **Using different cellular models propagating prions or pathogenic Tau aggregates, we demonstrate that vesicular stomatitis virus glycoprotein and SARS-CoV-2 spike S increase aggregate induction by cell contact or ligand-decorated EV. Thus, receptor-ligand interactions are important determinants of intercellular aggregate dissemination. Our data raise the possibility that viral infections contribute to proteopathic seed spreading by facilitating intercellular cargo transfer.**

# SARS-CoV-2 Neuroscience: NHP Alpha-Synuclein Pathology



# SARS-CoV-2 Neuroscience: NHP Alpha-Synuclein Distribution



# SARS-CoV-2 Neuroscience: Alpha-Synuclein Amyloidogenesis



The Journal of Chemical Physics

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Volume 159, Issue 1

3 July 2023

RESEARCH ARTICLE | JULY 06 2023

## SARS-COV-2 spike protein fragment eases amyloidogenesis of $\alpha$ -synuclein

Andrew D. Chesney ; Buddhadev Maiti ; Ulrich H. E. Hansmann



+ Author & Article Information

*J. Chem. Phys.* 159, 015103 (2023)

<https://doi.org/10.1063/5.0157331> [Article history](#)

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Parkinson's disease is accompanied by the presence of amyloids in the brain that are formed of  $\alpha$ -synuclein chains. The correlation between COVID-19 and the onset of Parkinson's disease led to the idea that amyloidogenic segments in SARS-COV-2 proteins can induce aggregation of  $\alpha$ -synuclein. Using molecular dynamic simulations, we show that the fragment FKNIDGYFKI of the spike protein, which is unique for SARS-COV-2, preferentially shifts the ensemble of  $\alpha$ -synuclein monomer toward rod-like fibril seeding conformations and, at the same time, differentially stabilizes this polymorph over the competing twister-like structure. Our results are compared with earlier work relying on a different protein fragment that is not specific for SARS-COV-2.



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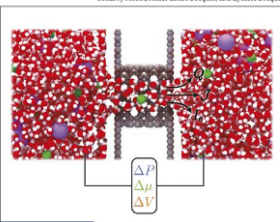
DeePMD-kit v2: A software package for deep potential models

The Journal of Chemical Physics



Vol. 159, No. 1, 7 Jul 2023

Unified non-equilibrium simulation methodology for flow through nanoporous carbon membrane  
Geoffrey Monel, Marie-Laure Bocquet, and Lydie Bocquet
















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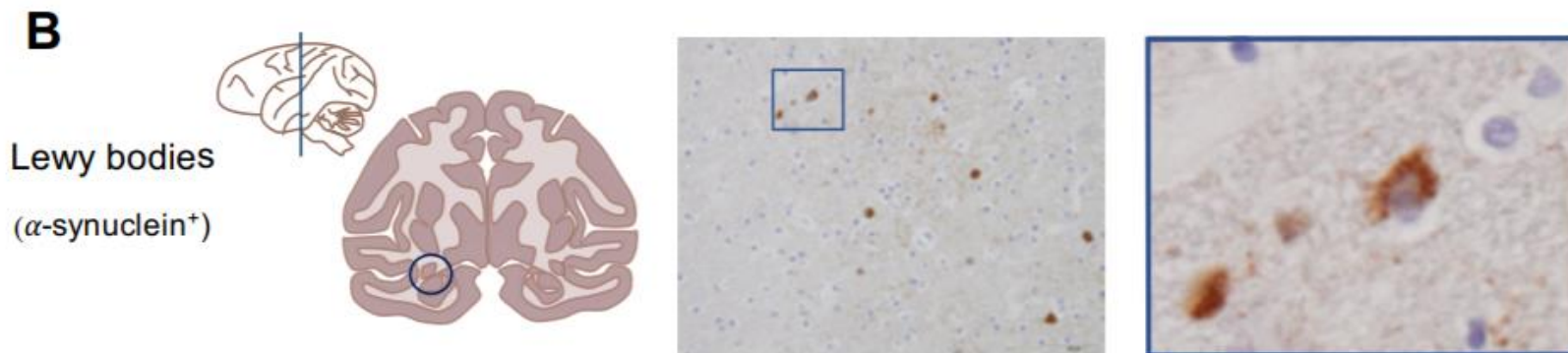
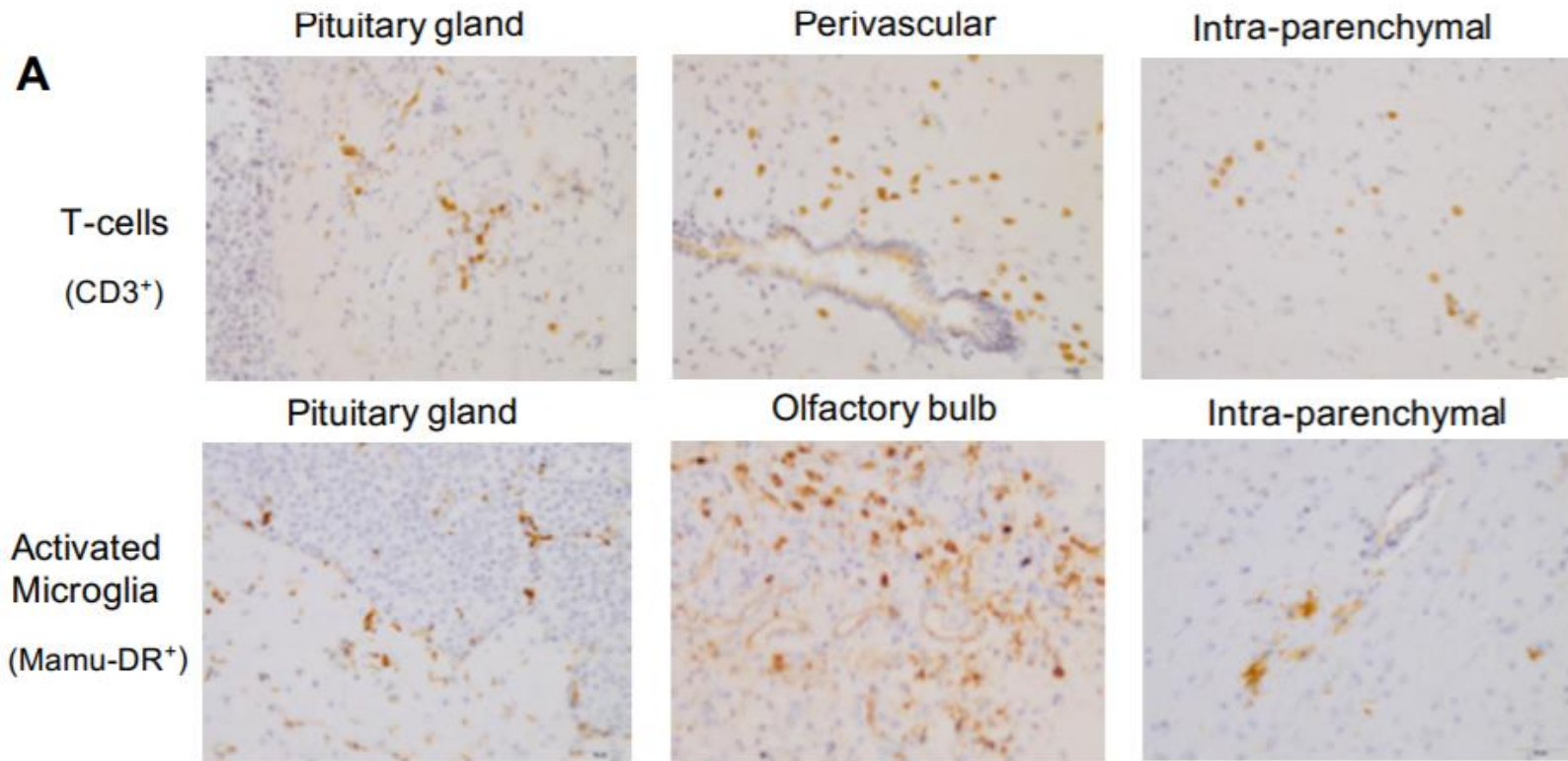
Article

## Brain Inflammation and Intracellular $\alpha$ -Synuclein Aggregates in Macaques after SARS-CoV-2 Infection

Ingrid H. C. H. M. Philippens <sup>1,†,‡</sup> , Kinga P. Böszörményi <sup>1,‡</sup> , Jacqueline A. M. Wubben <sup>1</sup>, Zahra C. Fagrouch <sup>1</sup>, Nikki van Driel <sup>1,†</sup> , Amber Q. Mayenburg <sup>1</sup> , Diana Lozovagia <sup>1</sup> , Eva Roos <sup>2</sup>, Bernadette Schurink <sup>2</sup> , Marianna Bugiani <sup>2</sup>, Ronald E. Bontrop <sup>1,3</sup>, Jinte Middeldorp <sup>1</sup> , Willy M. Bogers <sup>1</sup> , Lioe-Fee de Geus-Oei <sup>4,5</sup> , Jan A. M. Langermans <sup>1,6</sup> , Ernst J. Verschoor <sup>1,\*,§</sup> , Marieke A. Stammes <sup>1,§</sup>  and Babs E. Verstrepen <sup>1,†,§</sup> 



# SARS-CoV-2 Neuroscience: Insights From Nonhuman Primates



# World's First In Captivity NHP Early Onset Parkinsonism

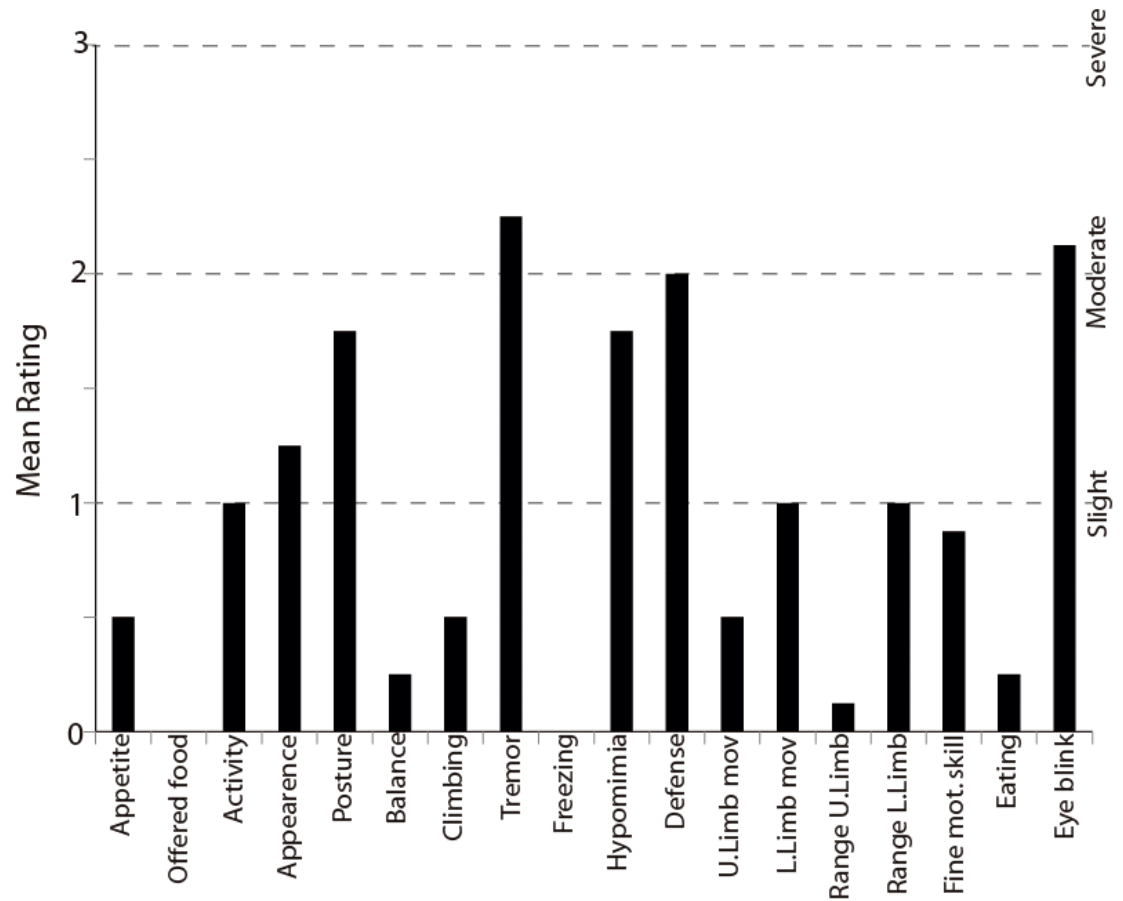


**Daphne (Mfy 1823) – Kyoto Primate Research Institute (Early Onset MSA)**



# World's First In Captivity NHP Early Onset Parkinsonism

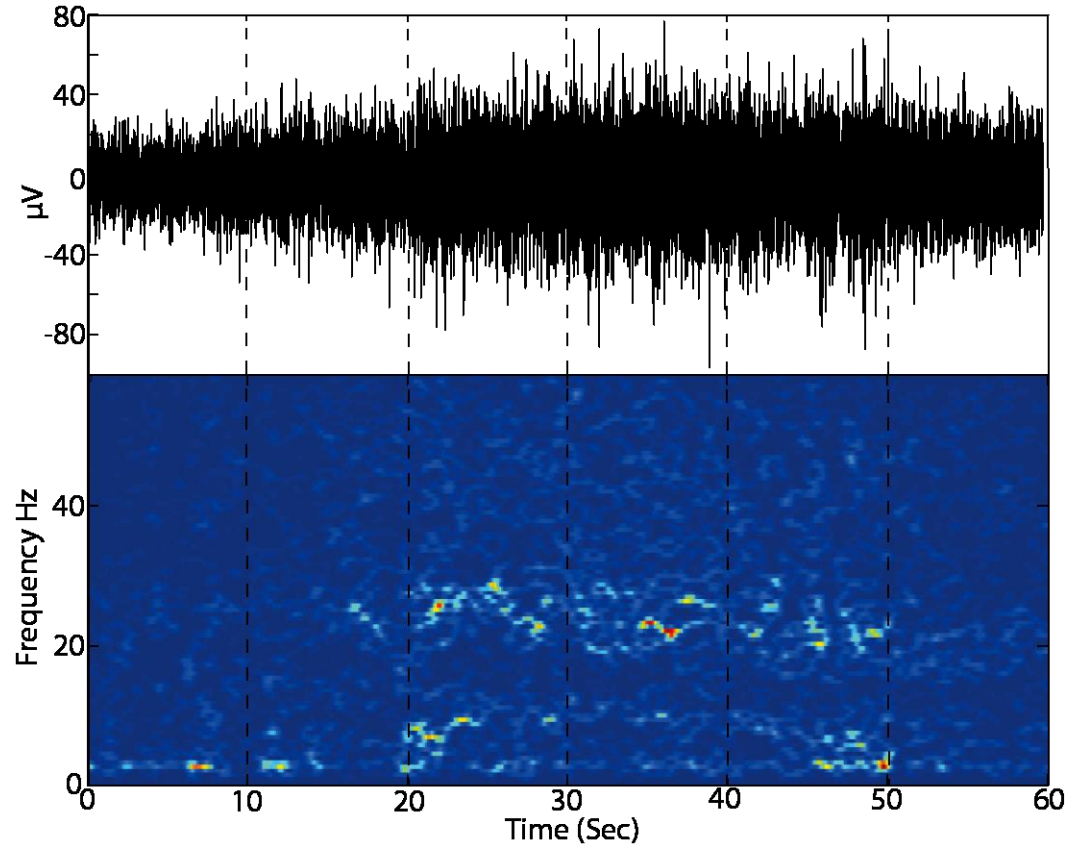
## Nonhuman primate UPDRS



# World's First In Captivity NHP Early Onset Parkinsonism



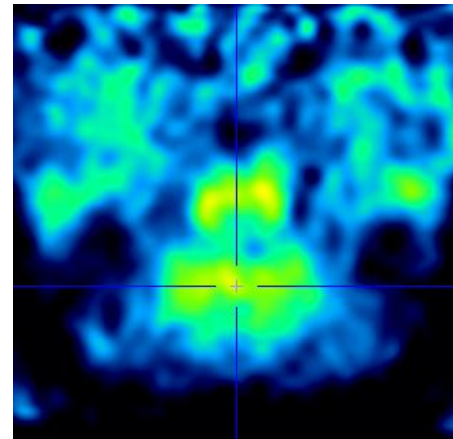
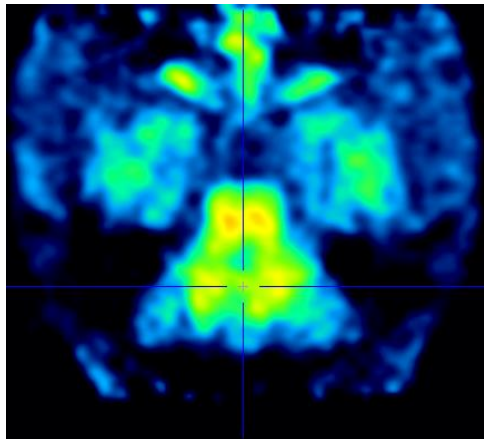
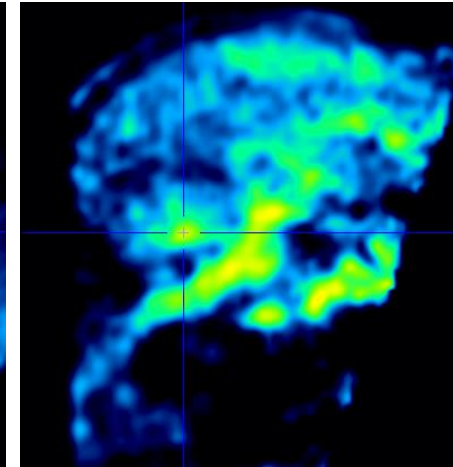
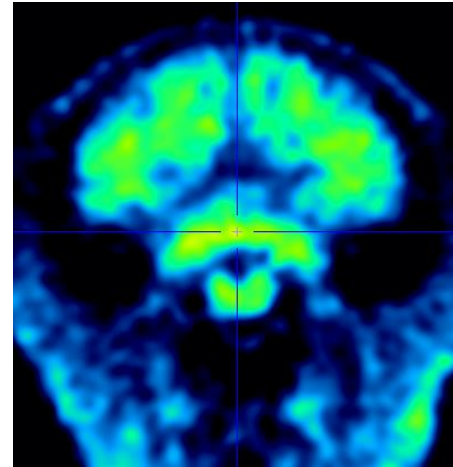
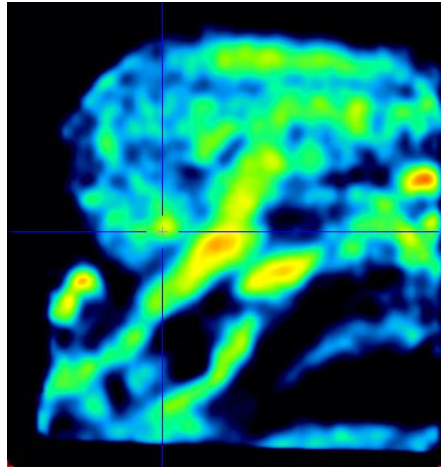
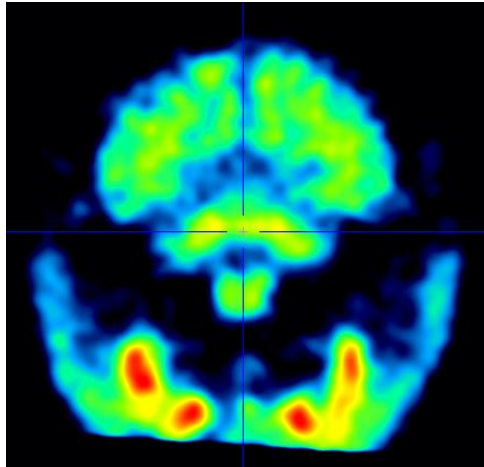
Tremor from bicep muscle (EMG)



# Alpha Synuclein PET Radioactive Ligand Binding

MSA model

Normal

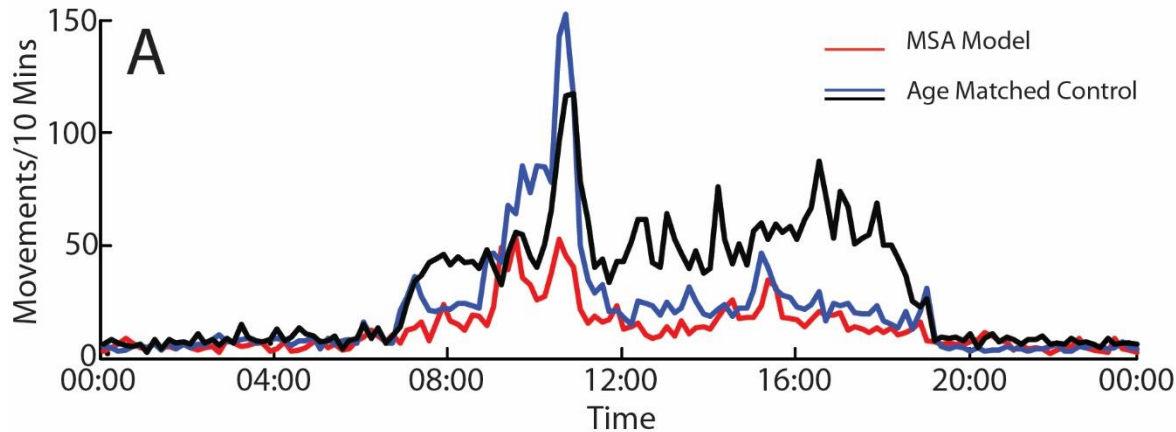


- $[^{11}\text{C}]\text{BF227}$  (SUV, summation 30-90min)

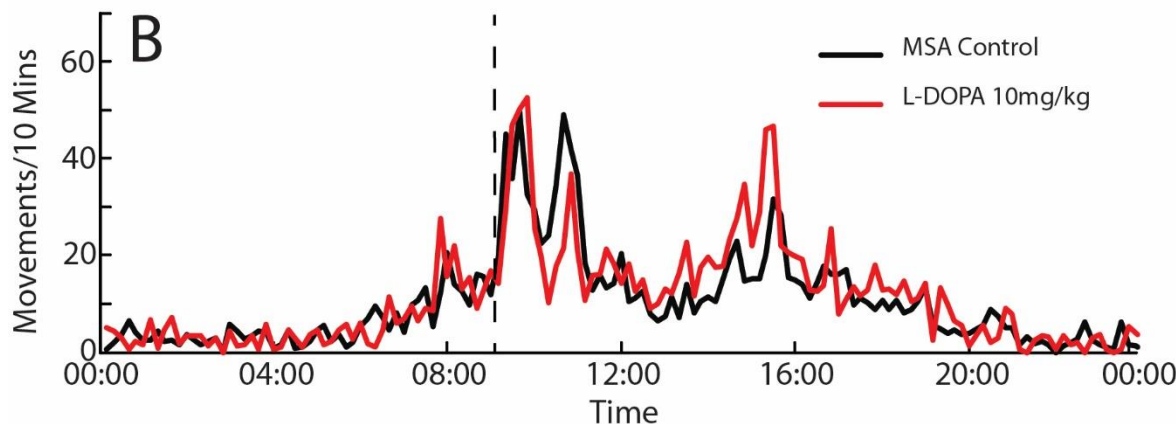


# L-DOPA Challenge Confirmed Multisystem Atrophy

## Accelerometer Based Global Activity

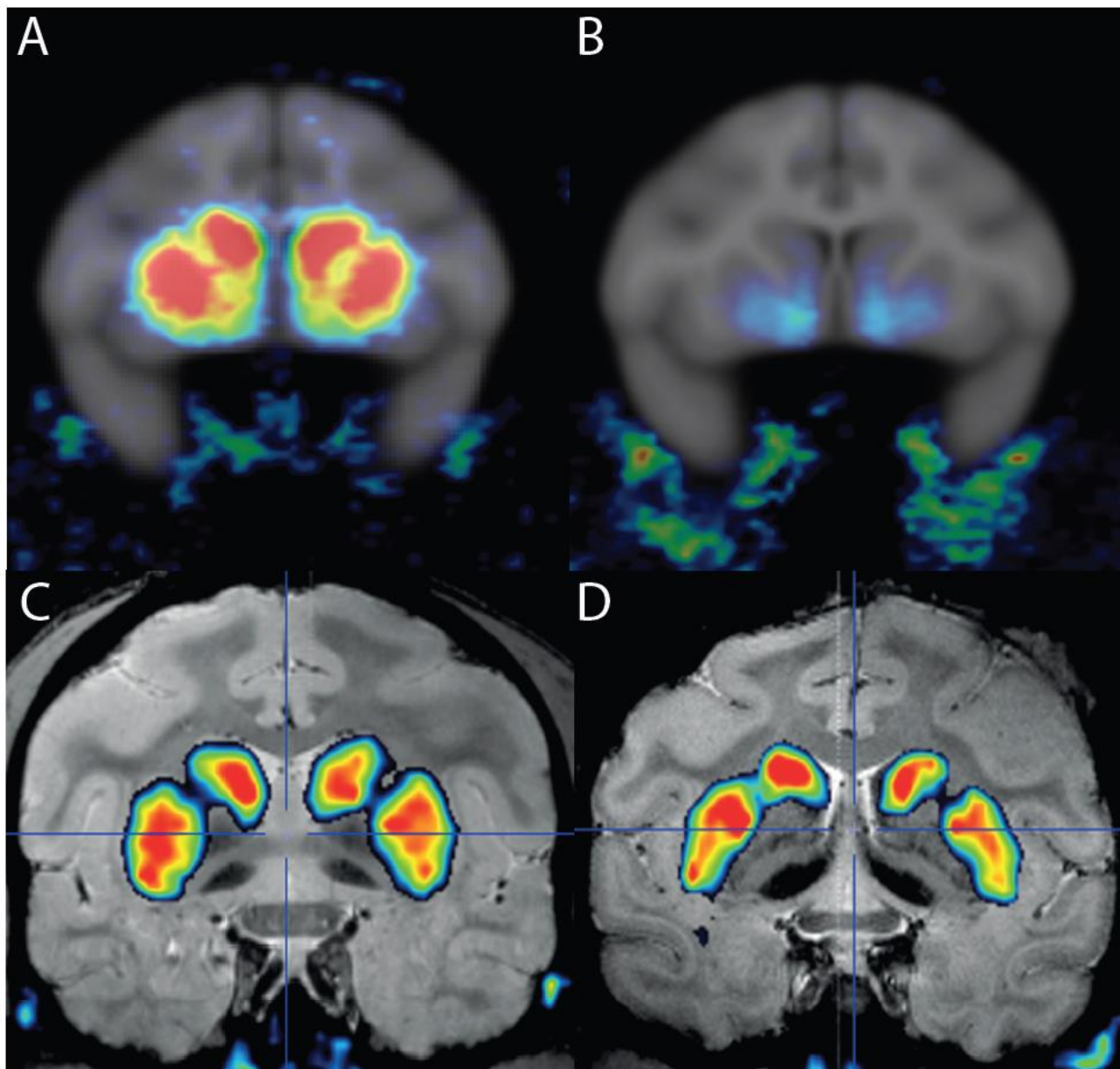


**A.** Use of an accelerometer which continuously monitored activity over 7 days found that the MSA monkey had significantly reduced activity, especially in the morning compared to age and sex matched controls.



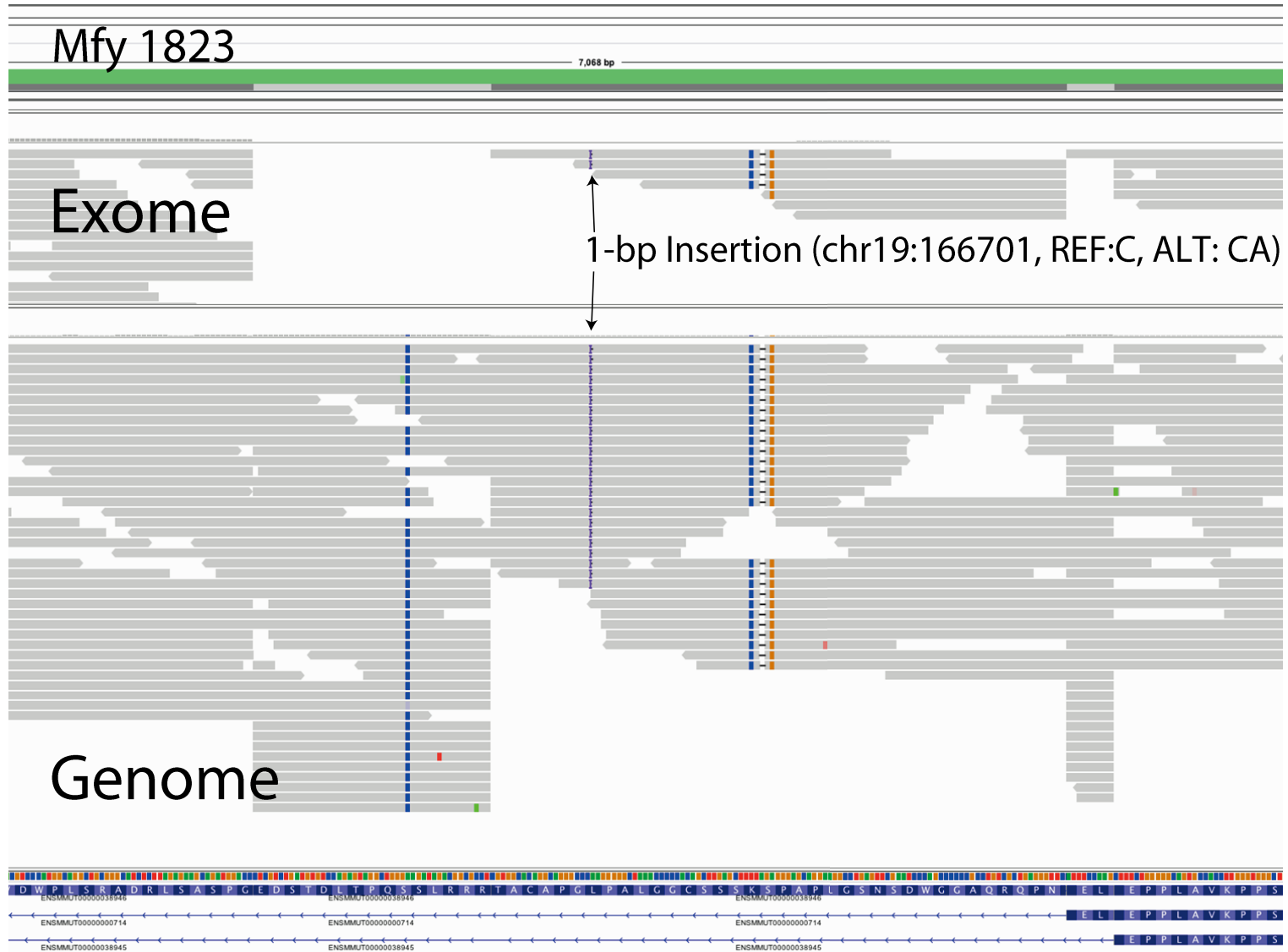
**B.** The MSA monkey was unresponsive to challenge with L-DOPA.

# PET Raclopride Challenge Confirmed Intact DA Signaling



# Next Generation Genome/Exome Sequencing

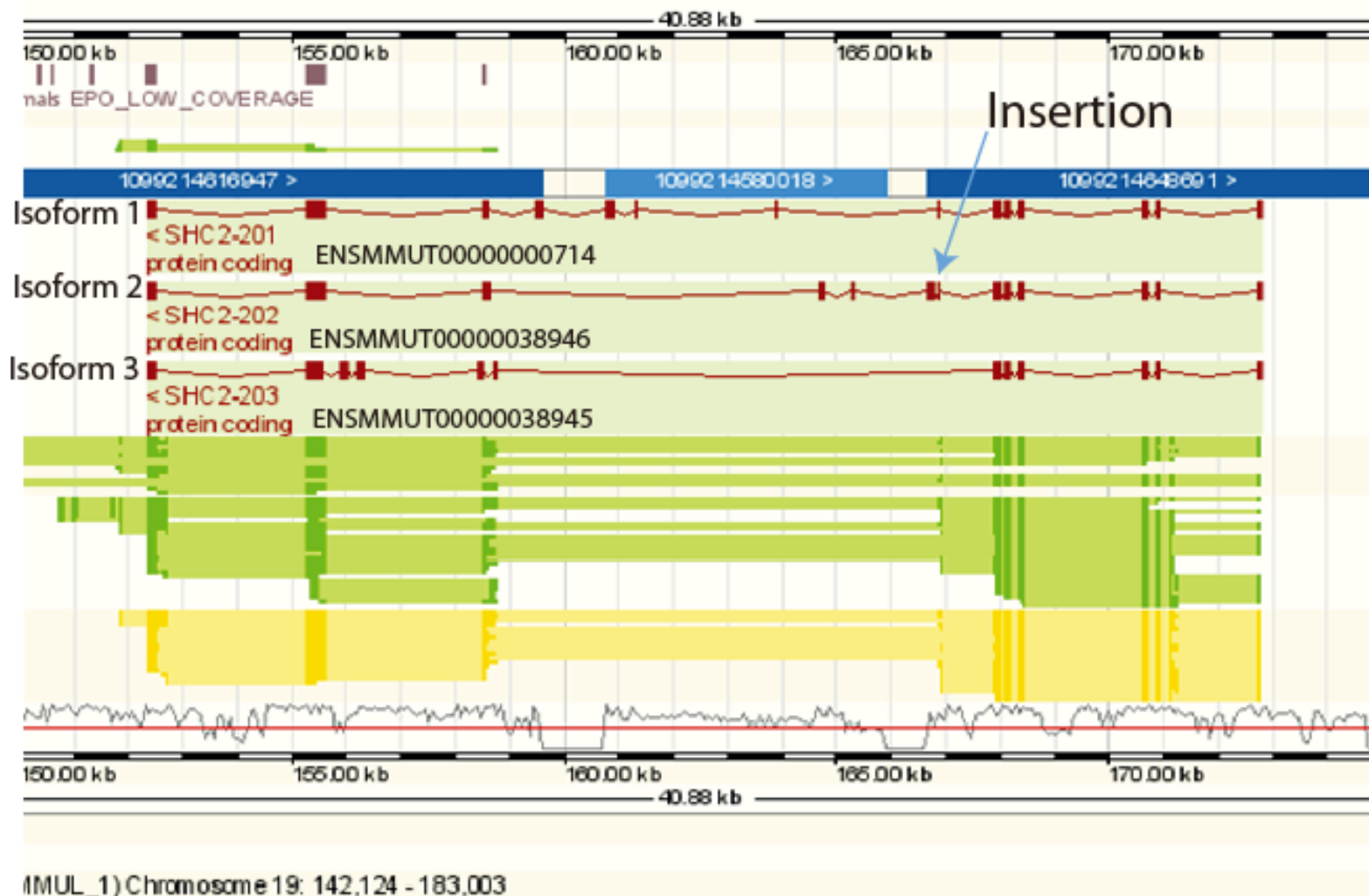
## Next Generation Sequencing vs n = 100 NHP Control Group





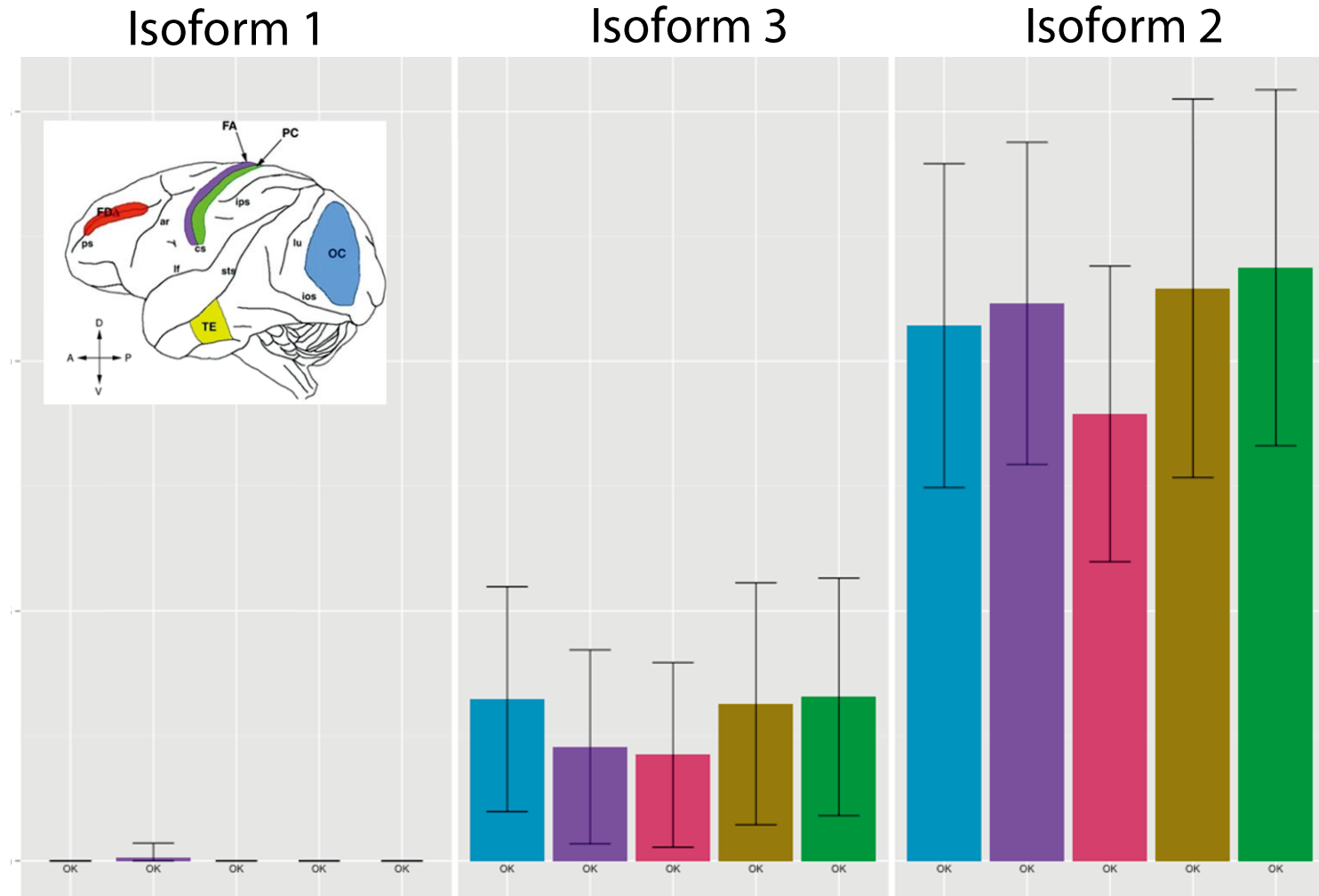
# Next Generation Genome/Exome Sequencing

## Identification of SHC-2 Isoforms



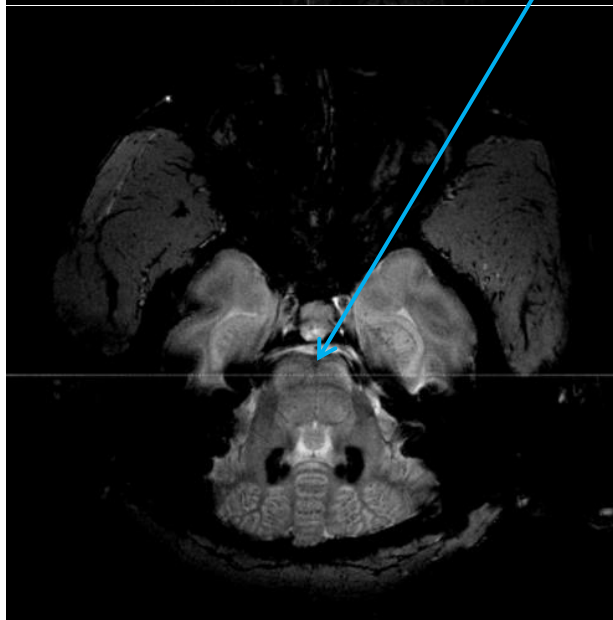
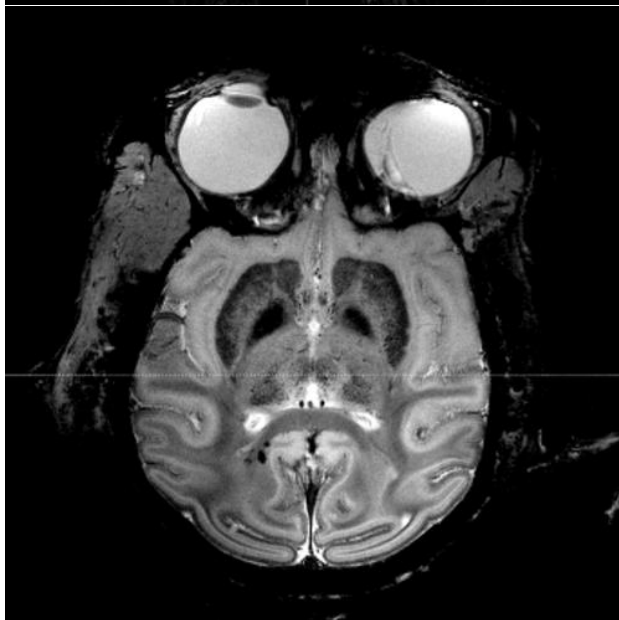
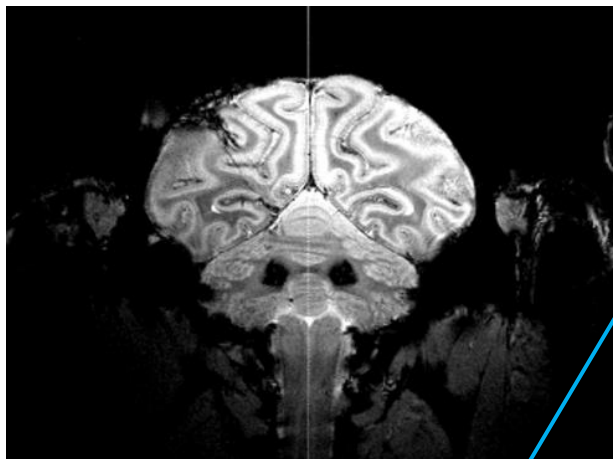
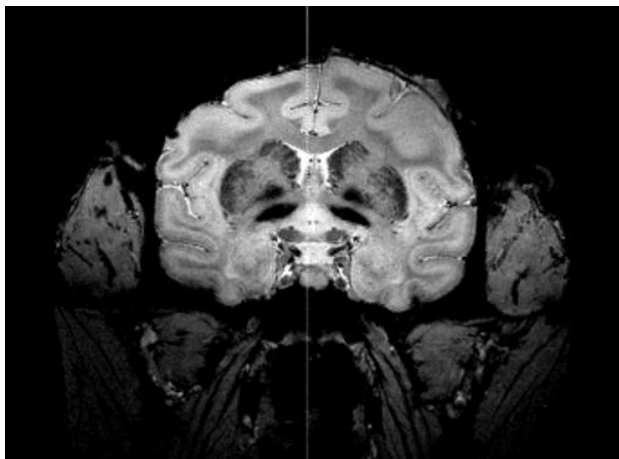
# Next Generation Genome/Exome Sequencing

## Distribution of SHC-2 Isoforms

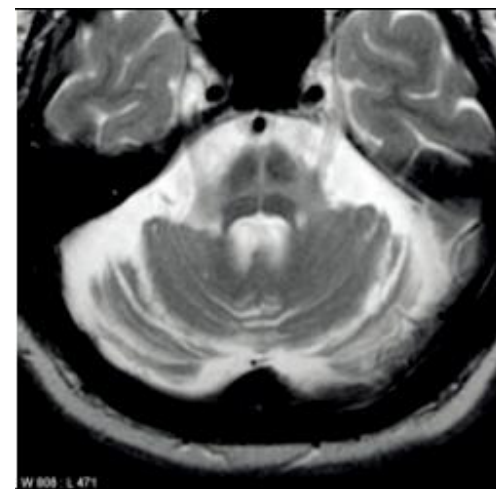


# Daphne Showed Classic Pontocerebellar Tract Degeneration

## High-Intensity 7-Tesla MRI



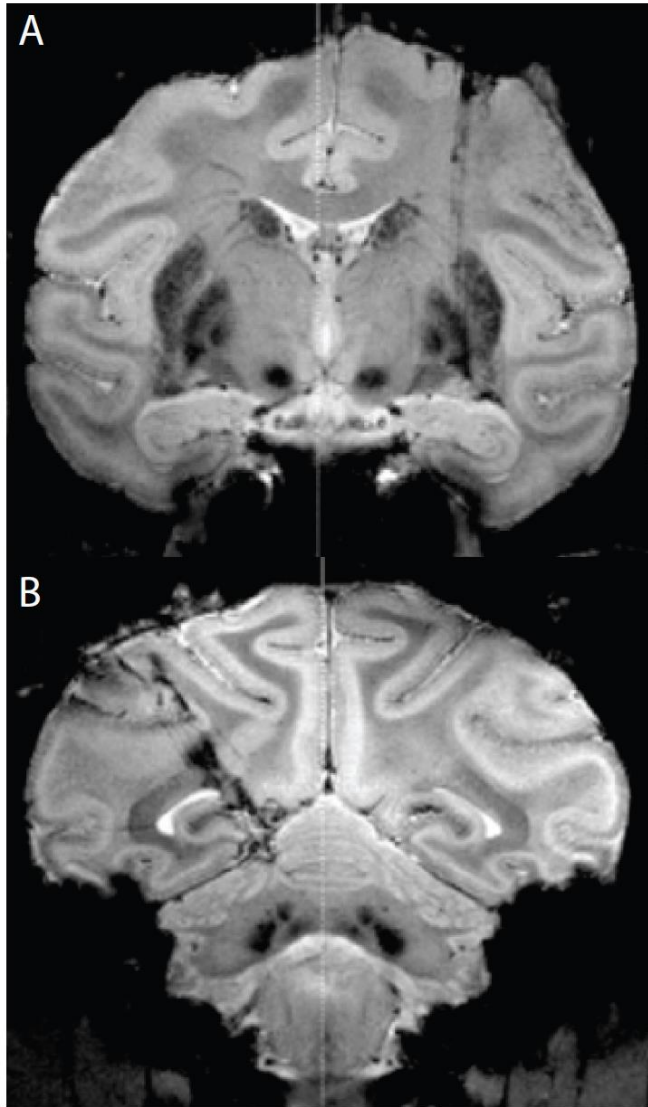
Hot cross bun sign?



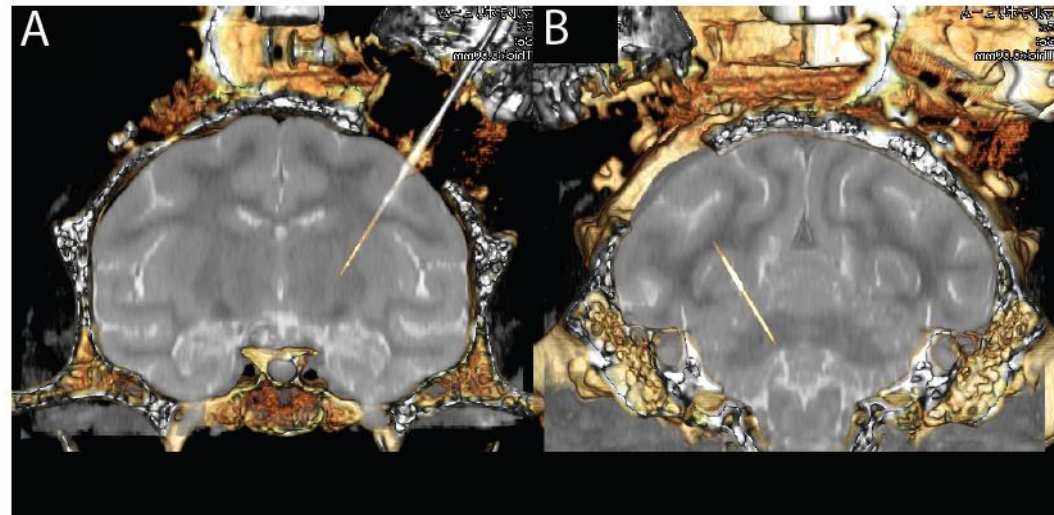
MSA Human

A. Shrivastava Radiology vol. 245, 2007

# Strong T2 Hypointensity Was Prominent In All Basal Ganglia Cerebellar Nuclei



**Iron Deposition Was Prominent in MSA**

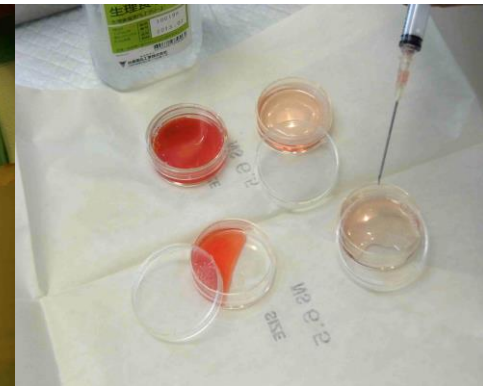
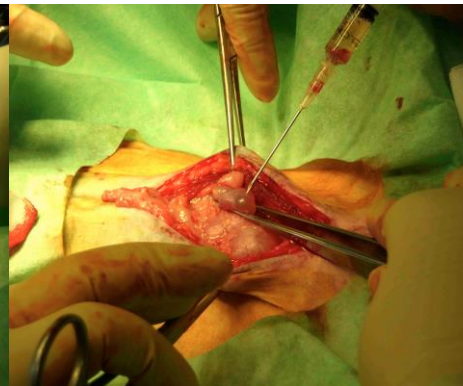
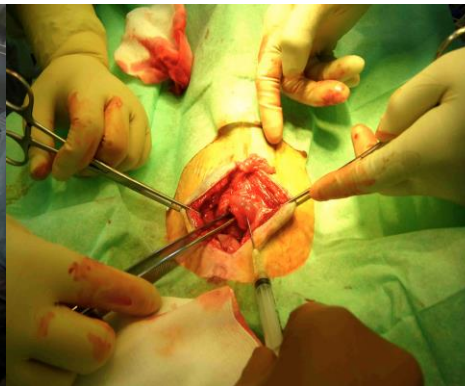
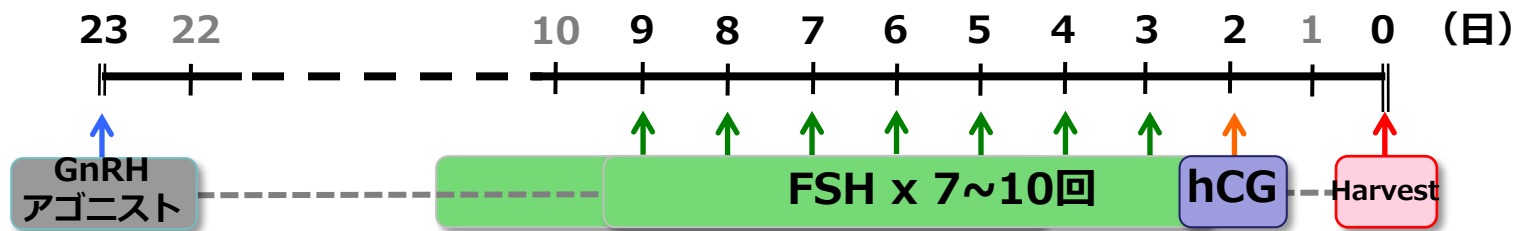


# Synthetic Parkinsonism(MPTP) vs. Organic Parkinsonism?

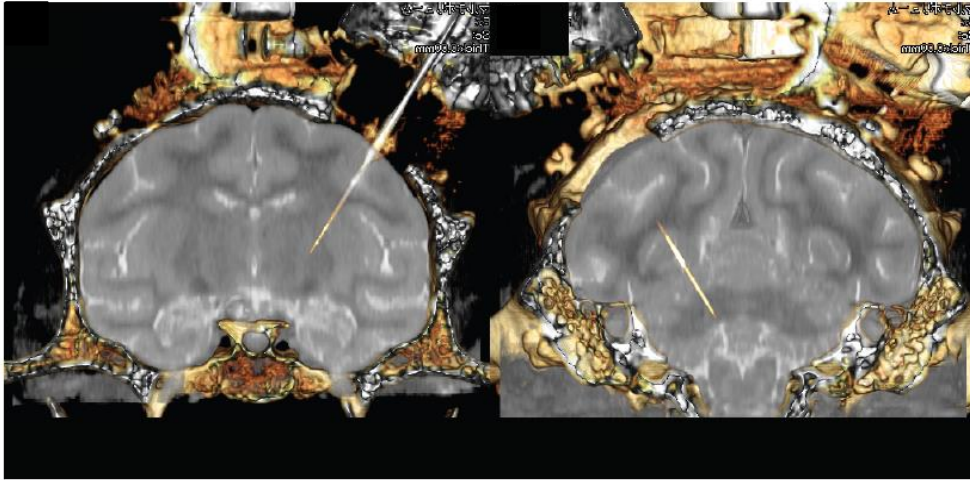
## Collection of follicle eggs

### • Follicle stimulation treatment

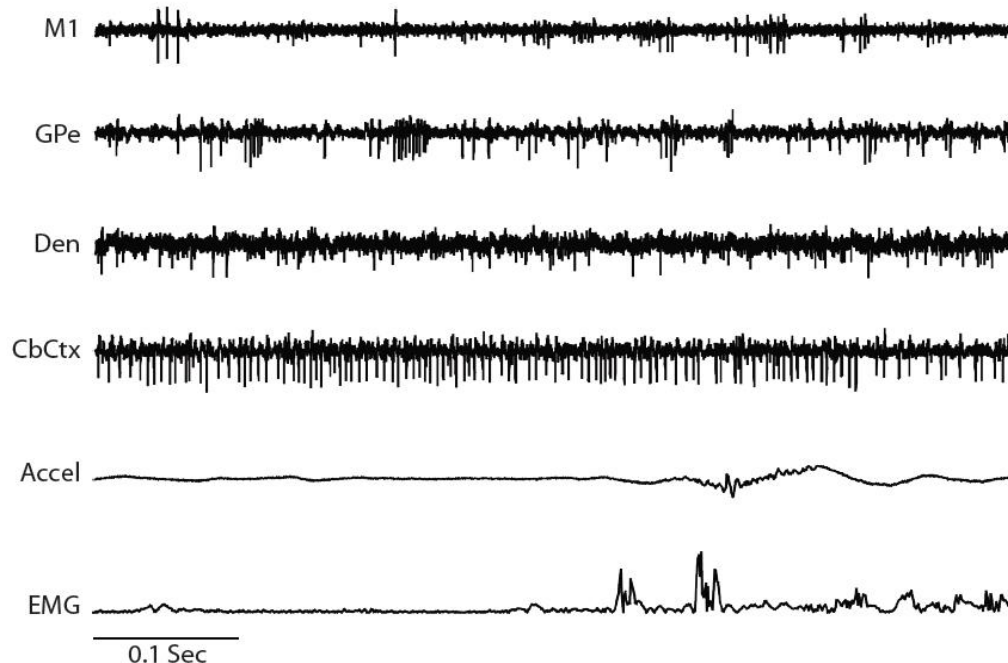
- ① Subcutaneous administration of 0.9 mg / head of GnRH agonist (leuprorelin) during the resting period (before and after menstruation)
- ② From 2 weeks later, 5-20 IU / kg FSH (Gonapur) is intramuscularly administered for 7 to 10 consecutive days.
- ③ Intramuscular administration of 400 IU / kg hCG (gonatropin) on the day after the final day of FSH administration
- ④ Suction collection from ovarian follicles 36-40 hours after hCG administration



# Synthetic Parkinsonism(MPTP) vs. Organic Parkinsonism?

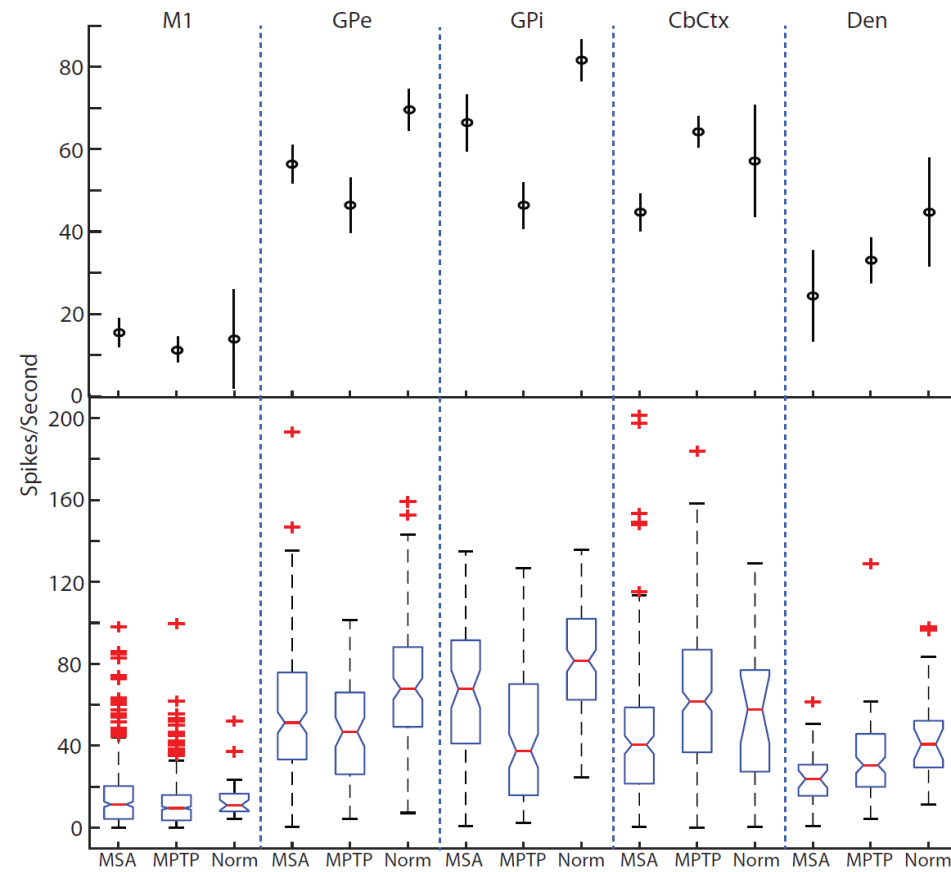


Similar recording methods, for both MPTP & SHC2 mutant, as the NHP-TS model, focusing on simultaneous recording from cortico-basal ganglia-cerebella networks.



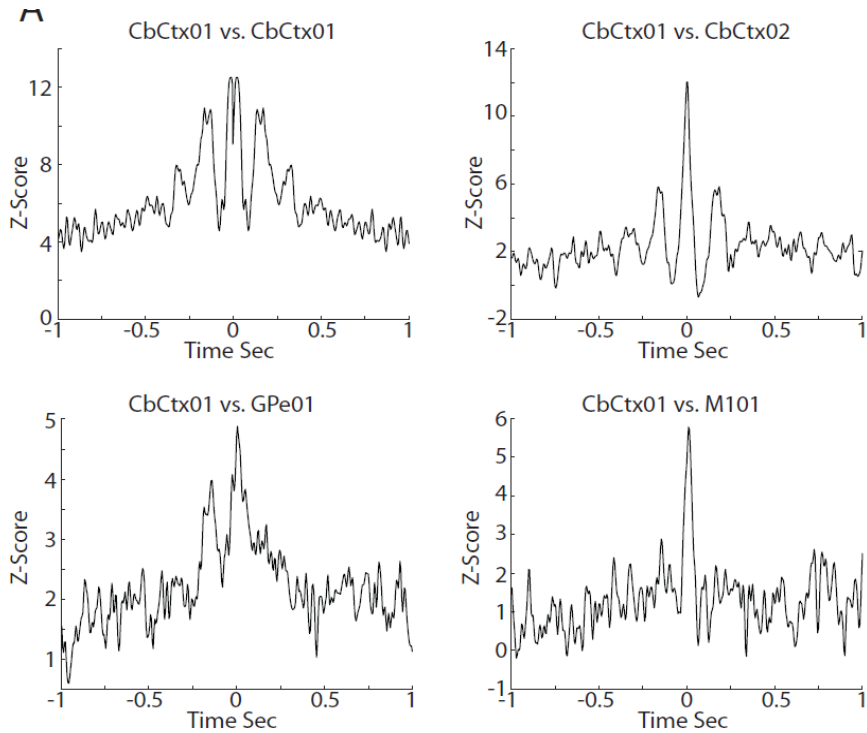
Attempted to differentiate periods of inactivity with spontaneous movement, with use of Accelerometers and EMG recording .

# Synthetic Parkinsonism(MPTP) vs. Organic Parkinsonism?

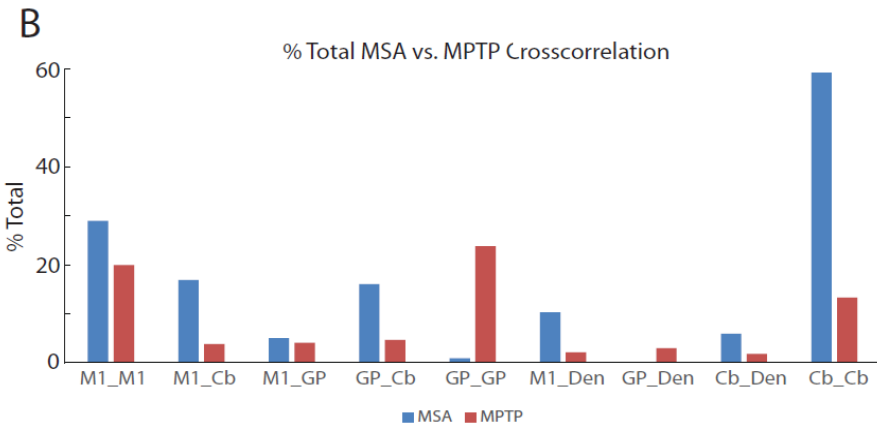


Locatio n	n = Norm	Mean / SD	n = MPTP	Mean / SD	n = MSA	Mean / SD
M1	35	13.9 / 10.4	141	11.3 / 16.3	80	15.3 / 15.4
GPe	41	69.6 / 28.8	88	46.5 / 25.1 *	99	56.1 / 32.0 *
GPi	32	81.6 / 23.6	45	41.6 / 33.8 *	44	64.3 / 32.4 *
CbCtx	25	57.1 / 36.7	117	61.3 / 32.6	81	48.2 / 33.5
Den	23	44.7 / 24.5	45	30.7 / 16.87	9	23.2 / 14.0

# What About Hypokinetic Conditions?



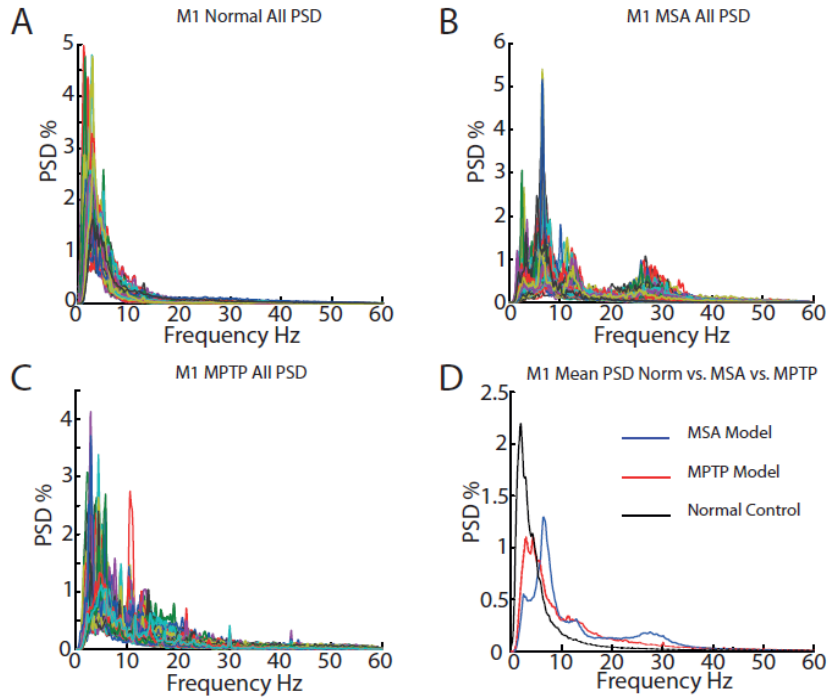
Location	n = Pairs (MPTP)	% Sig Corel (MPTP)	n = Pairs (MSA)	% Sig Corel (MSA)	MSA vs. MPTP Z-Value / P-Value
M1_M1	402	19.9	159	28.9	2.3 / 0.02 *
M1_Cb	793	3.8	243	16.9	7.1 / < 0.001 *
M1_GP	421	4.0	322	5.0	0.6 / 0.55
GP_Cb	544	4.6	175	16.0	5 / < 0.001 *
GP_GP	164	23.8	120	1.0	5.5 / < 0.001 *
M1_Den	146	2.1	39	10.2	2.4 / 0.016 *
GP_Den	274	3.0	24	0	0.7 / 0.48
Cb_Den	172	1.7	17	6.0	1.2 / 0.25
Cb_Cb	158	13.3	54	59.3	6.7 / < 0.001 *



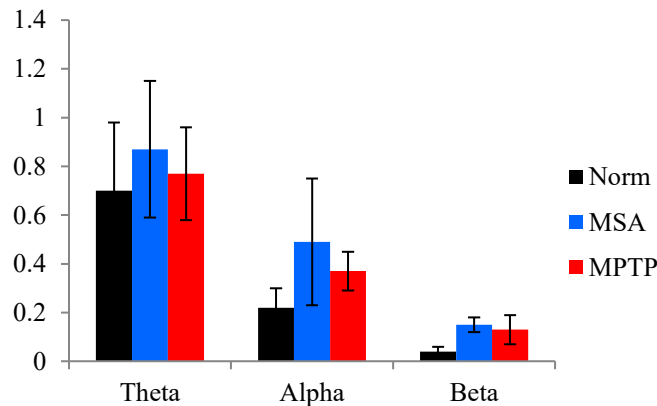
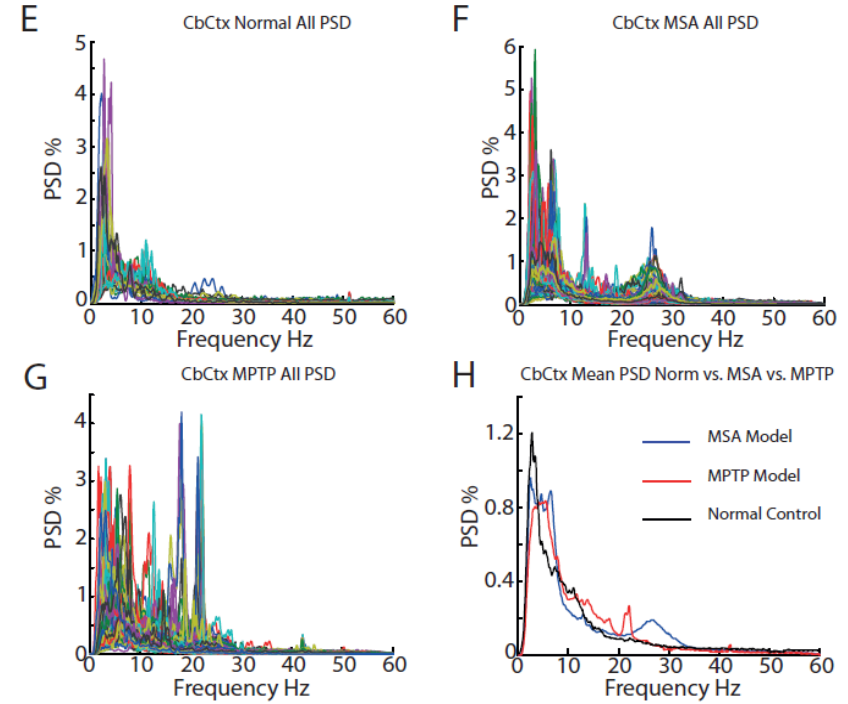


# Synthetic Parkinsonism(MPTP) vs. Organic Parkinsonism?

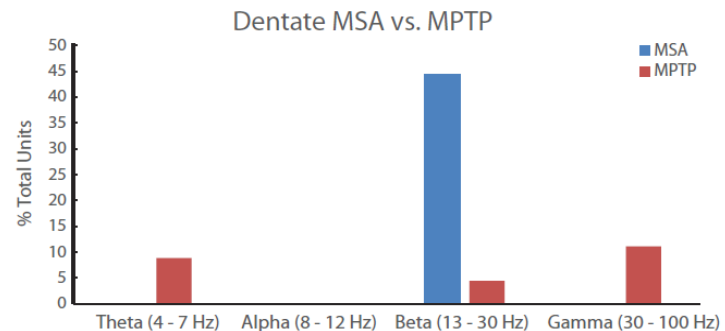
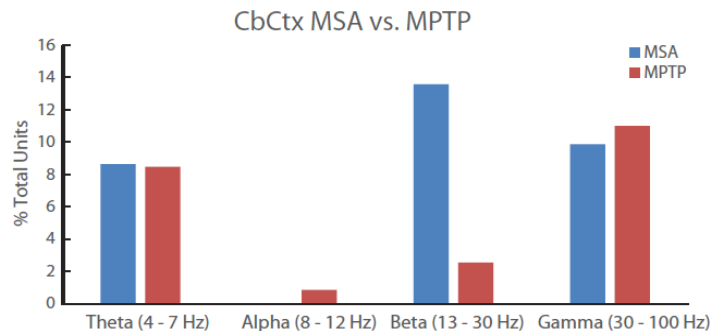
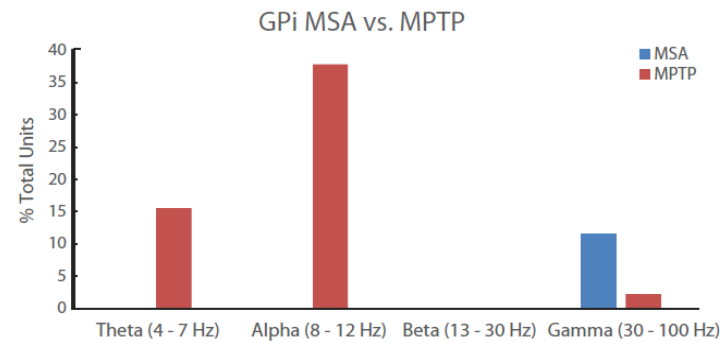
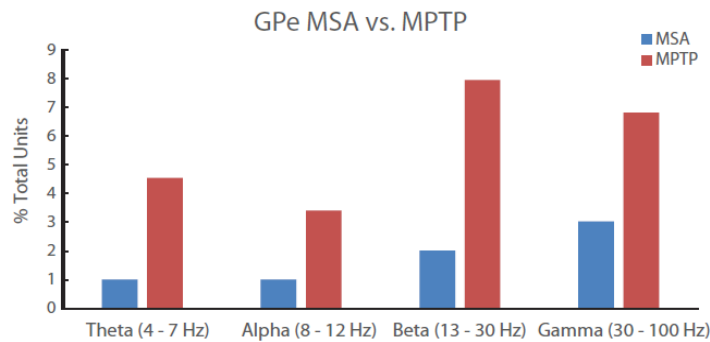
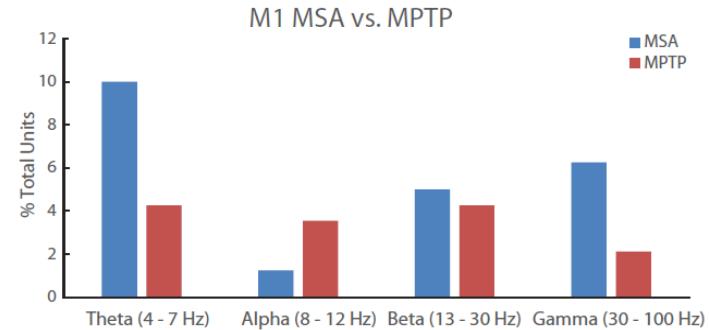
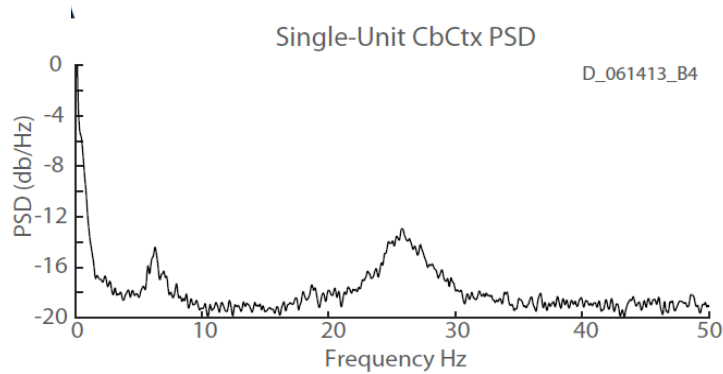
## Motor Cortex



## Cerebellar Cortex



# Synthetic Parkinsonism(MPTP) vs. Organic Parkinsonism?





# Acknowledgments



Prof. Takafumi Minamimoto



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Dr. Yukiko Hori



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Dr. Kendall Lee  
Dr. Kevin Bennet  
Dr. Paul Min



Prof. Atsushi Iriki



Prof. Dong Pyo Jang



Dr. Yoonbae Oh  
Dr. Jeyeon Lee



Prof. Sun Ha Paek