Sleep & Neurodegeneration

WashU Parents' Council

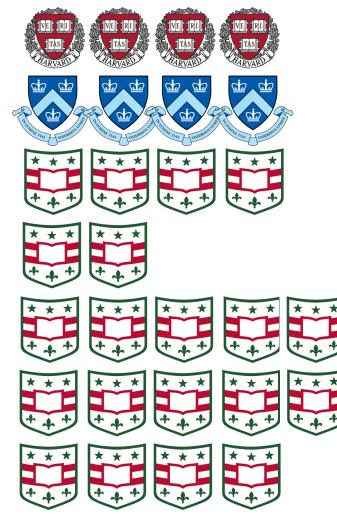
Yo-El Ju, MD MSCI

2 November 2024

Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

Neurology Sleep Medicine

Background



Group (L -> R) Flavia Fagundes Bueno Jennifer McLeland Leah Taylor Maggie Zangrilli Jill Boyd Ellen Fischbach Raiyan Hamilton

(Indiv, top down) Jason Dude Kristina Hedtkamp Sunita Loum Peter Tran

Not pictured Annabelle Yang Katie Madden Nithya Chennupati

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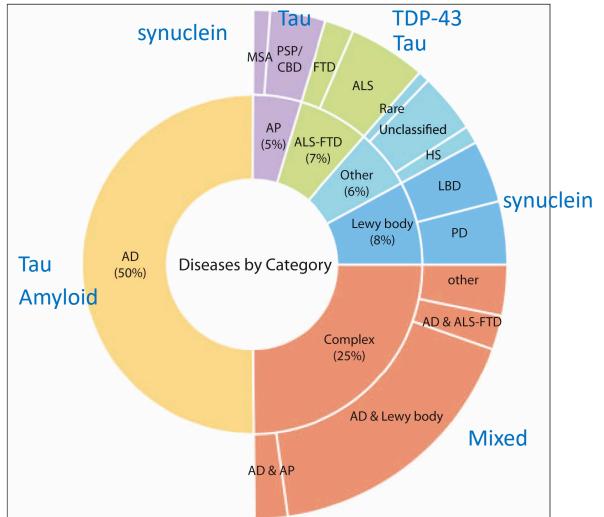


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Neurology Sleep Medicine

Neurodegenerative Diseases

- Death of previously-healthy, specific neuronal populations
- Risk increases with age
- ~7M Americans, \$500B/yr
- Protein aggregation is a common underlying mechanism – and method of categorization



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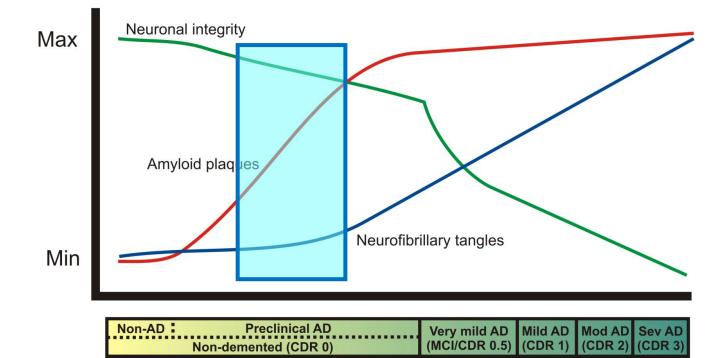
Neurodegenerative Diseases begin years before symptoms

↑ CSF Tau and pTau
Brain atrophy (CT/MRI)
Regional hypometabolism (FDG-PET)
Altered brain activation (fMRI)
Microgliosis (e.g. PK11195 PET)
Inflammation / Oxidative Stress
Brain amyloid (e.g. PIB PET)
CSE AB42

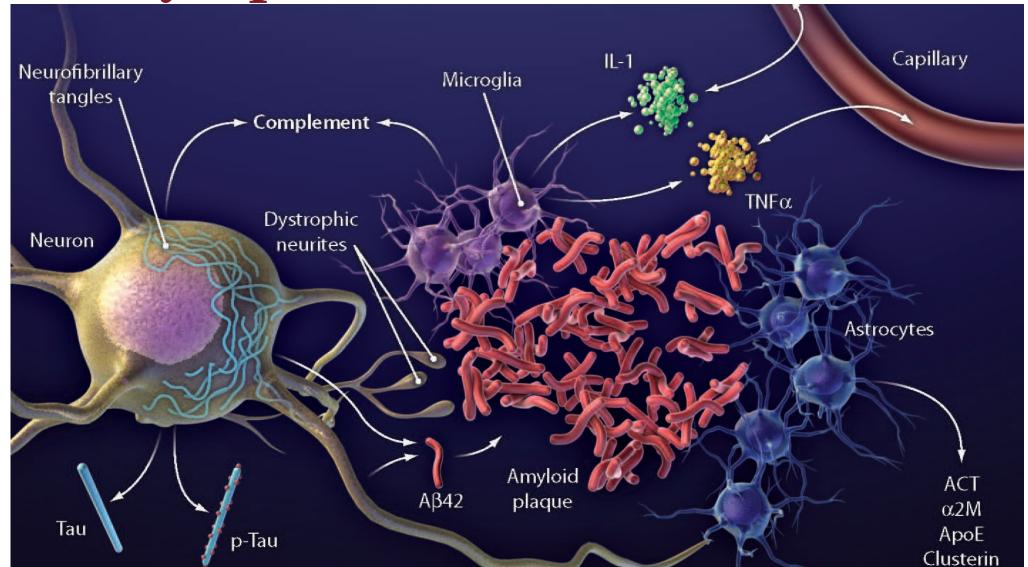
 \downarrow CSF A β 42

Genetic predisposition (e.g. SNPs, APOE allele, etc)

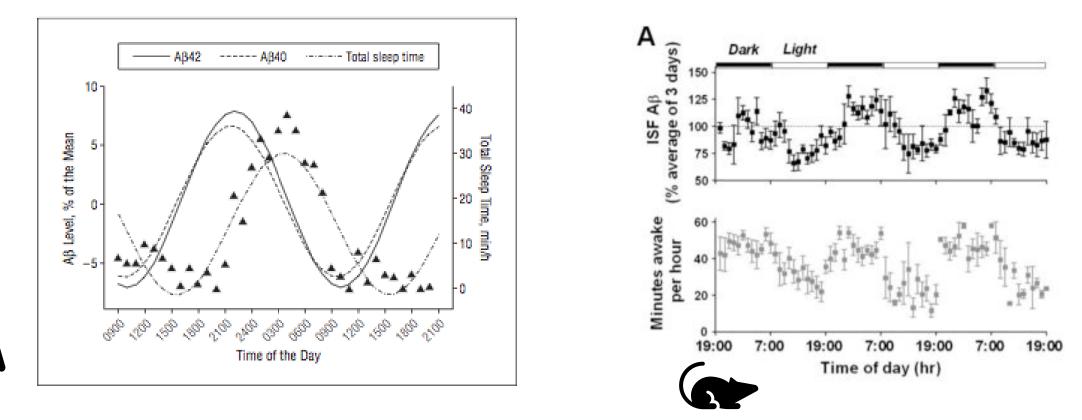




Neurodegenerative Diseases begin years before symptoms



$A\beta$ decreases during sleep and increases during wake



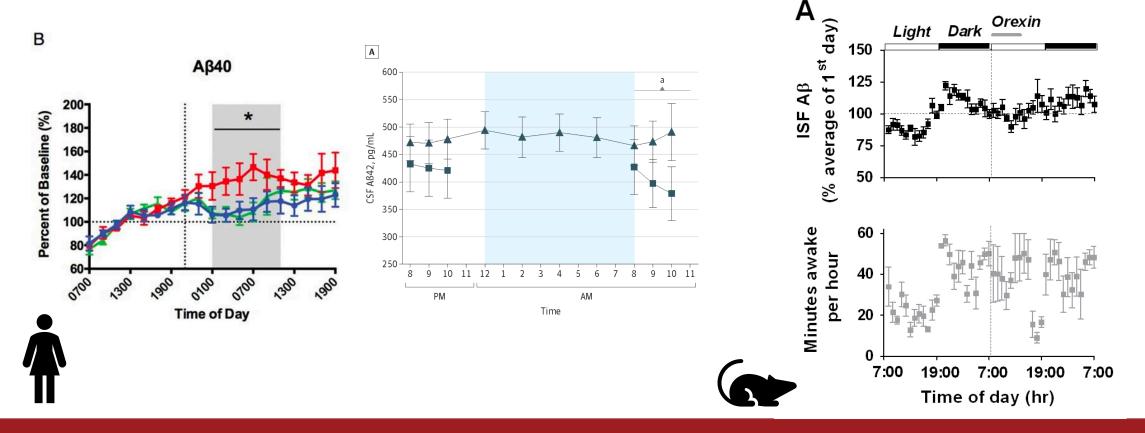
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Huang Y et al. Arch Neurol. 2012;69(1):51-58.

Kang JE et al. Science. 2009;326(5955):1005–1007.

Sleep deprivation increases $A\beta$



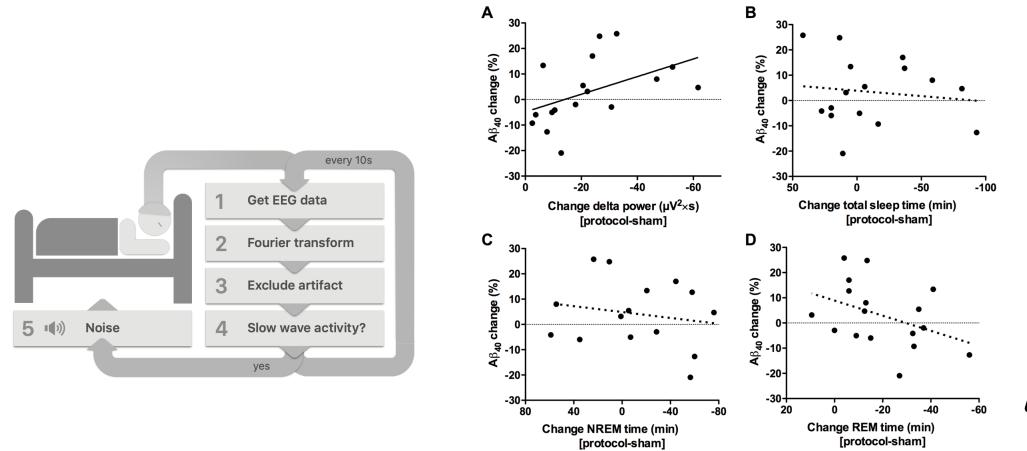
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Slow wave sleep disruption increases $A\beta$

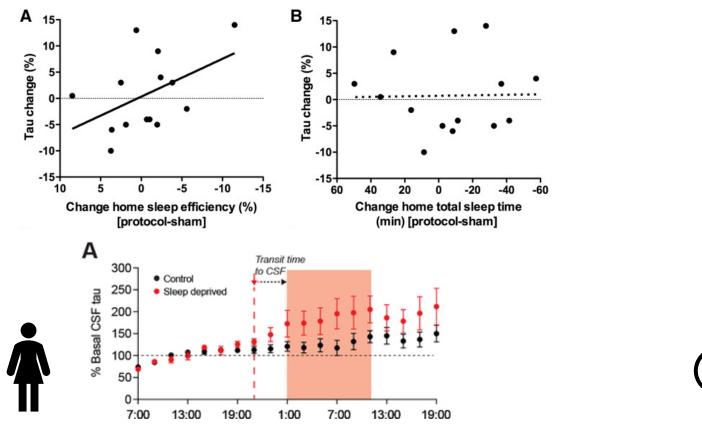


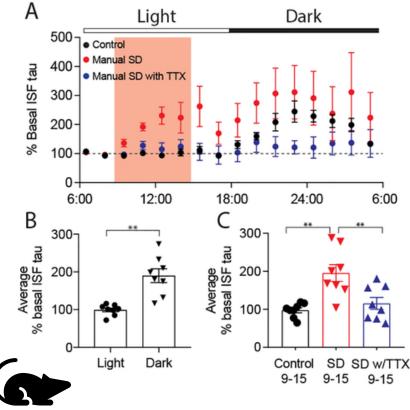
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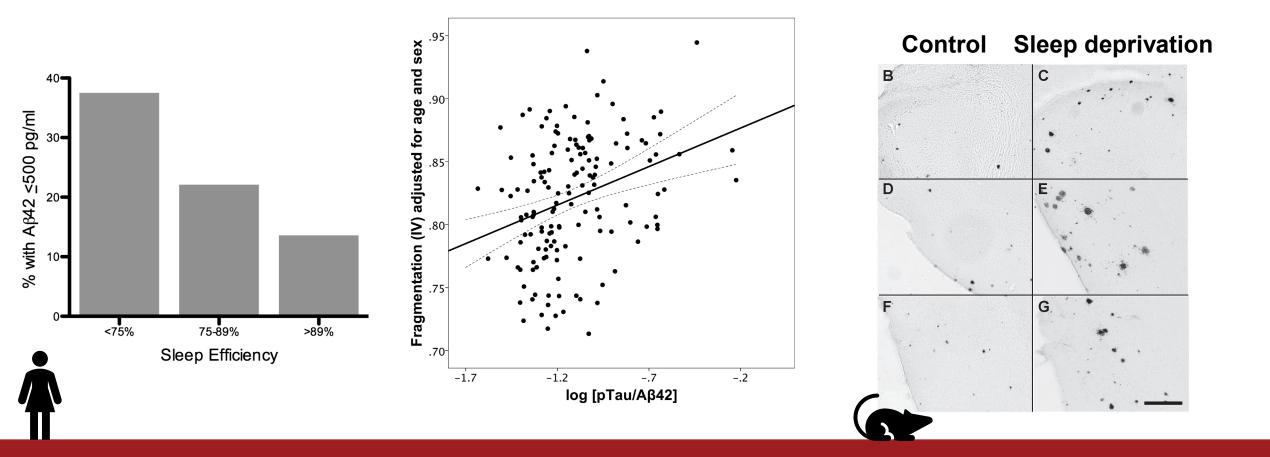
Ju YS, Ooms SJ, et al. *Brain*. 2017;140(8):2104-2111. Ooms SJ, Zempel JM, Holtzman DM, Ju YS. *J Neuroscience Methods*. 2017; 281: 33-39

Sleep disruption increases Tau





Sleep disruption is associated with amyloid plaques

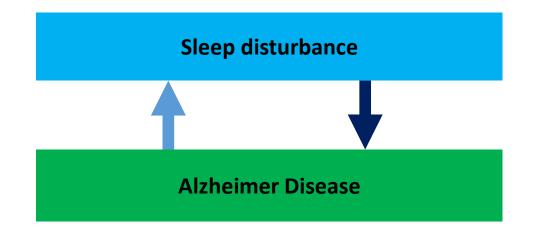


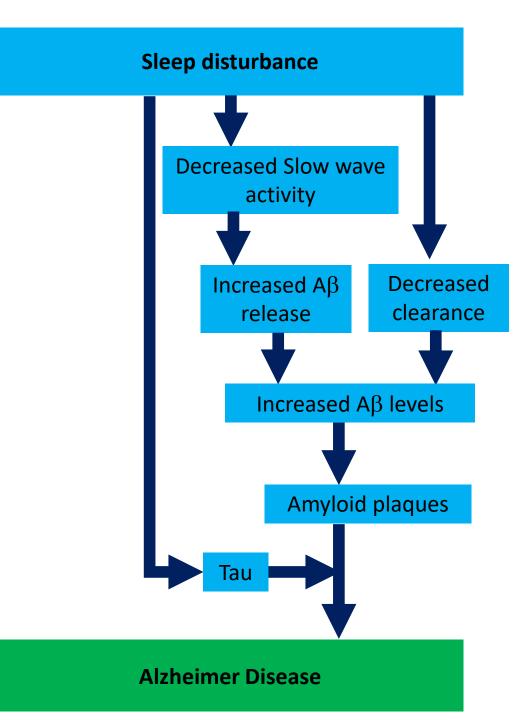
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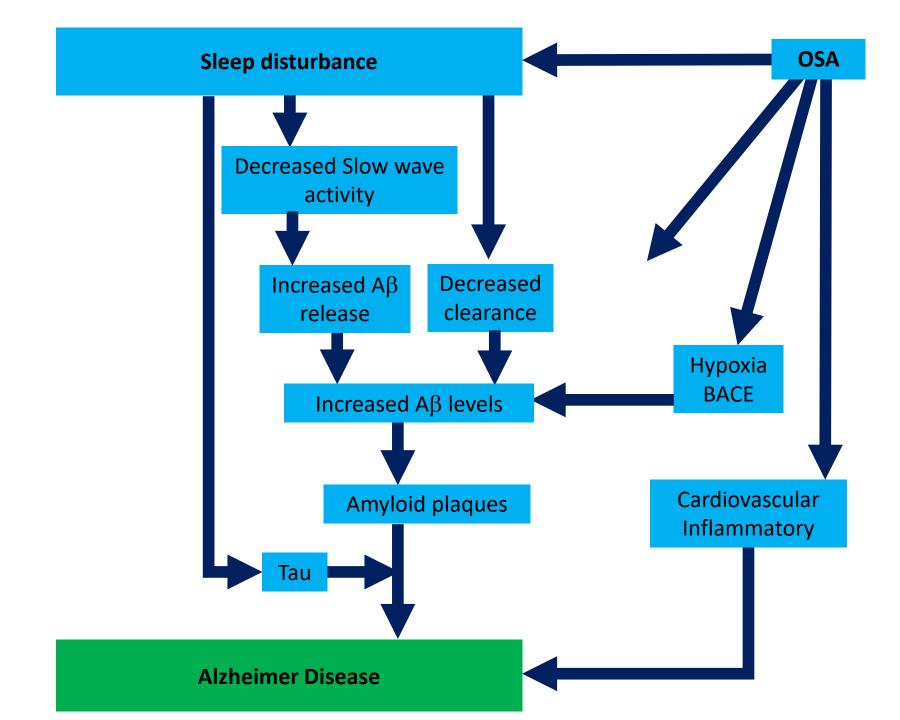
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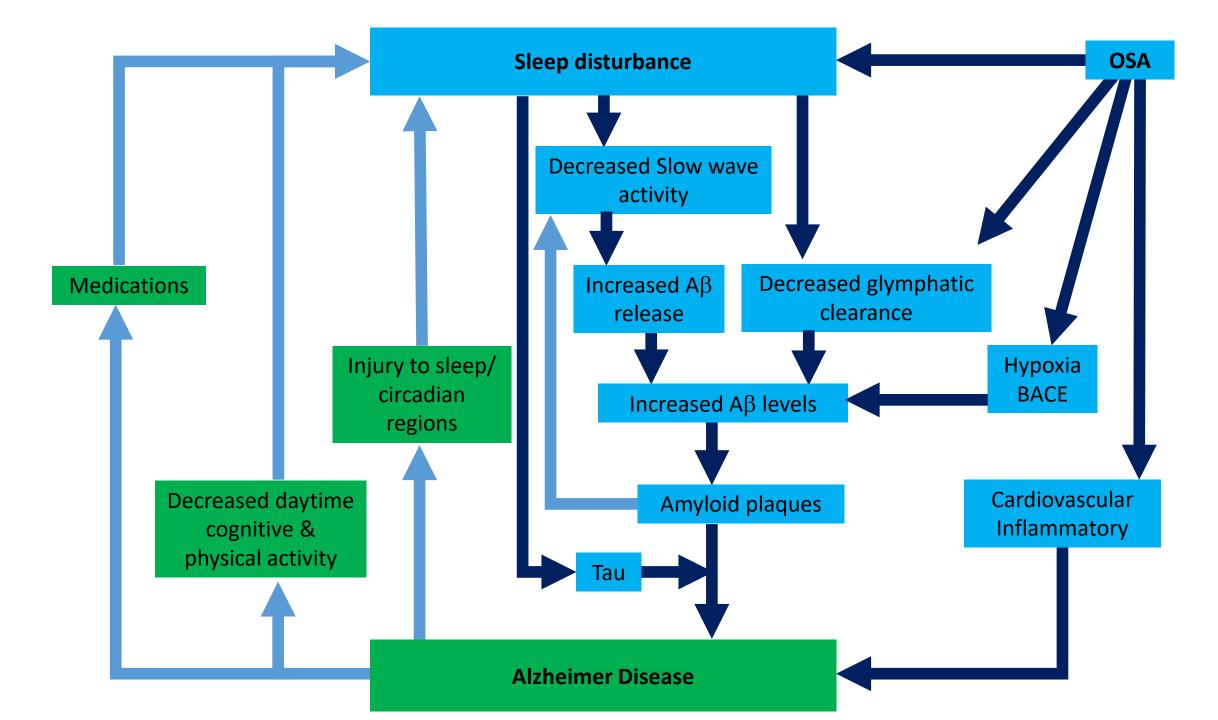
Ju Y *et al. JAMA Neurol.* 2013;70(5):587-593. Musiek ES, et al. *JAMA Neurol.* 2018 75(5):582-590.

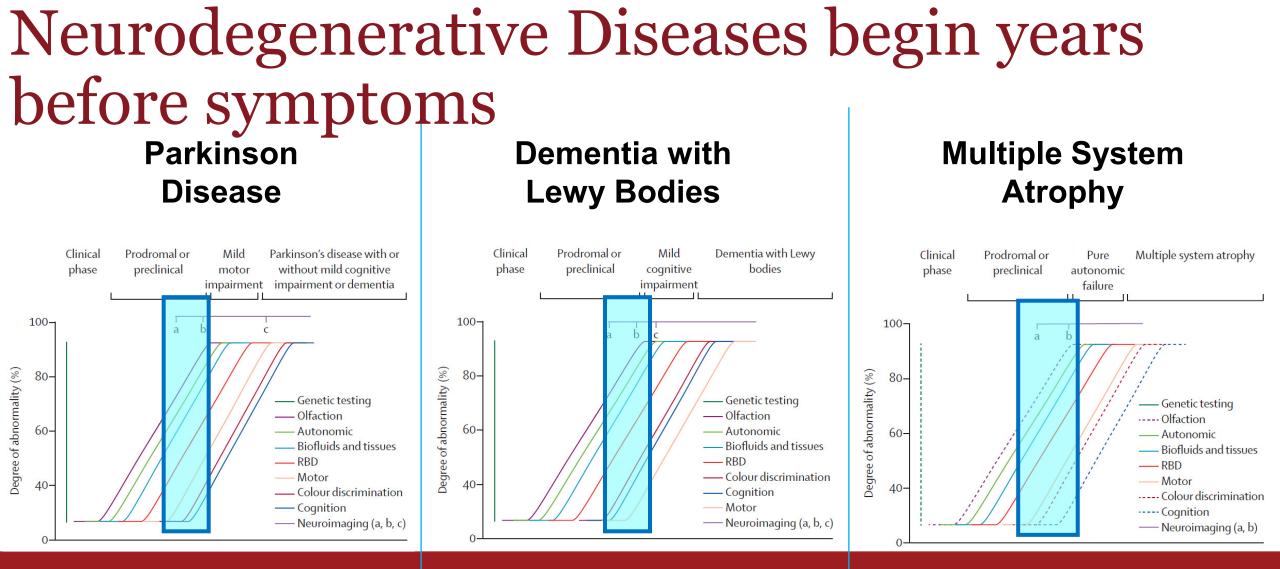
Kang JE et al. Science. 2009;326(5955):1005–1007.











REM Sleep Behavior Disorder (RBD)

- "Acting out of dreams" fighting, screaming
- ~6-8% per year are diagnosed with synucleinopathy: Parkinson Disease (PD), dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB), Multiple system atrophy (MSA)
- RBD in most cases represents a *preclinical* or *prodromal* synucleinopathy → opportunity for intervention

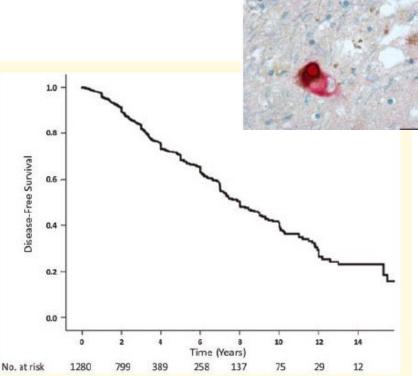
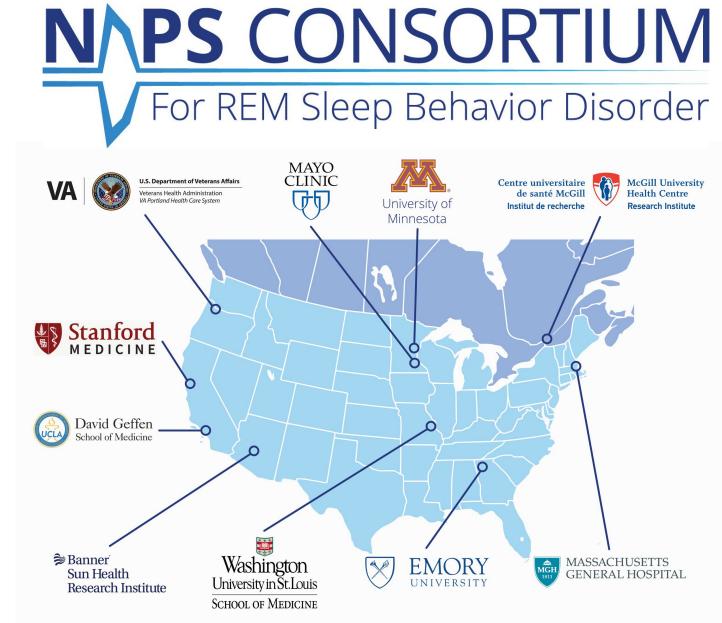


Figure 1 Kaplan-Meier plot of disease-free survival (i.e. free of parkinsonism or dementia) among patients with iRBD.

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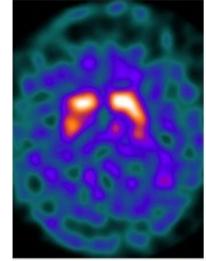
Boeve BF et al. *Mov Disord*. 2001; 16(4): 622-630. Boeve BF et al. *Sleep Med*. 2013 Aug;14(8):754-62 Postuma et al, Brain 2019

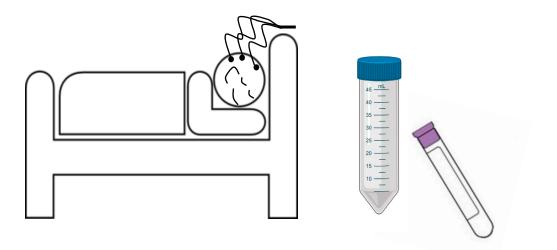


naps-rbd.org Clinicaltrials.gov NCT03623672 NIH R34AG056639; U19AG071754

North American Prodromal Synucleinopathy (NAPS) Consortium goals

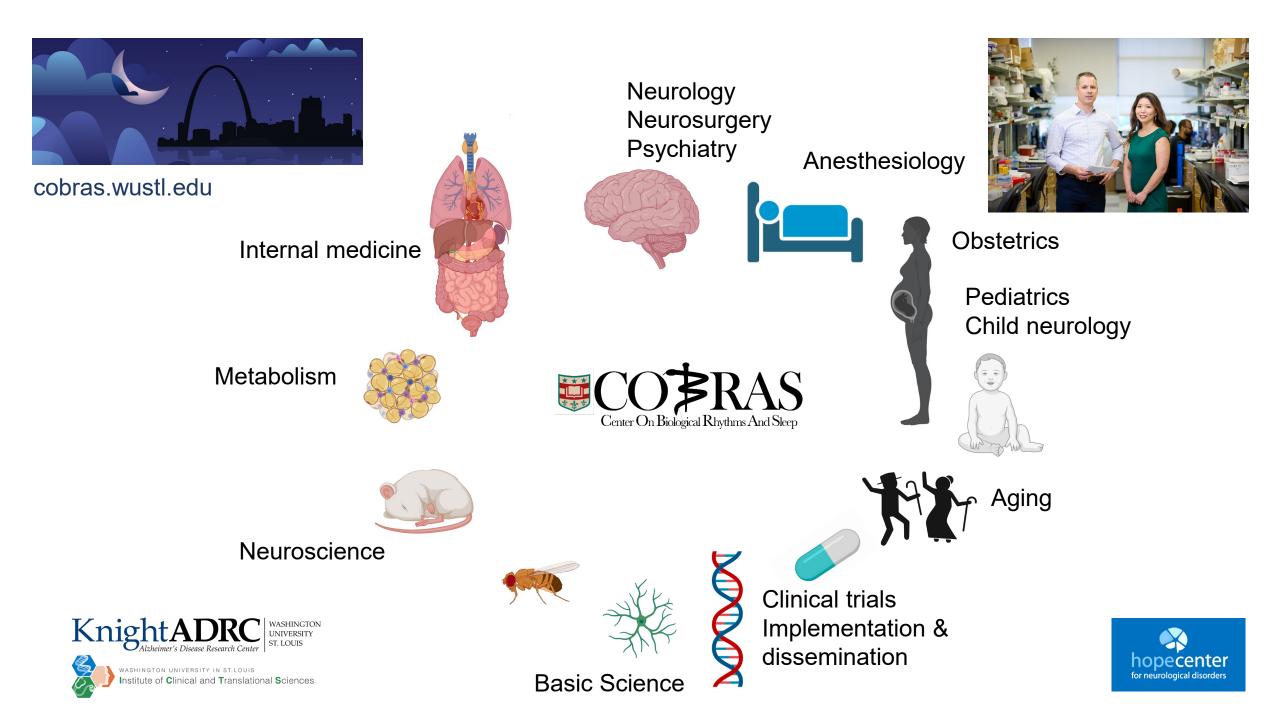
- Prepare for neuroprotective clinical trials in synucleinopathies
- Trial-ready cohort of >300 patients with RBD
- Longitudinal comprehensive assessment
- Biomarker development for synucleinopathies











Summary

- Neurodegenerative diseases begin years prior to symptoms → window of opportunity for treatment and prevention
 - Sleep disruption & Alzheimer disease
 - REM sleep behavior disorder (RBD) and synucleinopathies (Parkinson Disease, dementia with Lewy bodies, and multiple system atrophy)
- Sleep is a potential marker of neurodegenerative disease
- Sleep is also a potential target for intervention to impact neurodegenerative disease mechanisms
- Translational work at WashU on sleep-AD has laid the groundwork for clinical trials

Thank you!

• NIH:

- KL2
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- RF1-AG061776
- U19-AG07175
- R01-DK115400 (Co-I)
- R01-AG068579-02S1
- R01-AG057901 (Co-I)
- Barbara Burton & Robert
 Morriss III Chair
- Centene/PMI
- American Sleep Medicine
 Foundation





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- The Feldman Family, In memory of the late Dr. Robert A. Feldman, MD
- Ms. Cynthia Cummings, WashU Physical Therapy '67, In memory of her father
- Dr. David and Tracy Holtzman
- The Knight Alzheimer's Disease Research Center
- Departments of Neurology and Anesthesiology

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