

Overview of Clinical and Post-Mortem Data Elements in the Religious Orders Study

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Alzheimer's Association; Illinois Department Public Health

An important scientific innovation rarely makes its way gradually winning over and converting its opponents...What does happen is that its opponents gradually die out and the growing generation is familiarized with the idea from the beginning.

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Max Planck

The philosophy of physics



Francis Harry Compton Crick
1916 - 2004



*What Mad Pursuit:
A Personal View of Science.*
Basic Books, New York, 1988

Francis Harry Compton Crick

1916 - 2004



Some scientists work so hard there is no time left for serious thinking.

*What Mad Pursuit:
A Personal View of Science.*
Basic Books, New York, 1988

In some sciences accurate measurement is possible and important, in others it is difficult to find anything to measure which appears to have a fundamental bearing on the problem.



Sir George Thomson

*The Inspiration of Science,
1968*

The scientist is not a person who gives the right answers,
he's one who asks the right questions.



Claude Lévi-Strauss
Le Cru et le cuit, 1964

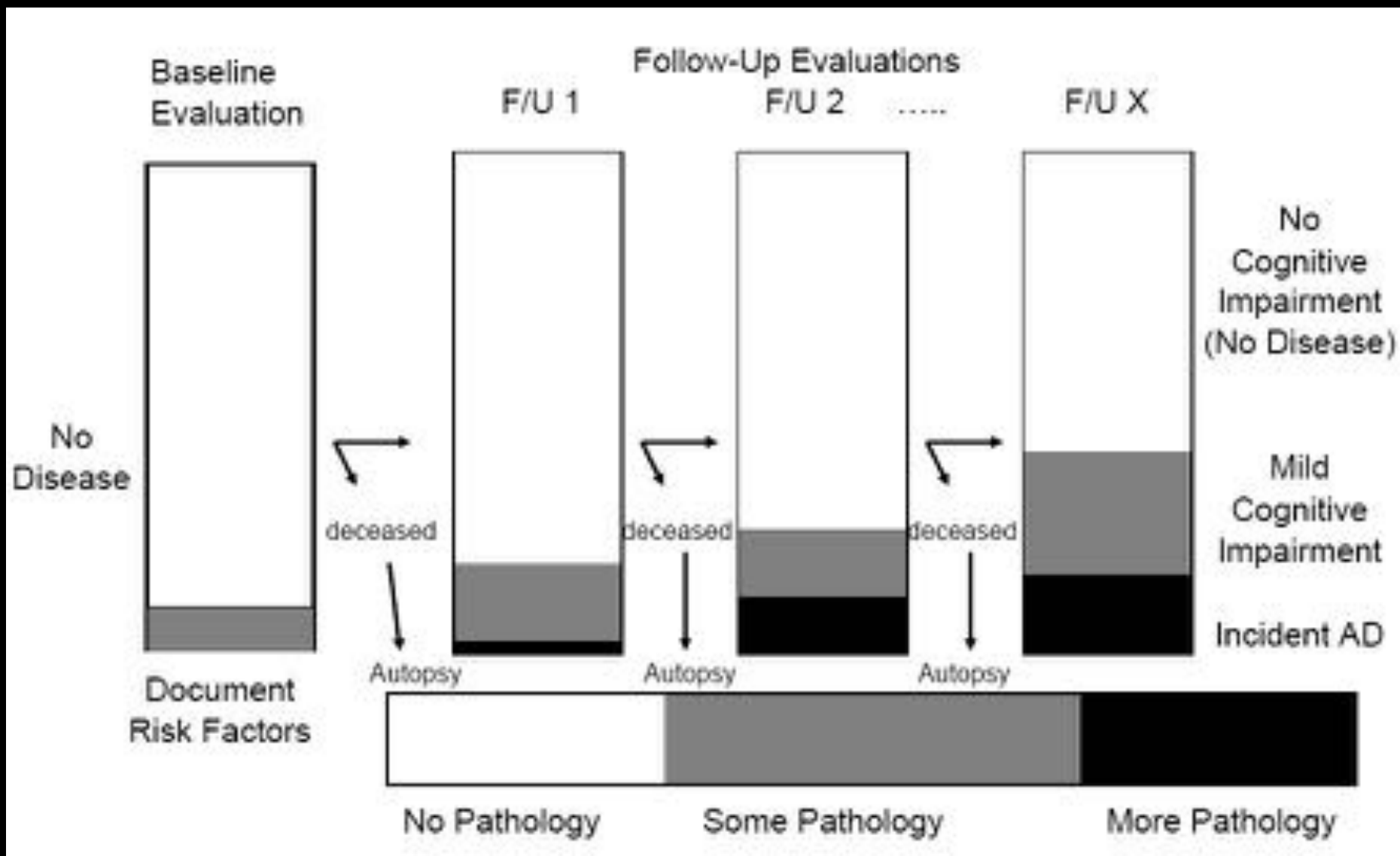
Objectives:

- Review clinical data collection elements
 - Cognitive function tests
 - Clinical diagnoses
- Review post-mortem data collection elements
 - AD pathology
 - Cerebrovascular disease
 - Lewy body disease

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The Rush Memory and Aging Project: Study Design and Baseline Characteristics of the Study Cohort



Religious Orders Study: Participating Sites





Cost-Efficient Operation

- >2,300 participants
- Rolling admission with up to 15 years of data (1/94)
- > 15,000 detailed (~4 hr) clinical evaluations as home visits across the US
- About \$1000 per person per year
 - Direct computer entry makes data rapidly available to study staff; computer scores and summarizes cognitive tests for clinicians; reduces training time
 - Computer-based actuarial decision tree enhances uniformity of diagnostic decisions across clinicians, time, and space
 - No routine informant interviews
 - No routine or special laboratory studies
 - No routine neuroimaging
 - No routine case conferences

Decision Rules Guiding the Clinical Diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease in Two Community-Based Cohort Studies Compared to Standard Practice in a Clinic-Based Cohort Study

1. History of cognitive decline by structured interview with participant
2. Education (not age) adjusted cutoff scores on 11 cognitive tests
3. Neuropsychologist rates impairment on five cognitive domains (orientation, attention, memory, language, visuospatial ability)
4. Clinician assigns diagnoses of dementia and its principal causes (e.g., AD, stroke, dementia due to stroke, PD)
5. MCI refers to persons with cognitive impairment who are not demented

Memory complaints are related to Alzheimer disease pathology in older persons

- 1) How often do you have trouble remembering things, with responses ranging from 5 = very often to 1 = never;
- 2) How is your memory compared to 10 years ago, with responses ranging from 5 = much worse to 1 = much better.

Model term*	Estimated effect of AD pathology	SE	<i>p</i> Value
Model A: AD pathology	0.88	0.28	0.002
Model B: Adjustment for depressive symptoms	0.87	0.28	0.003
Model C: Adjustment for chronic health problems	0.83	0.29	0.006

Natural history of mild cognitive impairment in older persons

Cognitive test	Cognitive domain	Maximum score	<8	8-11	12-16	>16
MMSE 1-10	Orientation	10	<7	<8	<8	<9
Digits Backward	Attention	12	<3	<4	<5	<5
Symbol Digit	Attention	110	<8	<16	<21	<25
Logical Memory IIa	Memory	25	<3	<5	<5	<9
Word List Recall	Memory	10	<3	<5	<5	<5
Word List Recognition	Memory	10	<8	<9	<9	<9
Boston Naming	Language	15	<9	<10	<11	<13
Category Fluency	Language	NA	<9	<10	<10	<12
Complex Ideas	Language	8	<7	<7	<7	<7
Line Orientation	Visuospatial	15	<3	<5	<7	<8
Progressive Matrices	Visuospatial	9	<5	<6	<7	<8

NEUROLOGISTS IMPRESSION OF CLINICAL EVALUATION DATA

[EXAMINER: REVIEW CLINICAL EVALUATION SUMMARY DATA PRIOR TO SEEING SUBJECT.]

Record whether subject asserts that (s)he has experienced loss of memory or other cognitive function(s).

1. Yes
 2. No

Record number of [POSSIBLE, MILD, MODERATE or SEVERE] impaired cognitive domains.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> 1. NO impaired or possible impaired domains | <input type="radio"/> 4. TWO impaired domains |
| <input type="radio"/> 2. ONE or more possible impaired domains with NO impaired domains | <input type="radio"/> 5. THREE impaired domains |
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> 3. ONE impaired domain | <input type="radio"/> 6. FOUR impaired domains |
| | <input type="radio"/> 7. FIVE impaired domains |

Record the presence of memory impairment.

- 1. No memory impairment
- 2. Possible memory impairment
- 3. MILD, MODERATE OR SEVERE memory impairment

[EXAMINER: RENDER YOUR OPINION REGARDING COGNITIVE DECLINE AFTER REVIEWING THE CLINICAL EVALUATION SUMMARY DATA AND SPEAKING WITH SUBJECT]

Based on review of all available data and your interaction with the subject, in your opinion, has (s)he experienced a meaningful decline in cognitive function relative to a previous level of performance?

- 1. Yes
- 2. Possible
- 3. No

For Dementia: the algorithmic diagnosis is Possible

Do you agree with it?

1. Yes

2. No

For Alzheimer's disease: the algorithmic diagnosis is Possible

Do you agree with it?

1. Yes

2. No

SUMMARY OF ALL ALGORITHMIC DIAGNOSES FOR: 72659872 Eval. Date: 12/18/2006

Disease	Algorithmic Dx	Doc Agreed?	Doc's Dx
1. Dementia	Possible	Yes	Possible
2. Alzheimers Disease	Possible	Yes	Possible
3. Parkinsonism	Not Present	Yes	Not Present
4. Parkinson's Disease	Not Present	Yes	Not Present
5. Stroke	Not Present	Yes	Not Present
6. CI due to Stroke	Not Present	Yes	Not Present
7. Depression	Possible	Yes	Possible

Cog. Impairment: One; Mem. Impairment: Definite; Pcpnt. evaluated: Yes

<<<< Hit ENTER to go to comment screen >>>>

SUMMARY OF ALL ALGORITHMIC DIAGNOSES FOR: 00000136 Eval. Date: 10/4/2007

Disease	Algorithmic Dx	Doc Agreed?	Doc's Dx
1. Dementia	Possible	Yes	Possible
2. Alzheimers Disease	Possible	Yes	Possible
3. Parkinsonism	Not Present	Yes	Not Present
4. Parkinson's Disease	Not Present	Yes	Not Present
5. Stroke	Not Present	Yes	Not Present
6. CI due to Stroke	Not Present	Yes	Not Present
7. Depression	Not Present	Yes	Not Present

Cog. Impairment: Three Mem. Impairment: Definite; Pcpnt. evaluated: Yes

<<<< Hit ENTER to go to comment screen >>>>

For Dementia: the algorithmic diagnosis is Possible

Do you agree with it?

IF TWO COGNITIVE DOMAINS ARE IMPAIRED AND YOUR DIAGNOSIS DIFFERS FROM THE NEUROPSYCHOLOGISTS DIAGNOSIS, PRESS CTRL F4 [COMMENT BOX] AND SPECIFY WHY YOUR DIAGNOSIS IS DIFFERENT.

For Dementia, please enter your own diagnosis.

- 1. Yes
- 2. No

For DEMENTIA:

The Algorithmic Diagnosis is: Possible
Doctor's Diagnosis is: Probable

- 1. Highly Probable
- 2. Probable
- 3. Possible
- 4. Not Present

PLEASE specify why your diagnosis is different.

SUMMARY OF ALL ALGORITHMIC DIAGNOSES FOR: 22865387 Eval. Date: 12/18/2006

Disease	Algorithmic Dx	Doc Agreed?	Doc's Dx
1. Dementia	Possible	No	Probable
2. Alzheimers Disease	Possible	No	Probable
3. Parkinsonism	No	Possible	
4. Parkinson's Disease	No	Possible	
5. Stroke	No	Not Present	
6. CI due to Stroke	Possible	No	Not Present
7. Depression	Not Present	Yes	Not Present

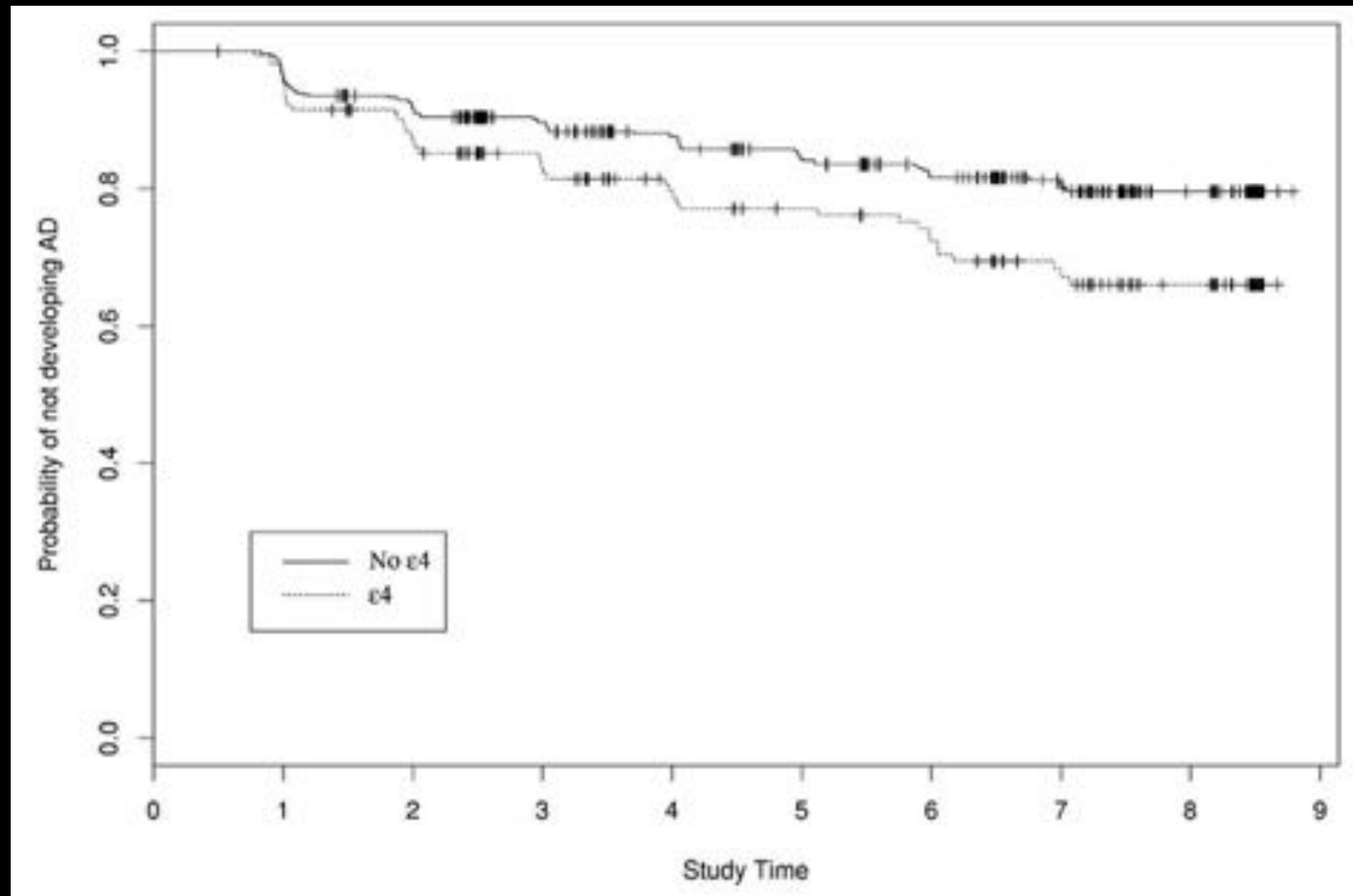
Cog. Impairment: Two; Mem. Impairment: Definite; Pcpnt. evaluated: Yes

<<<< Hit ENTER to go to comment screen >>>>

Decision Rules Guiding the Clinical Diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease in Two Community-Based Cohort Studies Compared to Standard Practice in a Clinic-Based Cohort Study

	RADC	ROS/MAP
N	306	141
CERAD	.94	.92
NIA-Reagan	.94	.91

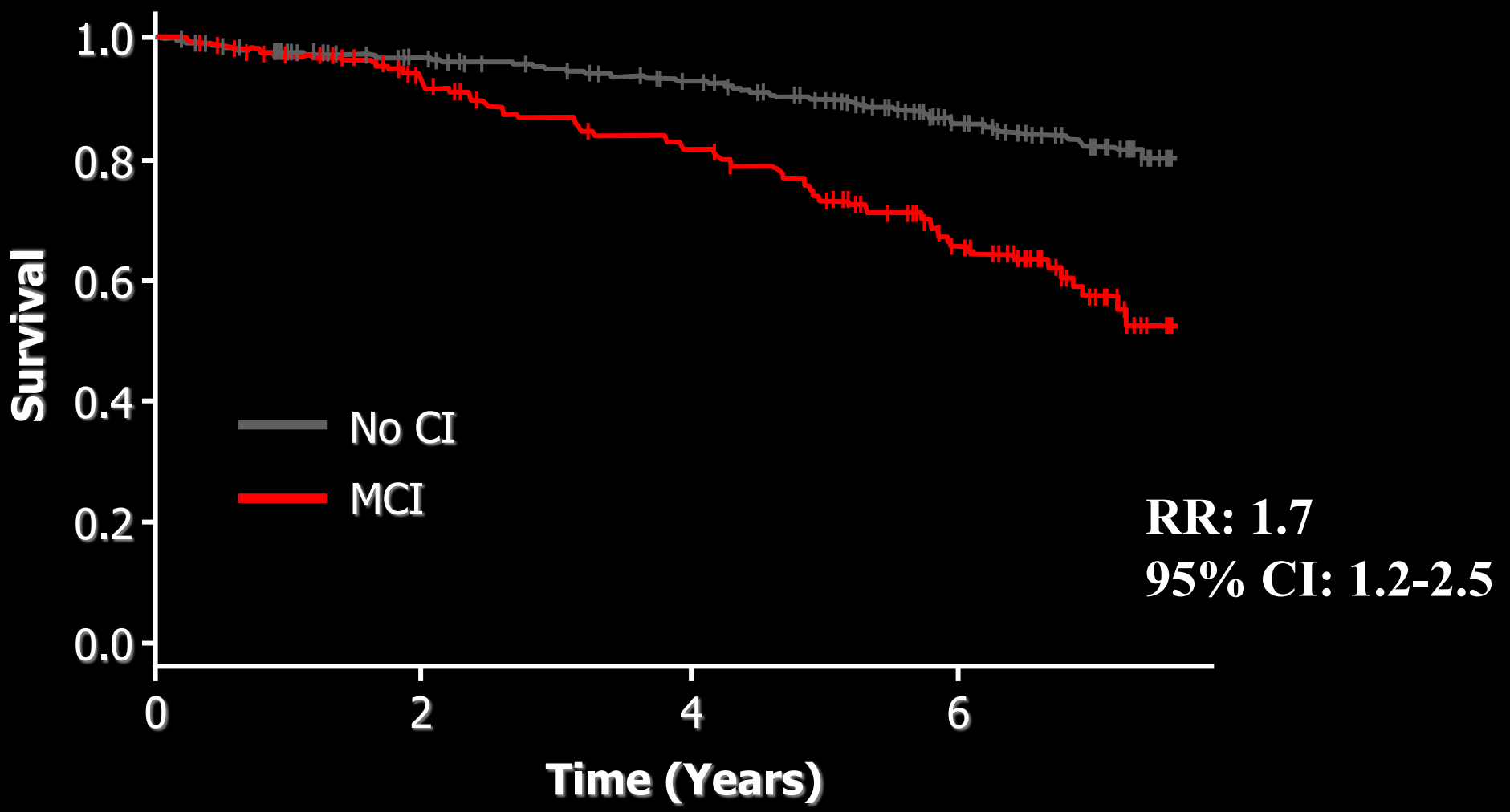
The Apolipoprotein E $\epsilon 4$ Allele and Decline in Different Cognitive Systems During a 6-Year Period



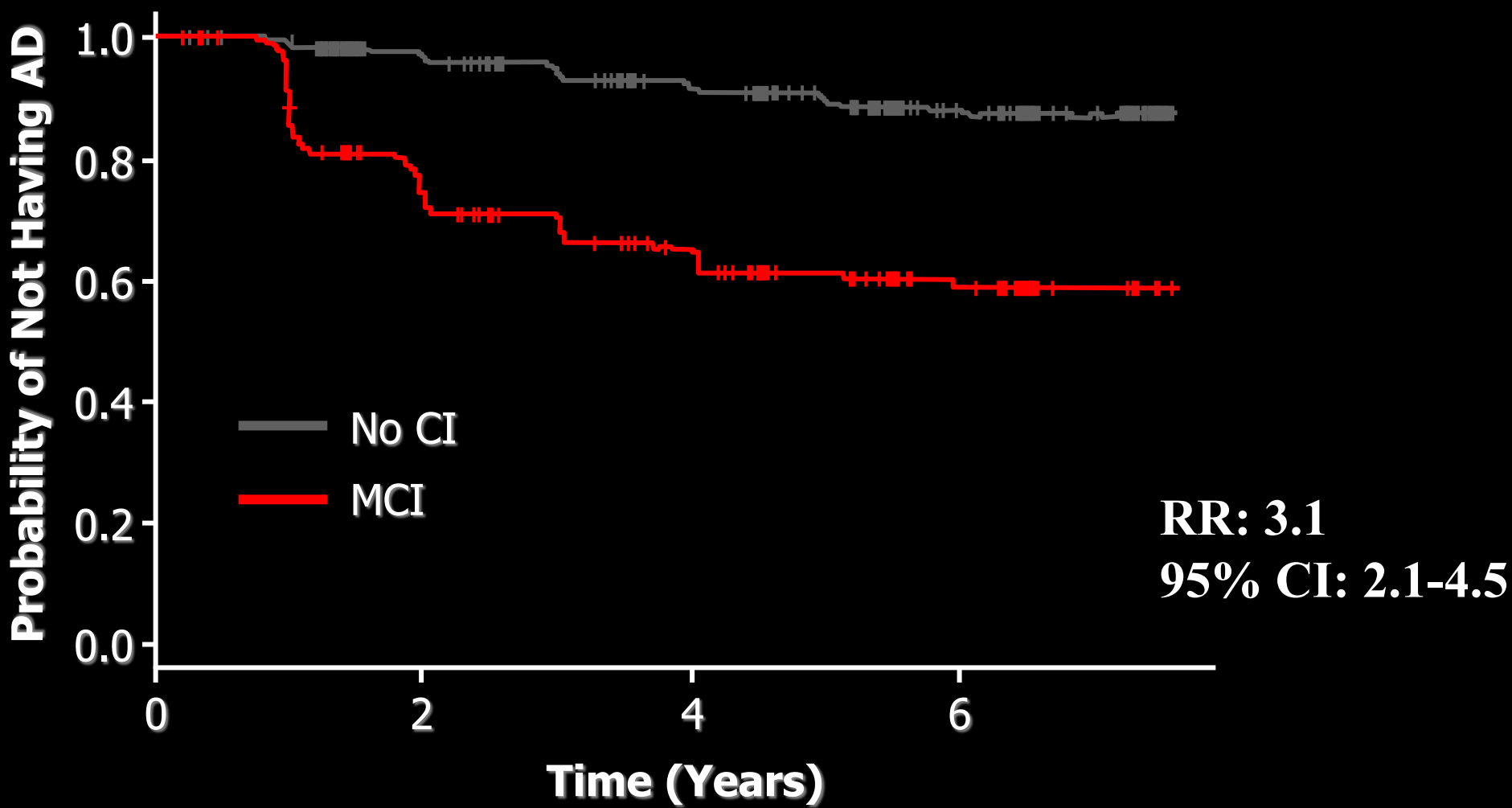
Natural history of mild cognitive impairment in older persons

Test	Mild cognitive impairment	No cognitive impairment
Logical Memory Ia	9.6 (3.7)	12.8 (3.6)
Logical Memory IIa	7.2 (3.4)	11.3 (3.9)
Immediate Story Recall	9.2 (1.7)	10.0 (1.7)
Delayed Story Recall	8.5 (2.2)	9.7 (1.7)
Word List Memory	15.4 (4.1)	18.9 (3.6)
Word List Recall	4.1 (2.2)	6.3 (1.7)
Word List Recognition	9.9 (0.7)	9.2 (1.4)
Boston Naming Test	16.9 (2.3)	18.5 (1.7)
Verbal Fluency	29.7 (7.8)	36.7 (8.9)
Extended Range Vocabulary	9.7 (3.5)	11.2 (3.2)
Reading Test	12.3 (4.2)	14.0 (4.0)
Digits Forward	7.7 (1.8)	8.4 (2.0)
Digits Backward	5.6 (1.9)	6.6 (2.0)
Digit Ordering	5.9 (2.8)	7.3 (2.6)
Alpha Span	4.4 (1.6)	5.2 (1.7)
Symbol Digit Modalities	34.0 (10.6)	42.1 (10.0)
Number Comparison	22.5 (6.4)	26.4 (7.2)
Line Orientation	8.3 (3.3)	10.6 (2.9)
Progressive Matrices	7.8 (2.8)	11.2 (3.1)

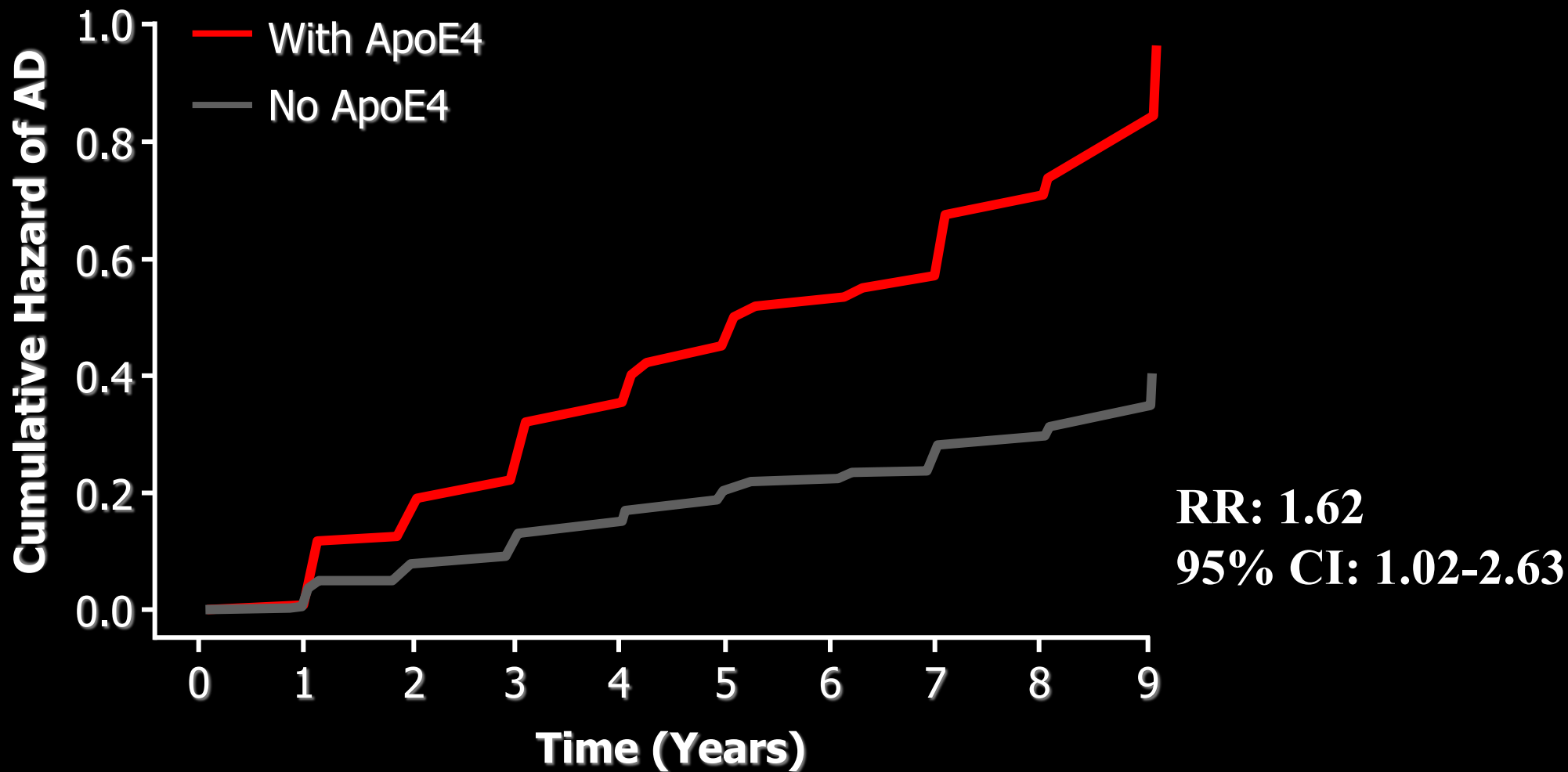
Natural history of mild cognitive impairment in older persons



Natural history of mild cognitive impairment in older persons



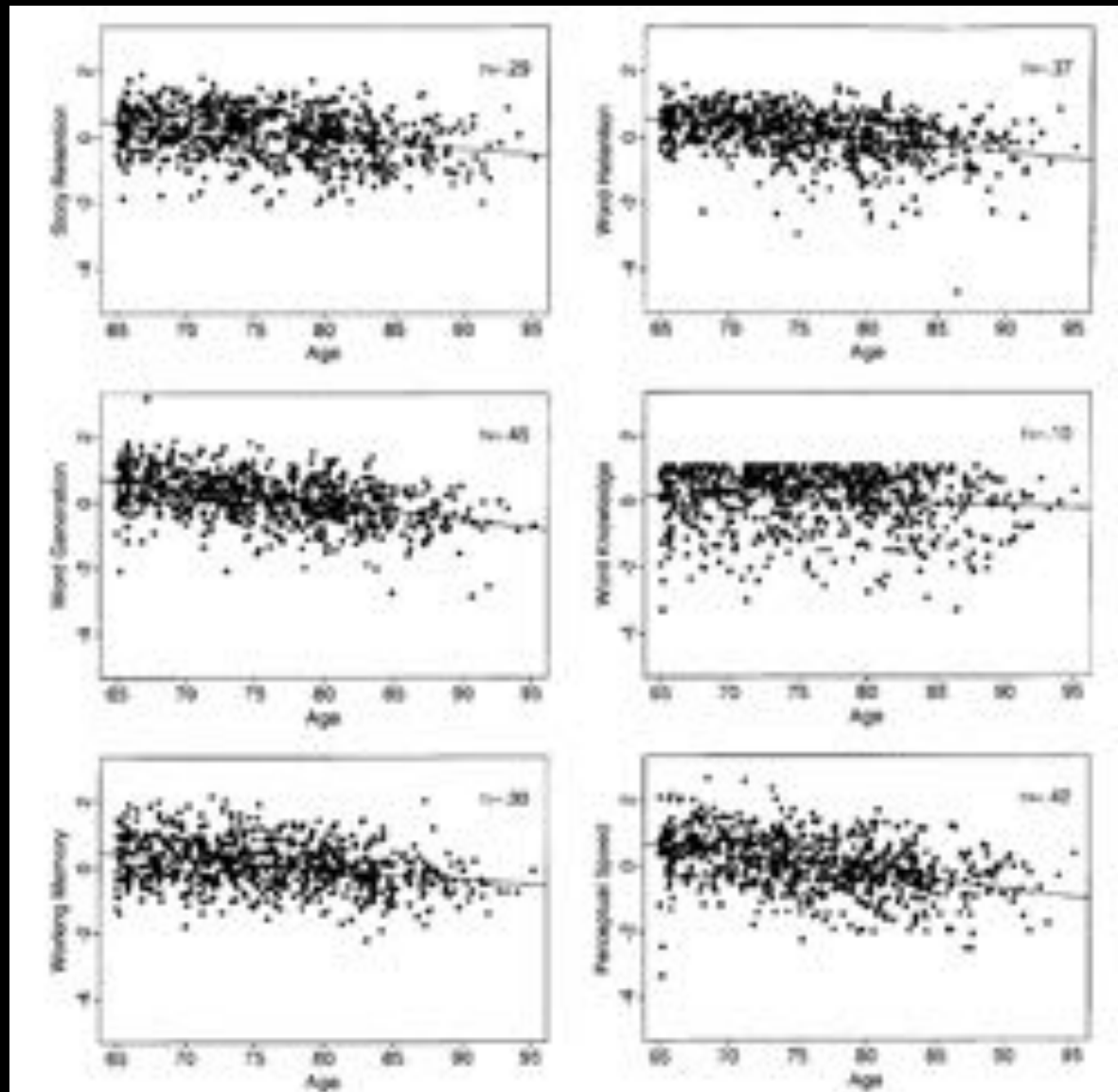
The apolipoprotein E ϵ 4 allele and incident Alzheimer's disease in person's with mild cognitive impairment



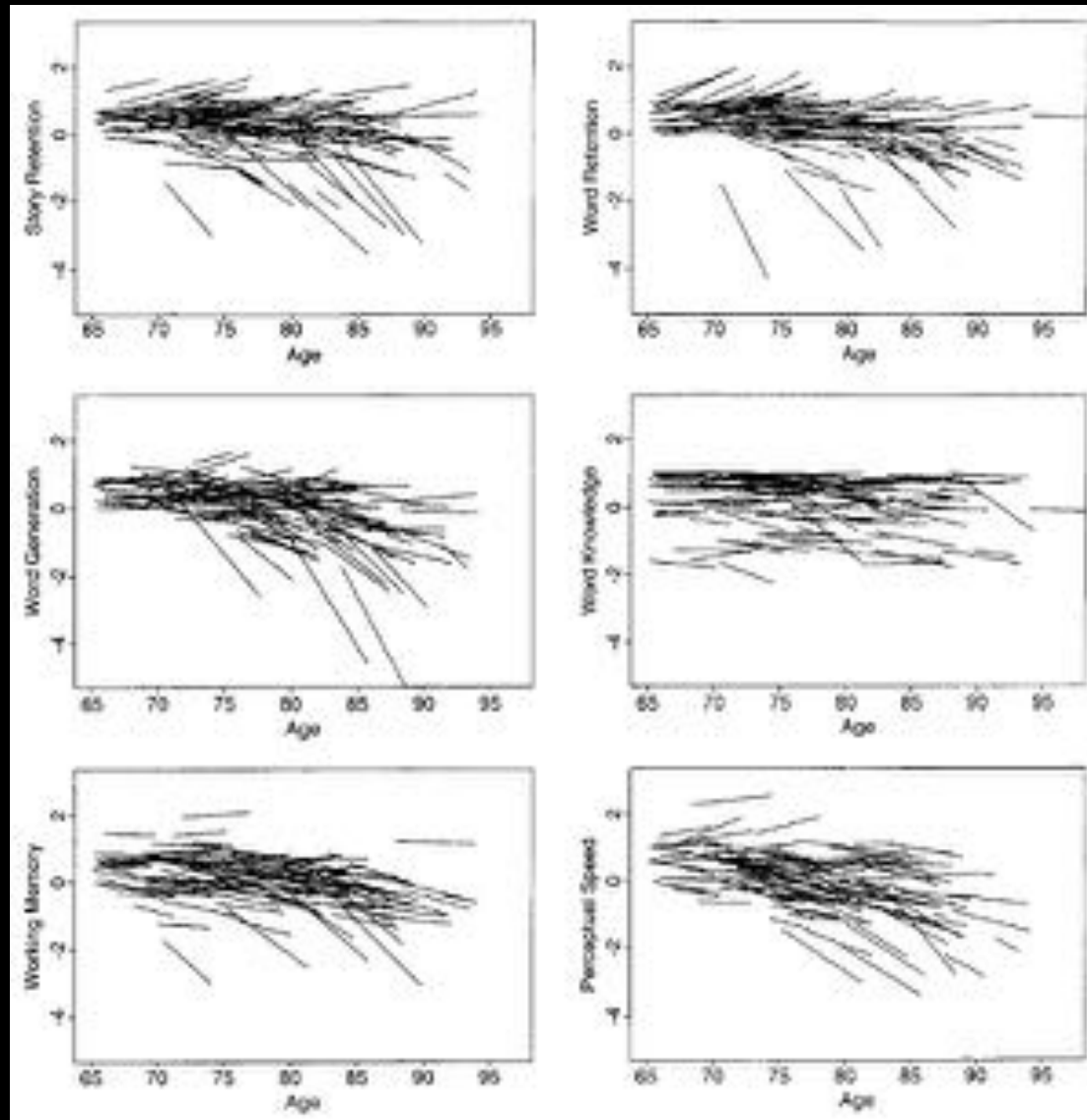
Individual Differences in Rates of Change in Cognitive Abilities of Older Persons

Test	M	SD	Hypothesized cognitive domain ^a		Factor loading ^b				
			Grouping 1	Grouping 2	1	2	3	4	5
Logical Memory Ia	11.8	3.9	Episodic memory	Story retention	.52	.06	.06	.39	.46
Logical Memory IIa	10.0	4.2	Episodic memory	Story retention	.62	.11	.09	.34	.42
Immediate story recall	9.8	1.7	Episodic memory	Story retention	.11	.14	.11	.07	.87
Delayed story recall	9.4	1.9	Episodic memory	Story retention	.21	.13	.15	.00	.84
Word List Memory	17.7	4.1	Episodic memory	Word retention	.76	.26	.24	.04	.03
Word List Recall	5.6	2.1	Episodic memory	Word retention	.82	.13	.12	.06	.10
Word List Recognition	9.6	1.0	Episodic memory	Word retention	.69	.00	-.01	-.08	.11
Boston Naming Test	18.1	2.0	Semantic memory	Word generation	.23	.38	.10	.47	.09
Verbal Fluency	35.0	9.1	Semantic memory	Word generation	.45	.41	.27	.09	.11
Extended Range Vocabulary Test	10.9	3.3	Semantic memory	Word knowledge	.04	.13	.24	.82	.07
Reading test	13.6	4.1	Semantic memory	Word knowledge	.00	.09	.26	.81	.04
Digit Span Forward	8.2	1.9	Working memory	Working memory	.02	.05	.78	.18	.10
Digit Span Backward	6.3	2.0	Working memory	Working memory	.06	.11	.75	.19	.12
Digit ordering	7.7	1.7	Working memory	Working memory	.15	.41	.50	.15	.10
Alpha span	5.0	1.7	Working memory	Working memory	.27	.23	.70	.13	.04
Symbol Digit Modalities Test	39.5	10.8	Perceptual speed	Perceptual speed	.25	.79	.19	-.01	.12
Number Comparison	25.2	7.1	Perceptual speed	Perceptual speed	.07	.77	.13	.00	.10
Judgment of Line Orientation	9.9	3.2	Visuospatial ability	Visuospatial ability	-.09	.48	.03	.30	.08
Standard Progressive Matrices	10.3	3.4	Visuospatial ability	Visuospatial ability	.22	.62	.13	.31	.03

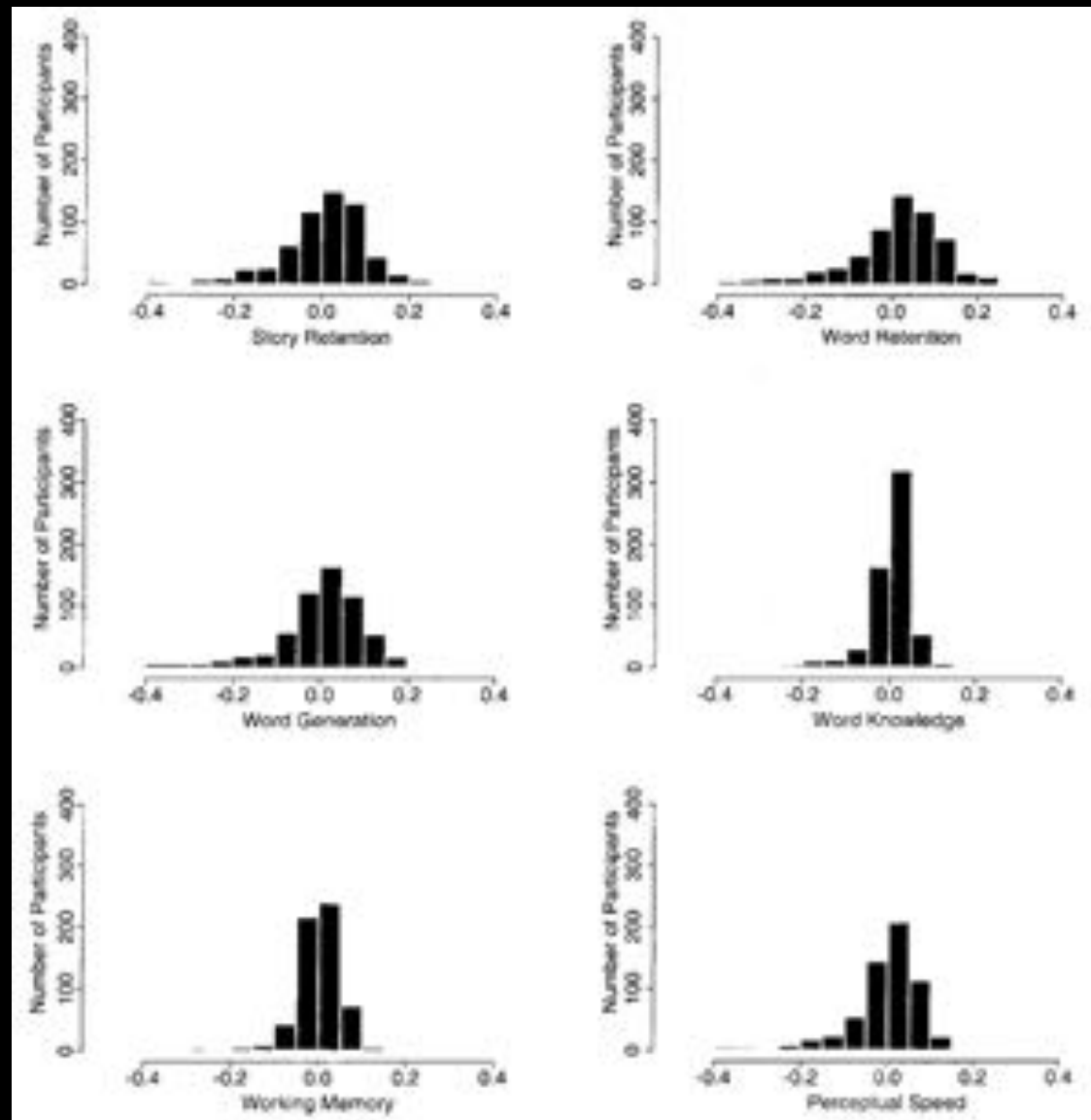
Individual Differences in Rates of Change in Cognitive Abilities of Older Persons



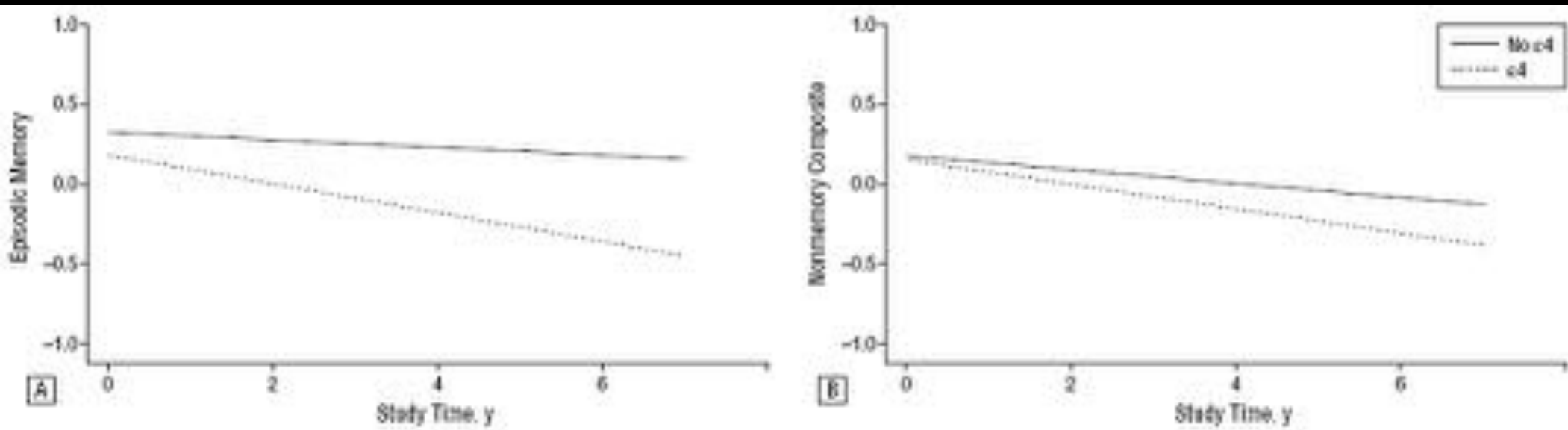
Individual Differences in Rates of Change in Cognitive Abilities of Older Persons



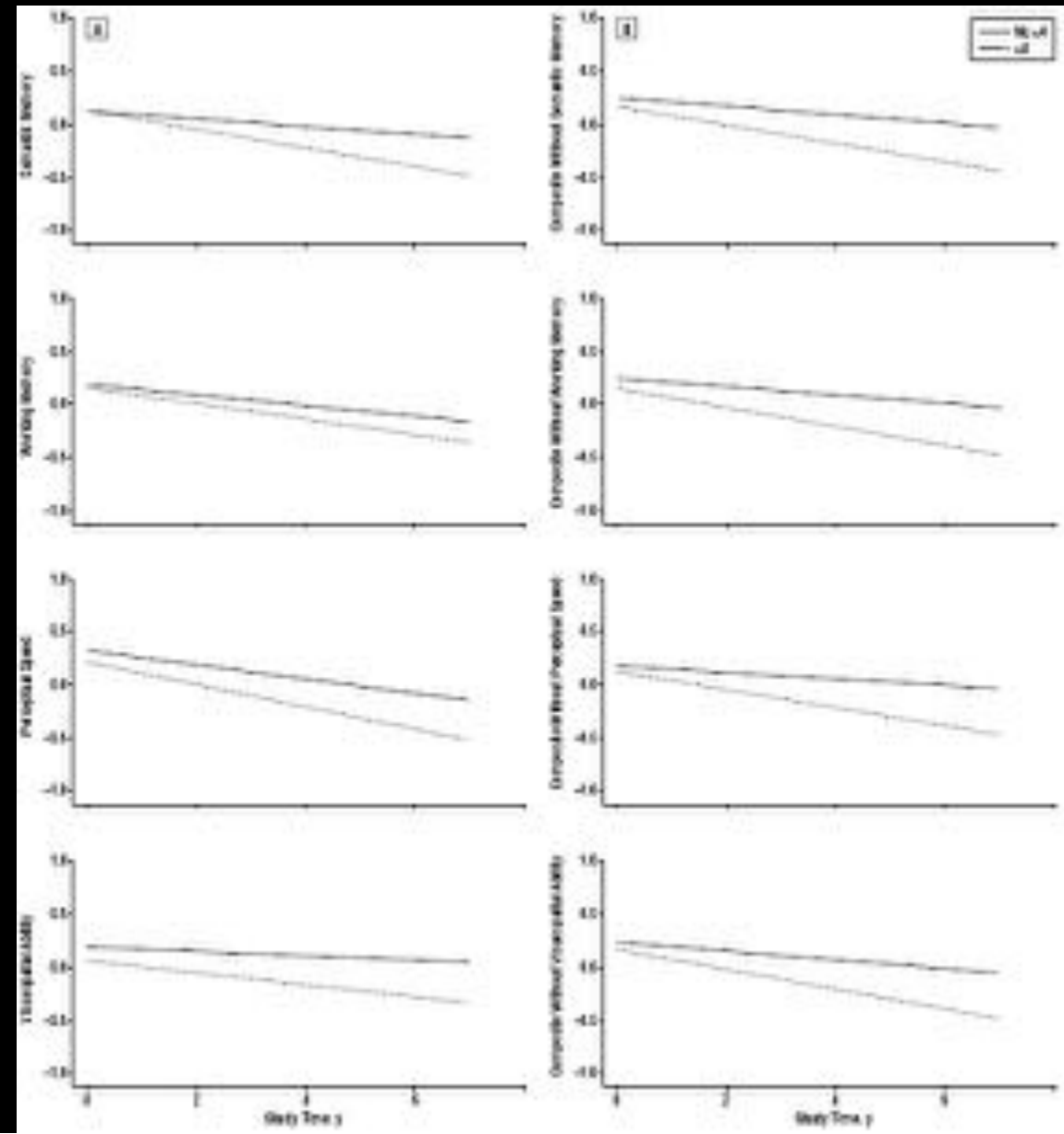
Individual Differences in Rates of Change in Cognitive Abilities of Older Persons



The Apolipoprotein E $\epsilon 4$ Allele and Decline in Different Cognitive Systems During a 6-Year Period

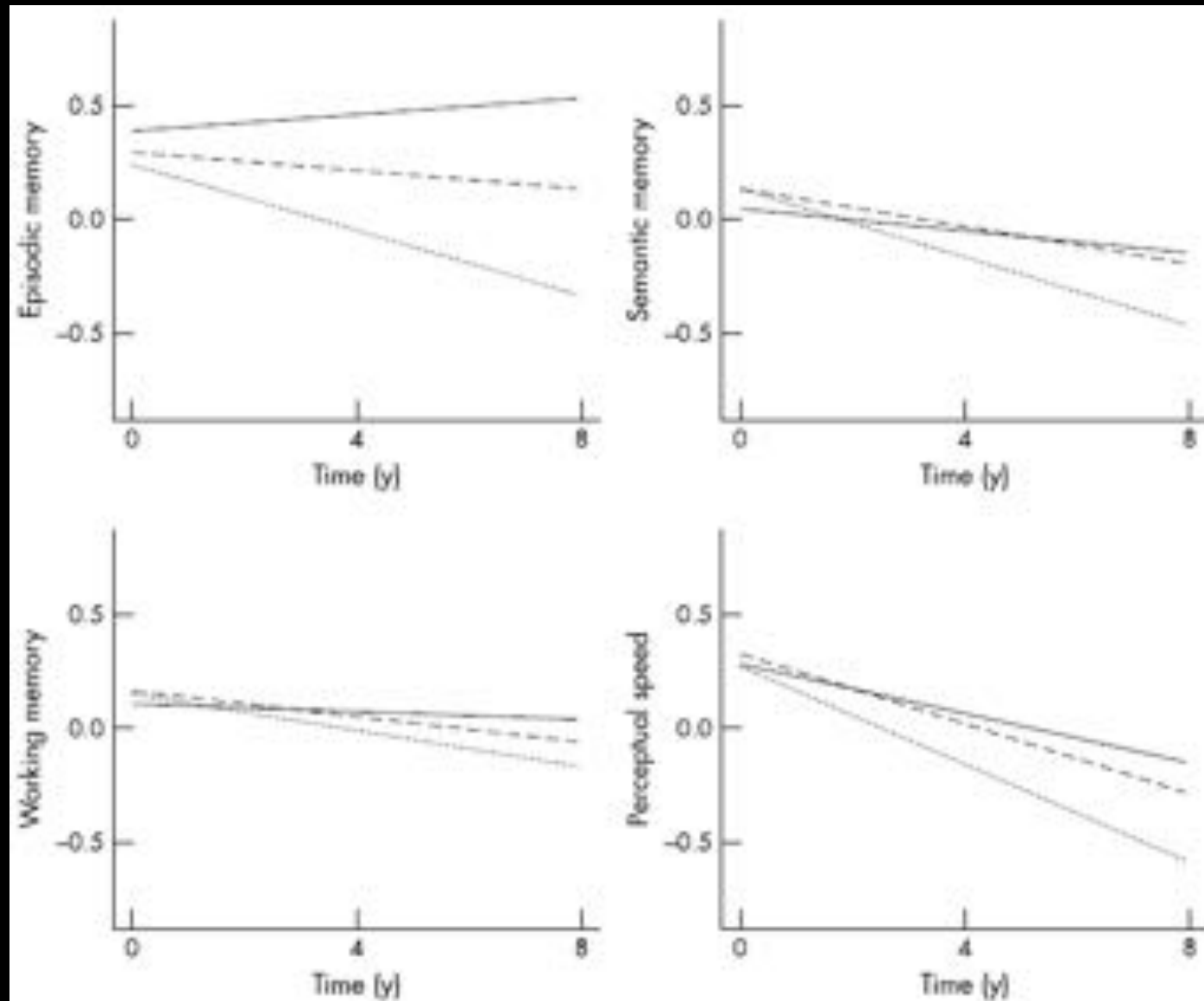


The Apolipoprotein E $\epsilon 4$ Allele and Decline in Different Cognitive Systems During a 6-Year Period

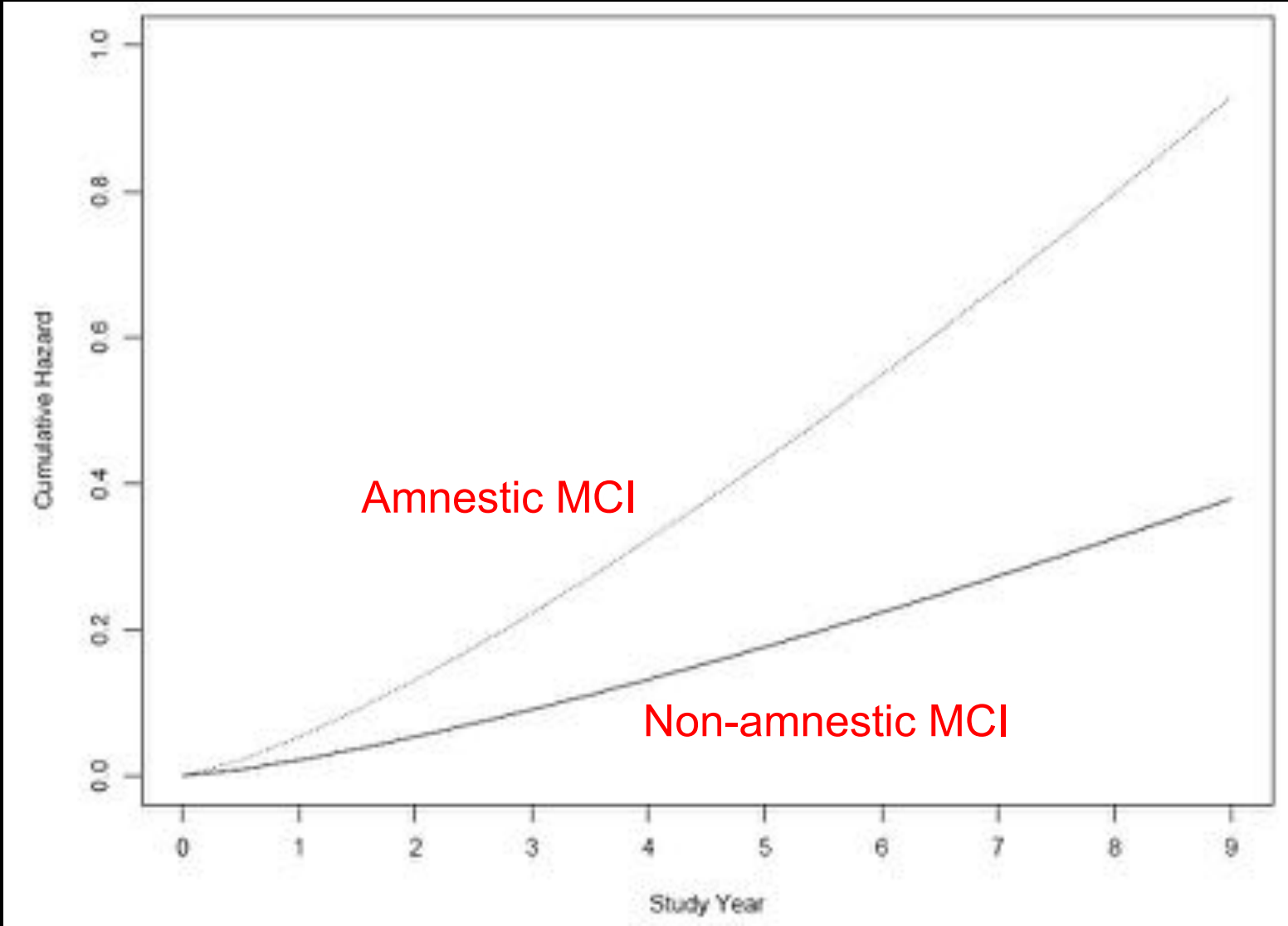


Wilson RS, et al. *Arch Neurol* 2002;59:1154-1160.

The apolipoprotein E ϵ 2 allele and decline in episodic memory



Mild cognitive impairment in different functional domains and incident Alzheimer's disease



Assessment of Cognitive Decline in Old Age with Brief Tests Amenable to Telephone Administration

Test	No dementia (mean \pm SD)	Dementia (mean \pm SD)	Hypothesized cognitive domain
Immediate story	9.7 \pm 1.8	7.1 \pm 2.5	episodic memory
Delayed story	9.3 \pm 2.0	5.3 \pm 3.3	episodic memory
Animal fluency	17.4 \pm 5.2	10.9 \pm 4.0	semantic memory
Fruit/veg. fluency	17.4 \pm 4.9	11.0 \pm 4.7	semantic memory
Digits Forward	8.3 \pm 2.0	6.7 \pm 2.2	working memory
Digits Backward	6.3 \pm 2.0	4.4 \pm 1.9	working memory
Digit Ordering	7.0 \pm 2.6	4.4 \pm 3.1	working memory

Model term	d.f.	Mean square	F value	p value
Group	1, 82	0.13	0.09	0.761
Test occasion	2, 164	0.08	0.69	0.496
Group \times test occasion	2, 164	0.03	0.24	0.774

Assessment of Cognitive Decline in Old Age with Brief Tests Amenable to Telephone Administration

Outcome measure	Model term	Estimate	SE	p value
Episodic memory	time	-0.073	0.011	<0.001
	APOE ϵ 4	-0.063	0.061	0.303
	APOE ϵ 4 \times time	-0.078	0.018	<0.001
Semantic memory	time	-0.069	0.007	<0.001
	APOE ϵ 4	-0.073	0.063	0.243
	APOE ϵ 4 \times time	-0.026	0.011	0.019
Working memory	time	-0.018	0.005	<0.001
	APOE ϵ 4	-0.028	0.052	0.597
	APOE ϵ 4 \times time	-0.021	0.008	0.008
Global cognition	time	-0.044	0.006	<0.001
	APOE ϵ 4	-0.051	0.041	0.212
	APOE ϵ 4 \times time	-0.036	0.009	<0.001

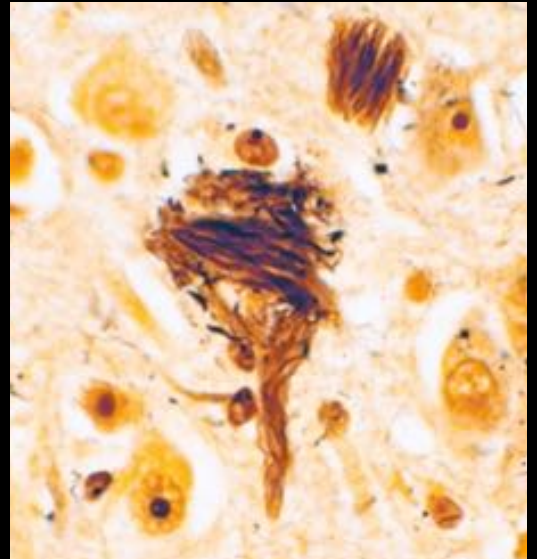
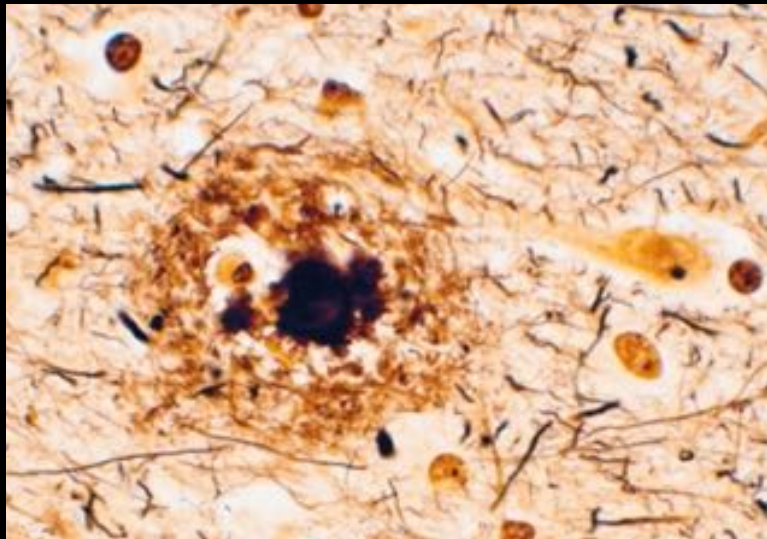
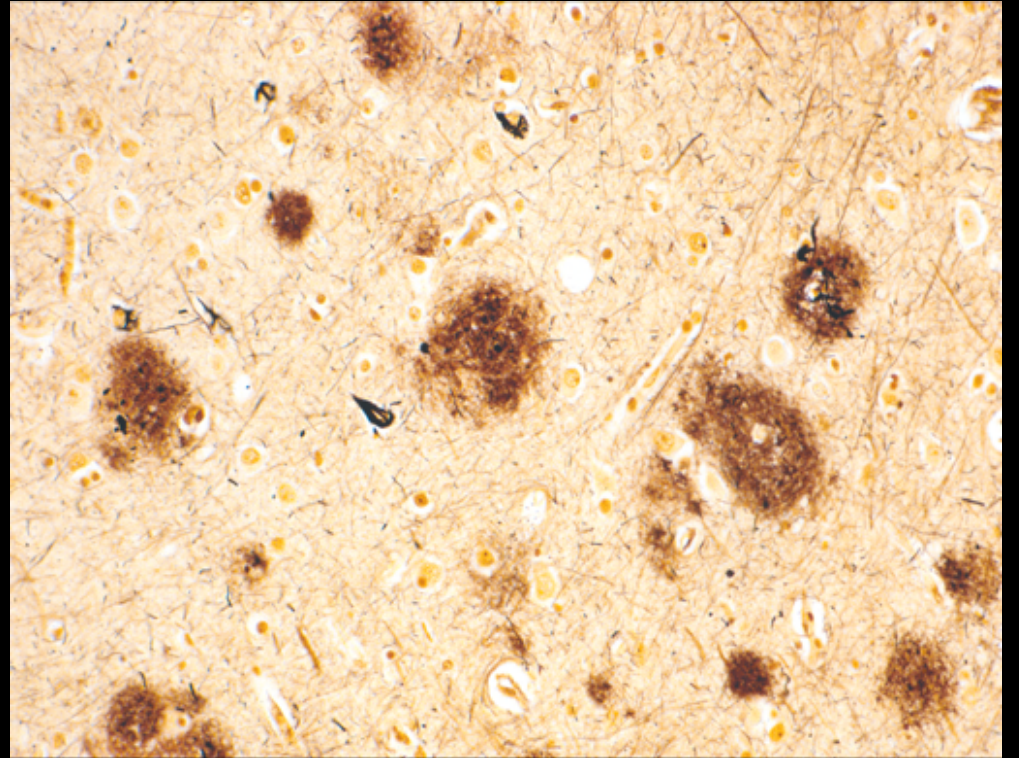
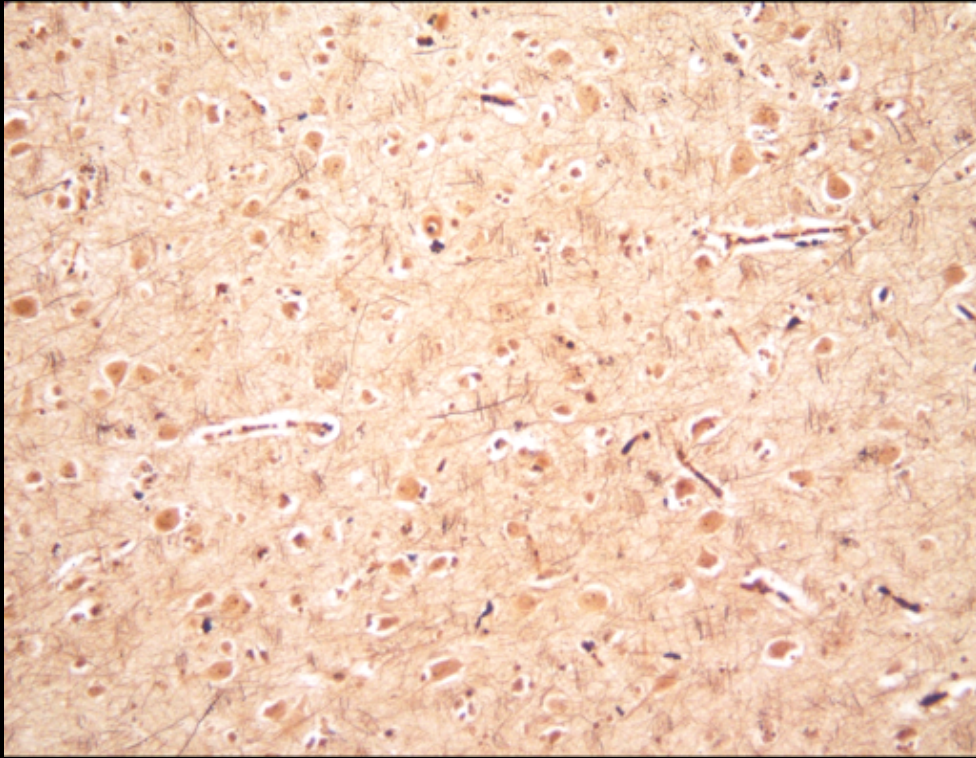
Data from mixed models adjusted for age, sex and education. SE = Standard error.



I specialize in theoretical math. My appointment is 50% research, 50% teaching and 25% administration.

Objectives:

- Review clinical data collection elements
 - Cognitive function tests
 - Clinical diagnoses
- Review post-mortem data collection elements
 - AD pathology
 - Cerebrovascular disease
 - Lewy body disease



Apolipoprotein E ϵ 4 allele, AD pathology, and the clinical expression of Alzheimer's disease

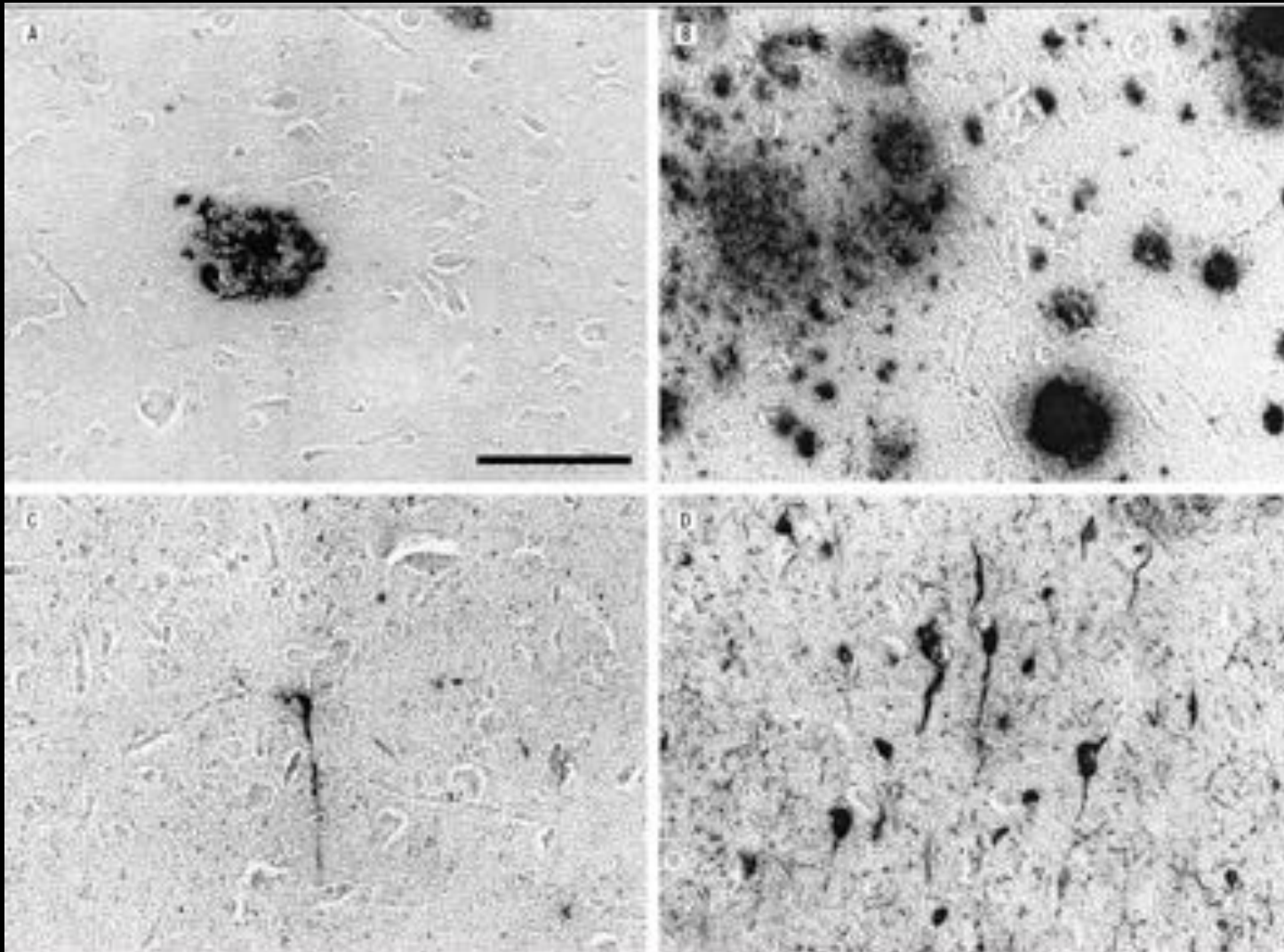
Table 1 Mean, SD, and range of the raw counts and of the standardized scores for each of the 12 pathologic indices

Variable	Raw data			Standardized score		
	Mean	SD	Range	Mean	SD	Range
Frontal neuritic plaques	9.55	11.47	0-81	0.86	1.03	0-7.27
Temporal neuritic plaques	10.03	12.54	0-88	0.82	1.03	0-7.24
Parietal neuritic plaques	9.30	10.25	0-49	0.93	1.03	0-4.91
Entorhinal neuritic plaques	5.78	7.60	0-18	0.78	1.03	0-6.10
Frontal diffuse plaques	23.80	27.30	0-193	0.90	1.03	0-7.29
Temporal diffuse plaques	25.80	25.34	0-134	1.04	1.02	0-5.39
Parietal diffuse plaques	19.05	22.23	0-122	0.88	1.02	0-5.62
Entorhinal diffuse plaques	12.03	11.13	0-43	1.09	1.01	0-3.91
Frontal neurofibrillary tangles	1.94	4.57	0-28	0.44	1.04	0-6.38
Temporal neurofibrillary tangles	5.93	9.48	0-43	0.65	1.03	0-4.67
Parietal neurofibrillary tangles	2.47	5.22	0-34	0.49	1.04	0-6.78
Entorhinal neurofibrillary tangles	16.67	15.47	0-74	1.09	1.01	0-4.84

Mild cognitive impairment is related to Alzheimer disease pathology and cerebral infarctions

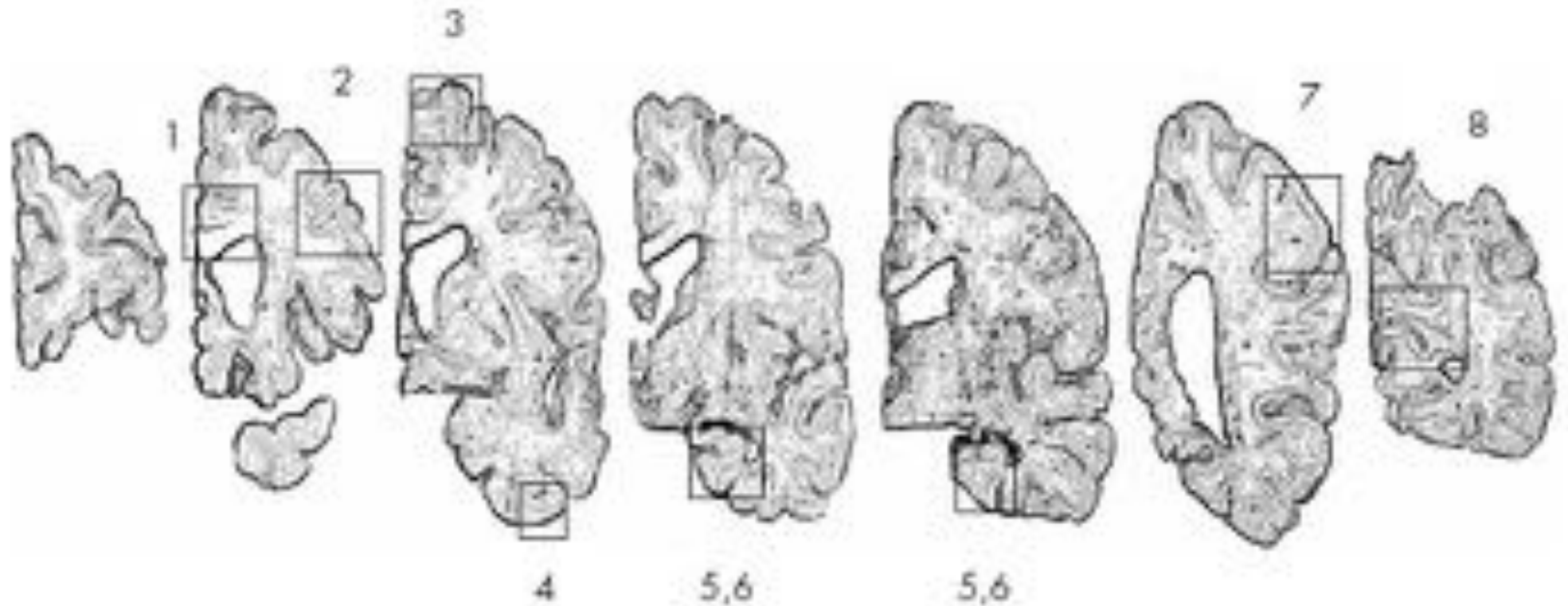
Characteristics	NCI	MCI	Dementia	Total
Demographic				
n	60	37	83	180
Men, %	50.0	40.5	44.6	45.6
Mean age at death, y (SD)	81.8 (6.6)	85.0 (5.6)	87.2 (6.2)	84.9 (6.6)
Mean education, y (SD)	18.7 (3.4)	18.5 (4.1)	17.4 (3.2)	18.1 (3.5)
Mean MMSE (SD)	28.2 (1.4)	26.8 (2.1)	16.8 (7.8)	22.6 (7.7)
Global cognitive score (SD)	0.08 (0.42)	-0.52 (0.41)	-1.79 (0.97)	-0.91 (1.11)
Interval, mo (SD)	5.9 (3.5)	7.2 (3.7)	6.7 (3.6)	6.5 (3.6)
Pathologic				
AD pathology measure (SD)	0.45 (0.40)	0.67 (0.54)	1.15 (0.72)	0.82 (0.67)
Neuritic plaques (SD)	0.44 (0.57)	0.59 (0.60)	1.28 (0.99)	0.86 (0.88)
Diffuse plaques (SD)	0.64 (0.69)	0.91 (0.74)	1.24 (0.90)	0.97 (0.85)
Neurofibrillary tangles (SD)	0.26 (0.27)	0.50 (0.58)	0.94 (0.99)	0.62 (0.80)
Macroscopic infarctions, %	22.0	32.4	45.8	35.2
Lewy body disease, %	11.7	8.1	21.7	15.6

Neurofibrillary Tangles Mediate the Association of Amyloid Load With Clinical Alzheimer Disease and Level of Cognitive Function





The relationship between cerebral Alzheimer's disease pathology and odour identification in old age



(1) anterior cingulate cortex (Brodmann area (BA) 24)

(2) **dorsal lateral prefrontal cortex (BA 46/9)**

(3) superior frontal cortex (BA 6/8)

(4) **inferior temporal cortex (BA 20)**

(5) hippocampus (CA1/subiculum)

(6) entorhinal cortex proper (BA 28)

(7) angular/supramarginal gyrus (BA 39/40)

(8) primary visual cortex (BA 17)

Neurofibrillary Tangles Mediate the Association of Amyloid Load With Clinical Alzheimer Disease and Level of Cognitive Function

Characteristic	No Dementia (n = 53)	Alzheimer Disease (n = 44)	Total (N = 97)
Male, No. (%)	24 (45.3)	17 (38.6)	41 (42.3)
Age at death, y	82.4 ± 6.5	88.1 ± 5.3	85.0 ± 6.6
Education, y	18.7 ± 3.3	17.3 ± 3.0	18.1 ± 3.2
MMSE score	27.66 ± 1.89	16.07 ± 7.38	22.4 ± 7.75
Global cognition	-0.07 ± 0.53	-1.82 ± 0.83	-0.87 ± 1.11
Median interval, mo	8.0	8.6	8.2
Amyloid load, %	1.83 ± 1.84	3.81 ± 2.47	2.73 ± 2.35
Tangles/mm ²	3.51 ± 3.64	14.22 ± 12.38	8.37 ± 10.23

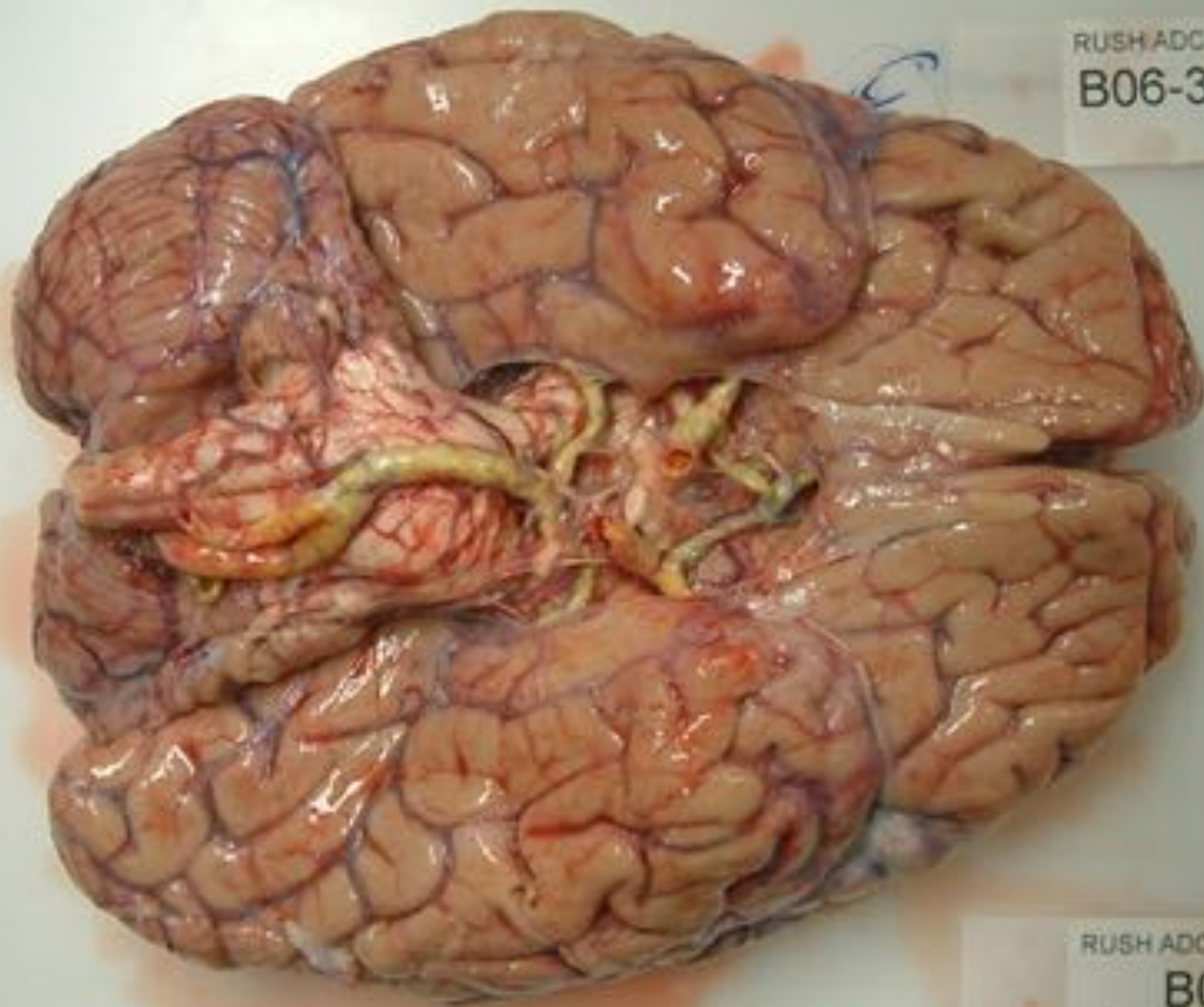
RUSH ADC Laboratory

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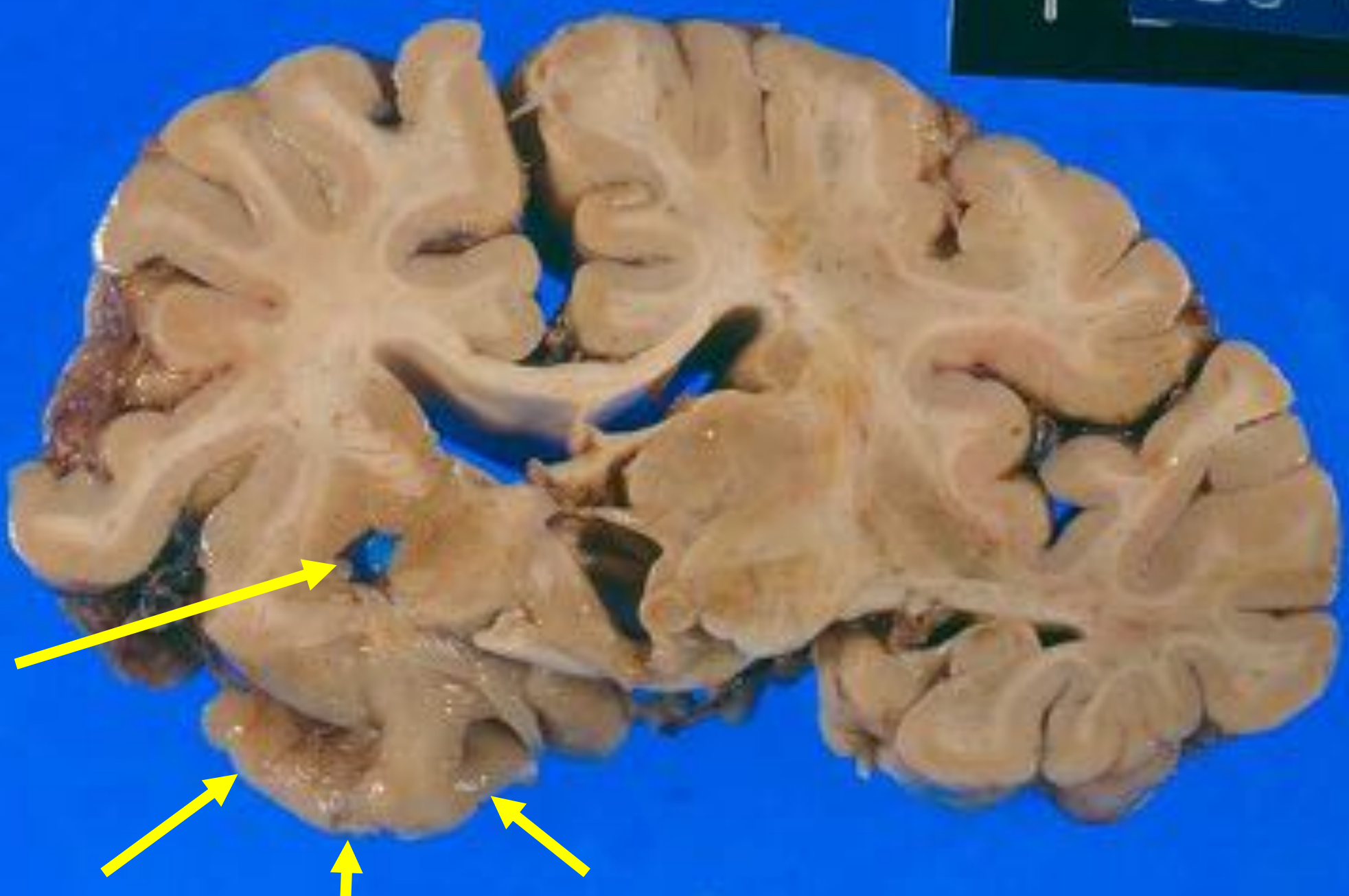
RUSH ADC Laboratory

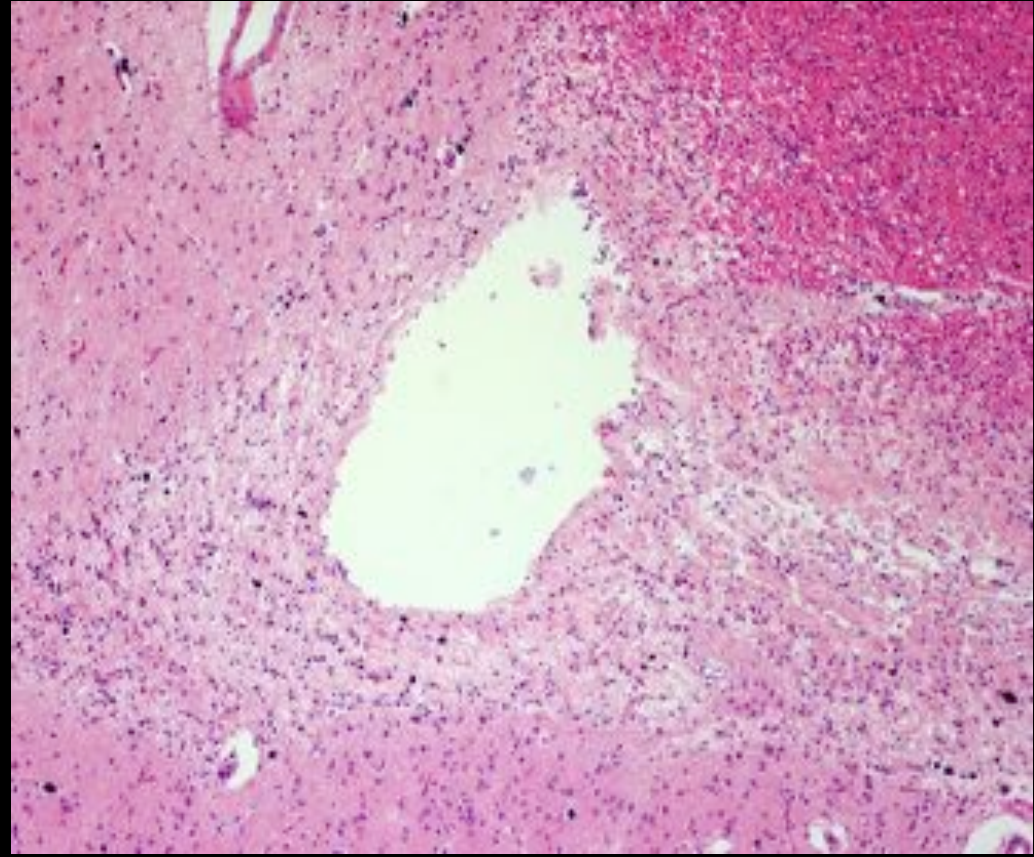
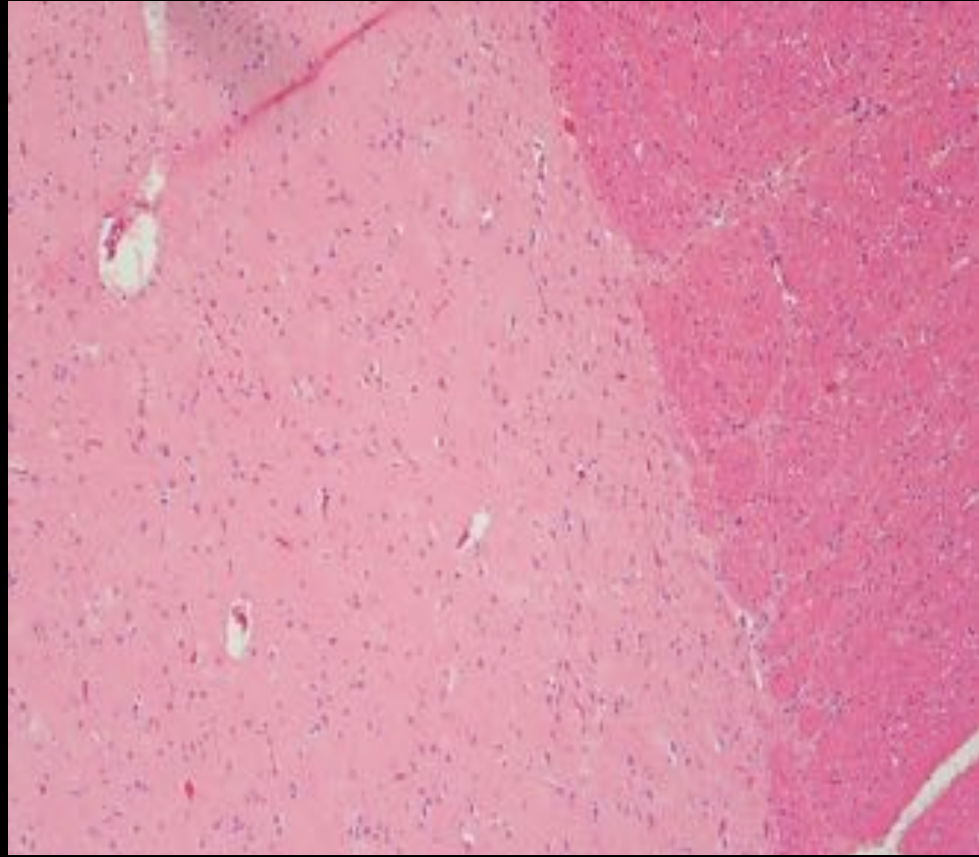
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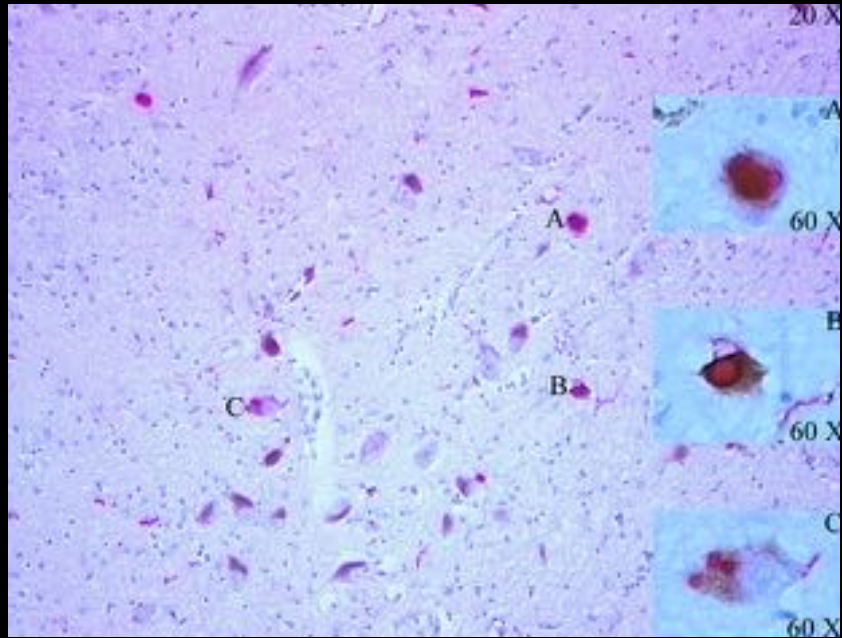




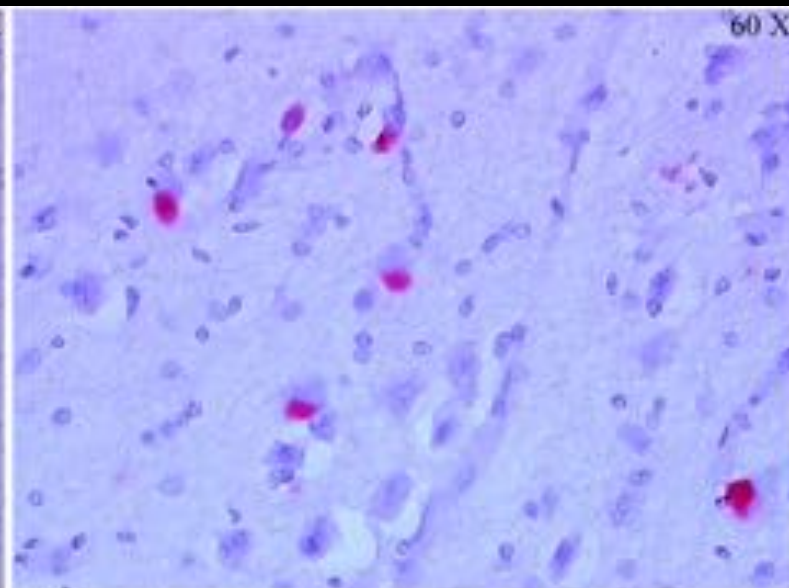
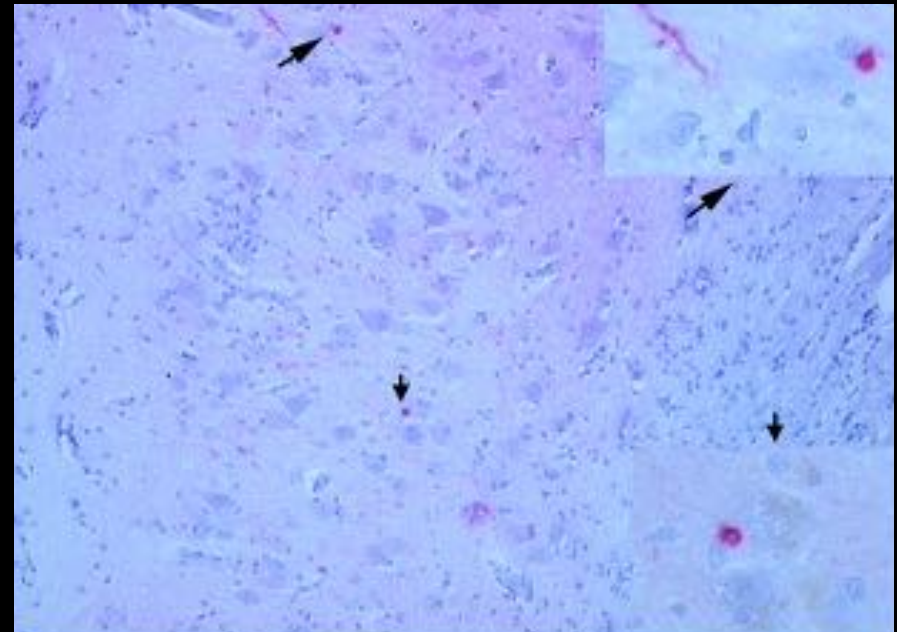
Cerebral Infarctions and the Relationship of Depression Symptoms to Level of Cognitive Functioning in Older Persons

Global AD pathology measure	0.55 (0.48)	1.15 (0.77)	0.82 (0.69)
Number of infarctions, %			
1	13 (15.1)	13 (19.4)	26 (17.0)
>1	10 (11.6)	19 (28.4)	29 (19.0)
Volume of infarction, %			
1st quartile	7 (8.1)	5 (7.5)	12 (7.8)
2nd quartile	5 (5.8)	10 (14.9)	15 (9.8)
3rd quartile	5 (5.8)	8 (11.9)	13 (8.5)
4th quartile	6 (7.0)	9 (13.4)	15 (9.8)
Location of infarction, %			
Cortical	7 (8.1)	10 (14.9)	17 (11.1)
Subcortical	19 (22.1)	28 (41.8)	47 (30.7)
Frontal	5 (5.8)	6 (9.0)	11 (7.2)
Non-frontal	18 (20.9)	26 (38.8)	44 (28.8)
Left	12 (14.0)	18 (26.9)	30 (19.6)
Right	16 (18.6)	21 (31.3)	37 (24.2)

Alpha-Synuclein in substantia nigra



Alpha-Synuclein in hippocampus



Alpha-Synuclein in neocortex

Mild cognitive impairment is related to Alzheimer disease pathology and cerebral infarctions

Characteristics	NCI	MCI	Dementia
Lewy body disease			
Nigra predominant	5 (8.3)	2 (5.4)	1 (1.2)
Limbic type	2 (3.3)	0	3 (3.6)
Neocortical type	0	1 (2.7)	14 (16.9)

