

# The Leuven Late-Life Depression Study



UPC KU Leuven Congres Ouderenpsychiatrie

*Multimodale beeldvorming en neuromodulatie in depressie bij ouderen: resultaten van de Leuven Late-Life depression study*

26 oktober 2023  
Provinciehuis Leuven

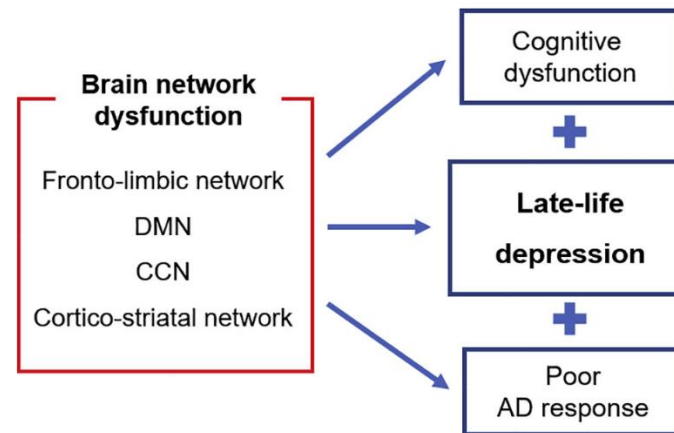


# Depressie op late leeftijd

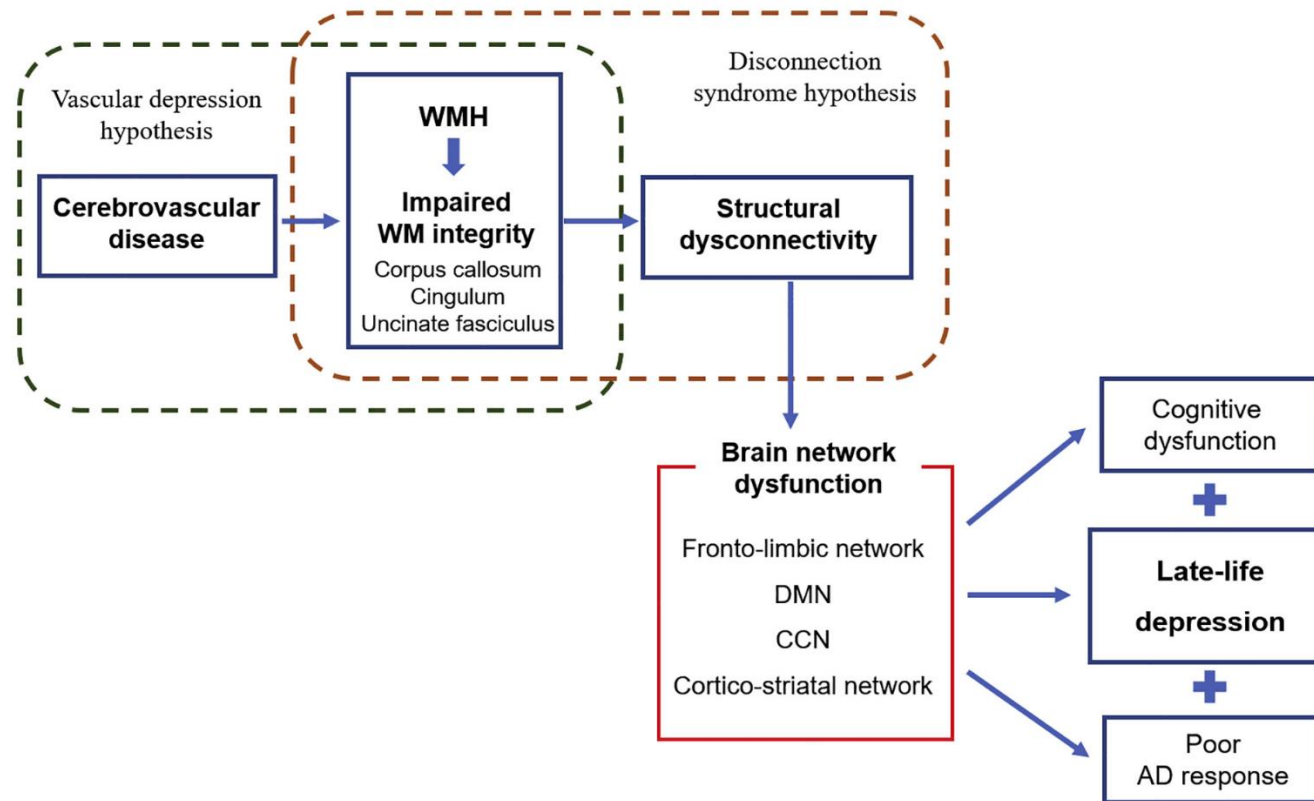


- > 60 jaar
- Prevalentie 9-18%
  
- Therapie resistent
- Suïcidaal
- Psychotisch
- Psychomotorisch
- Somatische comorbiditeiten
  
- Nood aan efficiënte en snelle behandeling

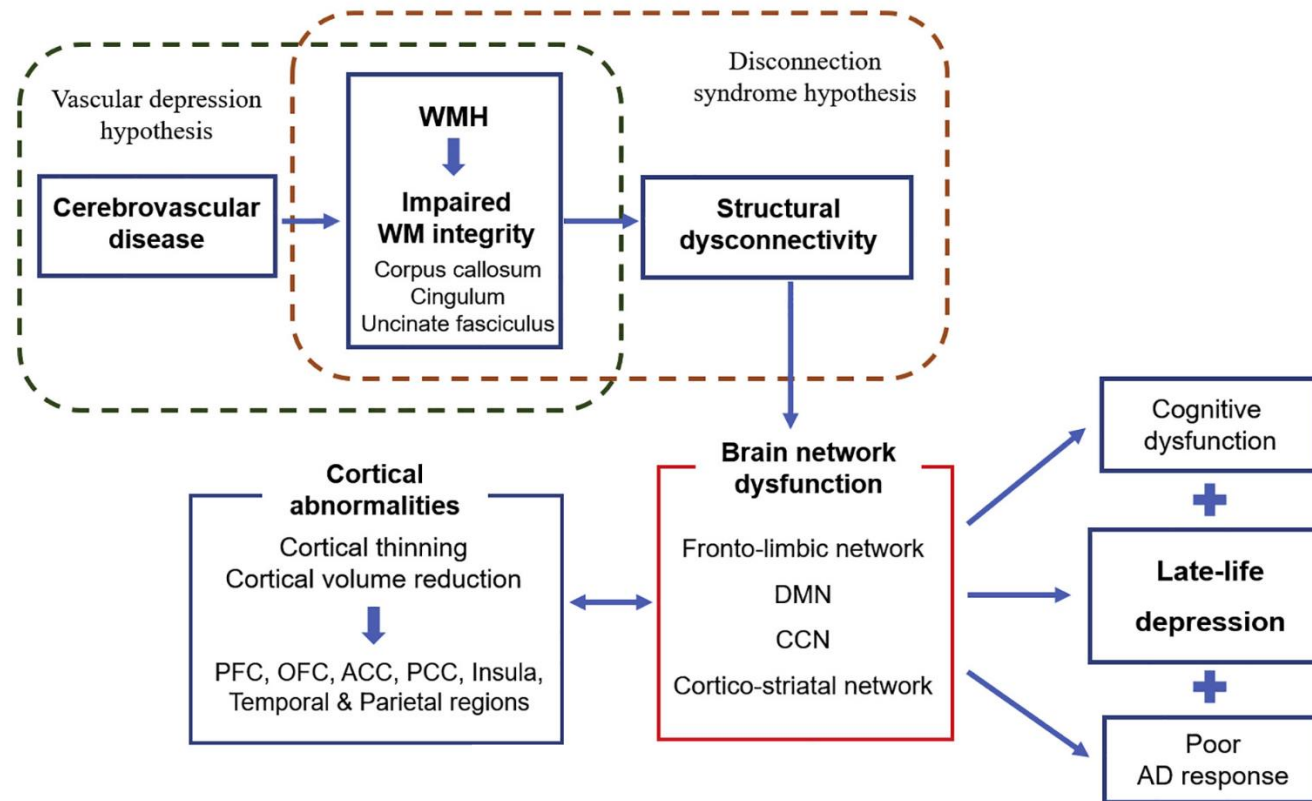
# Depressie op late leeftijd



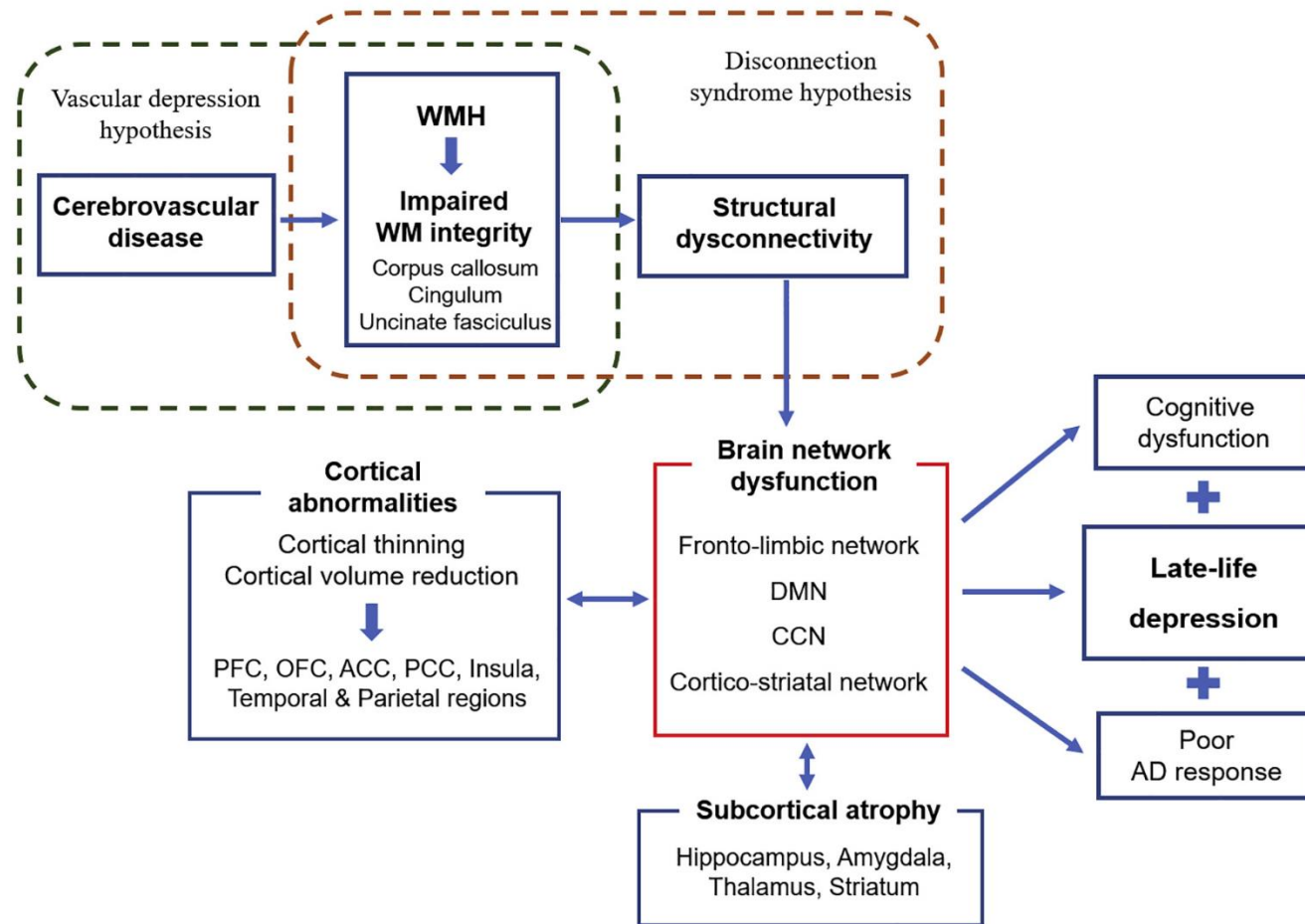
# Depressie op late leeftijd



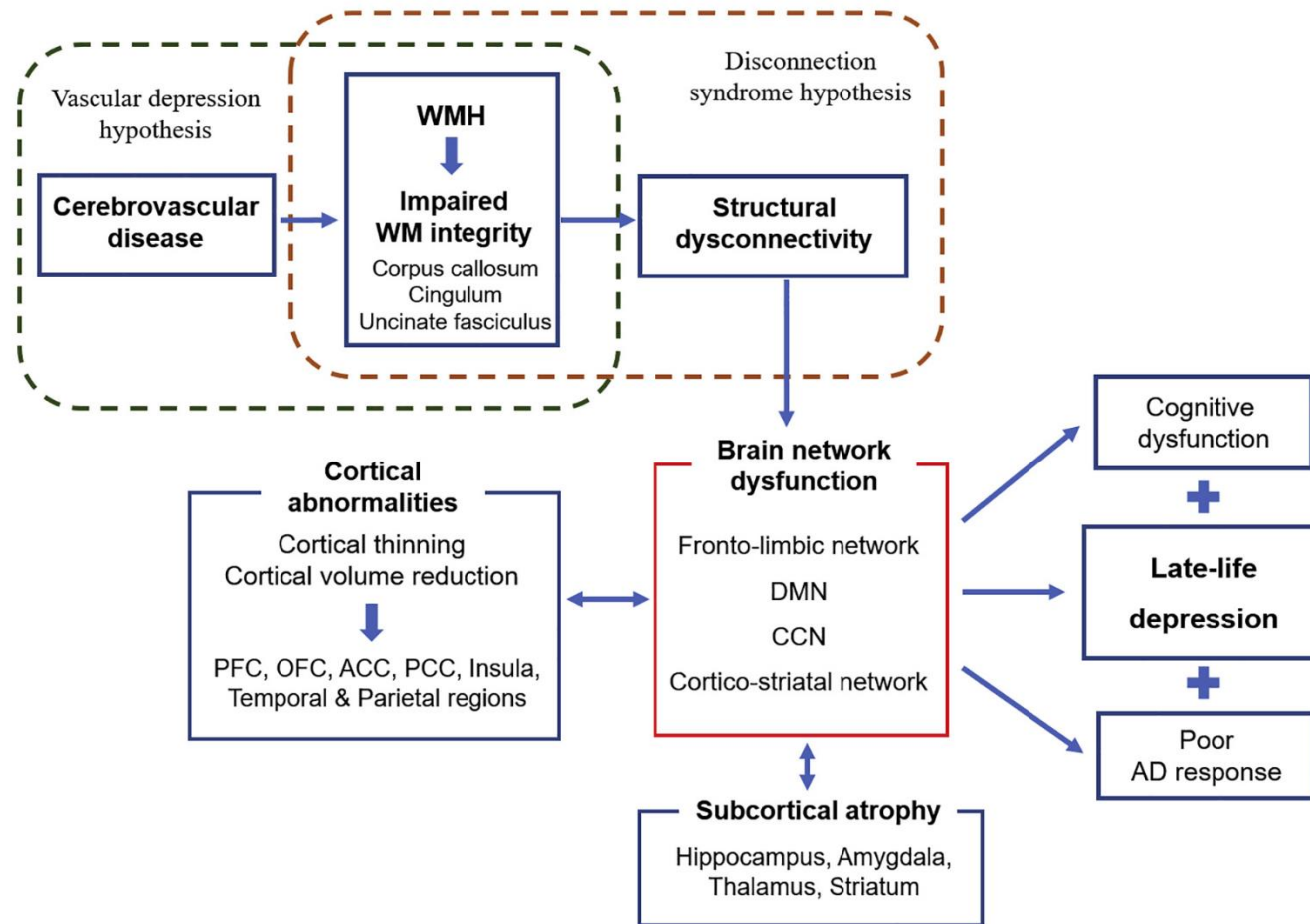
# Depressie op late leeftijd



# Depressie op late leeftijd



# Depressie op late leeftijd



Pathologische  
veroudering

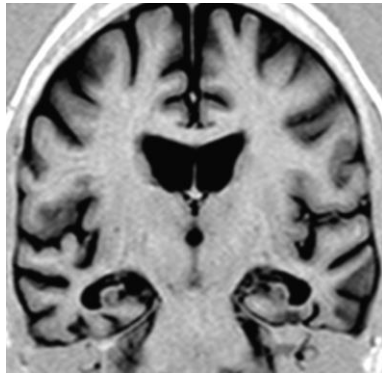
Levensstijl

Stress



# Pathologische veroudering

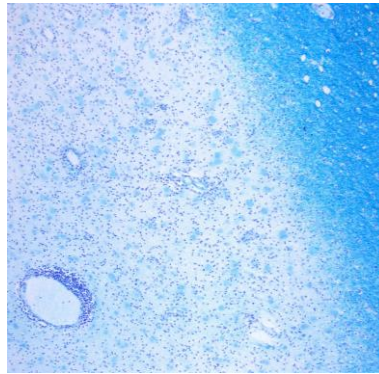
## Grey matter loss



**01.**

Global neural loss in the cerebral cortex and hippocampal atrophy leads to emotional, behavioral and cognitive problems

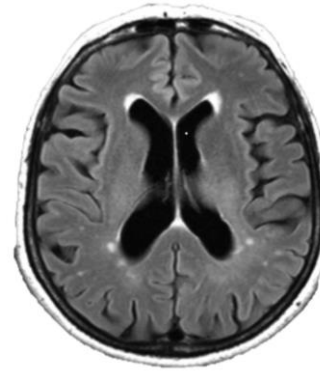
## White matter damage



**02.**

Regional brain connectivity is disrupted leading to impaired neural communication which impacts brain function

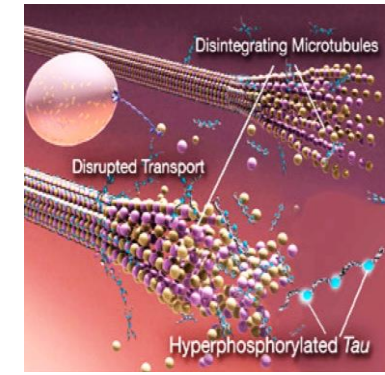
## Vascular damage



**03.**

Vascular deterioration causes tissue damage by starving tissues of oxygen and eliciting neuroinflammatory processes

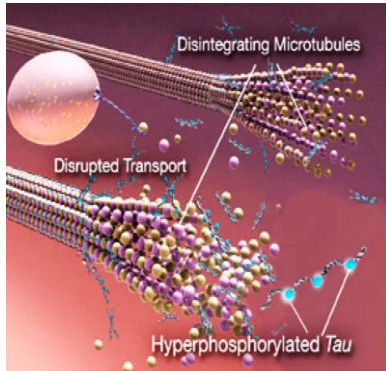
## Proteinopathies



**04.**

The microtubule stabilizing protein tau becomes dysfunctional leading to neuronal damage

## Proteinopathies

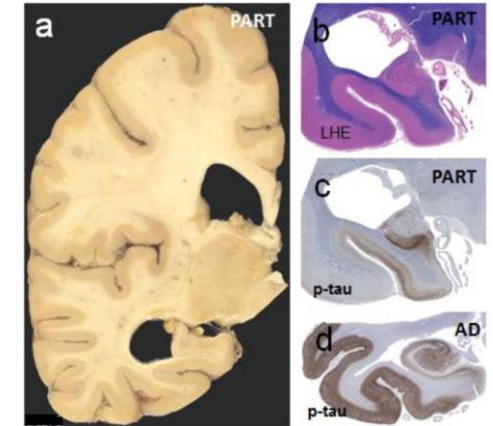


04.

The microtubule stabilizing protein tau becomes dysfunctional leading to neuronal damage

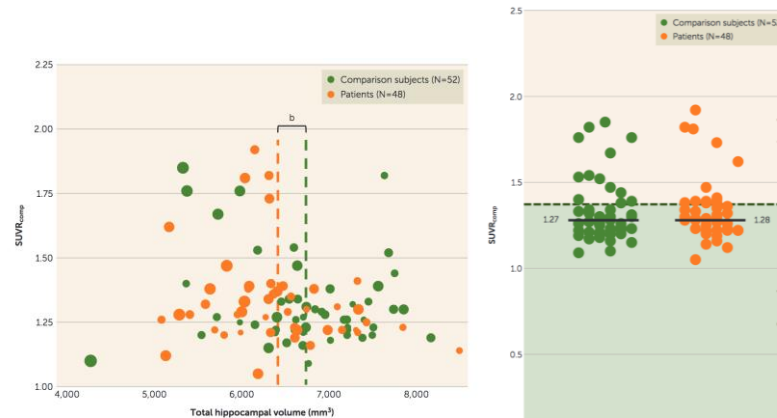
**Primary age-related tauopathy (PART): a common pathology associated with human aging**

**Presence of NFT in absence of A $\beta$**



**PART: Primary Age Related Tauopathy**

**SNAP: Suspected Non Amyloid Disease**



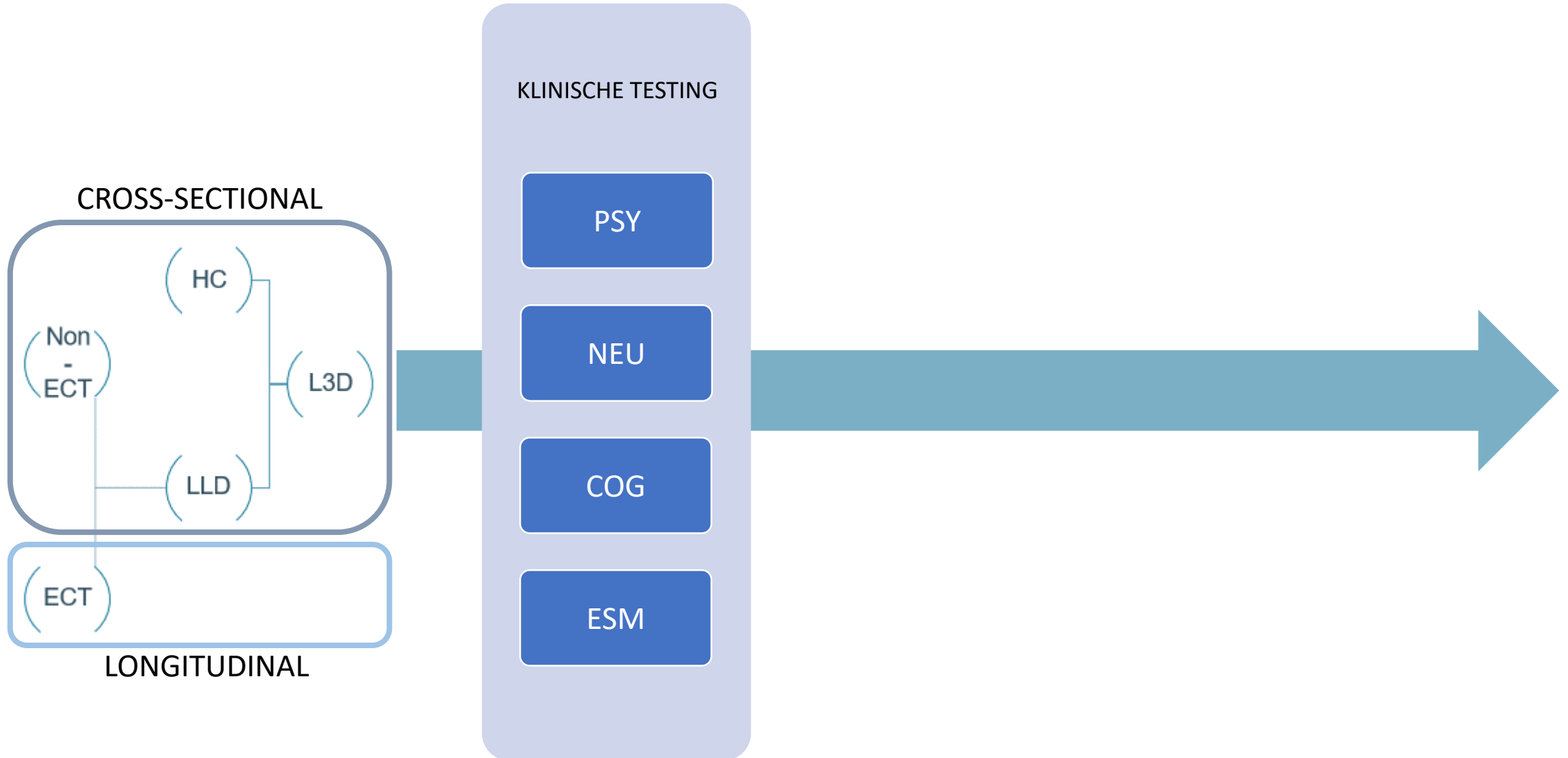
**No Association of Lower Hippocampal Volume With Alzheimer's Disease Pathology in Late-Life Depression**

François-Laurent De Winter, M.D., Louise Emself, Ph.D., Filip Bouckaert, M.D., Lene Claes, M.Sc., Saurabh Jain, M.Sc., Gill Farrar, Ph.D., Thibo Billiet, Ph.D., Stephan Evers, M.Sc., Jan Van den Stock, Ph.D., Pascal Sienaert, M.D., Ph.D., Jasmien Obbels, M.Sc., Stefan Sunaert, M.D., Ph.D., Katarzyna Adamczuk, Ph.D., Rik Vandenberghe, M.D., Ph.D., Koen Van Laere, M.D., Ph.D., Mathieu Vandenbulcke, M.D., Ph.D.

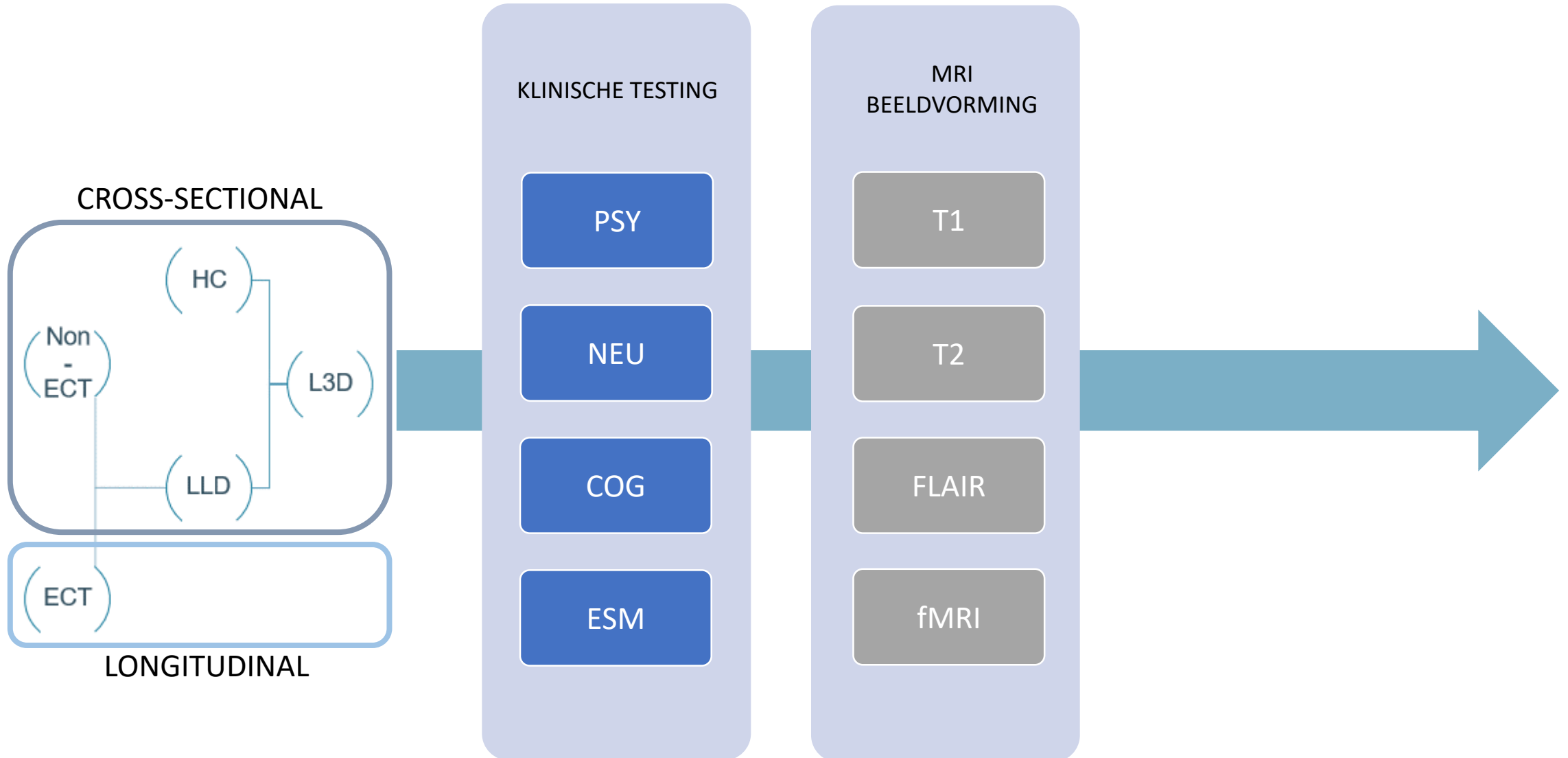
# Leuven Late-Life Depression Study



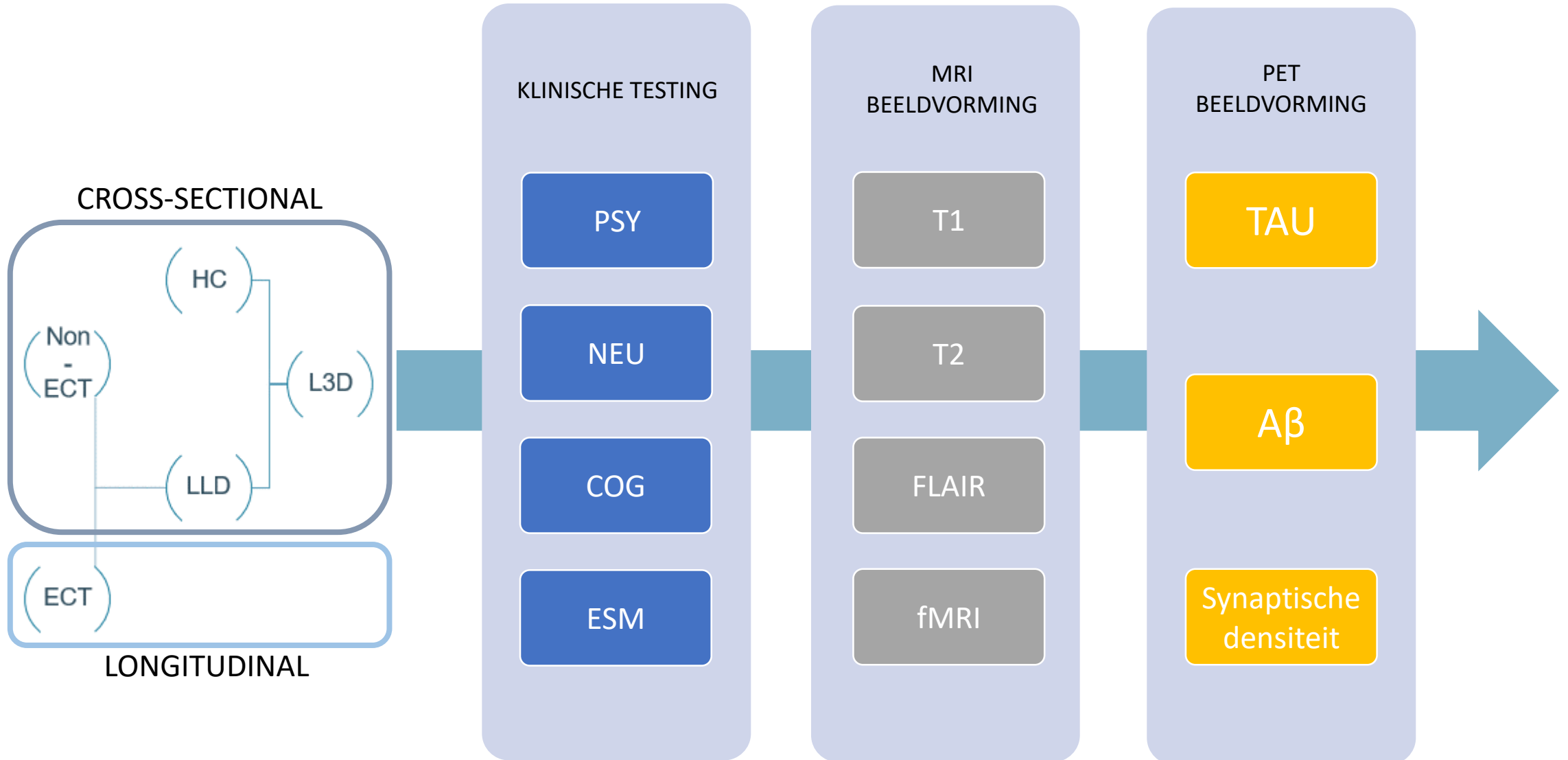
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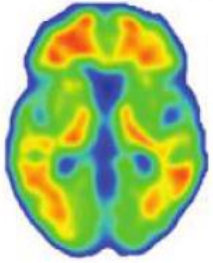
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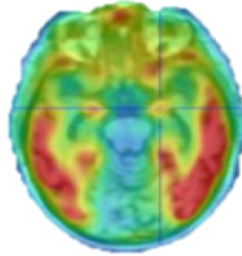
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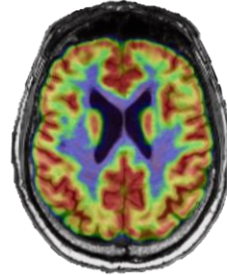
### Amyloid



### Tau



### Synaptic density



#### Radioligand

<sup>18</sup>F-Flutemetamol

<sup>18</sup>F-MK-6240

<sup>11</sup>C-UCB-J

#### Target

B-amyloid

NFT

SV2A

#### PET Findings in LLD to date

Mixed: No difference, lower in LLD, positive corr with mild depressive symptoms in healthy older adults

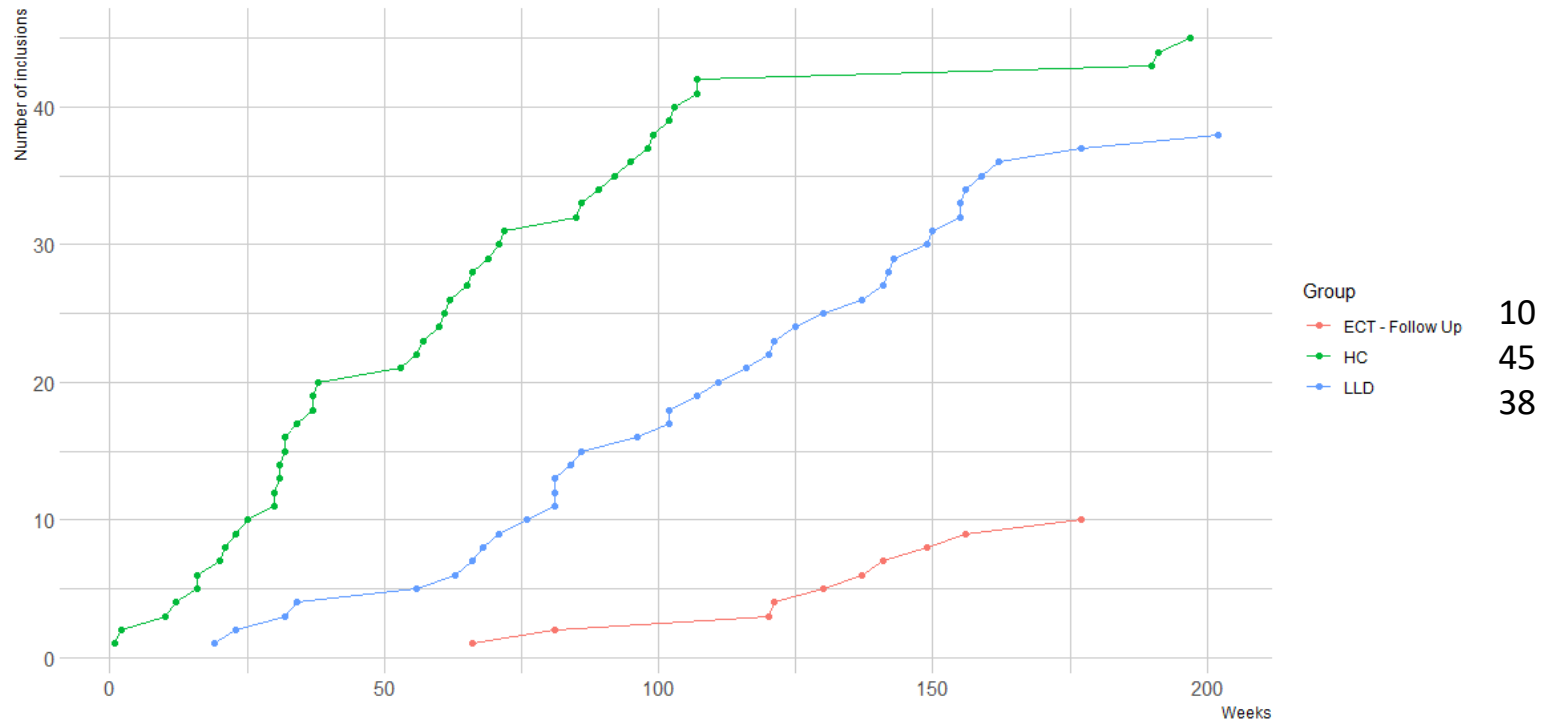
Limited inconclusive

No studies in LLD, recent report of lower SD in mild depression/PTSD

GE Signa 3T PET-MR system



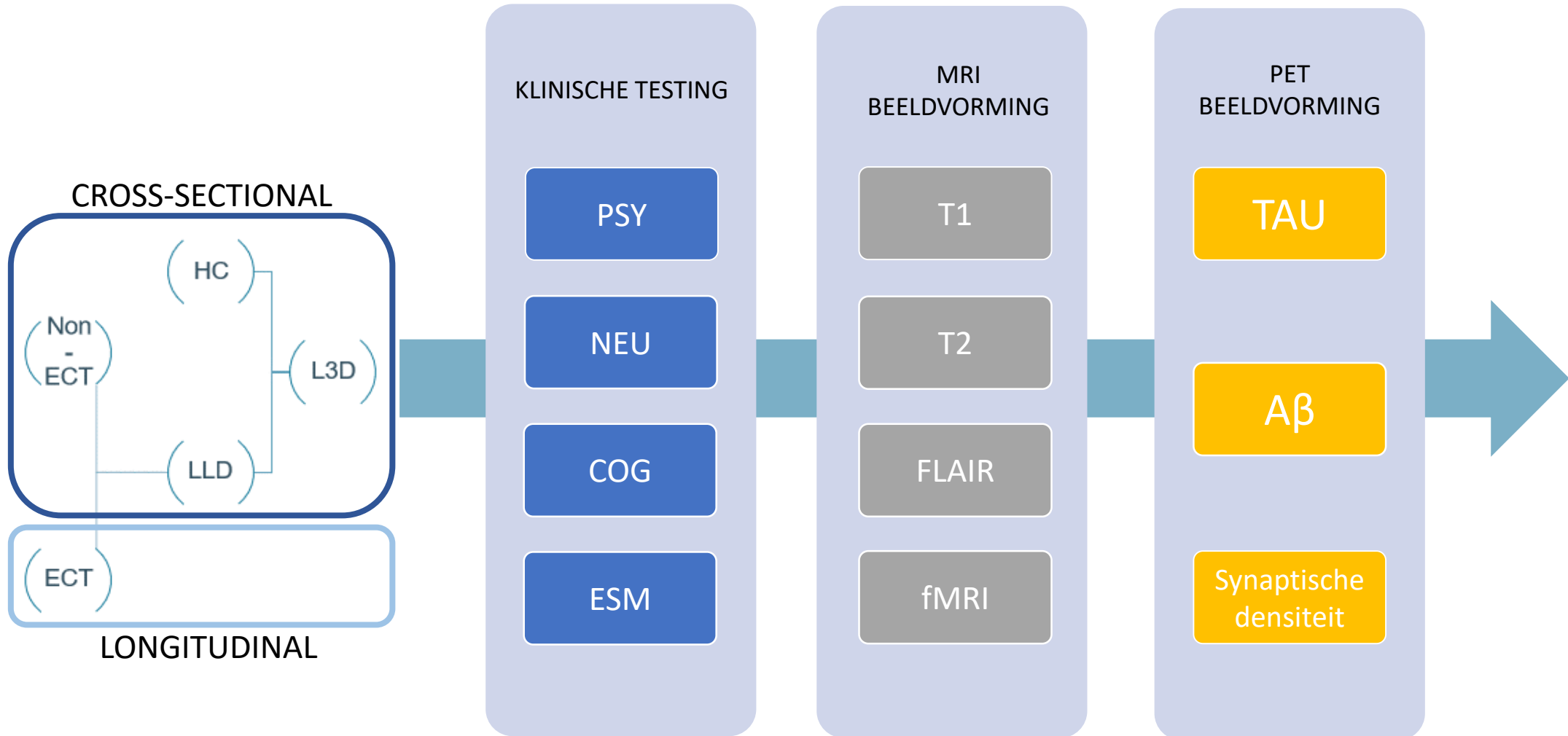
### L3D Inclusion over time



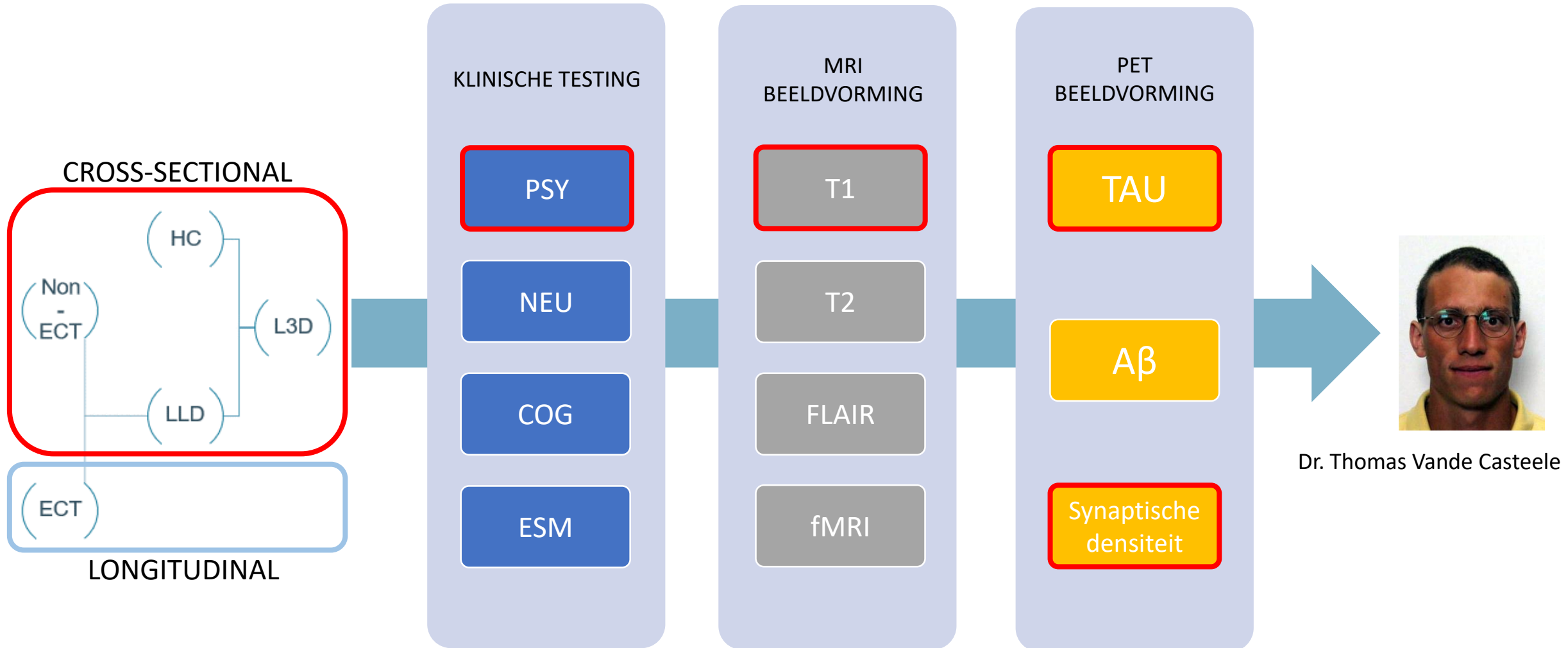
	n	Age (years)	Gender (M/F)	Education (primary/high school/college/university)	Depressive symptoms (GDS)	Apathy (AES)	General cognition (MMSE)	Memory + Learning (RAVLT_A)	Psychomotor function (CORE)
<b>LLD</b>	38	72.9 (6.04)	11/26	6/17/11/2	21.08 (6.47)	45.92 (11.7)	26.0 (2.88)	25.6 (9.8)	18.34 (9.54)
<b>Controls</b>	45	70.88 (6.20)	17/25	4/19/14/5	2.71 (2.88)	22.2 (5.15)	28.9 (1.34)	39.6 (9.29)	1.21 (1.77)
<b>Statistical comparison P-value</b>	-	0.194	0.319	0.636	<b>&lt;0.001*</b>	<b>&lt;0.001*</b>	<b>&lt;0.001*</b>	<b>&lt;0.001*</b>	<b>&lt;0.001*</b>
<b>Interpretation</b>	-	No difference	No difference	No difference	LLD more depressed	LLD more apathy	LLD worse general cognition	LLD worse recall	LLD less interaction, more retardation, agitation



# L3D Study

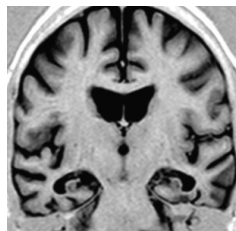


# Multimodal neuroimaging investigation of brain ageing biomarkers in LLD



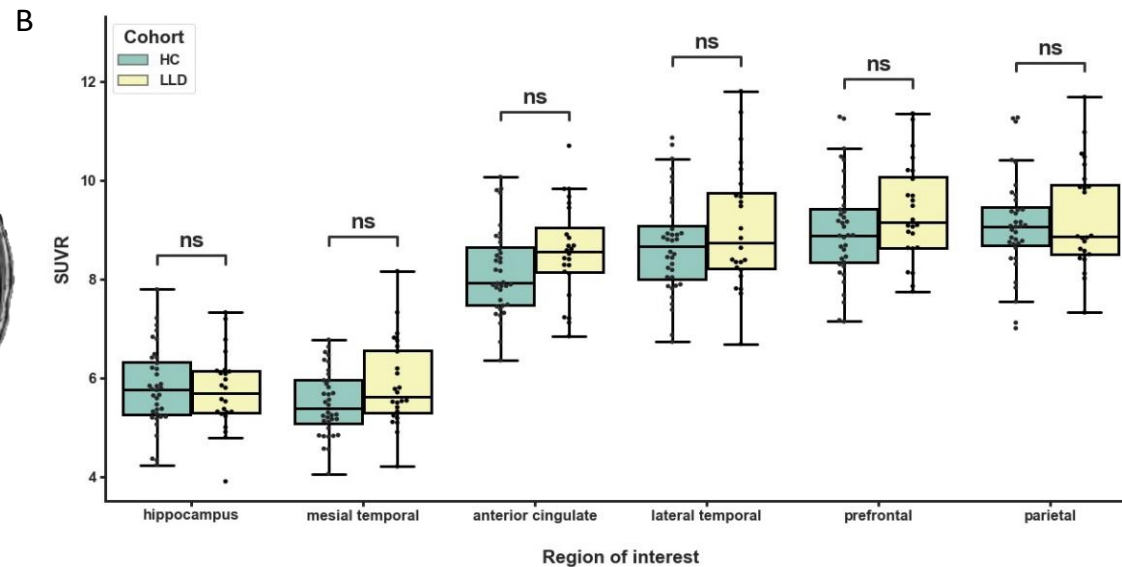
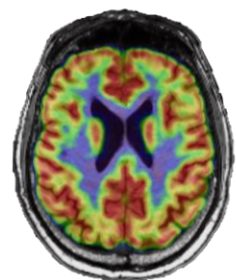
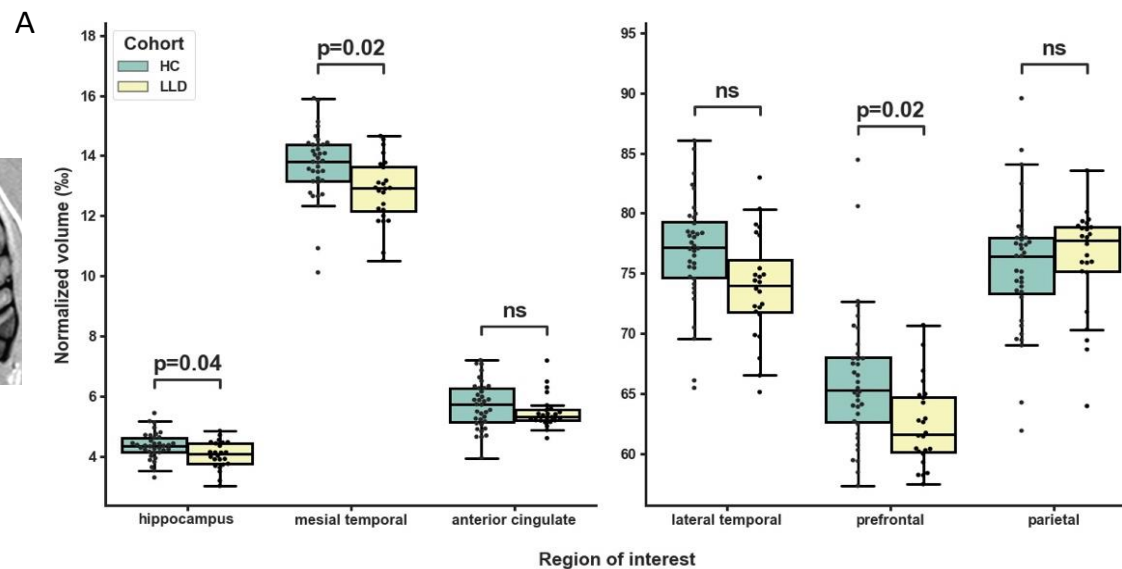


# Synaptic Density in LLD



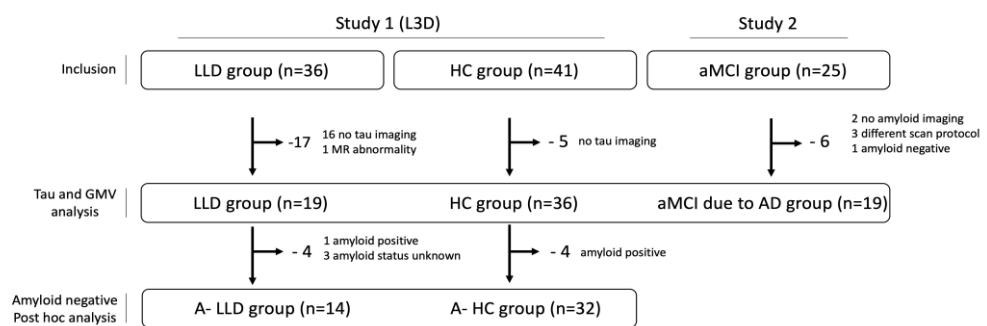
Synaptic density is preserved in LLD:

- No evidence for altered synaptic density as measured by  $^{11}\text{C}$ -UCB-J
- lower grey matter volumes (hippocampus, mesial temporal cortex, prefrontal cortex)

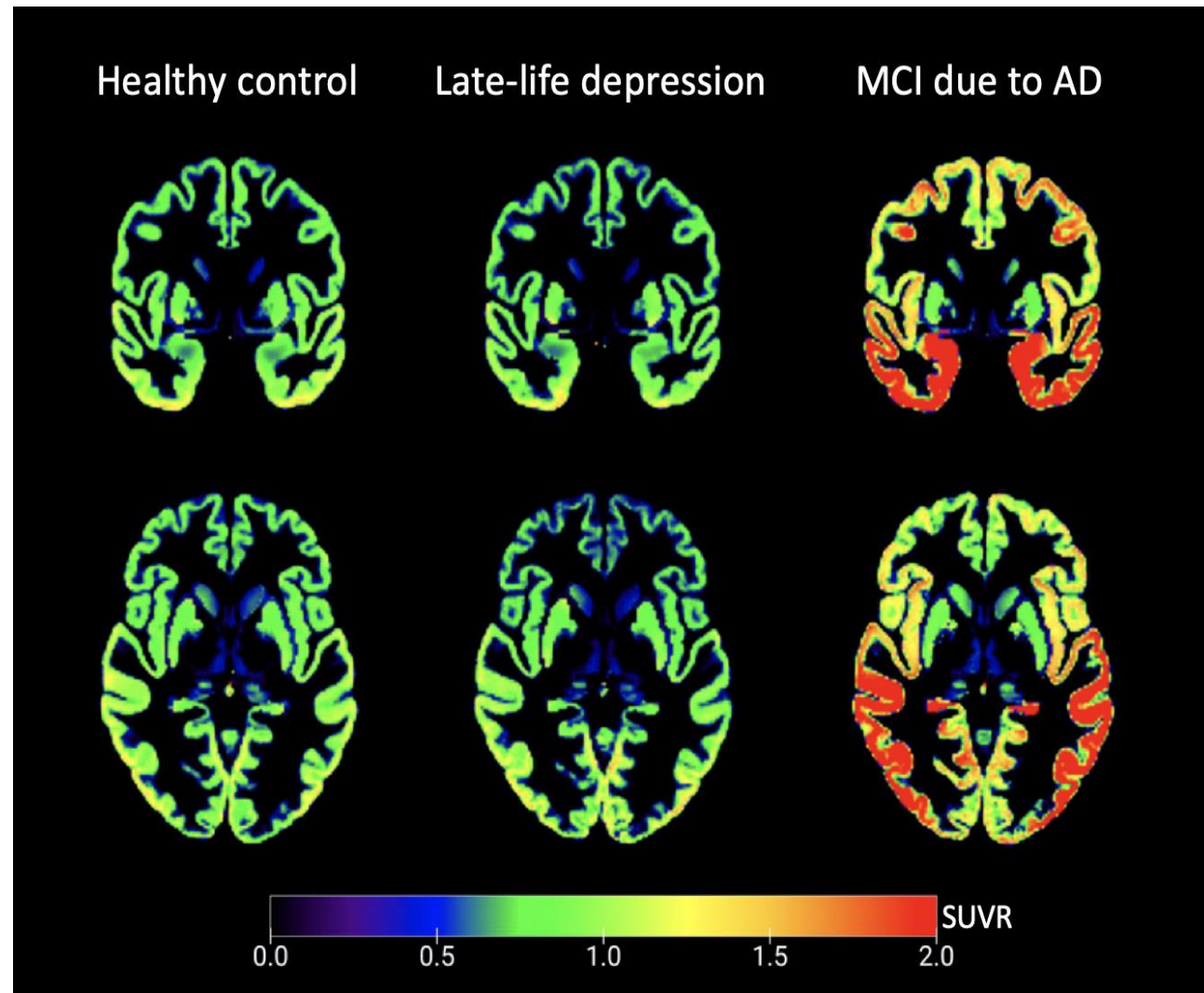




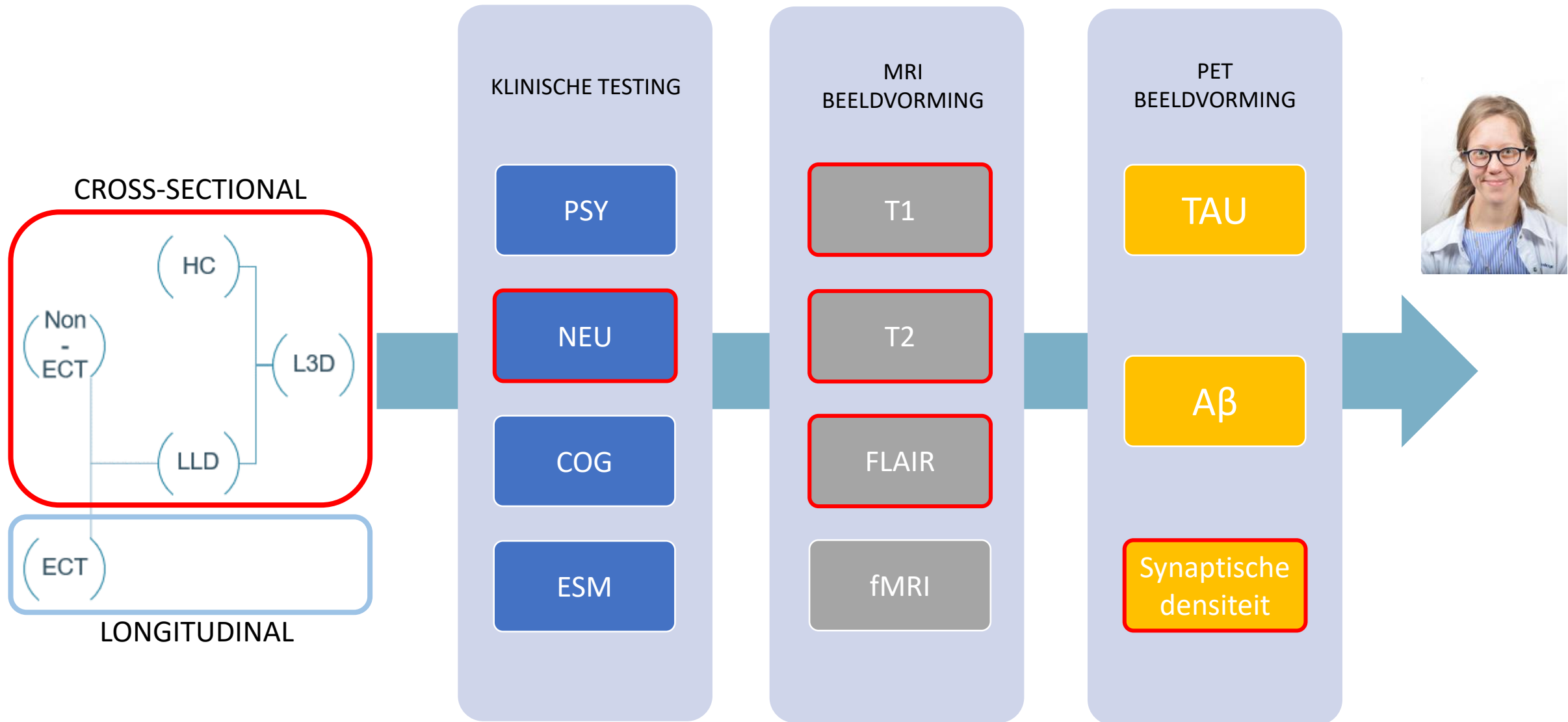
# TAU accumulation in LLD



No difference in tau in depression



# Neurobiologie van psychomotore symptomen in late life depressie



# NEUROBIOLOGIE van PMS in LLD

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**PMS** = psychomotore retardatie + agitatie

20-50% van MDD

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<1990 Response op **antidepressiva/ECT**

# NEUROBIOLOGIE van PMS in LLD

PMS = psychomotore retardatie + agitatie

20-50% van MDD<sup>3</sup> < LLD<sup>4</sup> → ADL impact, vallen, chroniciteit

<1990 Response op antidepressiva, ECT<sup>5</sup>

>1990 ↓ Frontostriataal dopamine vs verspreid ↓ CBF, GMV & ↑WML

<sup>3</sup> Calligiuri et al. 2000; <sup>5</sup>Reijnders et al. Mov dis 2008, <sup>4</sup>Rogers et al. 2002

# NEUROBIOLOGIE van PMS in LLD

PMS = psychomotore retardatie + agitatie

20-50% van MDD<sup>3</sup> < LLD prodr/MMS<sup>4</sup> → ADL impact, vallen

<1990 Response op antidepressiva, ECT<sup>5</sup>

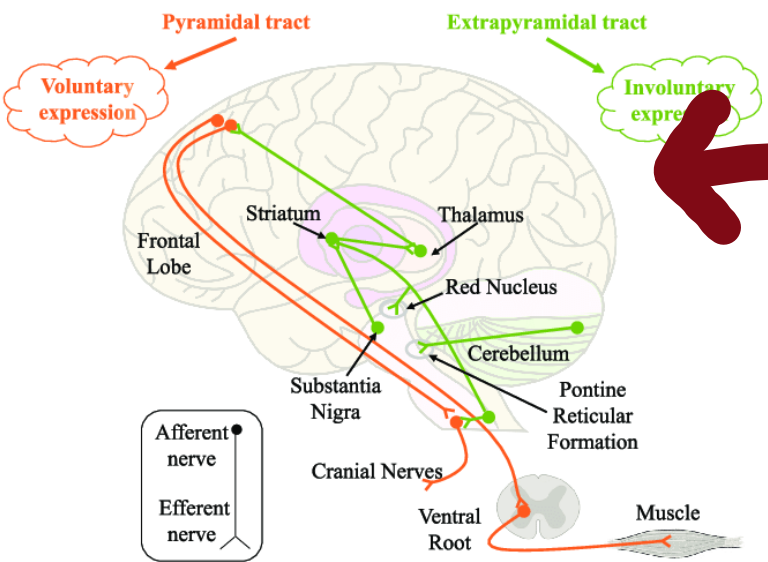
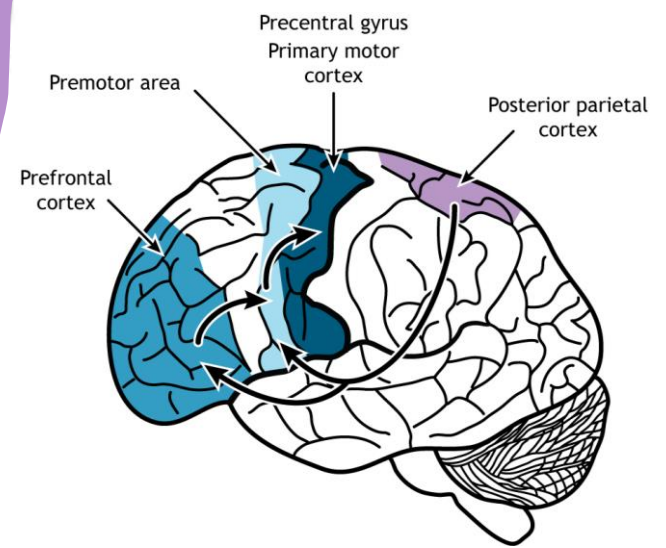
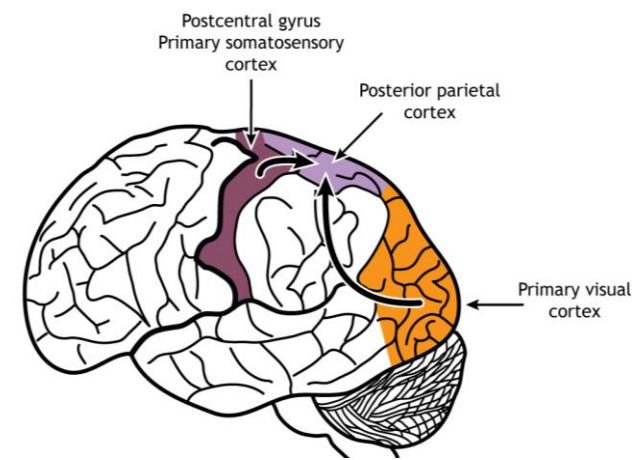
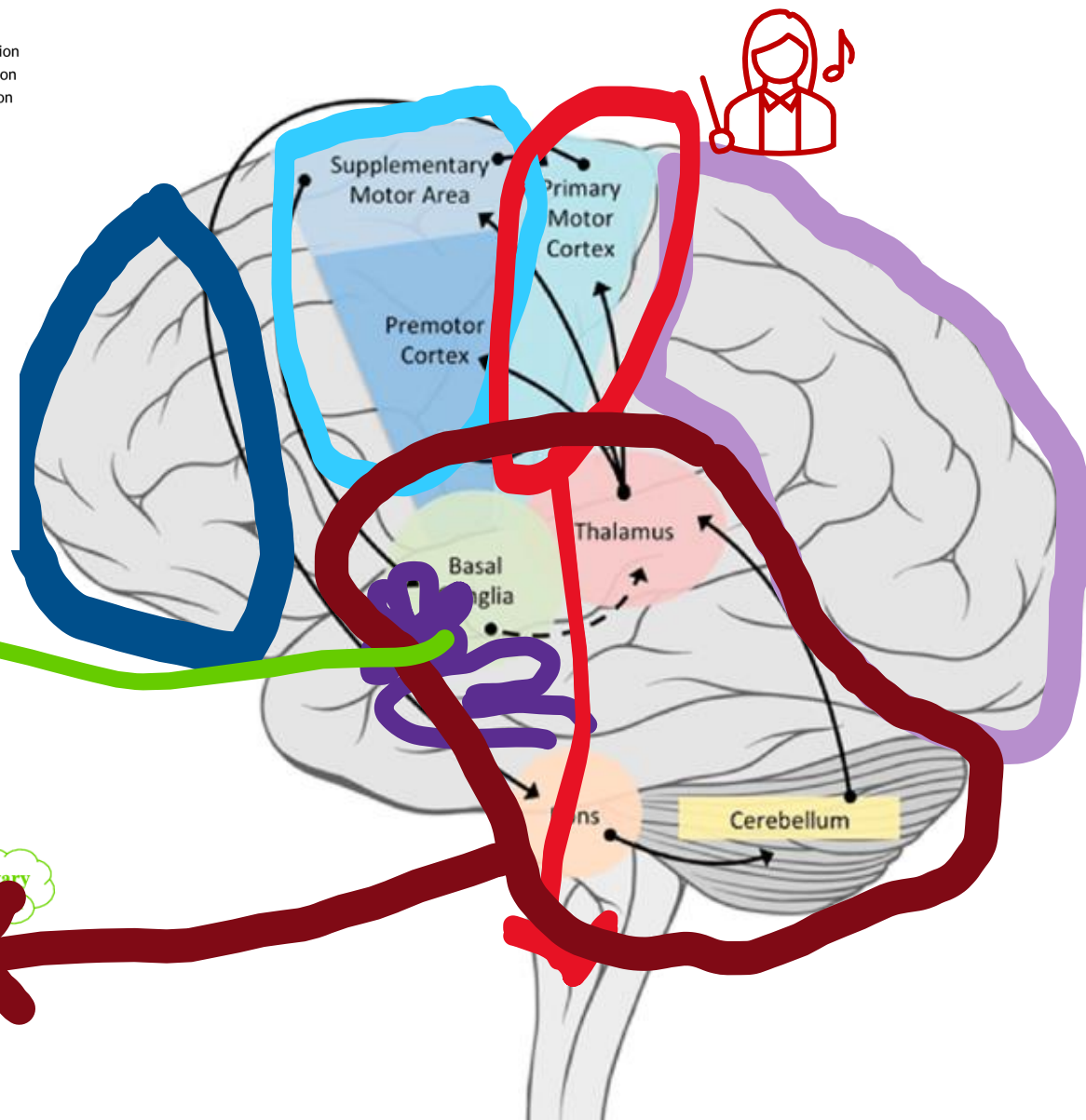
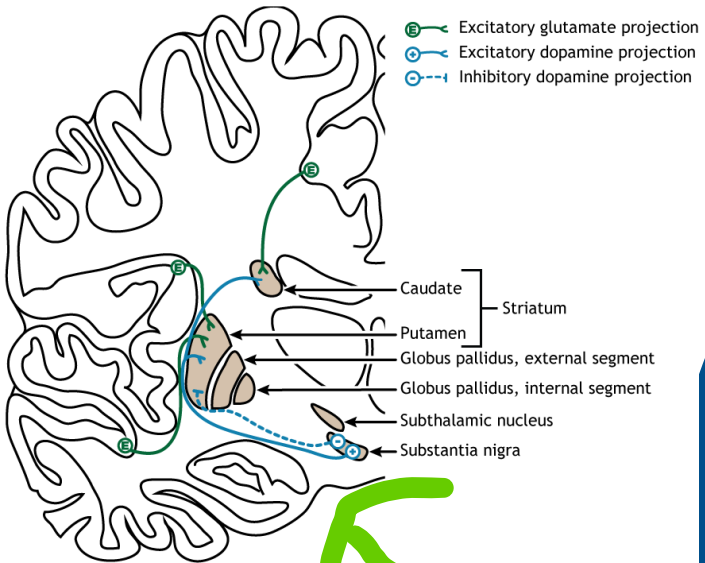
>1990 ↓ Frontostriataal dopamine vs verspreid ↓ CBF, GMV & ↑WML

? MDD – ‘normale’ hersenveroudering – prodromale hersenziekte

<sup>3</sup> Calligiuri et al. 2000; <sup>5</sup>Reijnders et al. Mov dis 2008, <sup>4</sup>Rogers et al. 2002  
For review see: *Liberg et al. 2015, Bennabi et al. 2013, Buyukdura et al. 2011*

# Onderzoeksvragen

1. PMS fenotypering → hersenregio's? (*waar?*)
2. PMS // stemming, motivatie- of cognitie? (*hoe?*)
3. PMS // MMS in kader van “natuurlijke hersenveroudering”? (*wat?*)



Source: Sanders et al. Brain Sci. 2020, 10, 215

## 1 Non-interactiveness

For what proportion of the interview does the patient interact with or “stay with” the interviewer? Rate the extent to which the patient has “not been registered”? *Show an impairment of concentration.*

- 0 — Consistently interactive
- 1 — Not interactive some of the time
- 2 — Not interactive much of the time
- 3 — Not interactive almost all of the time

## 2 Facial immobility

The rater should assess the lack of mobility of the face. The depth of expression is important. Mere social reactions should not be given in your assessment.

- 0 — Mobility within normal limits
- 1 — Somewhat restricted facial mobility
- 2 — Moderately restricted facial mobility
- 3 — Fixed and immobile face

## 3 Postural slumping

Judge the presence and severity of postural slumping (rolled forward) relevant to the patient's sitting, standing and walking.

- 0 — No slumping
- 1 — Slightly slumped posture
- 2 — Moderately slumped posture
- 3 — Markedly slumped posture

## 4 Non-reactivity

Assess any failure by the patient to show a pleasant or to your attempts at cheerful reactivity, test for it formally (e.g., by a neutral event, compliment the patient about humour). Spontaneous or unforced smiling is not a rating for non-reactivity. Superficial or forced smiling is not a rating for non-reactivity.

- 0 — Appropriately reactive mood
- 1 — Slightly non-reactive mood
- 2 — Moderately non-reactive mood
- 3 — Severely non-reactive mood (neither smiling nor reacting)

## 5 Facial apprehension

Rate the extent to which the patient's face shows sustained morbid apprehension, perplexity, bewilderment, fearfulness or tortured concern. The apprehension is unable to be relieved substantially by the interviewer's attempts to provide realistic comfort or reassurance. The item should not be rated unless the apprehension is clearly pathological and persistent.

- 0 — No facial apprehension
- 1 — Slight facial apprehension
- 2 — Moderate facial apprehension
- 3 — Marked facial apprehension

## 6 Delay in responding verbally

Judge the extent to which the patient delays in responding. Allow for the patient's education and language.

- 0 — No obvious delay in responding
- 1 — Slight delay in responding
- 2 — Moderate delay in responding
- 3 — Severe delay in responding

## 7 Length of verbal responses

Rate the extent to which the patient's responses are short or long. Consider the patient's culture, age and language.

- 0 — Responses of appropriate length
- 1 — Responses distinctly shorter than normal
- 2 — Responses generally of a few words
- 3 — Mute

## 8 Inattentiveness

Inattentiveness is, in effect, an impairment of attention. Rate the extent to which the patient is unable to sustain attention to the interviewer. The patient may have been unable to sustain attention to the interviewer.

- 0 — Consistently attentive
- 1 — Inattentive for some of the time
- 2 — Inattentive for much of the time
- 3 — Inattentive almost all of the time

## 9 Facial agitation

Judge the extent to which the patient's facial movements and fluctuations indicate pathological fearfulness, bewilderment, anguish, perplexity or torment. Agitation can be commonly expressed in sudden outbursts of despair. At other times the patient's face may lack mobility. Do not rate dyskinetic movements or physical disorders which may produce apparent agitation. Do not rate facial movements from movements associated with anxiety, refer to Poir guidelines. A 3 rating requires persistent and significant agitation superimposed on a facial expression of perplexity and/or retardation.

- 0 — No facial agitation
- 1 — Slight facial agitation
- 2 — Moderate facial agitation
- 3 — Persistent and/or several epochs of marked facial agitation

## 10 Body immobility (amount, not speed)

Judge the extent to which the patient moves limbs, hands and body. Consider the patient's age and physical status.

- 0 — Mobility within normal limits
- 1 — Slightly restricted mobility
- 2 — Moderately restricted mobility
- 3 — Virtually no movement (immobile)

## 11 Motor agitation

Rate persistent, excessive or inappropriate motor activity as manifested by the patient to sit or stay still, indicating thwacking energy. Typical movements include slow rubbing, pacing, writhing, fidgeting, or mannerisms. The movements may have an autistic quality. Do not rate tics or mannerisms. Note Point 3 in the general guidelines. A 2 rating reflects agitation of moderate severity or epochs of quite severe agitation. A 3 rating reflects persistent and severe agitation.

- 0 — No abnormality, or movements more typical of anxiety
- 1 — Slight motor agitation
- 2 — Persistent agitation of moderate severity or epochs of moderate severity
- 3 — Severe motor agitation, unable to sit still at all

## Scoring Sheet for the CORE Assessment of Psychomotor Change

After entering the item ratings in the boxes sum the columns to obtain the scores on the three scales; then sum the three scale scores to obtain the total score.

1. Non-interactiveness	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2. Facial immobility		<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Postural slumping		<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Non-reactivity	<input type="checkbox"/>		
5. Facial apprehension			<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Delay in responding verbally		<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Length of verbal responses	<input type="checkbox"/>		
8. Inattentiveness	<input type="checkbox"/>		
9. Facial agitation			<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Body immobility (amount, not speed)		<input type="checkbox"/>	
11. Motor agitation			<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Poverty of associations	<input type="checkbox"/>		
13. Slowed movement (speed, not amount)		<input type="checkbox"/>	
14. Verbal stereotypy			<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Delay in motor activity		<input type="checkbox"/>	
16. Impaired spontaneity of talk	<input type="checkbox"/>		
17. Slowing of speech rate		<input type="checkbox"/>	
18. Stereotyped movements			<input type="checkbox"/>
NI = Non-interactiveness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
RT = Retardation			
AG = Agitation			
	NI	RT	AG
Total CORE score = NI + RT + AG =	<input type="checkbox"/>		

# MDS UPDRS Score Sheet

1.A	Source of information	<input type="checkbox"/> Patient <input type="checkbox"/> Caregiver <input type="checkbox"/> Patient + Caregiver	3.3b	Rigidity- RUE	
			3.3c	Rigidity- LUE	
			3.3d	Rigidity- RLE	
<b>Part I</b>					
1.1	Cognitive impairment		3.3e	Rigidity- LLE	
1.2	Hallucinations and psychosis		3.4a	Finger tapping- Right hand	
1.3	Depressed mood		3.4b	Finger tapping- Left hand	
1.4	Anxious mood		3.5a	Hand movements- Right hand	
1.5	Apathy		3.5b	Hand movements- Left hand	
1.6	Features of DDS		3.6a	Pronation- supination movements- Right hand	
1.6a	Who is filling out questionnaire	<input type="checkbox"/> Patient <input type="checkbox"/> Caregiver <input type="checkbox"/> Patient + Caregiver	3.6b	Pronation- supination movements- Left hand	
1.7	Sleep problems		3.7a	Toe tapping-Right foot	
1.8	Daytime sleepiness		3.7b	Toe tapping- Left foot	
1.9	Pain and other sensations		3.8a	Leg agility- Right leg	
1.10	Urinary problems		3.8b	Leg agility- Left leg	
1.11	Constipation problems		3.9	Arising from chair	
1.12	Light headedness on standing		3.10	Gait	
1.13	Fatigue		3.11	Freezing of gait	
<b>Part II</b>					
2.1	Speech		3.12	Postural stability	
2.2	Saliva and drooling		3.13	Posture	
2.3	Chewing and swallowing		3.14	Global spontaneity of movement	
2.4	Eating tasks		3.15a	Postural tremor- Right hand	
2.5	Dressing		3.15b	Postural tremor- Left hand	
2.6	Hygiene		3.16a	Kinetic tremor- Right hand	
2.7	Handwriting		3.16b	Kinetic tremor- Left hand	
2.8	Doing hobbies and other activities		3.17a	Rest tremor amplitude- RUE	
2.9	Turning in bed		3.17b	Rest tremor amplitude- LUE	
2.10	Tremor		3.17c	Rest tremor amplitude- RLE	
2.11	Getting out of bed		3.17d	Rest tremor amplitude- LLE	
2.12	Walking and balance		3.17e	Rest tremor amplitude- Lip/jaw	
2.13	Freezing		3.18	Constancy of rest	
3a	Is the patient on medication?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes		Were dyskinesias present	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
3b	Patient's clinical state	<input type="checkbox"/> Off <input type="checkbox"/> On		Did these movements interfere with ratings?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
3c	Is the patient on Levodopa?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes			
3.C1	If yes, minutes since last dose:				
<b>Part III</b>					
3.1	Speech		3.19	Hoehn and Yahr Stage	
3.2	Facial expression		4.1	Time spent with dyskinesias	
3.3a	Rigidity- Neck		4.2	Functional impact of dyskinesias	
			4.3	Time spent in the OFF state	
			4.4	Functional impact of fluctuations	
			4.5	Complexity of motor fluctuations	
			4.6	Painful OFF-state dystonia	
<b>Part IV</b>					

## Scale for the assessment and rating of ataxia (SARA)

### 1) Gait

Proband is asked (1) to walk at a safe distance parallel to a wall including a half-turn (turn around to face the opposite direction of gait) and (2) to walk in tandem (heels to toes) without support.

- 0 Normal, no difficulties in walking, turning and walking tandem (up to one misstep allowed)
- 1 Slight difficulties, only visible when walking 10 consecutive steps in tandem
- 2 Clearly abnormal, tandem walking >10 steps not possible
- 3 Considerable staggering, difficulties in half-turn, but without support
- 4 Marked staggering, intermittent support of the wall required
- 5 Severe staggering, permanent support of one stick or light support by one arm required
- 6 Walking > 10 m only with strong support (two special sticks or stroller or accompanying person)
- 7 Walking < 10 m only with strong support (two special sticks or stroller or accompanying person)
- 8 Unable to walk, even supported

Score

### 3) Sitting

Proband is asked to sit on an examination bed without support of feet, eyes open and arms outstretched to the front.

- 0 Normal, no difficulties sitting >10 sec
- 1 Slight difficulties, intermittent sway
- 2 Constant sway, but able to sit > 10 s without support
- 3 Able to sit for > 10 s only with intermittent support
- 4 Unable to sit for > 10 s without continuous support

Score

### 2) Stance

Proband is asked to stand (1) in natural position, (2) with feet together in parallel (big toes touching each other) and (3) in tandem (both feet on one line, no space between heel and toe). Proband does not wear shoes, eyes are open. For each condition, three trials are allowed. Best trial is rated.

- 0 Normal, able to stand in tandem for > 10 s
- 1 Able to stand with feet together without sway, but not in tandem for > 10s
- 2 Able to stand with feet together with sway
- 3 Able to stand for > 10 s without position, but not with feet together
- 4 Able to stand for >10 s in natural intermittent support
- 5 Able to stand >10 s in natural p constant support of one arm
- 6 Unable to stand for >10 s even v of one arm

Score

### 4) Speech disturbance

Speech is assessed during normal co

- 0 Normal
- 1 Suggestion of speech disturbance
- 2 Impaired speech, but easy to understand
- 3 Occasional words difficult to understand
- 4 Many words difficult to understand
- 5 Only single words understandable
- 6 Speech unintelligible / anarthria

Score

### 5) Finger chase

Rated separately for each side  
Proband sits comfortably. If necessary, support of feet and trunk is allowed. Examiner sits in front of proband and performs 5 consecutive sudden and fast pointing movements in unpredictable directions in a frontal plane, at about 50 % of proband's reach. Movements have an amplitude of 30 cm and a frequency of 1 movement every 2 s. Proband is asked to follow the movements with his index finger, as fast and precisely as possible. Average performance of last 3 movements is rated.

- 0 No dysmetria
- 1 Dysmetria, under/ overshooting target <5 cm
- 2 Dysmetria, under/ overshooting target < 15 cm
- 3 Dysmetria, under/ overshooting target > 15 cm
- 4 Unable to perform 5 pointing movements

Score

mean of both sides (R+L)/2

### 7) Fast alternating hand movements

Rated separately for each side  
Proband sits comfortably. If necessary, support of feet and trunk is allowed. Proband is asked to perform 10 cycles of repetitive alternation of pro- and supinations of the hand on his/her thigh as fast and as precise as possible. Movement is demonstrated by examiner at a speed of approx. 10 cycles within 7 s. Exact times for movement execution have to be taken.

- 0 Normal, no irregularities (performs <10s)
- 1 Slightly irregular (performs <10s)
- 2 Clearly irregular, single movements difficult to distinguish or relevant interruptions, but performs <10s
- 3 Very irregular, single movements difficult to distinguish or relevant interruptions, performs >10s
- 4 Unable to complete 10 cycles

Score

mean of both sides (R+L)/2

### 6) Nose-finger test

Rated separately for each side  
Proband sits comfortably. If necessary, support of feet and trunk is allowed. Proband is asked to point repeatedly with his index finger from his nose to examiner's finger which is in front of the proband at about 90 % of proband's reach. Movements are performed at moderate speed. Average performance of movements is rated according to the amplitude of the kinetic tremor.

- 0 No tremor
- 1 Tremor with an amplitude < 2 cm
- 2 Tremor with an amplitude < 5 cm
- 3 Tremor with an amplitude > 5 cm
- 4 Unable to perform 5 pointing movements

Score

mean of both sides (R+L)/2

### 8) Heel-shin slide

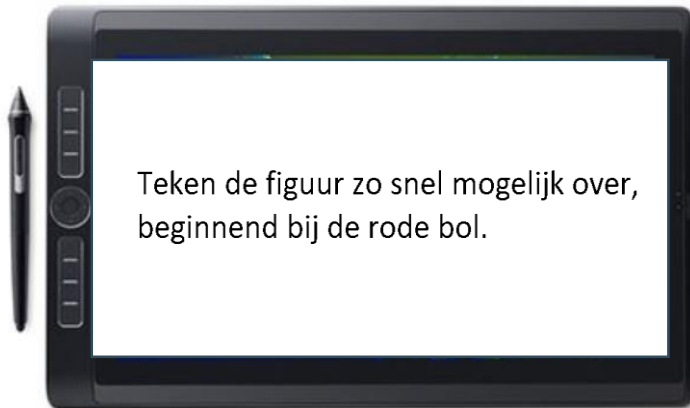
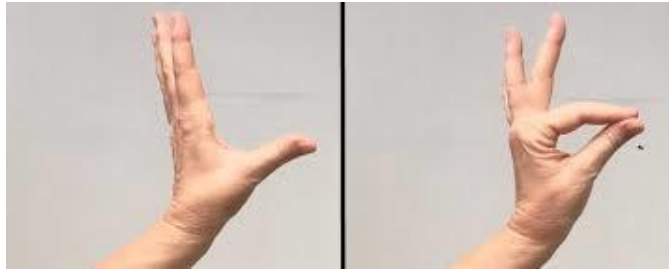
Rated separately for each side  
Proband lies on examination bed, without sight of his legs. Proband is asked to lift one leg, point with the heel to the opposite knee, slide down along the shin to the ankle, and lay the leg back on the examination bed. The task is performed 3 times. Slide-down movements should be performed within 1 s. If proband slides down without contact to shin in all three trials, rate 4.

- 0 Normal
- 1 Slightly abnormal, contact to shin maintained
- 2 Clearly abnormal, goes off shin up to 3 times during 3 cycles
- 3 Severely abnormal, goes off shin 4 or more times during 3 cycles
- 4 Unable to perform the task

Score

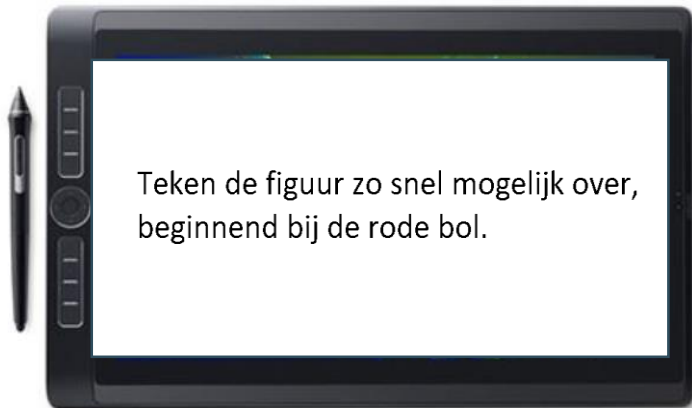
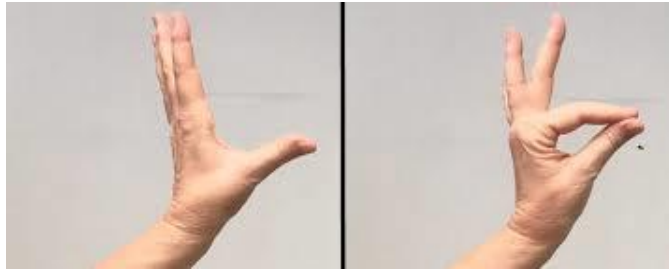
mean of both sides (R+L) / 2

# Experimenteel: fijne motoriek @ L3D

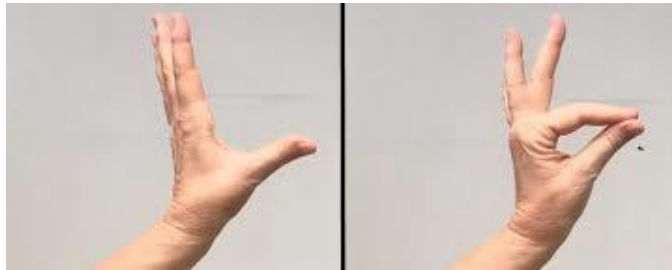
















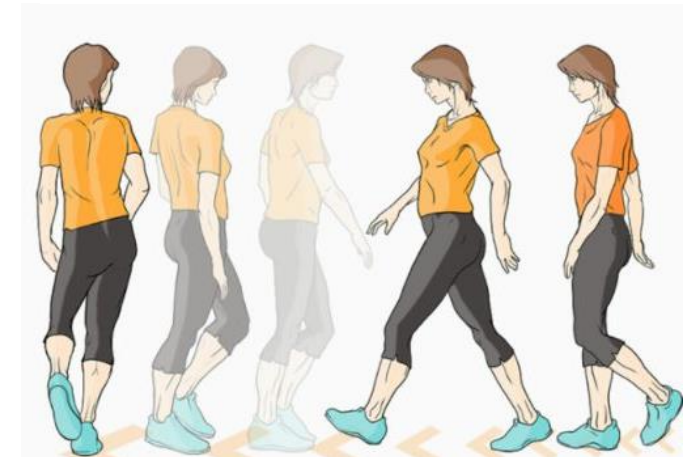
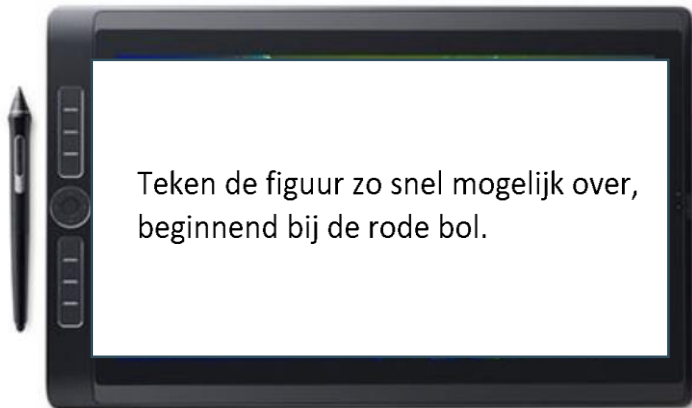
# Experimenteel: grove motoriek @ L3D

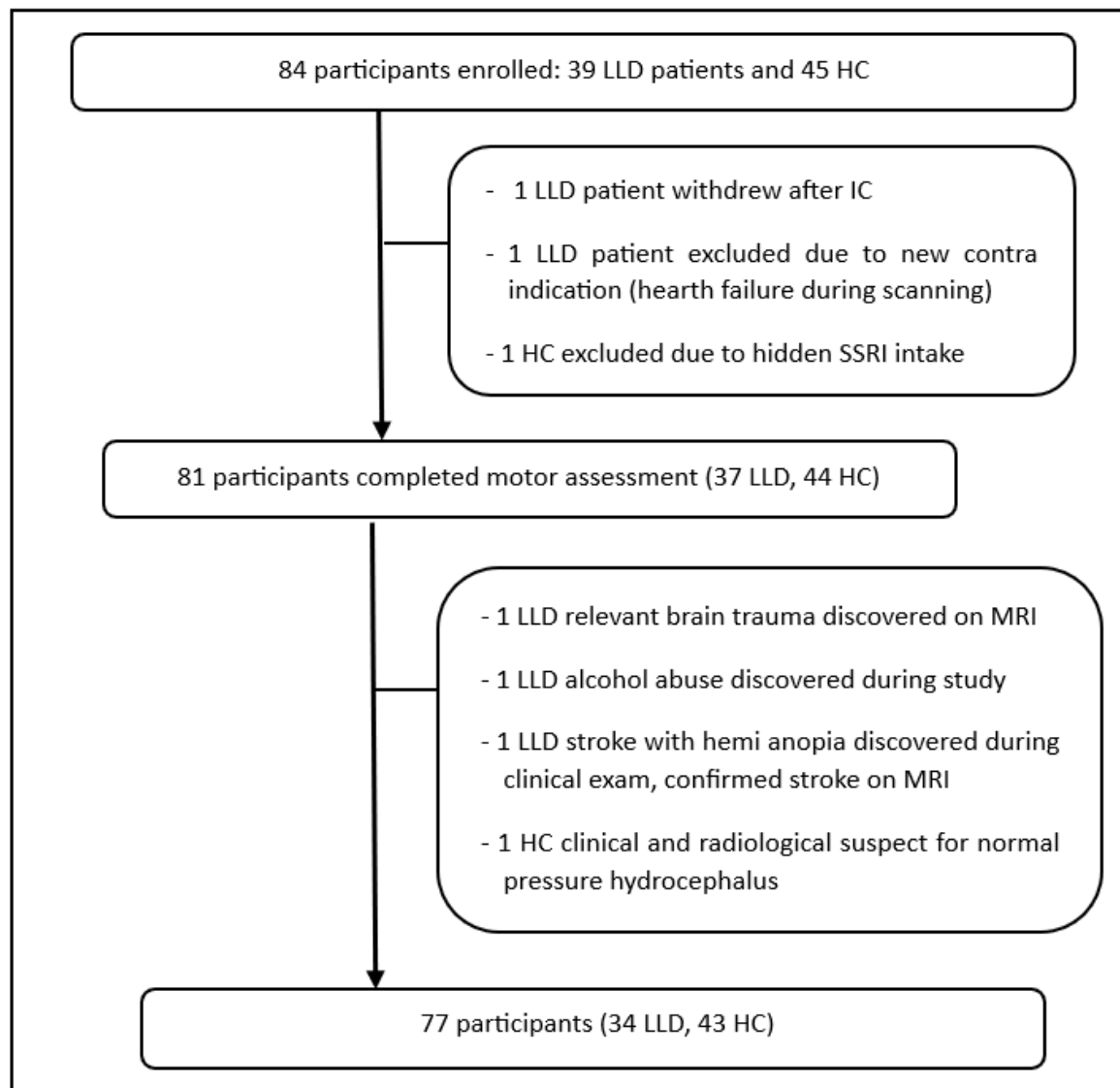


# Experimenteel: gang en spraak @ L3D

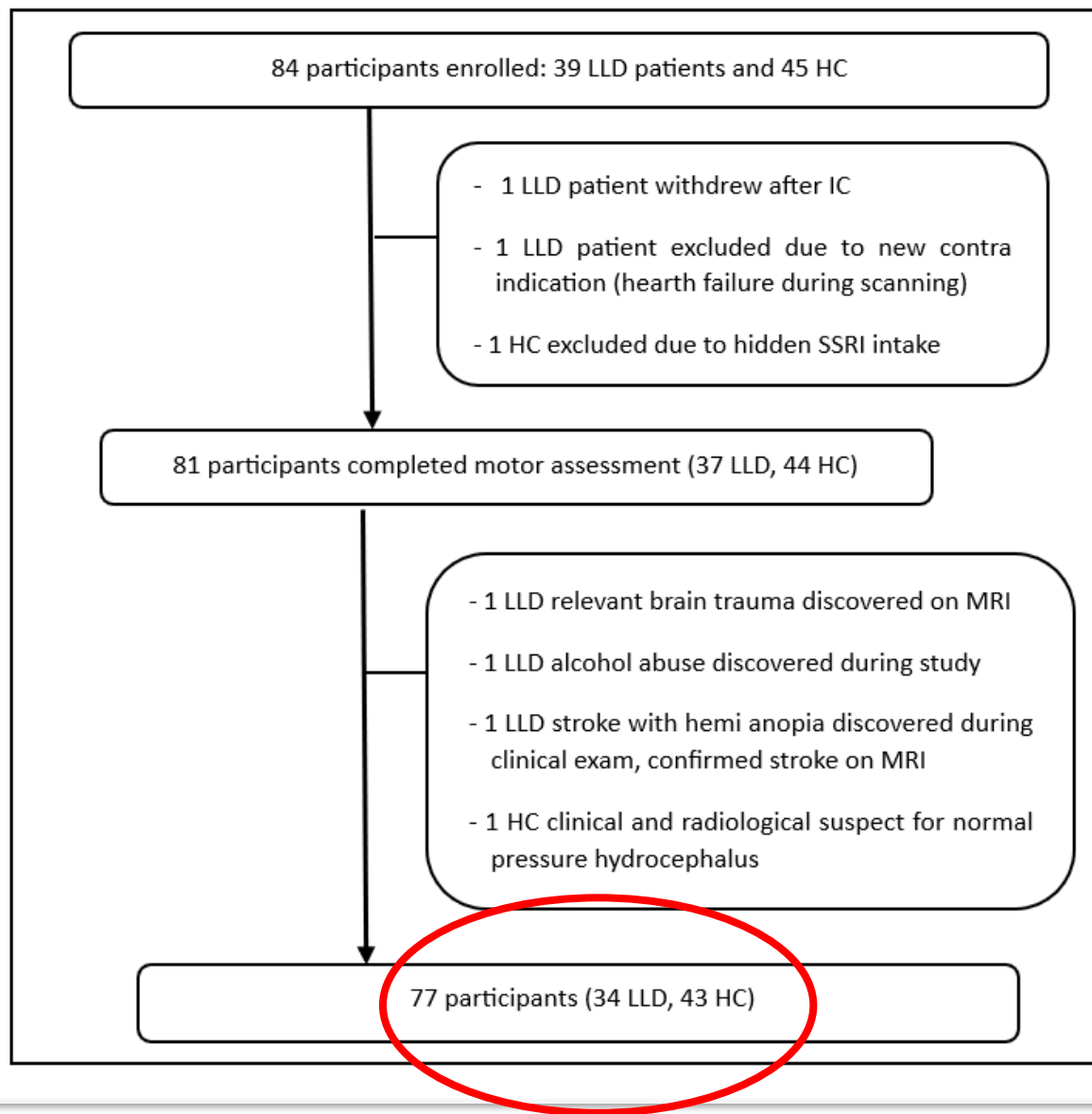


Row 1				
Row 2				
Row 3				

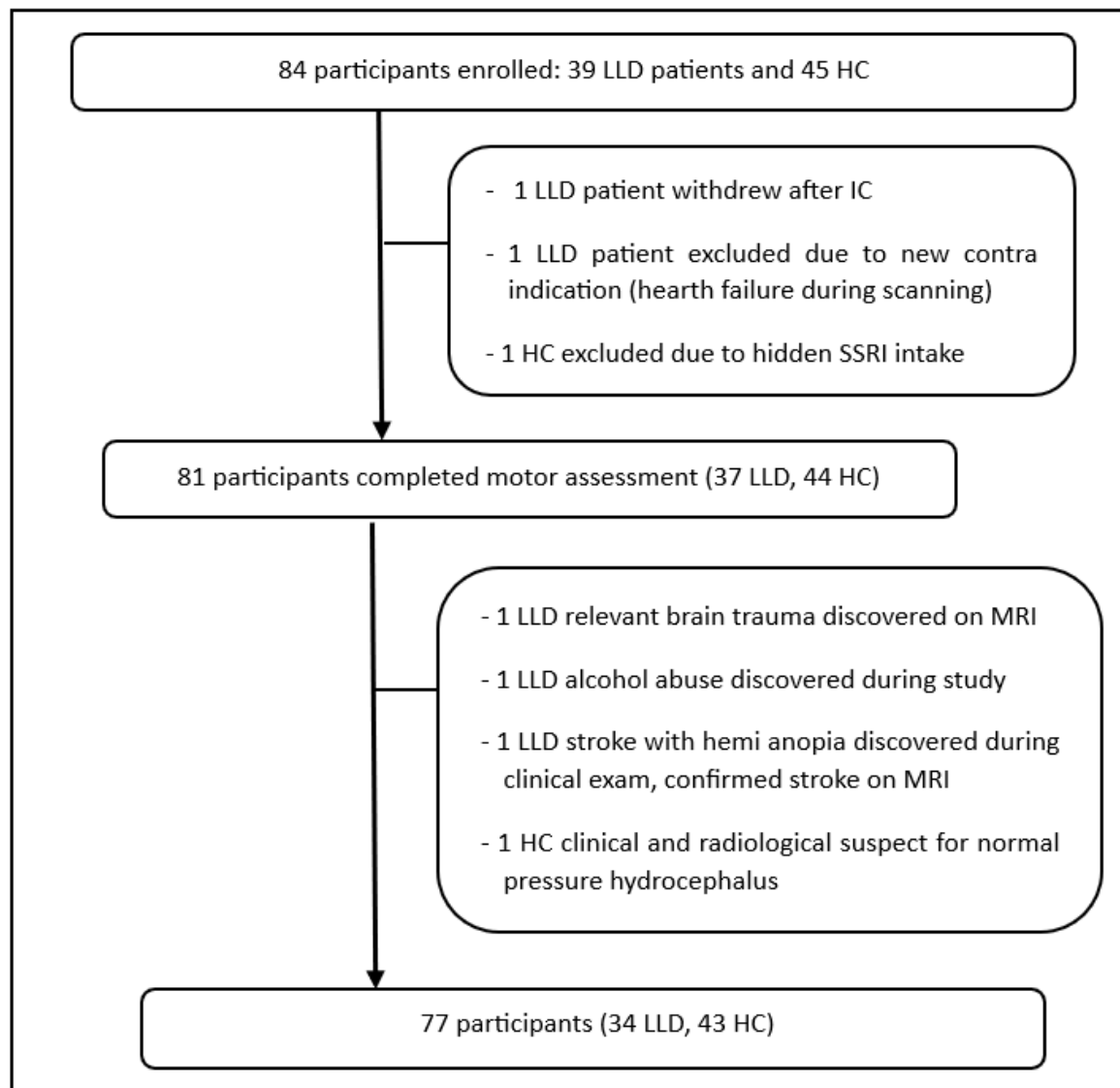




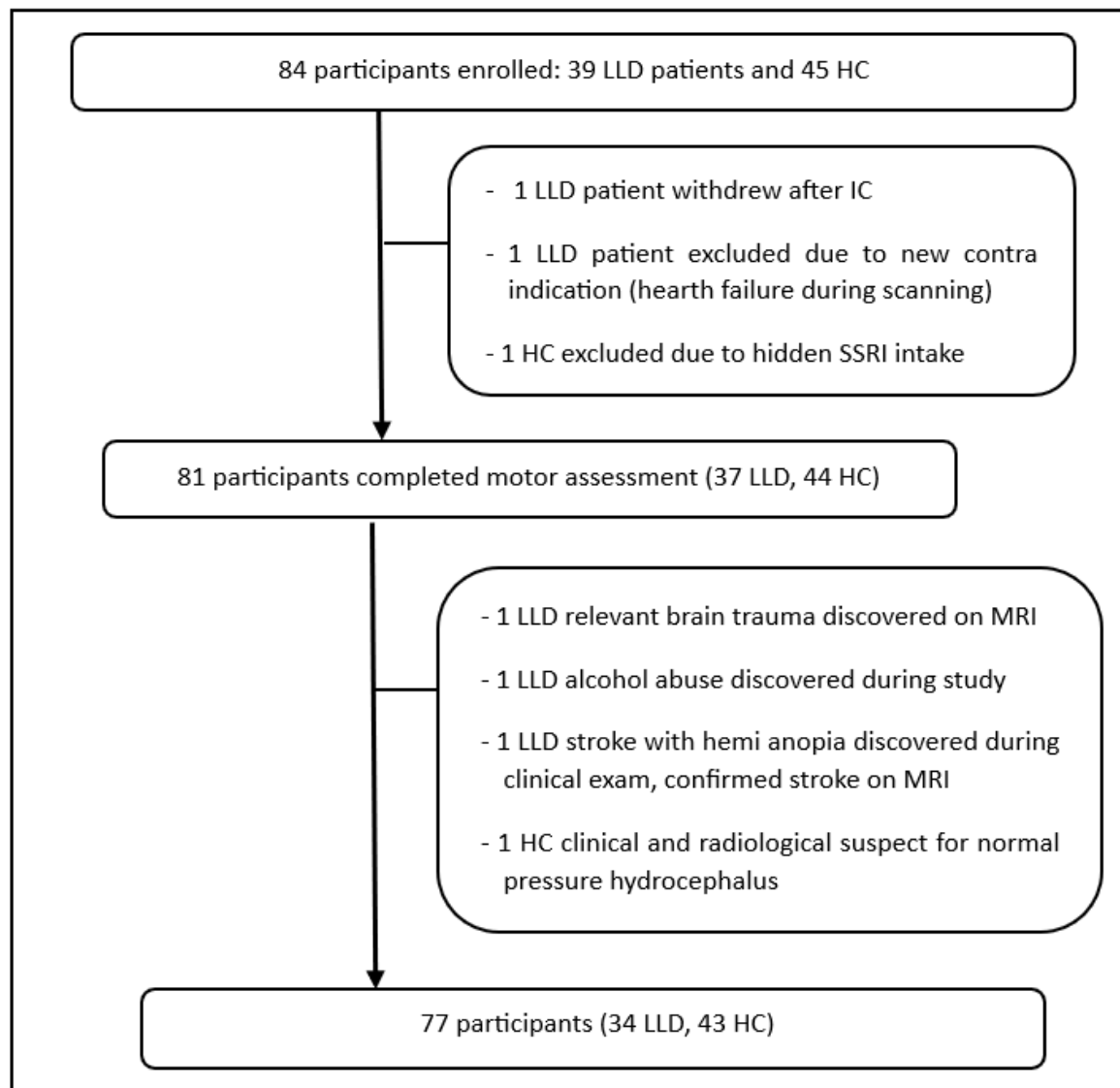
	n (%) / mean $\pm$ SD / median [IQR]		P
	HC	LLD	
Age (years)	70.6 $\pm$ 5.8	73.3 $\pm$ 6.0	.046*
Female : male	27:16	23:11	.839
Education (years)	14.3 $\pm$ 2.7	11.6 $\pm$ 3.2	<.001*
Exercise last 6 months (times >30min /week)	3 [3]	1 [2]	.002*
Psychotropic drug use			
Antidepressant use	0	32 (94%)	<.001*
Antipsychotics use	0	20 (59%)	
Benzodiazepine use	2 (5%)	18 (53%)	
MADRS	0.9 $\pm$ 1.7	<b>27.9</b> $\pm$ 11.1	<.001*
GDS	2.6 $\pm$ 2.8	<b>21.2</b> $\pm$ 6.7	<.001*
AES	22.0 $\pm$ 5.1	<b>45.8</b> $\pm$ 11.9	<.001*
MMSE	29.0 $\pm$ 1.3	<b>25.8</b> $\pm$ 2.9	<.001*
MDS-UPDRS part III	<b>3.4</b> $\pm$ 2.9	<b>25.6</b> $\pm$ 14.7	<.001
Bradykinesia	1.0 $\pm$ 1.4	12.4 $\pm$ 7.9	
Tremor	0.6 $\pm$ 1.1	3.6 $\pm$ 3.6	
Rigidity	1.1 $\pm$ 1.2	4.8 $\pm$ 1.4	
Gait & balance	0.6 $\pm$ 0.9	3.9 $\pm$ 2.8	
SARA	<b>1.3</b> $\pm$ 1.6	<b>6.1</b> $\pm$ 4.1	
Gait & balance	0.7 $\pm$ 1.1	3.1 $\pm$ 2.3	<.001*
Speech	0.1 $\pm$ 0.4	1.2 $\pm$ 1.1	
Upper limb ataxia	0.4 $\pm$ 0.6	1.6 $\pm$ 1.3	
Lower limb ataxia	0.0 $\pm$ 0.0	0.3 $\pm$ 0.5	
CORE	1.0 $\pm$ 1.6	18.8 $\pm$ 9.4	
CORE agitation	0.5 $\pm$ 0.9	4.3 $\pm$ 2.8	<.001*
CORE retardation	0.2 $\pm$ 0.6	<b>8.6</b> $\pm$ 5.6	
CORE non-interaction	0.4 $\pm$ 0.9	6.0 $\pm$ 3.6	



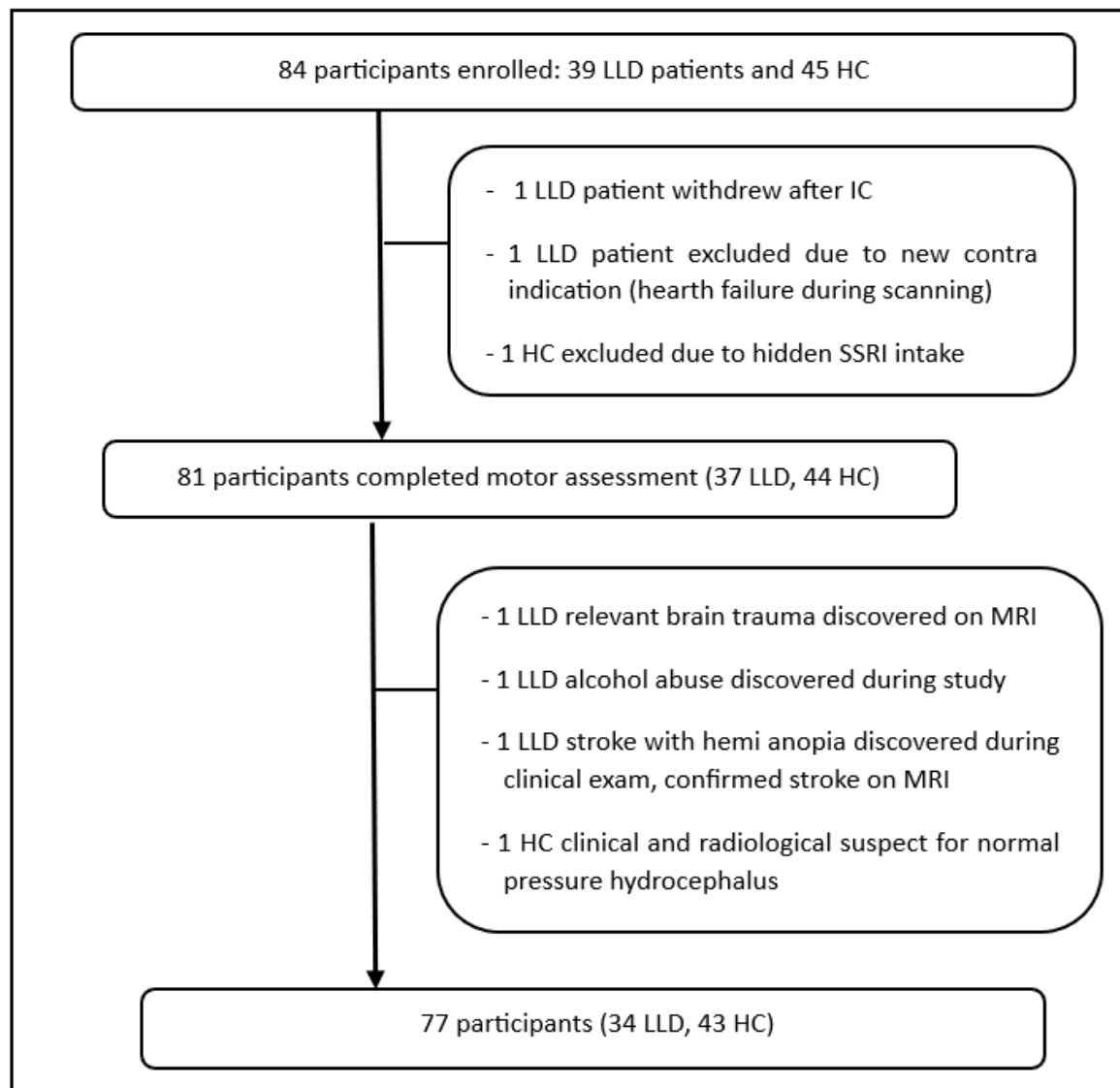
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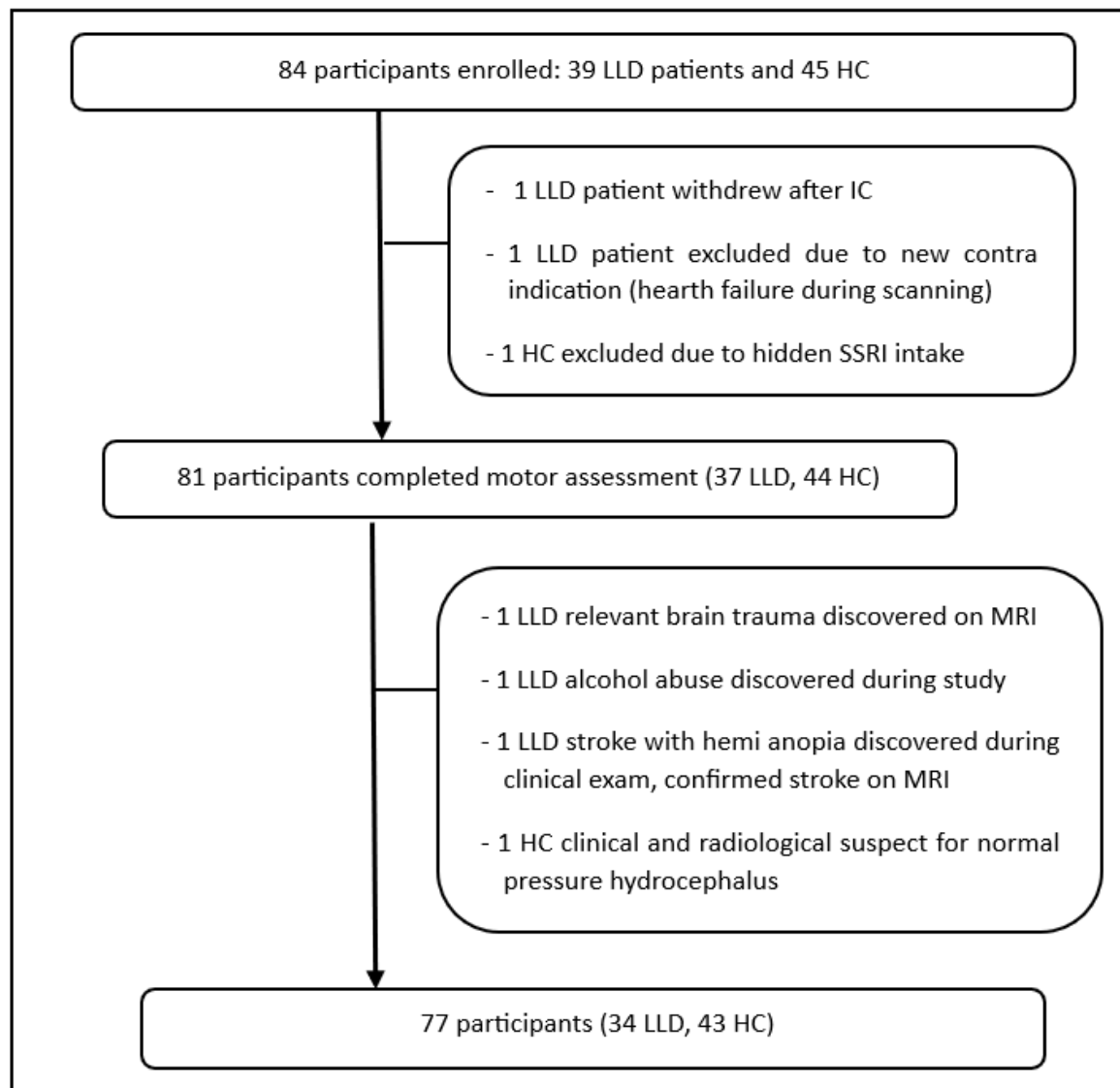
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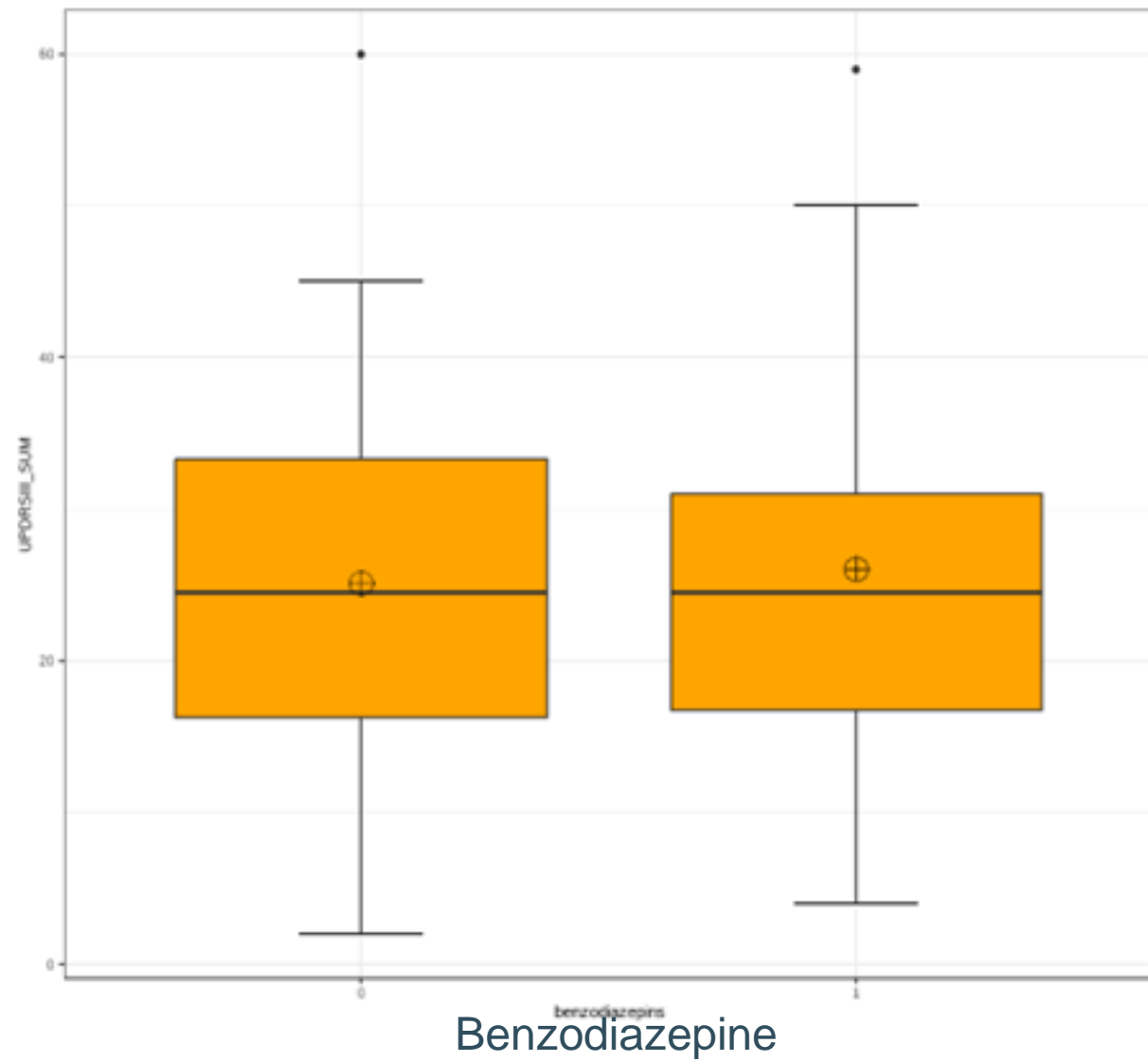
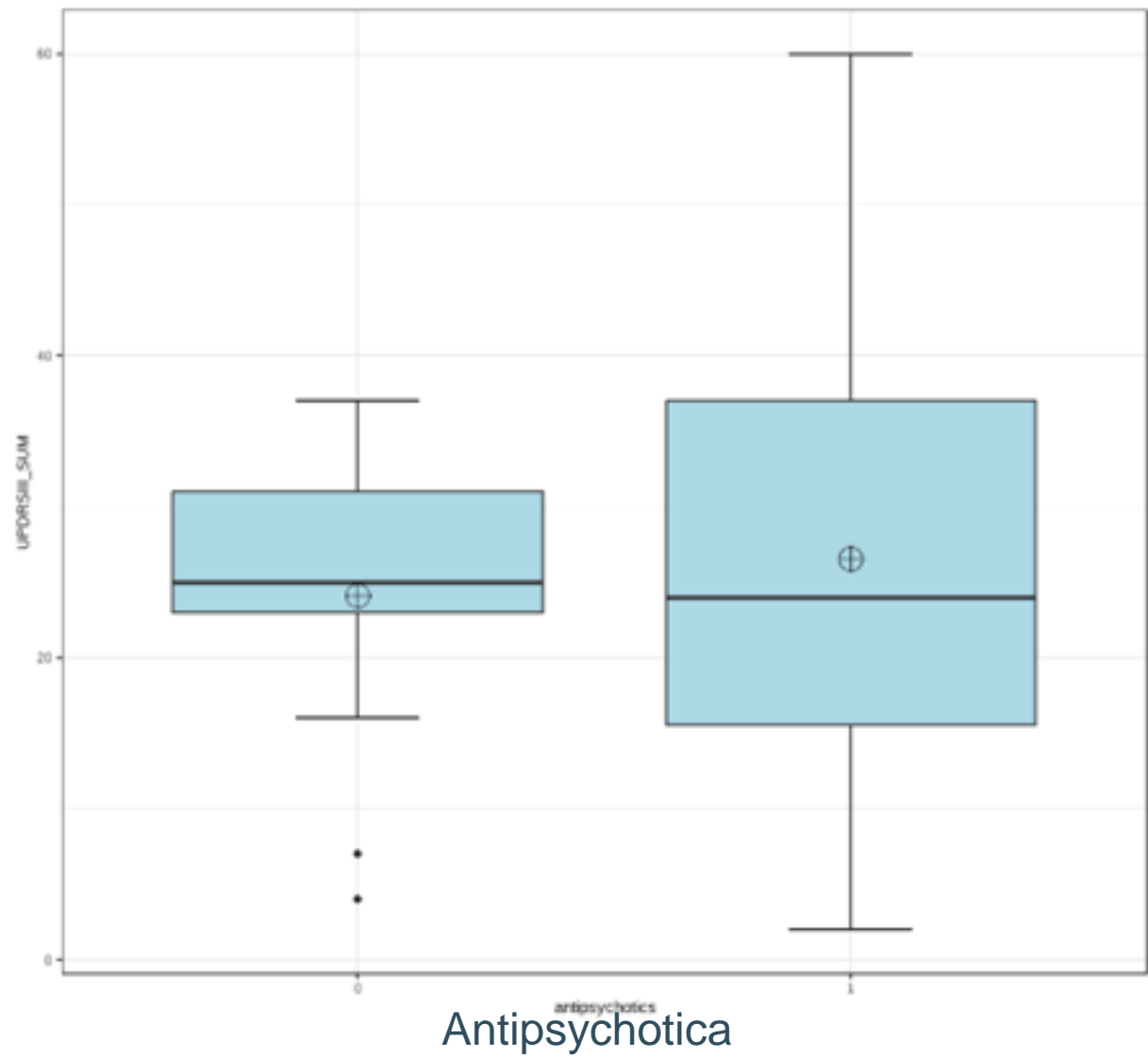


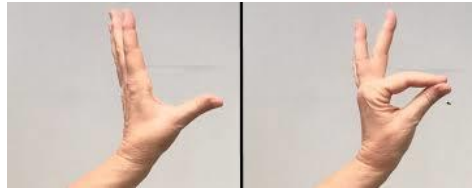
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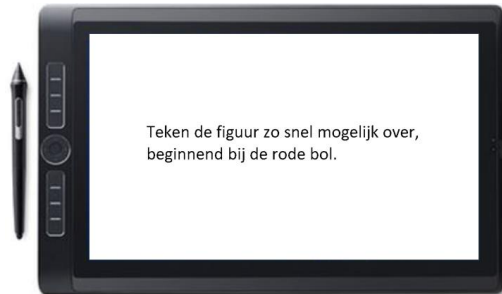
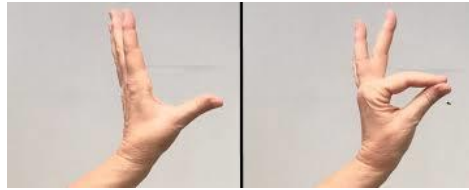
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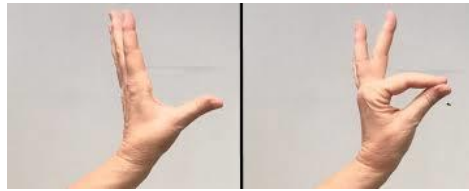




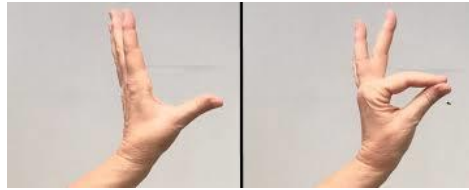
Exp motor task	HC	LLD	P
Fingertapping (taps/s) L	2.95 ±0.77	1.80 ±0.76	<.0001
R	3.03 ±0.87	1.96 ±0.74	<.0001



Exp motor task	HC	LLD	P
Fingertapping (taps/s) L	2.95 ±0.77	1.80 ±0.76	<.0001
R	3.03 ±0.87	1.96 ±0.74	<.0001
Line (free) MT, mean (s)	3.24 ±1.16	6.47 ±4.22	.001
Diamond (free) MT, mean (s)	7.74 ±2.97	13.34 ±5.94	<.001
Circle (cued) MT, mean (s)	8.32 ±3.35	16.52 ±7.61	<.001
Star (cued) MT, mean (s)	10.51	23.63	<.001
Flags (cued) MT, mean (s)	12.00 ± 4.27	21.13 ±8.74	<.001



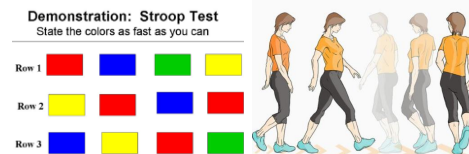
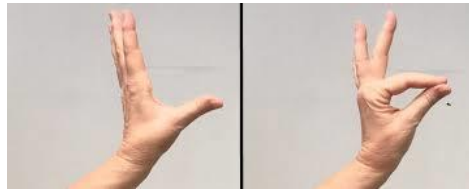
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Star (cued) MT, mean (s)	10.51	23.63	<.001
Flags (cued) MT, mean (s)	12.00 ± 4.27	21.13 ±8.74	<.001
Turns (turns/s) L	1.72 ±0.35	1.21 ±0.31	<.001
R	1.78 ±0.34	1.27 ±0.31	<.001
Stamps (stamps/s) L	2.80 ±0.62	2.25 ±0.59	<.001
R	2.76 ±0.67	2.17 ±0.54	<.001



**Demonstration: Stroop Test**  
State the colors as fast as you can

Row 1	Red	Blue	Green	Yellow
Row 2	Yellow	Red	Blue	Red
Row 3	Blue	Yellow	Red	Green

Exp motor task	HC	LLD	P
Fingertapping (taps/s) L	2.95 ±0.77	1.80 ±0.76	<.0001
R	3.03 ±0.87	1.96 ±0.74	<.0001
Line (free) MT, mean (s)	3.24 ±1.16	6.47 ±4.22	.001
Diamond (free) MT, mean (s)	7.74 ±2.97	13.34 ±5.94	<.001
Circle (cued) MT, mean (s)	8.32 ±3.35	16.52 ±7.61	<.001
Star (cued) MT, mean (s)	10.51	23.63	<.001
Flags (cued) MT, mean (s)	12.00 ± 4.27	21.13 ±8.74	<.001
Turns (turns/s) L	1.72 ±0.35	1.21 ±0.31	<.001
R	1.78 ±0.34	1.27 ±0.31	<.001
Stamps (stamps/s) L	2.80 ±0.62	2.25 ±0.59	<.001
R	2.76 ±0.67	2.17 ±0.54	<.001
Speech (time 12 bars)	18.3 ±3.4	23.9 ±7.6	.0035

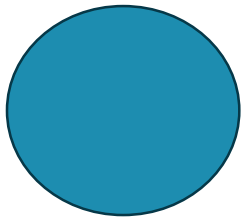


Exp motor task	HC (n=43)	LLD (=34)	P*
Fingertapping (taps/s) L	2.95 ±0.77	1.80 ±0.76	<.0001
R	3.03 ±0.87	1.96 ±0.74	<.0001
Line (free) MT, mean (s)	3.24 ±1.16	6.47 ±4.22	.001
Diamond (free) MT, mean (s)	7.74 ±2.97	13.34 ±5.94	<.001
Circle (cued) MT, mean (s)	8.32 ±3.35	16.52 ±7.61	<.001
Star (cued) MT, mean (s)	10.51	23.63	<.001
Flags (cued) MT, mean (s)	12.00 ± 4.27	21.13 ±8.74	<.001
Turns (turns/s) L	1.72 ±0.35	1.21 ±0.31	<.001
R	1.78 ±0.34	1.27 ±0.31	<.001
Stamps (stamps/s) L	2.80 ±0.62	2.25 ±0.59	<.001
R	2.76 ±0.67	2.17 ±0.54	<.001
Speech (time 12 bars)	18.3 ±3.4	23.9 ±7.6	.0035
Mean gait velocity (m/s)	1.14 ±0.18	0.81 ±0.30	<.001
Mean stride length (m)	0.54 ±0.08	0.41 ±0.12	<.001

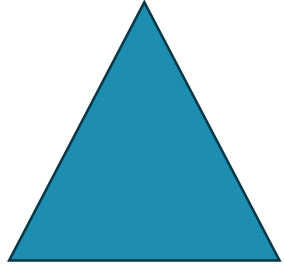
\*Student's t test / MWU

# Onderzoeksvragen

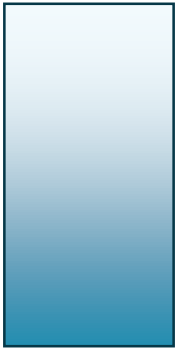
1. PMS fenotypering → **WAAR? ALL OVER THE PLACE**
2. PMS // stemmings-, motivationele- of cognitieve symptomen?
3. PMS // MMS in kader van “natuurlijke hersenveroudering”? (*wat?*)



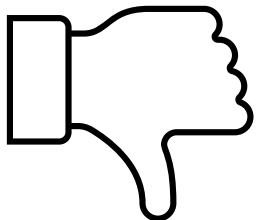
Gezonde controle = HC



Late life depressive patient = LLD



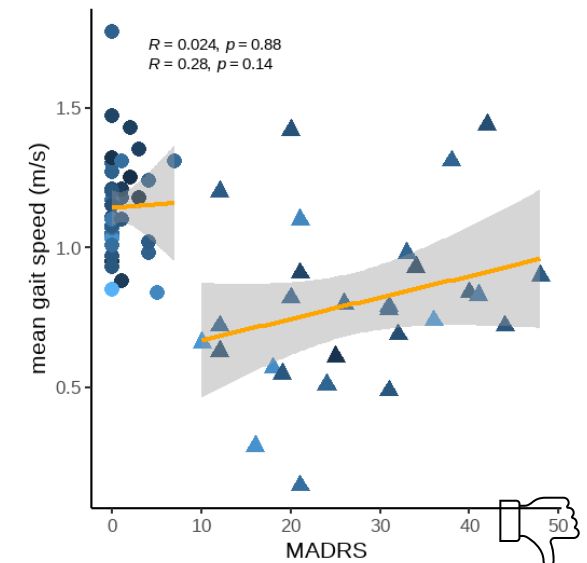
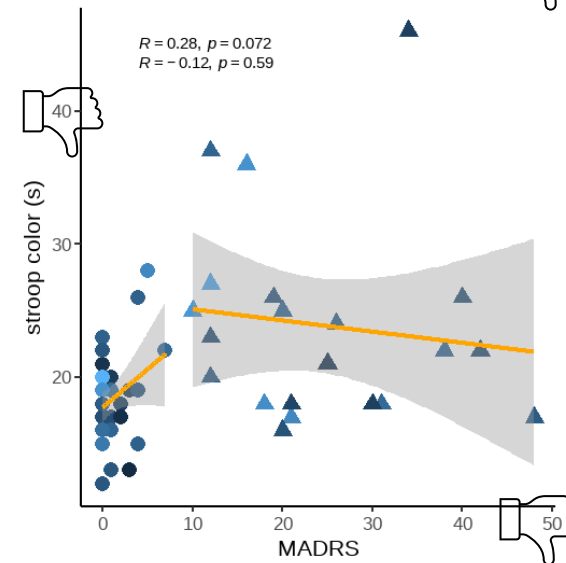
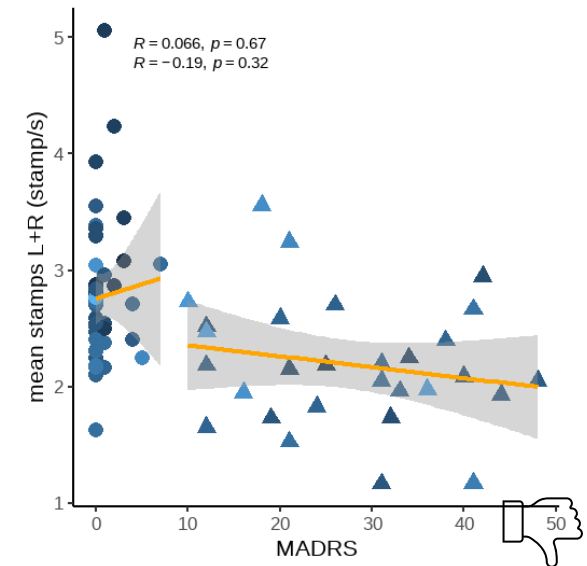
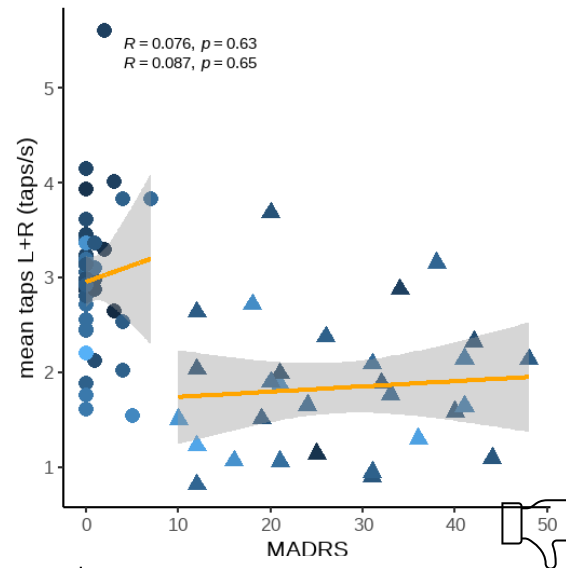
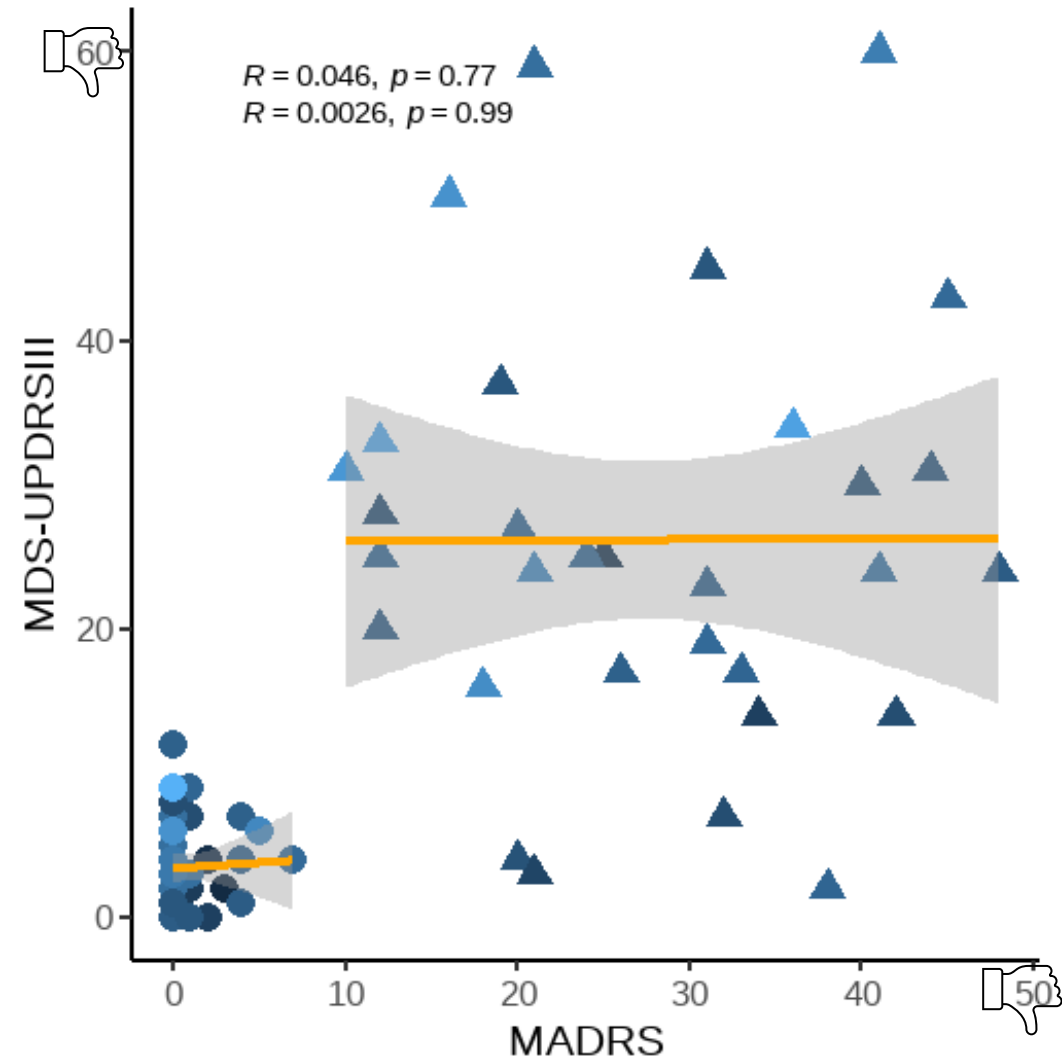
Hogere leeftijd = bleker



Schaal: hoger = slechtere score

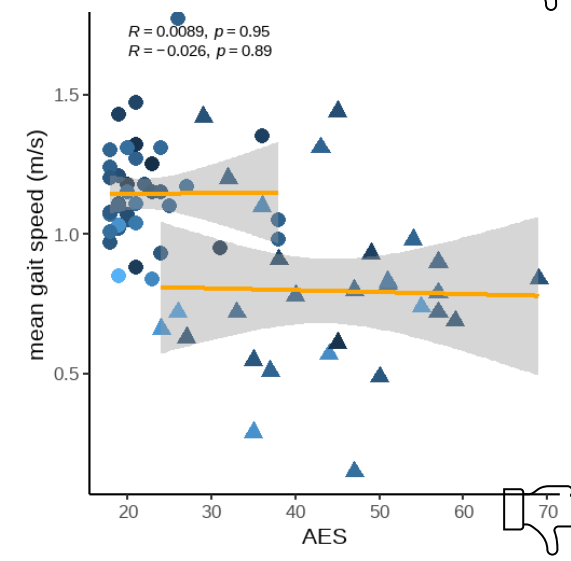
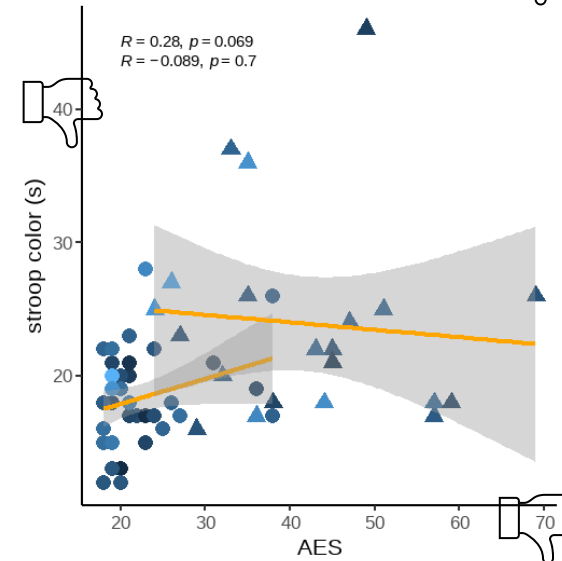
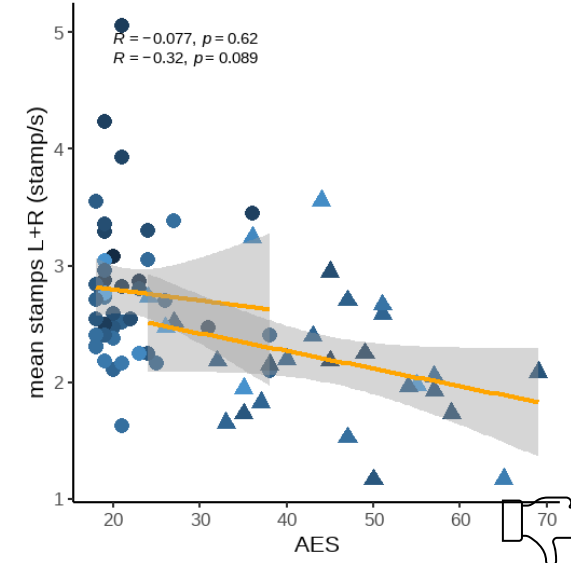
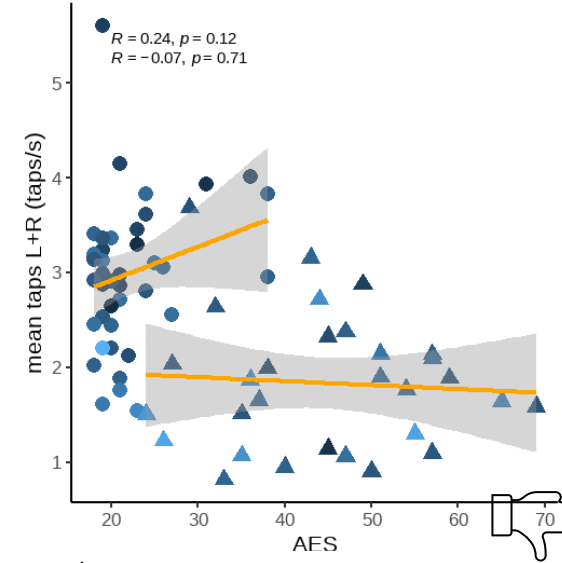
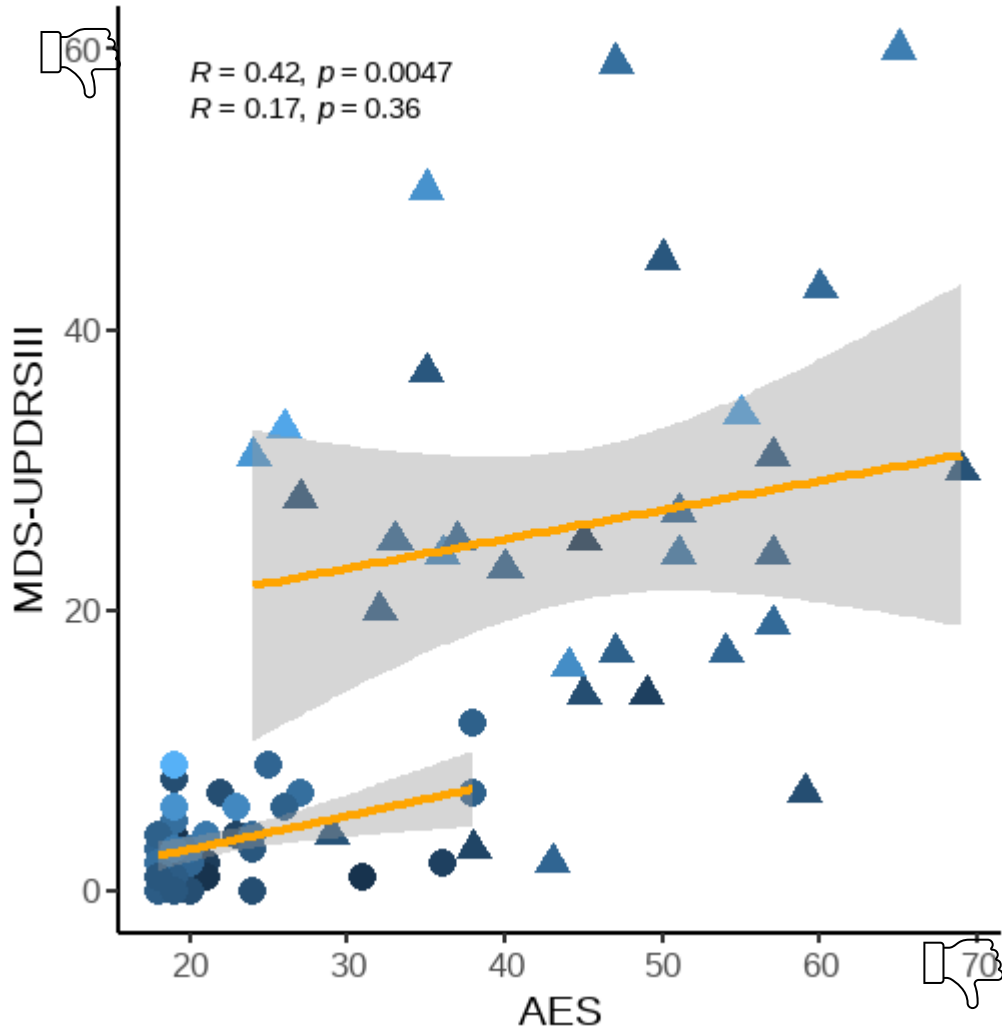


# 1. PMS // stemming, motivatie en cognitie?



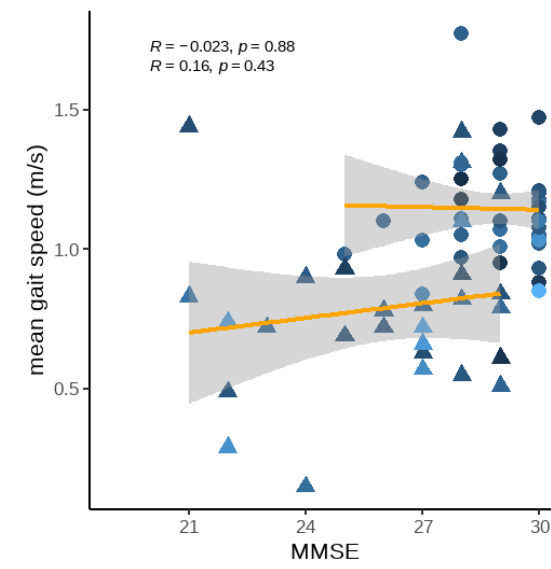
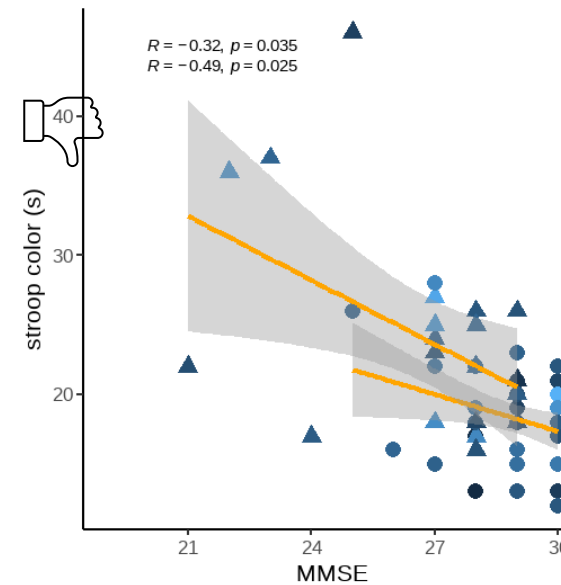
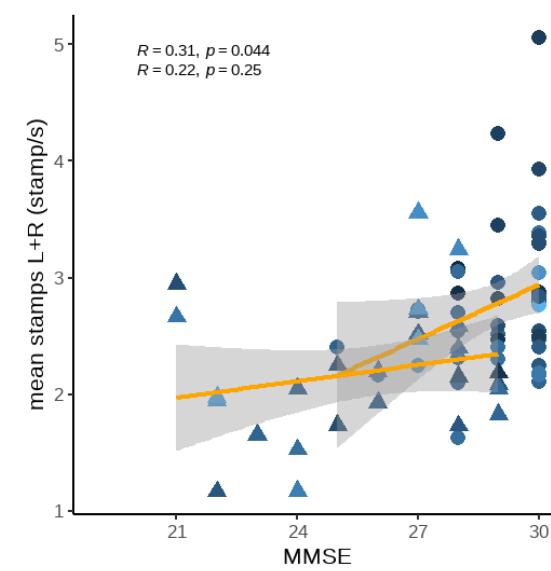
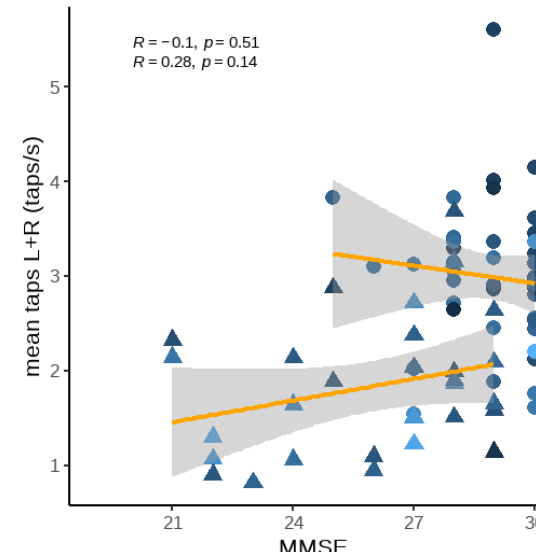
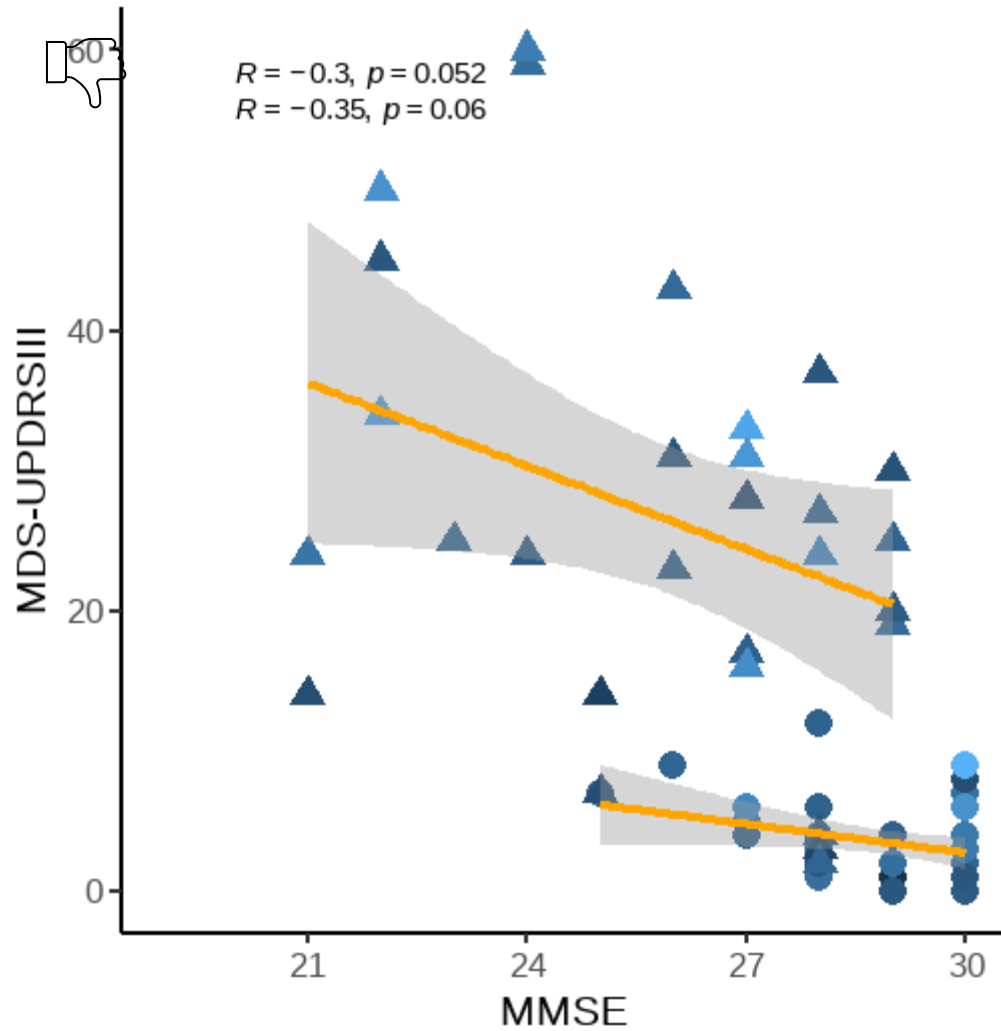
UPDRSIII = Case\*\*\* + Exercise\* + Age\* + Education + MADRS<sup>NS</sup>: (F(5,63)=27, R<sup>2</sup>adj 0.653, p <.0001)

## 2. PMS // stemming, **motivatie** en cognitie?



UPDRSIII = Case<sup>\*\*\*</sup> + Exercise<sup>\*</sup> + Age<sup>\*\*</sup> + Education + **AES**<sup>NS</sup>: (F(5,63)=28, R<sup>2</sup>adj 0.665, p <.0001)

# 3. PMS // stemming, **cognitie** en motivatie?



UPDRSIII = Case<sup>\*\*\*</sup> + Exercise<sup>\*\*</sup> + Age + Education + MMSE<sup>\*</sup>: (F(5,62)=30, R<sup>2</sup>adj 0.686, p <.0001)  
 Case:  $\beta = 17.5$  (p= 4.62e-09)<sup>\*\*\*</sup> **MMSE:  $\beta = -1.3$  (p=.027)<sup>\*</sup>** Age:  $\beta = 0.4$  (p=.019)<sup>\*</sup> Exercise  $\beta = -1.7$  (p= 0.006)<sup>\*\*</sup>

### 3. PMS// cognitie vervolg...

Cognitieve subdomeinen: executief (TMTB-A), aandacht (DSF/DSB), taal (BNT), geheugen (RAVLT)

Initiatietijd, invloed complexiteit en cueing

# Onderzoeksvragen

1. PMS fenotypering → **all over the place**
2. PMS <-> **stemming/motivationalele/(cognitieve) symptomen**
3. PMS // MMS in kader van “natuurlijke hersenveroudering”? (*wat?*)

# 3. PMS // MMS bij “natuurlijke hersenveroudering”?

## RESEARCH ARTICLE

### Mild Motor Signs in Healthy Aging Are Associated with Lower Synaptic Density in the Brain

Margot G.A. Van Cauwenberge, MD,<sup>1,2\*</sup> Aline Delva, MD, PhD,<sup>2,3</sup> Thomas Vande Castele, MD,<sup>1,4</sup> Maarten Laroy, MSc,<sup>1</sup> Ahmed Radwan, MD, PhD,<sup>5,6</sup> Kristof Vansteelandt, PhD,<sup>1</sup> Jan Van den Stock, PhD,<sup>1,4</sup> Filip Bouckaert, MD, PhD,<sup>1,4</sup> Koen Van Laere, MD, PhD,<sup>7,8</sup> Louise Emsell, MD, PhD,<sup>1,4,5</sup> Wim Vandenberghe, MD, PhD,<sup>2,3</sup> and Mathieu Vandenbulcke, MD, PhD<sup>1,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Neurosciences, Neuropsychiatry, Leuven Brain Institute, KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

<sup>2</sup>Department of Neurology, University Hospitals Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

<sup>3</sup>Department of Neurosciences, Laboratory for Parkinson Research, Leuven Brain Institute, KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

<sup>4</sup>Geriatric Psychiatry, University Psychiatric Center KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

<sup>5</sup>Department of Imaging and Pathology, Translational MRI, KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

<sup>6</sup>Department of Radiology, University Hospitals Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

<sup>7</sup>Division of Nuclear Medicine, University Hospitals Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

<sup>8</sup>Department of Imaging and Pathology, Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging, KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium

**ABSTRACT: Objective:** To investigate whether mild motor signs (MMS) in old age correlate with synaptic density in the brain.

**Background:** Normal aging is associated with a decline in movement quality and quantity, commonly termed “mild parkinsonian signs” or more recently MMS. Whether MMS stem from global brain aging or pathology within motor circuits remains unresolved. The synaptic vesicle glycoprotein 2A positron emission tomography (PET) ligand <sup>11</sup>C-UCB-J allows the investigation of brain-motor associations at the synaptic level in vivo.

**Method:** Fifty-eight healthy older adults (≥50 years) were included from two monocentric control cohorts. Brain magnetic resonance imaging and <sup>11</sup>C-UCB-J PET data were available in 54 participants. <sup>11</sup>C-UCB-J PET binding was quantified by standardized uptake value ratio (SUVR) values in grey matter (GM) volumes of interest (VOIs): caudate, putamen, globus pallidus, substantia nigra, thalamus, cerebellum, and the frontal, parietal, temporal, and occipital cortex. Multiple linear regression analyses were performed with Movement

Disorder Society-Unified Parkinson’s Disease Rating Scale (MDS-UPDRS) part III score measuring MMS as the dependent variable and mean SUVR values in each VOI as the independent variable with age, Fazekas score (white matter lesion [WML] load), VOI and cohort as covariates.

**Results:** Participants (68 ± 7.5 years; 52% female) had an average MDS-UPDRS part III score of 3.3 ± 2.8. The MDS-UPDRS part III score was inversely associated with synaptic density, independently of WML load or GM volume, in the caudate, substantia nigra, thalamus, cerebellum, and parietal, occipital, temporal cortex. Cohen’s  $f^2$  showed moderate effect sizes for subcortical (range, 0.30–0.35), cortical (0.28–0.35) and cerebellar VOIs (0.31).

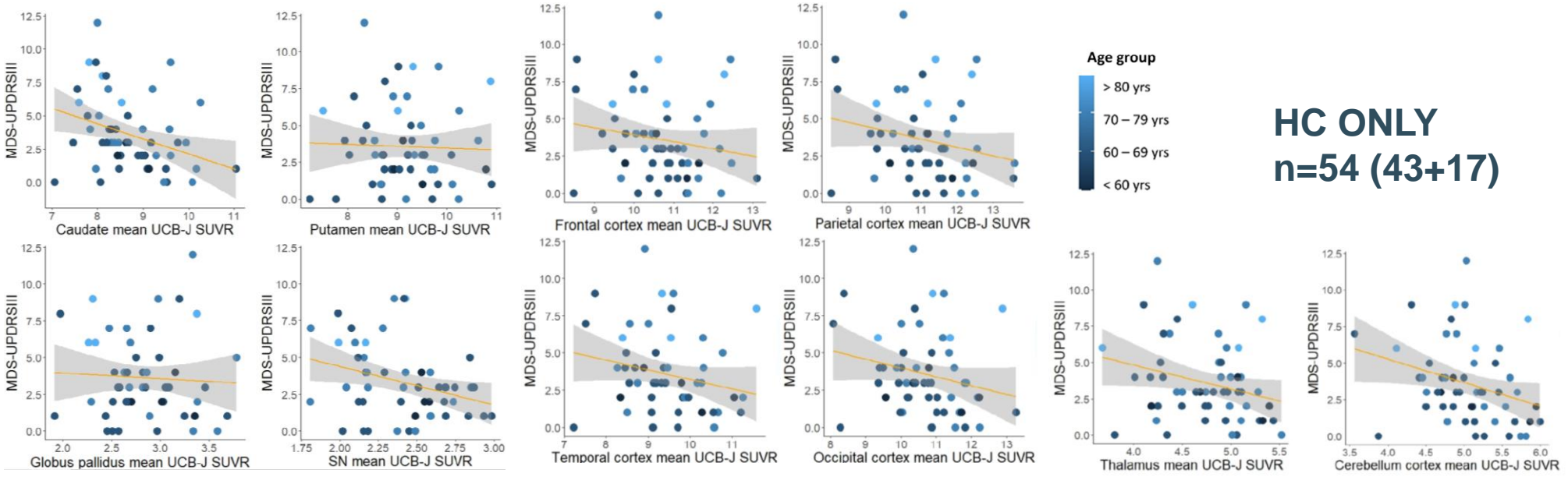
**Conclusion:** MMS in healthy aging are associated with lower synaptic density throughout the brain. © 2023 International Parkinson and Movement Disorder Society.

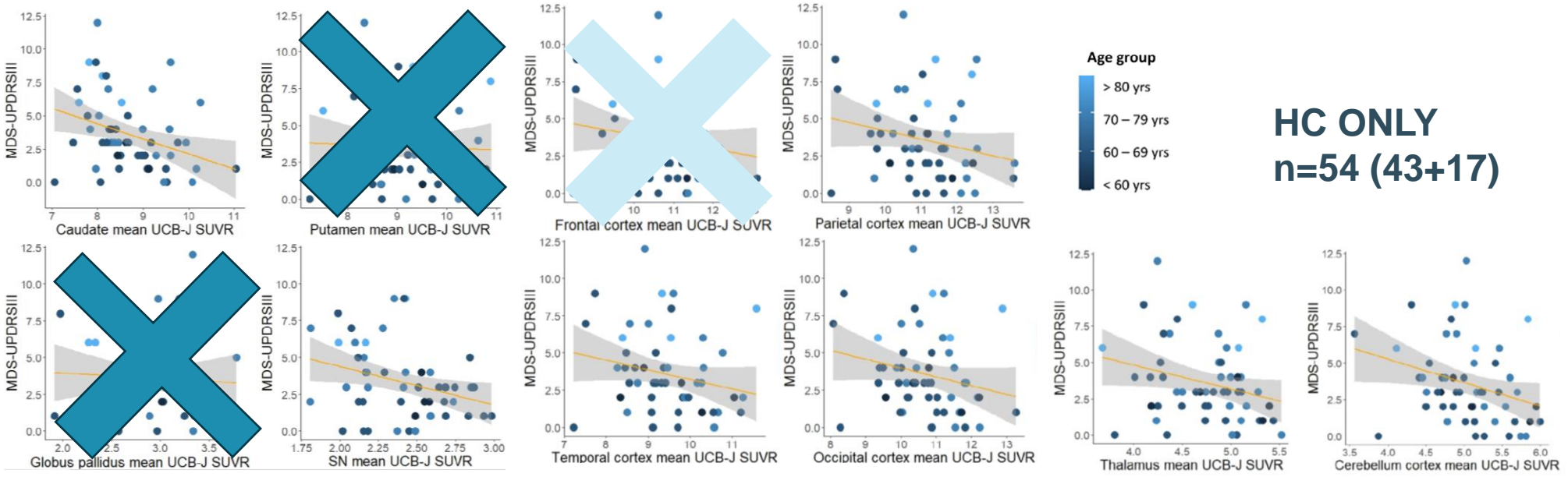
**Key Words:** mild parkinsonian signs; MRI; PET; synaptic density; aging

### Conclusie:

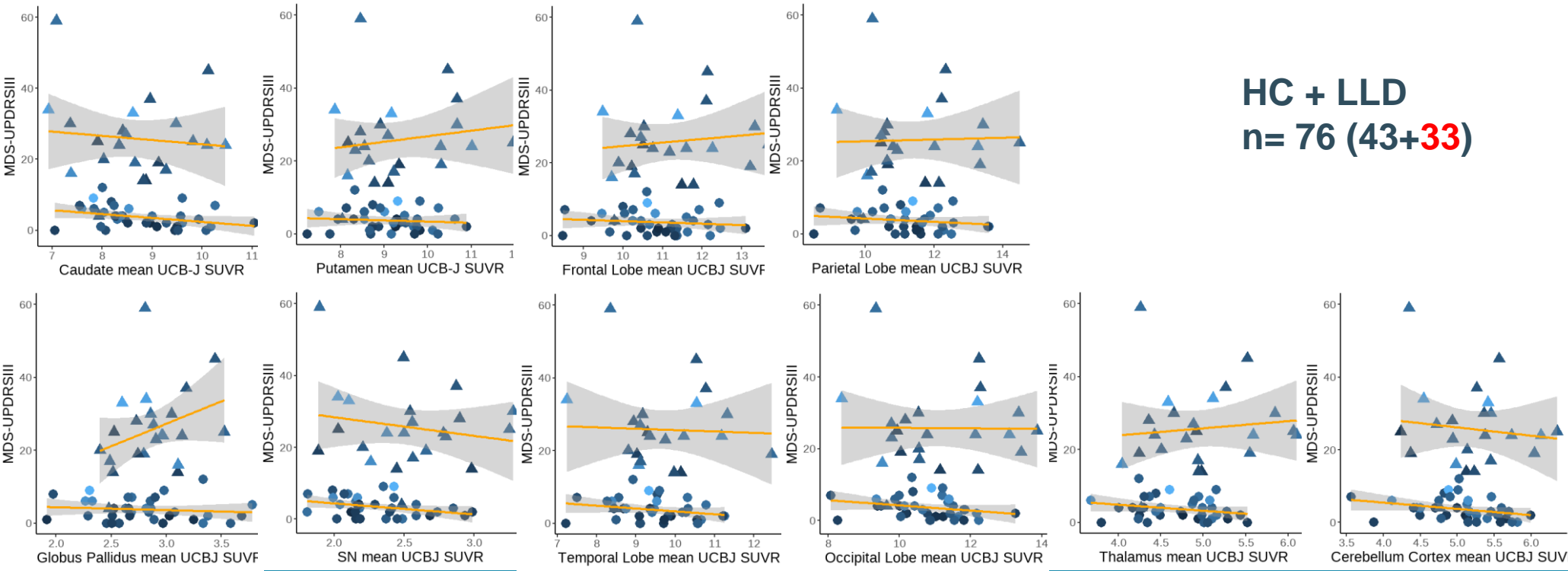
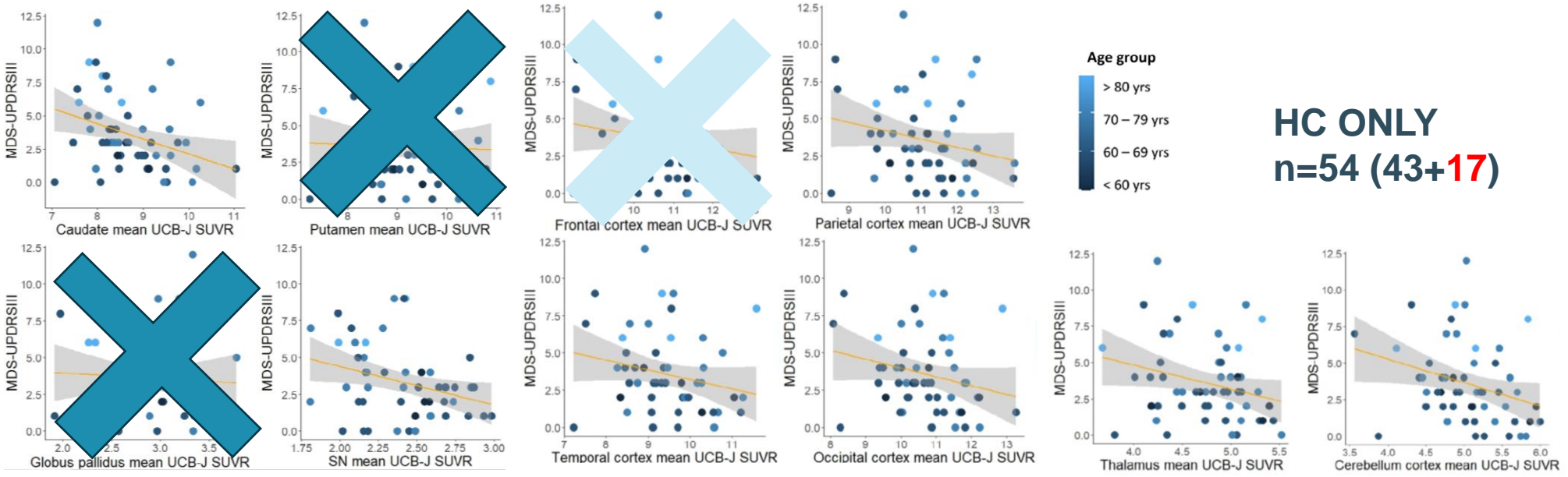
MMS in gezonde ouderen (>50 jaar, n=54) zijn geassocieerd met veralgemeende corticale en subcorticale verminderde synaptische dichtheid

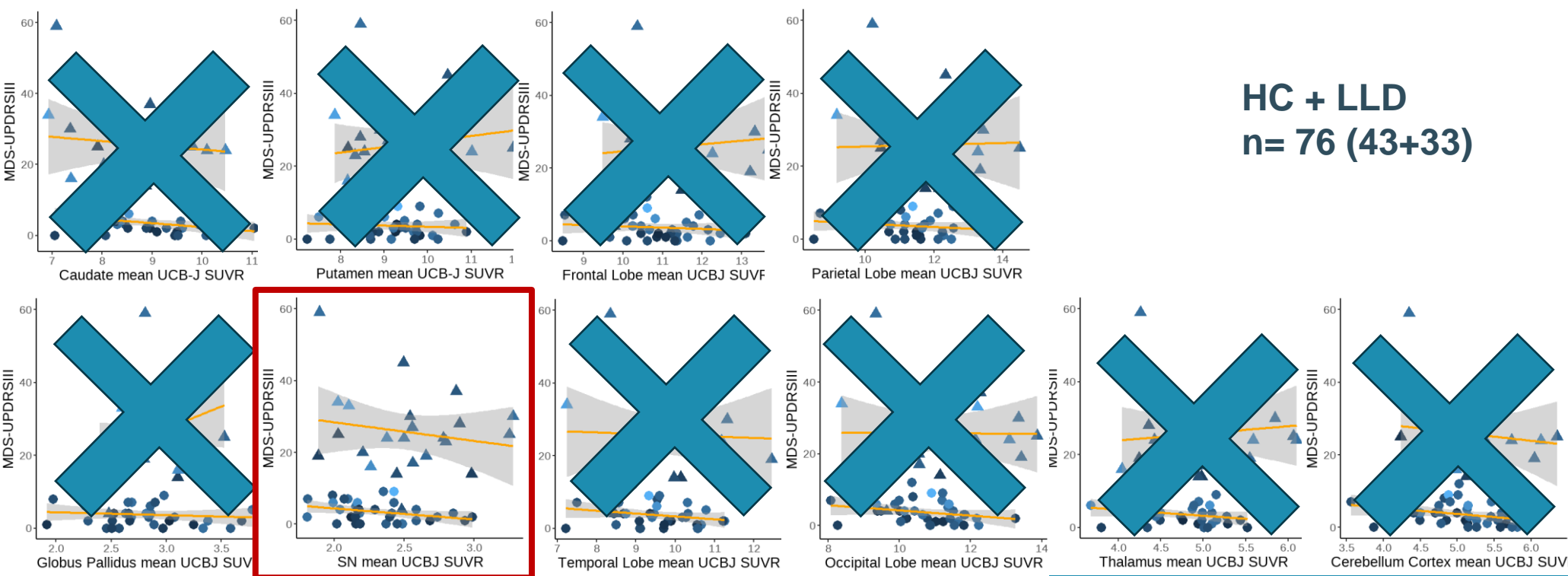
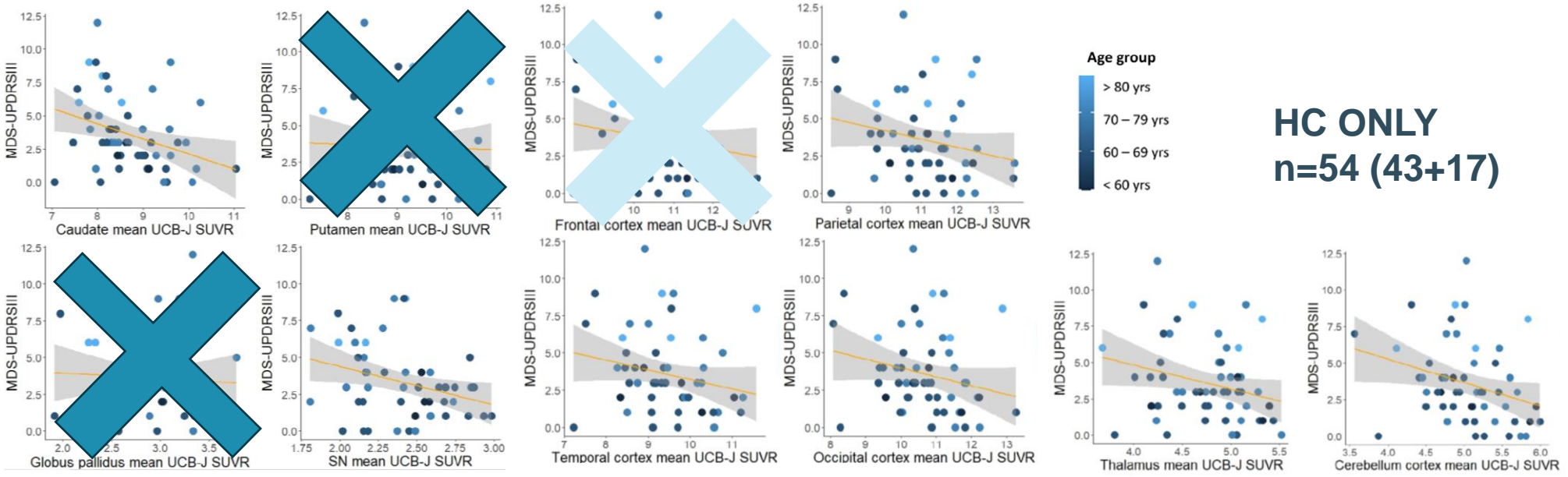
onafhankelijk van GMV  
onafhankelijk van WML







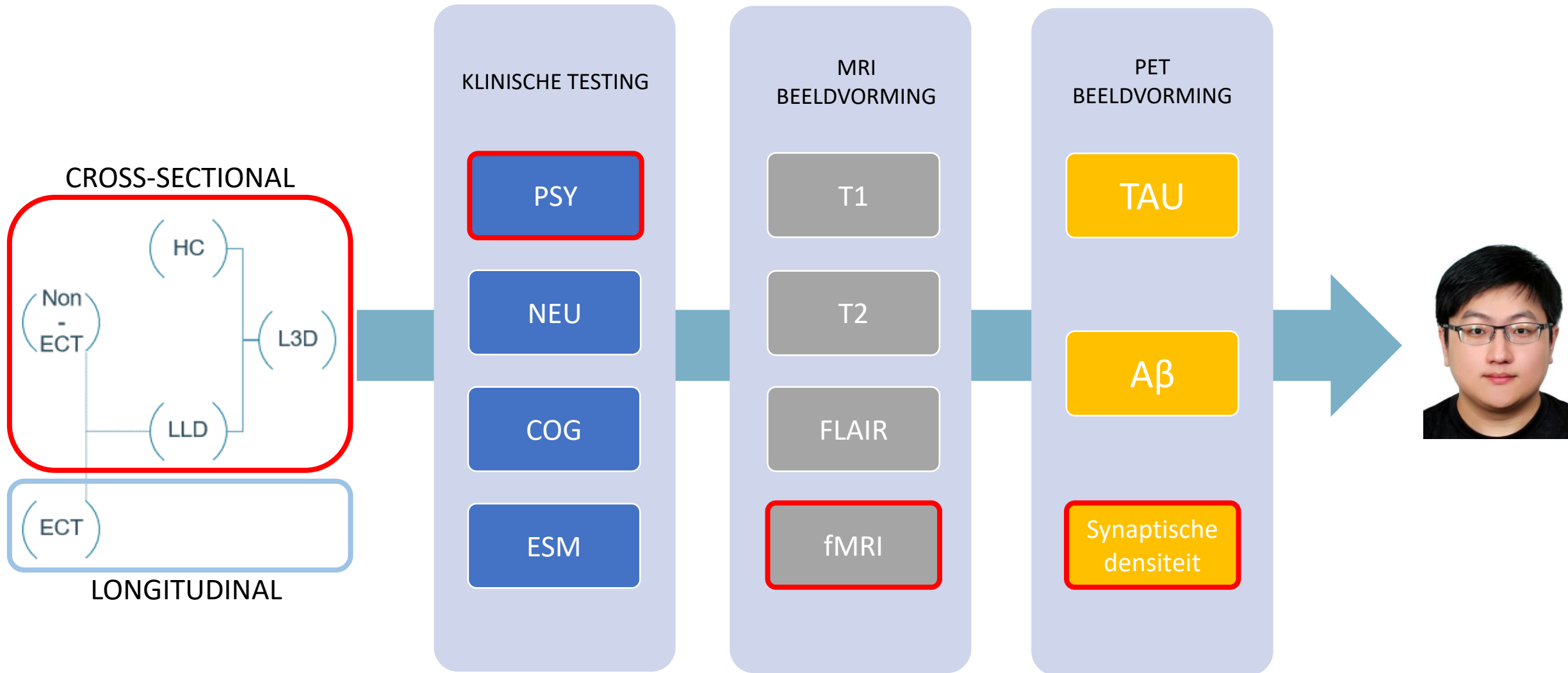




# Conclusie

1. PMS ~ alle motore domeinen en cortico-subcorticale modaliteiten
2. PMS  $\nrightarrow$  antipsychotica of stemming/motivatie/cognitieve symptomen
3. PMS  $\leftrightarrow$  MMS ~ wijdverspreide verminderde syn. densiteit in HC
4. PMS ~ verminderde synaptische densiteit in substantia nigra
5. Limitaties: sample size, WML quantificatie
6. Toekomst: neuropathologische veranderingen?

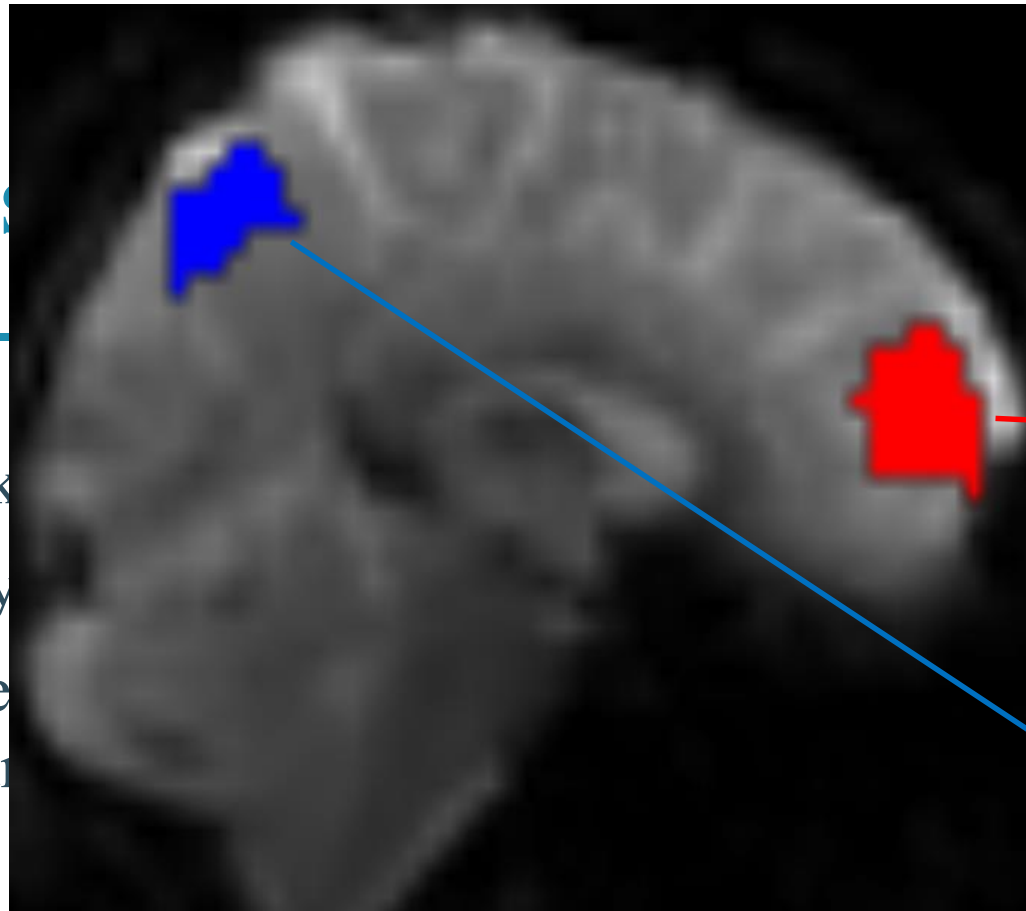
# Resting state functional brain changes in late life depression



Res  
(rs-

Task

- Ey
- Fe
- fu



RI

wake

ye

### Functional Connectivity (FC)

- Synchronization of time courses between two brain regions



# resting-state fMRI (rs-fMRI): a popular approach for Psychiatric Research

Well-investigated rs-fMRI findings in specific regions:

- FC, ReHo, ALFF, ... etc
- Across various psychiatric disorders

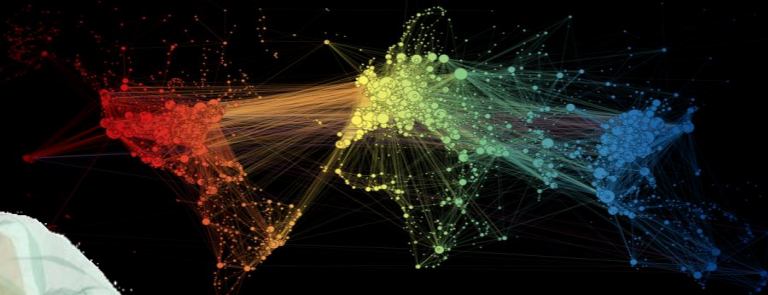
Shifted Attention to Network-Level Analysis – Graph Theory

- The Global and Nodal levels
- Functional Segregation, Functional Integration, Hub Identification



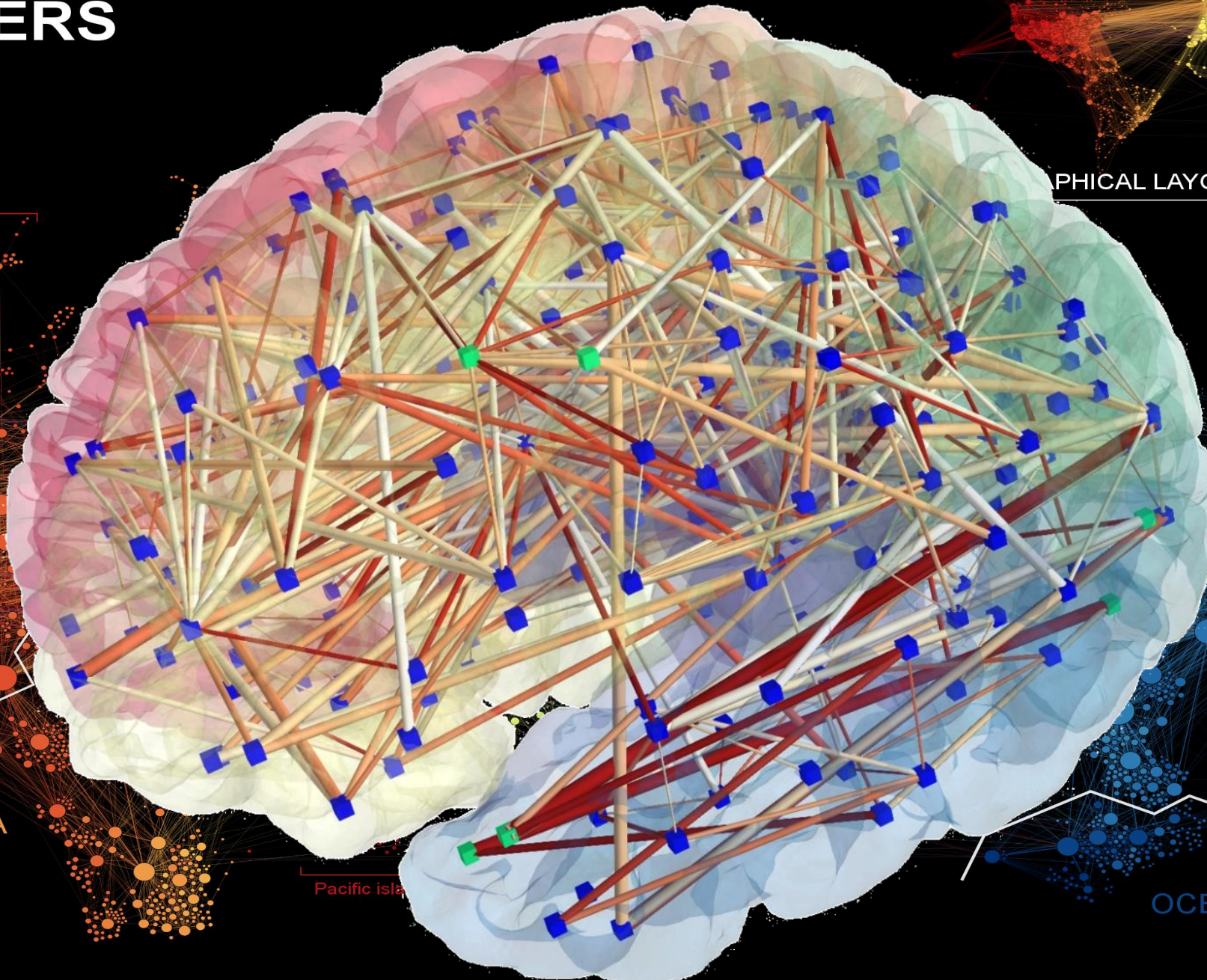
# TRANSPORTATION CLUSTERS

3.200 airports  
60.000 routes



PHYSICAL LAYOUT

Color = Longitude  
Size = Number of routes



Alaska

Canada

NORTH AMERICA

LATIN AMERICA

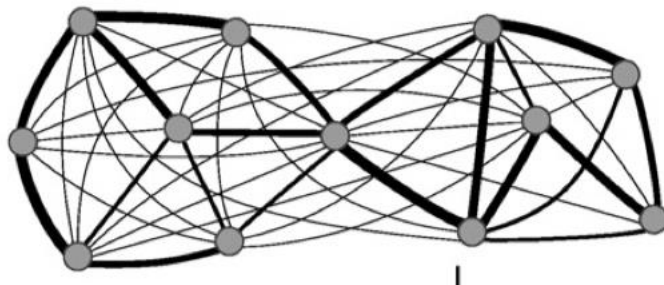
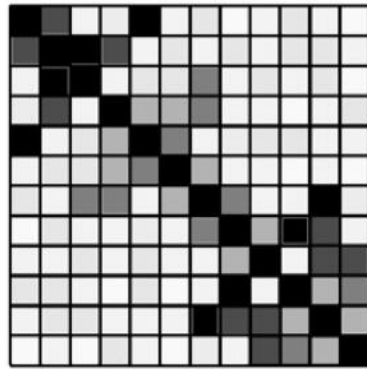
Pacific islands

ASIA

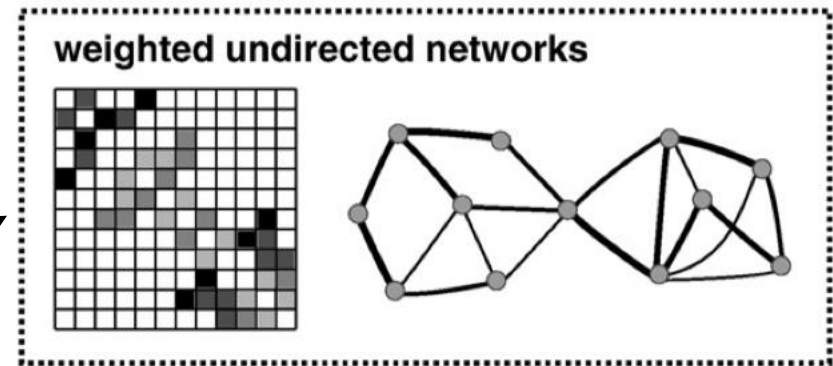
OCEANIA

# Network Construction

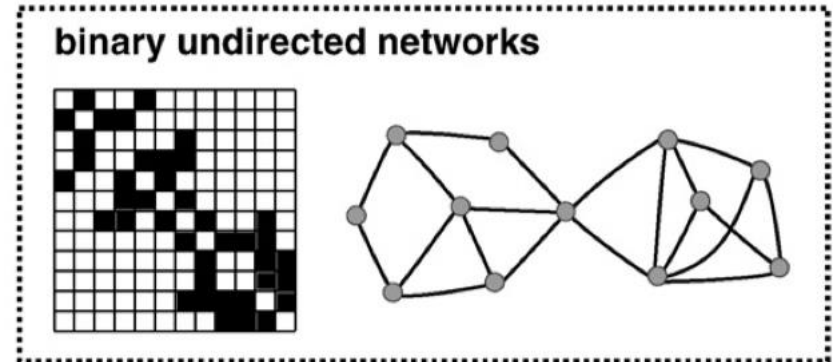
**weighted undirected networks**  
structural datasets: diffusion MRI, structural MRI  
functional datasets: functional MRI, MEG, EEG



Threshold/Sparsity



Binarize



(Rubinov and Sporns, 2010)



# Global Topological Properties

## Functional Segregation:

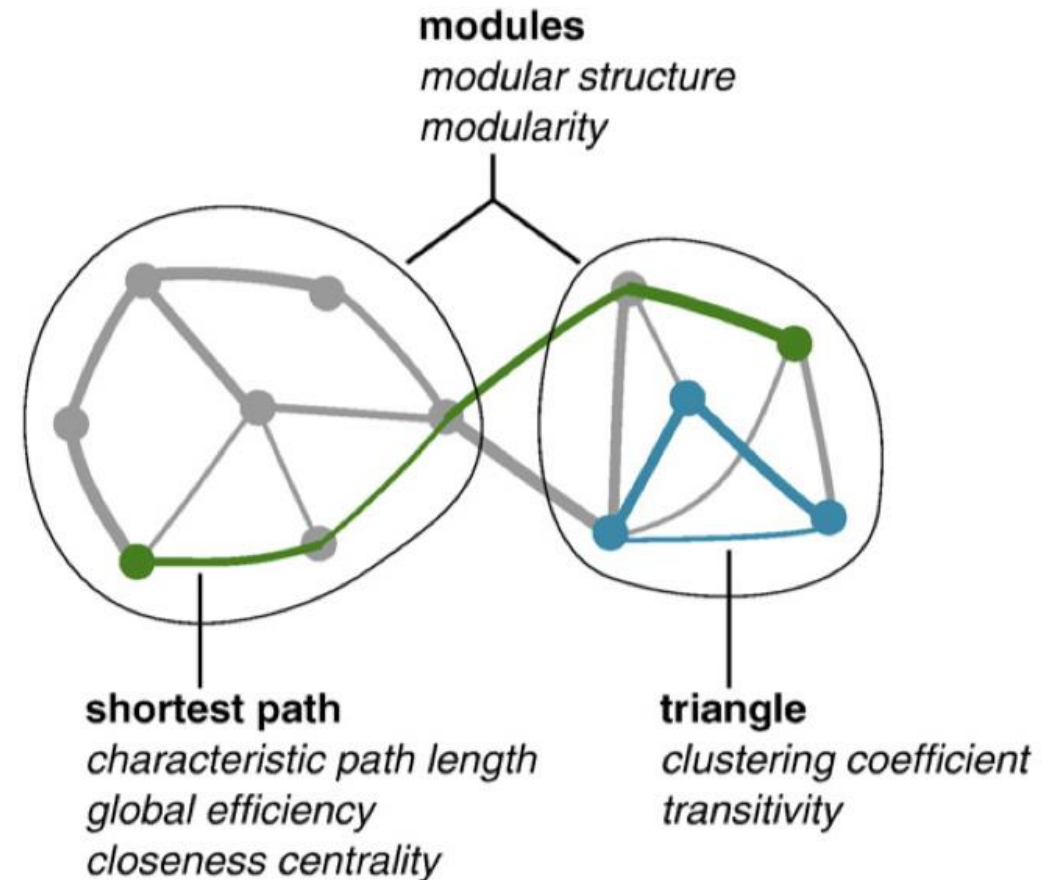
- Clustering Coefficient (CC)

## Functional Integration:

- Characteristic Path Length ( $L_p$ )

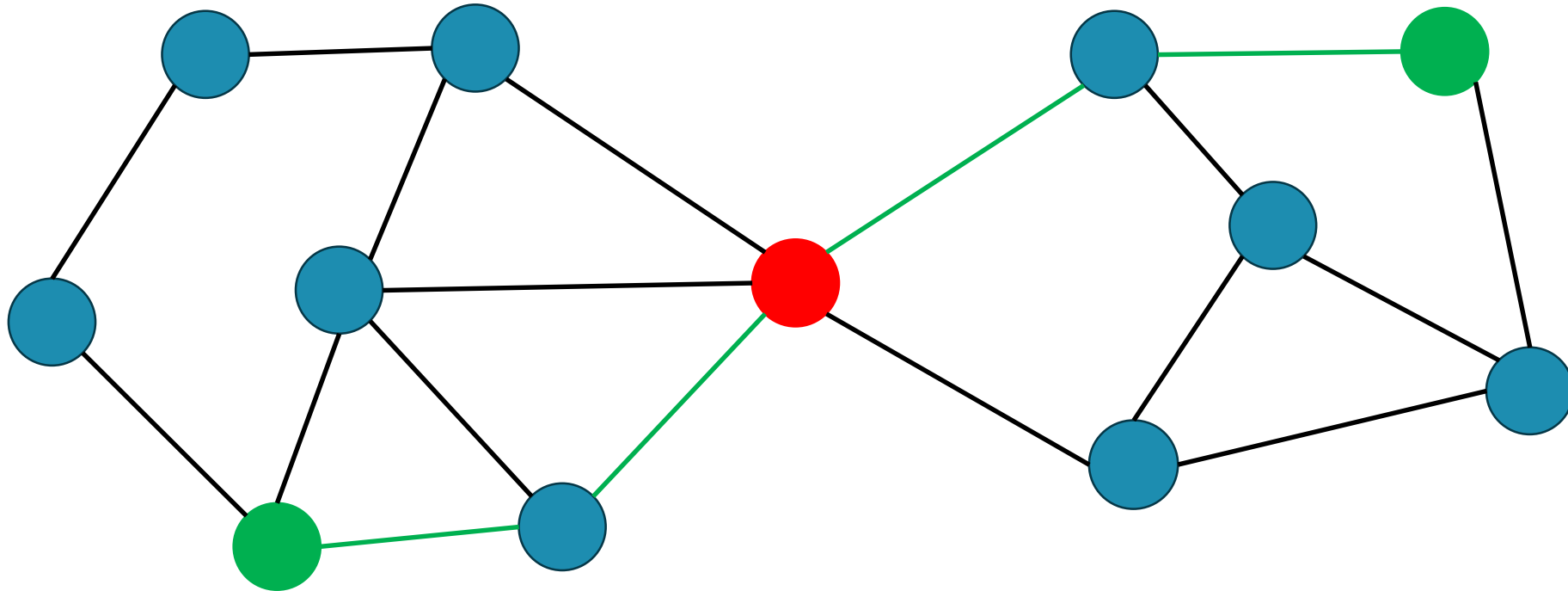
## Small-Worldness ( $\sigma$ )

- The balance of CC and  $L_p$



# Hub Identification – Betweenness Centrality (BC)

- The extent of **shortest paths** between all node pairs in the network that pass through a given index node



# Gaps in previous studies applying Graph Theory-based approach to LLD patients:

Rare Utilization of Weighted Networks

Exclusion of the Cerebellum from Network Construction

# Corresponding changes in Synaptic Density (SD)?

- The association between regional SD and rs-fMRI activities in healthy young adults and depressive patients (Holmes et al., 2019; Fang et al., 2023)
- Unclear relationship between SD and rs-fMRI topological properties in LLD patients

# Hypothesis 1: rs-fMRI network changes in LLD patient

## rs-fMRI

- Network changes in LLD patients
- Weighted Networks
- Include the cerebrum and cerebellum
- At the global and nodal levels

resting-state  
fMRI

Graph Theory Approach

Weight networks including the cerebellum

Network Changes

# Hypothesis 2: Corresponding changes in regional SD

rs-fMRI

- Network changes in LLD patients

- Weighted Networks
- Include the cerebrum and cerebellum
- At the global and nodal levels

$^{11}\text{C}$ -UCB-J

Nodes showing network changes

Regional SD

$^{11}\text{C}$ -UCB-J

- Regional Synaptic Density (SD) changes

# Hypothesis 3: Relationships among SD, BC, and Depression

rs-fMRI

- Network changes in LLD patients

- Weighted Networks
- Include the cerebrum and cerebellum
- At the global and nodal levels

PSY

Focus on depressive symptoms

MADRS

11C-UCB-J

- Regional Synaptic Density (SD) changes

PSY

- Depressive symptoms (MADRS)

	HC (n = 33)	LLD (n = 18)	Group Comparison
<b>Age (Year)</b>	70.48 ± 6.37	71.39 ± 5.77	t = -0.515, p = 0.61
<b>Sex (female/male)</b>	20/13	13/5	$\chi^2 = 0.274, p = 0.601$
<b>MMSE</b>	29.09 ± 0.98	26.44 ± 2.99	t = 3.645, p = 0.002**
<b>MADRS</b>	0.88 ± 1.71	26 ± 11.34	t = -9.337, p < 0.001***



# Weighted Networks including the cerebrum and cerebellum

272 nodes/ROIs:

- 246 cerebral ROIs from the Brainnetome Atlas
- 26 cerebellar ROIs from the AAL3 Atlas

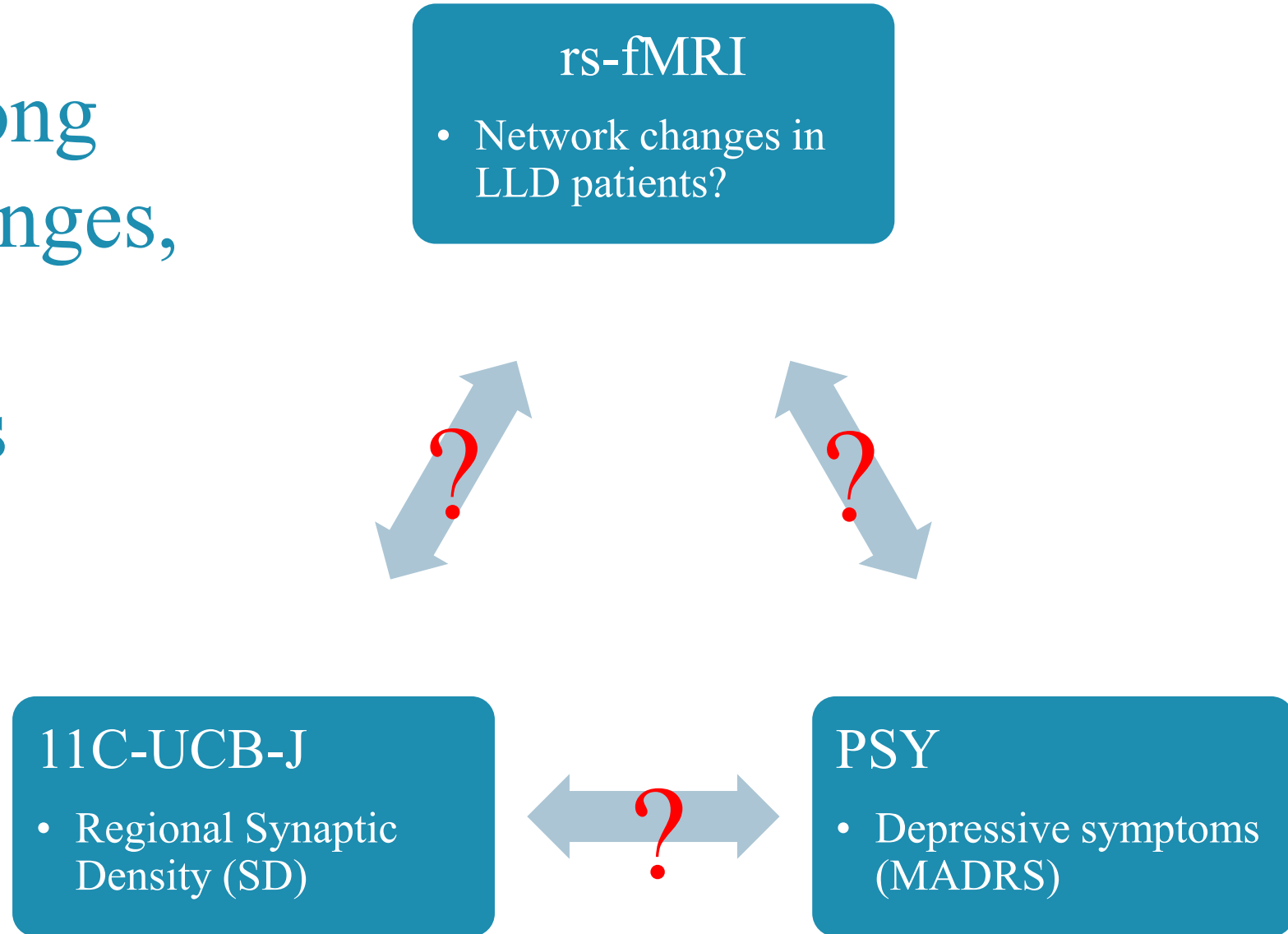
7 sparsity/threshold levels: 10%-40% with steps of 5%

Non-Parametric Permutation Tests with 5000 iterations

# The associations among rs-fMRI network changes, Regional SD, and depressive symptoms

Spearman Correlation

- Covariates: age, gender



# Criteria for robust results

1. The selected threshold:  $p < 0.01^{**}$ 
  - Network change (BC)
  - Spearman correlations among SD, BC, and MADRS
2. Significant at least 2 continuous sparsity levels

### rs-fMRI

- Network changes in LLD patients?

- Weighted Networks
- Include the cerebrum and cerebellum
- At the global and nodal levels



### 11C-UCB-J

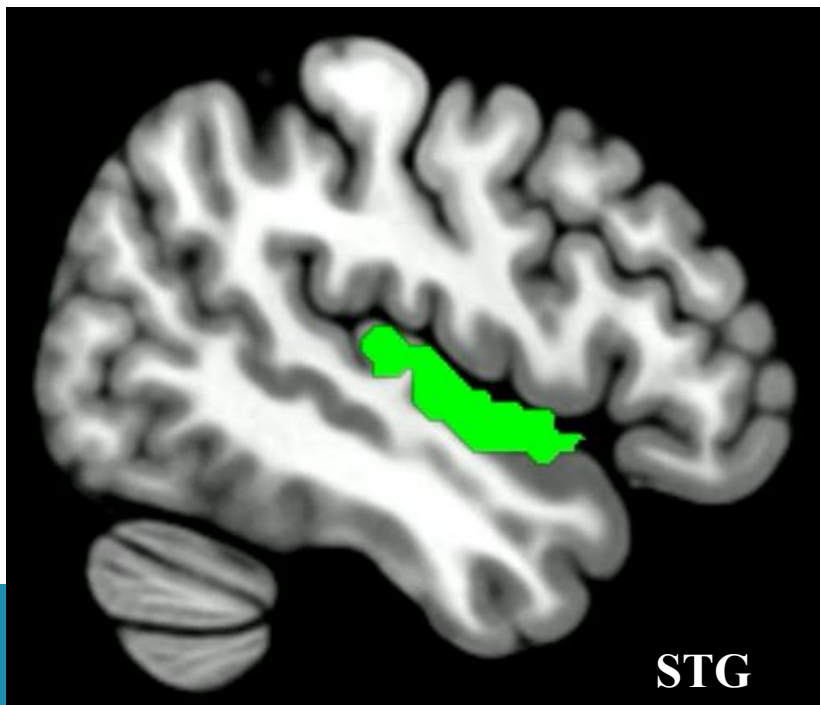
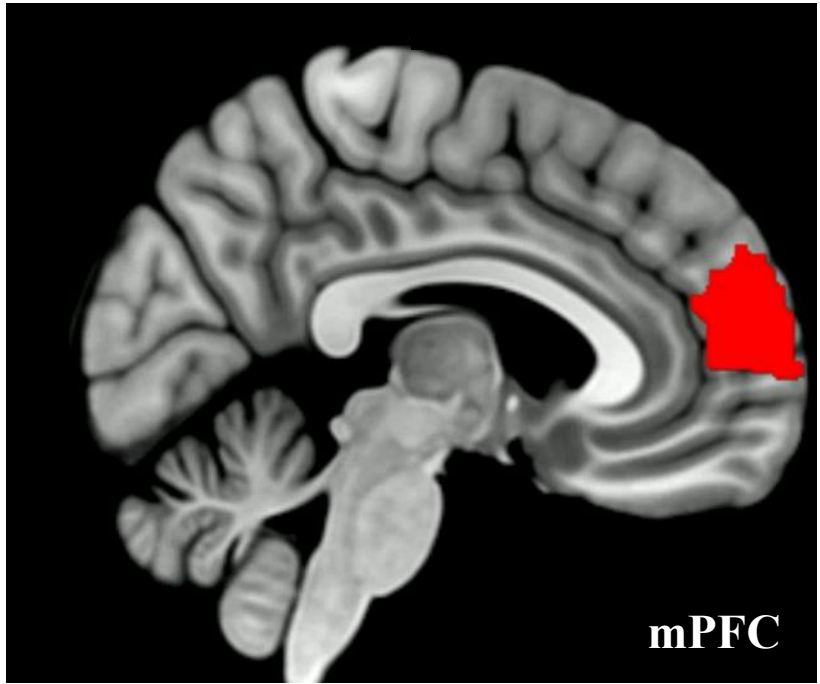
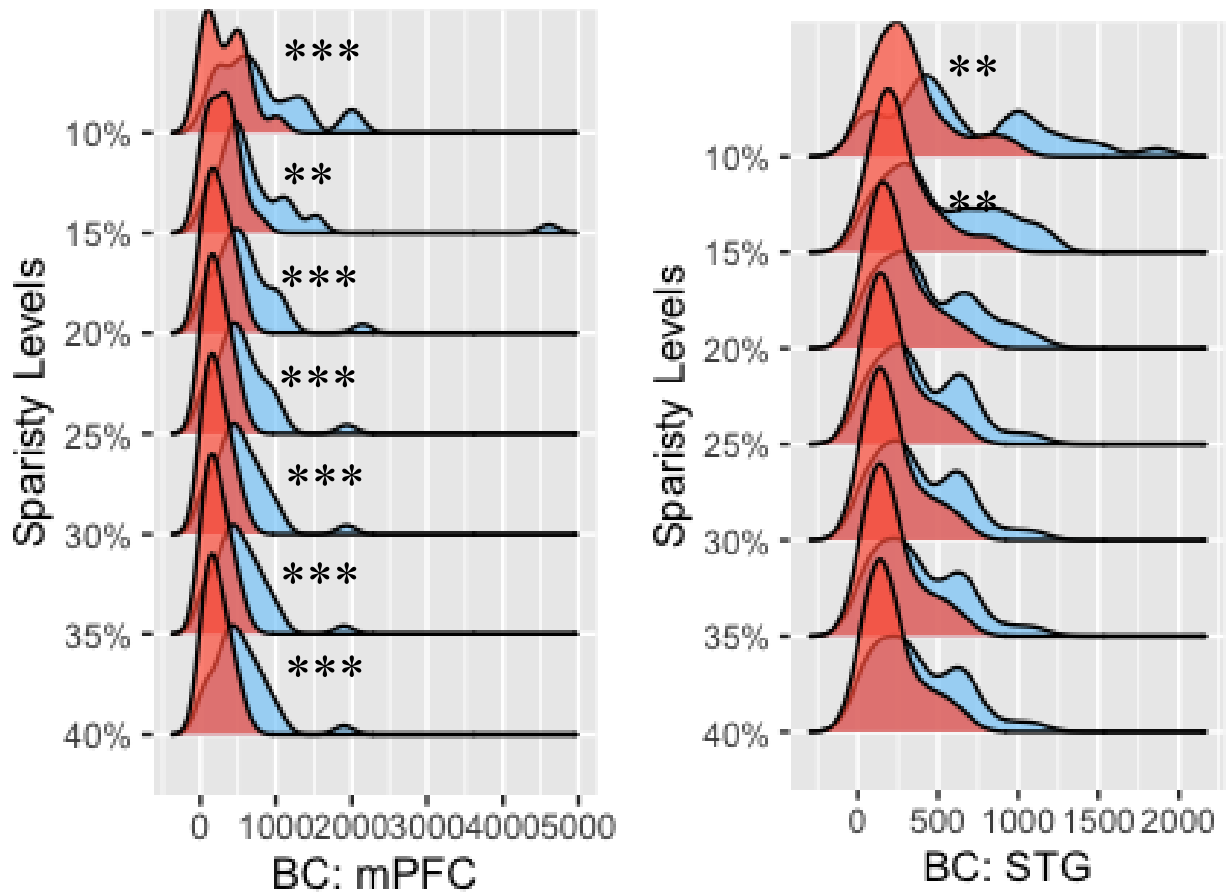
- Regional Synaptic Density (SD)

### PSY

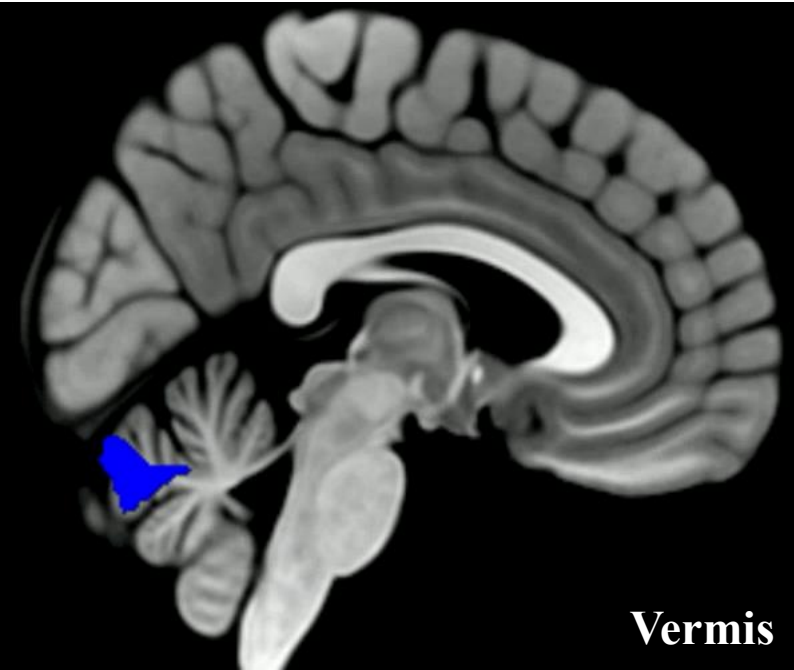
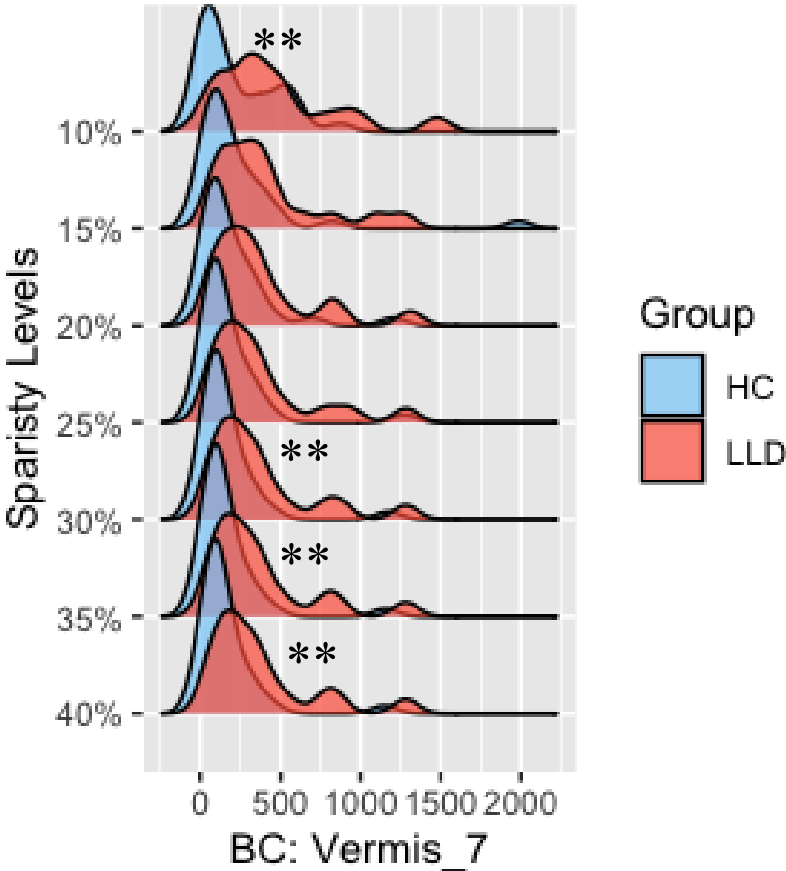
- Depressive symptoms (MADRS)



# Decreased BC were found in the mPFC and left STG



# Increased BC was found in the Vermis



## Altered BC & Preserved Global Organization

### rs-fMRI

- Network changes in LLD patients?

- Weighted Networks
- Include the cerebrum and cerebellum
- At the global and nodal levels

No Group Difference

### <sup>11</sup>C-UCB-J

- Regional Synaptic Density (SD) changes?

### PSY

- Depressive symptoms (MADRS)

# No group difference in regional SD, but correlations between regional SD and BC

No group difference in nodes showing network changes:

- Decreased BC: the mPFC, left STG
- Increased BC: the Vermis

Positive Correlations between regional SD and BC in a cerebellar region across 3 sparsity levels

SD	TP		10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%
Vermis_7	BC_117 <sup>a</sup>	r	0.227				0.761	0.761	0.761
		p	0.479				<b>0.007**</b>	<b>0.007**</b>	<b>0.007**</b>

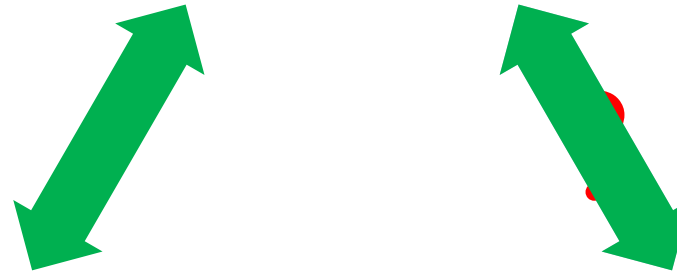


## Altered BC & Preserved Global Organization

### rs-fMRI

- Network changes in LLD patients

- Weighted Networks
- Include the cerebrum and cerebellum
- At the global and nodal levels



No Group Difference

### 11C-UCB-J

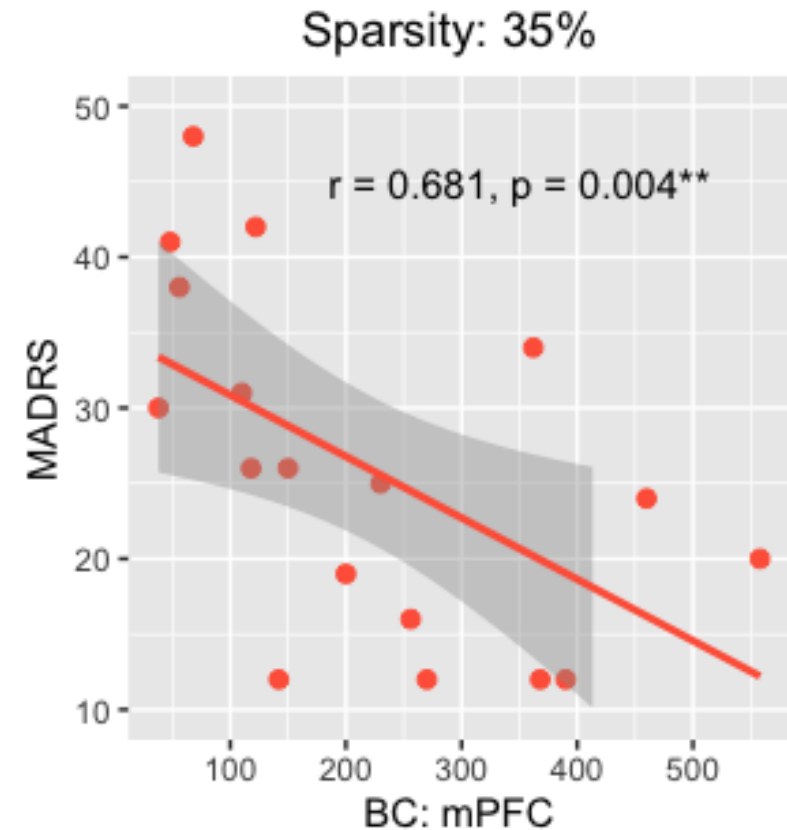
- Regional Synaptic Density (SD)



### PSY

- Depressive symptoms (MADRS)

Depressive symptoms are reliably correlated with  $BC_{mPFC}$ , but not regional SD



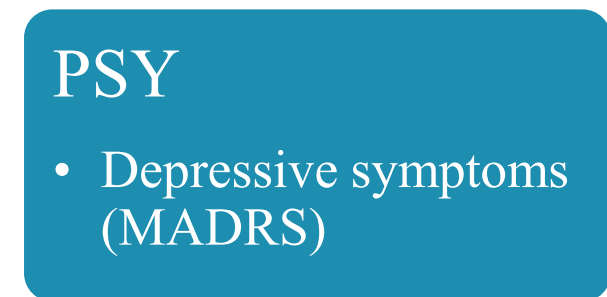
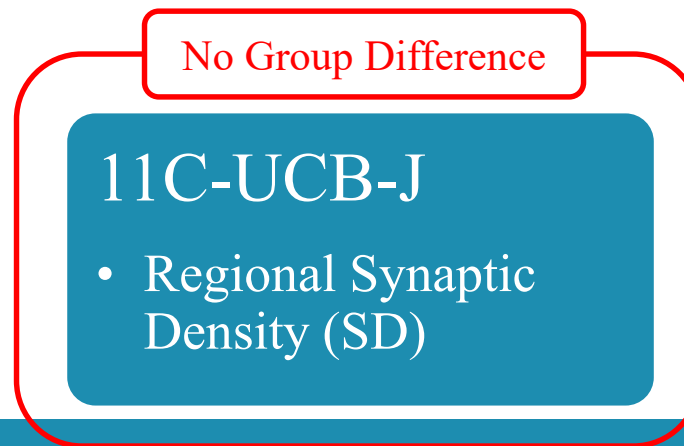
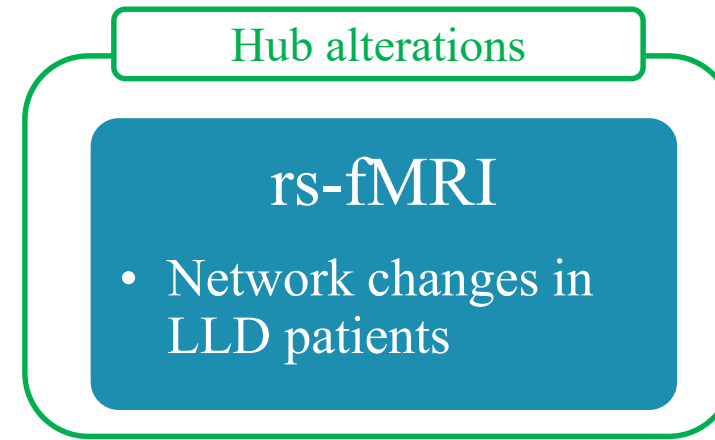
Index	Direction	Label	Score	sig.	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%
BC	Worse	mPFC	MADRS	$r$	-0.644	-0.572	-0.707	-0.704	-0.681	-0.681	-0.681
				$p$	<b>0.007**</b>	<b>0.02*</b>	<b>0.002**</b>	<b>0.002**</b>	<b>0.004**</b>	<b>0.004**</b>	<b>0.004**</b>

# Main findings in LLD patients

1. Significant Hub changes in LLD patients

2. Regional SD is correlated to hub changes

3. Robust correlations between  $BC_{mPFC}$  and Depressive Symptoms



# Conclusion

1. Significant Hub changes in LLD patients

2. Regional SD is correlated to hub changes

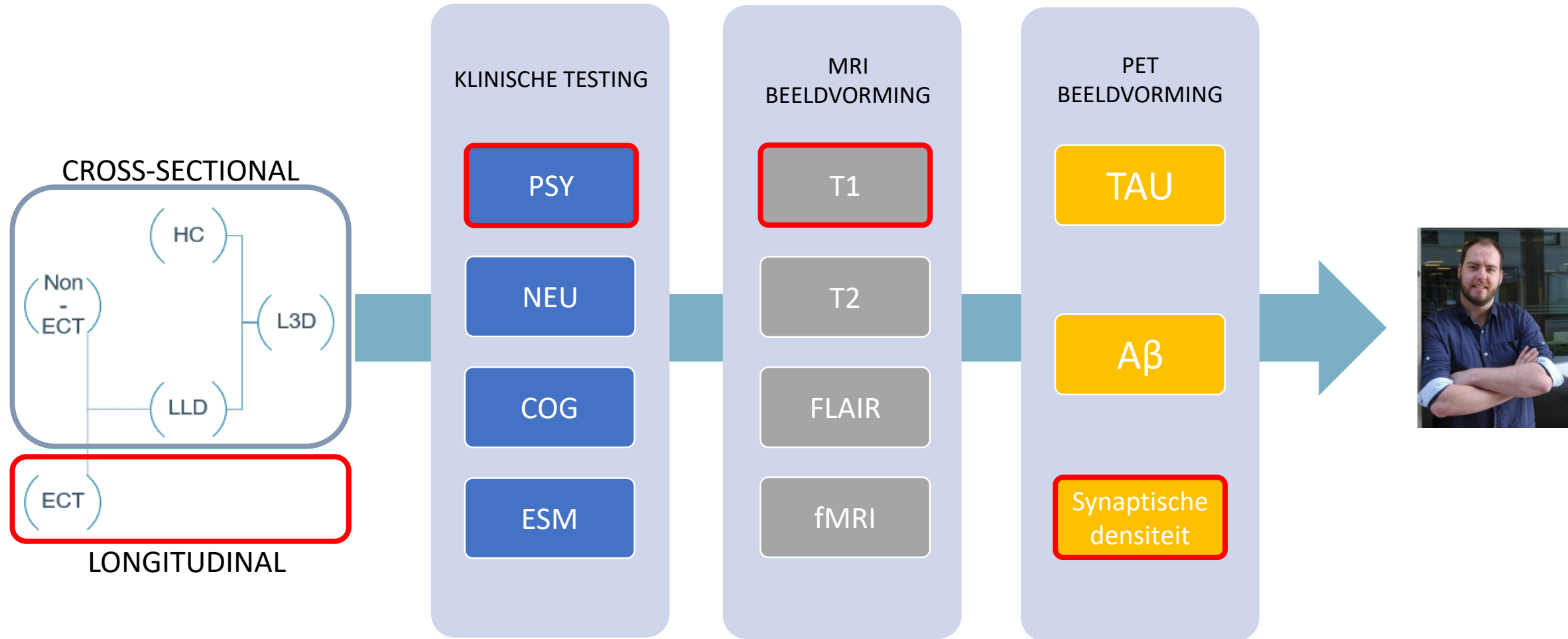
3. Robust correlations between  $BC_{mPFC}$  and Depressive Symptoms

The Pivotal Role of the mPFC in LLD

The Potential Involvement of the Cerebellum

The Potential Sensitivity of SD for Hub Changes

# Synaptische plasticiteit: Een zoektocht naar het mechanisme achter ECT



# Geschiedenis & Evolutie van ECT

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- 1934: Ladislav Meduna (camphor)
- 1938: Ugo Cerletti & Lucio Bini
- 1944: Brief pulse
- 1952: modified ECT (anesthesie)
- 1976: FDA goedkeuring voor MDD



# ECT & Depressie

## Level A: Definite Evidence\*

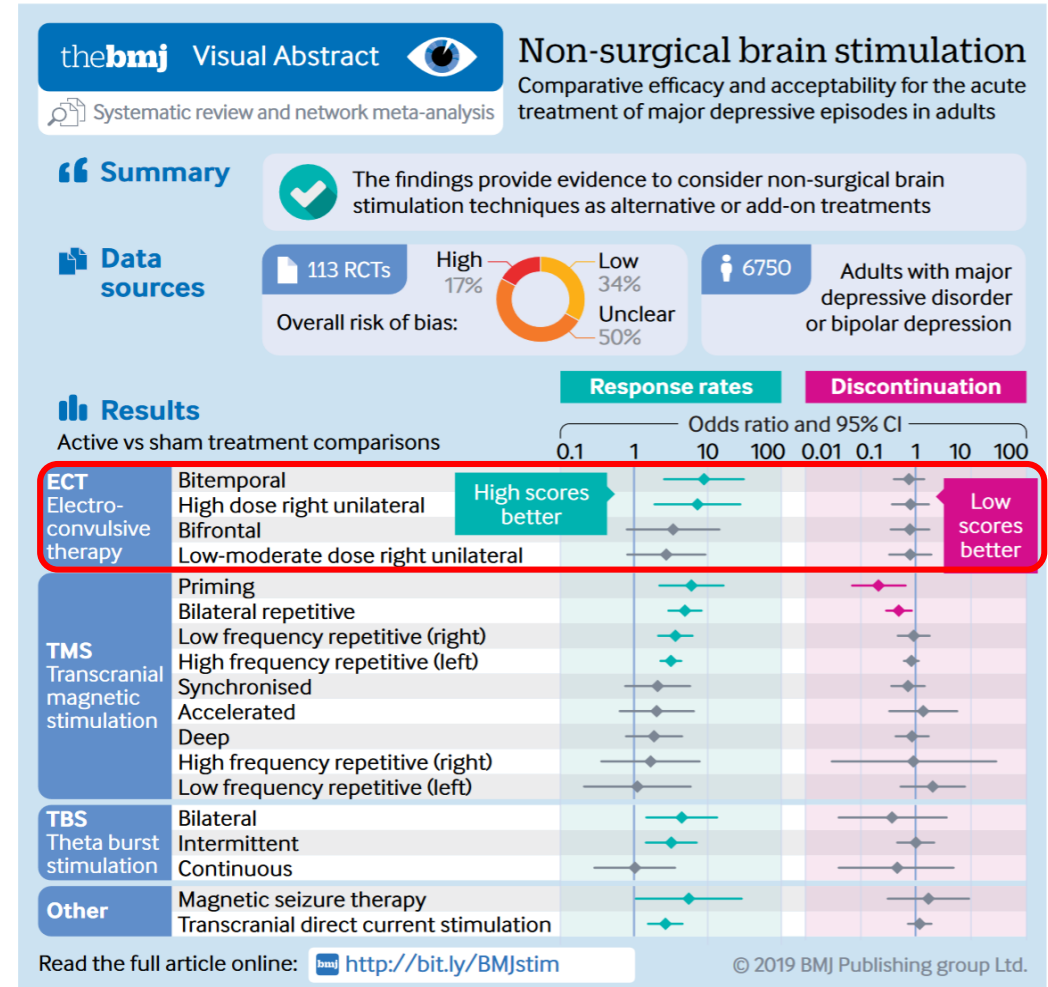
- Acute suicidaliteit
- MDD met psychotische kenmerken
- Therapie resistente depressie

## Predictors of Response\*\*

- Ernst van de depressie
- Leeftijd
- Psychotische kenmerken

## Predictors of Remission\*\*

- Leeftijd
- Psychotische kenmerken



Mutz et al., 2019

\*Kennedy et al. 2009 J Affect Disord (CANMAT)

\*\*Van Diermen et al. Br J Psychiatry

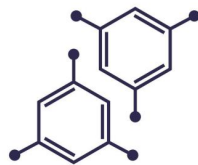
# Neurobiologie van ECT

---

Gene Expression  
Protein Synthesis

...

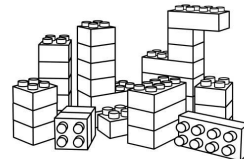
Moleculair



Neurogenesis  
Synaptogenesis

...

Structureel



Long term potentiation  
Functional connectivity

...

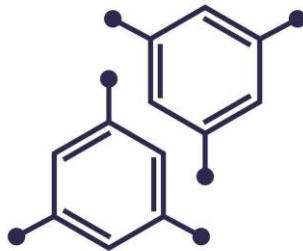
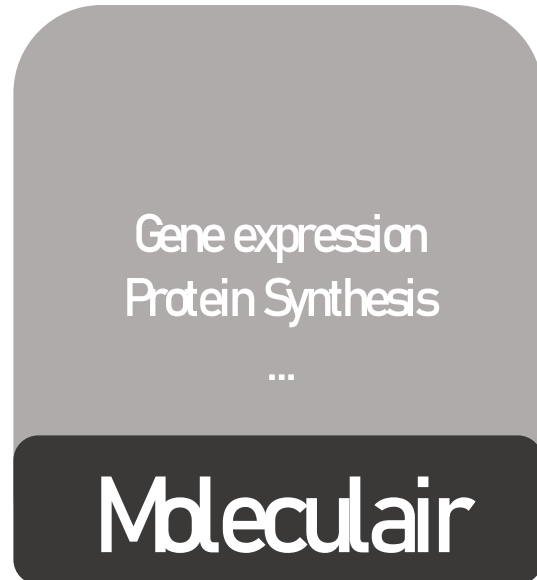
Functioneel





# Neurobiologie van ECT

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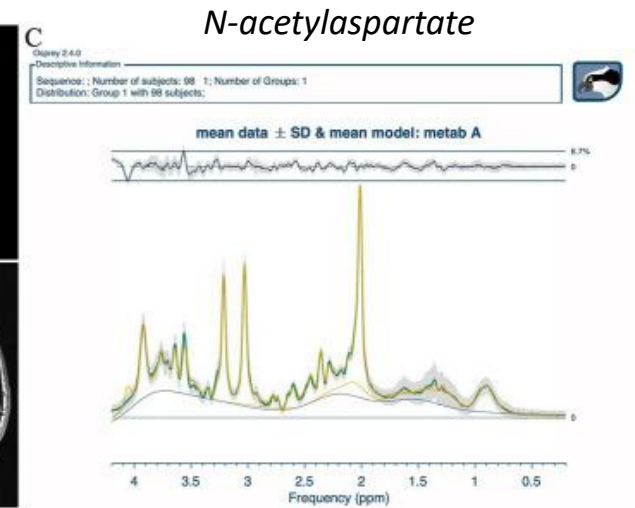
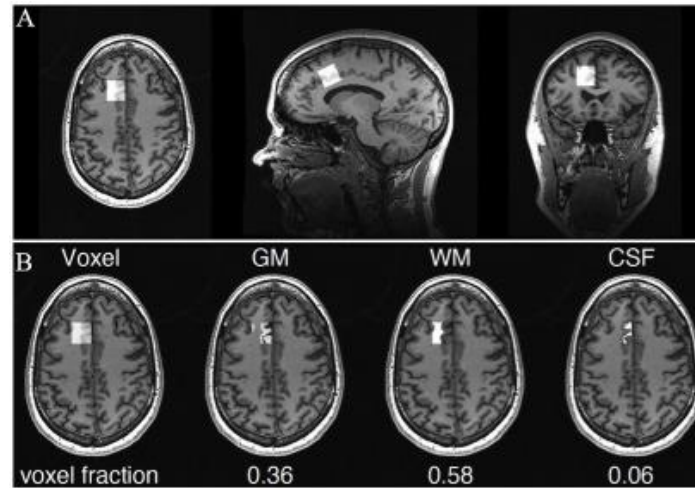
- Neurotrophic Factors
- Cytokines
- Hormones
- Metabolites
- Neurotransmitters
- Enzymes
- Others

# Neurobiologie van ECT

Gene expression  
Protein Synthesis

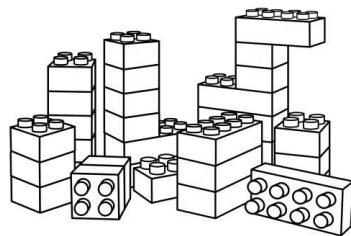
...

Molecularair



# Neurobiologie van ECT

---

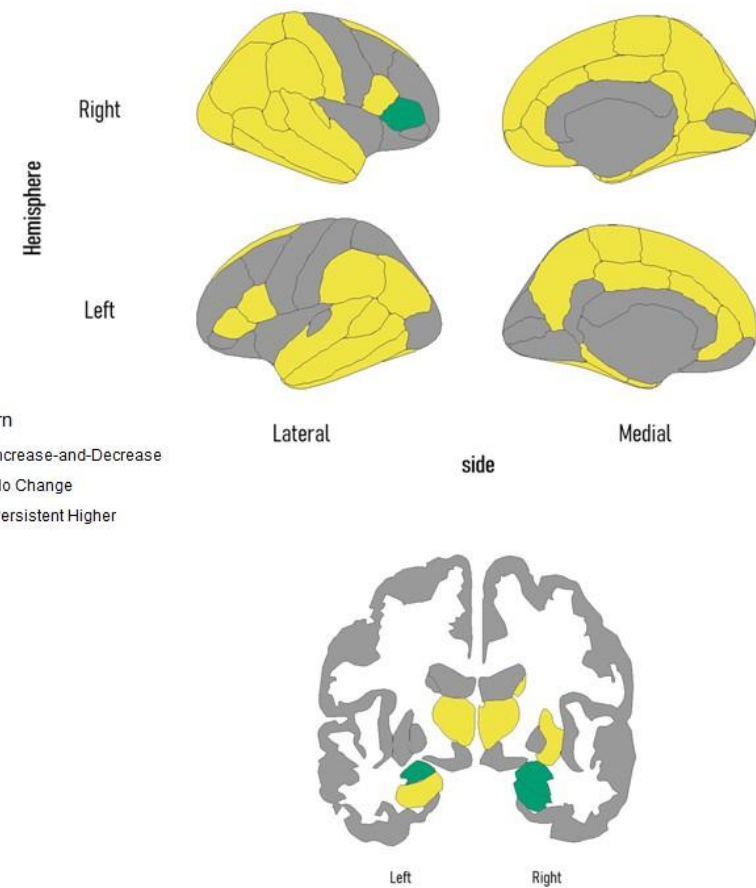
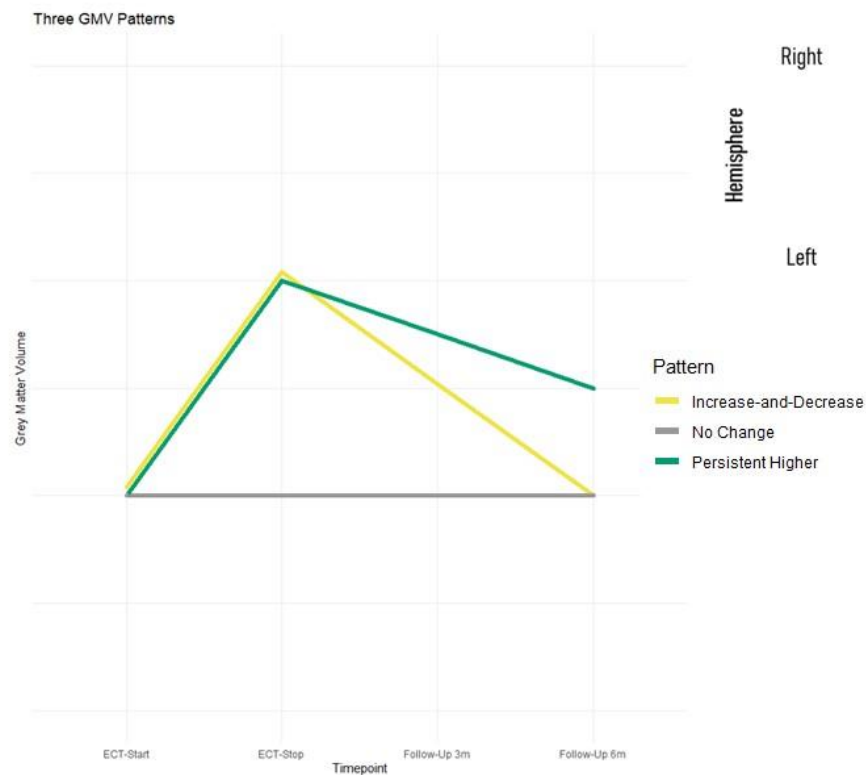
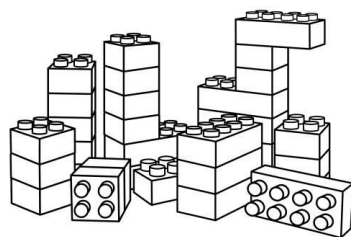


- Grey Matter Volume
- Cortical Thickness
- Morphology, shape & gyrification
- White Matter
- Perfusion Effects
- Edema
- Other

# Neurobiologie van ECT

Grijze stof  
...

**Structureel**



# Neurobiologie van ECT

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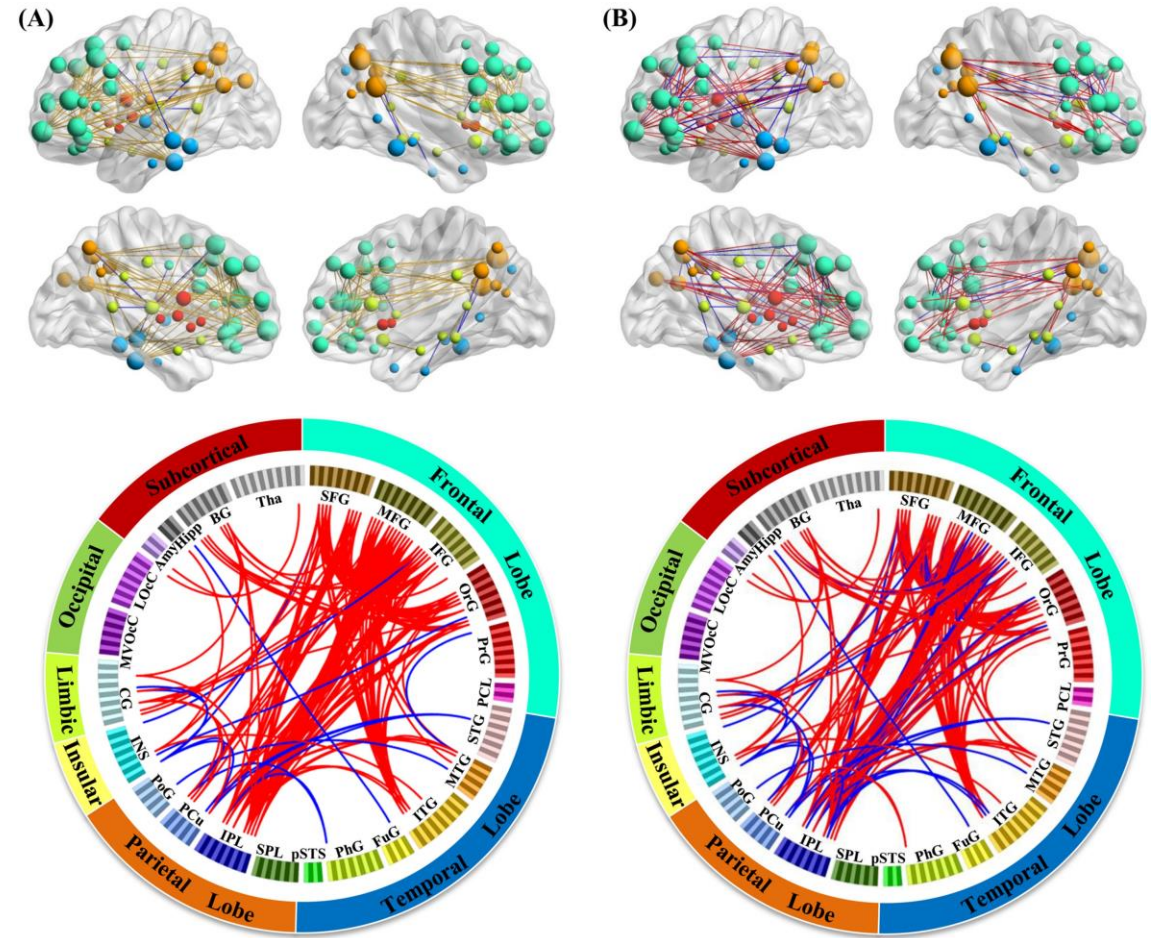
- Functional Connectivity
- (f)ALFF
- Task-based fMRI
- Graph Theory
- Cortical excitability
- Graph Theory

# Neurobiologie van ECT

Functionele connectiviteit

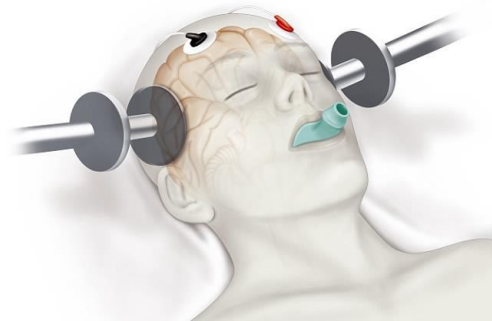
...

Functioneel



# Wat is het werkingsmechanisme?

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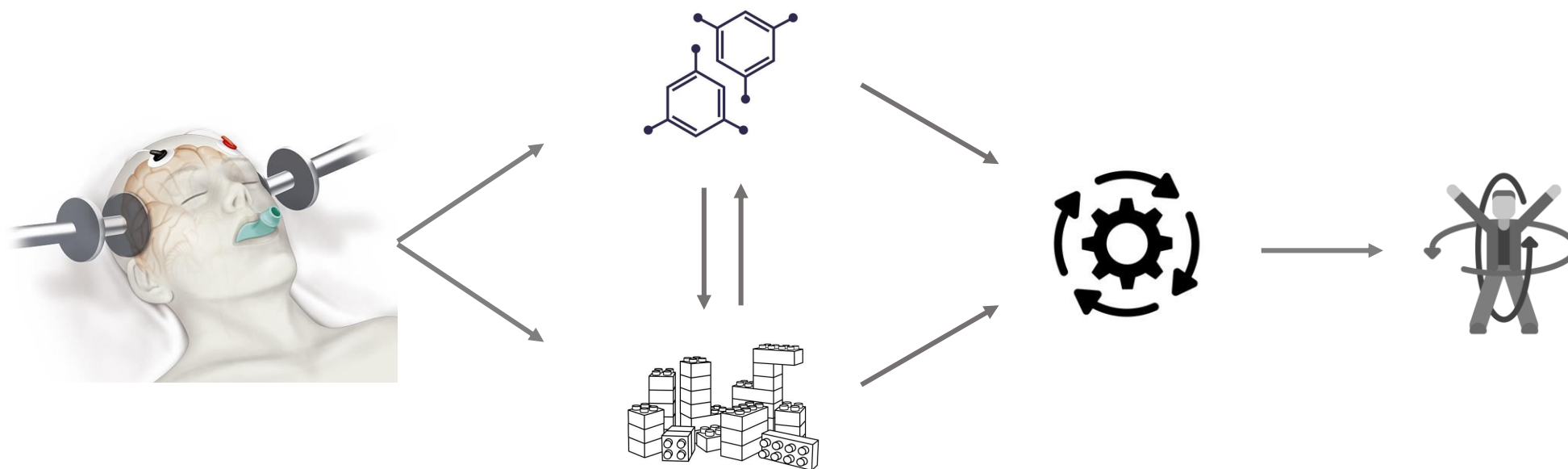


?



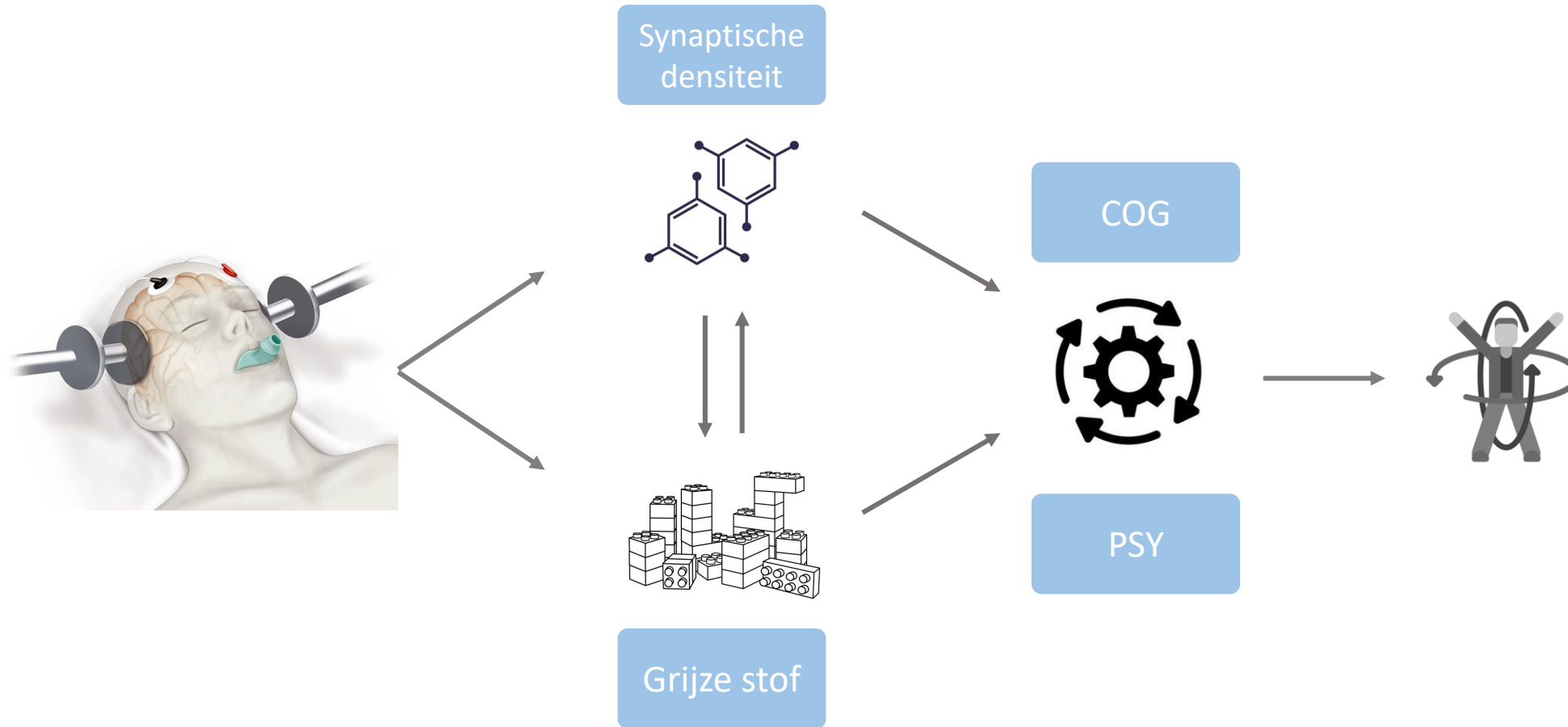
# Wat is het werkingsmechanisme?

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# Neurobiologie van ECT

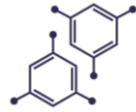


# L3D: Synaptische plasticiteit bij ECT

Neuroplasticiteit



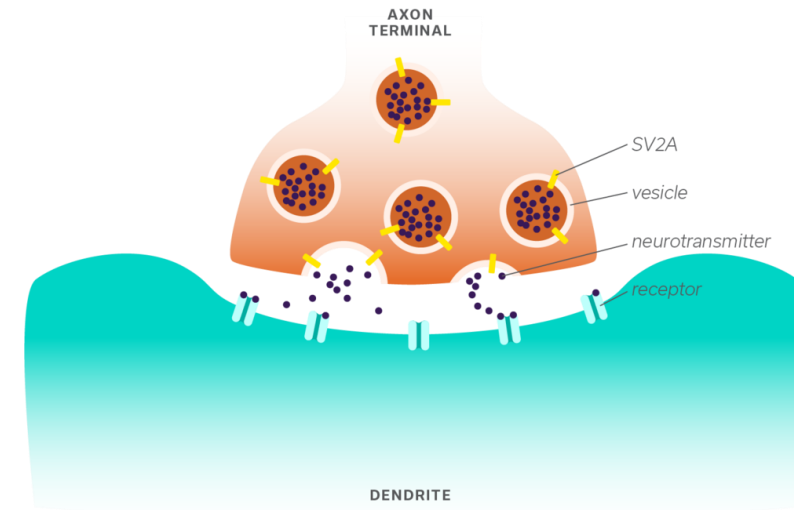
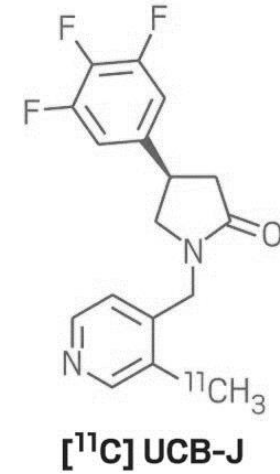
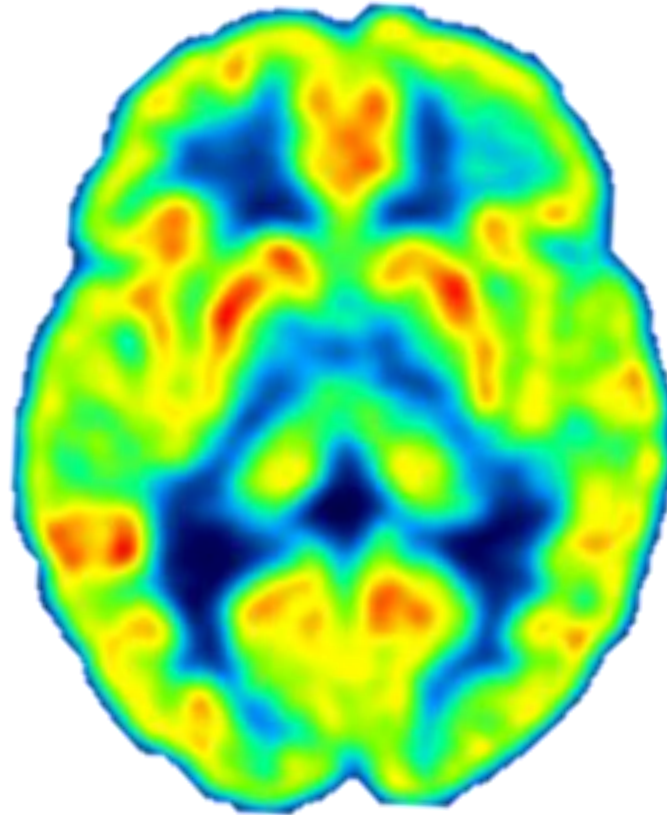
Moleculaire Beeldvorming - PET



Structurele Beeldvorming - MRI

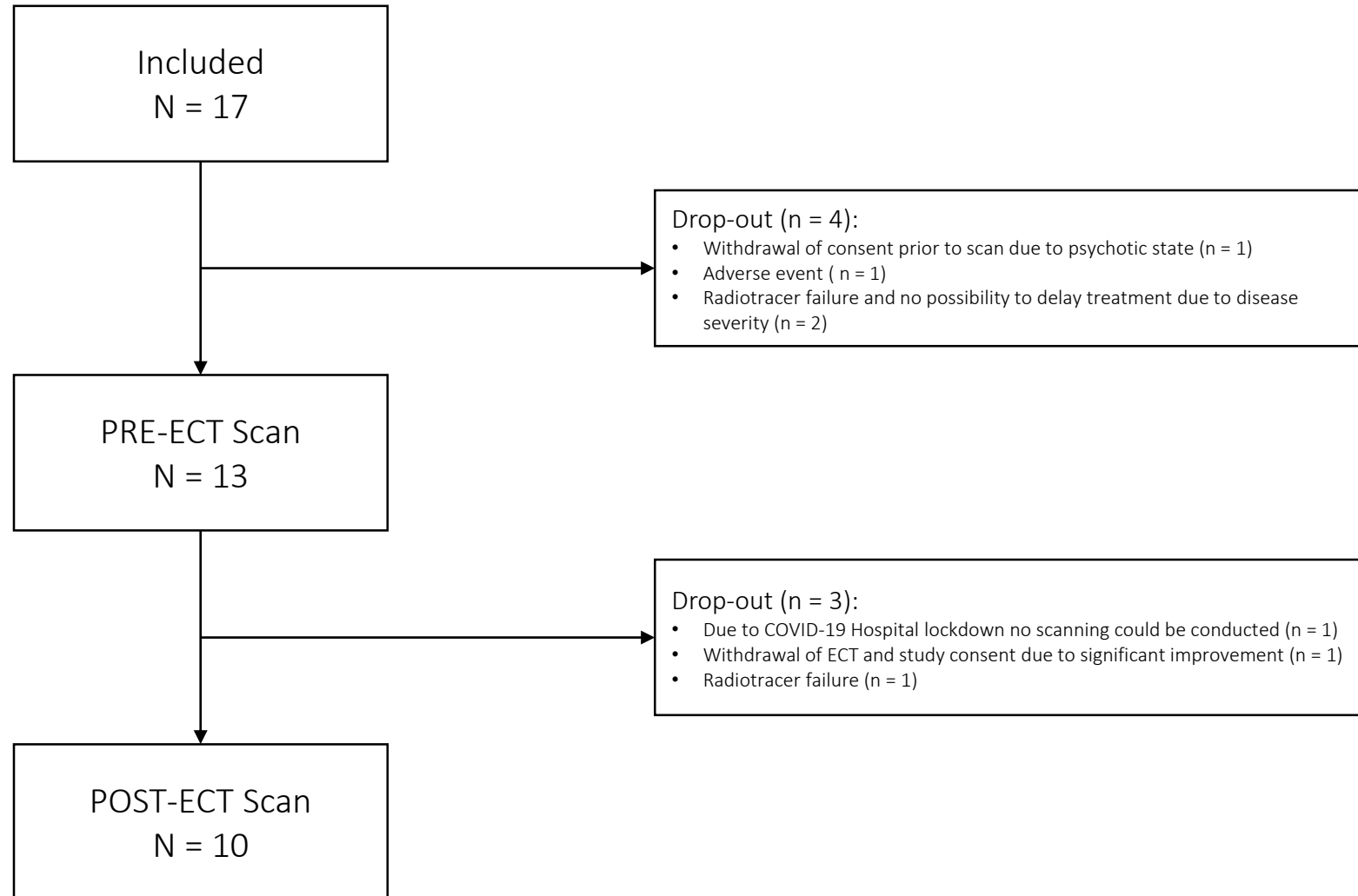


Longitudinaal design



# L3D: Synaptische plasticiteit bij ECT

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# ECT Cohorte

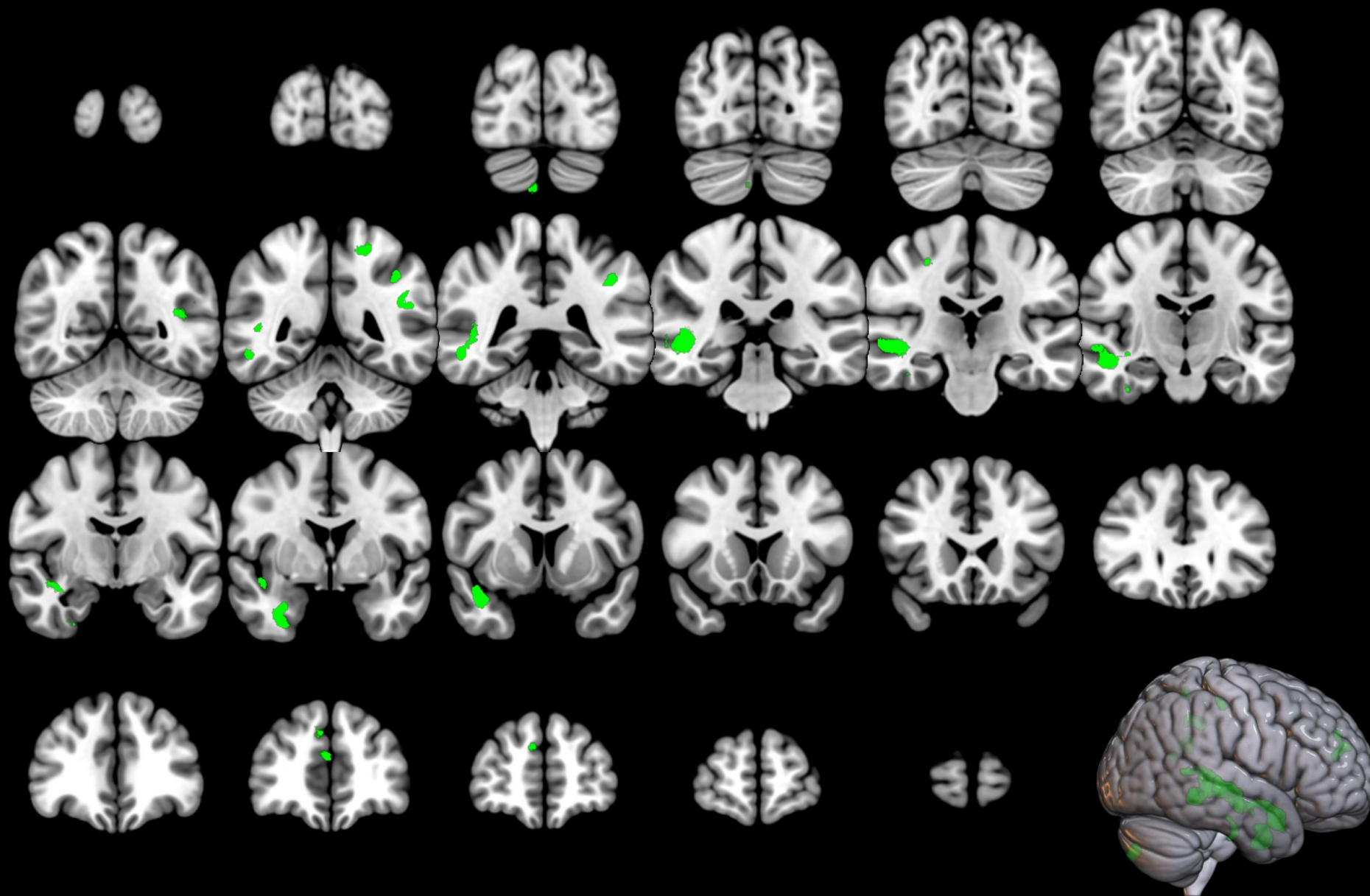
- Leeftijd: 73j
- Sex: 9♀ - 1♂
- Psychotische kenmerken: 40%
- Late Onset Depression: 50%
- Age of onset: 50j
- Duur huidige episode: 27w
  
- Aantal ECTs: 10
- Scan Interval post-ECT: 2d17h
  
- Respons op ECT: 70%
- Remissie na ECT: 60%



MADRS pre-ECT: 30.1  
MADRS post-ECT: 11.8

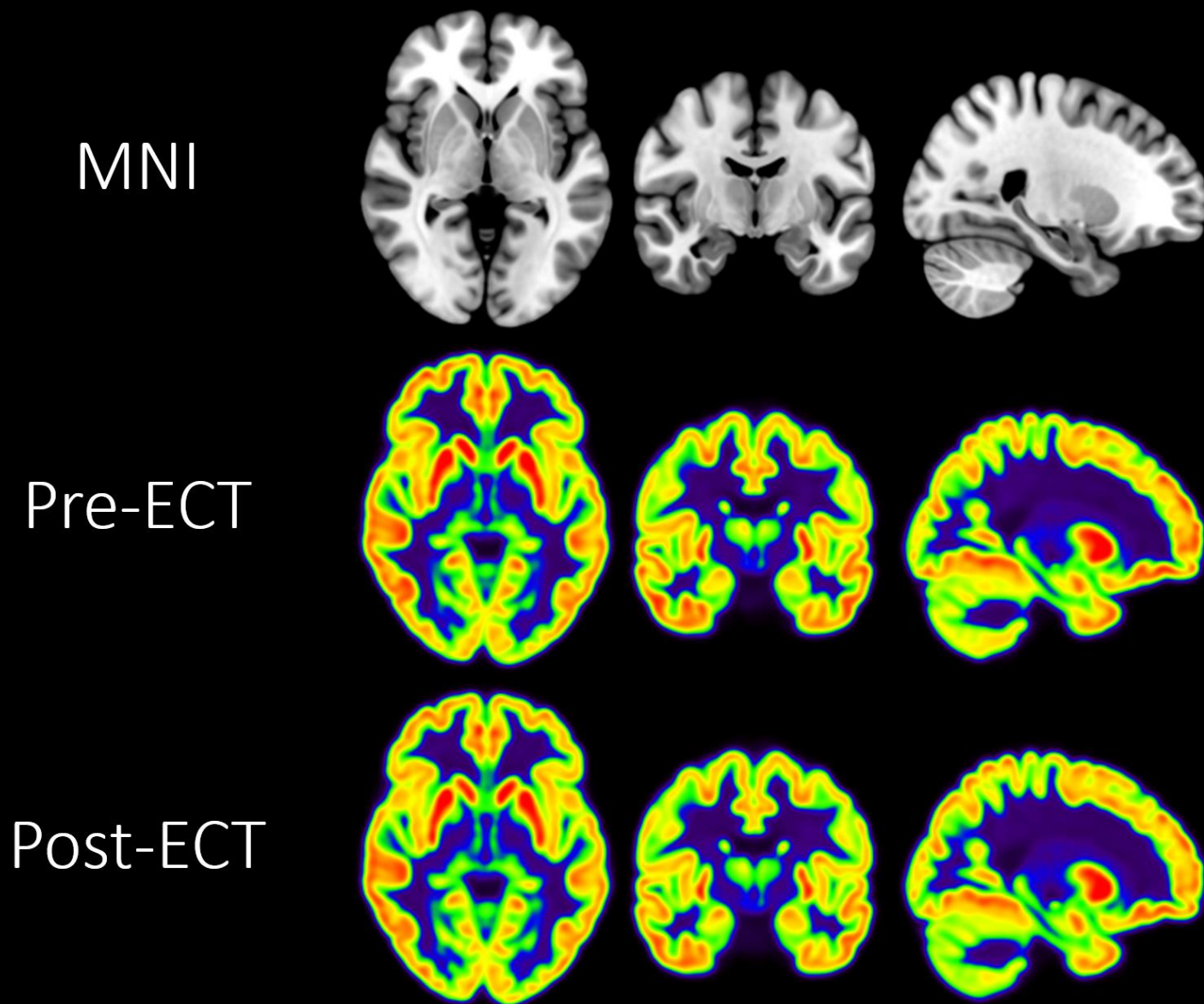
# Structurele veranderingen na ECT

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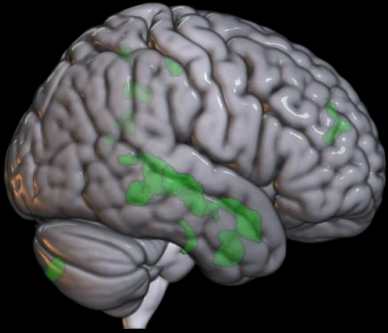
# Synaptische veranderingen na ECT

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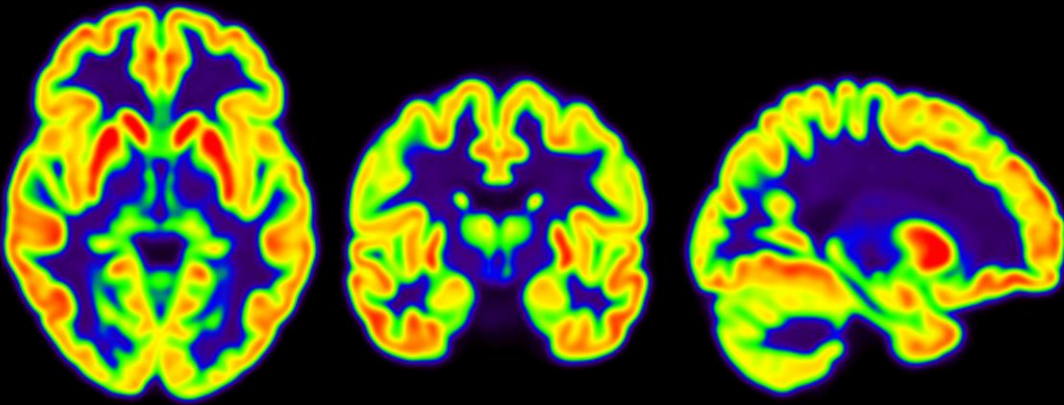


# Synaptische veranderingen na ECT

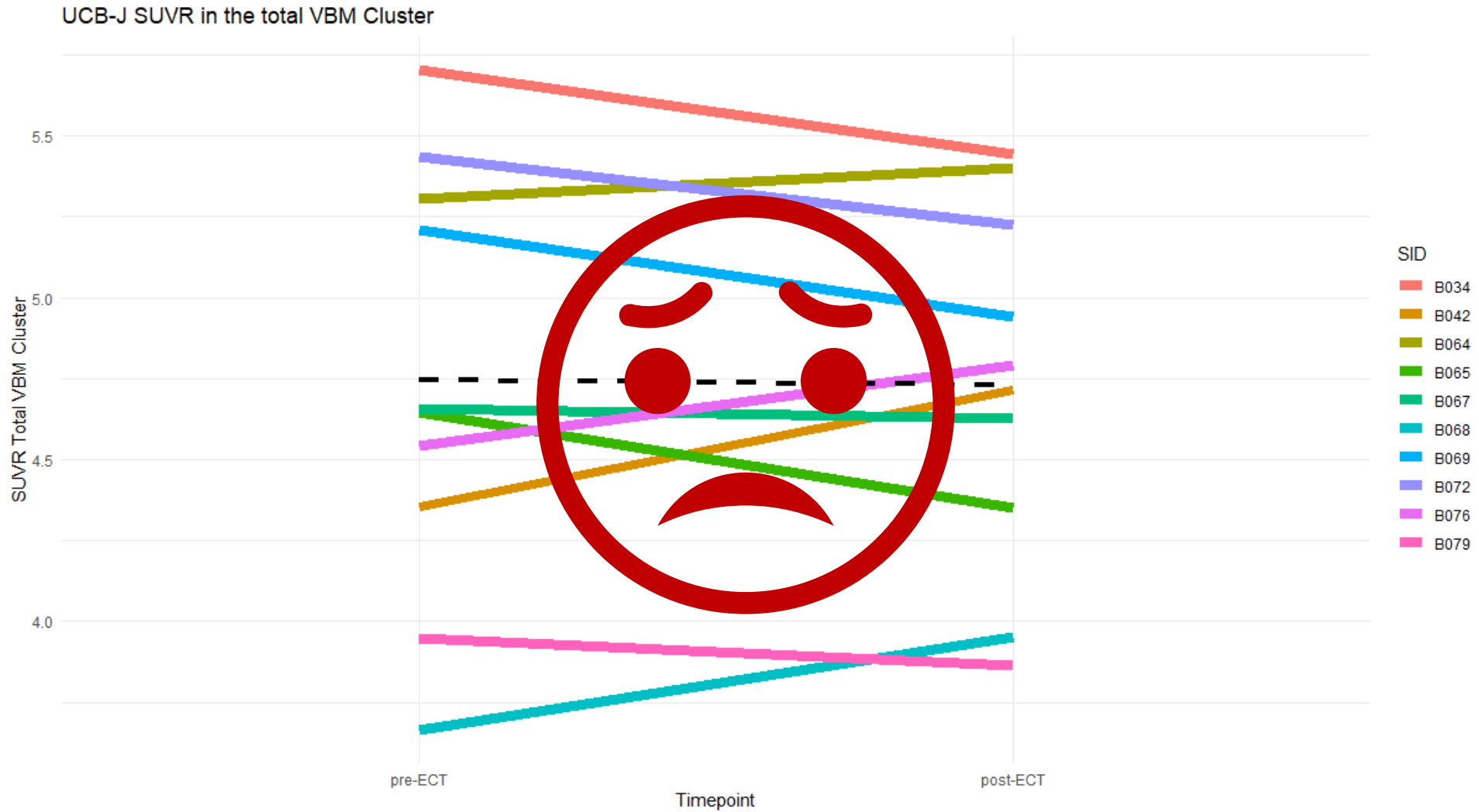
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Zijn de structurele veranderingen  
geassocieerd met synaptische  
veranderingen?

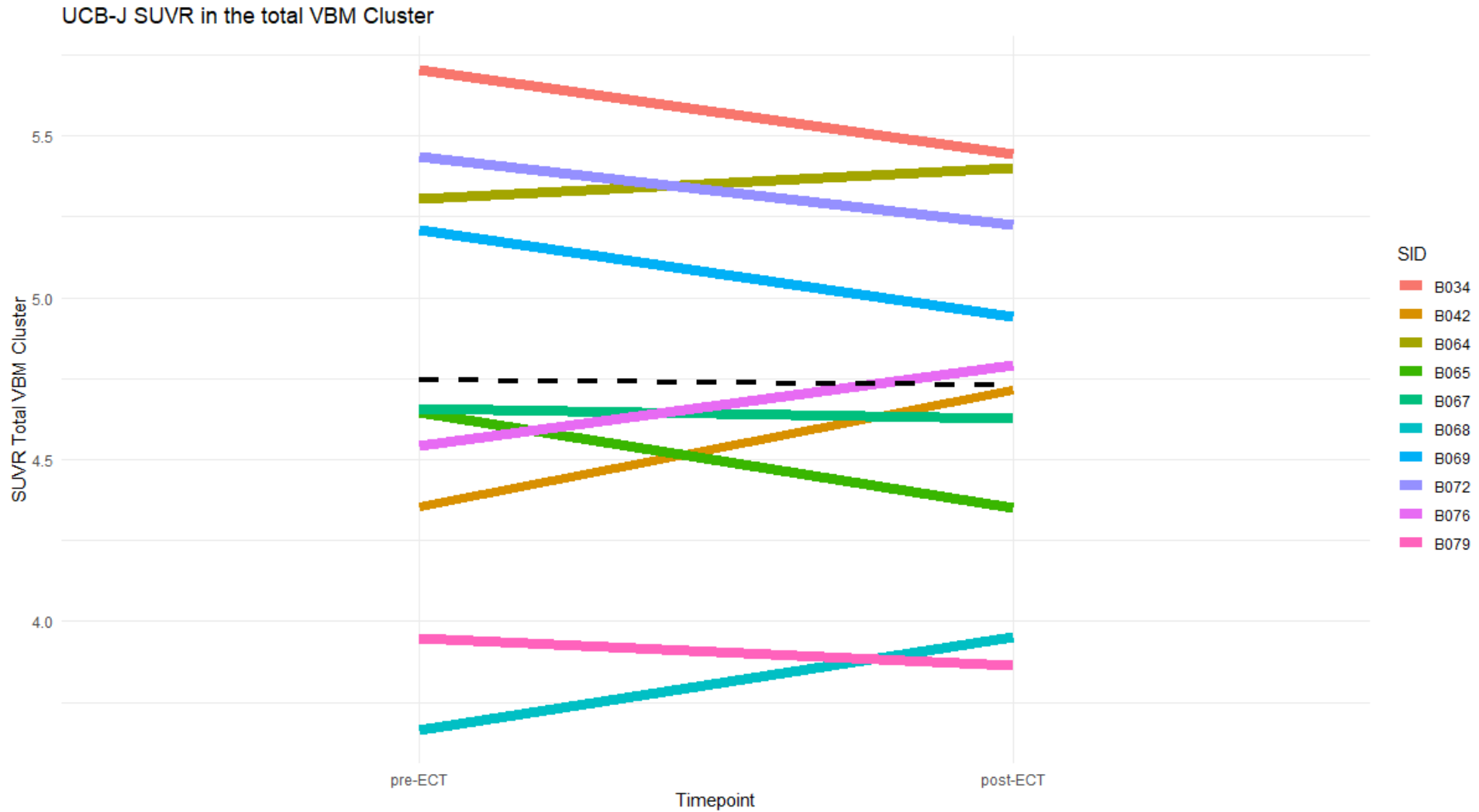


# Synaptische veranderingen na ECT

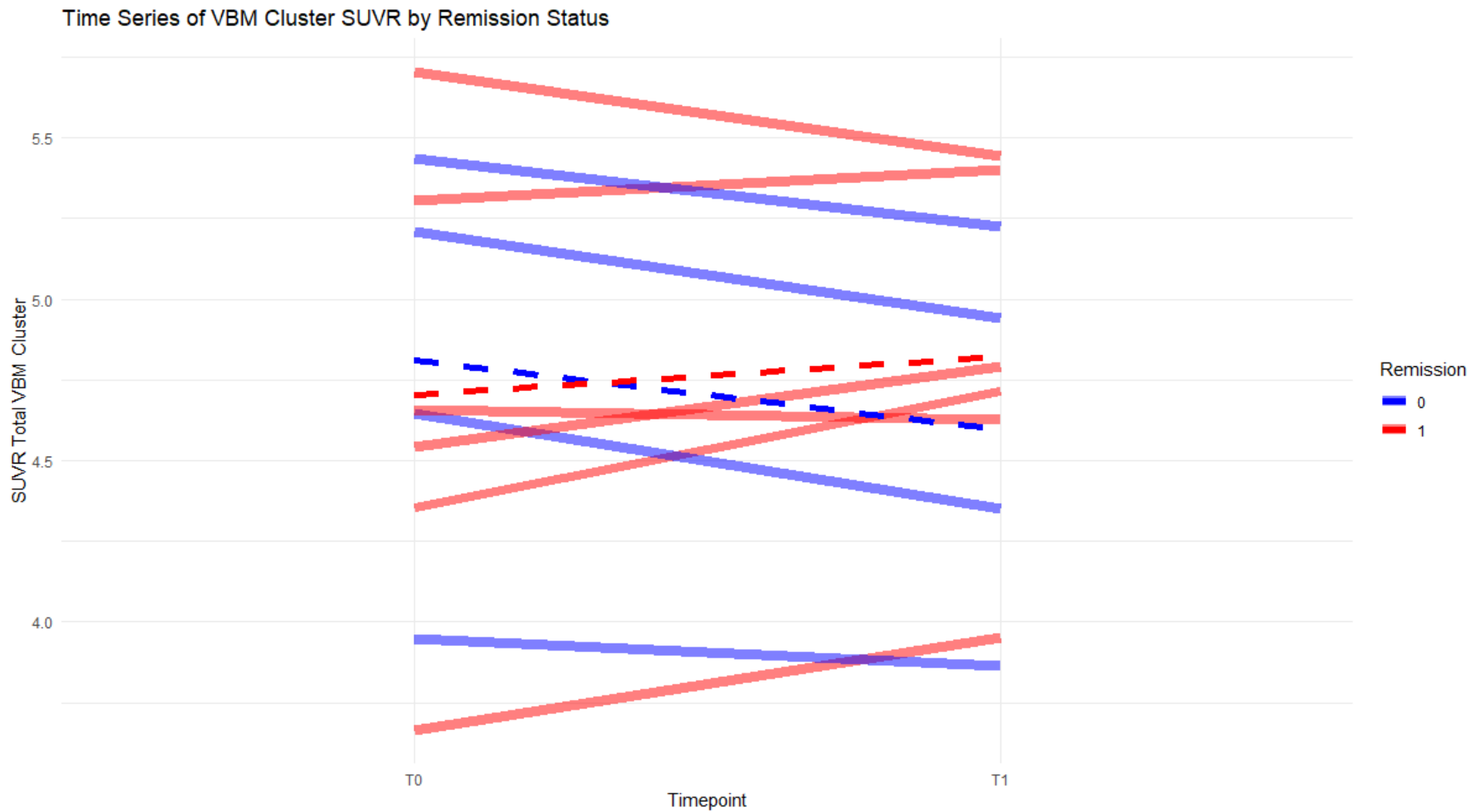




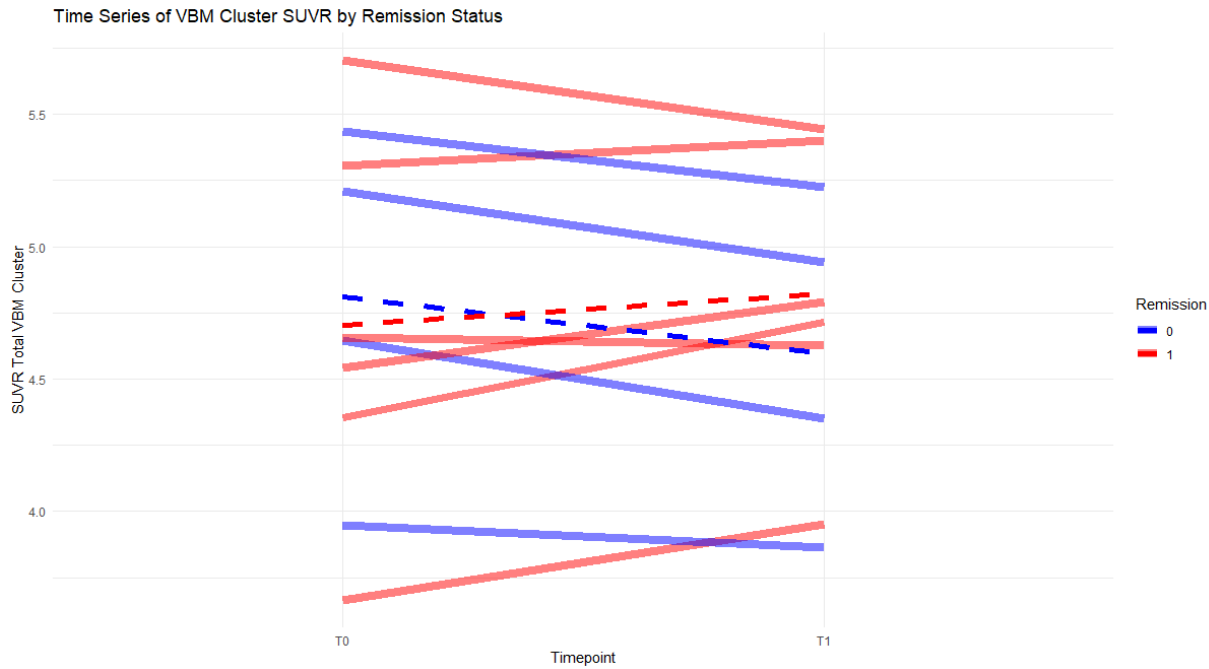
# Wat met klinische associaties?



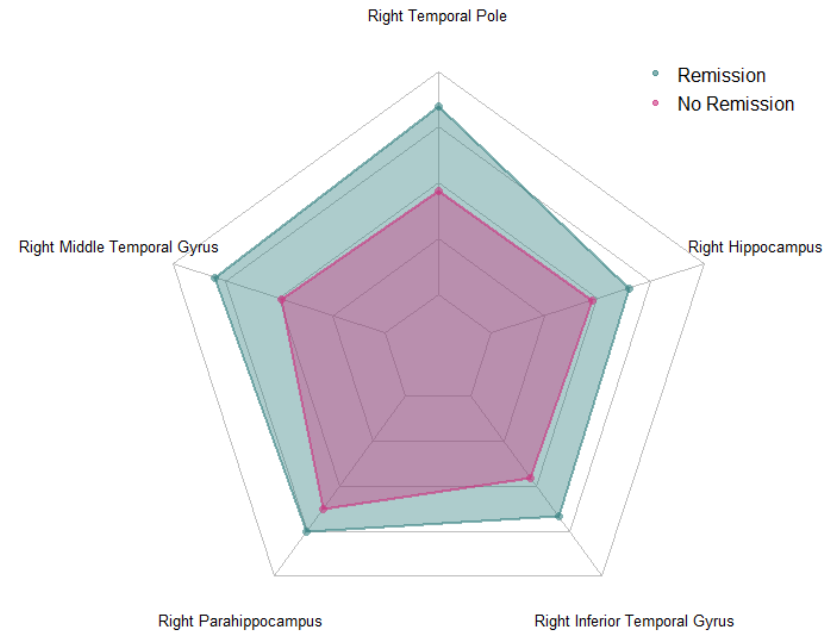
# Wat met klinische associaties?



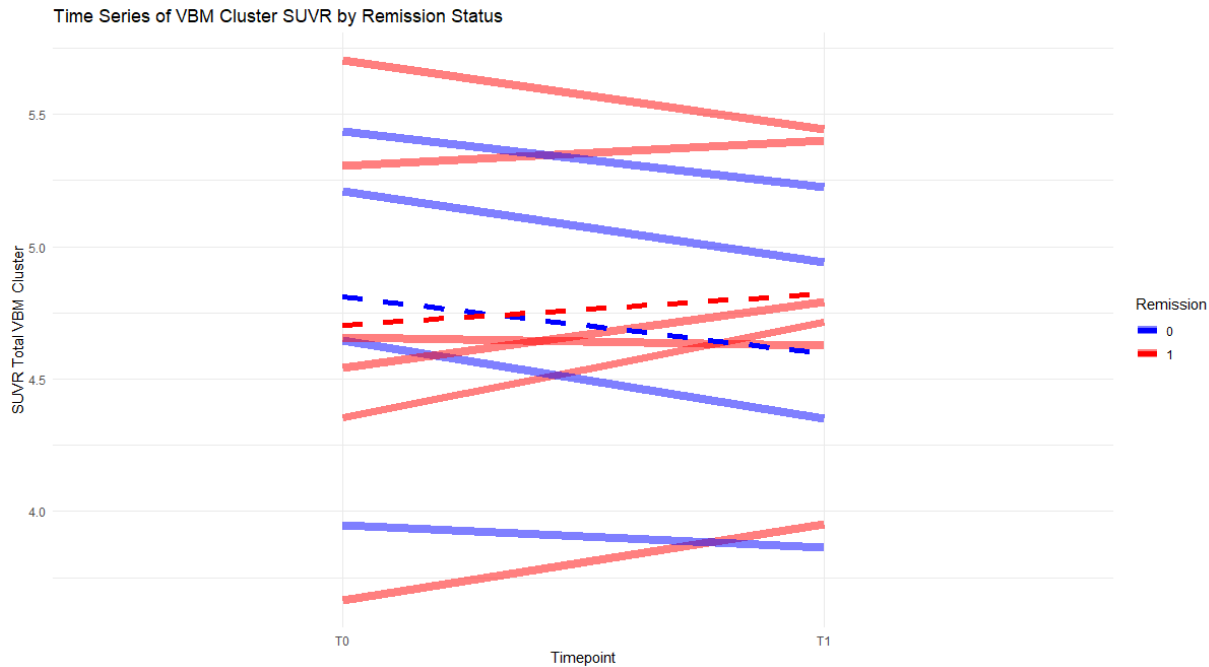
# Wat met klinische associaties?



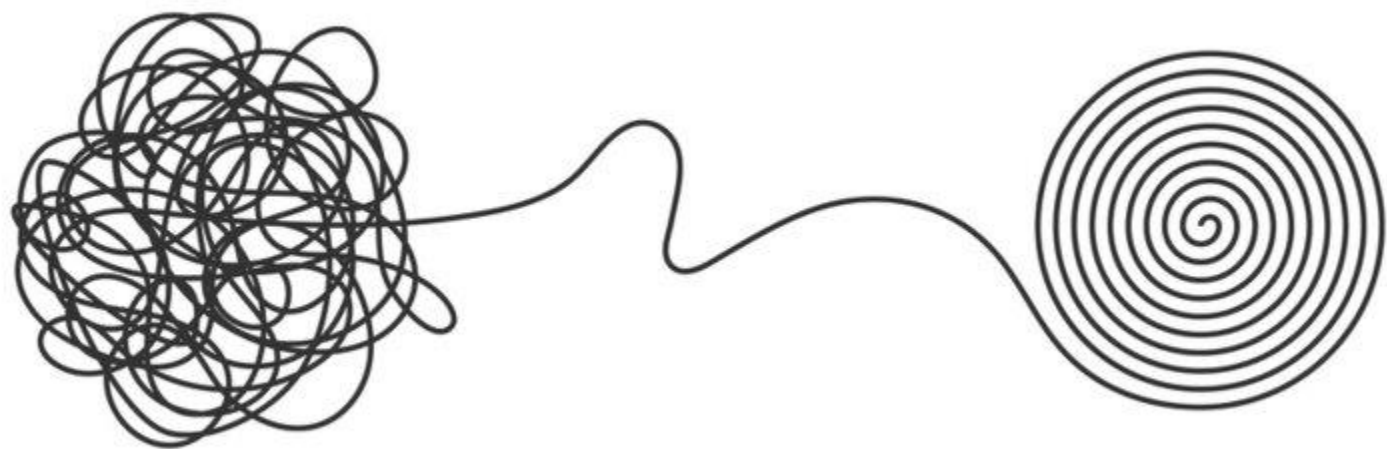
Mean Percentage of change in [11]C-UCB-J SUVR compared between Remitters and Non-remitters

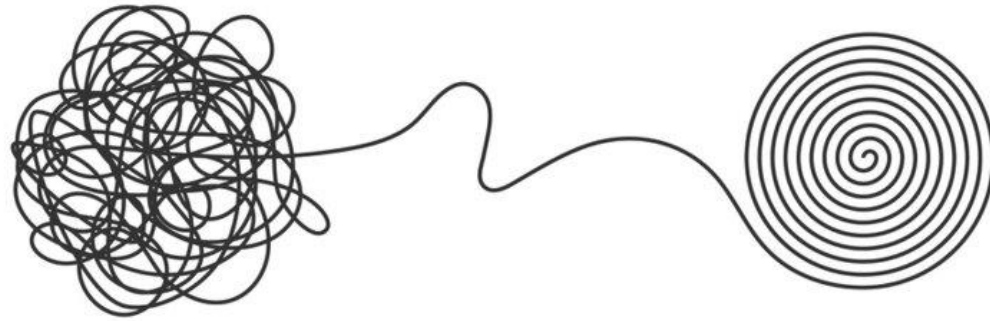


# Wat met klinische associaties?



- *Bij Remissie patiënten: Grijs stof toename na ECT gaat gepaard met toename in synaptische densiteit*
- *Bij non-Remissie patiënten: Grijs stof toename na ECT gaat gepaard met afname in synaptische densiteit*





Verschillen in toename grijze stof tussen Remissie vs. non remissie?

**Ja**

Verschillen in grijze stof op baseline tussen Remissie vs. non remissie?

**Nee**

Verschillen in synaptische densiteit op baseline Remissie vs. non remissie?

**Nee**

Verschillen in grijze stof tussen ECT vs. non-ECT?

**Nee**

Verschillen in synaptische densiteit tussen ECT vs. non-ECT?

**Nee**

Physiology

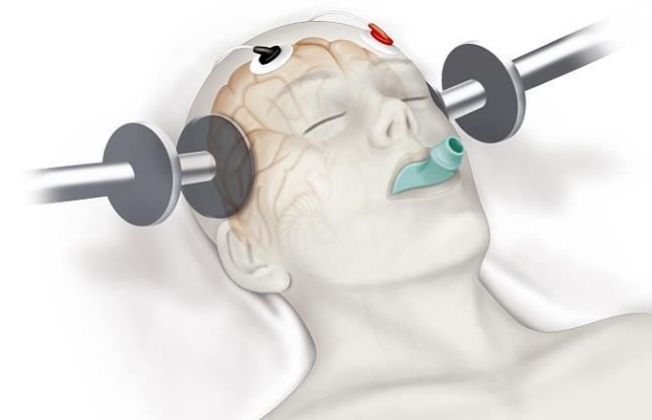
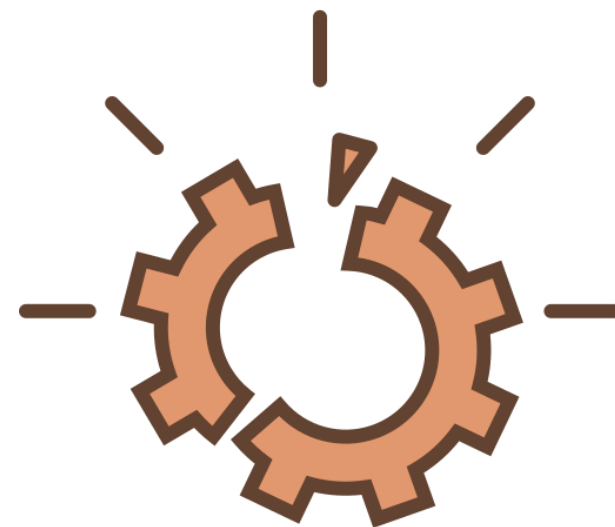
Behaviour

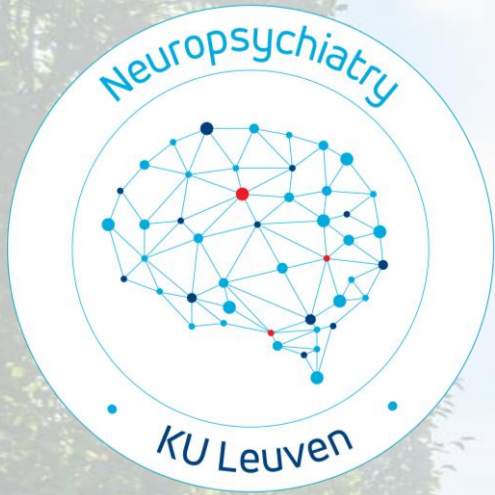
Social network

Society



DISRUPTION





## The Lab

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Jan Van den Stock  
François-Laurent De Winter  
Maarten Van Den Bossche  
Chris Bervoets  
Louise Emsell  
Lies Van Assche

Akihiro Takamiya  
Maarten Laroy  
Chih-Hao Lien  
Doga Gundem  
Fan Ji  
Margot Van Cauwenberge  
Thomas Vande Castele  
Jiaze Sun  
Laura Van den Bulcke  
Laura Van Hove

UPC  
Z.ORG KU LEUVEN



@NeuropsychKUL

## Collaborations

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Nuclear Medicine: *Koen Van Laere & Michel Koole*  
Laboratory for Cognitive Neurology: *Rik Vandenberghe & Patrick Dupont*  
TARGID: *Lukas Van Oudenhove*  
Center for Contextual Psychiatry: *Inez Germeys*  
VIB: *Philip Van Damme*  
IMEC: *Chris Van Hoof, Walter De Raedt & Nick Van Helleputte*  
Laboratory for Biological Psychology: *Hans Op de Beeck*  
Declarative Languages and Artificial Intelligence: *Joost Vennekens*

McGill University, Canada: *Mallar Chakravarty*  
University of Sydney, Australia: *Fiona Kumfor*  
Maastricht University, The Netherlands: *Beatrice De Gelder*

ResPECT (Research in Psychiatry and ECT Consortium)  
GEMRIC (The Global ECT-MRI Research Collaboration)  
NIC-FTD (Neuropsychiatric International Consortium FTD)  
The Human Affectome Project



Sequoia Fund

