



**European  
Reference  
Network**

for rare or low prevalence  
complex diseases

**Network**  
Neurological Diseases  
(ERN-RND)



**European  
Reference  
Network**

for rare or low prevalence  
complex diseases

**Network**  
Neuromuscular  
Diseases (ERN EURO-NMD)

14.09.2021

# Joint webinar series



**‘Genetic forms of Parkinson’s diseases’  
by Thomas Gasser  
University Hospital Tübingen, Germany**

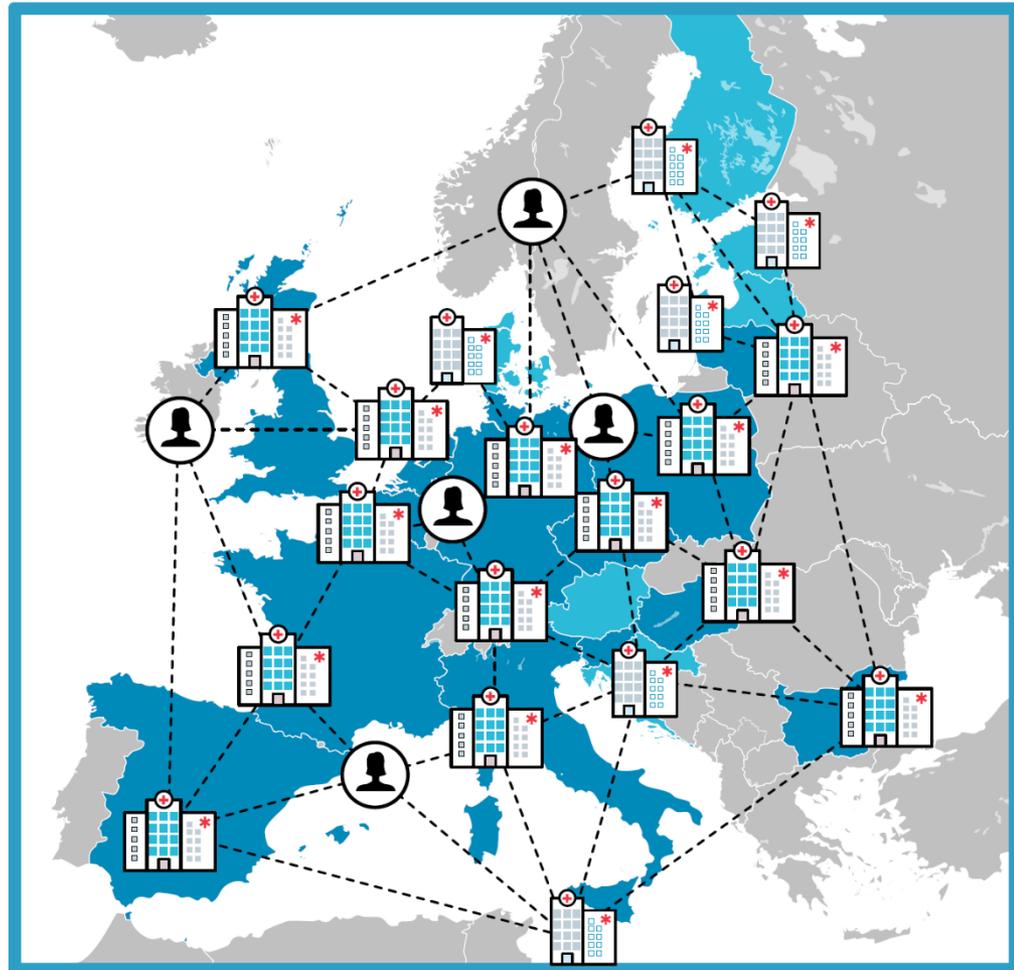


# European Reference Network for RARE Neurological Diseases (ERN-RND)

- Countries with Full Members
- Countries with Affiliated Partners

ERN-RND covers 6 disease groups:

1. Ataxia and HSP
2. Leukodystrophies
3. Dystonias /NBIA/Paroxysmal disorders
4. Chorea and HD
5. FTD
6. Atypical/genetic Parkinsonism





# General information about the webinars

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- Focus on : RARE neurological, neuromuscular and movement disorders, neurorehabilitation, advanced therapies and DBS
- Alternating adult and paediatric topics
- 40-45min presentation
- 15min Q&A session at the end (please write your questions in the Q&A)
- Post-webinar survey (2-3min): satisfaction, topic/speaker ideas for next webinars



# Speaker: Thomas Gasser

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- **Training: MD: Freiburg/Germany and Yale University, USA**
- **Current positions:** **Director, Department of Neurodegenerative diseases, University of Tübingen**  
**Group leader: Parkinson's Genetics**  
**German Center of Neurodegenerative diseases, DZNE**
- **Other key activities:** **Dean of Research, Medical Faculty, University of Tübingen**
- **Research focus:** **Genetics of Parkinson's disease and other Movement and Neurodegenerative Disorders**



# Webinar outline

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- Basics of Genetics of Complex Neurologic Diseases
- Genetic architecture of Parkinson's disease (PD)
- Monogenic forms of PD
- Genetic risk factors in sporadic PD
- Genetic testing in PD
- Emerging mutation-directed therapies in PD



# Learning objectives

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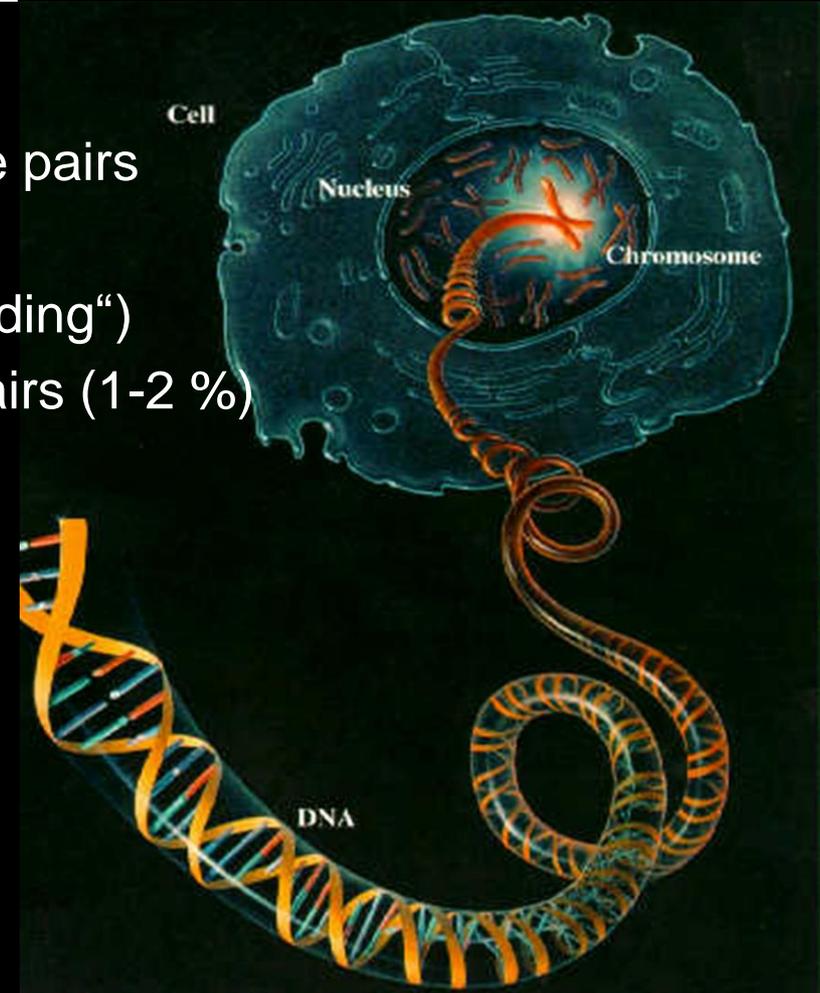
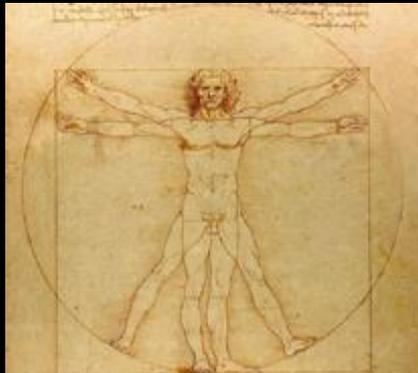
By the end of this webinar you will be able to:

- recognize patients with a high probability for a genetic form of PD and their specific features
- describe major pathogenic pathways identified in genetic forms of PD
- explain the concept of polygenic risk scores in sporadic PD
- discuss present state of targeted therapeutic trials in PD



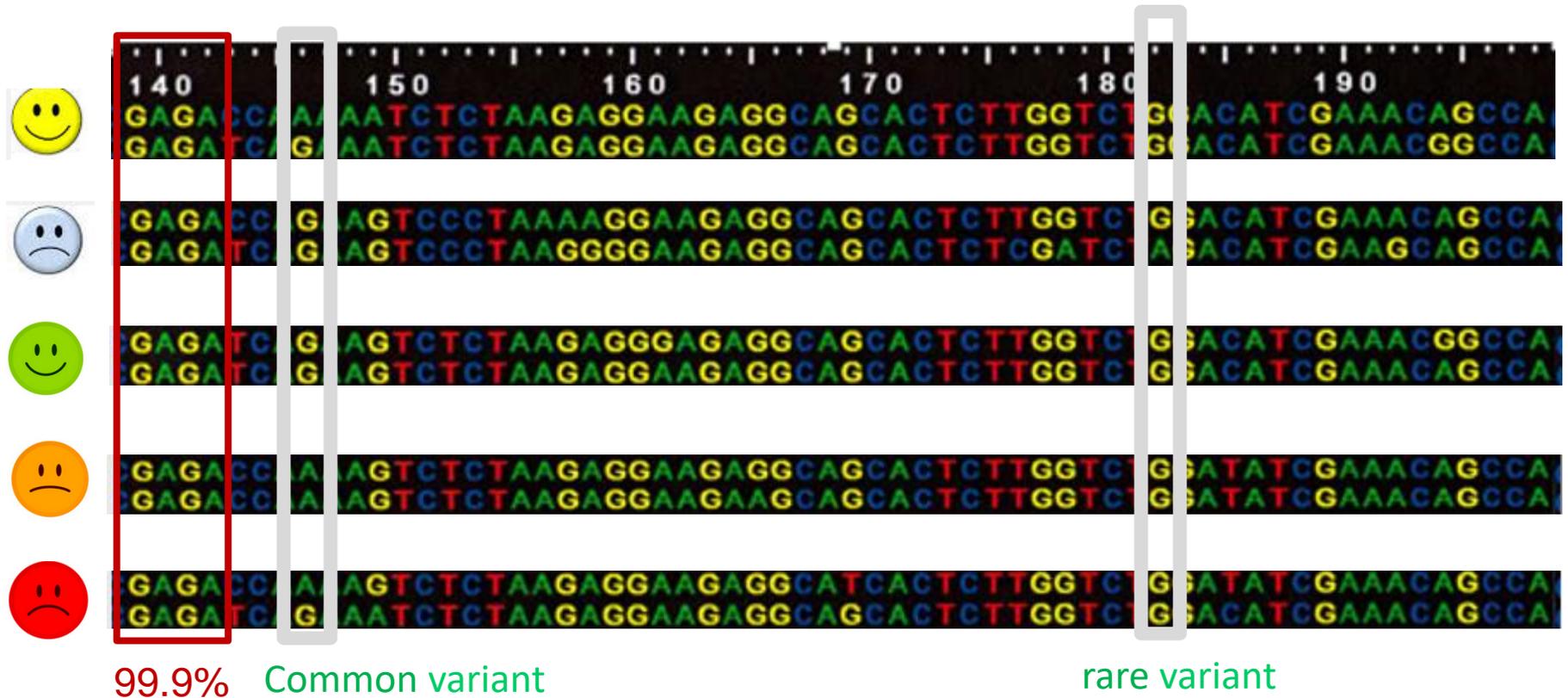
# The Human Genome

- Genome: ~ 3.000.000.000 base pairs
- Genes: ~ 22.000
- Exome: ~ 180.000 exons („coding“)
- ~ 50.000.000 base pairs (1-2 %)





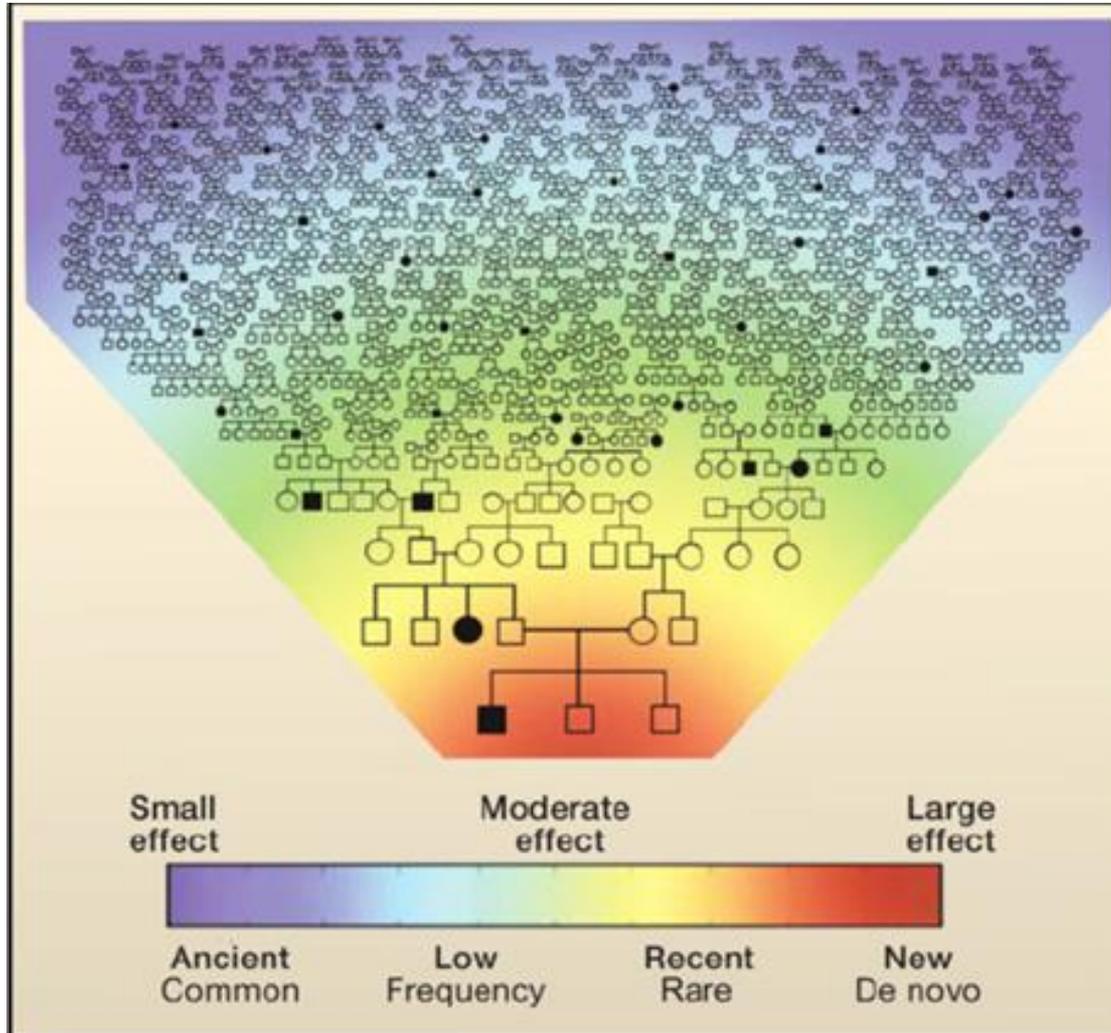
# Human genomes differ



On average 1 of 500 to 1000 bases differ  
A genome carries about 3 millionen varianten



# Evolutionary age, frequency, effect strength



Lupski et al., Cell.  
2011;147(1):32-43



# Genetic architecture of complex diseases

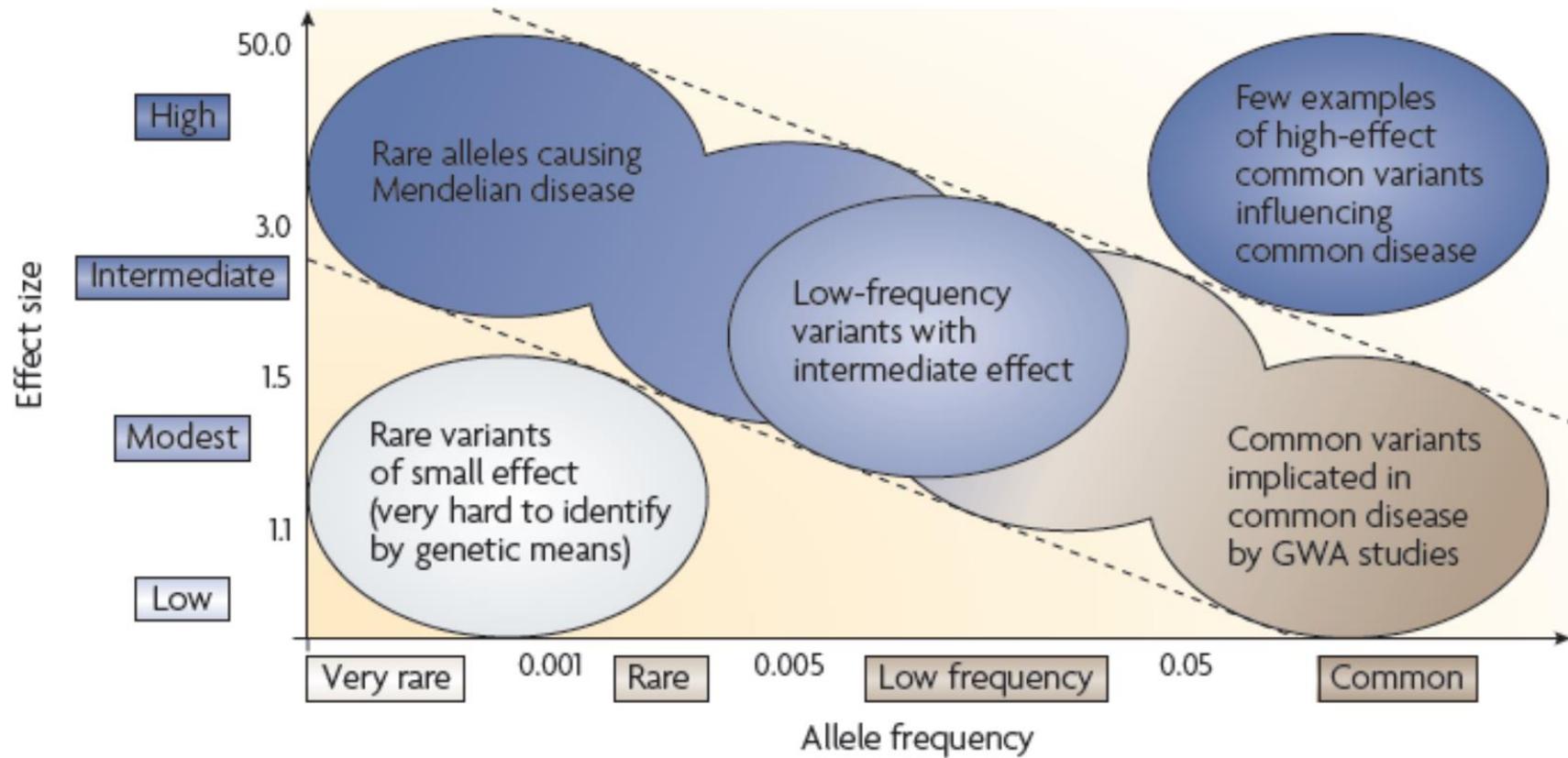


Figure 1 | **Feasibility of identifying genetic variants by risk-allele frequency and strength of genetic effect (odds ratio).** Reproduced, with permission, from *Nature* REF. 10 © (2009) Macmillan Publishers Ltd. All rights reserved. GWA, genome-wide association.



# Genetic architecture of Parkinson's disease

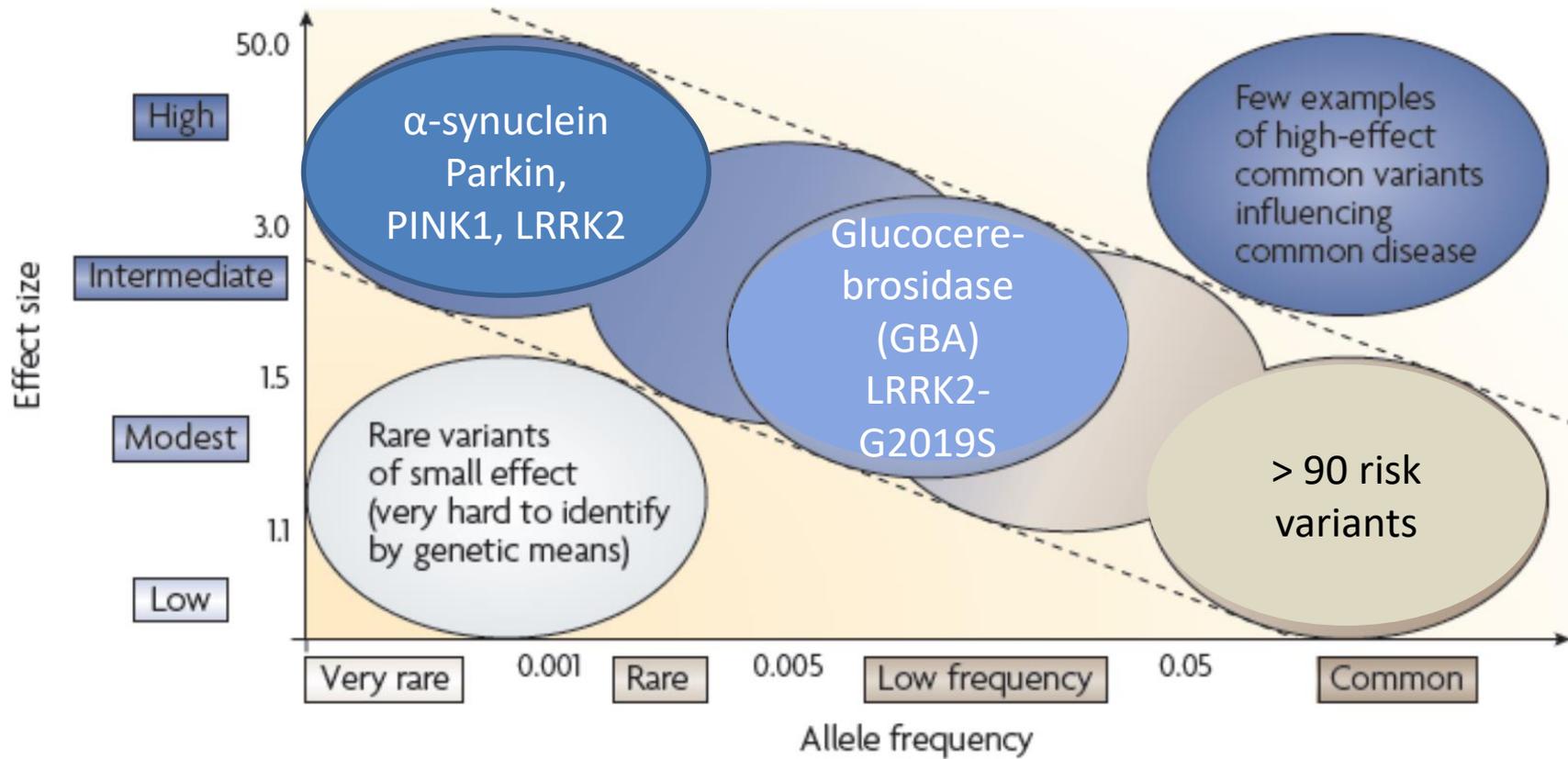
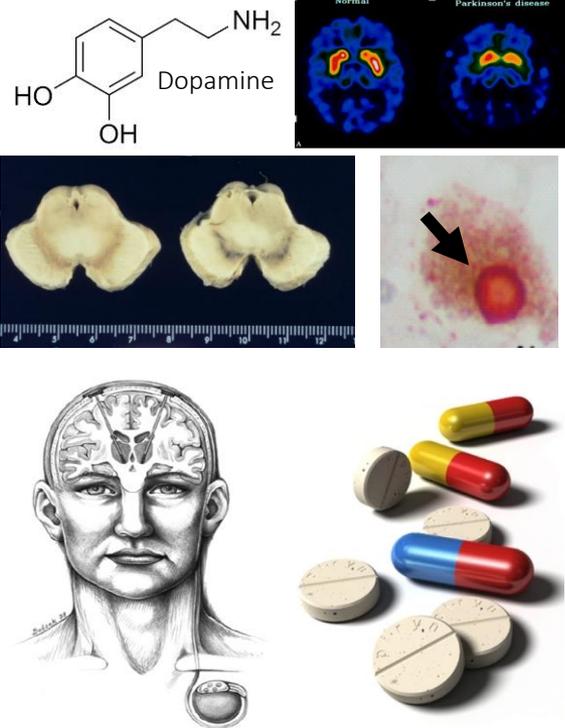


Figure 1 | **Feasibility of identifying genetic variants by risk-allele frequency and strength of genetic effect (odds ratio).** Reproduced, with permission, from *Nature* REF. 10 © (2009) Macmillan Publishers Ltd. All rights reserved. GWA, genome-wide association.



# Parkinson's disease: the basics





# The beginning of PD genetics: 1997



Larry Golbe, ..., Roger Duvoisin:  
A large kindred with autosomal dominant Parkinson's disease  
(Ann Neurol 1990)

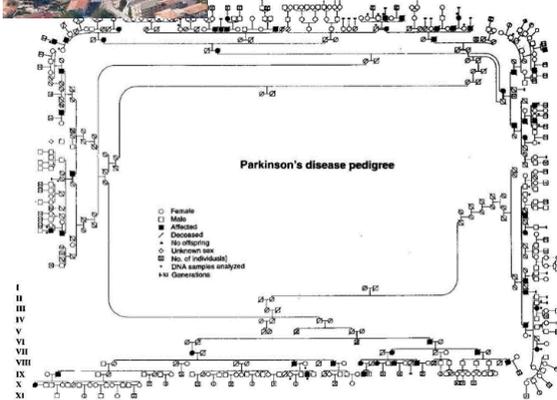


Fig. 1. A large family with PD. The clinical and pathological features of some members of this kindred were previously reported (77).

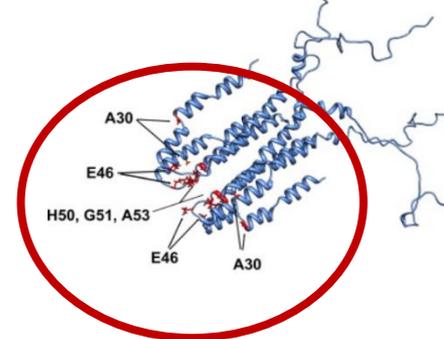
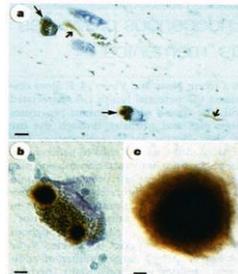
- Parkinsonism
- Onset ~ 44 years
- Rapid progression
- Dementia common

## Mutation in the $\alpha$ -Synuclein Gene Identified in Families with Parkinson's Disease

Mihael H. Polymeropoulos,\* Christian Lavedan†, Elisabeth Leroy†, Susan E. Ide, Anindya Dehejia, Amalia Dutra Brian Pike, Holly Root, Jeffrey Rubenstein, Rebecca Boyer, Edward S. Stenroos, Settara Chandrasekharappa, Aglaia Athanassiadou, Theodore Papapetropoulos, William G. Johnson, Alice M. Lazzarini, Roger C. Duvoisin, Giuseppe Di Iorio, Lawrence I. Golbe, Robert L. Nussbaum



Science, 1997



## $\alpha$ -Synuclein in filamentous inclusions of Lewy bodies from Parkinson's disease and dementia with Lewy bodies

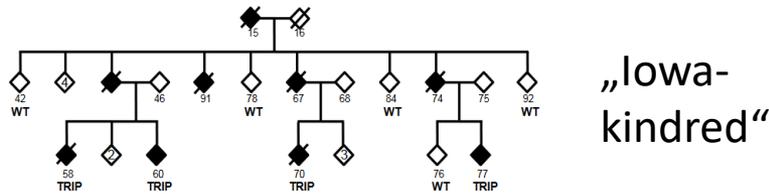
(ubiquitin/sarkosyl-insoluble filaments/immunoelectron microscopy)

MARIA GRAZIA SPILLANTINI\*, R. ANTHONY CROWTHER†, ROSS JAKES†, MASATO HASEGAWA†, AND MICHEL GOEDERT†‡

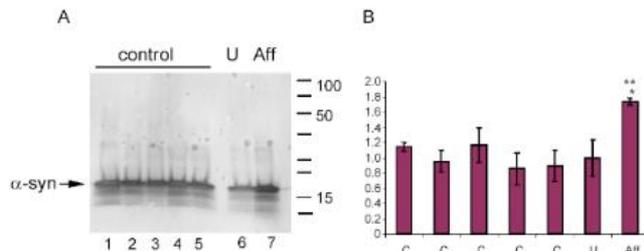
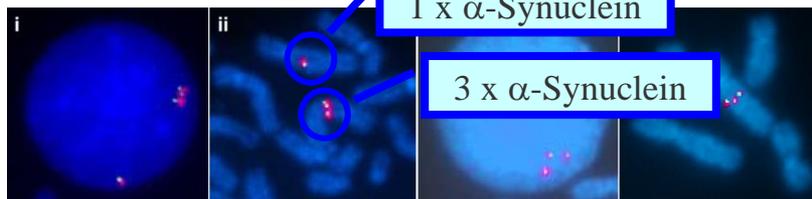




# Gene dosage effect



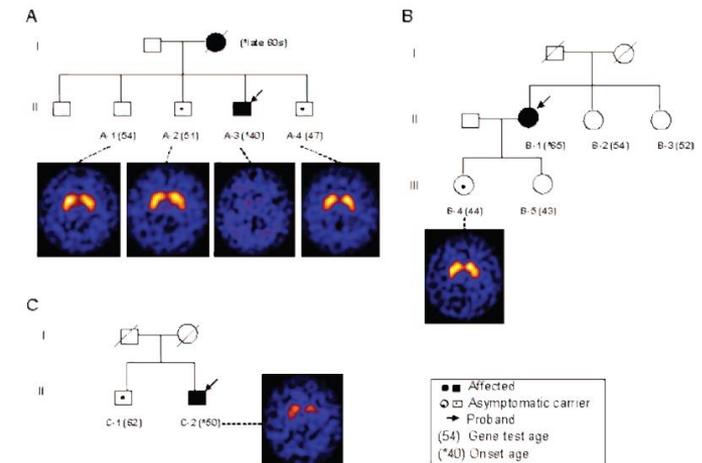
$\alpha$ -synuclein Fluorescent in-situ hybridisation (FISH)



Singleton et al., Science, 2004

$\alpha$ -Synuclein gene duplication is present in sporadic Parkinson disease

Figure 2 Family pedigrees of Cases 1 through 3



(A) Family pedigree of Case 1 (A-3). Genetic testing was not done in the affected mother. Of the five brothers (A-2, A-3, A-4) had the duplication. [ $^{123}$ I]-N- $\omega$ -Fluoropropyl-2 $\beta$ -carbomethoxy-3 $\beta$ -(4-iodophenyl)-tropane [ $^{123}$ I]FP-CIT SPECT shows virtually no uptake of [ $^{123}$ I]FP-CIT in Case 1. The mutation negative brother and asymptomatic mutation carriers show normal [ $^{123}$ I]FP-CIT uptake. (B) Family pedigree of Case 2 (B-1). The 44-year-old daughter (B-4) of the proband is an asymptomatic carrier and shows normal [ $^{123}$ I]FP-CIT uptake. (C) Family pedigree of Case 3 (C-2). His brother is an asymptomatic carrier. [ $^{123}$ I]FP-CIT SPECT of the proband shows decreased [ $^{123}$ I]FP-CIT uptake, which is asymmetrical and more marked in the putamen.

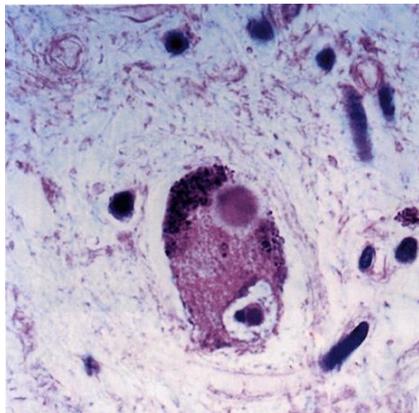
Ahn et al., 2008

$\alpha$ -Synuclein point mutations or multiplications in << 1% of PD patients



# Point mutations and gene dosage

$\alpha$ -SYN  
point mutations

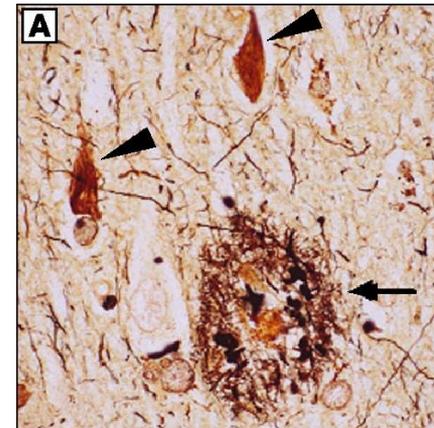


Parkinson's disease

$\alpha$ -SYN  
overexpression



APP  
point mutations



Alzheimer's disease

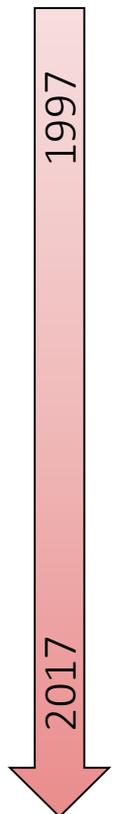
APP  
overexpression



**$\alpha$ -Synuclein point mutations or multiplications in  $\ll$  1% of PD patients**



# Monogenic forms of Parkinson's disease



„pure PD“

„Complicated“ PD

	Inheritance	locus	onset	Lewy Bodies	gene
<b>PARK1</b>	<b>Dominant</b>	<b>4q21</b>		+	<b>α-Synuclein</b>
<b>PARK2</b>	<b>Recessive</b>	<b>6q25</b>		+	<b>Parkin</b>
PARK3	Dominant	2p13	~ 60	+	SPR ?
<b>PARK4</b>	<b>Dominant</b>	<b>4q21</b>		+	<b>α-Synuclein</b>
PARK5	Dominant	4p15		+	glucosylceramidase 1 ?
<b>PARK6</b>	<b>Recessive</b>	<b>1p35</b>	~ 30	+	<b>PINK1</b>
<b>PARK7</b>	<b>Recessive</b>	<b>1p36</b>	~ 30	+	<b>DJ-1</b>
<b>PARK8</b>	<b>Dominant</b>	<b>12q</b>		+	<b>LRRK2</b>
<b>PARK9</b>	<b>Recessive</b>	<b>1q36</b>	~ 30	+	<b>ATP13A2</b>
PARK10	Dominant	1p32	late	?	?
PARK11	Dominant	2q36	late	?	GIGYF2 ?
PARK12	x-linked	Xq25	late	?	?
PARK13	Dominant	2p13	late	?	OMI/HtrA2
<b>PARK14</b>	<b>recessive</b>	<b>22q13.1</b>	<b>early</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>PLA2G6</b>
<b>PARK15</b>	<b>recessive</b>	<b>22q12</b>	<b>early</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>FBXO7</b>
PARK16	risk gene	1q36	late	?	?
<b>PARK 17</b>	<b>dominant</b>	<b>16q11</b>	<b>late</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>VPS35</b>
PARK 18	dominant	3q27	late	?	EIF4G
<b>No PARK #</b>	<b>risk gene</b>	<b>1p31</b>		+	<b>GBA</b>

**Dominant**  
 („gain of function“)

**Recessive**  
 („loss of function“)

...PARK23 ....



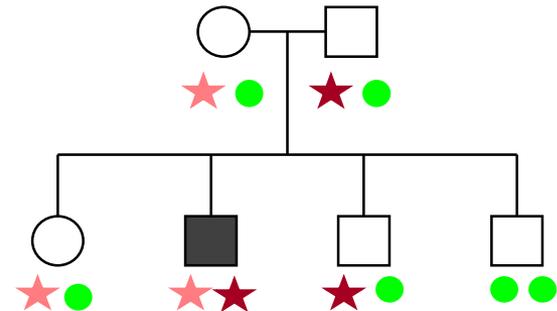
# Young-onset (juvenile) Parkinson's disease



Age 38  
Onset at 31 years  
Levodopa-responsive PD  
Dyskinesias  
MOCA 29

No family history

Compound heterozygous Parkin mutations





# Autosomal-recessive Parkinson's disease



## Parkin

- > 100 mutations
- 75% if onset < 20
- 25% if onset < 30
- 5 – 10% if onset < 40

Mostly NO aSYN pathology

## PINK1

- > 20 mutations
- 1 – 2 % in early-onset PS

1 report of widespread aSYN pathology

## DJ-1

- 4 mutations
- rare

aSYN pathology

## ATP13A2

- rare
- complicated PS

No pathology reported

## PLA2G6

- rare
- complicated PS

aSYN pathology  
Iron accumulation

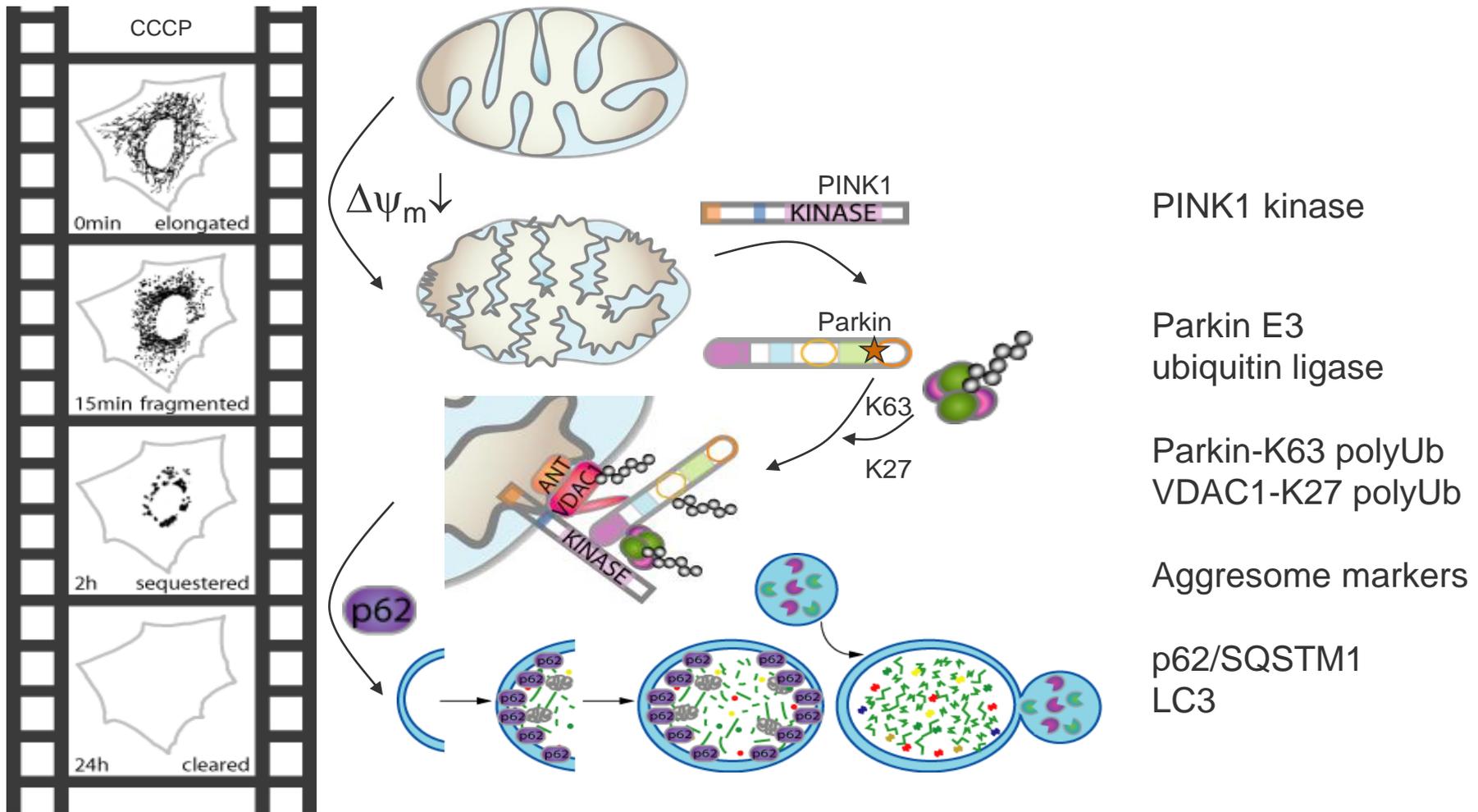
## FBXO7

- rare
- complicated PS

No pathology reported

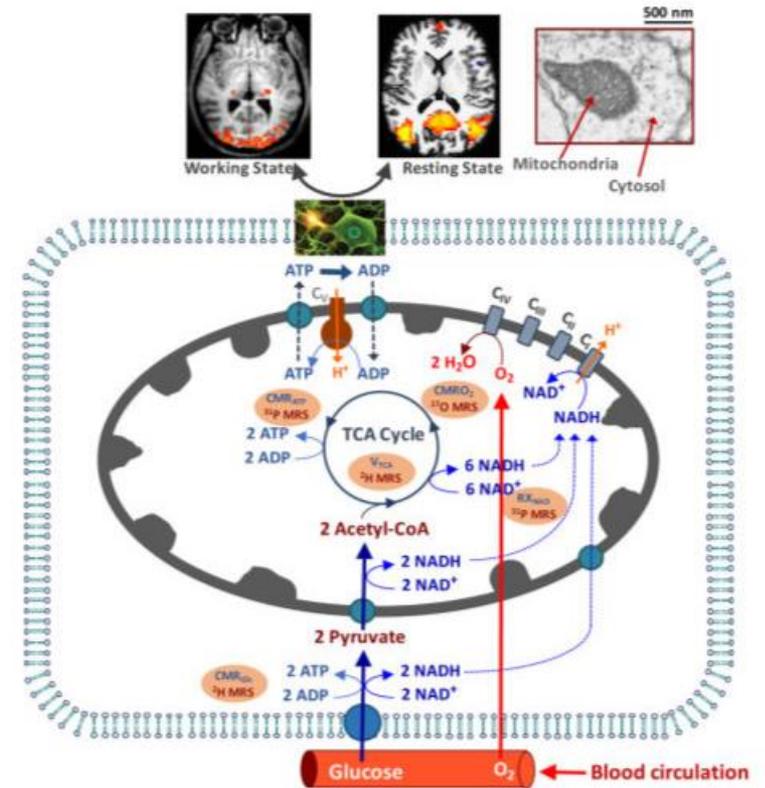
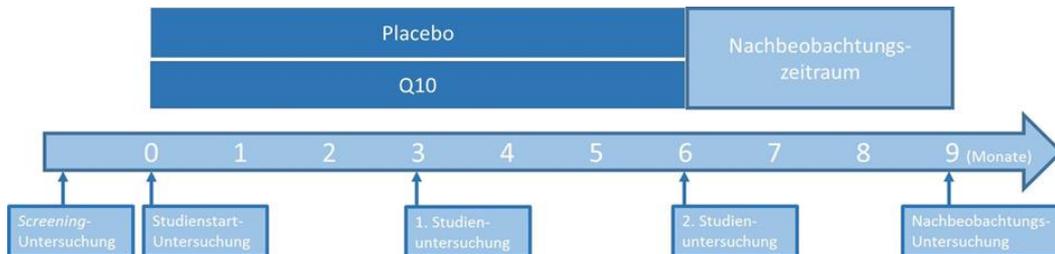
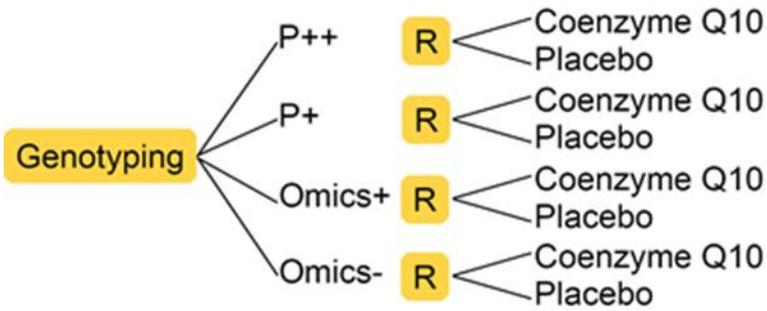


# Parkin / PINK1 function





# Clinical trial: Coenzyme Q10





Age 64  
Onset at 55 years  
Treated with  
pramipexole 3.1 mg / d

No dyskinesias

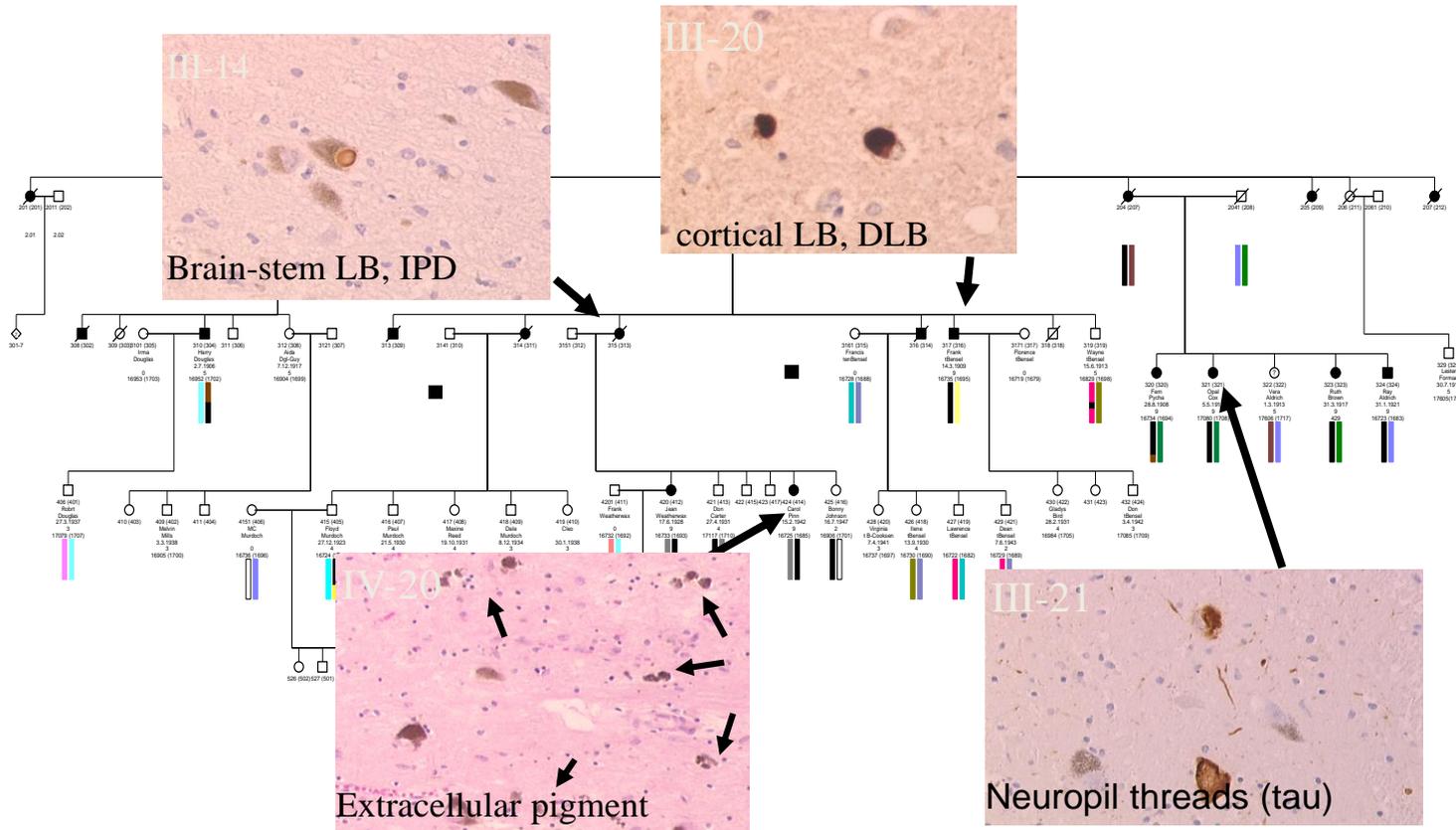
MOCA 29

No Family history of  
PD

**LRRK2 G2019S mutation**



# LRRK2: pleiomorphic pathology





# Prevalence of LRRK2-G2019S in *sporadic* PD

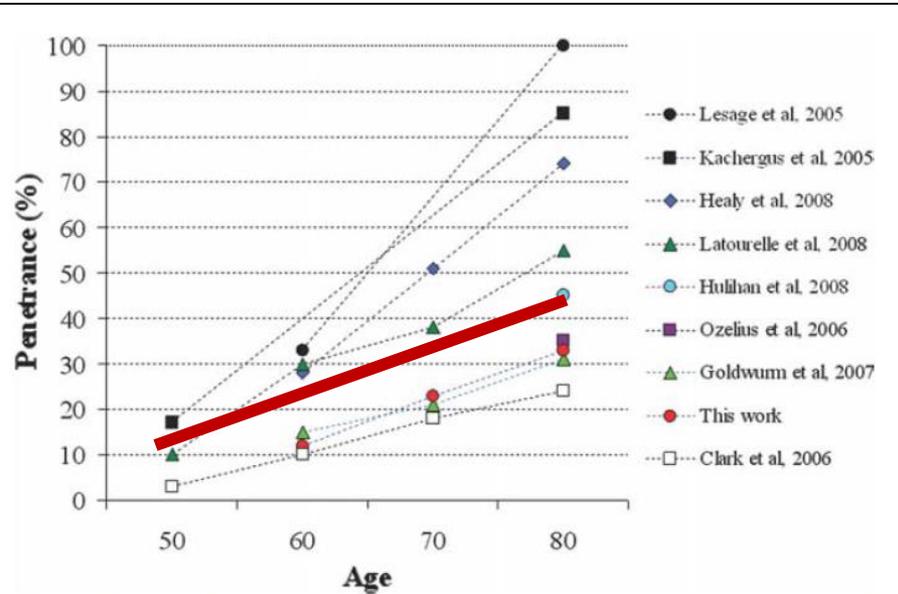
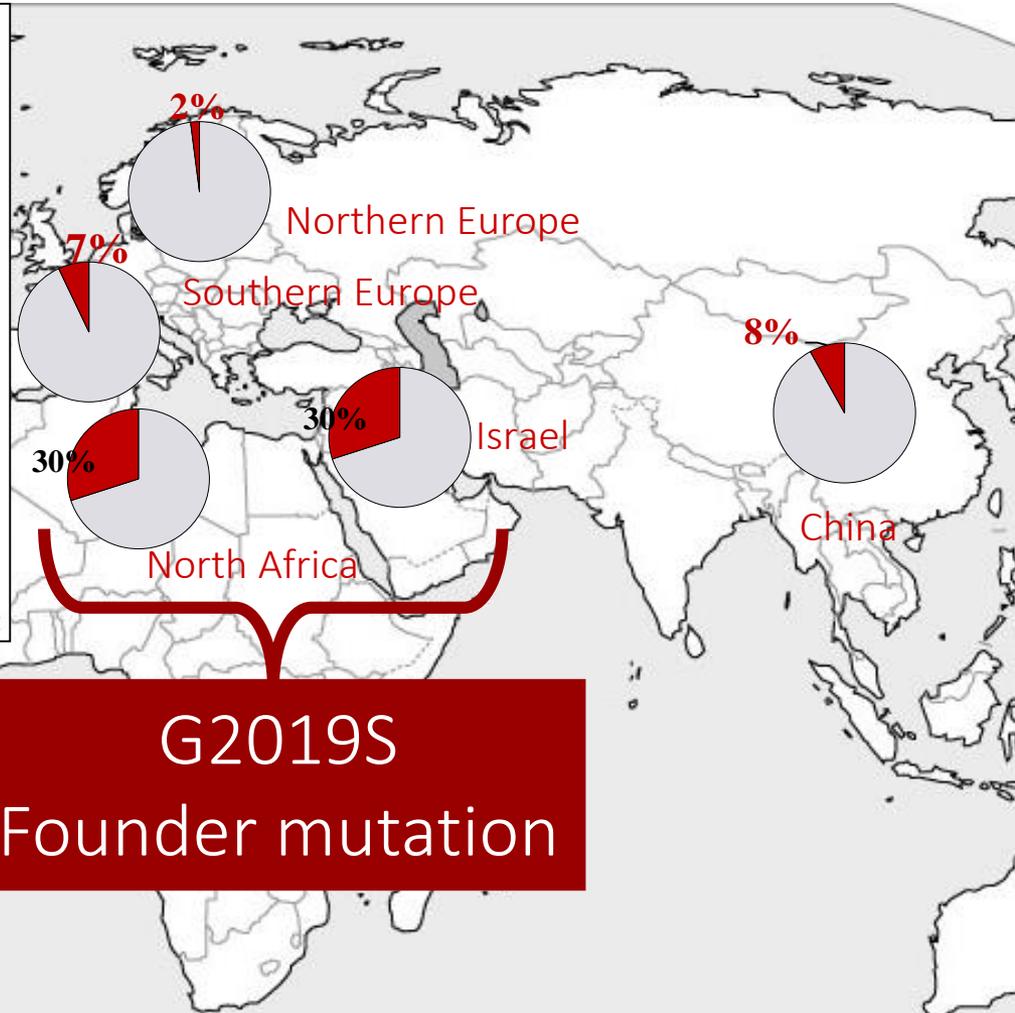
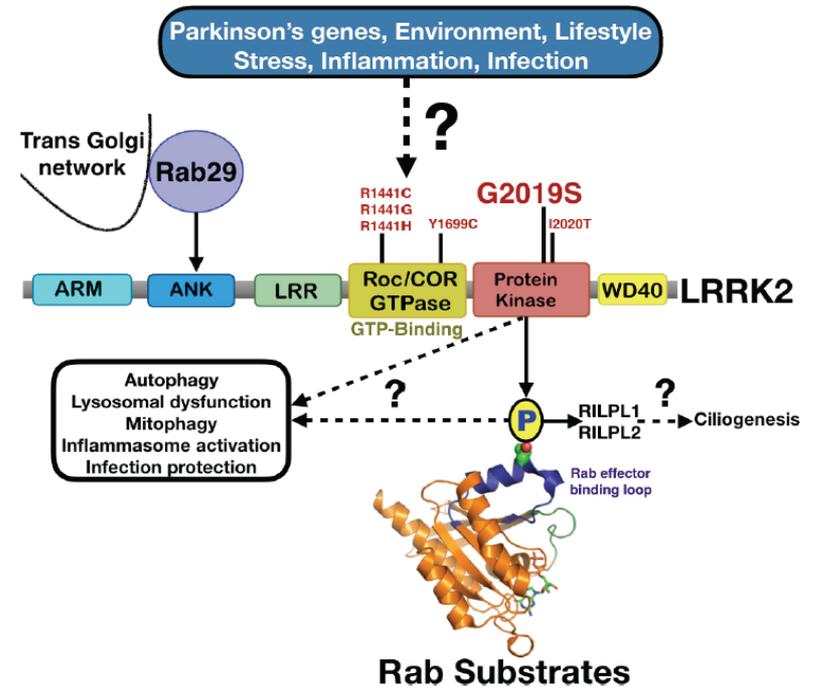
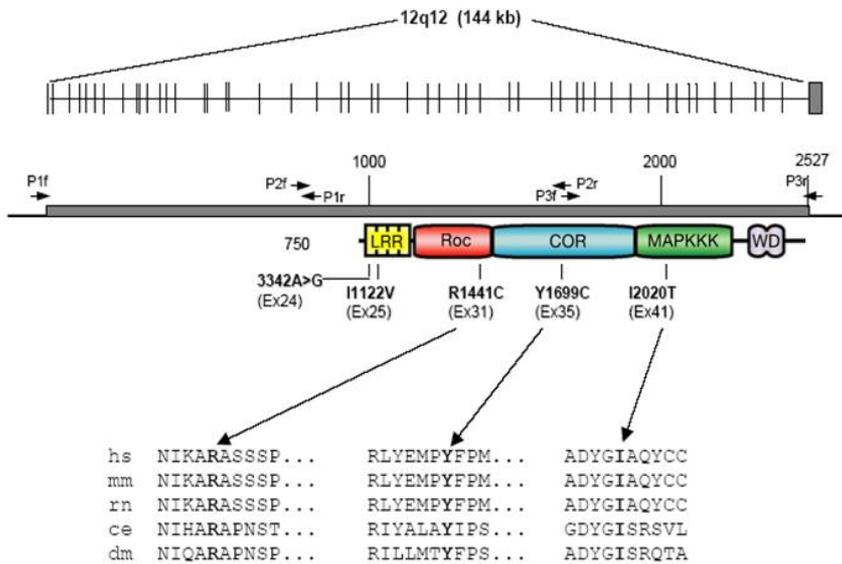


FIG. 1. LRRK2 G2019S penetrance estimates. From Lesage et al., 2005:





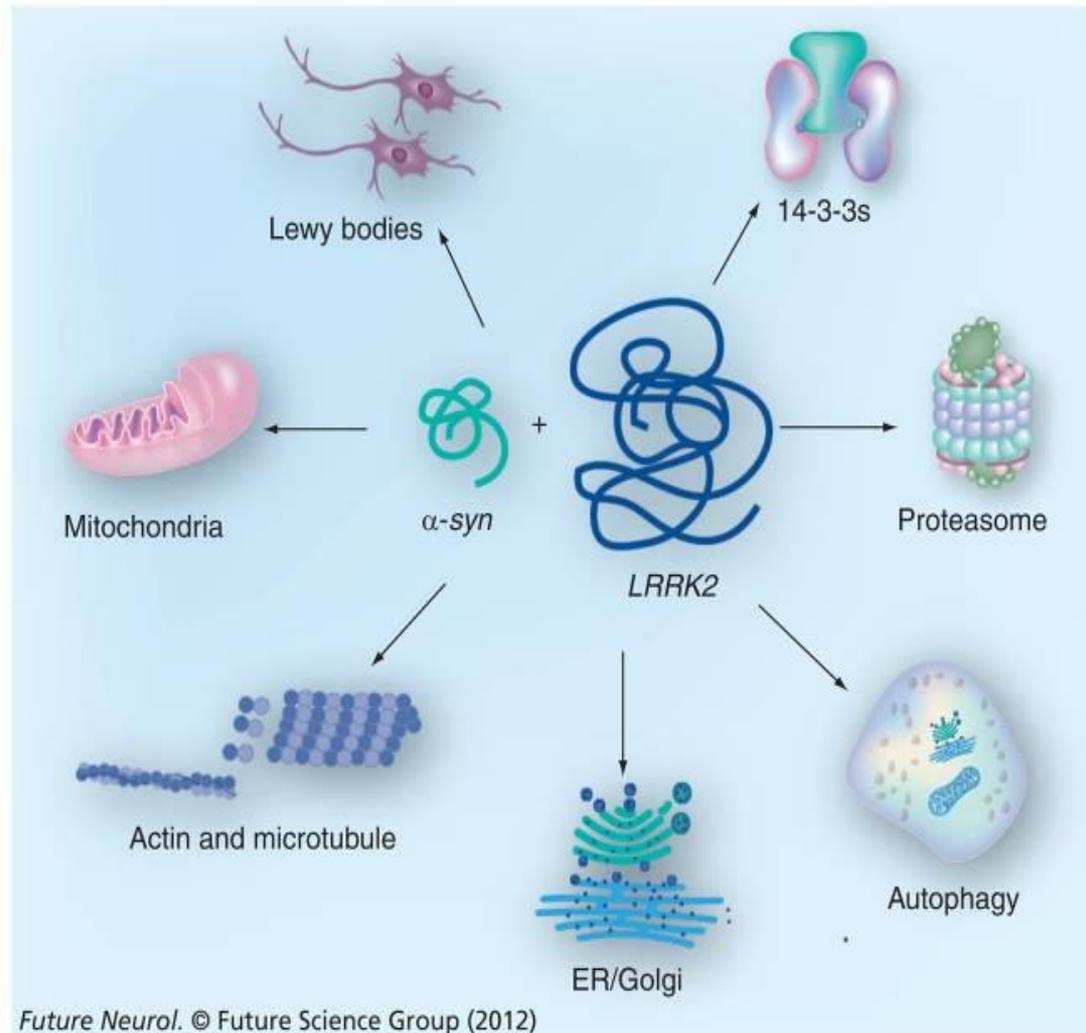
# LRRK2 kinase function



**LRRK2:** Leucine rich repeat Kinase 2

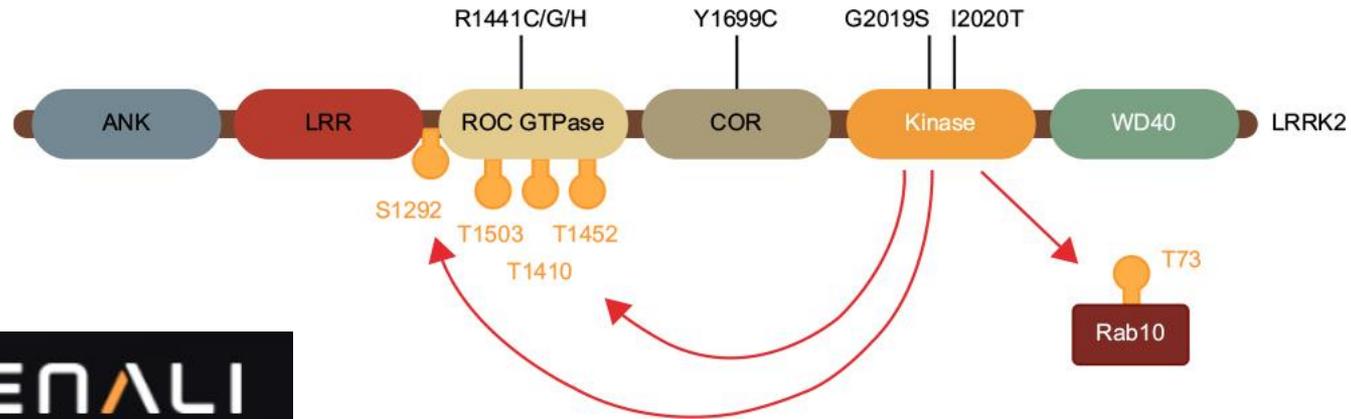


# LRRK2 function





# LRRK2 kinase inhibition



## Denali Therapeutics Announces Positive Clinical Results From LRRK2 Inhibitor Program for Parkinson’s Disease

August 1, 2018

- *Healthy volunteer study of DNL201 meets all objectives in phase 1 clinical study, including CSF exposure levels and LRRK2 inhibition, as well as pathway engagement, at doses that were safe and well tolerated*
- *DNL201 will advance to Phase 1b in Parkinson’s disease patients with and without a genetic LRRK2 mutation*





Age: 70 years

Aao: 60 years

Rapid progression

Cognitive impairment

Orthostatic dysfunction

Brother PD

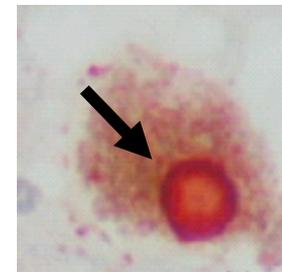
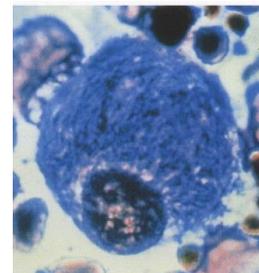
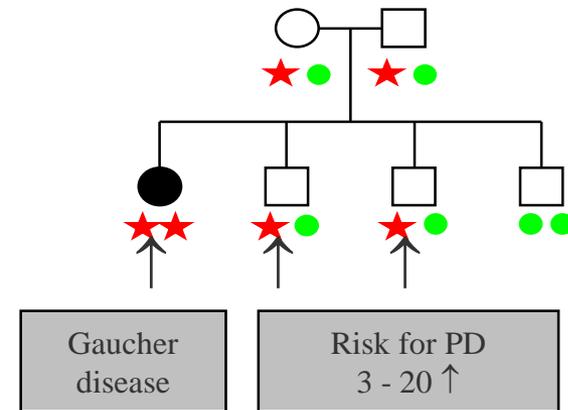
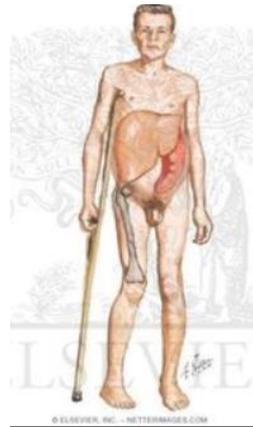
**GBA L444P mutation**



# Gaucher disease and Parkinson

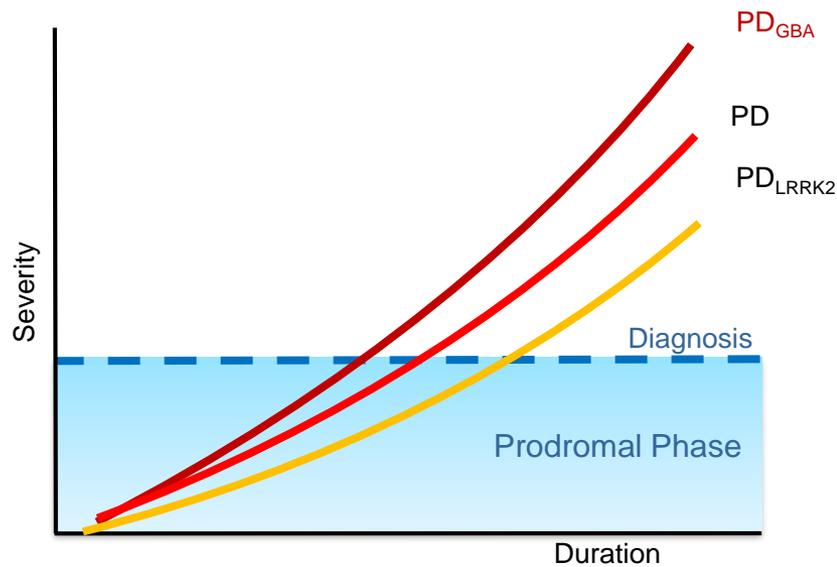
## Gaucher disease

- Non-neuronopathic type I
  - Hepatosplenomegaly
  - Thrombocytopenia
- acute neuronopathic type II
  - Hepatosplenomegaly
  - Cognitive decline
- subacute neuronopathic type III
  - Myoclonus
  - Oculomotor disturbances
  - Dementia





# PD with mutations in GBA

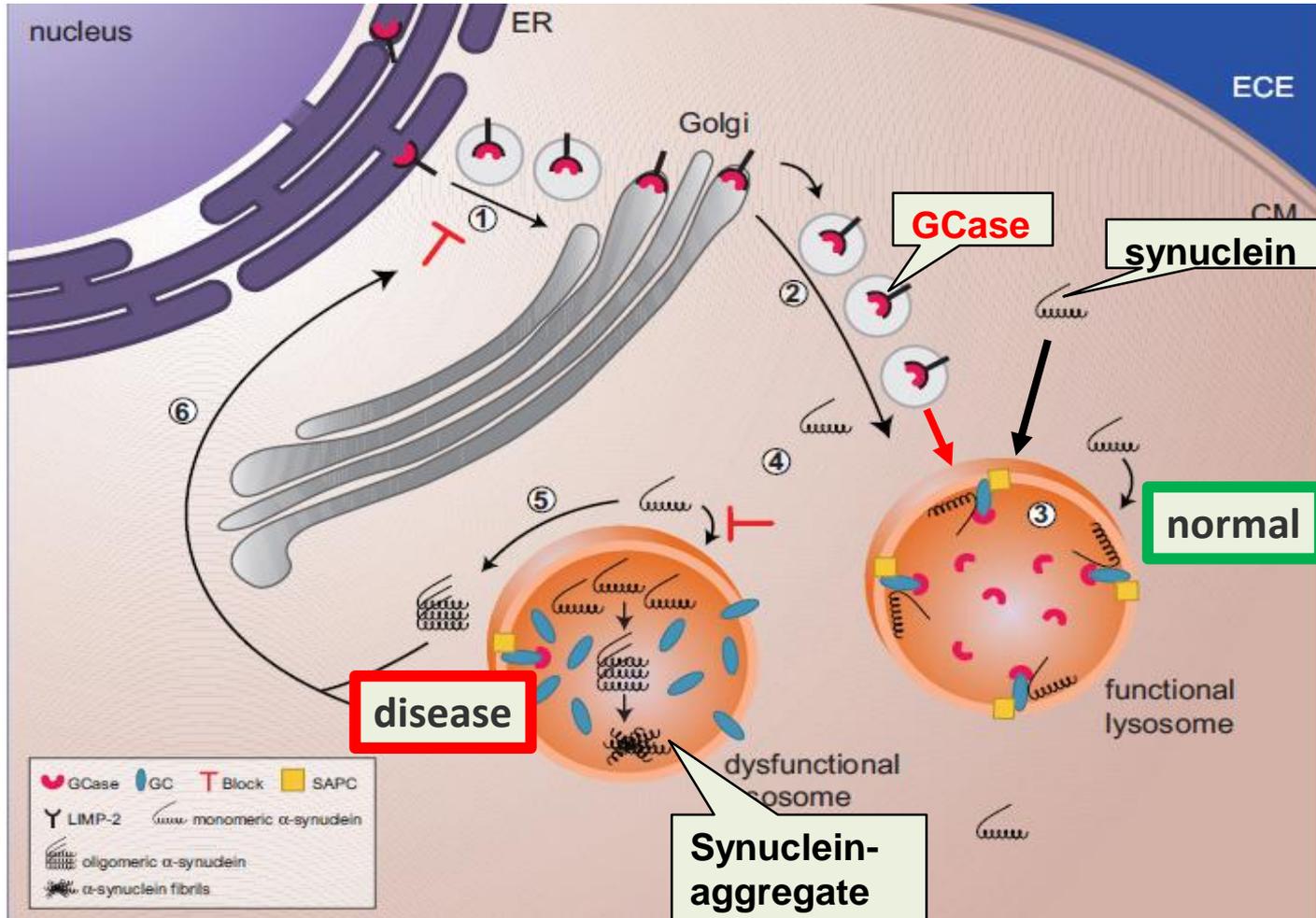


- Earlier age of onset
- More rapid progression
- More „non-motor“ symptoms
  - Dementia
  - Autonomic symptoms

Brockmann et al., Neurology 2011  
Brockmann et al., Movement Disord 2015



# GBA function

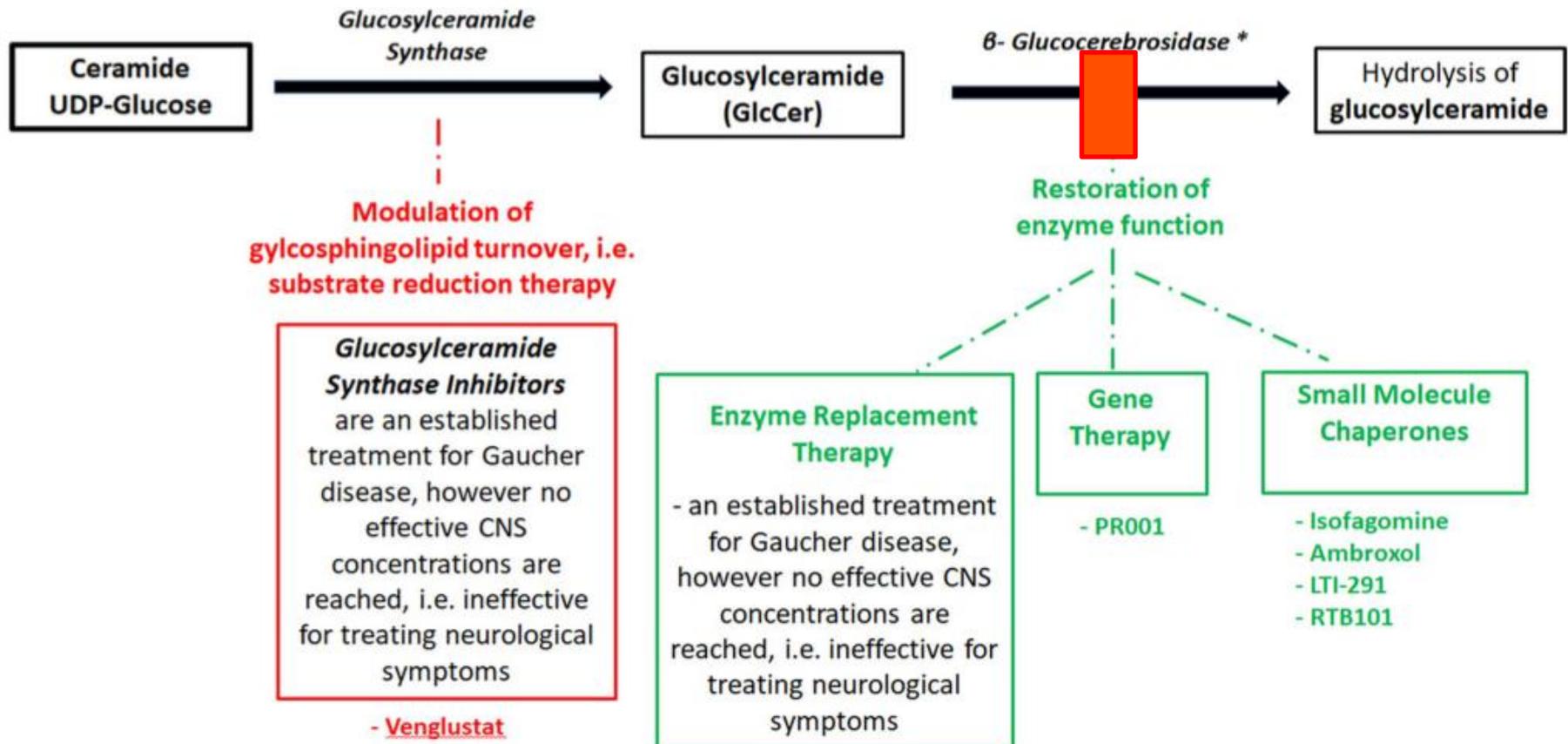




# GBA-directed treatment

Journal of Neurology (2020) 267:860–869

863

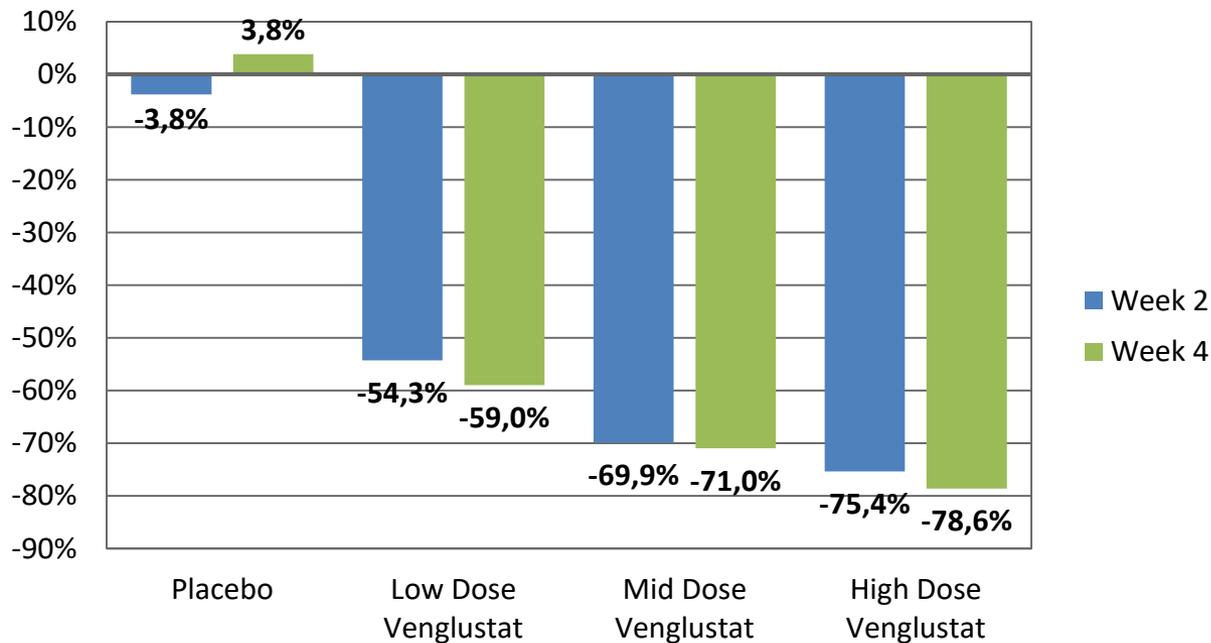


Schneider and Alcalay, 2020



# Moves-PD (Sanofi)

Mean (%) change from baseline in plasma GL-1 at 2 and 4 weeks



- Substrate reduction achieved
- Primary endpoint (clinical improvement over placebo) not achieved



# Parkinson's disease heterogeneity

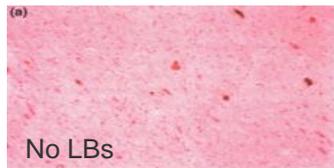


Onset 24y

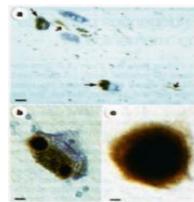
Onset 44y

Onset 59y

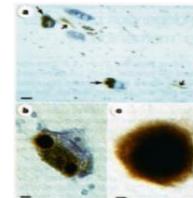
Onset 64y



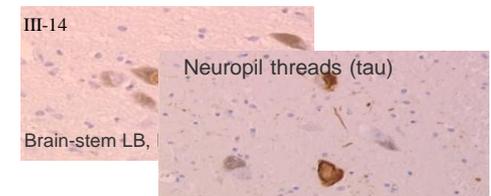
parkin  
PARK2



SNCA  
PARK1



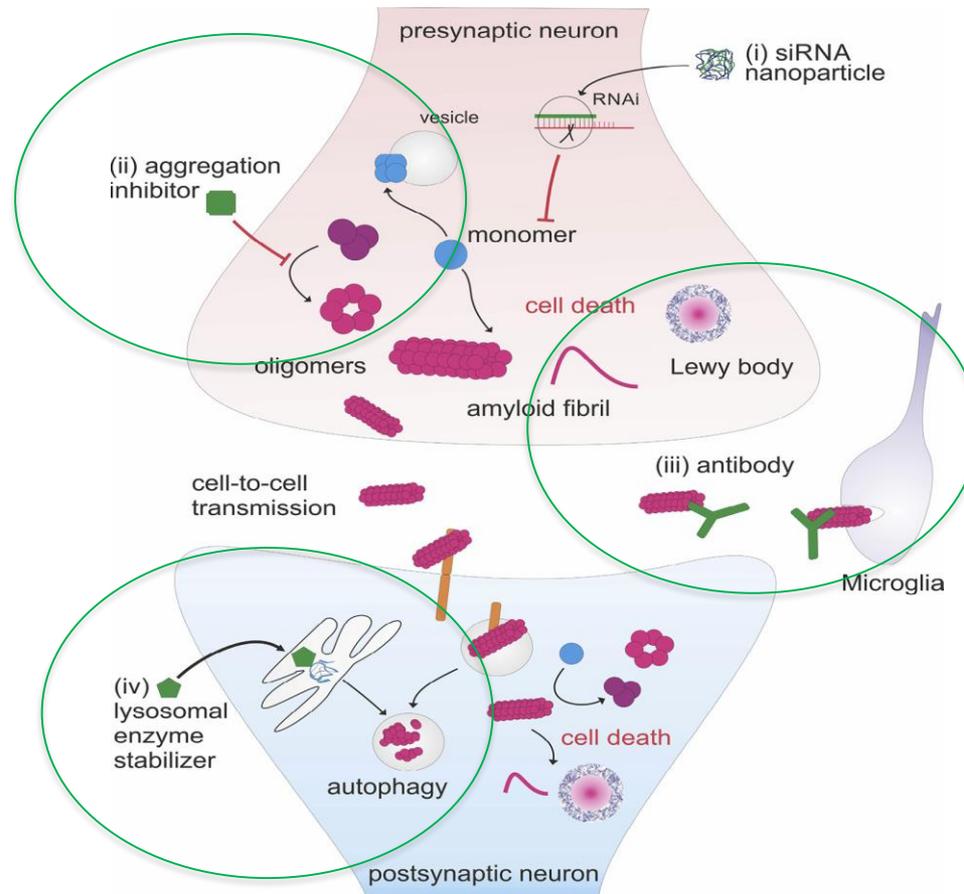
GBA



LRRK2  
PARK8

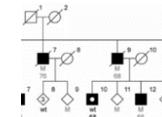


# Targeted treatment in PD





# sporadic Parkinson's disease



Family studies

People without condition



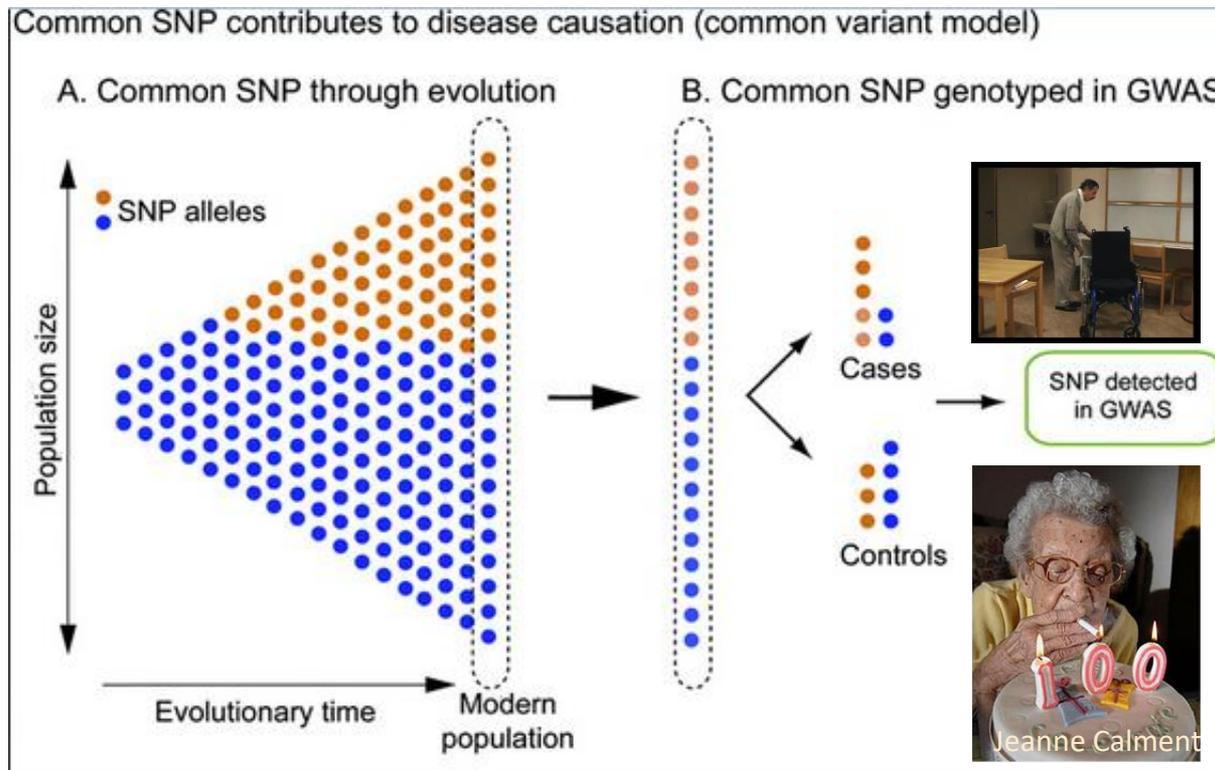
People with condition



Genome-wide  
association studies

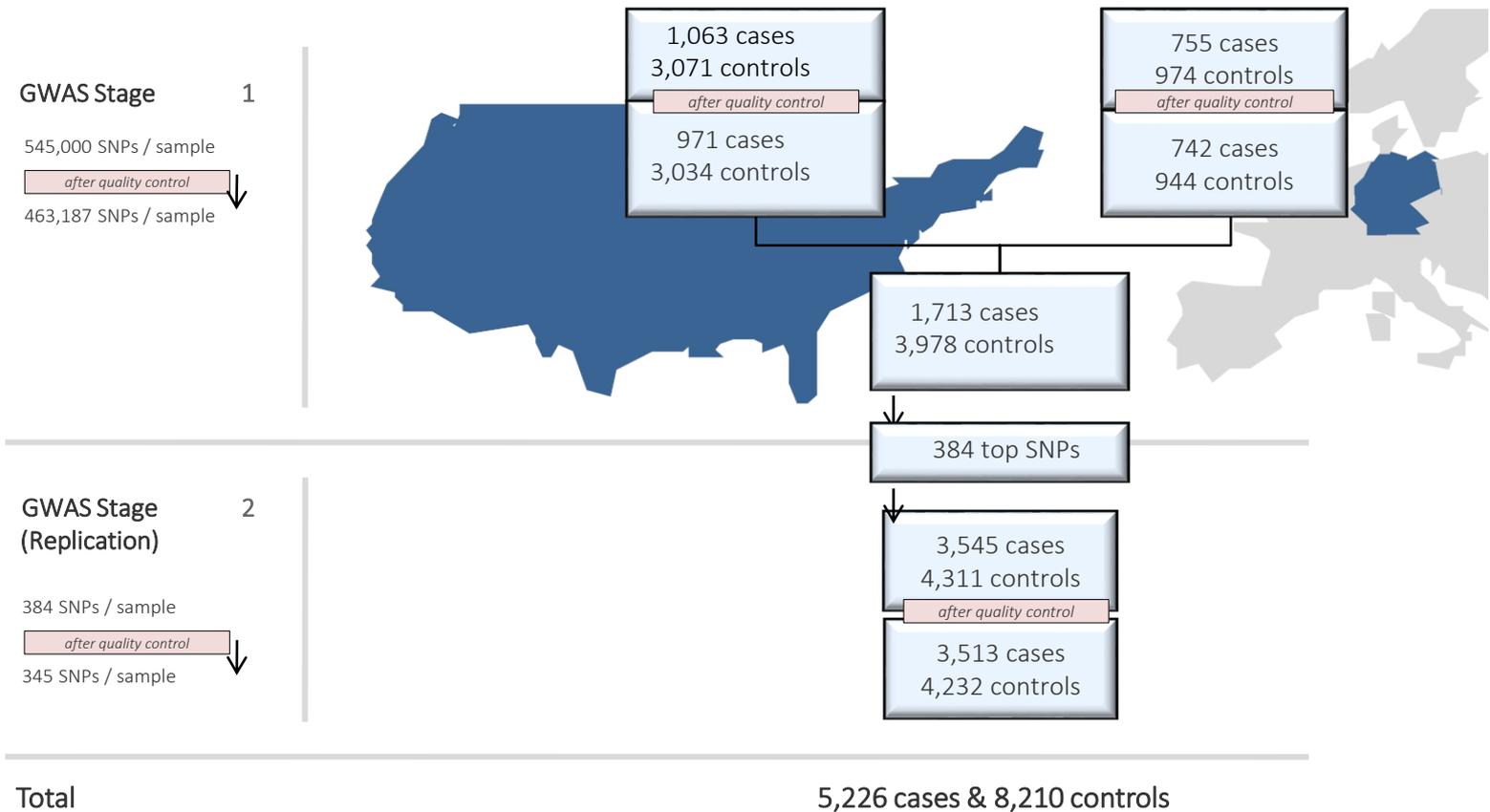


# Association studies



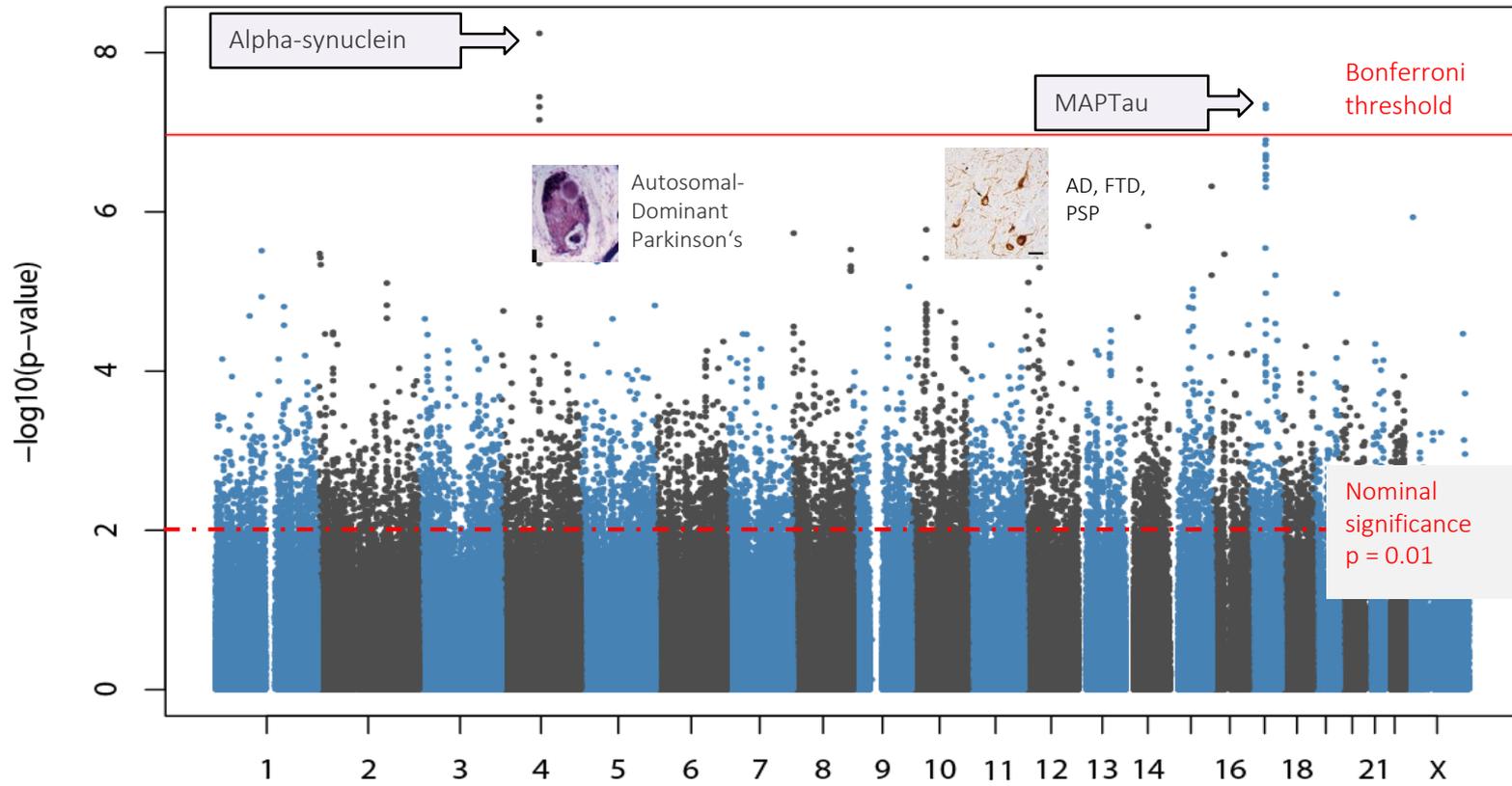


# Genome-wide association study



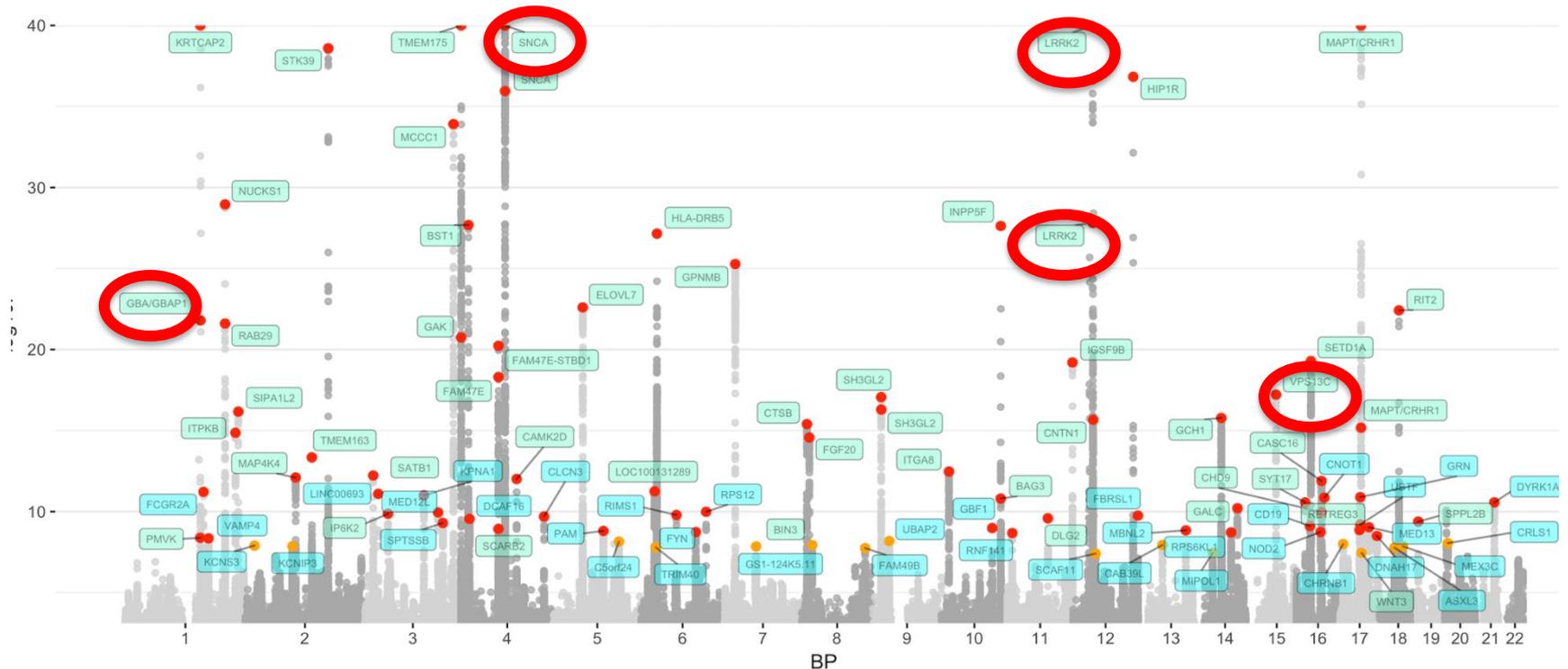


2009: 1,713 *sporadic* PD cases & 3,978 controls





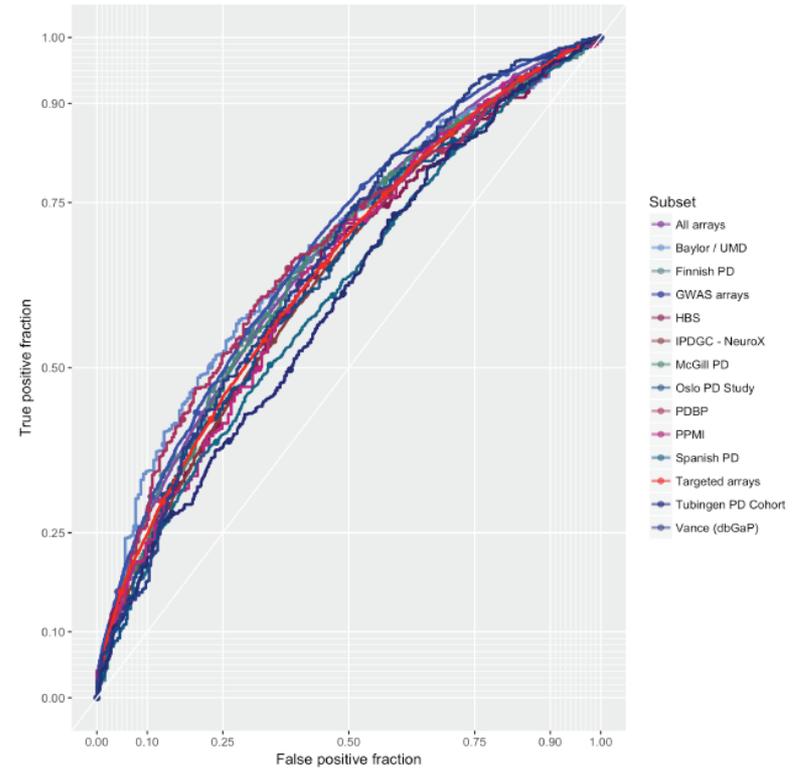
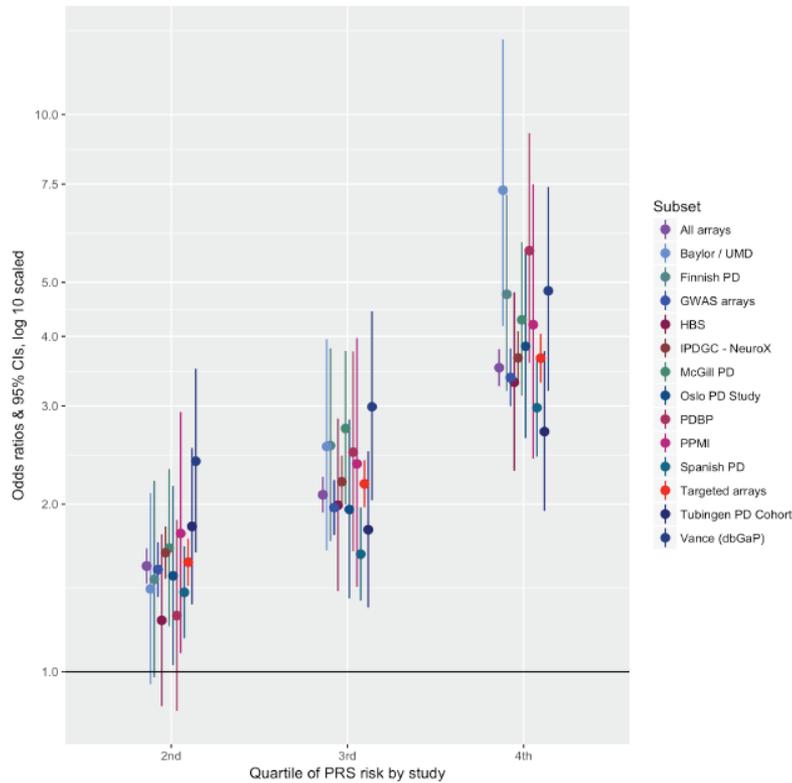
# Most Recent GWAS



37.7K cases, 18.6K 'proxy-cases' and 1.4M controls  
> than 80 loci with genome-wide significance

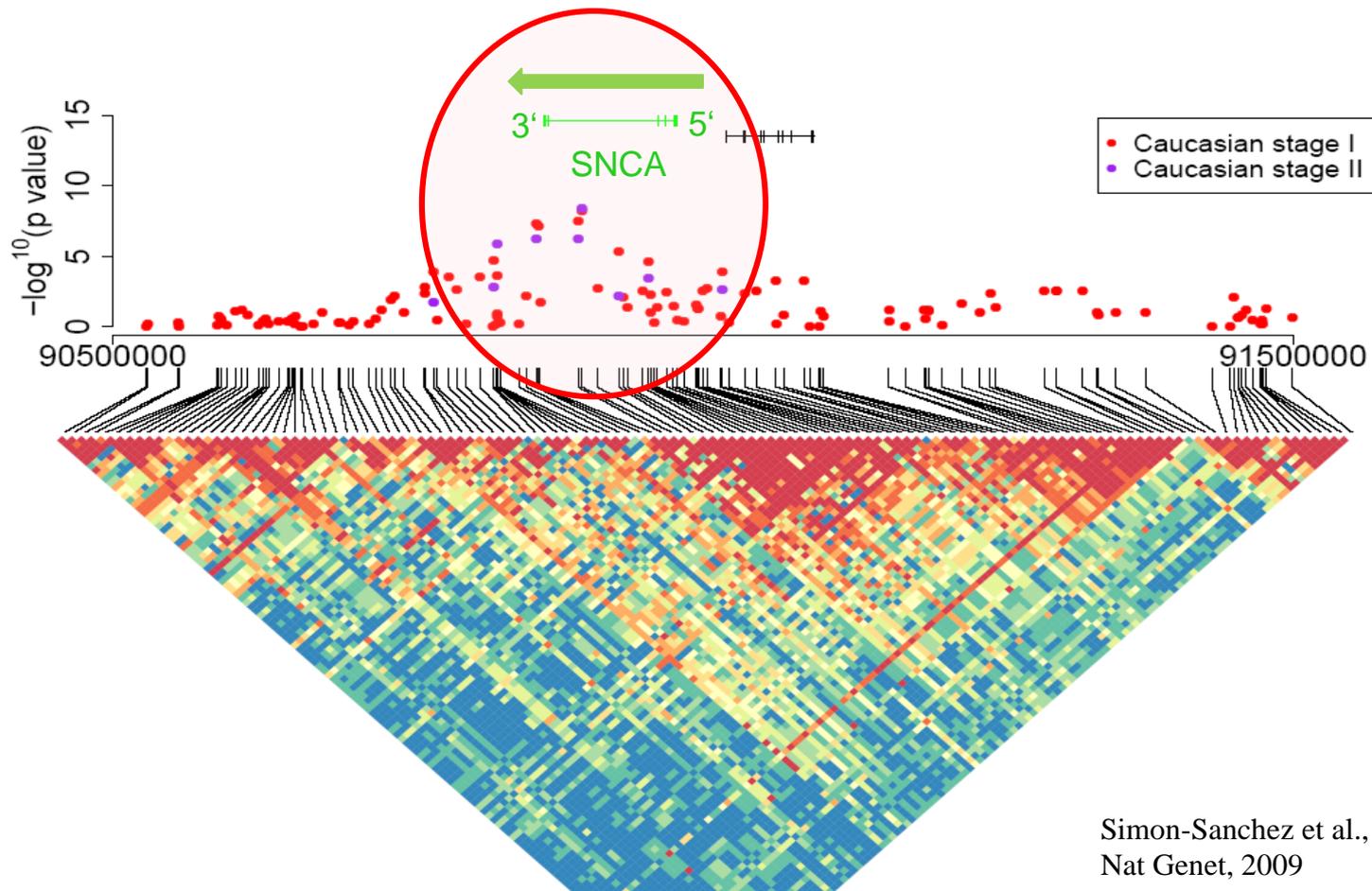


# Polygenic risk scores



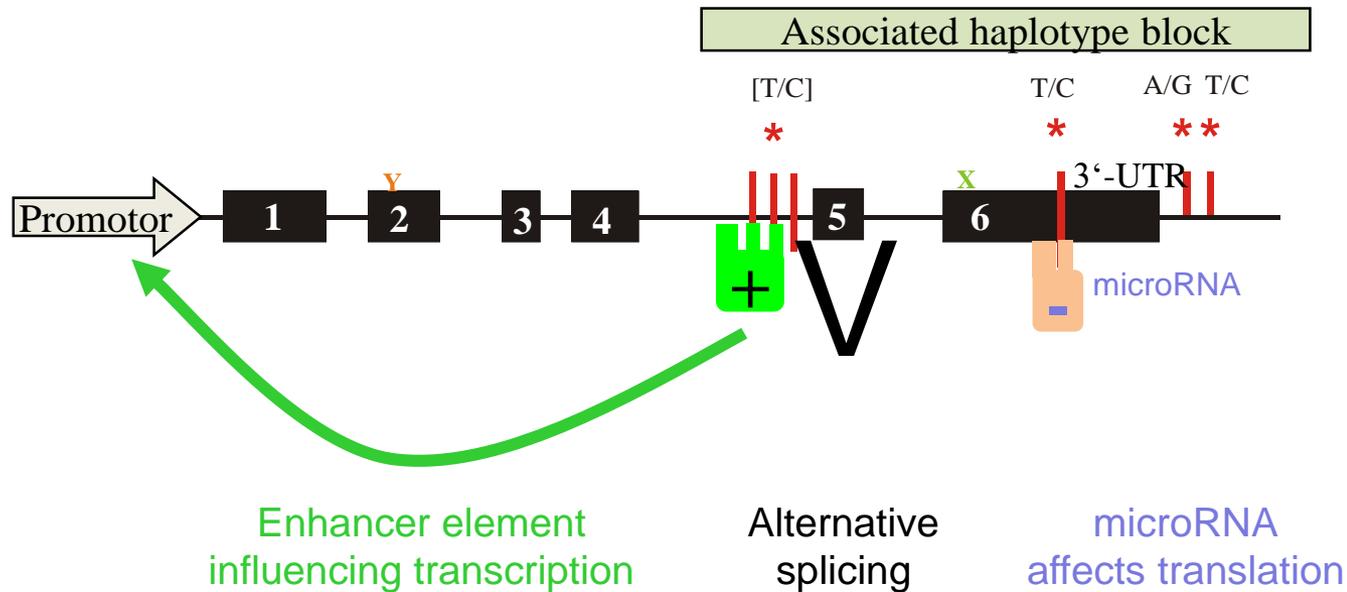


# Structure of the a-synuclein GWAS signal



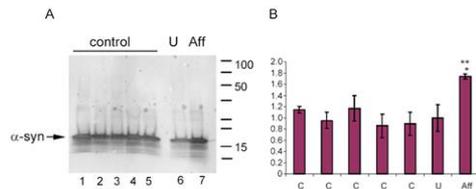
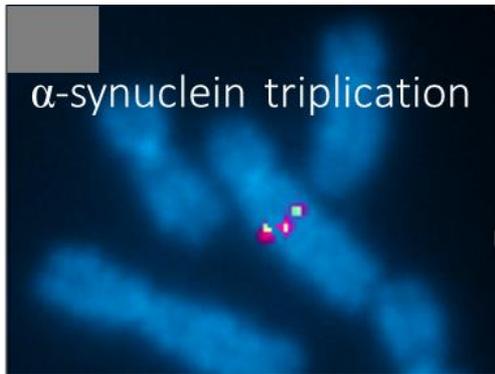


# Potential effects of genetic SNCA variants

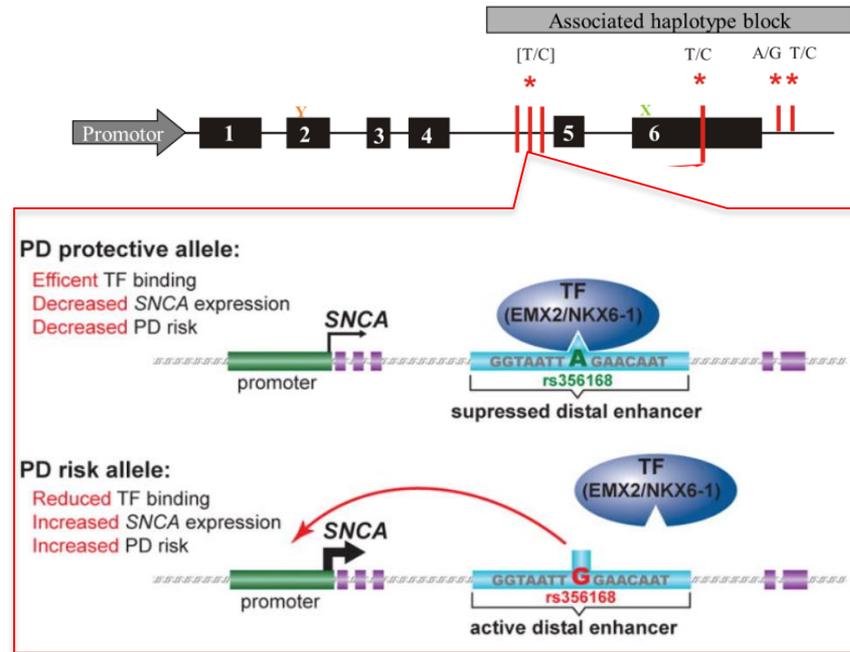




# alpha-synuclein: potential mechanism of action in familial and sporadic PD



Singleton et al.,  
Science, 2004



Soldner et al.,  
Nature 2016



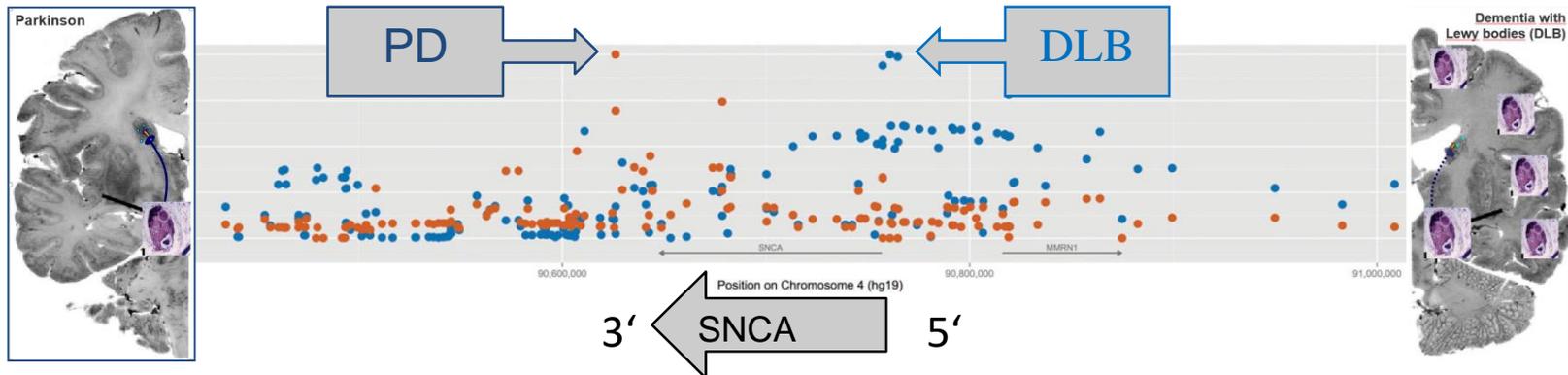
# Common variability and phenotype

*Human Molecular Genetics*, 2014, Vol. 23, No. 23 6139–6146  
doi:10.1093/hmg/ddu334  
Advance Access published on June 27, 2014

## Genetic analysis implicates **APOE**, **SNCA** and suggests lysosomal dysfunction in the etiology of dementia with Lewy bodies

Jose Bras<sup>1,\*</sup>, Rita Guerreiro<sup>1</sup>, Lee Darwent<sup>1</sup>, Laura Parkkinen<sup>4</sup>, Olaf Ansorge<sup>4</sup>,

- association study of 54 regions, previously implicated in PD or AD
- in 788 DLB cases / 2624 controls





# Key Points /Conclusions

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- PD has a complex genetic architecture with common and rare variants influencing different aspects of the phenotype
- Genetic forms show different molecular pathways to disease
- Risk variant patterns are associated with distinct clinical features (endophenotypes ?)
- Therapeutic potential in risk variants of intermediate effect strength



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Neurological Diseases (ERN-RND)

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Neuromuscular Diseases (ERN EURO-NMD)



**THANK YOU**

**Next webinar:**

**„Treatable dystonias & dystonia in inborn errors of metabolism’**

**28. September 2021**