

# Brain Repair



ISEPP – November 2, 2012

Grace E. Jackson, MD

# Outline of Lecture

- I. What's Happening to the Mentally Ill
- II. America's Drug Problem
- III. Brain Damage
- IV. Brain Repair



# I. What's Happening to the Mentally Ill

# National Assn of State Mental Health Program Directors

Thirteenth  
in a Series  
of  
Technical  
Reports



## Morbidity and Mortality in People with Serious Mental Illness

Editors:  
Joe Parks, MD  
Dale Svendsen, MD  
Patricia Singer, MD  
Mary Ellen Foti, MD

Technical Writer:  
Barbara Mauer, MSW, CMC

**National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors  
(NASMHPD) Medical Directors Council**  
66 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 302, Alexandria VA 22314  
703-739-9333 FAX: 703-548-9517  
[www.nasmhpd.org](http://www.nasmhpd.org)

October 2006

## PREVENTING CHRONIC DISEASE

PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH, PRACTICE, AND POLICY

VOLUME 3: NO. 2

APRIL 2006

ORIGINAL RESEARCH

### Congruencies in Increased Mortality Rates, Years of Potential Life Lost, and Causes of Death Among Public Mental Health Clients in Eight States

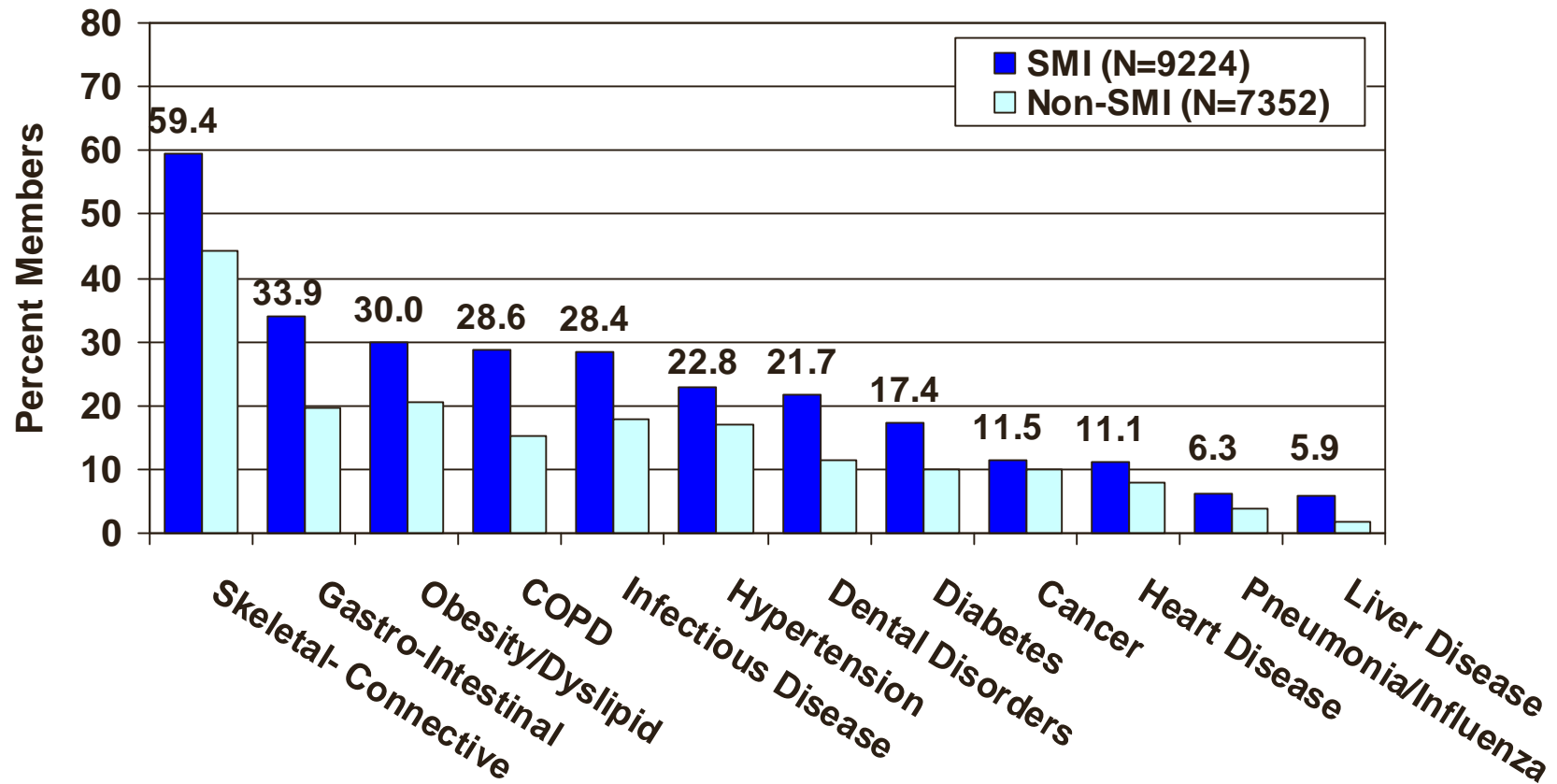
Craig W. Colton, PhD, Ronald W. Manderscheid, PhD

# 8 States Provided Full Data

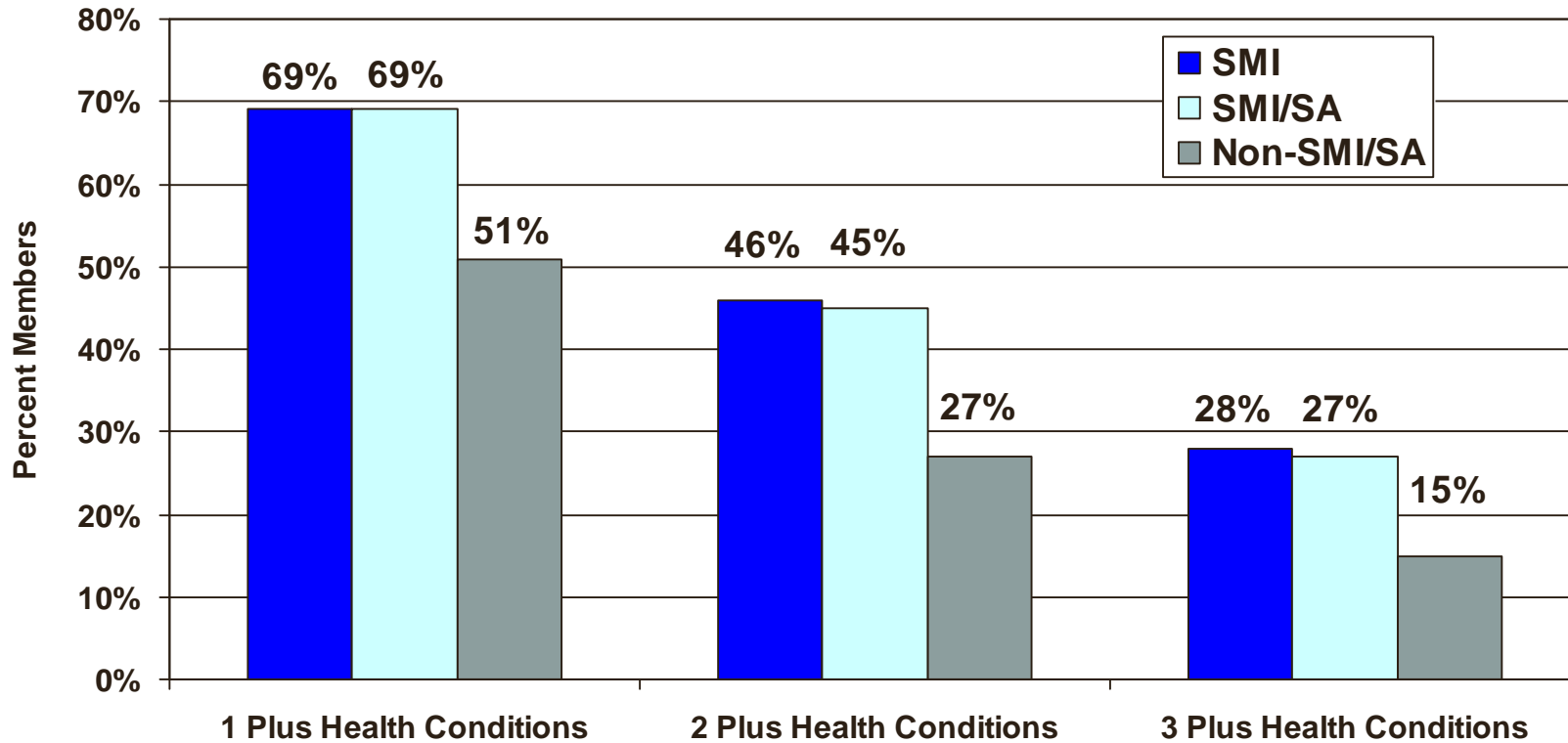
AZ, MO, OK, RI, TX, UT, VA, VT

- public mental health patients
- receiving services > 1997 to 2000
- SMI = bipolar, MDD, schizophrenia, ADHD

# ↑ 50-100% More Medical Problems in SMI Maine Medicaid - 2004



# Burden of Medical Illness: Maine Medicaid 2004



# Causes of Death 1997-2000...

## SMI deaths

cardiac	17-31%
<b>cancer</b>	<b>5-10%</b>
<b>suicide</b>	<b>5-9%</b>
chronic respiratory	4-5%
stroke	2-5%
diabetes	1-3%

## non-SMI deaths

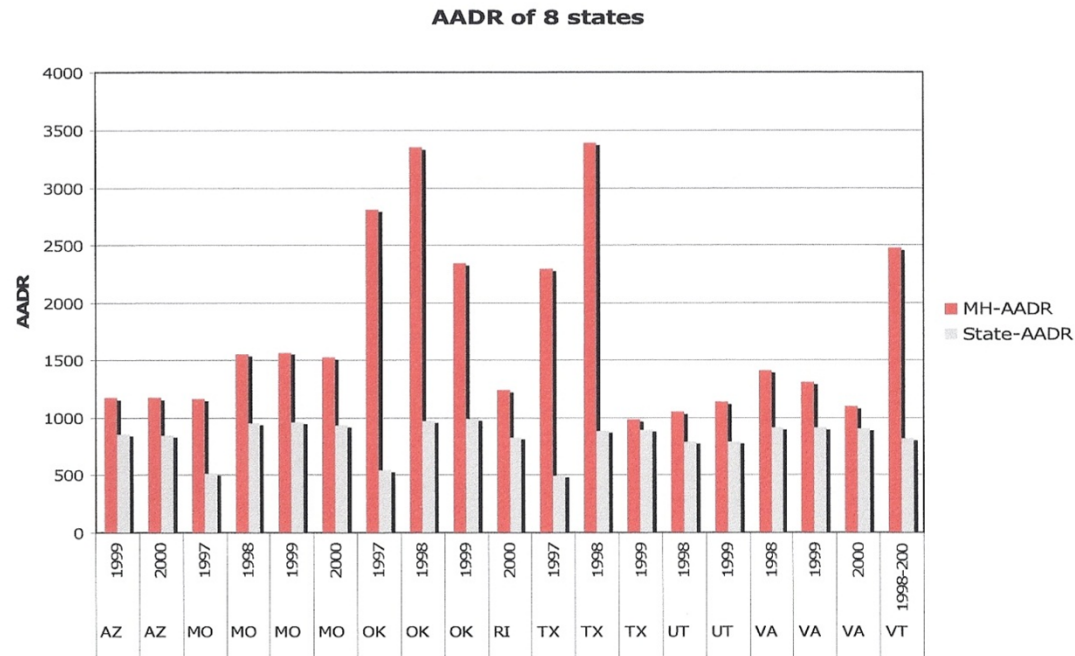
cardiac	21-30%
cancer	18-22%
stroke	5%
chronic respiratory	2-4%
diabetes	2%
suicide	0.3-1%

# Mortality Among Public MH Patients

annual death rates

SMI 1 - 3.5%

non-SMI 0.5 - 0.8%



# Mortality Data for SMI

average age at death: 49 to 60

13-30 years earlier than expected



## II. America's Drug Problem

# U.S.A.: Psychiatric Drugs 2009

[Source: Express Scripts 2009 Drug Trend Report]

antidepressants	10%	31,000,000
anticonvulsants	4%	12,300,000
stimulants	2%	6,754,000
*antipsychotics	2%	5,526,000

\*part of Express Scripts' "mental/neurological" class:  
includes lithium, dementia drugs, sub. abuse

# U.S. = 4.5 % of world population



Approximately

90% of stimulant sales

60% of AP sales

50% of AD sales

40% of AED sales

# National Vital Statistics preliminary data - 2011

1)	cardiac disease	596,339
2)	cancer	575,313
3)	chronic lower respiratory	143,382
4)	stroke	128,931
5)	accidents (unintentional injuries)	122,777
6)	Alzheimer's disease	84,691
7)	diabetes mellitus	73,282
8)	influenza and pneumonia	53,667
9)	kidney disease	45,731
10)	intentional self-harm	38,285



# JAMA (2000)

COMMENTARY

**Is US Health Really the Best in the World?**

☠ ADVERSE EFFECTS ☠

106,000 inpatient deaths

199,000 outpatient deaths

-----

**305,000 deaths from Rx**

# National Vital Statistics preliminary data - 2011

1)	cardiac disease	596,339
2)	cancer	575,313
3)	adverse drug reactions	305,000
4)	chronic lower respiratory	143,382
5)	stroke	128,931
6)	accidents (unintentional injuries)	122,777
7)	medical errors	98,000
8)	Alzheimer's disease	84,691
9)	diabetes mellitus	73,282
10)	influenza and pneumonia	53,667

# Reminder:

## Compared to non-SMI, SMI patients:

- experience more illnesses than non-SMI
- die in greater numbers each year
- die earlier than expected



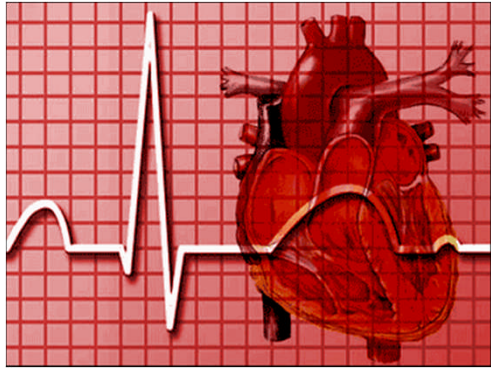


## **Drug Effects on Health of SMI**



# Heart Disease

## #1 Cause of Death 2011



sudden death

↑2-4X

↑1.5-3.6X

heart attacks

↑5X

↑1.2-1.85X

8-11%

APs

ADs

# Stroke

#4 Cause of Death in 2011



APs

↑1.4-3.5X

2-4%

ADs

↑1.2-2X

2 to 10%

AEDs

↑2.5-3.7X

# Diabetes Mellitus

## #7 Cause of Death in 2011



APs

↑7X

ADs

↑2X

AEDs

↑2-3X

general population

9% (lifetime)

APs

≥ 20-30%

ADs

10-20%

AEDs

probably 15-25%

# Psychiatric Drugs and Death

general population	~ 1% die per year
SMI (1997-2000)	up to 3.5% per year

lithium	15% dead in 5 to 10 yrs
ADs	20% dead in 10 yrs
APs (in general)	20-33% dead in 10 yrs

Hold on to your seat!



### III. Brain Damage















What is dementia ?

# Dementia defined:

From Latin *de mens / de mentis*

“out of (away from) one’s mind”

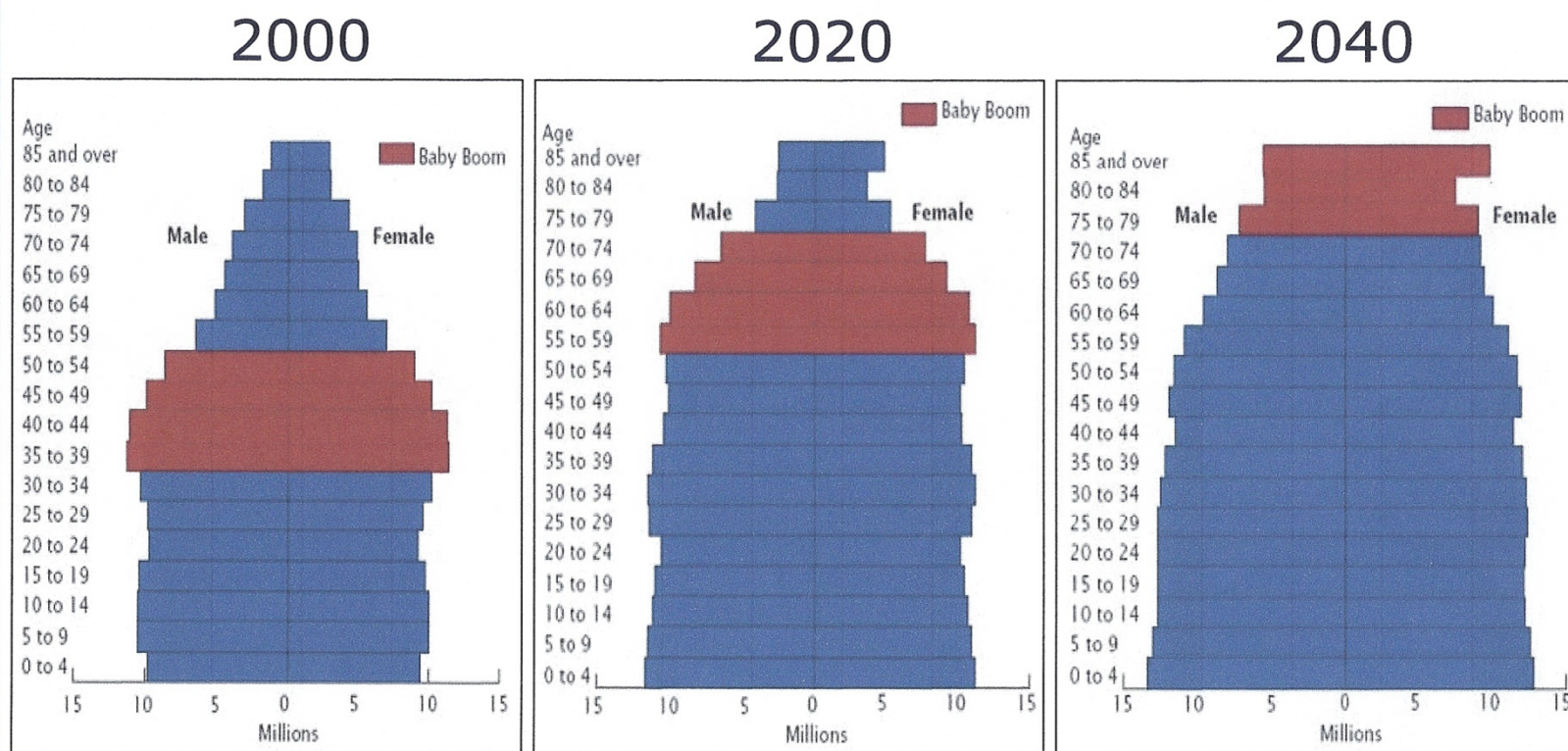
# Features of Dementia

- ❖ Memory impairment
  - Aphasia (impaired language)
  - Apraxia (impaired ability to carry out motor activities)
  - Agnosia (failure to recognize objects)
  - Executive functioning deficits
    - planning/organizing/abstracting
  - BPSD = behavioral and/or psychiatric

≥ 65 years of age

12% to 18% to 21%

## U.S. Population Pyramids



2.5% with dementia 2000  
7.5 million

>>

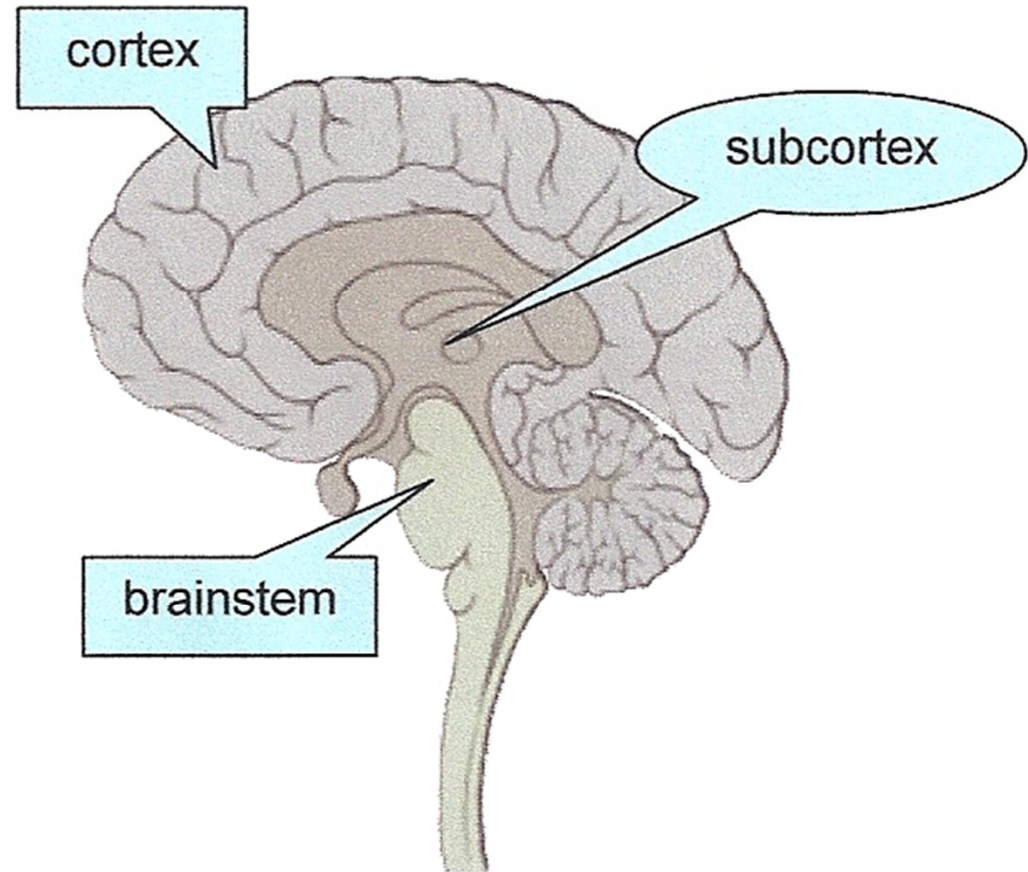
4.5% with dementia in 2040  
18 million

# Prevalence of Dementia

Entire US (2000): ~ 2.5%  
of 65 and older: 5-8%

40-65	1/1000	0.1%
66-70	1/50	2%
71-80	1/20	5%
81+	1/5	20%

How do physicians think about dementia ?



**candy coating**

=

**cortex**

**tootsie roll center**

=

**subcortex**

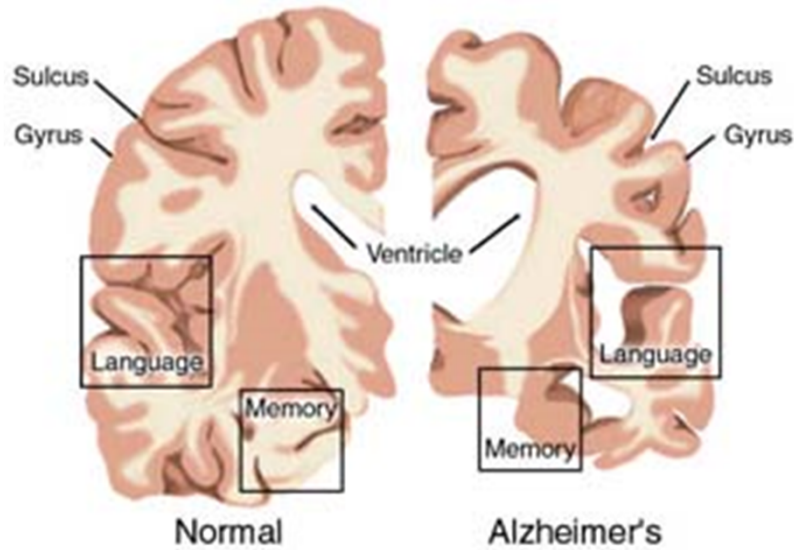
**lollipop stick**

=

**brainstem**



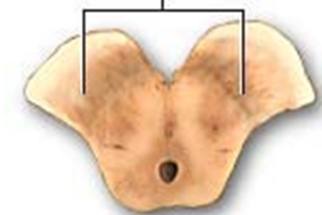
# Location



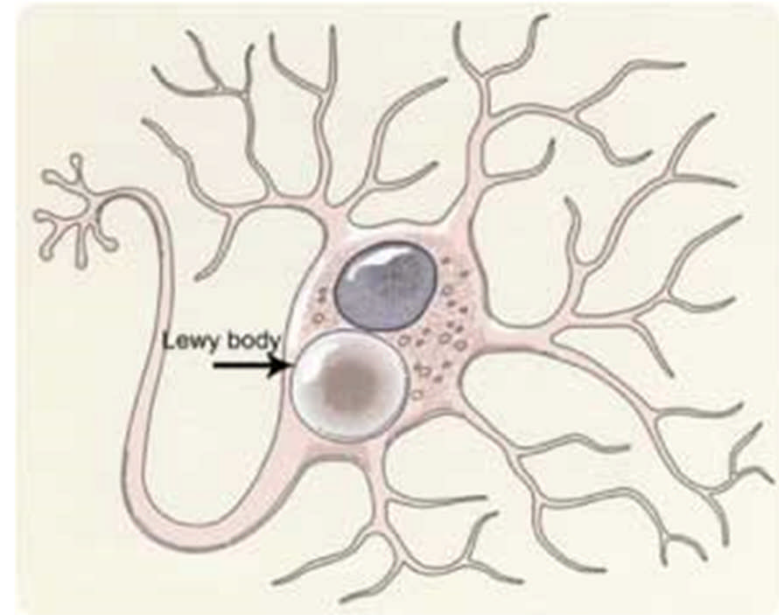
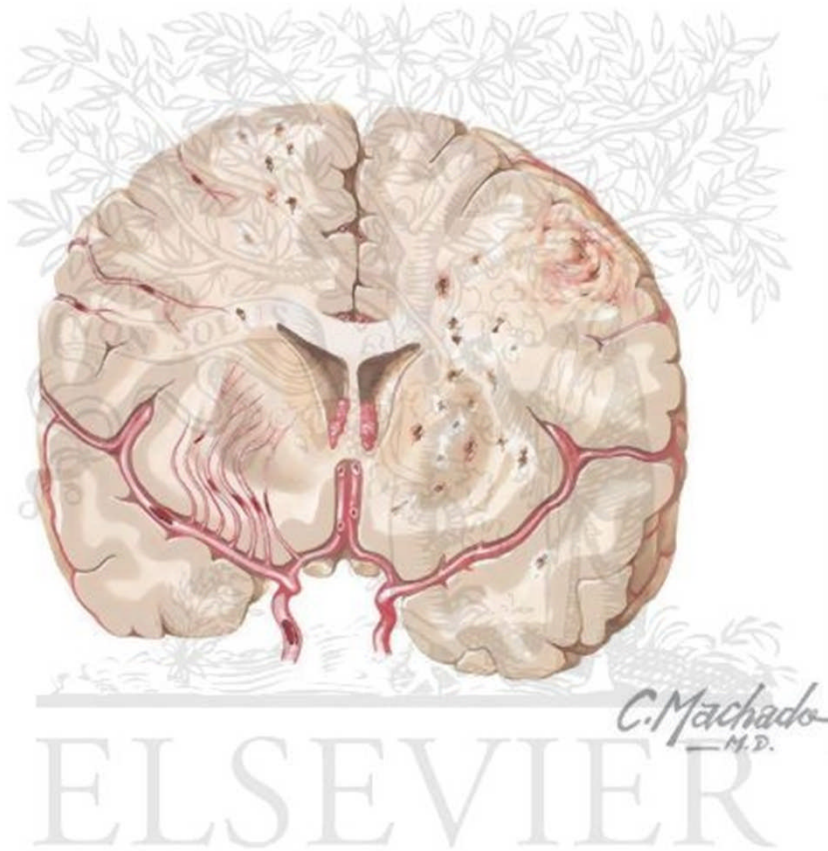
Cut section of the midbrain where a portion of the substantia nigra is visible



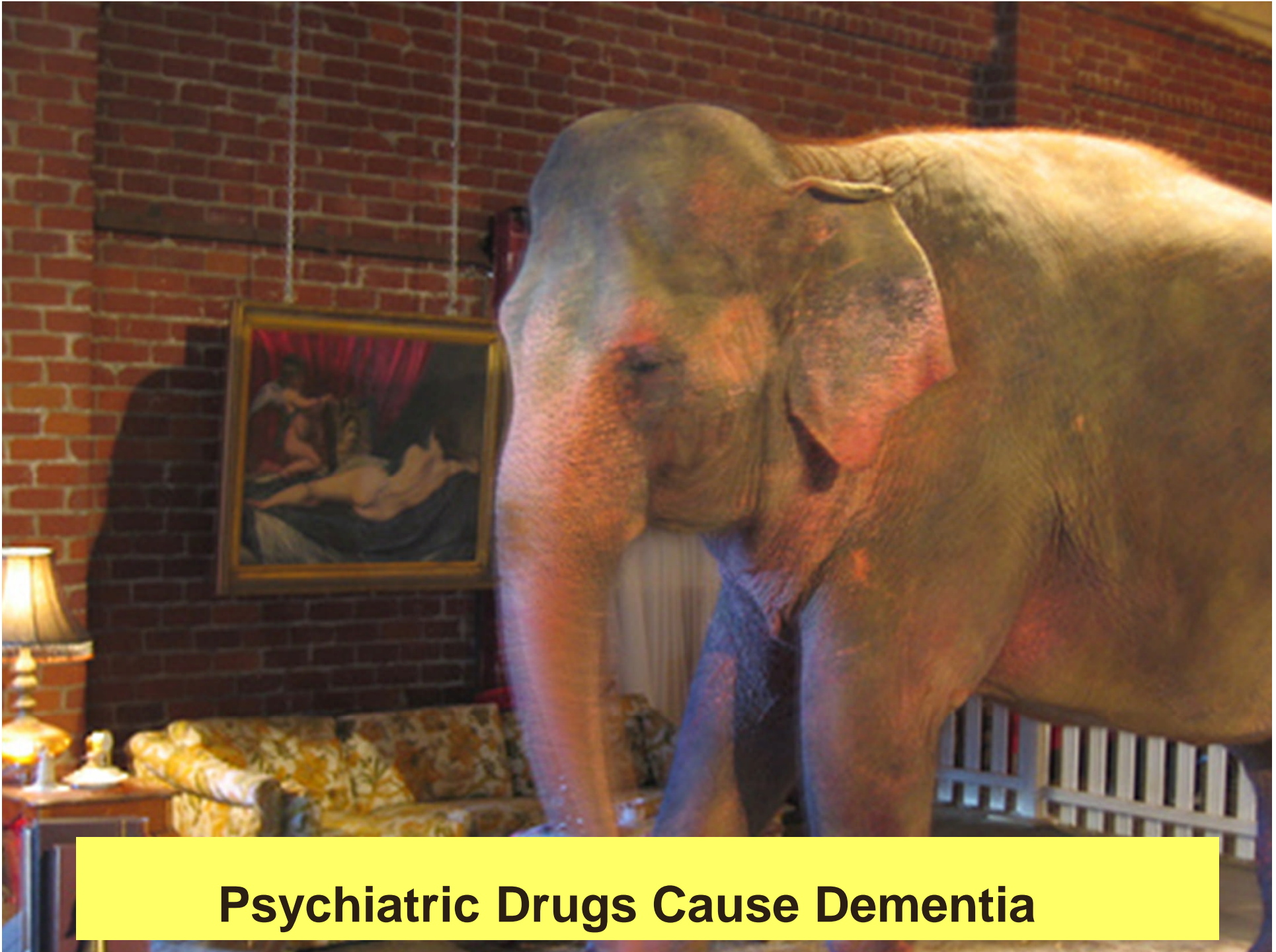
Diminished substantia nigra as seen in Parkinson's disease



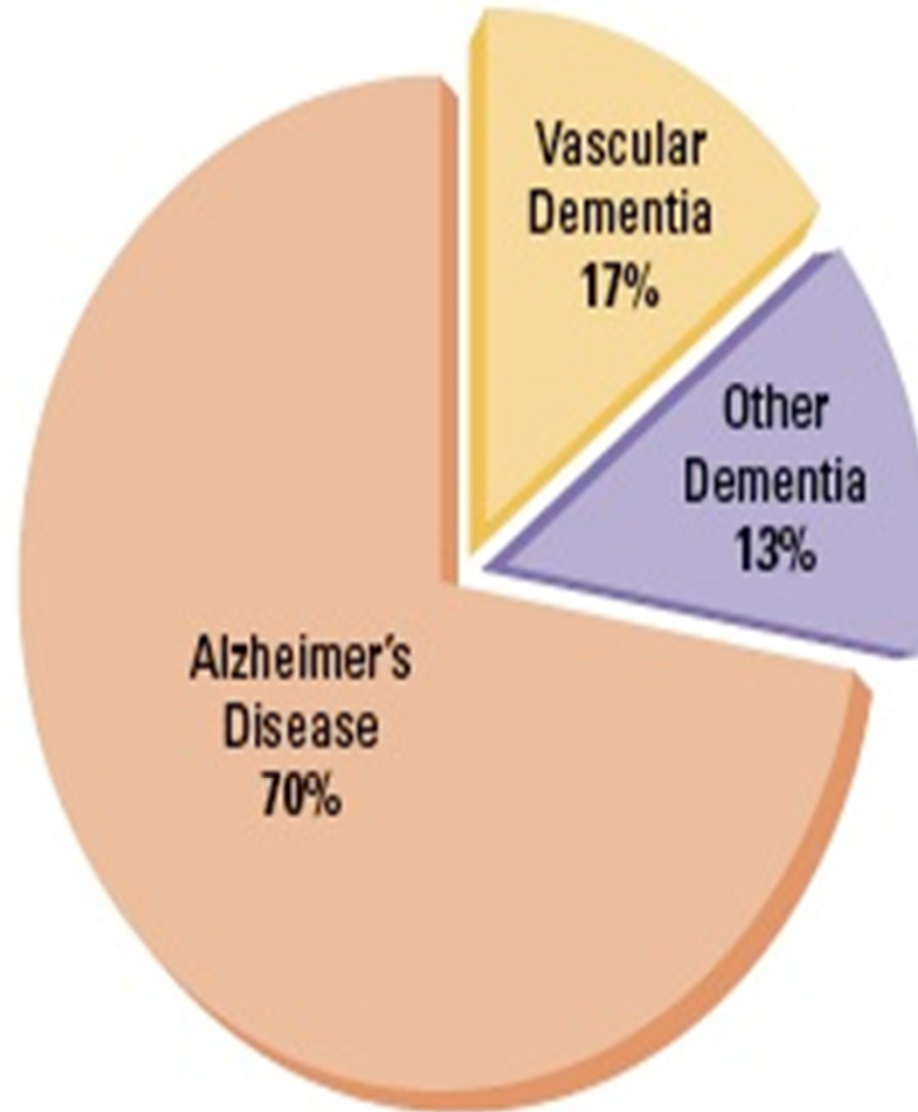
# Pathology







**Psychiatric Drugs Cause Dementia**



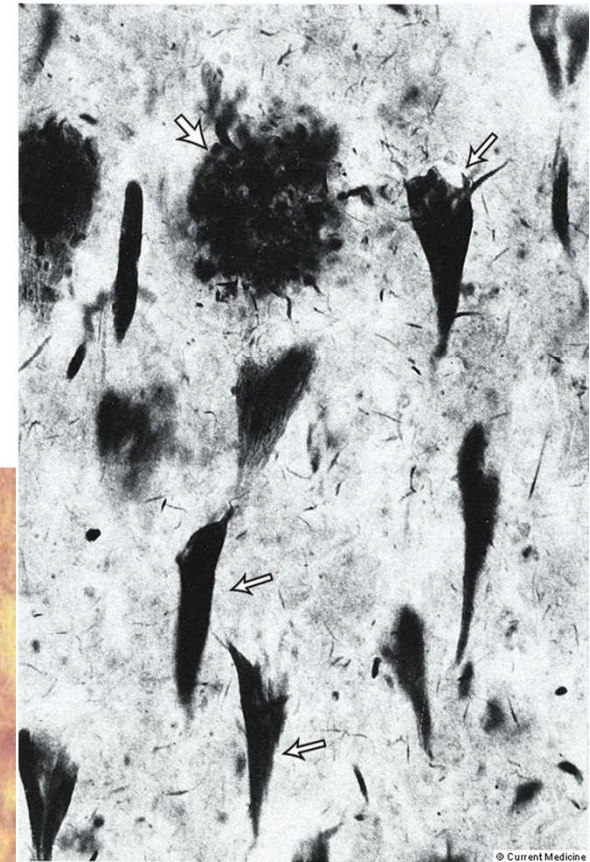
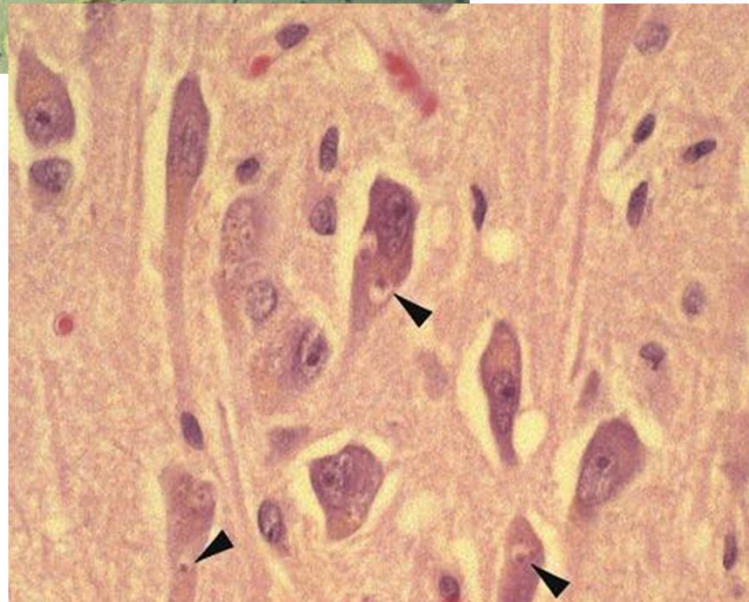
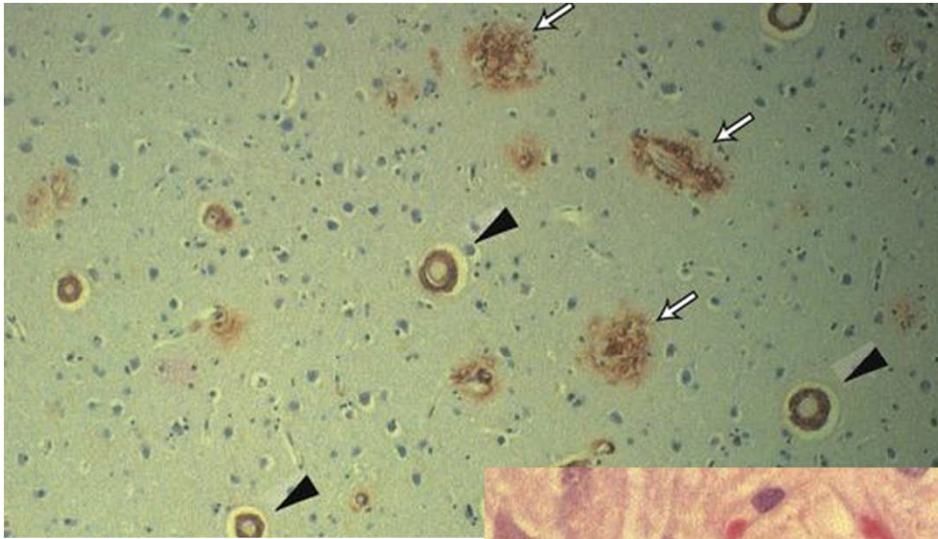
Psychiatric Drugs Cause Dementia

dementia: ~ 2.5% of population

APs	↑6-14X risk	≥ <b>50-85%</b>
ADs	↑2-5X risk	<b>4-6%</b>
AEDs	(bipolar)	<b>4-9%</b>
lithium	↑2X risk	<b>5-30%</b>
benzos	↑2-3X risk	<b>5-30%</b>



# Alzheimer's Pathology



# Diagnosis is Not Easy...

criteria

what gets counted

Khachaturian      plaques; neocortical tangles

CERAD              neuritic plaques

Braak staging      tangles in neocortex/ERC/HC

Tierney criteria   NP in HC or NC; NFT in NC

NIA-RI              NP density/NFT by distribution

# Alz Disease and AP Drugs

...despite longstanding confusion about pathological criteria for Alz. Disease,  
...numerous studies have documented  
unexpectedly high rates of tangles and/or  
plaques in patients exposed to antipsychotic  
drugs

# NY Office of Mental Health

Prohovnik et al – 1993

reviewed path diagnoses and clinical notes  
of patients autopsied 1/1/78 to 12/31/87

1046 cases

89% died after age 60

mean age at death: 75.2

# NY Office of Mental Health

compared three groups of patients

	schiz	dementia	affective
clin AD	28%	51%	15%
path AD	56%	74%	43%

general population  $\geq 65$ :

2 to 5.6% develop AD

AD = Alzheimer's disease





# Swiss Brain Bank



Wisniewski et al – 1994

83 subjects > all with schizophrenia  
all died at age 70 or older

41 died 1932-1952

36% tangles

62 died after 1953

74% tangles

AP exposed: 25% loss of neurons in HC

# Pilgrim Psych Center – Part 1

Purohit et al – 1998

100 elderly patients > schizophrenia

age range: 52 to 101

mean age at death: 78.5

lifetime or retrospective assessments >

Clinical Dementia Rating Scale to assess

dementia (caregiver notes, records, exams)

# Pilgrim – Part 1

**72% were moderately to severely demented**

**52% had abnormal brain pathology**

9% met Khachaturian criteria for Alz disease

of the schizophrenia patients with SPs (47%)

33% more SPs than other psych patients

89% more SPs than age-matched controls

37% more tangles than age-matched controls

SPs = senile plaques

# Pilgrim – Part 2

Rapp et al – 2010

196 consecutive brain donations to  
Mount Sinai SOM/Dept of Psych Brain Bank

Is there a link between AD pathology and  
dementia severity ?

[this analysis used CERAD criteria]

# Pilgrim Psych Center – Part 2

Of 196 brains, removed 86 patients from this analysis due to known neurodegeneration

**44% had definite neurodegeneration**

57 patients with AD pathology

21 with dx of Lewy Body

4 with Parkinson's, 4 with VaD



# Pilgrim Psych Center – Part 2

Of the remaining 110 brains

45% had significant brain pathology

NP density was 50% of Alz disease

tangle density was comparable to Alz.

Of these remaining 110 patients

85.5% were clinically demented

# Big Picture

of 196 brains...

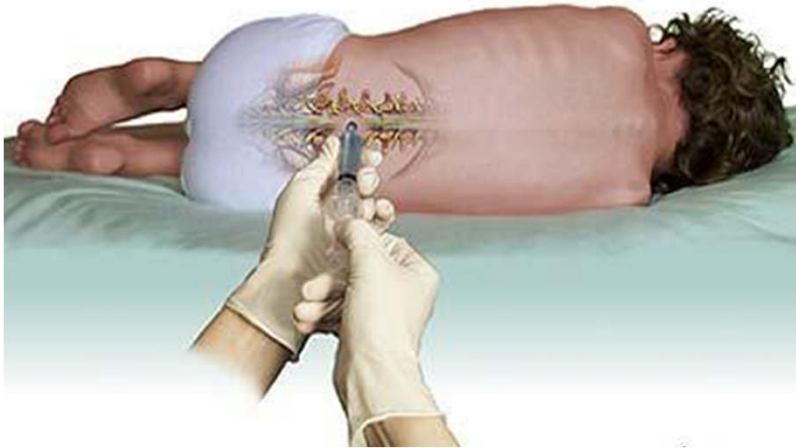


**~70% had neurodegenerative diseases**  
**55% developed Alzheimer's pathology**

# Alzheimer's Biomarkers

## Lumbar Spinal Tap

Cerebrospinal fluid drawn  
from between two vertebrae



### **High levels of:**

tau

phosphorylated tau

### **Low levels of:**

AB-42

# Brescia, Italy

Frisoni et al – 2011



compared spinal fluid

schizophrenia

Alzheimer's patients

control group

surgery requiring

spinal anesthesia

# Brescia, Italy

	Schiz	Alz	controls
	n=11	n=20	n=6
mean age	69	71	61
Illness	45 yrs		
*FGA	45%		
*SGA	73%		

\*current drug use

FGA = first generation antipsychotic drugs

SGA = second generation antipsychotic drugs



# Brescia, Italy

lumbar CSF concentrations

	schiz	Alz	controls
AB42 (pg/mL)	465	352	638

on average > schiz **27% lower than controls**

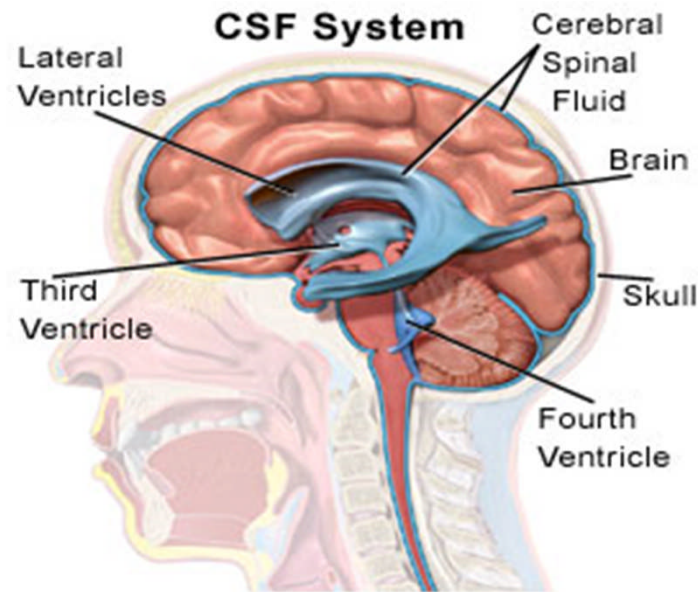
# Brescia, Italy

on 6 of 8 tests of neurocognitive functioning  
schiz. patients were ***much more impaired  
than Alzheimer's disease patients***

immediate and delayed recall, letter fluency,  
trail making A, category fluency, visuospatial

# London, UK

## Clarke et al - 2011



compared 32 patients

neurosurgery for severe depression

biomarkers from ventricles (fluid-filled spaces of the brain)

# London, UK

drug use within 2 weeks of surgery

	AP	no AP
	n=16	n=16
mean age	49.8	52.4
AB40	727.3	440.9
AB42	72.1	60.0
total tau	945	534.3
P-tau	98.6	88.1

# Why is this happening ?

Type I diabetes

juvenile onset  
insulin deficiency

Type II diabetes

insulin resistance

Type III diabetes

brain (↓ ins + IR)

# Type III Diabetes

decreased insulin signaling in the brain:

decreased glucose > less energy

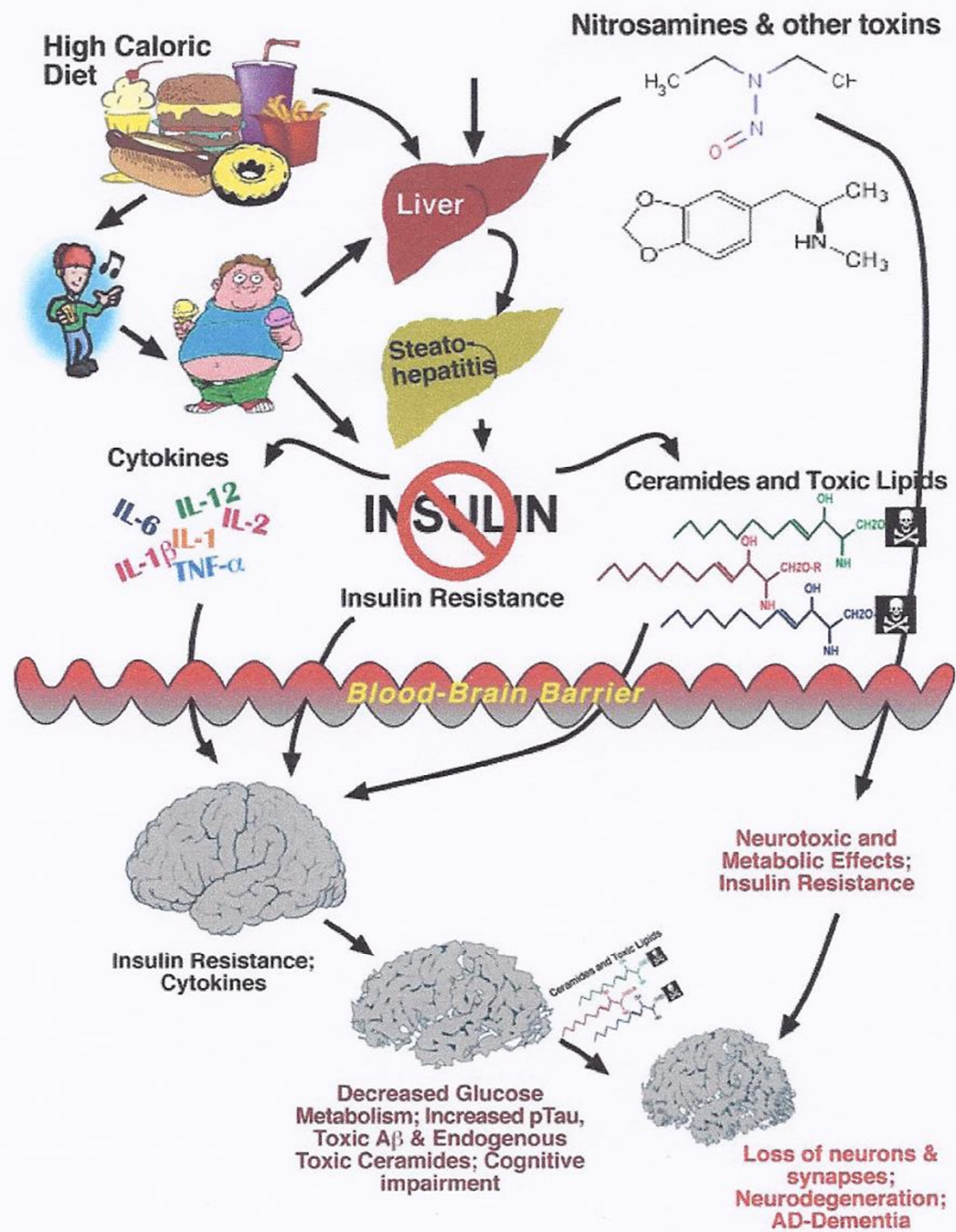
damage to blood vessels > low blood flow

more tau and phosphorylated tau

more B-amyloid plaques

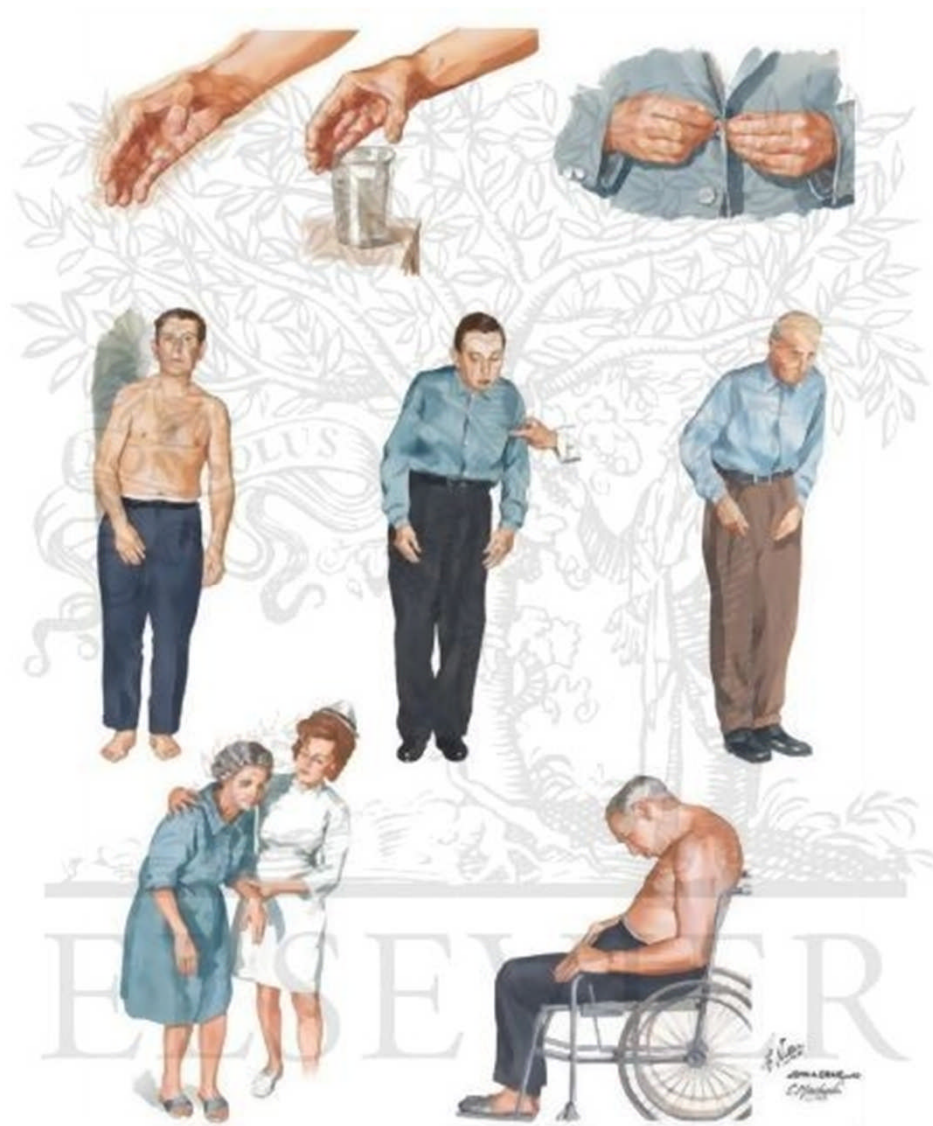
more cell destruction and cell death





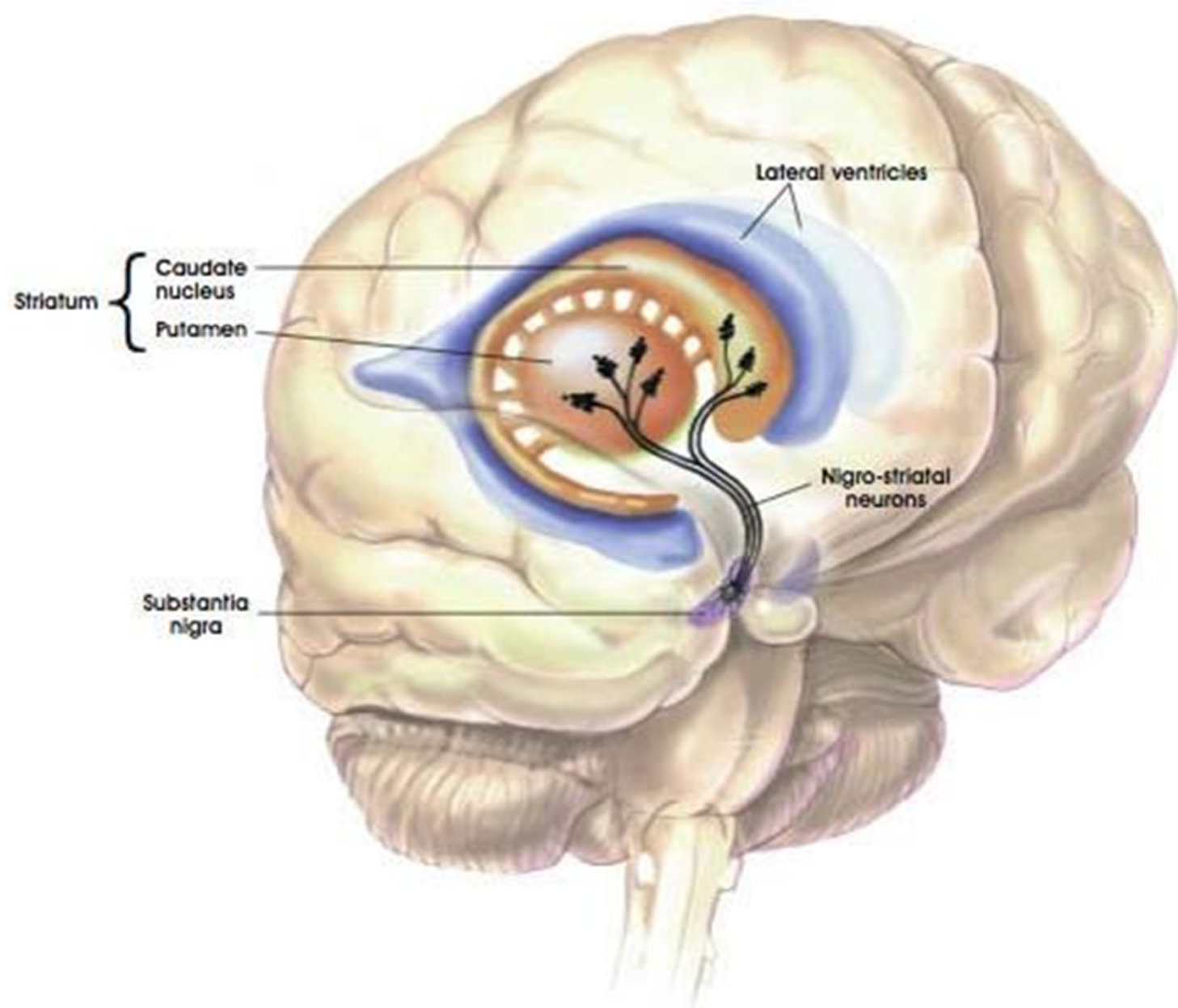
# Parkinson's Disease





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# Which drugs ?

Antipsychotics 10-40%

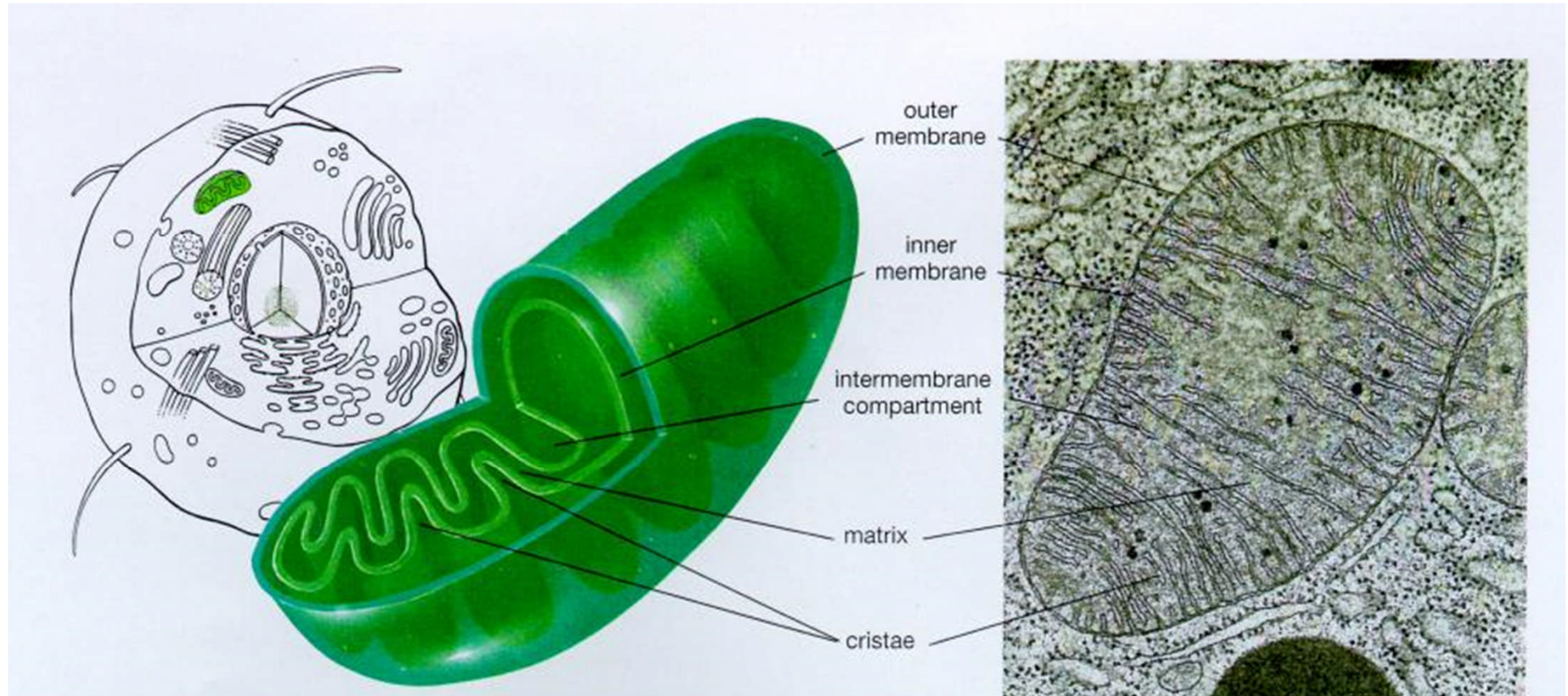
Antidepressants ?

Stimulants ?

AEDs ?

Lithium ?

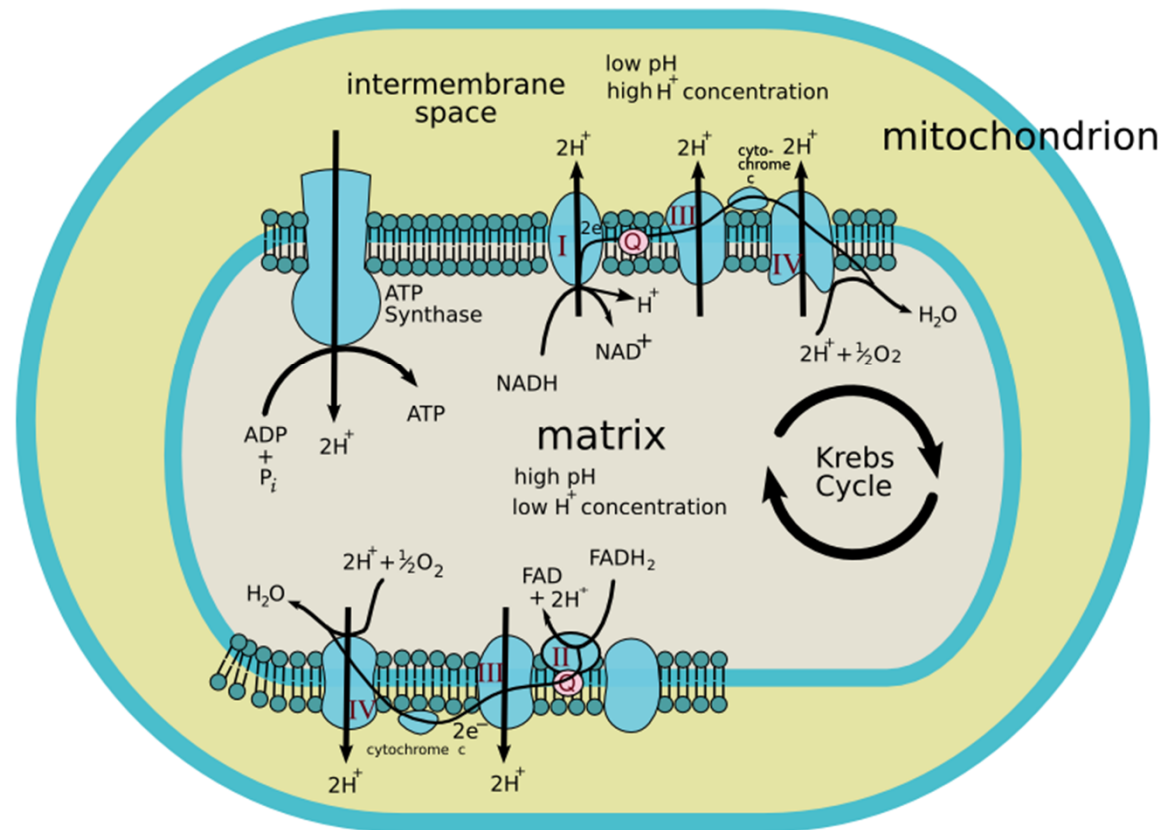
# Why is this happening ?



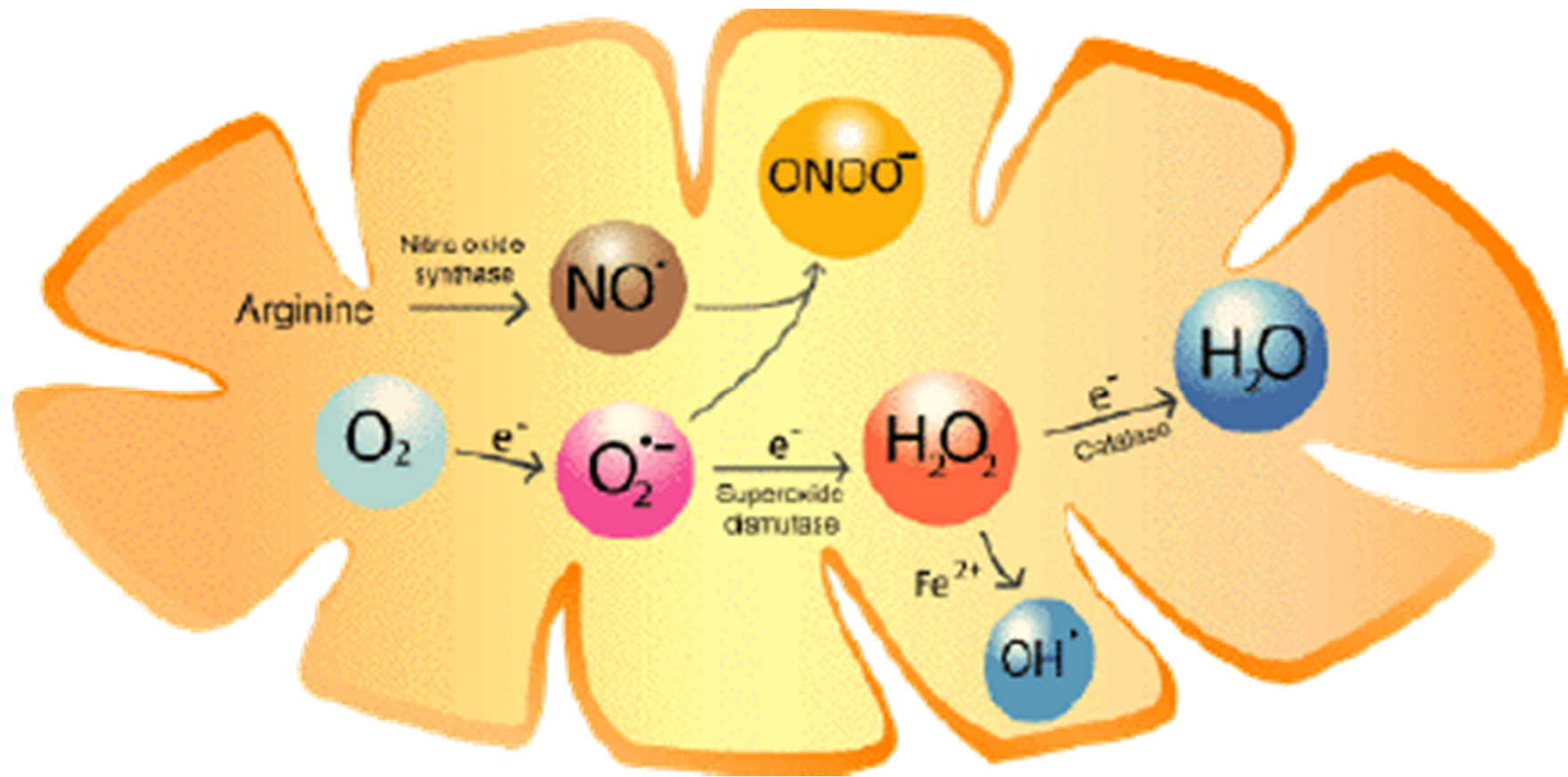


# Psychiatric Drugs Impair Mitochondria

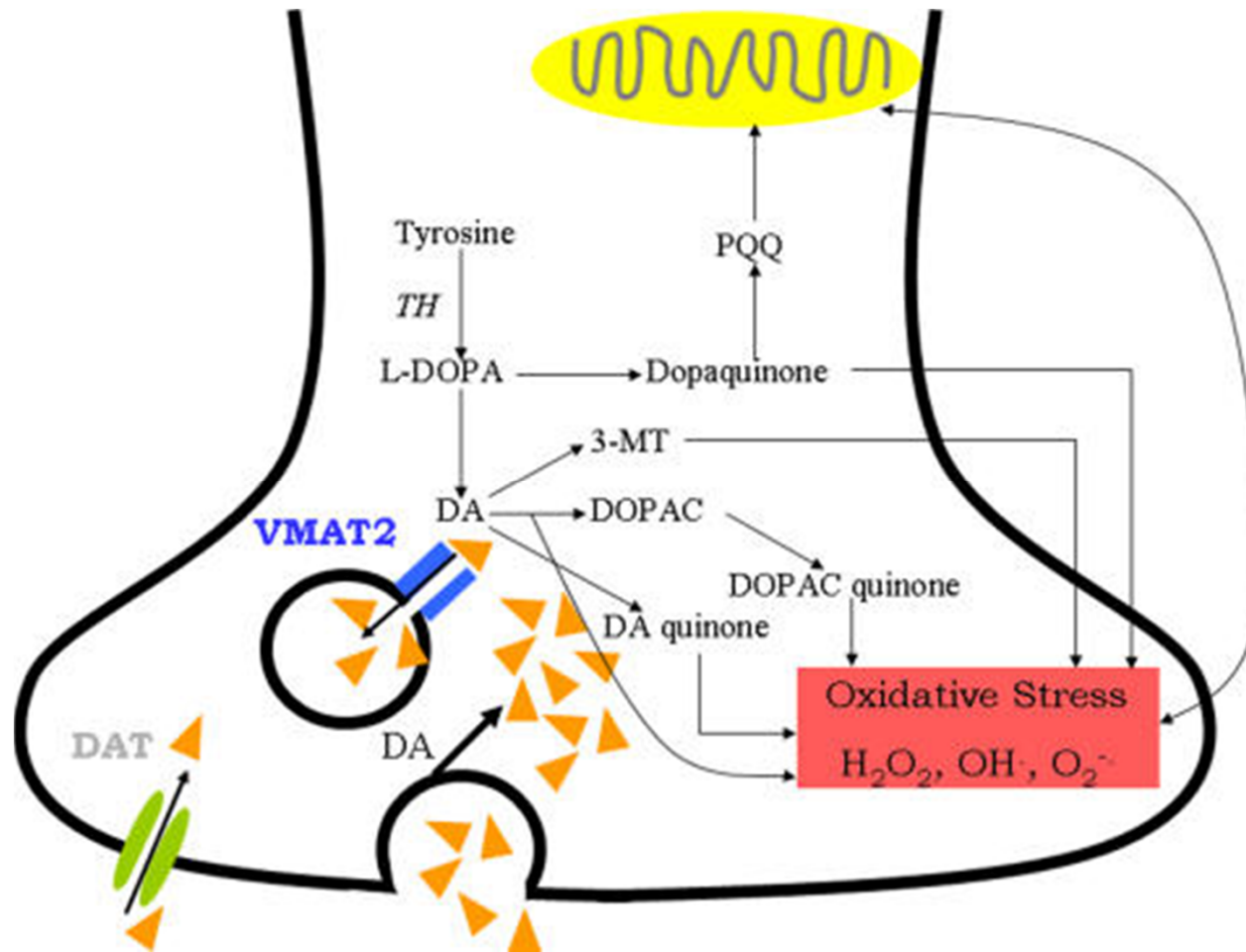
## Mitochondrial Electron Transport Chain



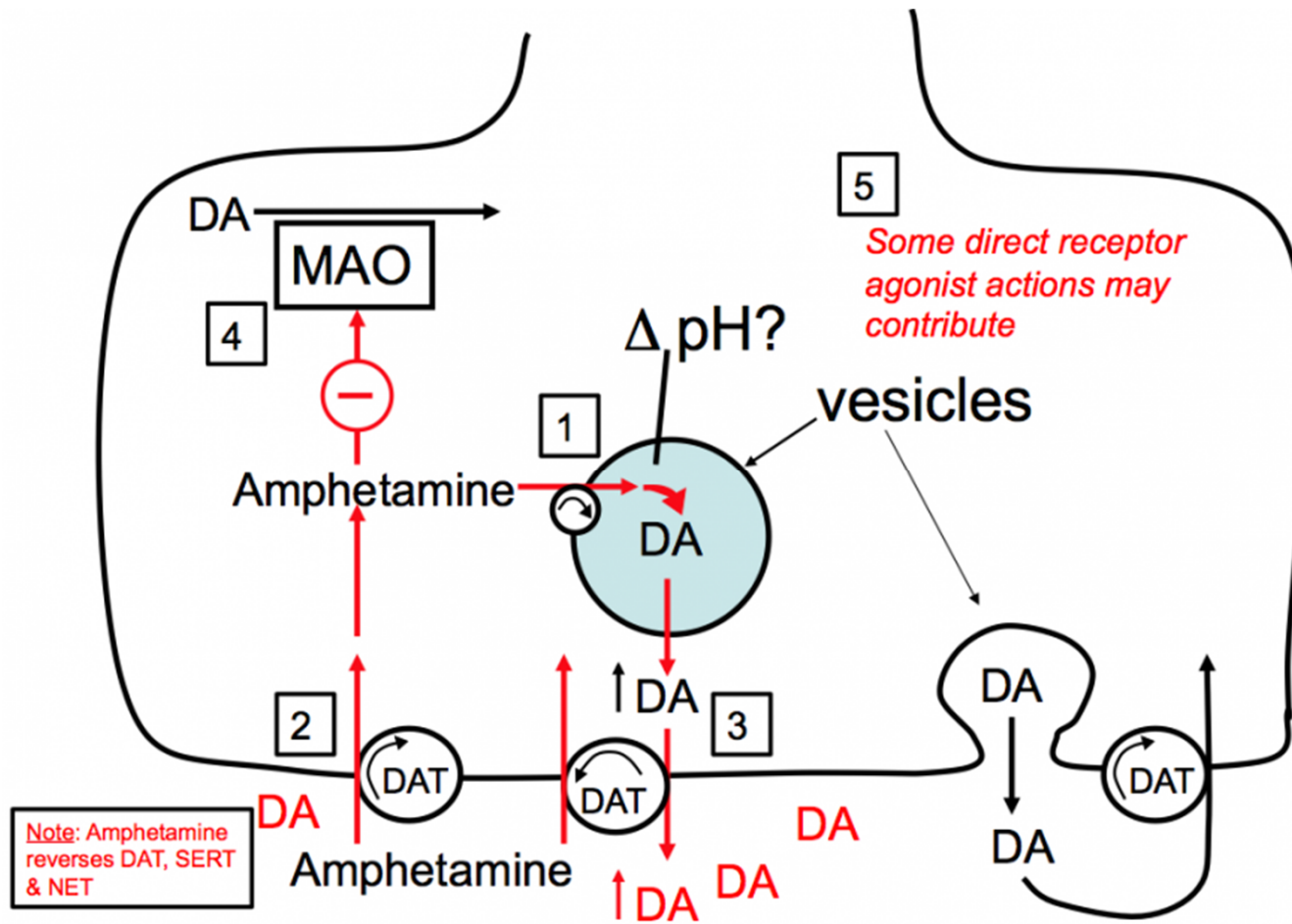
# Psychiatric Drugs ↑ Oxidative Stress



# oxidative stress



# amphetamine





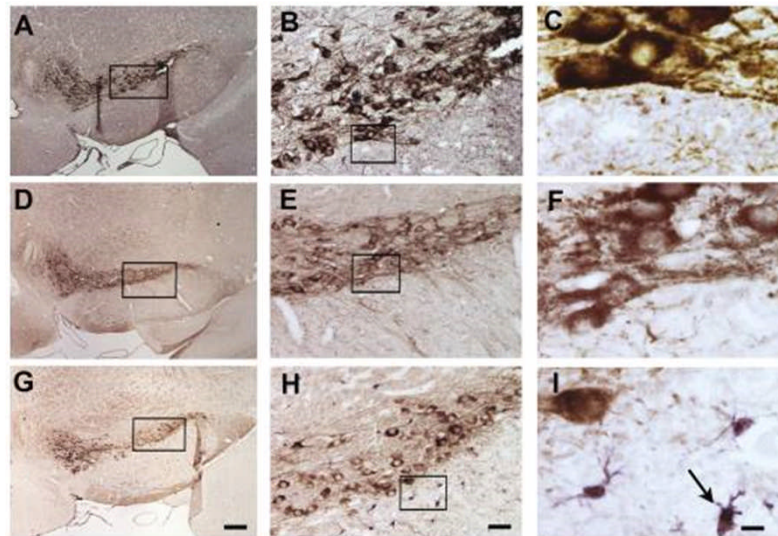
# Methylphenidate Exposure Induces Dopamine Neuron Loss and Activation of Microglia in the Basal Ganglia of Mice

Shankar Sadasivan<sup>1</sup>, Brooks B. Pond<sup>1,2</sup>, Amar K. Pani<sup>1</sup>, Chunxu Qu<sup>3</sup>, Yun Jiao<sup>1</sup>, Richard J. Smeyne<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Developmental Neurobiology, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee, United States of America, <sup>2</sup> Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, Tennessee, United States of America, <sup>3</sup> Department of Information Sciences, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee, United States of America

## Abstract

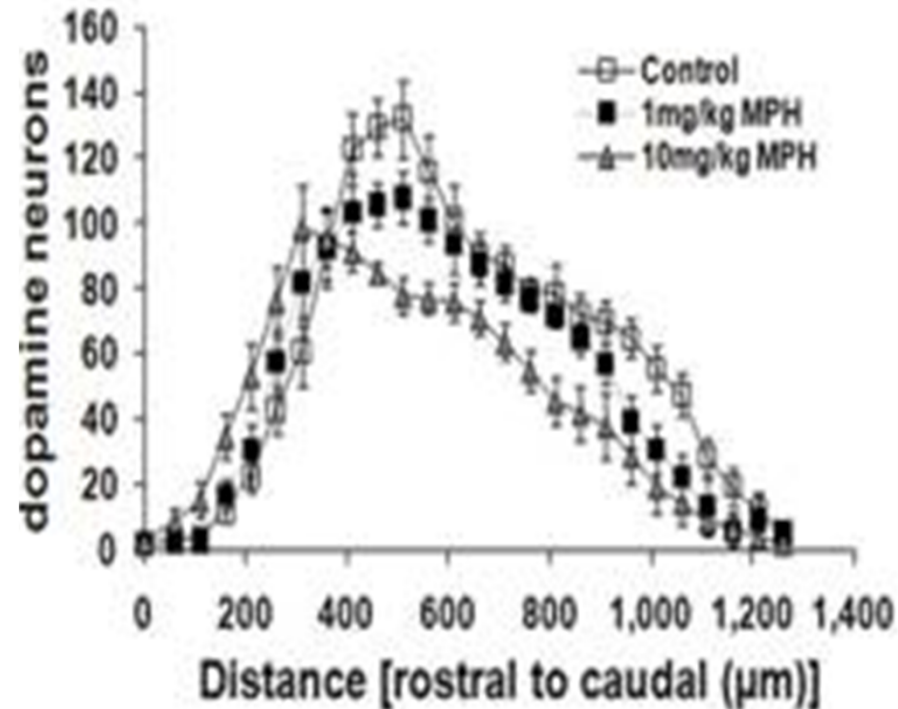
**Background:** Methylphenidate (MPH) is a psychostimulant that exerts its pharmacological effects via preferential blockade of the dopamine transporter (DAT) and the norepinephrine transporter (NET), resulting in increased monoamine levels in the synapse. Clinically, methylphenidate is prescribed for the symptomatic treatment of ADHD and narcolepsy; although lately, there has been an increased incidence of its use in individuals not meeting the criteria for these disorders. MPH has also been misused as a "cognitive enhancer" and as an alternative to other psychostimulants. Here, we investigate whether chronic or acute administration of MPH in mice at either 1 mg/kg or 10 mg/kg, affects cell number and gene expression in the basal ganglia.



90 days of Ritalin > simulate childhood/teens



## 20% reduction in DA neurons at 10 mg/kg



“work supports studies that demonstrate that drugs which increase dopamine in the synaptic cleft can contribute to degenerative changes in the basal ganglia”

# VAMC Depakote Study

Armon et al (1996)

36 Depakote patients

age range                                      22 to 74      (mean: 51.5)

duration of drug exposure:              1-11 years      (median: 3 yrs)

Under the influence of Depakote:

75% displayed signs/symptoms of Parkinson's disease

83% experienced hearing loss

86% were cognitively impaired

# VAMC Depakote Study

After stopping Depakote:

Parkinsonian features improved in 96%

cognitive functioning improved in 72%

hearing loss improved in 48%

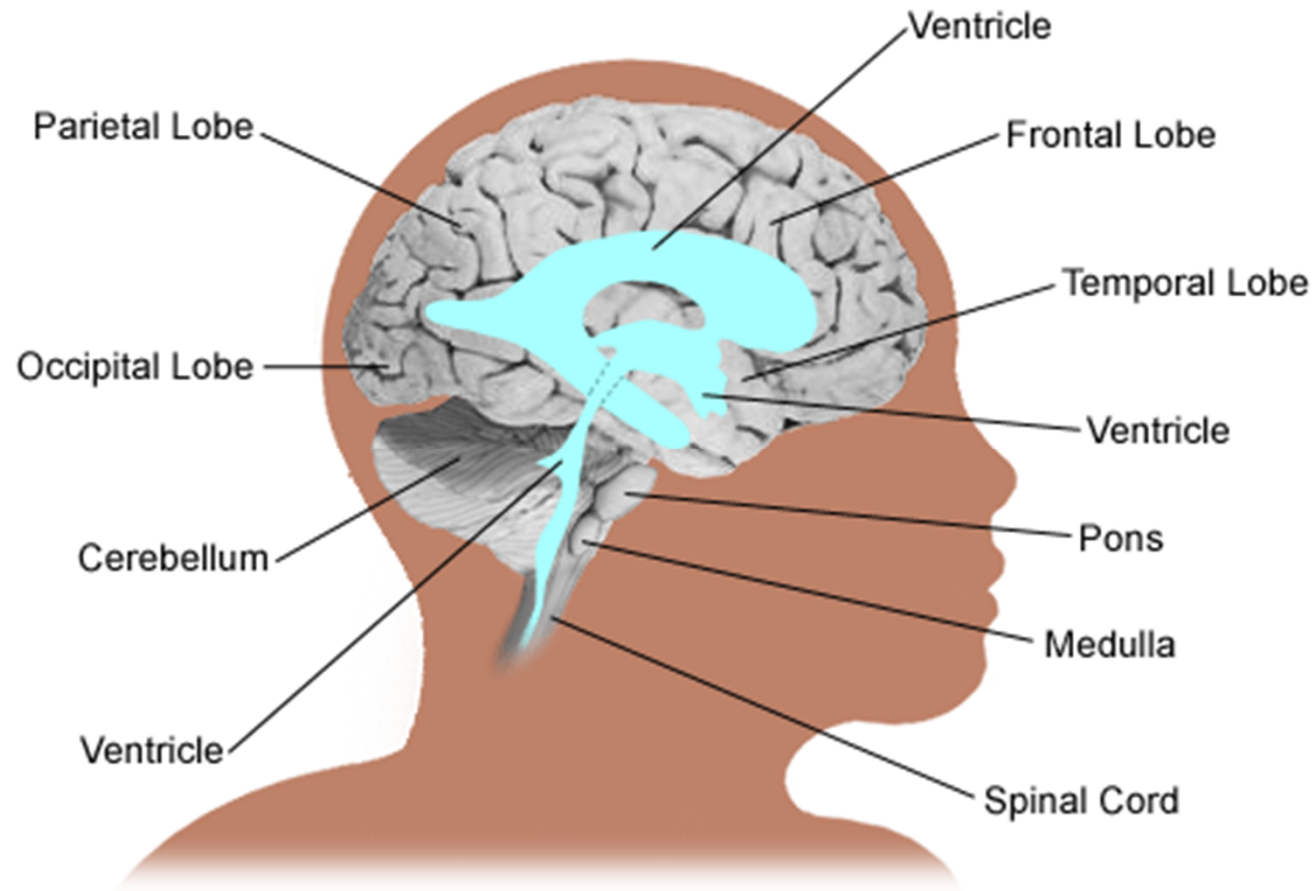
## Other Causes of Drug-Induced Dementia

NPH

CJD

pseudo-tumor cerebri (PTC)

# Dementia Due to Hydrocephalus



# Depakote Induced Dementia

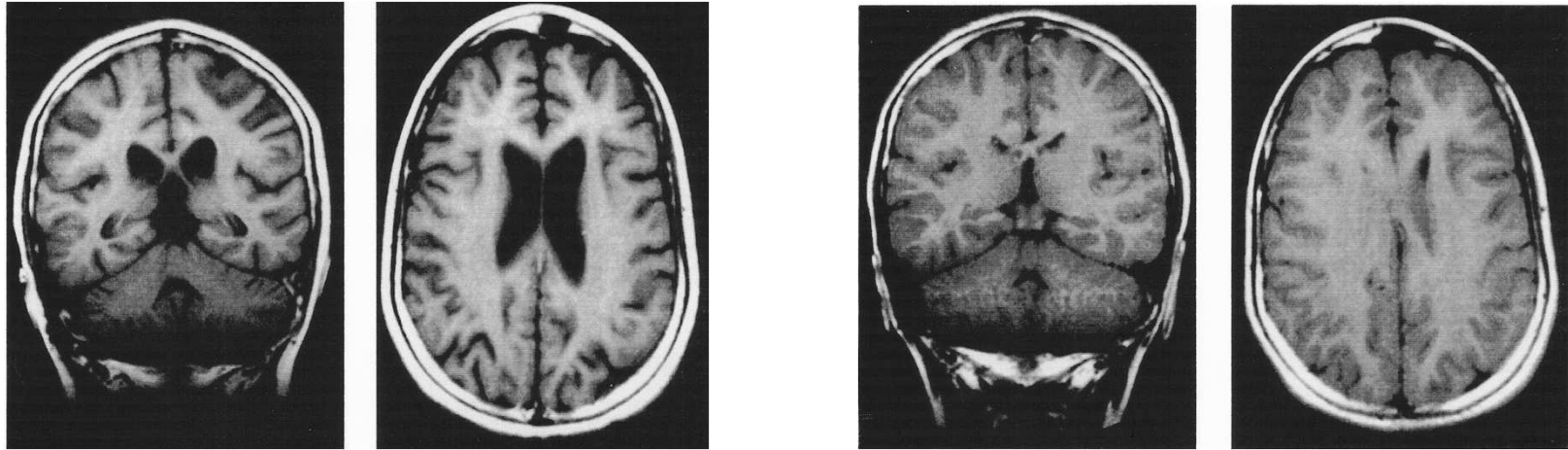
some patients develop hydrocephalus with dementia  
others experience full-blown NPH

## How often does this happen ?

there are many case reports in the medical literature  
unknown #s of patients go undiagnosed or misdiagnosed



# Depakote Dementia



- 10 ½ yr old child on Depakote (+ AP + Cogentin)
- experienced 12 point drop in IQ over 1 year
- 1 yr after stopping drug >> brain shrinkage reversed



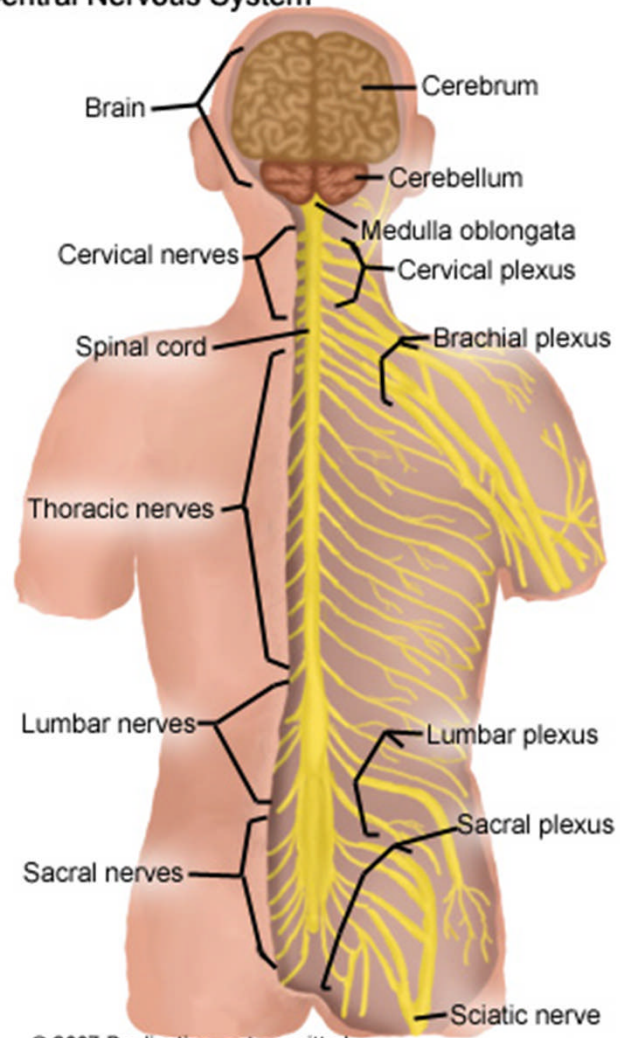
Nikolai Andrianov

15 medals > 7 gold, 5 silver, 3 bronze

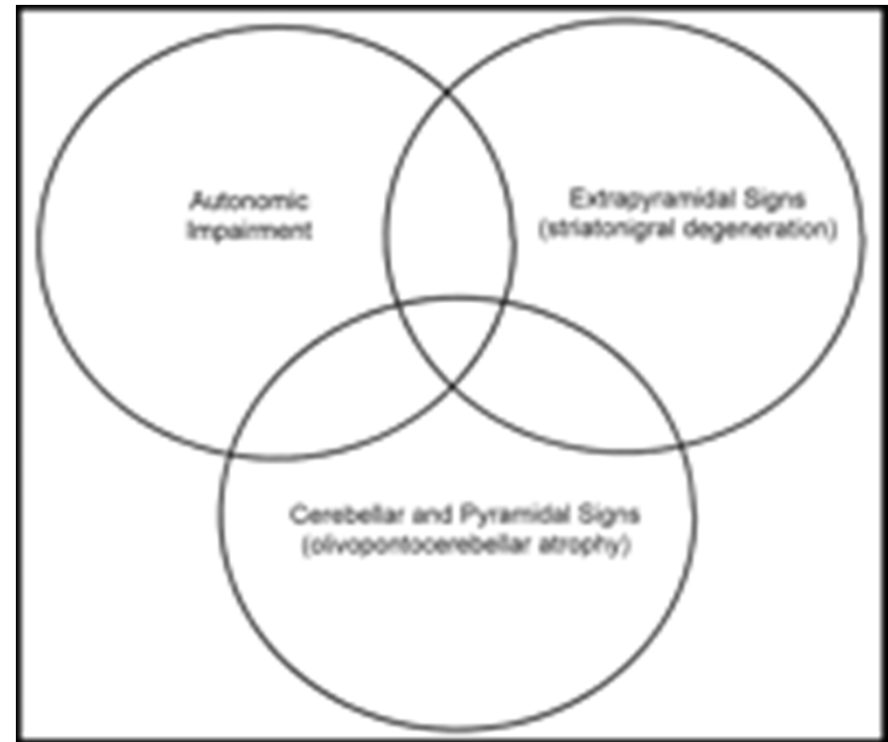
died 3/21/11 at age 58 from MSA

# MSA

## Central Nervous System



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# Multisystem Atrophy Made Worse by Lithium Treatment in a Hospice Patient: A Case Report

American Journal of Hospice  
& Palliative Medicine®

29(7) 570-573

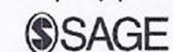
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DOI: 10.1177/1049909111434633

<http://ajhpm.sagepub.com>



Ellen Babinsky, DO<sup>1</sup>, and  
Richard S. Levene, DO, FAAFP, FAAHPM<sup>1,2</sup>

## Abstract

Multisystem atrophy is a neurologic condition defined as an adult-onset, progressive, neurodegenerative disease of unknown etiology. It carries a multisystem clinical course, including autonomic, urogenital, cerebellar, and parkinsonian features. Lithium toxicity, classically manifesting as increased thirst, polyuria, gastric distress, weight gain, tremor, fatigue, and mild cognitive impairment, can present in a similar manner.<sup>1</sup> We would like to present a patient diagnosed with progressive neurologic features typical of multisystem atrophy that also had bipolar disorder and had been taking lithium for many years. Despite normal lithium levels, it appeared as though a subclinical lithium toxicity was manifesting in the patient, and once lithium was discontinued, the patient was discharged from hospice with significant improvement in his presenting symptoms.

## Keywords

multisystem atrophy, lithium, cerebellar degeneration, Shy-Drager syndrome, predominant parkinsonism, bipolar

## IV. Brain Repair

# Brain Repair



1) PharmARRU

2) Nutrition

3) Lifestyle

# PharmARRU

Pharmaceutical

Avoidance

Reduction

Responsible Use





# Responsible Use Requires Knowledge and Preparation

- medical history and current life situation
- active medical problems
- all of the patient's meds/supplements
- target organ toxicity
  - drug effects on medical conditions
- drug-drug interactions [DDIs]

# Nutrition

- 1) Insulin sensitizers
- 2) Antioxidants
- 3) Fluid changers

# Ginkgo biloba



EGb761

240 mg per day

PPAR agonist

↑ insulin sensitivity

# chromium picolinate

150 to 1000 ug per day



increases IR number

lowers weight

↓ blood glc and lipids

# curcumin (from turmeric)



↑ glucose uptake  
GLUT4 to cell surface

boosts insulin sensitivity  
PI3K/AKT paths

↑ pancreatic secretion  
of insulin

decreases HbA1C levels



# antioxidants

Polyphenols

resveratrol      red wine, grapeseed extract

green tea      (Epigallo-catechin-3-gallate)

Vitamin C      citrus, strawberries, tomatoes

Omega 3      DHA and EPA

(Gingko, curcumin)

# vitamins

~50% of pharmaceuticals deplete vitamins

most critically > B1, B6, B9, B12, Vit D

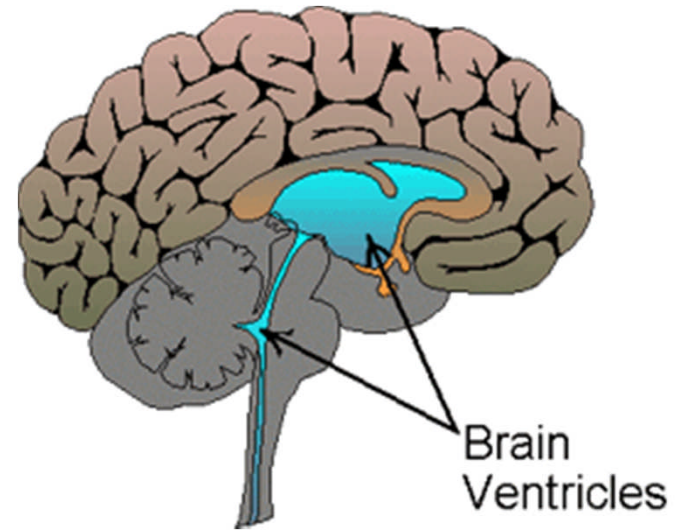
antacids

oral contraceptives

metformin

anticonvulsants

# caffeine



# Lifestyle



# growing a healthy brain

physical exercise

time in nature

cognitive (mental) enrichment

social engagement

# Recap

## I. What's killing the mentally ill ?

sicker, ↓ lifespan (13 to 30 yrs)

## II. America's drug problem

drugs are #3 cause of death each year

## III. Brain Damage

## IV. Brain Repair

PharmARRU, Nutrition, Lifestyle