

## AddNeuroMed update: ADNI at AAIC 2012

### Multimodal Biomarkers for Alzheimer's disease



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Bruno Vellas

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# AddNeuroMed Study

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**Six European sites**

**Compatible with the US ADNI study**

**716 subjects recruited**

259 AD, 225 MCI, 232 CTL

**All subjects**

Clinical / cognitive assessments

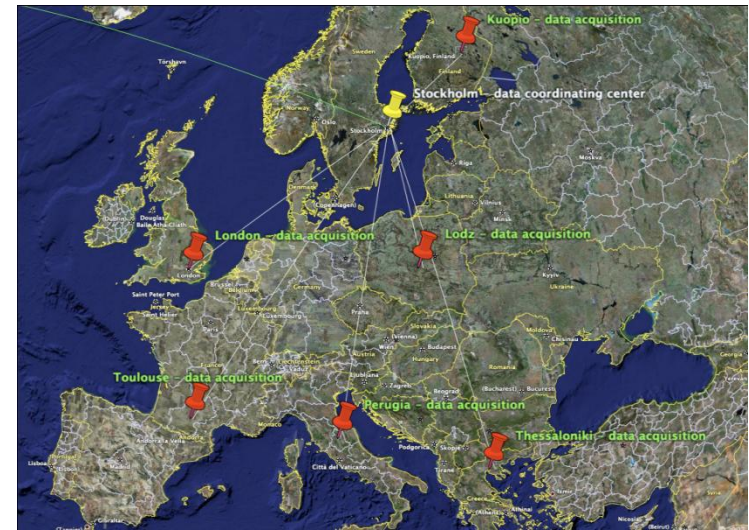
Blood

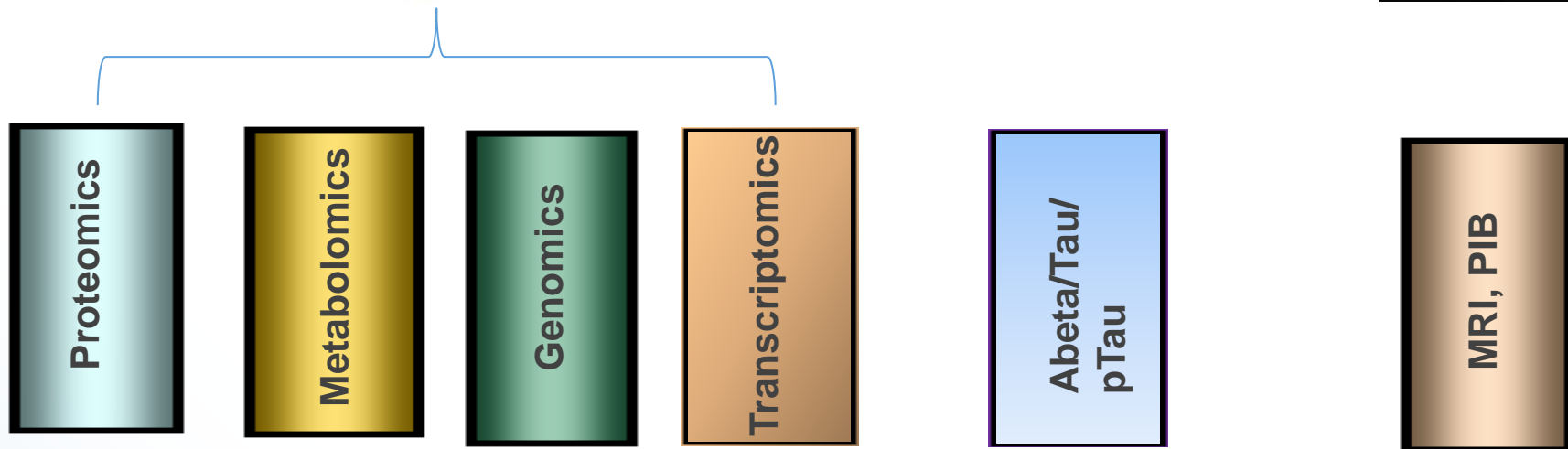
**385 subjects with 1.5T structural MR**

133 AD, 134 MCI, 118 CTL

**Imaging time points**

Baseline, 3 months, 1 year

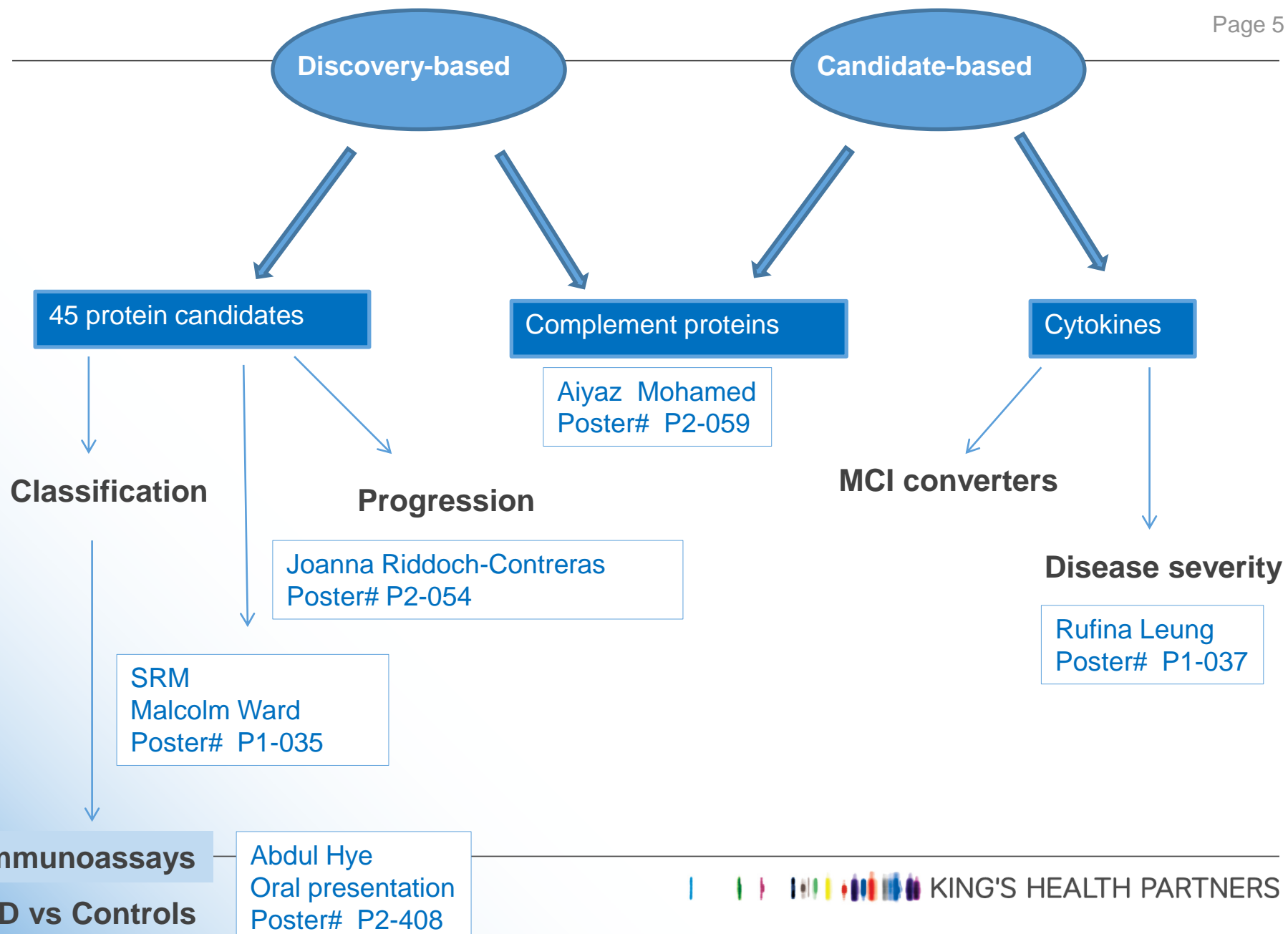




**Bioinformatics**

**Multimodal biomarker signature**

# Plasma protein biomarkers



## **Current studies: class prediction**

**Cases (AD) vs Control**

**Cases (AD) vs other neurodegenerative diseases**

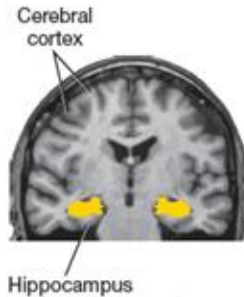
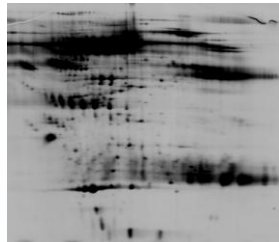
But high heterogeneity of all populations studied among AD, control and MCI groups.

**Innovation**: looking at other independent variables that reflect pathology

- Cortical atrophy
- Cognition (MMSE)
- Speed of decline



Discovery- Gel based approach  
Small study



Proteomics

Whole brain volume



- complement component C3
- complement component C3a
- complement factor-I,
- $\gamma$ -fibrinogen
- alpha-1-microglobulin.

Validation- quantitative immunoassays  
Larger independent study



**Table 3.** Univariate associations between plasma concentrations of assayed candidate biomarkers and whole brain volume in AD; R = Pearson correlation coefficient; p = 2-tailed statistical significance.

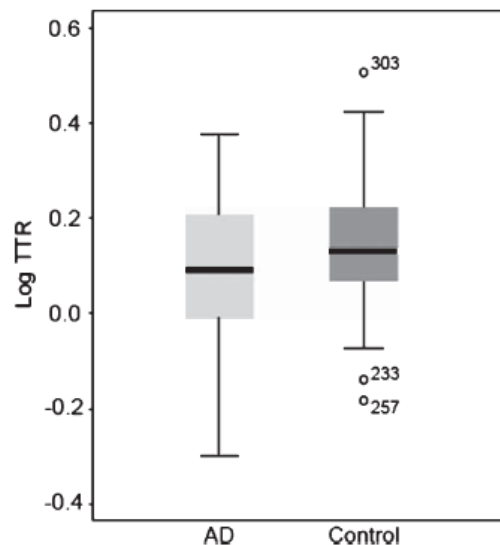
Plasma protein	R/p
C3	0.31/0.006
C3a	0.27/0.02
A1M	-0.23/0.04
CFI	0.24/0.04
Gamma-fibrinogen	0.24/0.03
SAP	0.05/0.65

## Univariate associations

## Plasma Biomarkers of Brain Atrophy in Alzheimer's Disease

Madhav Thambisetty<sup>1\*</sup>, Andrew Simmons<sup>2</sup>, Abdul Hye<sup>2</sup>, James Campbell<sup>3</sup>, Eric Westman<sup>2</sup>, Yi Zhang<sup>4</sup>, Lars-Olof Wahlund<sup>5</sup>, Anna Kinsey<sup>2</sup>, Mirsada Causevic<sup>2</sup>, Richard Killick<sup>2</sup>, Iwona Kloszewska<sup>6</sup>, Patrizia Mecocci<sup>7</sup>, Hilikka Soininen<sup>8</sup>, Magda Tsolaki<sup>9</sup>, Bruno Vellas<sup>10</sup>, Christian Spenger<sup>4</sup>, Simon Lovestone<sup>1</sup> for the AddNeuroMed consortium

## Plasma transthyretin is reduced in AD



## Plasma transthyretin is reduced in rapid decliners

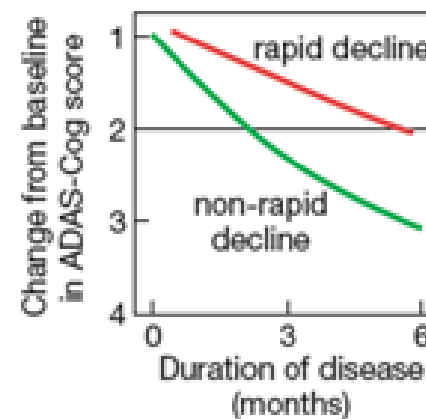


Table 2

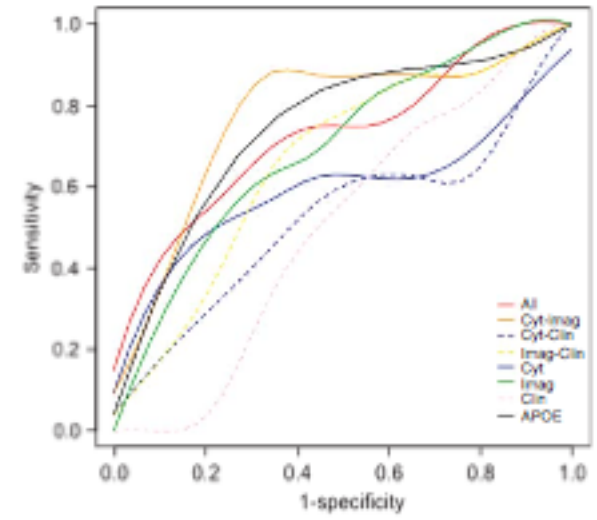
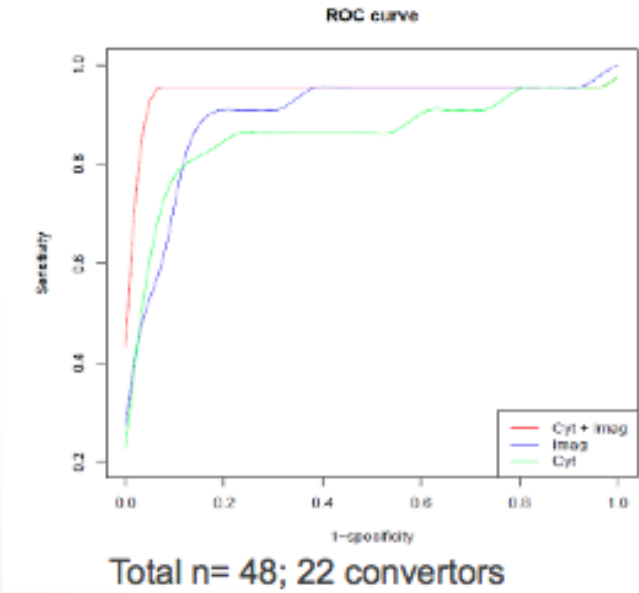
Linear regression analysis with the loss of MMSE scores over 6 months follow up as the dependent variable and plasma transthyretin levels, age, baseline MMSE scores, duration of illness, gender and APOE4 alternatively (Model 1) or simultaneously (Model 2) entered as predictive variables within the whole Alzheimer's disease sample

	$R^2$ (%)	Beta	$T$ -value	$P$ value	
<b>Model 1</b>					
Plasma transthyretin	3.6	0.012	2.32	0.022*	
Age in years	0.6	-0.039	-1.072	0.285	
Duration of illness	0.4	-0.074	-0.924	0.356	
MMSE baseline	1.8	0.092	1.903	0.058	
Gender	0.2	-0.295	-0.592	0.555	
APOE4	0.2	0.294	0.609	0.543	
<b>Model 2</b>					
Plasma transthyretin + MMSE baseline	5.7	TTR	0.011	2.168	0.032*
		MMSE	0.100	1.779	0.077

$R^2$  (%) =  $R^2$  value in percent for the overall model; \* $p < 0.05$ ; MMSE, Mini Mental State Examination; TTR, Transthyretin; APOE4, presence of one E4 allele.

## Plasma Transthyretin as a Candidate Marker for Alzheimer's Disease





Journal of Alzheimer's Disease 26 (2011) 395–405  
 DOI 10.3233/JAD-2011-0044  
 IOS Press

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## Combinatorial Markers of Mild Cognitive Impairment Conversion to Alzheimer's Disease - Cytokines and MRI Measures Together Predict Disease Progression

Simon J. Furney<sup>a</sup>, Deborah Kronenberg<sup>b</sup>, Andrew Simmons<sup>a</sup>, Andreas Güntert<sup>a</sup>, Richard J. Dobson<sup>a</sup>, Petroula Proitsi<sup>a</sup>, Lars Olof Wahlund<sup>c</sup>, Iwona Kloszewska<sup>d</sup>, Patrizia Mecocci<sup>e</sup>, Hilkka Soininen<sup>f</sup>, Magda Tsolaki<sup>g</sup>, Bruno Vellas<sup>h</sup>, Christian Spenger<sup>i</sup> and Simon Lovestone<sup>a,\*</sup>

## 1.5 T sMRI and automated analysis

Regional cortical thickness-34 areas

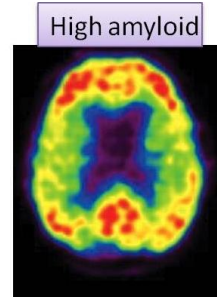
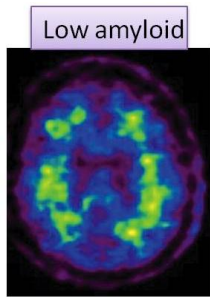
Regional cortical volume- 24 areas

36 cytokines measures by Luminex

# Extreme Clinical Phenotypes

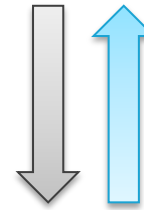
## Future studies

PiB-PET measures

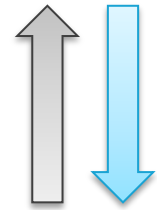


CSF Aβ/Tau ratios

Low Aβ/High Tau



Low Aβ/High Tau



Discovery GeLC/MS-MS (Orbitrap Velos)  
Tandem Mass Tagging (TMT)  
2-DGE  
Aptamer based  
Longitudinal sampling

Nicholas Ashton  
Alison Baird  
Sarah Westwood  
Emmanuella Leoni  
Malcolm Ward



## Project vision

To enable and conduct novel research into human health by utilising human health data at an *unprecedented scale*

‘Think Big’

- Access to information on > 40 million patients
- AD research on 10-times more subjects than ADNI
- Linkage of clinical and omics data
- Development of a secure (privacy, legal) modular platform

# Project objectives



- 1. EMIF-Platform: Develop a framework for evaluating, enhancing and providing access to human health data across Europe, to support specific topics as well as research using human health data in general**
- 2. EMIF-AD: Identify predictors of Alzheimer's Disease (AD) in the pre-clinical and prodromal phase, with the support of EMIF-Platform**

# AD research objectives

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1. Set-up a **large data repository** of patient data to allow biomarker discovery.
2. **Link data** from research cohorts to EHR data and use EHR data to define extreme phenotypes
3. Discover and validate **new biomarkers** in plasma, cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) and using MRI for the diagnosis and prognosis of AD in the presymptomatic and prodromal stages
4. Identify **new potential targets** for AD drug development using genomics and proteomics approaches in presymptomatic and prodromal AD;
5. Test the utility of the new biomarkers for **selection of subjects** for AD prevention trials.

## **Research collaborations relevant to biomarkers for AD:**

- Proteome Sciences, Millipore Merck and GSK
- J&J and GE
- Precompetitive collaborative projects with multiple European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industry Associations (EFPIA) partners

## **Other, non-biomarker, collaborations**

- Astra Zeneca
- J&J

## AddNeuroMed – Combining Markers

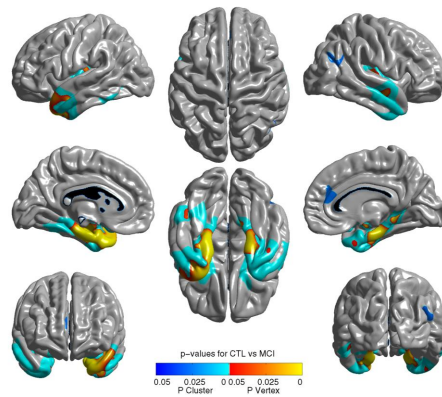




- MRI
- MRS
- Neuropsych
- Cytokines
- GWAS
- Gene expression

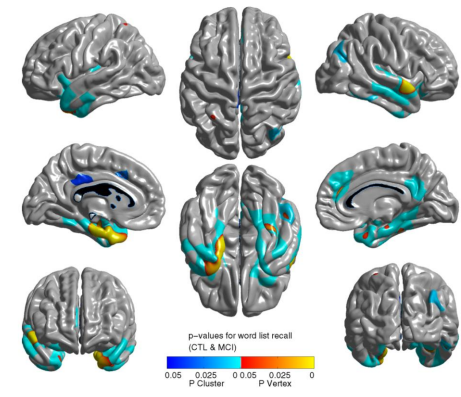
## Vitamin E forms

- Plasma proteins #1
- Plasma proteins #2
- Plasma proteins #3
- Plasma proteins #4



Combinatorial Markers of Mild Cognitive Impairment Conversion to Alzheimer's Disease - Cytokines and MRI Measures Together Predict Disease Progression

Simon J. Furney<sup>a</sup>, Deborah Krossberg<sup>b</sup>, Andrew Simmons<sup>a</sup>, Andreas Günter<sup>c</sup>, Richard J. Dobson<sup>a</sup>, Petroula Proitsi<sup>d</sup>, Lars Olof Wahlund<sup>f</sup>, Iwona Kloszewska<sup>g</sup>, Patrizia Mecocci<sup>h</sup>, Hilka Suominen<sup>i</sup>, Magda Tsolaki<sup>j</sup>, Bruno Vellas<sup>k</sup>, Christian Spenger<sup>l</sup> and Simon Lovestone<sup>a,\*</sup>



Magnetic Resonance Imaging and Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy for Detection of Early Alzheimer's Disease

Eric Westman<sup>a,\*</sup>, Lars-Olof Wahlund<sup>a</sup>, Catherine Foy<sup>b</sup>, Michaela Poppe<sup>b</sup>, Allison Cooper<sup>c</sup>, Declan Murphy<sup>d</sup>, Christian Spenger<sup>e</sup>, Simon Lovestone<sup>b</sup> and Andrew Simmons<sup>b</sup>

# Image database

Data Coordinating Center Date: January 26, 2007

Site	DCCID	PSCID	Visit Label	DOB	EDC	Gender	Subproject	QC Status	QC Pending	Scanner	Output Type
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Save

Link to visit-level feedback

7 file(s) displayed.

Link to comments	Link to comments
Protocol	t2
Coordinate Space	native
Classification Algorithm	
Selected	T2
QC Status	Pass

385 AddNeuroMed

- 0, 3, 12m

821 ADNI 1

- 0, 6, 12, 18, 24, 36, 48m

288 AIBL

- 0, 18, 36, 54m

200 London cohort

- 0, 12, 24, 36m

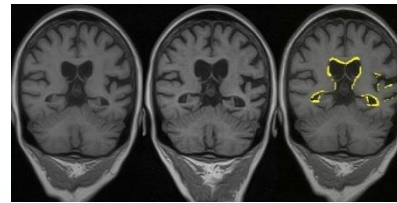
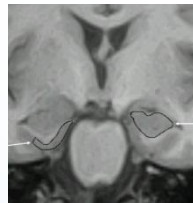
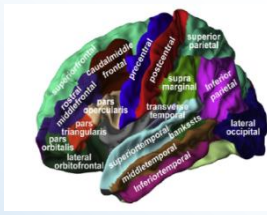
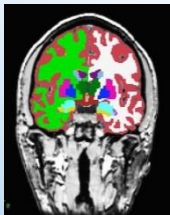
500 Memory clinic

- 0m

2000 Young controls

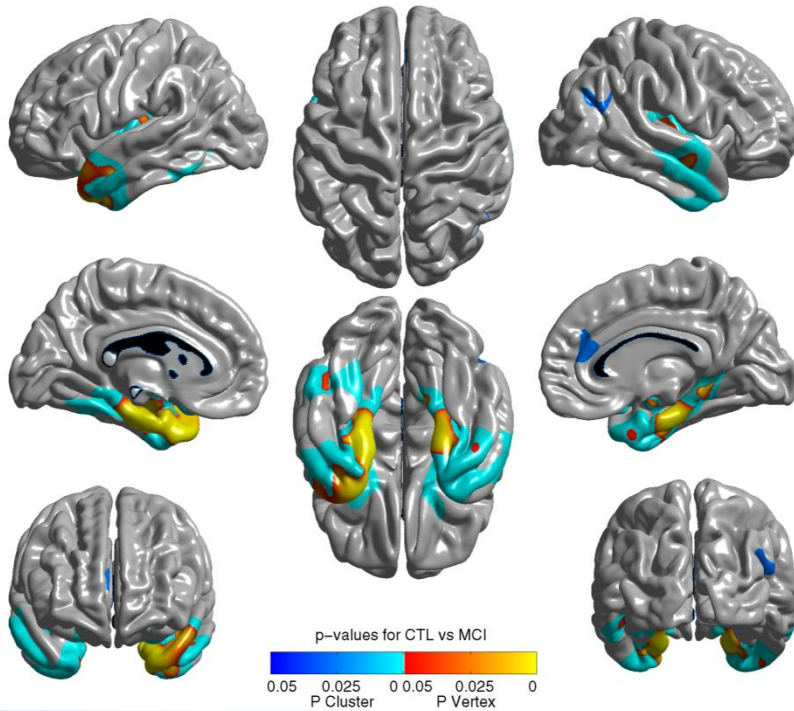
- 0m, 48m

**Total – 4,000**

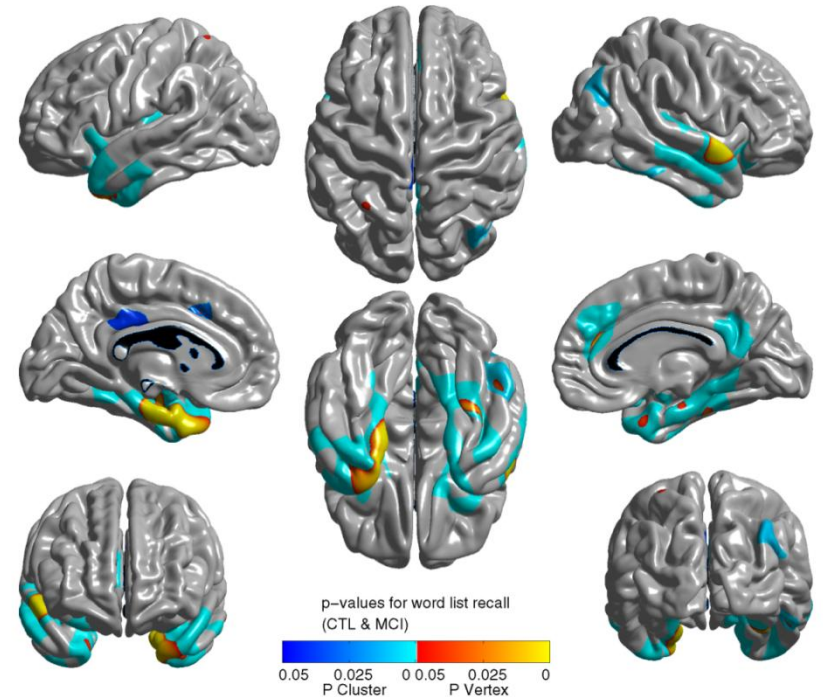


# Neuroimaging and Neuropsych

Paajanen et al, submitted



CTI v MCI cortical thickness differences



Correlation of word list recall with cortical thickness in CTL+MCI group

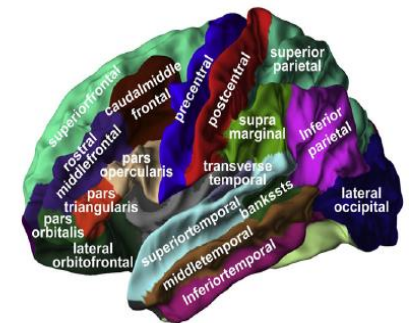
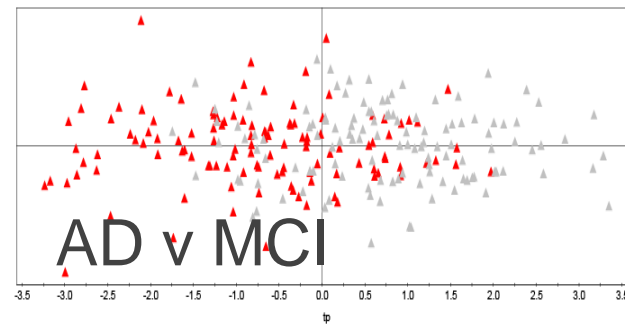
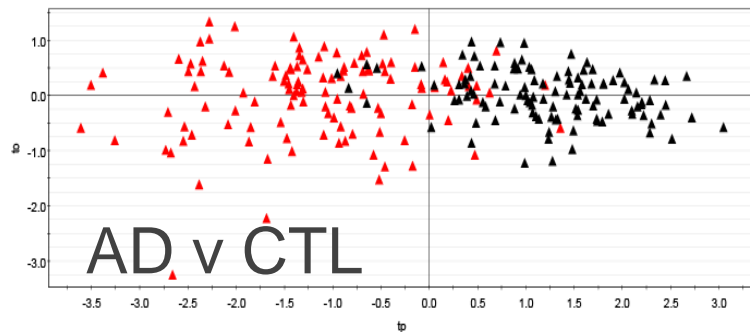
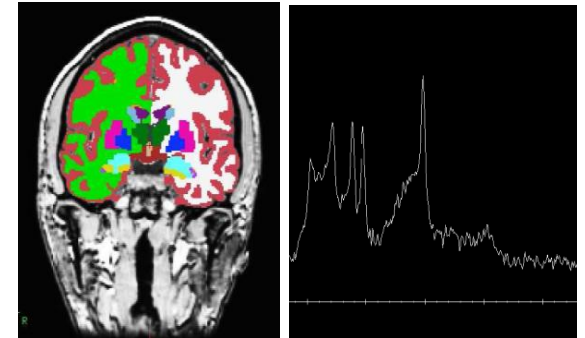
# Multivariate Analysis

Orthogonal partial least squares (OPLS)

Regional cortical thickness measures

Regional MRI volumes

Total of 75 MRI measures





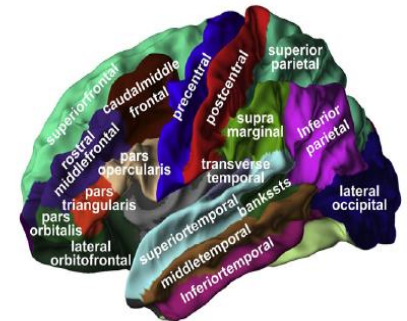
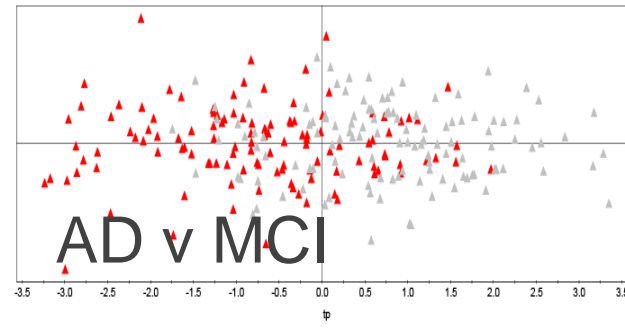
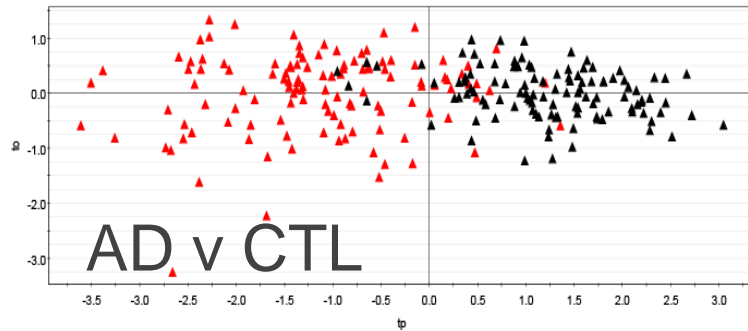
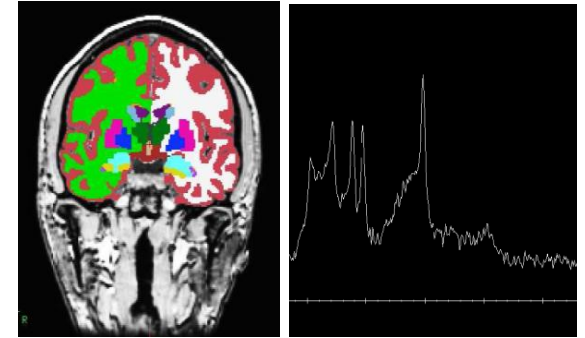
# Multivariate Analysis

Orthogonal partial least squares (OPLS)

Regional cortical thickness measures

Regional MRI volumes

Total of 75 MRI measures



Multivariate analysis of MRI data for Alzheimer's disease, mild cognitive impairment and healthy controls

Eric Westman<sup>a,\*</sup>, Andrew Simmons<sup>b,c</sup>, Yi Zhang<sup>a</sup>, Sebastian Maublitzeck<sup>d</sup>, Catherine Tamstad<sup>e</sup>, Yawu Liu<sup>f</sup>, Louis Collins<sup>g</sup>, Alan Evans<sup>h</sup>, Patrizia Mecocci<sup>i</sup>, Bruno Velas<sup>j</sup>, Magda Tsolaki<sup>k</sup>, Iwona Kloszewska<sup>l</sup>, Hilkka Soininen<sup>m</sup>, Simon Lovestone<sup>n</sup>, Christian Spenger<sup>o</sup>, Lars-Olof Wahlund<sup>a</sup> for the ADNeuroMed consortium

Combining MRI and MRS to Distinguish Between Alzheimer's Disease and Healthy Controls

Eric Westman<sup>a,\*</sup>, Lars-Olof Wahlund<sup>a</sup>, Catherine Foy<sup>b</sup>, Michaela Poppe<sup>b</sup>, Allison Cooper<sup>b</sup>, Declan Murphy<sup>b</sup>, Christian Spenger<sup>c</sup>, Simon Lovestone<sup>b</sup> and Andrew Simmons<sup>b,c</sup>

**Table 1**  
Subject characteristics by diagnosis

	<b>CTL (n: 86)</b>	<b>MCI (n: 86)</b>	<b>AD (n: 81)</b>
Age, y	74.4±5.5	74.6±5.2	75.1±5.7
Gender, % female <sup>a</sup>	55%	52%	74%
Education, y	10.5±4.8	8.5±4.3 <sup>††</sup>	7.6±3.7 <sup>*</sup>
Any APOE-ε4 allele, % <sup>a</sup>	28%	35%	57%
MMSE score	29.1±1.2	27.1±1.6 <sup>†</sup>	21.0±4.7 <sup>* §</sup>
Serum albumin, g/dl	4.3±0.4	4.4±0.4	4.3±0.4
Serum total cholesterol, <u>mmol/L</u>	5.2±1.1	5.3±1.1	5.4±1.1

If not otherwise specified, data are presented as mean ± standard deviation (SD).

AD: Alzheimer's disease, MCI: Mild Cognitive Impairment, CTL: healthy control, MMSE = Mini Mental State Examination.

AD vs CTL: <sup>\*</sup>p<.001; AD vs MCI: <sup>§</sup>p<.001 ; MCI vs CTL: <sup>†</sup>p<.001; <sup>††</sup> p<0.05

<sup>a</sup> Pearson Chi-Square: p<0.05

□

**Table 3** Subjects vitamin E plasma levels (absolute values) by diagnosis

<b>Vitamin E plasma levels #</b>	<b>CN (n: 187)</b>	<b>MCI (n: 166)</b>	<b>AD (n: 168)</b>
α-tocopherol	33.21 (5.15)	30.24 (3.33) <sup>†</sup>	28.18 (2.42)* <sup>§</sup>
β-tocopherol	2.46 (0.44)	2.18 (0.24) <sup>†</sup>	2.33 (0.25)** <sup>§</sup>
γ-tocopherol	2.30 (0.26)	1.92 (0.19) <sup>†</sup>	1.80 (0.16)* <sup>§</sup>
δ-tocopherol	0.29 (0.02)	0.26 (0.02) <sup>†</sup>	0.27 (0.02)* <sup>§</sup>
α-tocotrienol	349.0 (68.5)	278.9 (27.6) <sup>†</sup>	276.1 (26.0)*
β-tocotrienol	143.7 (18.6)	141.0 (11.1)	131.1 (10.0)* <sup>§</sup>
γ-tocotrienol	83.63 (12.80)	65.87 (10.17) <sup>†</sup>	48.15 (7.40)* <sup>§</sup>
δ-tocotrienol	12.33 (4.27)	11.0 (4.34) <sup>††</sup>	9.00 (3.23)* <sup>§</sup>
Total tocopherols	38.26 (5.50)	34.61 (3.63) <sup>†</sup>	32.58 (2.70)* <sup>§</sup>
Total tocotrienols	588.7 (74.7)	496.8 (37.6) <sup>†</sup>	464.3 (31.2)* <sup>§</sup>
Total vitamin E	38.85 (5.55)	35.10 (3.64) <sup>†</sup>	33.04 (2.71)* <sup>§</sup>

#Tocopherols and total vitamin E are expressed as μM; tocotrienols are expressed as nM

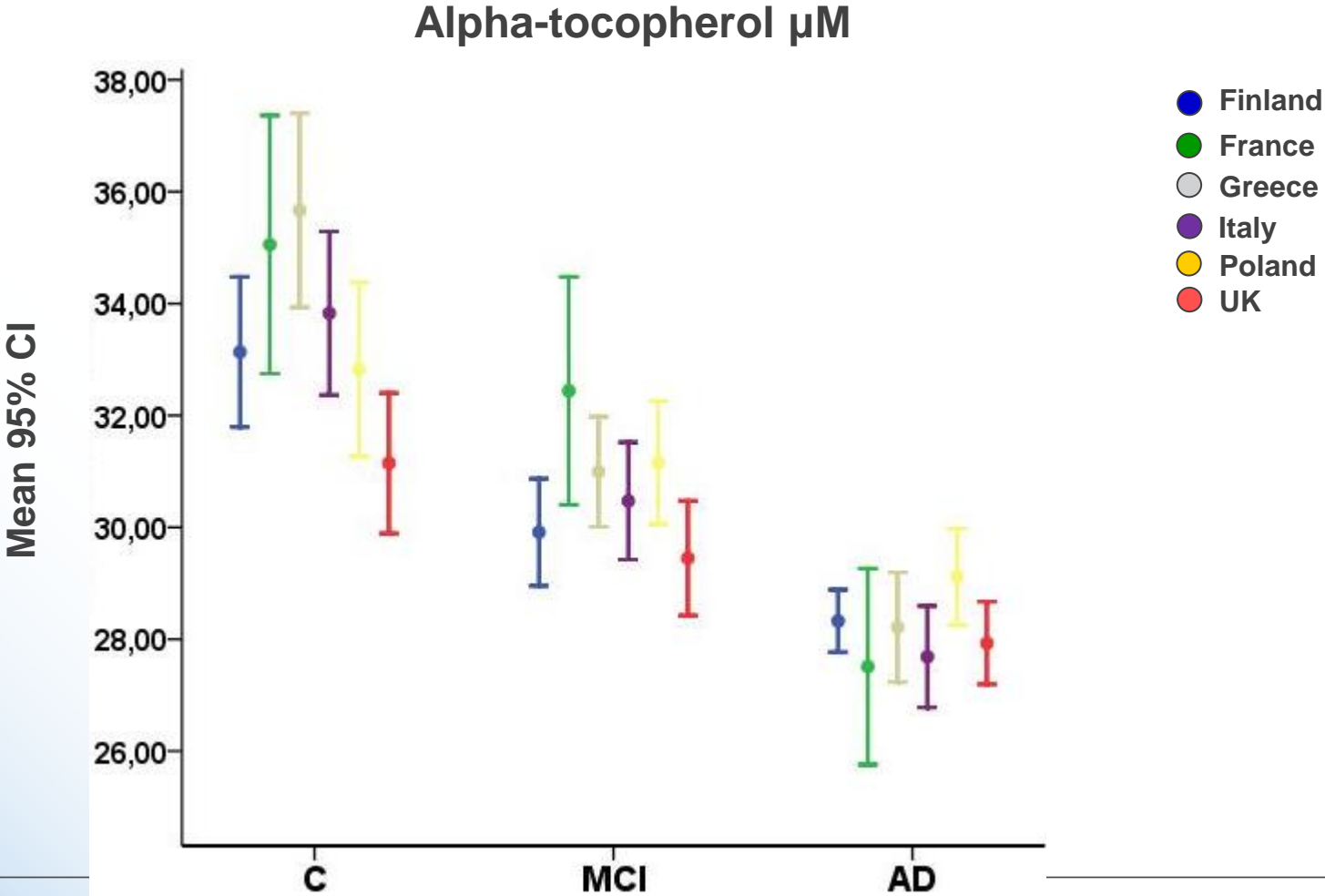
AD vs C: \*p<0.0001; \*\*p<0.01

AD vs MCI: §p<0.0001

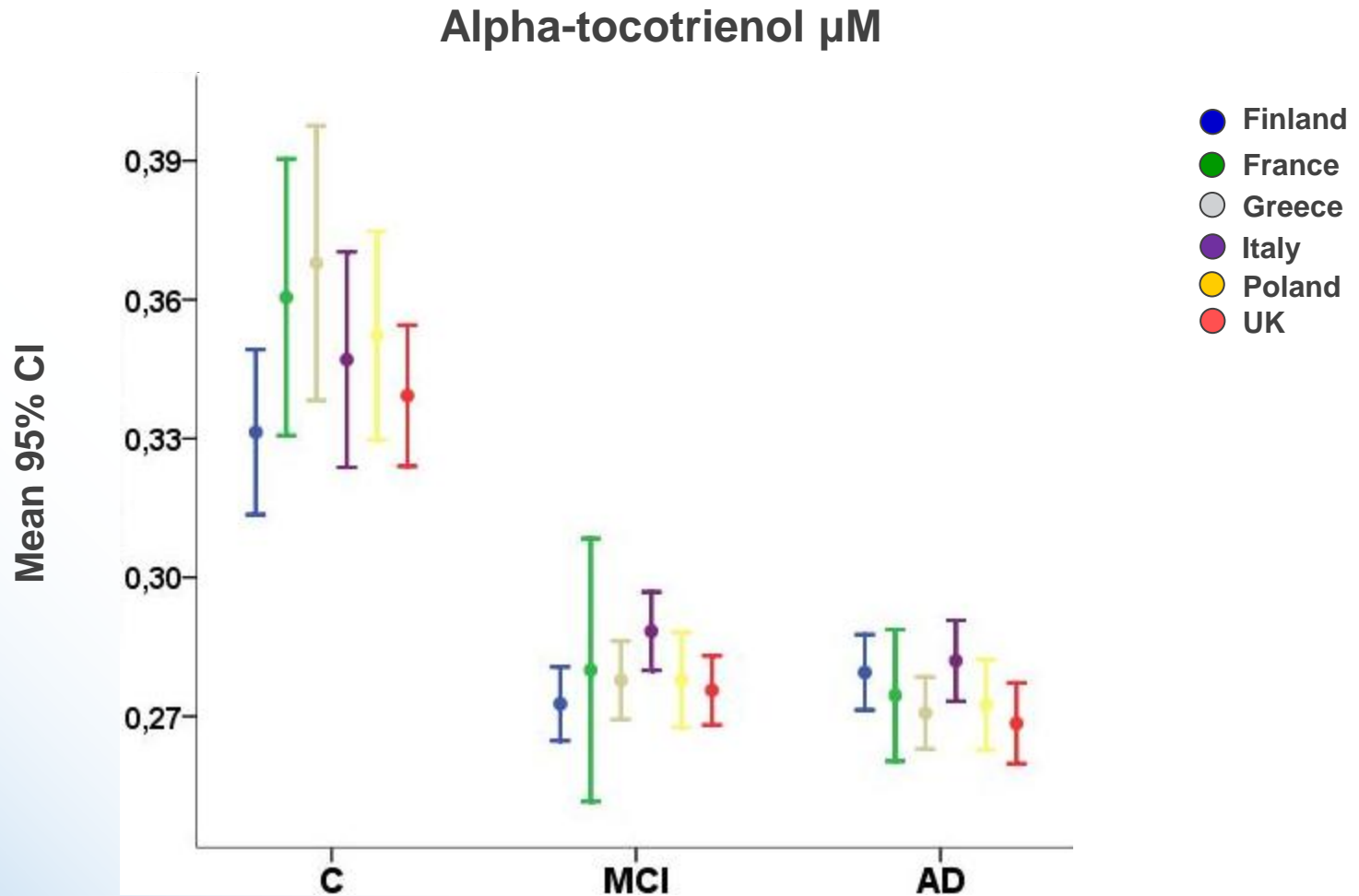
MCI vs C: †p<0.0001; †† p<0.01

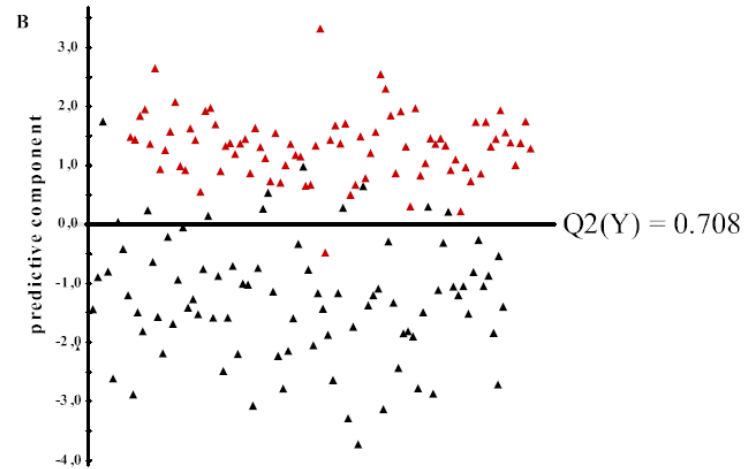
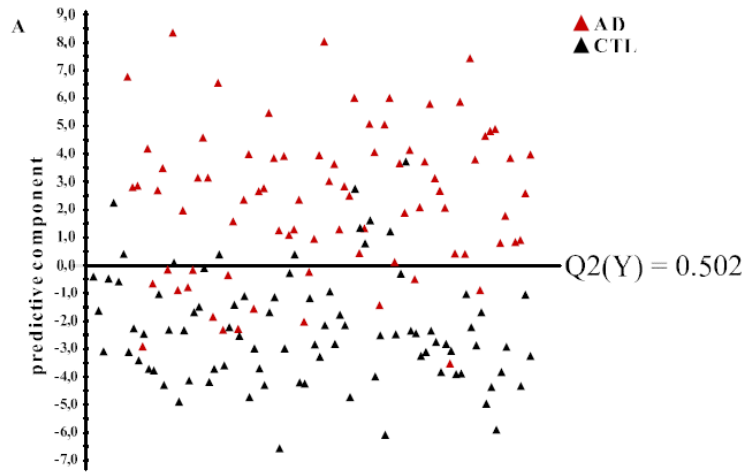


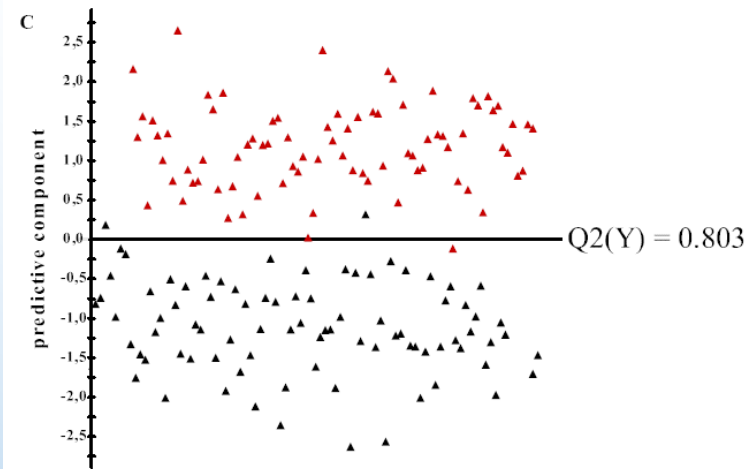
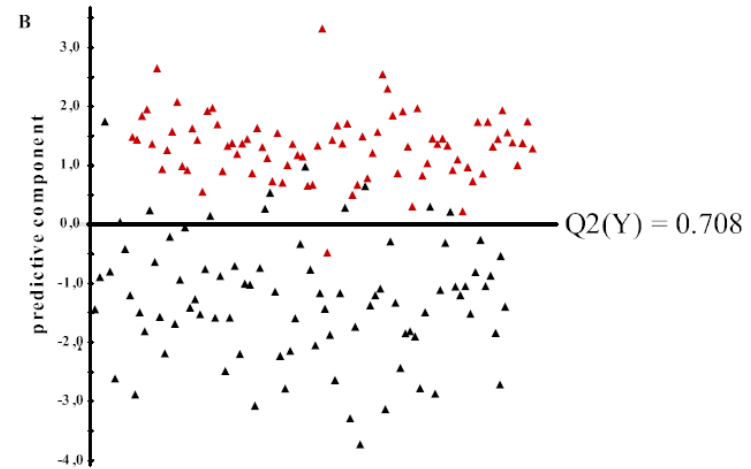
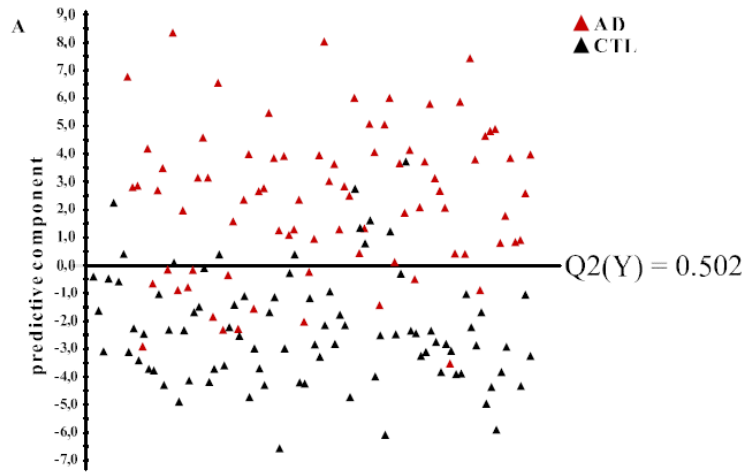
# Plasma levels of Vitamin E forms



# Plasma levels of Vitamin E forms







**Table 3**

Accuracy, sensitivity/specificity and likelihood ratio for the different models

	Accuracy	Sensitivity	Specificity	LR+	LR-
<b>CTL vs. AD</b>					
Neuroimaging	83.2 (76.8-88.1)	79.0 (69.9-86.5)	87.2 (78.5-92.7)	6.2 (3.5-10.8)	0.24 (0.16-0.37)
Vitamin E	92.8 (87.9-95.8)	98.8 (93.3-99.8)	87.2 (78.5-92.7)	7.7 (4.4-13.4)	0.01 (0.00-0.10)
Combined	98.2 (94.8-99.4)	98.8 (93.3-99.8)	97.7 (91.9-99.4)	42.5 (10.8-167)	0.01 (0.00-0.09)

**85% of MCI converters predicted as AD like**

# Publications

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- Y Liu, V Julkunen, T Paajanen, E Westman, L-O Wahlund, A Aitken, T Sobow, P Mecocci, M Tsolaki, B Vellas, S Muehlboeck, C Spenger, S Lovestone, A Simmons, H Soininen for the AddNeuroMed Consortium, Education increases brain reserve in AD, MCI, and healthy controls – evidence from regional cortical thickness and volume measures, *Neuroradiology*, in press
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