

# Adapting a Neurocognitive Clinic in the Era of Anti-Amyloid Therapy

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*The Good, The Bad, and Ugly Uncertainty*

James F. Rini MD. MPH.  
Senior Physician, Section Head  
Ochsner Neurocognitive Program

# Presenter Disclosure

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- I have no current or past relationships with commercial entities.
- Potential for conflict(s) of interest: None

# Commercial Support Disclosure

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- To the presenter knowledge, this program has received no financial or in-kind support from any commercial or other organization.
- Potential for conflict(s) of interest: None

# A Paradigm Shift

- **Historically Behavioral/Cognitive Neurology was the quintessential armchair discipline**
  - Clinic-based, episodic evaluation, and limited therapeutic consequence
- Between 2022-2026 the subspecialty has become
  - **Data-driven**
  - **Operational**
  - **Interventional**
  - **Continuous**
- **What changed**
  - Biology is directly measurable
  - Disease-modifying therapies
  - Time-sensitive clinical decisions

**Patients expect and demand—active intervention**



# Open Frontier of Neurology

- **Ochsner Neurocognitive Program 2022-2026**

- Regional Neurocognitive Center of Louisiana
- Neurocognitive **Hub for the Gulf South**
  - 2 Behavioral Neurologists
  - 1 Vascular Cognitive Neurologist
  - 5 Advanced practice providers
- Comparable in size to UAB/Emory **but**
  - Longitudinal care model
  - Advanced Therapeutic Access
  - Multidisciplinary network of providers

- **Today we share our experience...**

- What we expected
- What we observed
- What it cost us to see it



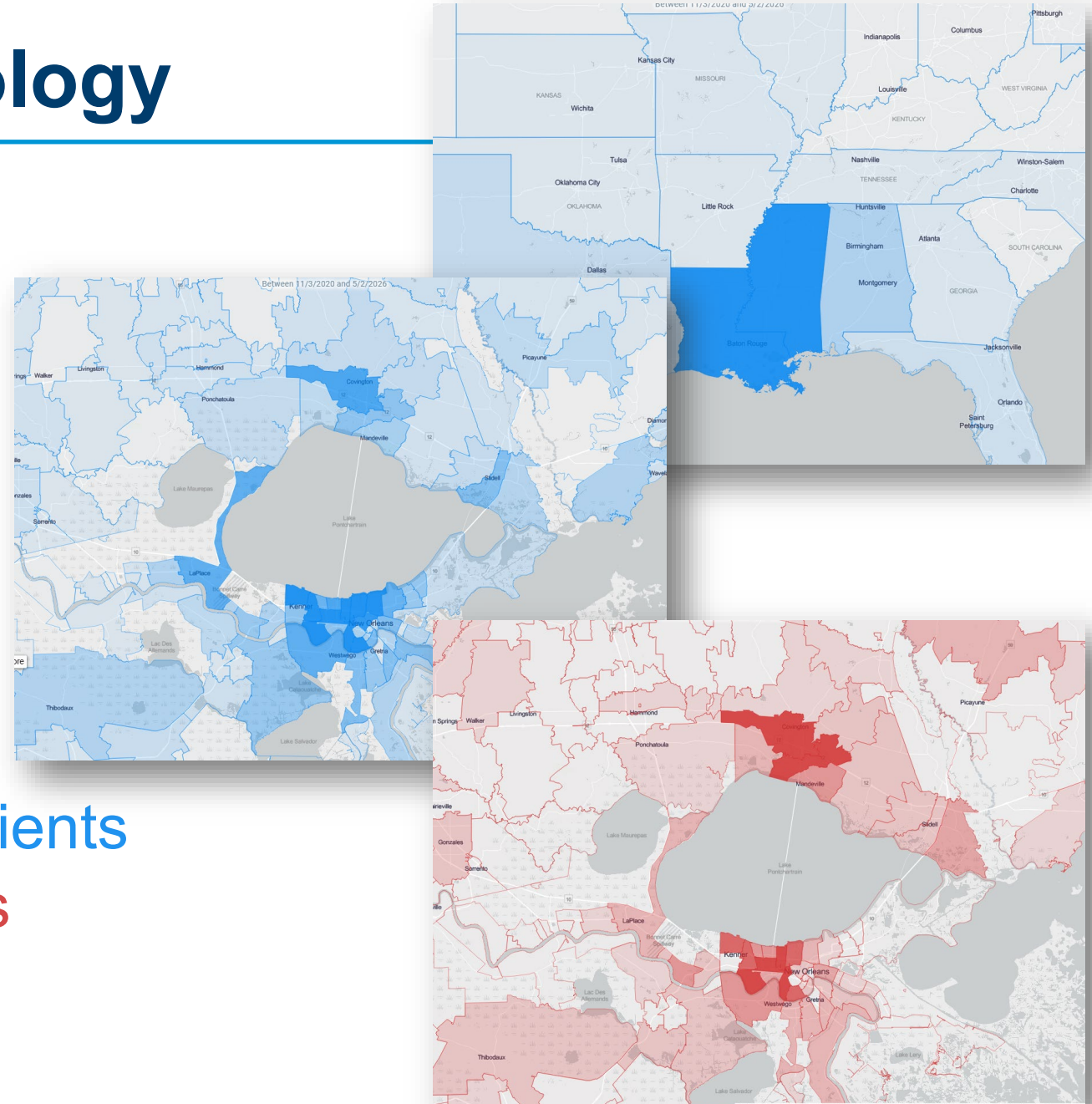
# Open Frontier of Neurology

- **Catchment Expansion**

- Geographic spread ↑
  - 15 States
- Referral density ↑
  - #1 Referral center in LA for neurocognitive disorders

- **Clinic Population Growth**

- Unique patients ↑ >2500 patients
- AAT patients ↑ >250 patients
  - Monitoring volume ↑
  - Biomarker tracking ↑



★ THE GOOD

★ THE BAD

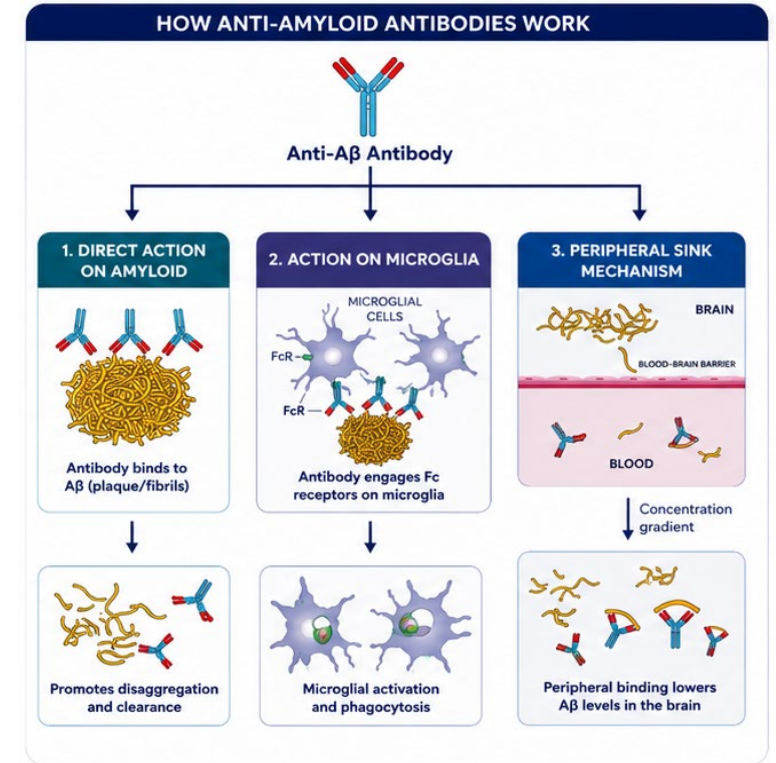
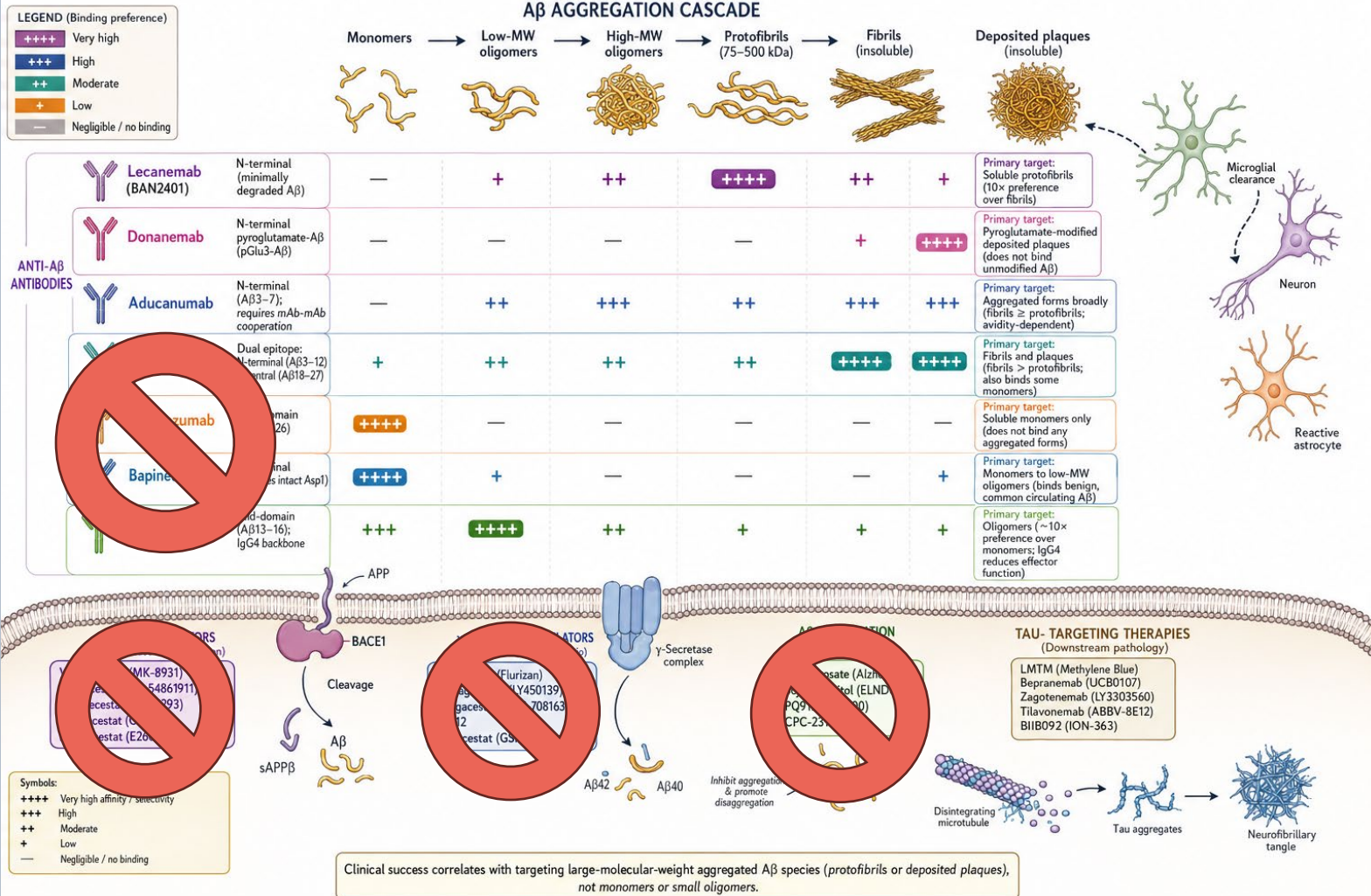
★ THE UNCERTAIN

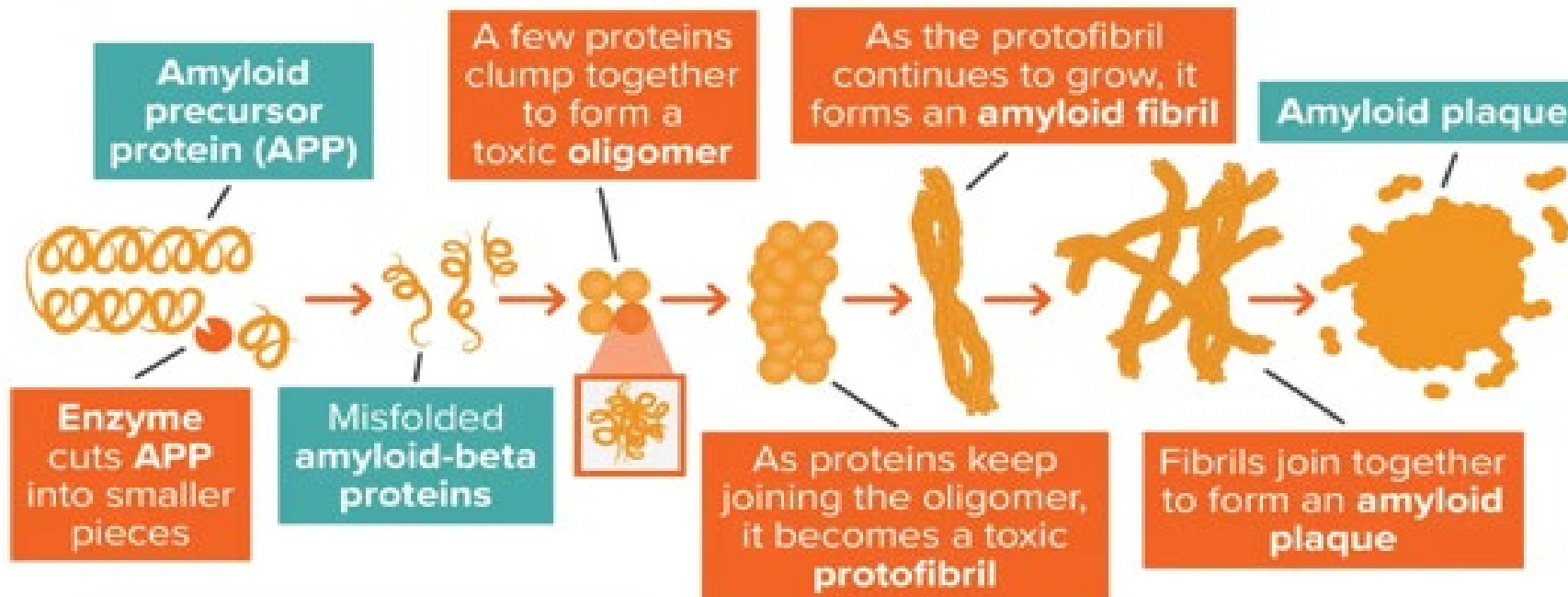
# ANTI-AMYLOID THERAPY

★ TRANSITION INTO THE CLINIC ★

★ LITERATURE AND CLINICAL DATA ★

# What is Anti-Amyloid Therapy





### Aducanumab

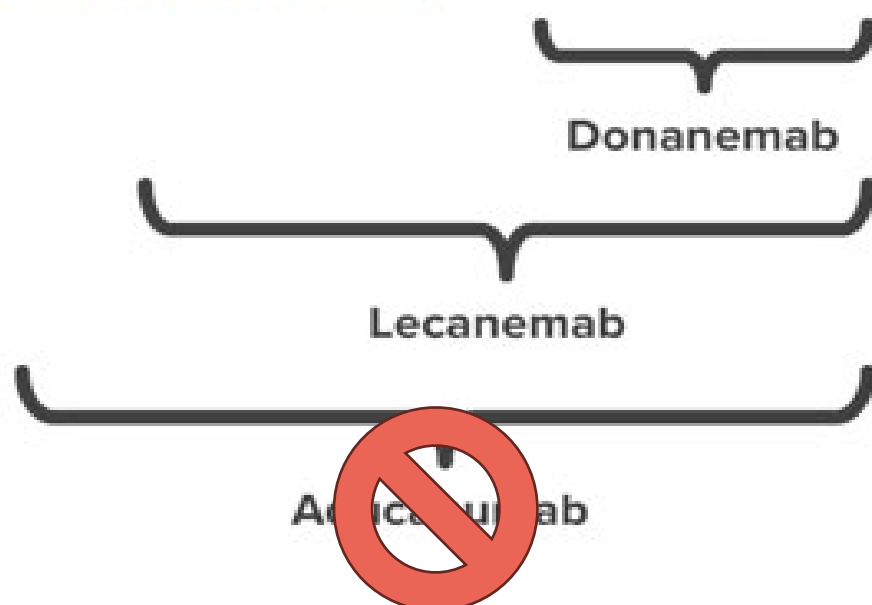
- Published 2016
- FDA approval 2021
- CMS coverage 2022
  - **Restricted**
- Withdrawn 2024

### Lecanemab:

- Published 2022
- FDA/CMS approval 2023

### Donanemab:

- Published 2023
- FDA/CMS approval 2024



**JAMA | Original Investigation**  
**Donanemab in Early Symptomatic Alzheimer Disease**  
 The TRAILBLAZER-ALZ 2 Randomized Clinical Trial

John R. Sims, MD, Jennifer A. Zimmer, MD, Cynthia D. Evans, PhD, Ming Lu, MD, MS, MPH, Paul Ardayfio, PhD, JonDavid Sparks, PhD, Alette M. Wessels, PhD, Sergey Shcherbinin, PhD, Hong Wang, PhD, Emel Serap Monkul Nery, MD, Emily C. Collins, PhD, Paul Solomon, PhD, Stephen Salloway, MD, Liana G. Apostolova, MD, Oskar Hansson, MD, PhD, Craig Ritchie, MD, PhD, Dawn A. Brooks, PhD, Mark Mintun, MD, Daniel M. Skovronsky, MD, PhD, for the TRAILBLAZER-ALZ 2 Investigators

**The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE**  
 ESTABLISHED IN 1812 JANUARY 5, 2023 VOL. 388 NO. 1

**Lecanemab in Early Alzheimer's Disease**

C.H. van Dyck, C.J. Swanson, P. Aisen, R.J. Bateman, C. Chen, M. Gee, M. Kanekiyo, D. Li, L. Reyderman, S. Cohen, L. Froelich, S. Katayama, M. Sabbagh, B. Vellas, D. Watson, S. Dhadha, M. Irizarry, L.D. Kramer, and T. Iwatsubo

**Original Research**  
 J Prev Alz Dis. 2022;9(1):197-210  
 Published online March 18, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1423/jpad.2022.30>

**Two Randomized Phase 3 Studies of Aducanumab in Early Alzheimer's Disease**

S. Budd Haeberlein<sup>1</sup>, P.S. Aisen<sup>2</sup>, F. Barkhof<sup>3</sup>, S. Chalkias<sup>4</sup>, T. Chen<sup>5</sup>, S. Cohen<sup>6</sup>, G. Deng<sup>7</sup>, O. Hansson<sup>8</sup>, K. Harrison<sup>9</sup>, C. von Hahn<sup>10</sup>, T. Iwatsubo<sup>11</sup>, C. Mallinckrodt<sup>12</sup>, C.J. Mumme<sup>13</sup>, K.K. Muralidharan<sup>14</sup>, L. Nestora<sup>15</sup>, L. Nisenbaum<sup>16</sup>, R. Rajagovindan<sup>17</sup>, L. Skordos<sup>18</sup>, Y. Tian<sup>19</sup>, C.H. van Dyck<sup>20</sup>, B. Vellas<sup>21</sup>, S. Wu<sup>22</sup>, Y. Zhu<sup>23</sup>, A. Sandrock<sup>24</sup>



# What the Trials Actually Showed



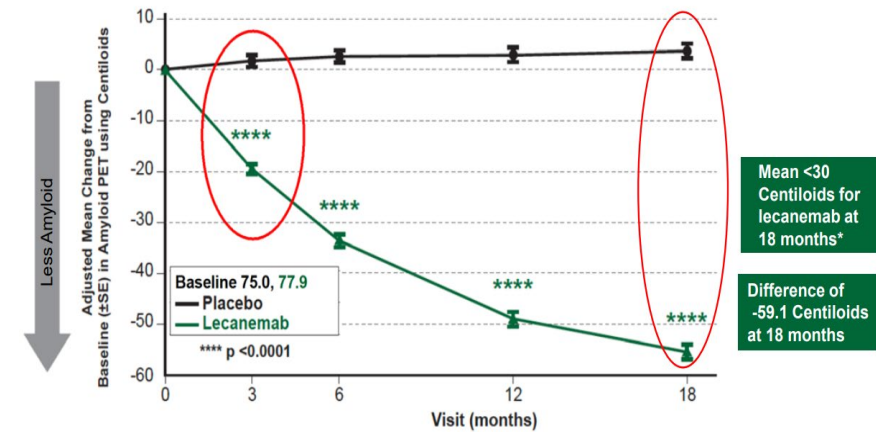
## Relevant End Points

1. Amyloid Reduction
2. Tau Reduction
3. Clinical Decline Slowing
4. Safety

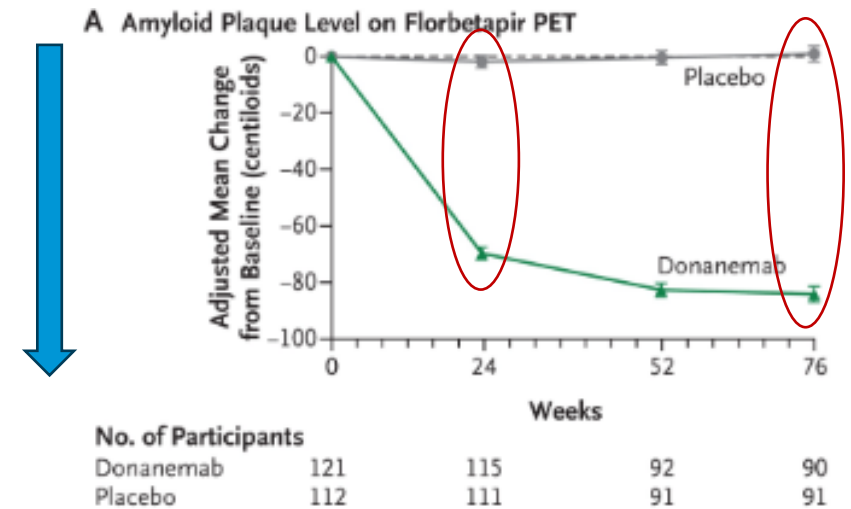
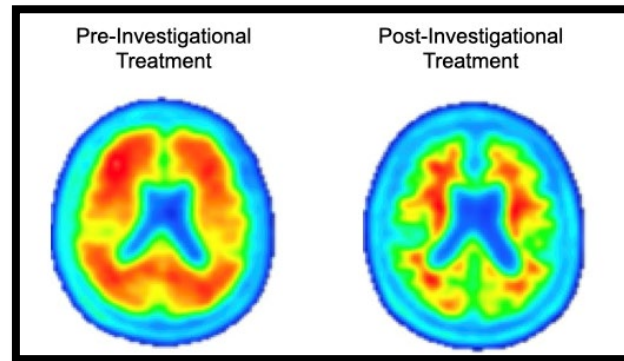
<u>Parameter</u>	<u>CLARITY AD (Lecanemab)</u>	<u>TRAILBLAZER-ALZ 2 (Donanemab)</u>
Trial Phase	Phase 3	Phase 3
N (total)	1,795	1,736
MMSE Eligibility Range	22–30	20–28
Mean MMSE — Treatment Arm	25.5 ± 2.2	22.52 ± 3.84 (combined tau)
Mean MMSE — Placebo Arm	25.6 ± 2.2	22.20 ± 3.90 (combined tau)
Mean MMSE — Low/Med Tau (Treatment)	N/A (no tau stratification)	23.11 ± 3.64
Mean MMSE — Low/Med Tau (Placebo)	N/A (no tau stratification)	22.88 ± 3.74
Classification Method	CDR-Global (0.5 vs 1.0)	MMSE score bands
MCI (%)	61.5% (CDR 0.5)	~17% (MMSE ≥27)
Mild AD (%)	38.5% (CDR 1.0)	~83% (MMSE 20–26)
Baseline SD Spread	Narrow (±2.2)	Wide (±3.8–3.9)
Population Severity	<b>Less impaired</b>	<b>More impaired</b>

# What the Trials Actually Showed: Amyloid

- **Lecanemab (CLARITY AD, N = 1,795):**
  - Approx 59.1 centiloid reduction at 18m
    - 68% amyloid-negative status (<30 centiloids)
- **Donanemab (TRAILBLAZER-ALZ 2, N = 1,736):**
  - Approx. 88 centiloid reduction at 19m
    - 80% amyloid-negative status (<25 centiloids)



After 18 months of anti-amyloid infusions



# Real-World Clinic Data: Amyloid

- **Expected Effect (Confirmed)**

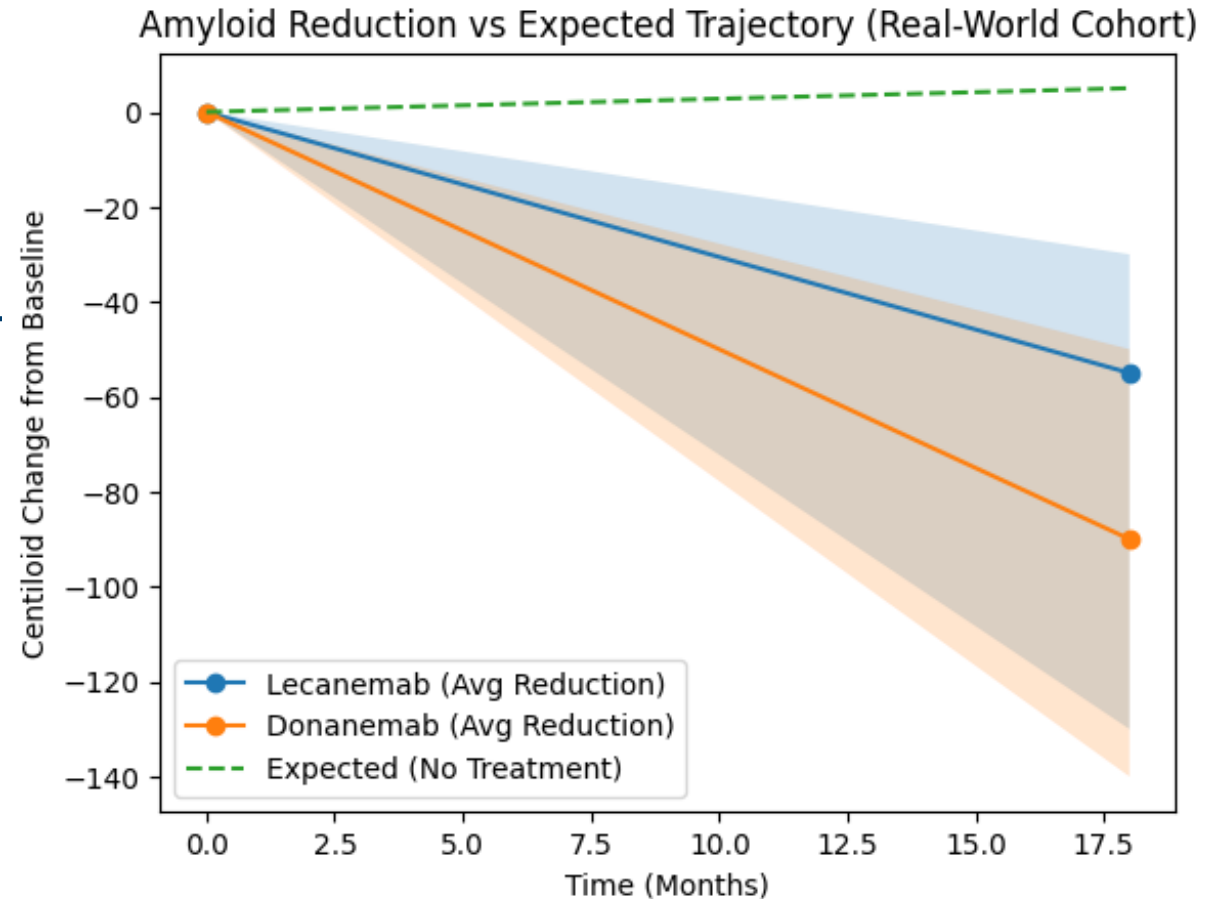
- Lecanemab: ~50–60 CL ↓
- Donanemab: ~80–90 CL ↓
- Subset normalize (<25 CL)

- **Observed Response Patterns**

- **Primary factor determining normalization is baseline PET**
- **Early disease (baseline <50 CL)**
  - Most robust responders
  - Frequently ↓ to negative range (≈ -10 to -20 CL)
- **High-burden patients**
  - Larger absolute reductions but remain persistently positive
  - **Poor Responders (Emerging Phenotype)**
    - Genetic carriers (PSEN1, POLG, GBA1, ETC.)

- **Augmented Responders**

- Prior exposure:
  - Clinical trials
  - Other disease-modifying therapies
- Suggests:
  - “Primed” biological system for clearance kinetics



**Amyloid clearance is consistent— but response is biologically stratified**

# What the Trials Actually Showed: Tau

- **Donanemab**

- **Tau PET:**

- Phase 2 trial: 34% slowing of tau **BUT** Region-dependent:
  - **Significant slowing:** Parietal and frontal
  - **Not significant:** Global, Temporal inferior

- Phase 3 trial: **not significant**

- **Plasma p-tau217:**

- **23% reduction** ( $P < 0.001$ )
  - Persisted up to **1 year after treatment**
  - Correlated with amyloid reduction ( $P < 0.001$ )

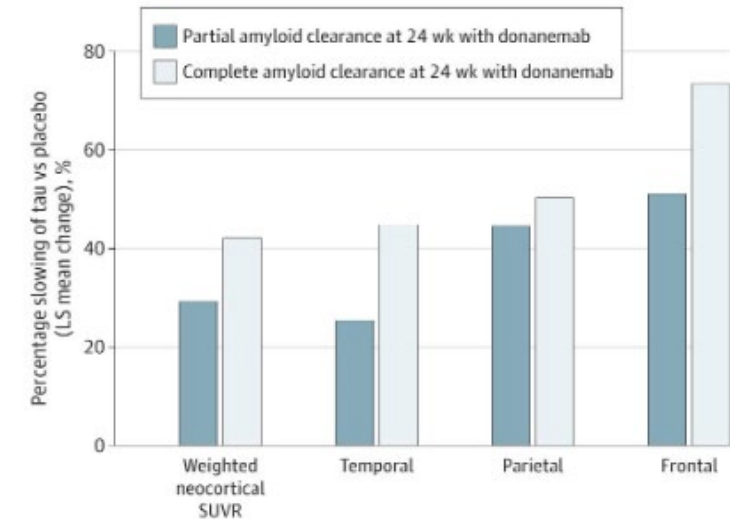
- **Lecanemab**

- **Tau PET:**

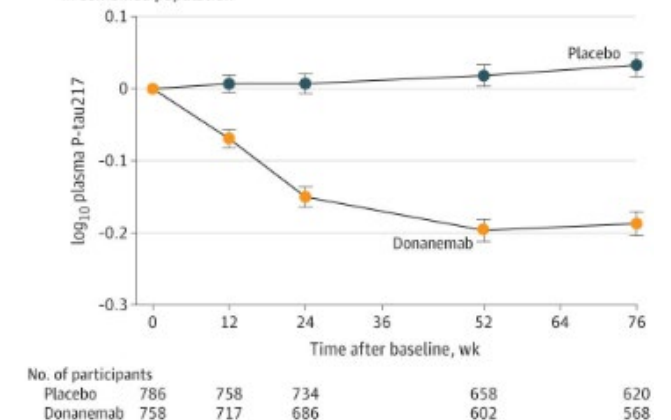
- **Significant slowing:** medial temporal ( $P < 0.01$ ), temporal ( $P < 0.05$ )
- **Not significant :** Global, frontal, cingulate, parietal, occipital

- **Plasma p-tau181** *\*\*derived estimates, not published\*\**

- Phase 2: **26% reduction** ( $P < 0.0001$ )
- Phase 3: **21% reduction** ( $P < 0.0001$ )



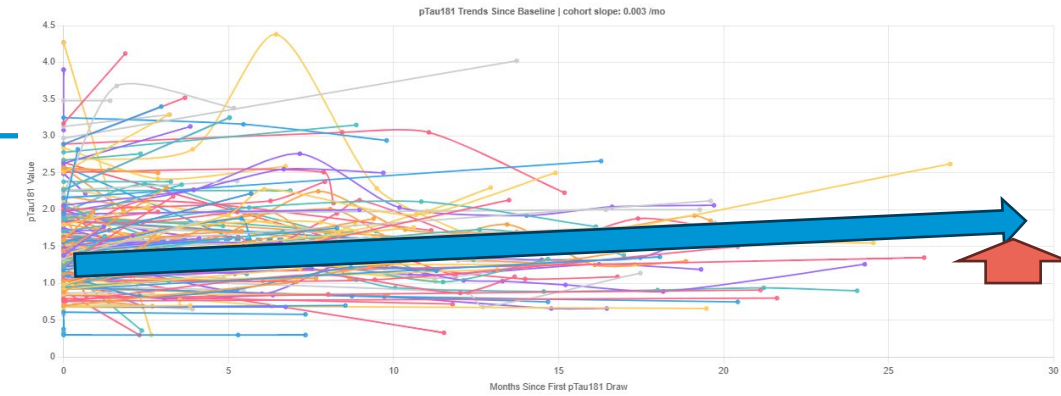
D Adjusted mean change (95% CI) of  $\log_{10}$  plasma P-tau217 in combined population



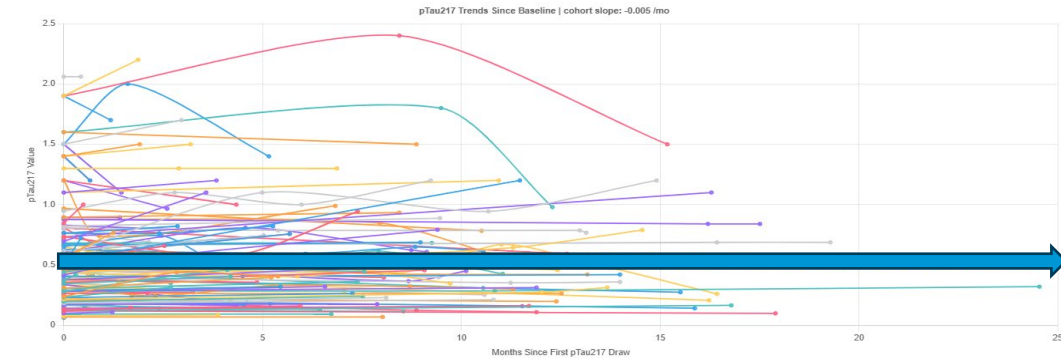
# Real-World Clinic Data: Tau

- What we have seen in our Alzheimer patients who have not been on AAT
  - Minor gradual rise of serum p-tau181
  - Largely stable serum p-tau217
  - Significant consistent rises in GFAP>Nfl
  - Not uniform: stage of disease, age, drivers, comorbidities

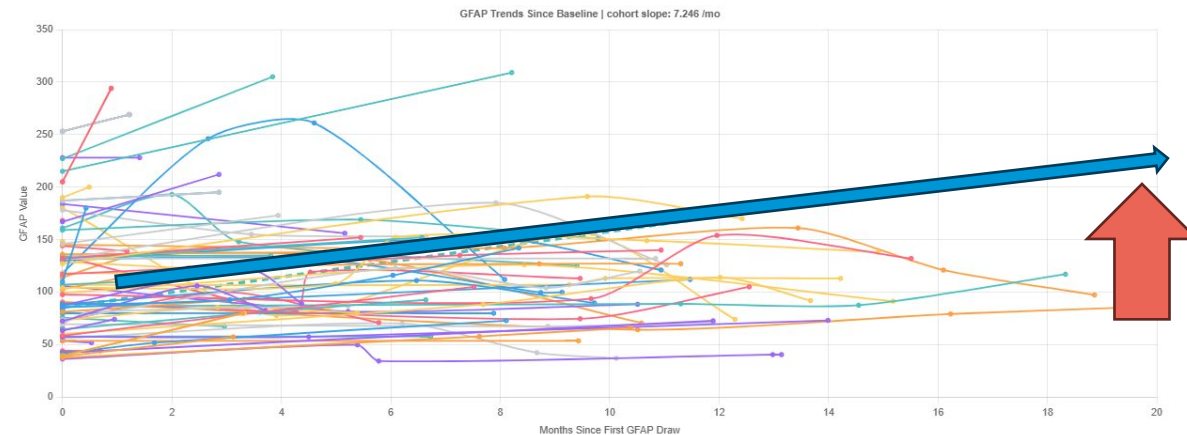
pTau181 (Test ID 61)



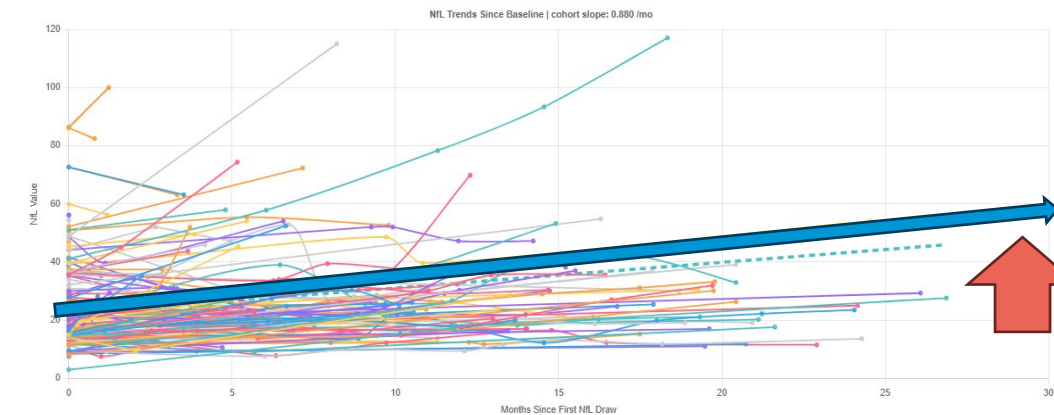
pTau217 (Test ID 205)



GFAP (Test IDs 656 / 1322)



NfL (Test ID 67)

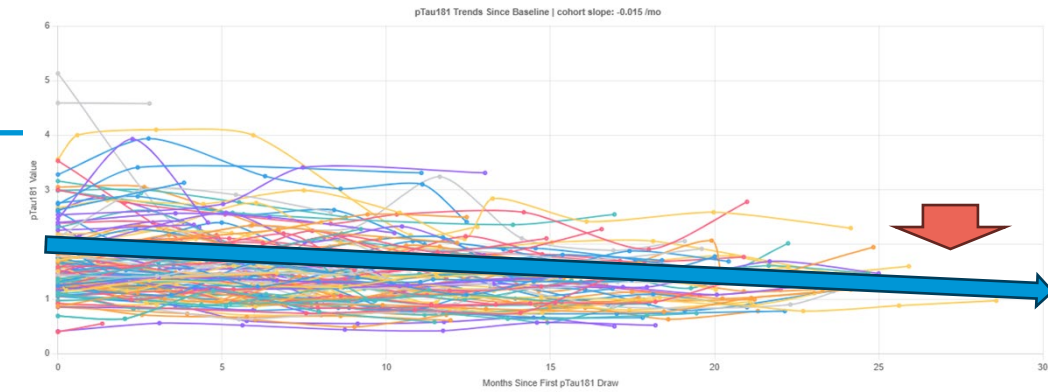


**\*\*Patient with spikes due to identifiable causes (head trauma, surgeries, infections, etc.) removed from graphs\*\***

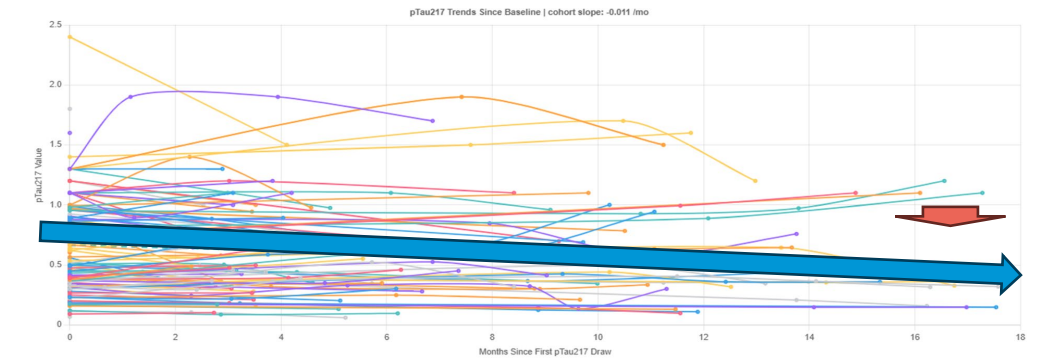
# Real-World Clinic Data: Tau

- What we have seen in our Alzheimer patients who are on AAT
  - Modest consistent decrease of serum p-tau181
  - Borderline but consistent decrease serum p-tau217
  - Expected Nfl monthly rise **slowed by 3.0x**
  - Expected GFAP monthly rise **slowed by 5.1x**
  - Not uniform: stage, age, drivers, comorbidities

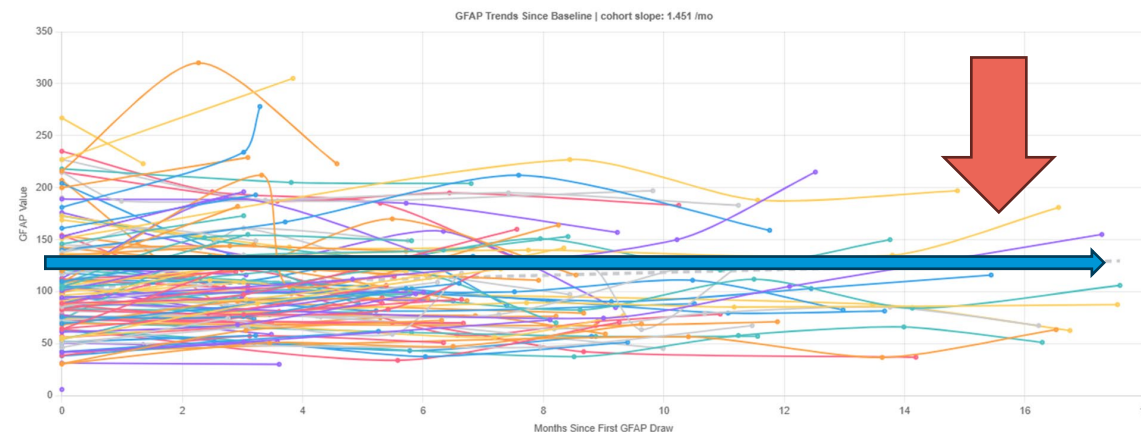
pTau181 (Test ID 61)



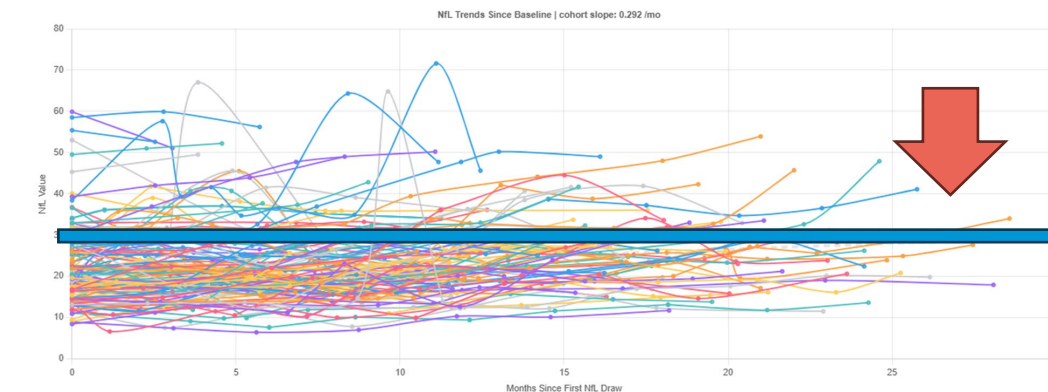
pTau217 (Test ID 205)



GFAP (Test IDs 656 / 1322)




NfL (Test ID 67)



**\*\*Patient with spikes due to identifiable causes (head trauma, surgeries, infections, etc.) removed from graphs\*\***

# What the Trials Actually Showed: Clinical

Anti-amyloid therapy slows decline — it does not reverse it.




**LECANEMAB**  
CLARITY-AD


**Primary endpoint**  
CDR-SB at 18 months

**27%**  
relative slowing  
(P = 0.001)

**ADAS-Cog14 at 18 months**  
**26%**  
relative slowing  
(P = 0.001)

**Separation from placebo**  
emerged progressively  
over 18 months

 **Demonstrated consistent but modest slowing of decline.**



**DONANEMAB**  
TRAILBLAZER-ALZ 2


**Primary endpoint**  
CDR-SB

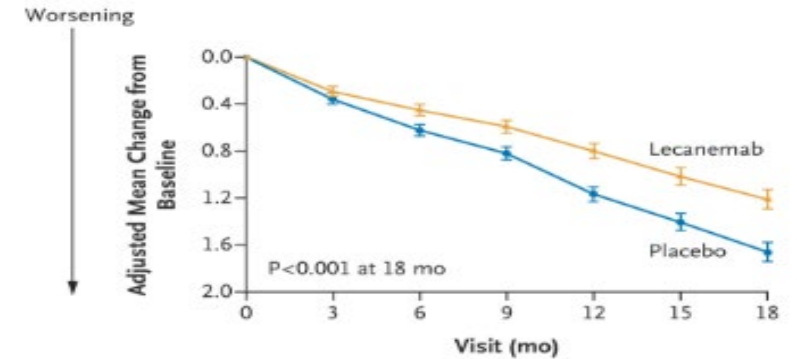
**29–36%**  
relative slowing  
(P = 0.001)

- Low/intermediate tau: **36%**
- Combined population: **29%**

**iADRS (low/intermediate tau)**  
**35%**  
relative slowing  
(P = 0.001)

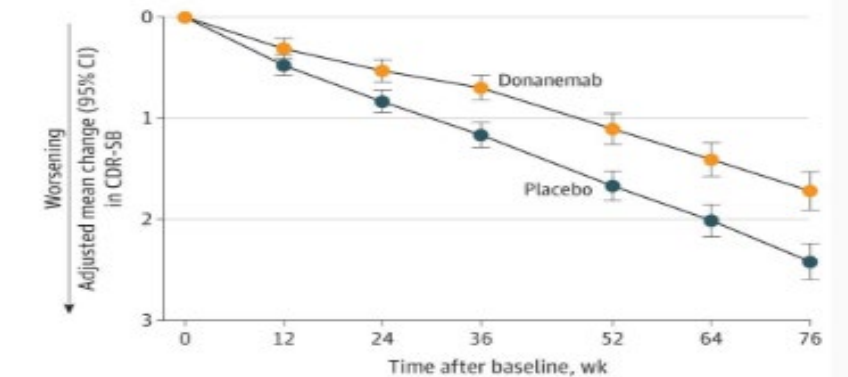
**iADRS (combined population)**  
**22%**  
relative slowing  
(P = 0.001)

 **Suggested stronger effect in selectively enriched populations.**



No. of Participants	0	3	6	9	12	15	18
Lecanemab	859	824	798	779	765	738	714
Placebo	875	849	828	813	779	767	757

**D** CDR-SB in combined population



No. of participants	0	12	24	36	52	64	76
Placebo	838	825	784	752	713	678	672
Donanemab	794	774	731	682	650	603	598

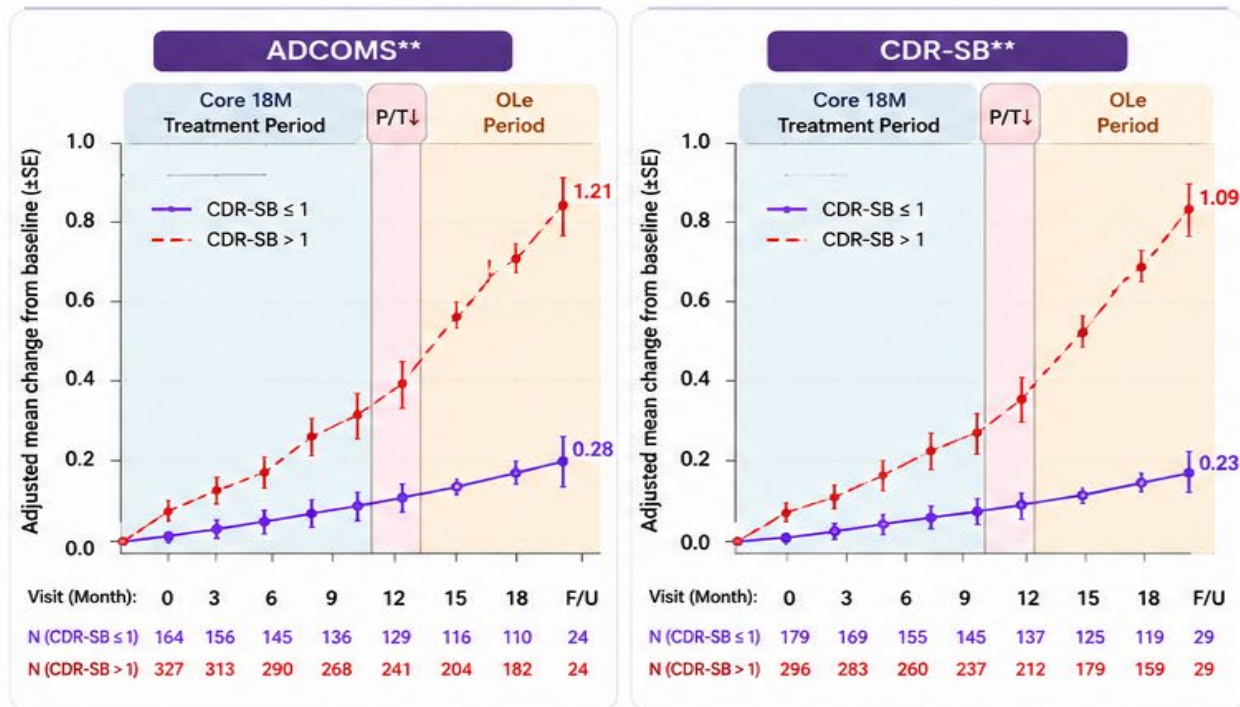
# What the Trials Actually Showed: Clinical



The dominant variable is *not* exposure to drug—**it is disease stage at the time of exposure.**

- ✓ Early treatment → alters trajectory
- ✓ Late treatment → attenuated effect
- ✓ Delayed treatment → cannot “catch up”

## LECANEMAB



## DONANEMAB

- **CDR-SB**
  - MCI: **46%**
  - Dementia: **38%**
- **iADRS:**
  - MCI: **60%**
  - Dementia: **30%**

Percent slowing vs. placebo over 76 weeks

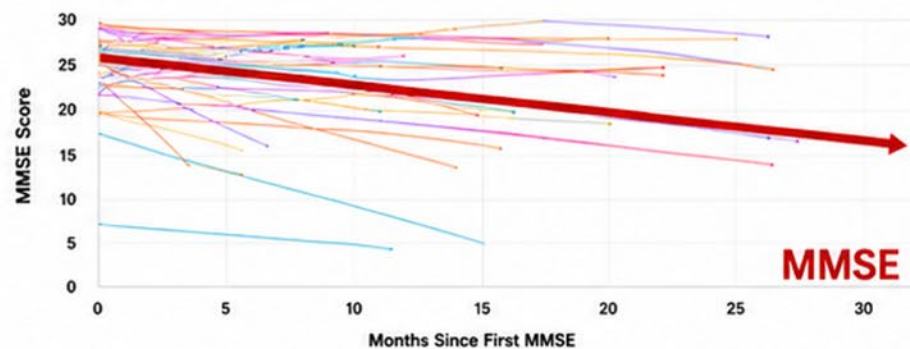


This is a strong **stage-dependent** treatment effect for both medications.

# Real-World Clinic Data: *Clinical*

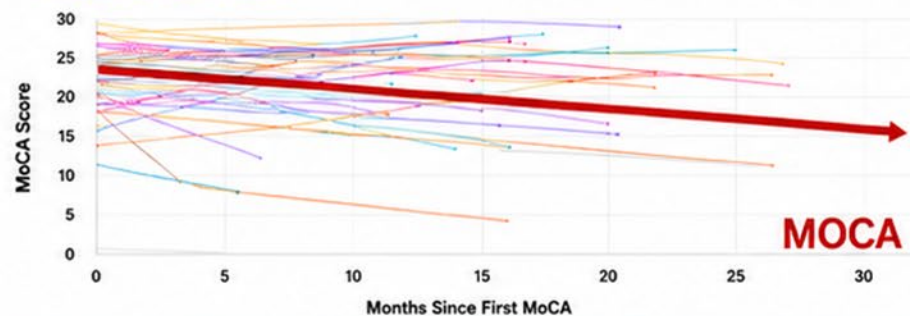
Our Alzheimer patients who are not on AAT

## MMSE Over Time



Literature: ↓ 0.14 (MCI) – 0.33 (Dementia) /monthly | Clinic: ↓ 0.202/monthly

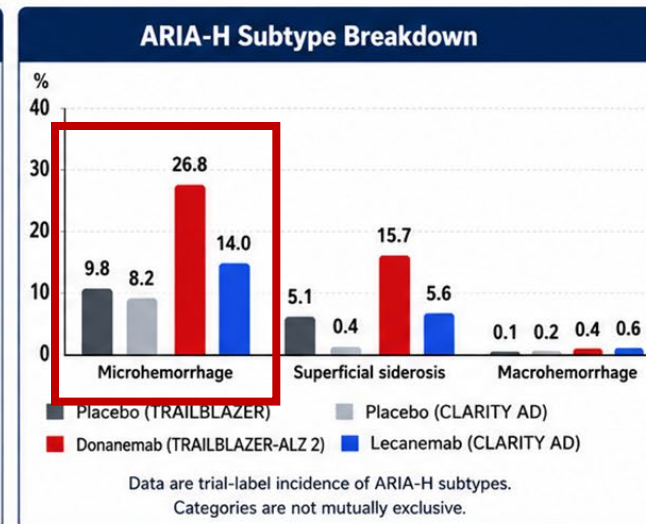
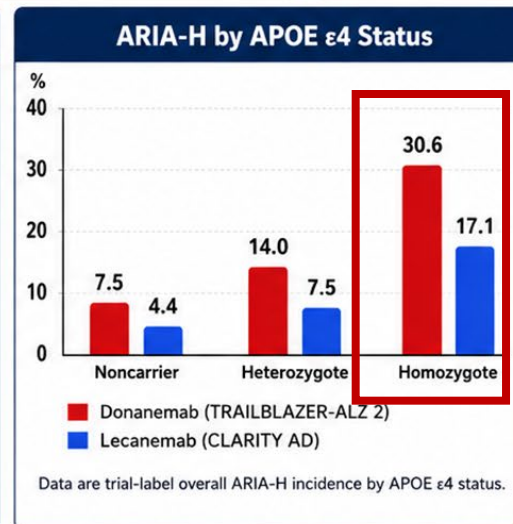
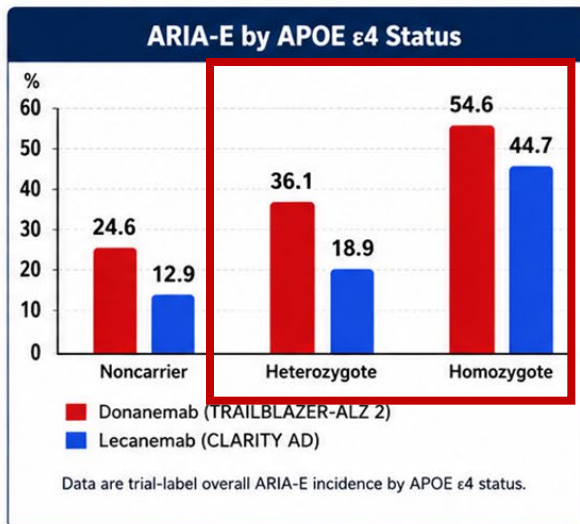
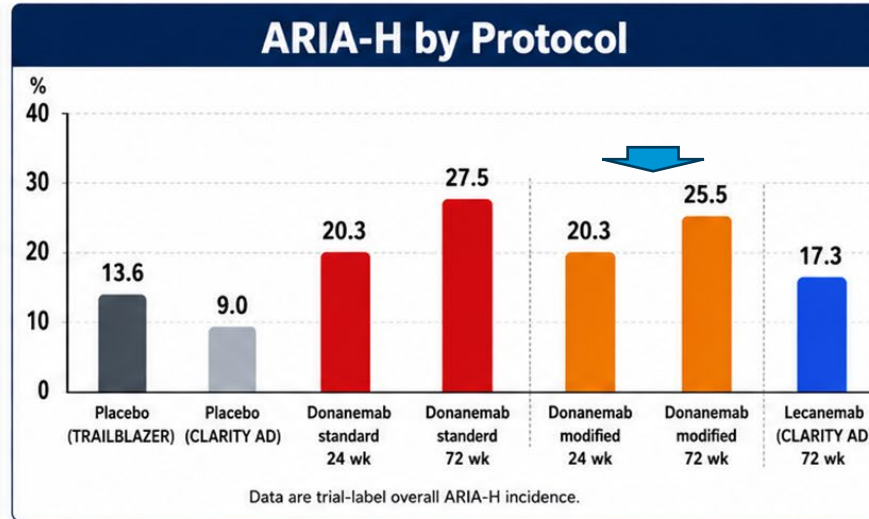
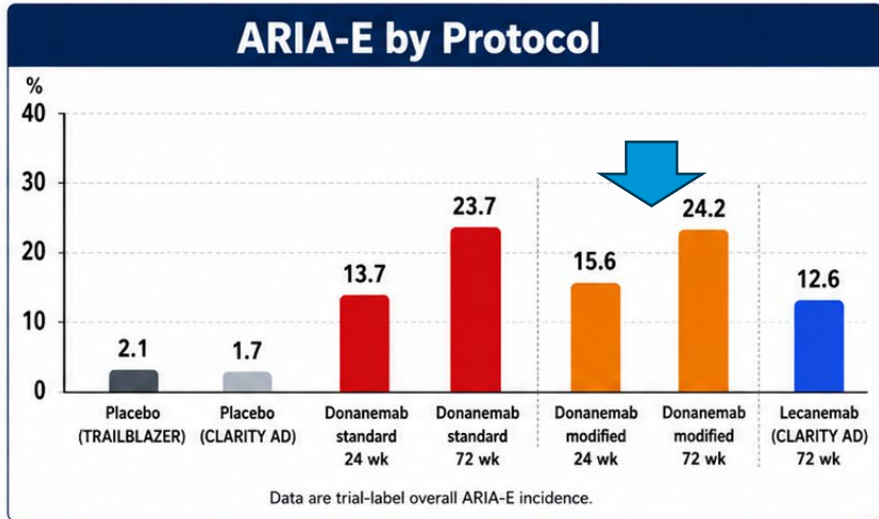
## MoCA Over Time



Literature: ↓ 0.05 (MCI) – 0.33 (Dementia) /monthly | Clinic: ↓ 0.169/monthly

# What the Trials Actually Showed: Safety

● Placebo — TRAILBLAZER    ● Placebo — CLARITY AD    ● Donanemab standard    ● Donanemab modified    ● Lecanemab



- Modified Titration of Donanemab decreased rates of ARIA
  - ARIA-H not markedly decreased after 72 wks
- ARIA mildly influenced by E4 status
- ARIA-H markedly influenced by E4/E4
- Most ARIA-H clinically silent CMBs

Shcherbinin et al., 2022; van Dyck et al., 2023; Sims et al., 2023; Lu et al., 2025; van Dyck et al., 2025; Fox et al., 2025

ARIA-E = amyloid-related imaging abnormality – edema/effusion; ARIA-H = amyloid-related imaging abnormality – hemosiderin deposition.  
 Sources: TRAILBLAZER-ALZ 2 (donanemab) Prescribing Information; CLARITY AD (lecanemab) Prescribing Information.  
 Note: Data reflect the highest exposure time point evaluated in each study. Donanemab standard and modified dosing include 24-week and 72-week time points.

# Real-World Clinic Data: Safety

- **Observed ARIA Rates (Real-World)**

- Lower than trial-reported rates:
  - Patient selection
  - Monitoring intensity
  - Clinical caution

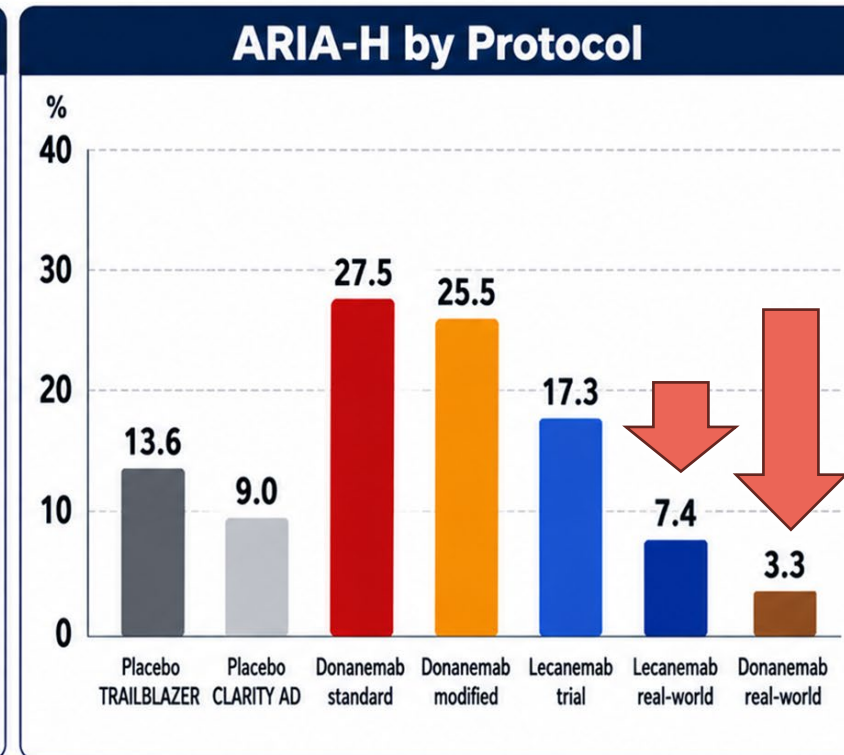
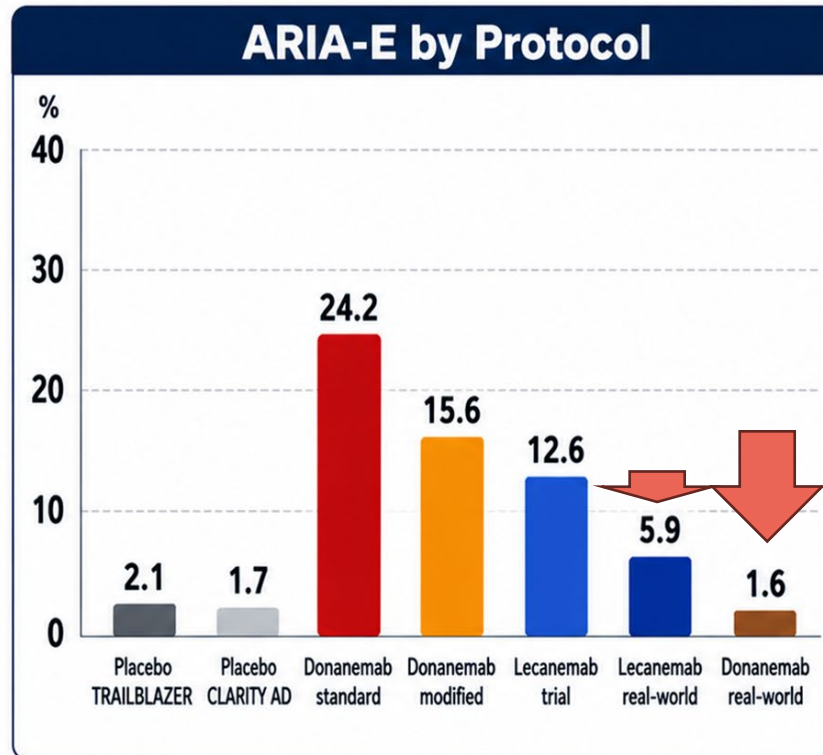
- **Primary Risk Modifiers**

- **CAA (dominant driver)**
  - Exclusion → substantial risk reduction
- **APOE ε4 status**
  - Dose-dependent risk contribution

- **Amplifiers of Risk (Clinical Reality)**

- Anticoagulation / vascular fragility
- Falls, trauma, surgical stress
- Chronic inflammatory states (autoimmune, DMARD exposure)
- Intercurrent illness (infection)
- COVID

● Placebo — TRAILBLAZER   
 ● Placebo — CLARITY AD   
 ● Donanemab standard   
 ● Donanemab modified   
 ● Lecanemab trial   
 ● Lecanemab real-world   
 ● Donanemab real-world



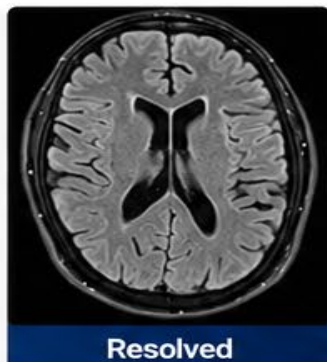
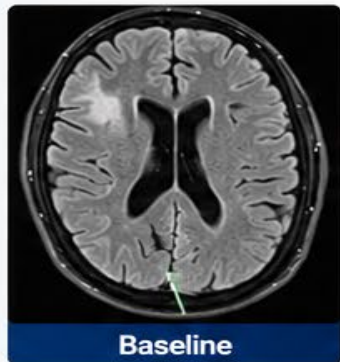
**Clinic data:** N=264; lecanemab N=203; donanemab/Kisunla N=61; ARIA-E=13; ARIA-H=17; overlap E+H=4; no ARIA=238.  
**Real-world:** Lecanemab 12/203 = 5.9%; Donanemab 1/61 = 1.6%    |    **Real-world:** Lecanemab 15/203 = 7.4%; Donanemab 2/61 = 3.3%

**Risk is screenable —but it is not static; it is context-dependent**

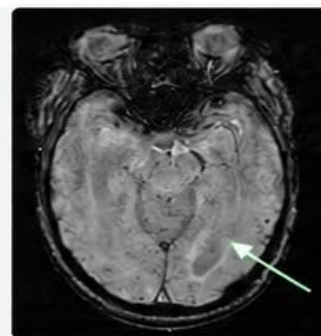
# Real-World Clinic Data: Safety

Most ARIA-E and ARIA-H are mild and self-limited

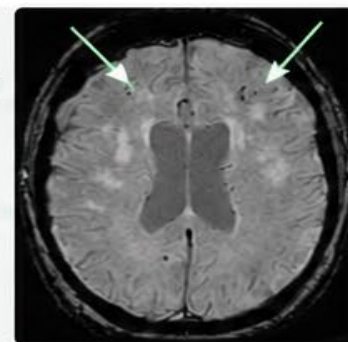
Most ARIA-E  
Self resolves



Most ARIA-H  
Mild w/o SXS



Most ARIA-H  
Moderate w/o SXS



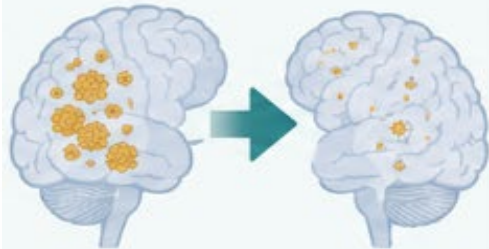
# What these Medications Actually Do: Summary



**Amyloid reduction:**  
begins within weeks,  
continuous and  
substantial

1

Weeks



**Rapid Amyloid Clearance**

Begins within weeks and  
continues progressively

A wooden signpost stands in the foreground of a Western town street. The signpost has three directional signs pointing to the right. The top sign is yellow with a yellow star and the text 'THE GOOD'. The middle sign is red with a red star and the text 'THE BAD'. The bottom sign is white with a white star and the text 'THE UNCERTAIN'. The background shows a dirt street lined with wooden buildings under a cloudy sky.

★ THE GOOD

★ THE BAD

★ THE UNCERTAIN

# REAL-WORLD CLINIC EXPERIENCE

Case examples of  
Good, Bad, and Uncertain

# Same Drug, Same Disease — Divergent Trajectories

## WHAT WE OBSERVED



### THE GOOD

- Early tau reduction
- Functional stability
- Sustained biologic response



### THE UNCERTAIN (UGLY)

- Persistent regional disease despite global amyloid reduction
- Ongoing focal dysfunction despite biomarker improvement



### THE BAD

- Continued decline despite measurable biomarker change
- Suggests downstream degeneration may already be entrenched

## WHAT DRIVES DIFFERENT TRAJECTORIES



Baseline burden  
(amyloid, tau,  
GFAP/NfL, atrophy)

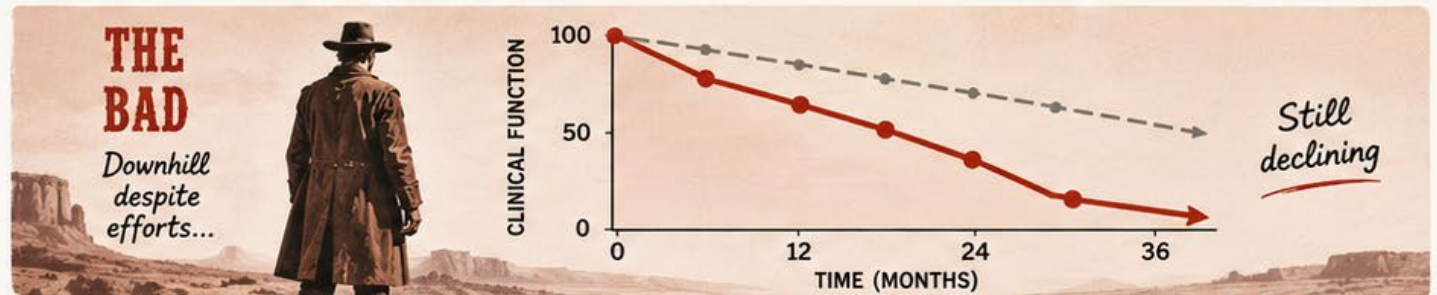
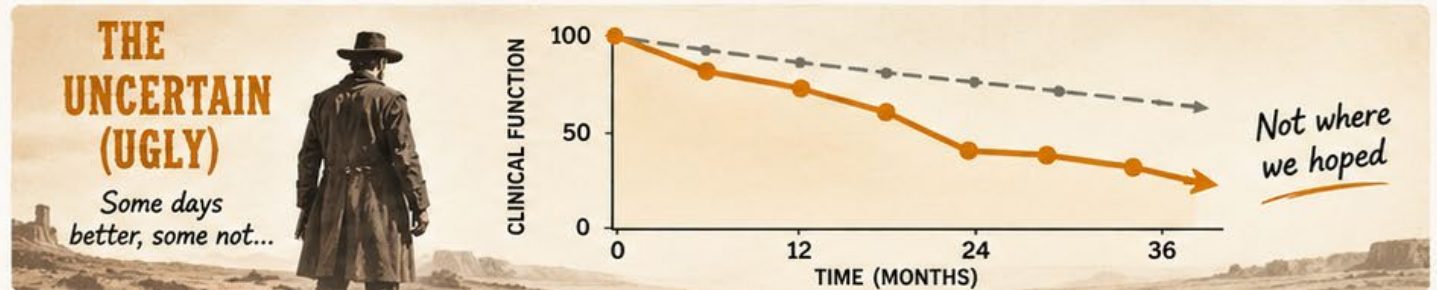
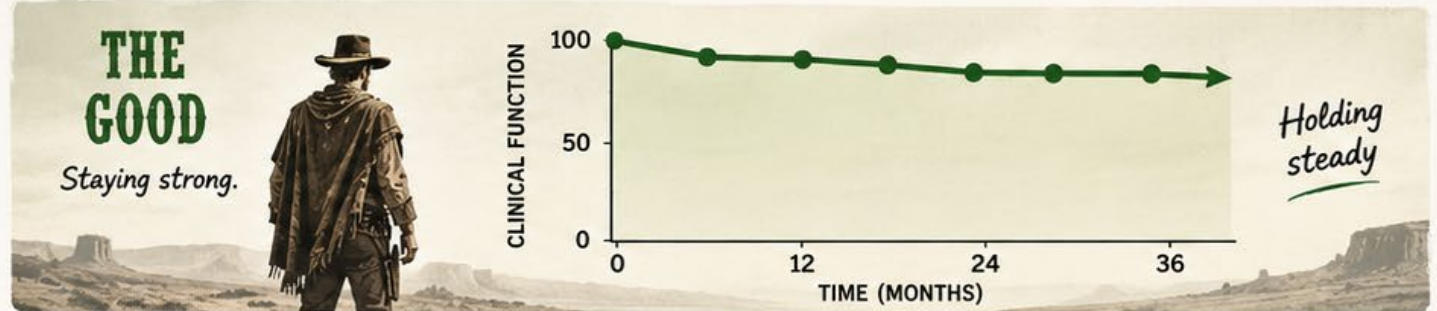


Disease stage  
and phenotype



Biological modifiers  
(genetics, vascular  
disease, comorbidities)

## DIFFERENT PATIENTS. DIFFERENT TRAJECTORIES.





# GOOD RESPONDER

Low baseline burden → robust biologic response



## Baseline Clinical Profile

- Minor baseline impairment
  - Executive phenotype
  - No functional impairment



## Amyloid

- ↓ Baseline low amyloid (+40 CL)



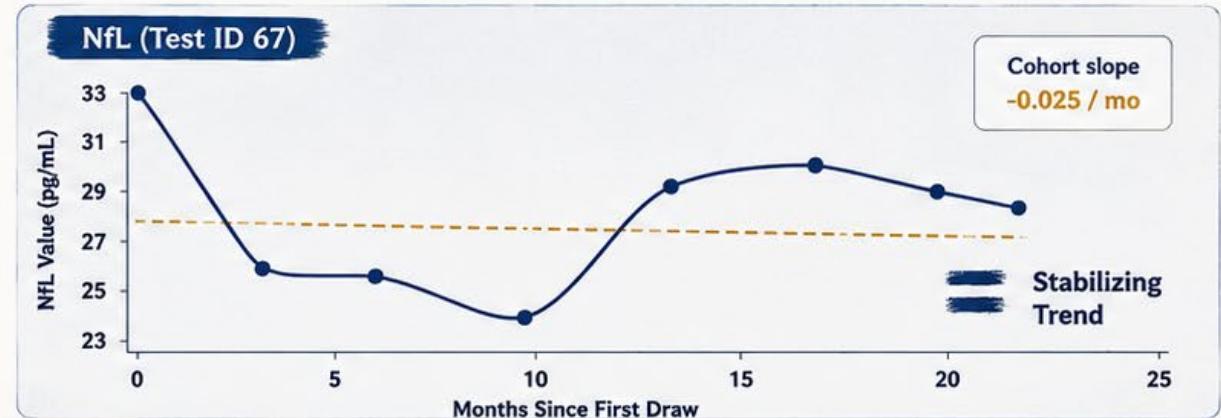
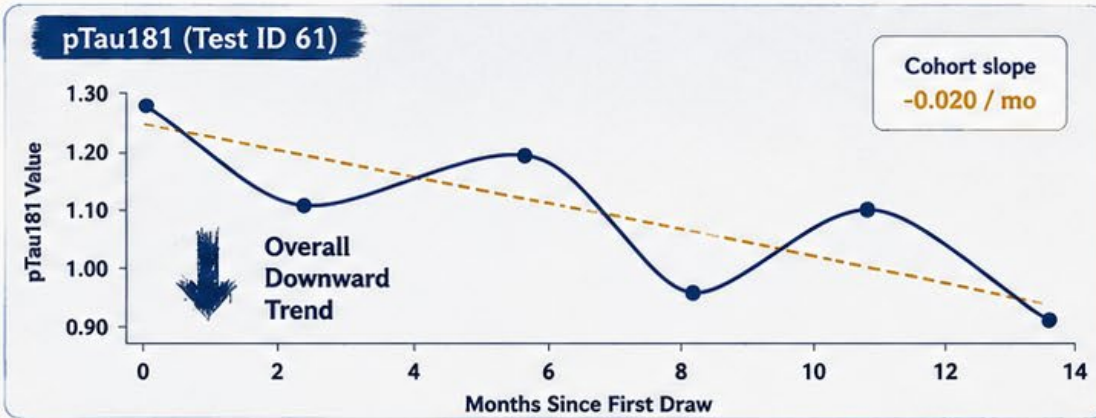
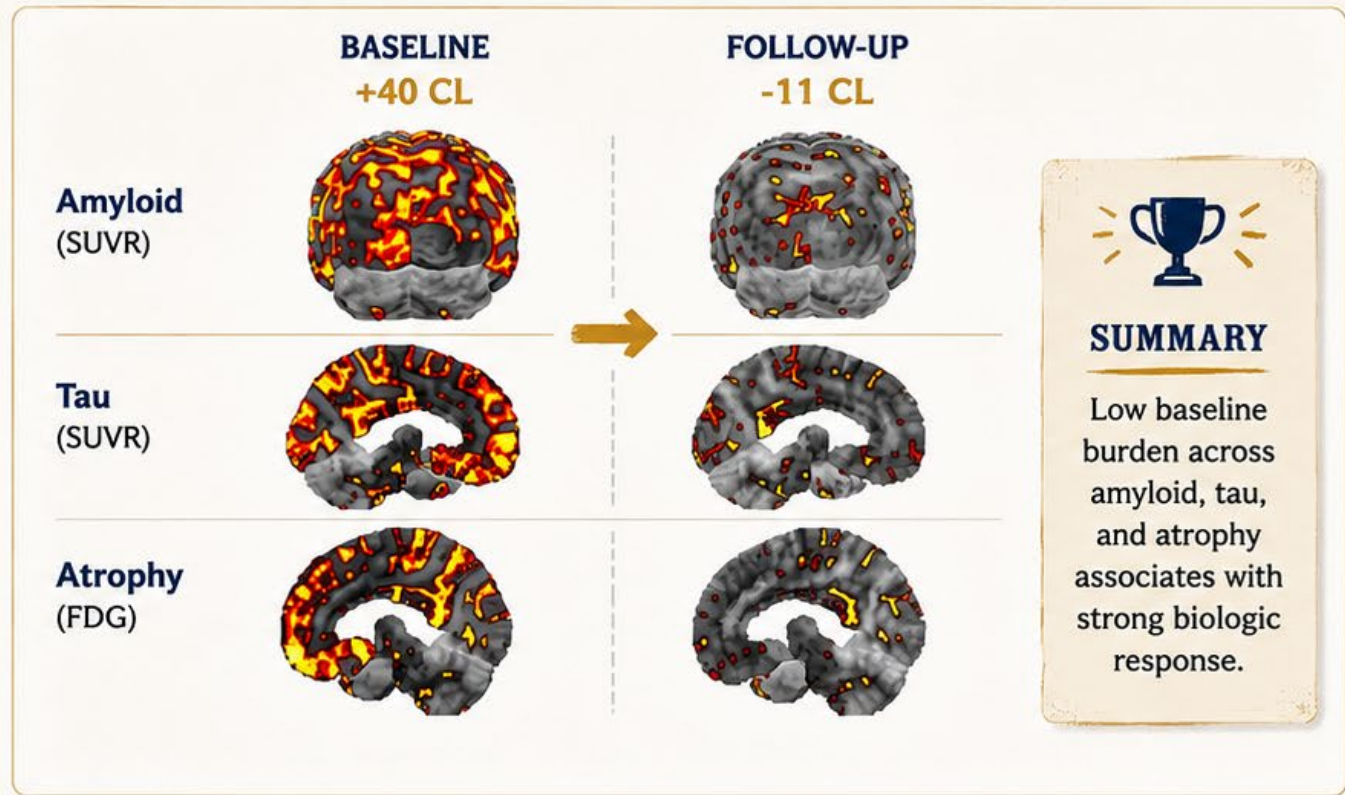
## Tau

- ↓ Baseline pTau (1.0–1.3)



## Atrophy Pattern

- Mild dorsal cortical volume loss with sparing of subcortical structures
- LOAD-CBS/ADHD presentation



**TAKEAWAY:** Lower baseline burden, early disease, and strategic network involvement can drive robust biologic response and functional preservation.



Early Disease



Lower Burden



Better Response



# BAD RESPONDER

High baseline burden → limited biologic response



## Clinical Profile

- Major baseline impairment
- Later mild dementia functional impairment



## Amyloid

- Severe amyloid >100 CL (PSEN1 mutation)



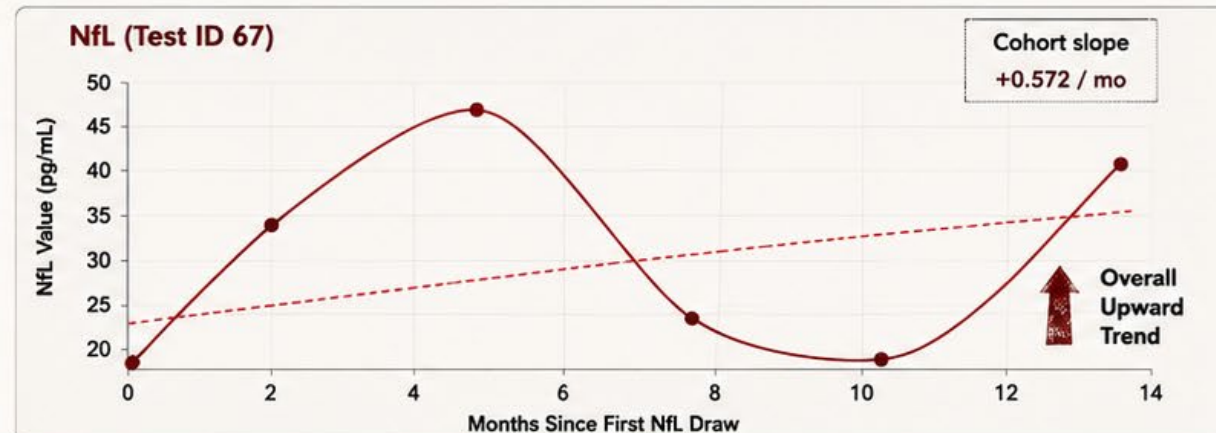
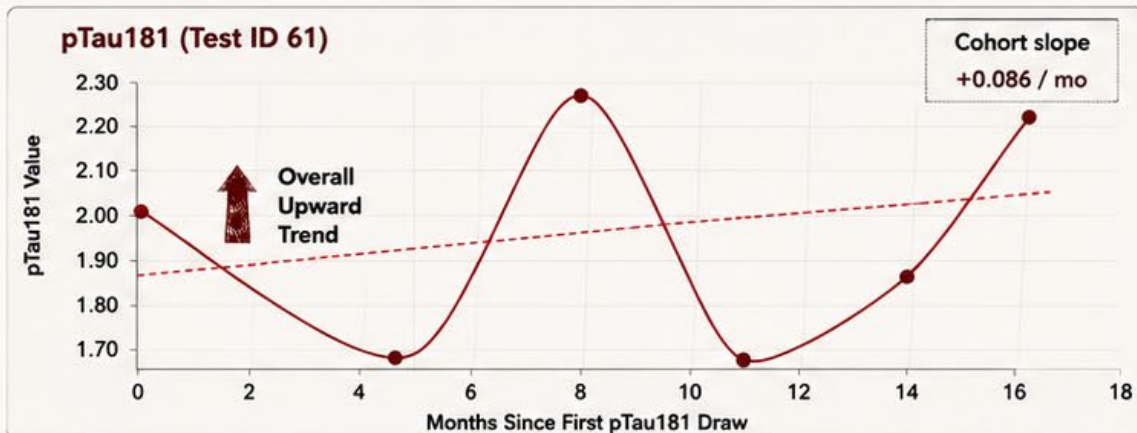
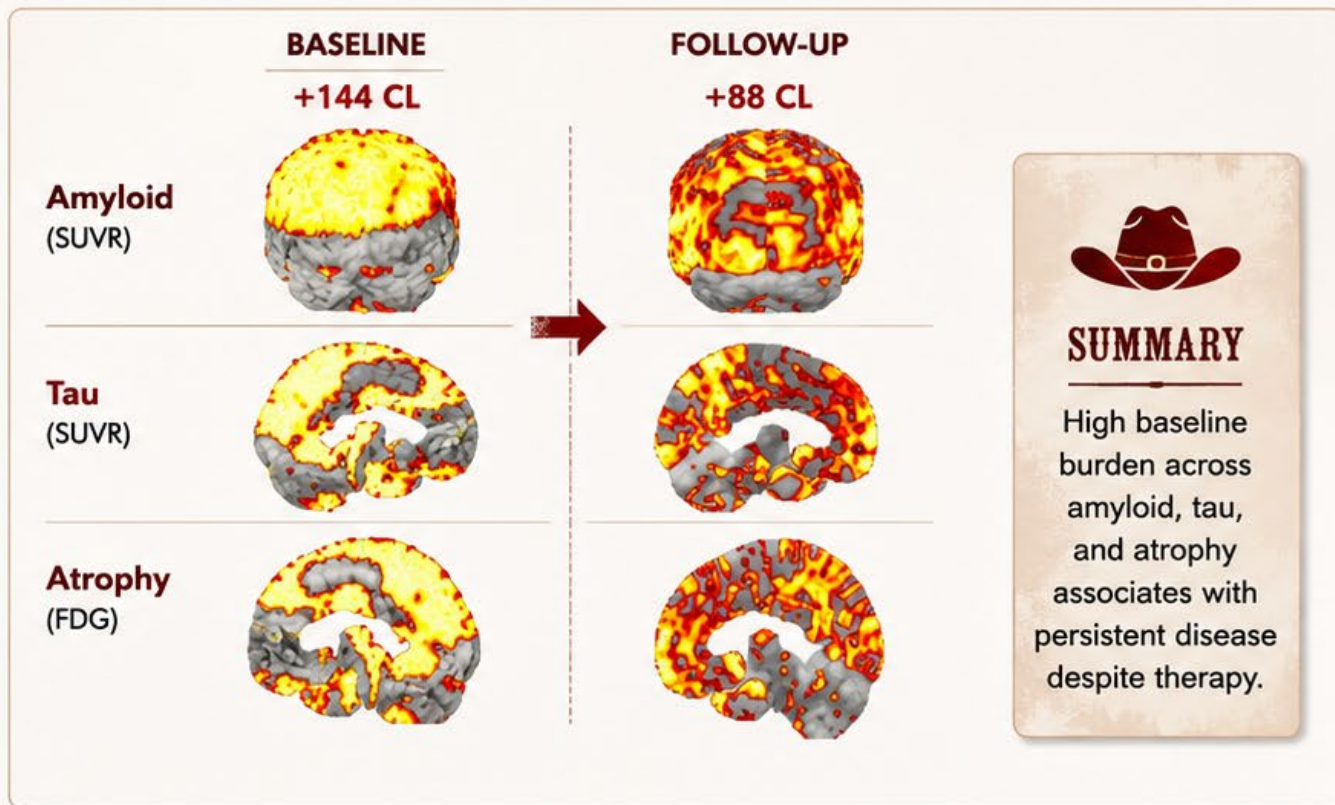
## Tau

- Baseline high >2 pTau181



## Atrophy Pattern

- Moderate generalized atrophy with prominent subcortical atrophy
- Amnesic LOAD or mixed DLB presentation



**TAKEAWAY:** Severe baseline disease burden, advanced stage, and adverse biology limit response potential and are associated with continued progression.



High Burden



Limited Response



Continued Progression



# UNCERTAIN RESPONDER

Intermediate baseline burden → variable biologic response



## CLINICAL PROFILE

- Mild to moderate baseline impairment
- Mild functional impairment



## AMYLOID

- Moderate baseline amyloid (+73 CL)



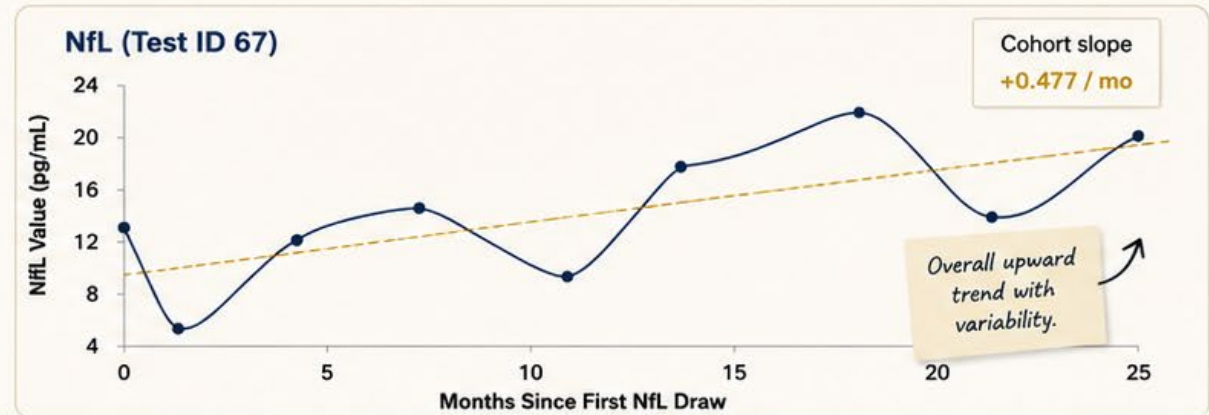
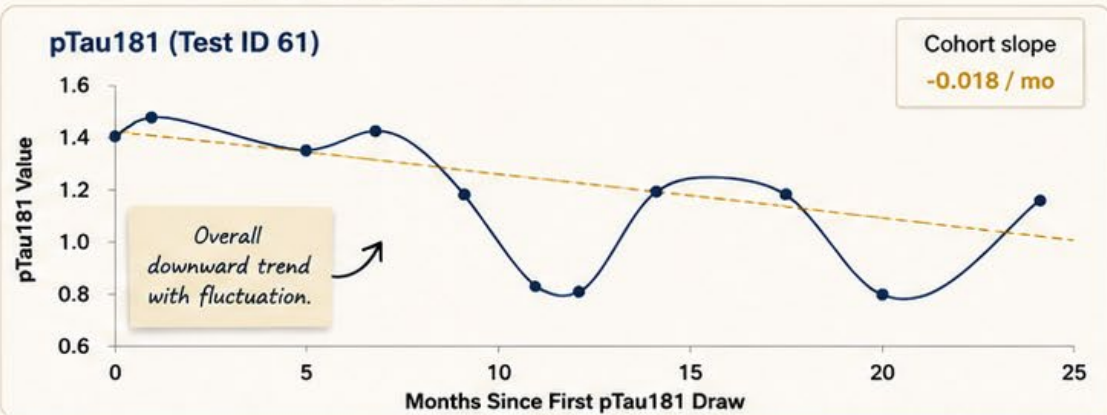
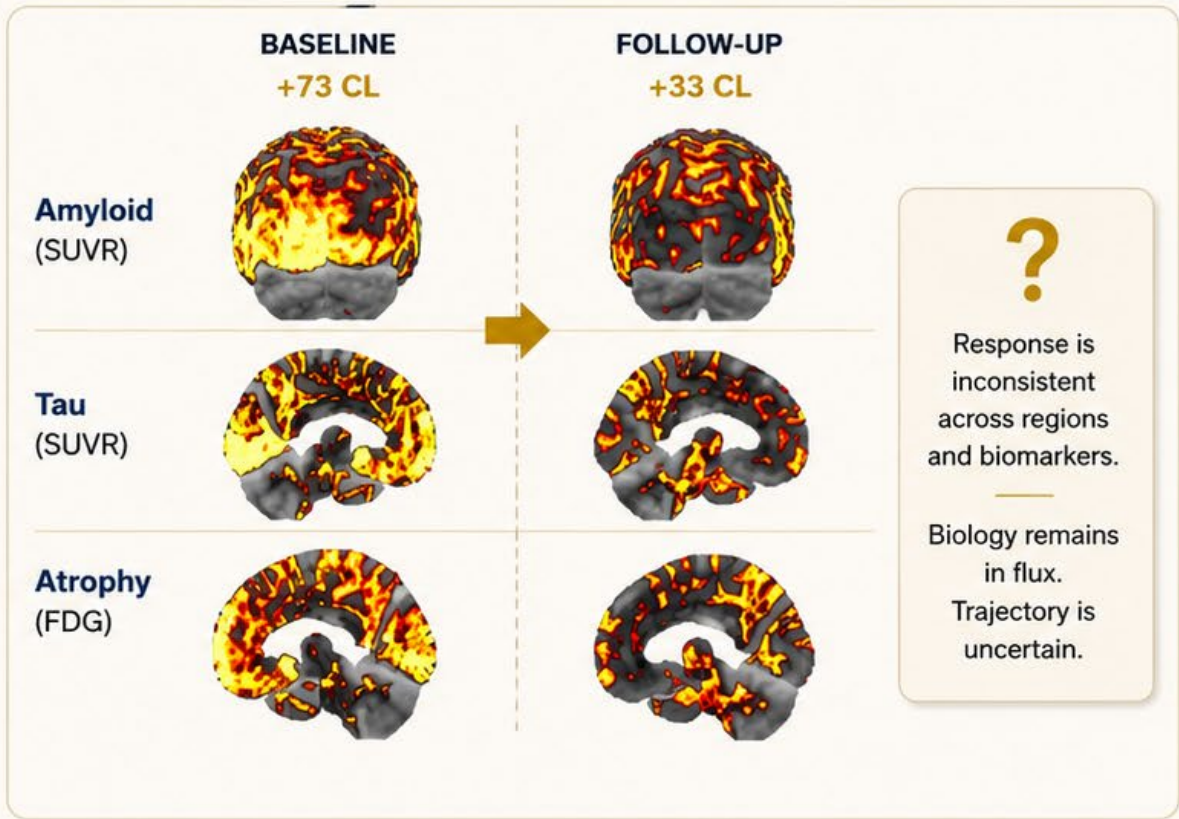
## TAU

- Baseline 1.3–1.8 pTau181



## ATROPHY PATTERN

- Minor generalized atrophy / temporal-parietal cortical volume loss with minor subcortical structures
- LOAD-PCA / lvPPA presentation



**TAKEAWAY:** Intermediate baseline burden and mixed biomarker response lead to inconsistent trajectories and uncertain outcomes.



Mixed Biology



Uncertain Trajectory



Response Not Uniform

# We Measure More—But Understand Less Than We Think



## 1. CENTILOID $\neq$ CERTAINTY

- Inter-scan / Inter-rater variability
- *Objective* processing differences
- **Global vs regional mismatch**
  - Ceiling + sensitivity issues at high burden
  - Very high baseline burden → Large reductions → still “positive”



## 2. DIAGNOSTIC vs. MONITORING vs. PROGNOSTIC BIOMARKERS:

- Imaging vs serum vs clinical trajectory



## 3. OBJECTIVITY INCREASED— BUT INTERPRETABILITY DID NOT SCALE PROPORTIONALLY.

★ MORE SIGNAL. MORE DATA. MORE QUESTIONS. ★  
OUR JOB: TURN UNCERTAINTY INTO CLARITY.



Ochsner

# REGIONAL MISMATCH EFFECTS DIAGNOSIS

*Global normalization ≠ regional clearance*

## KEY POINTS

- Global normalization can mask persistent regional pathology
- Focal signal commonly seen in:
  - Occipital / Posterior cingulate – PCC
  - Lateral temporal cortex – lvPPA
  - Dorsal parietal / frontal cortex – CBS

## GLOBAL CENTILOID

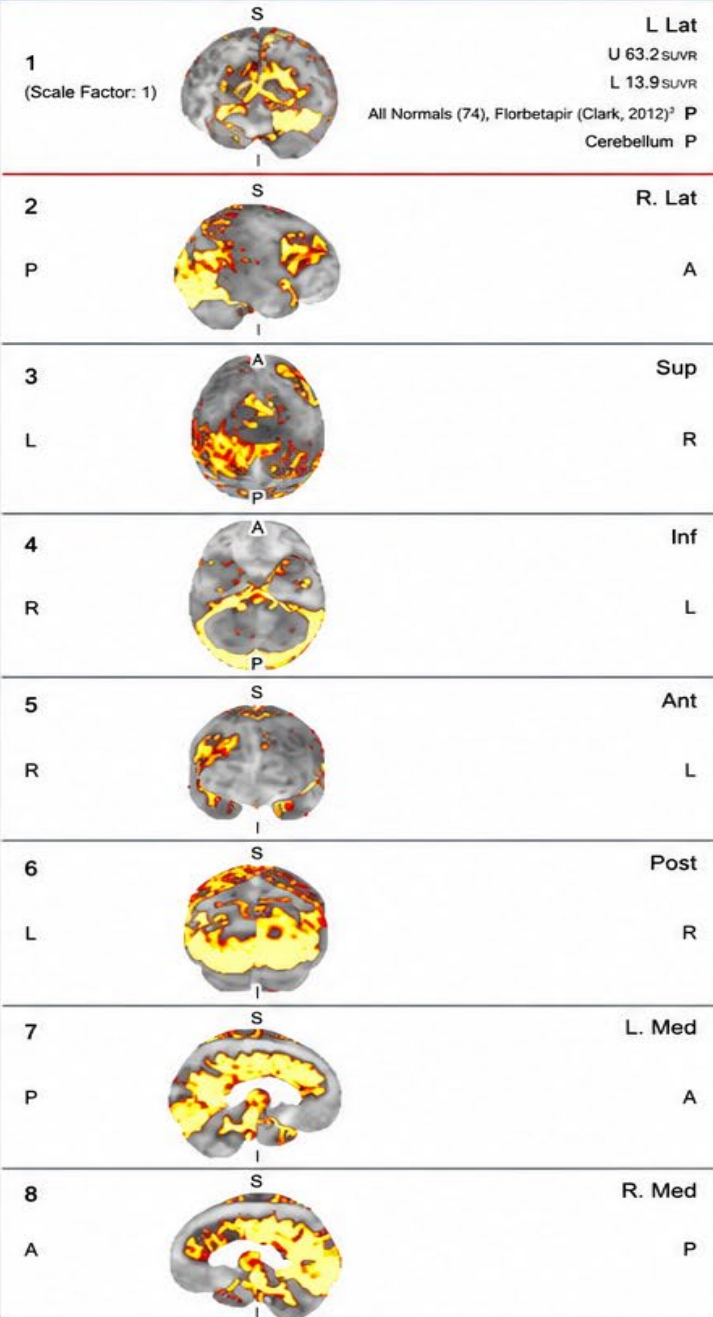
# -17.68

On average, this appears amyloid-negative / low-burden.

**But the regional ROI pattern tells a different story.**

ROI	Z-SCORE	PATTERN
Posterior Cingulate Gyrus	<b>+13.04</b>	<b>Markedly elevated</b>
Precuneus	<b>+6.91</b>	<b>Markedly elevated</b>
Lateral Temporal Lobe	<b>+0.32</b>	Near normal
Anterior Cingulate Gyrus	<b>-7.57</b>	Low
Inferior Medial Frontal Gyrus	<b>-10.17</b>	Low
Superior Parietal Lobule	<b>-9.88</b>	Low

## AMYLOID PET (SUVR)



# REGIONAL MISMATCH EFFECTS TREATMENT

Global normalization ≠ regional clearance

## KEY MESSAGES



Global normalization does not equal regional clearance



Persistent signal in:

- Precuneus
- Posterior cingulate
- Lateral temporal cortex



Serum biomarkers may remain positive

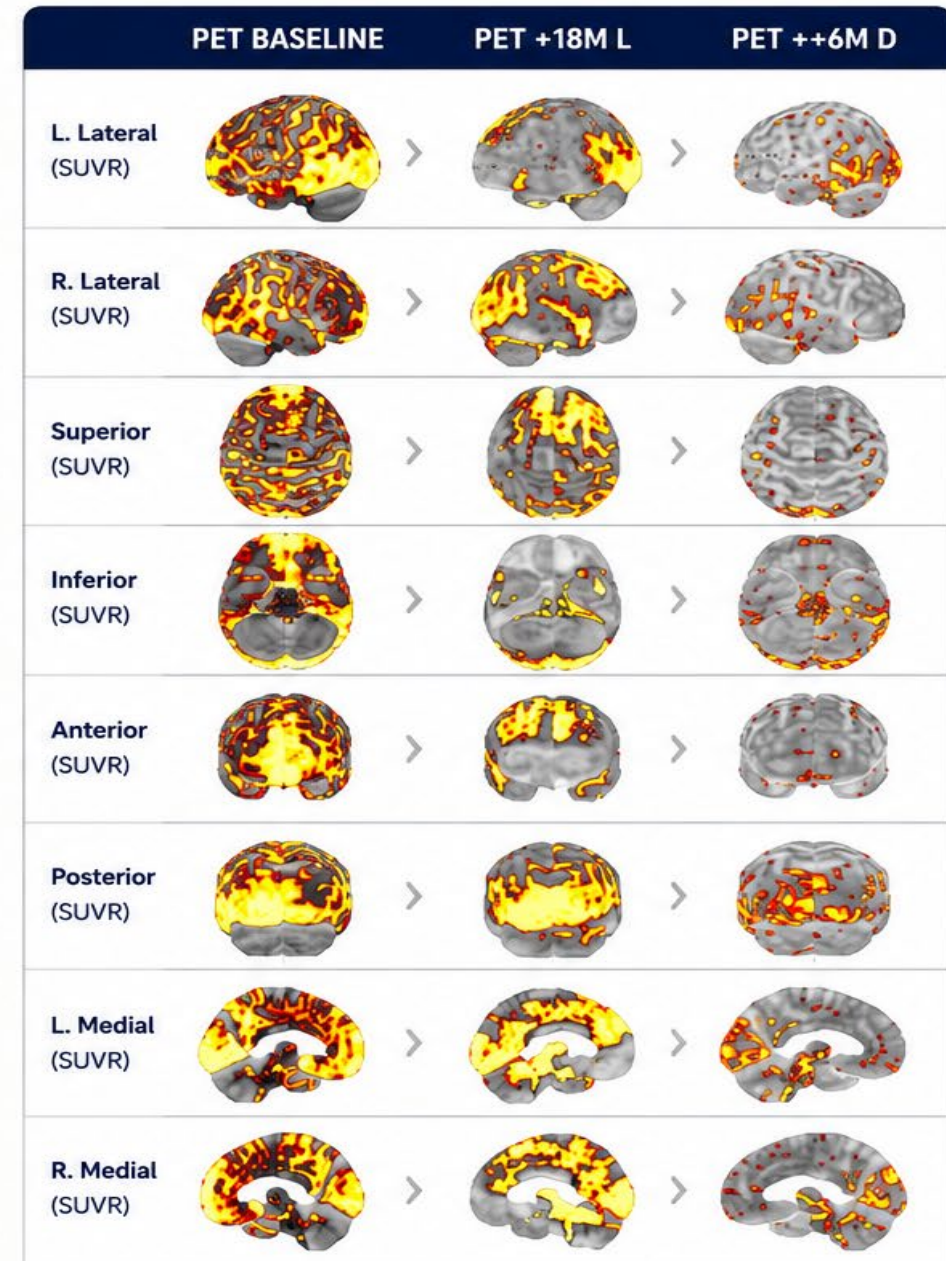
## GLOBAL CENTILOID

2024 > 2025 > 2026  
**+64.7** > **-21.0** > **-19.3**



Global amyloid burden has normalized.  
 Regional hotspots persist.

REGIONAL ROI Z-SCORES	2025 Z	2026 Z	Δ (2026-2025)	TREND
Anterior Cingulate	-9.35	-4.47	+4.88	↑
Inferior Frontal	-11.82	-4.67	+7.15	↑
Lateral Temporal	-3.57	-3.13	+0.44	→
<b>Posterior Cingulate</b>	<b>+8.52</b>	<b>+1.62</b>	<b>-6.90</b>	<b>↓</b>
<b>Precuneus</b>	<b>+7.63</b>	<b>-0.83</b>	<b>-8.46</b>	<b>↓</b>
Superior Parietal	+0.96	-4.07	-5.03	↓



# Diagnostic Biomarker = Monitoring Biomarkers?

*The biology is dynamic. Life happens.*



## 1 DISEASE IS:

- Nonlinear
- Vulnerable to disruption



BIOMARKERS ARE **SIGNALS**, NOT ANSWERS. | INTEGRATE BIOLOGY. EXPECT **VARIABILITY**. ACT WITH **CONTEXT**.

# Diagnostic Biomarkers ≠ Prognostic Biomarkers

*Anti-amyloid therapy has changed the central clinical question.*



We are no longer simply asking:

“Does this patient have  
Alzheimer’s disease?”



We are increasingly being forced to ask:

“What happens biologically  
after treatment?”

# Fast Reaccumulator of Amyloid

In just 6 months off AAT, they reaccumulated ~10 CL



**Regional SUVR Changes**  
Increase in amyloid across key regions

ROI	ON AAT (Baseline)	OFF AAT (6 Months)	CHANGE
Anterior Cingulate Gyrus	0.87	1.08	+0.21
Inferior Medial Frontal Gyrus	0.85	0.97	+0.12
Lateral Temporal Lobe	1.01	0.78	+0.23
Posterior Cingulate Gyrus	0.83	0.78	+0.05
Precuneus	0.89	1.02	+0.13
Superior Parietal Lobule	0.86	0.98	+0.12

**Substantial amyloid reaccumulation in just 6 months off AAT**  
~10 Centiloid increase across the brain



# When Do We Stop? It's Not Simple

*Stopping anti-amyloid therapy is not just a clinical decision—  
it is a deeply personal and value-based decision.*



## WHEN WE CONSIDER STOPPING

Clear clinical checkpoints help guide the conversation.

1



### FAST 5 OR MODERATE STAGE

Disease progression despite treatment or limited meaningful benefit.

2



### LOSS OF BASIC ADLs

Clearly due to cognition, with ongoing functional decline.

3



### DISPROPORTIONATE BURDEN

Treatment burden, safety risks, or diminishing return.

4



### PATIENT AND FAMILY GOALS

Shift toward comfort, quality, and meaning over disease modification.



## WHAT WE MUST STILL WEIGH

Important benefits may remain—even in later stages.



### STABILITY MATTERS

Treatment may be slowing decline, even if changes are subtle.



### HUMAN CONNECTION

Quality time, engagement, and moments that still matter.



### SENSE OF PURPOSE

Participation in activities, routines, and relationships.



### PATIENT AND FAMILY PREFERENCE

Values, wishes, and acceptable trade-offs are unique to each person.



## OUR APPROACH

Shared decision-making.  
Reassess regularly. Respect what matters most.



## WHEN WE TRANSITION

Focus shifts to comfort, dignity, and quality of life.



THIS IS NOT A STOP SIGN. IT'S A **GUIDEPOST.**

WE WALK THIS PATH **TOGETHER.**

# WHAT ACTUALLY CHANGED



## THE FRONTIER JUST OPENED.



### THE GOOD

*We can finally see the biology in motion.*

- Amyloid can be reduced
- Tau and injury markers can shift
- Earlier intervention appears to matter
- Some patients remain stable longer than expected



### THE BAD

*Treatment made the disease harder to ignore.*

- Monitoring became continuous
- Decisions became heavier and more complex
- Biomarkers created new ambiguity
- The burden of care became visible in real time



### THE UNCERTAIN

*Biology and human trajectory still do not fully align.*

- Some patients dramatically improve
- Some partially respond
- Some continue to decline despite measurable change
- We still cannot fully predict who follows which path

## BUT THE FRONTIER DID NOT CLOSE.



Anti-amyloid therapy did not “solve” Alzheimer’s. It opened a new territory to explore.

### WE ARE LEARNING:

- ★ how to intervene earlier
- ★ how to stratify risk better
- ★ how to personalize therapy more intelligently
- ★ and how much remains undiscovered



THE UNCERTAINTY REMAINS— BUT NOW WE CAN MOVE FORWARD WITH PURPOSE. ★

*The science is advancing. The path is becoming clearer. The work continues.*



# Ochsner Neurocognitive Program



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