

Current Status on Biomarkers in Alzheimer's Disease



25.09.2013
WCN Congress, Vienna
Danube Symposium
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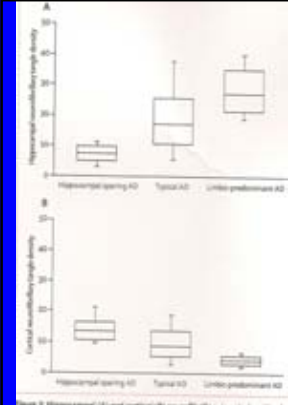
Sporadic Alzheimer Disease

- more than 15 million people worldwide
- multiple subtypes
- multiple phenotypes
- mutation-related stimulus is lacking
- causation is enigmatic

RISK FACTORS FOR

AD	Hippocampal atrophy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age • Gender • Education • Pathol. Events • Head Injury • Biometals • OS • Smoking • Genetic pathology (APP, PS1, PS2, APOEϵ4) • Depression • Folic acid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hypertension • Diabetes • Hyperlipidaemia • Seizures • Affective disturbances • Stress • APOEϵ4 genotype

Dhikav and Amand 2011



hippocampal sparing (11 %) (H)
 typical (75 %) (T)
 limbic predominant (14 %) (L)

Murray et al. 2011

Dementias

- Alzheimer Dementia (AD)
- Neurodegeneration +/- vascular pathology

Amyloid	Pathology
τ	
Synapse	
- Multiple Pathologies in most of aged people
 - multi infarct dementia
 - strategic infarct dementia
 - AD + SVD (small vessel disease)
 - AD + CAA or SVD

Dementias

- FTLD (Pick): CA1, CA 4 round inclusions; early (50 – 70 yrs.)
- PSP (Progressive Supranuclear Palsy): astrocytes; (60 – 100 yrs.)
- CBD (Cortico Basal Disease): 60 – 90 yrs.
- AGD (Argyrophilic Grain Disease): τ -pathol. in spines; (60 – 100 yrs.)
- FTLD-TDP: nuclear inclusions in nerve-cells subtypes
- LBD (Lewy Body Disease): Lewy neurites, LB

Braak, Thal 2011; Thal 2012
Montine 2012

Table 1 Recommended biomarkers in clinical research and development

Biomarker	Entry criteria (early diagnosis)*	Stratification (prognosis)*	Monitoring effect (individualization of treatment)*
APOE genotype	-	+	-
Aβ ₄₂ /Aβ ₄₀ plasma†	-	-	-/+
Aβ ₄₂ /Aβ ₄₀ CSF	++	+	++
tau CSF	++	+	++
P-tau CSF	++	+	++
BACE1 CSF	+	-/+	-/+
MR volumetrics	++	-	+
MR functional	-/+	-	-/+
MR spectroscopy	-	-	-/+
FDG-PET	++	-/+	-
Amplified PET	++	++	++

* - not useful; +/+ useful in limited circumstances; for example plasma amyloid β (Aβ) for passive immunization; + generally useful; ++ always useful, as determined from recent meetings of the Alzheimer's Association Research Roundtable. APOE, apolipoprotein E; BACE1, β-site amyloid precursor protein-cleaving enzyme 1; CSF, cerebrospinal fluid; FDG, ¹⁸F-2-deoxy-2-thiopyranose; MR, magnetic resonance; P-tau, phosphorylated tau; PET, positron emission tomography. † Test in parentheses indicates potential application in clinical practice. Measurements in plasma may be confounded due to other proteins present in plasma, and so may not accurately reflect the pathology.

Hampel et al. 2010

GENETIC BIOMARKERS (1)

- 513 families worldwide (by August 2011) are suffering from hereditary AD
 - APP gene mutations: 89 families (17,3 %)
 - PS 1 gene mutation: 402 families (78,4 %)
 - PS 2 gene mutation: 22 families (4,3 %)

RISK GENES FOR SPORADIC LATE-ONSET AD

- LARGE SCALE GENOME-WIDE ANALYSES (GWAS)
 - ? APOE?*
 - ? CLU
 - ? PICALM
 - ? BIN1
 - ? CR1
 - ? BIN1
- ALZGENE DATABASE
 - ? APOE, CLU, PICALM, EXOC3L2, BIN1, CR1, SORL1, TNK1, IL 8, LDLR, CST3, CHRN2, SORCS 1, TNF, CCR 2
- TREM2 variants Jonsson et al. 2013
- COPY NUMBER VARIATION GWAS Chapman et al. 2013
- GWAS OF CSF Aβ₄₂ / p-tau / D3 loci Cruchaga et al. 2013
- DNA MODIFICATIONS
 - ? HYPO- and HYPERMETHYLATED AD-RELATED SUSCEPTIBILITY GENES

Alexopoulos et al. 2010, Elias-Sonnenschein et al. 2013, Harold et al. 2011, Olgati et al. 2011, Seshadri et al. 2010, Szegedi et al. 2013, Zetzsche et al. 2010

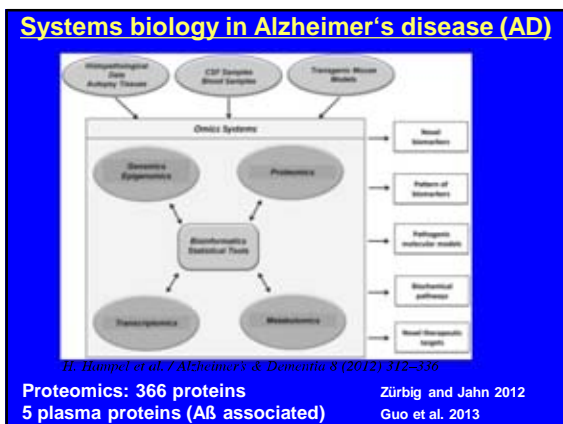
no correlation between SNPs and CSF Aβ₄₂ or p-tau (Kauwe et al. 2011)

Problems with GWAS - studies

- significance levels too high; loss of information
- subtyping spectrum disorder
- high N means many clinical subtypes included!
- interaction clinicians / basic researchers is missing

- regional gene expression different?
- social support
- life events

- epigenetics
- copy number variation
- Splicing
- de novo mutations
- gene interactions



Conclusion

Current evidence based on clinical, pathological, (molecular) biological and genetic studies and evaluation of such data by using algorithm-based processes point to conclude that

„ ... there will never be a valid biomarker for AD!“

„... rather there will be distinct biomarkers for sAD subtypes.“