

**Recent Advance in Nuclear Neurology:  
SPECT and PET Imaging of Dopamine Transporters  
in Parkinson's Disease and Other Movement Disorders**

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# Parkinson's disease

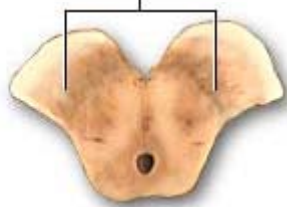


Cut section of the midbrain where a portion of the substantia nigra is visible



Substantia nigra

Diminished substantia nigra as seen in Parkinson's disease



ADAM.

## CLINICAL FEATURES

- Head bent forward
- Tremors of the head
- Masklike facial expression
- Drooling
- Rigidity
- Stooped posture
- Weight loss
- Akinesia (absence or poverty of normal movement)
- Tremor
- Loss of postural reflexes
- Bone demineralization
- Shuffling and propulsive gait



## NURSING MANAGEMENT

- Medication therapy as prescribed
- Rehabilitation
- Client and family education
- Warm baths and massage to relax muscles
- Instruction about medication therapy
- Bowel routine
- Self-help devices to meet daily needs:
  - Raised toilet seat
  - Long-handled comb
- Exercise to loosen joint structures
- Range-of-motion exercises to prevent deformities

# Parkinson's disease and other parkinsonism

Etiologic categories of parkinsonism\*

	Number of Patients	Percentage
Parkinson's disease	1595	77.7
Parkinsonism plus	250	12.2
PSP	154	7.5
SDS	35	1.7
OPCA	23	1.1
CBGD	18	0.9
SND	9	0.4
PD/AD	8	0.4
PD/ALS	3	0.1
Secondary parkinsonism	168	8.2
Heredodegenerative parkinsonism	12	0.6
Unknown	27	1.3

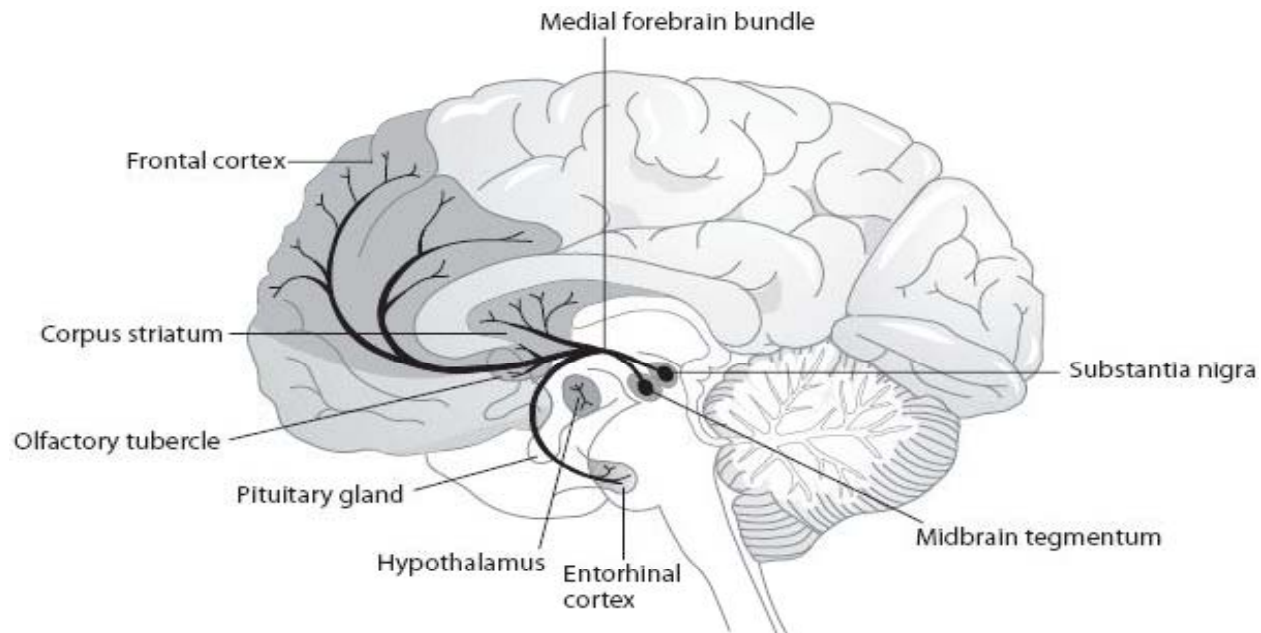
\*Baylor College of Medicine, Parkinson's Disease Center and Movement Disorders Clinic (N =2052)

CBGD = Corticobasal ganglionic degeneration; OPCA = olivopontocerebellar atrophy; PD/AD = parkinsonism with severe dementia; PD/ALS = Parkinson's disease with motor neuron disease; PSP = progressive supranuclear palsy; SDS = Shy-Drager syndrome; SND = striatonigral degeneration

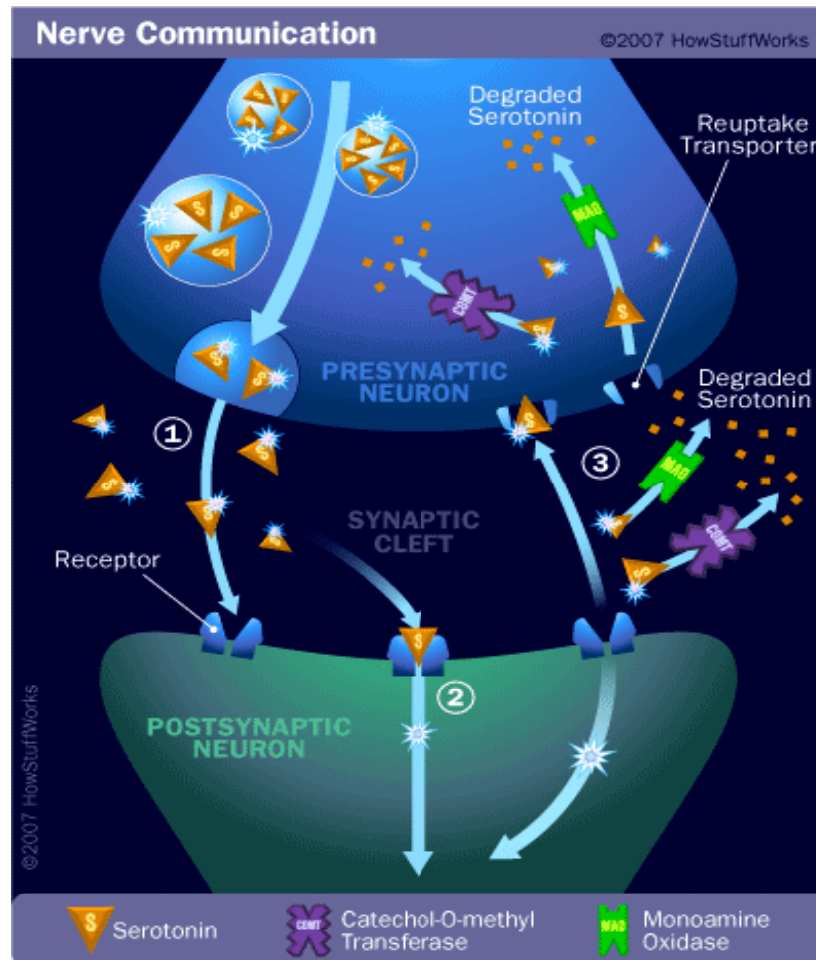
# The Clinical Problem: Differential diagnosis of parkinsonism

- Misdiagnosis: 20-30% in the early stage
- Why important?
  - Decide on treatment regimens
  - Provide prognosis
  - Investigate etiology and pathogenesis
  - Develop new therapeutic strategies

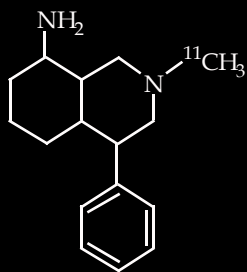
# Dopaminergic pathways in the brain



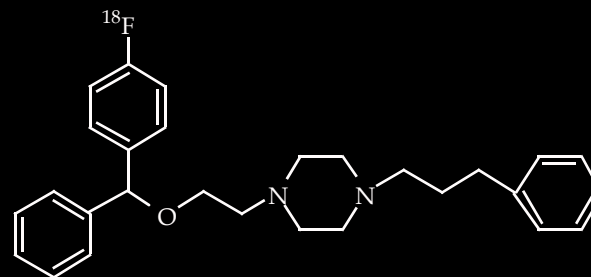
# Dopamine transporter as a marker of dopaminergic neuronal integrity



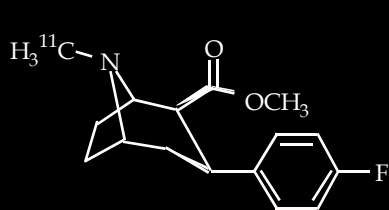
# Radiotracers for Imaging Dopamine Transporters



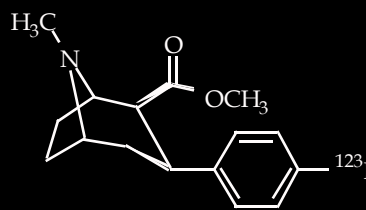
<sup>11</sup>C-Nomifensin



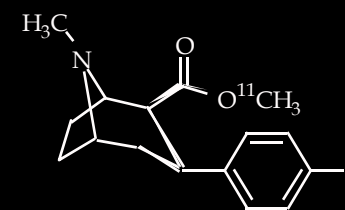
<sup>18</sup>F-GBR 13119



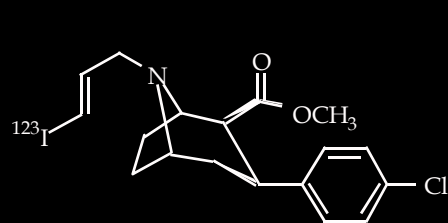
<sup>11</sup>C-CFT (WIN 35,428)



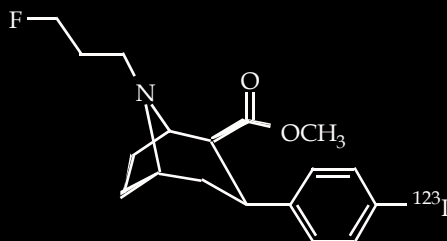
<sup>123</sup>I-β-CIT (RTI-55)



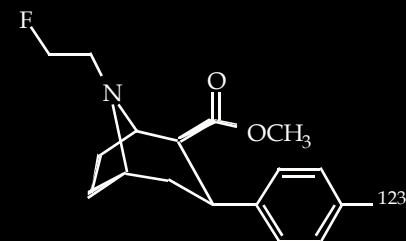
<sup>11</sup>C-β-CIT (RTI-55)



<sup>123</sup>I-IPT



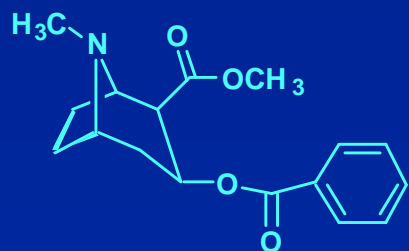
<sup>123</sup>I-β-CIT-FP



<sup>123</sup>I-β-CIT-FE

## *In Vitro* Radioligand Binding Data for Cocaine and 3-(4-Halophenyl) Analogues

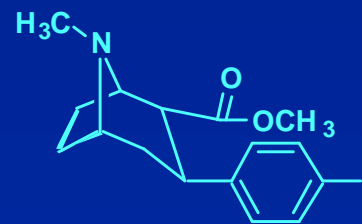
Analogue	Displacement of [ <sup>3</sup> H]CFT		Displacement of [ <sup>3</sup> H]paroxetine	
	IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)	Hill slope (nH)	IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)	Hill slope (nH)
Cocaine	221 ± 14	0.69 ± 0.06	207 ± 66	0.73 ± 0.12
β-CFT	15.3 ± 1.2	0.75 ± 0.01	479 ± 59	1.34 ± 0.22
α-CIT	87.6 ± 2.9	0.70 ± 0.01	210 ± 86	0.73 ± 0.04
β-CIT	1.6 ± 0.15	0.79 ± 0.04	3.8 ± 0.53	0.82 ± 0.08



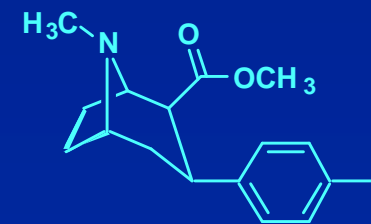
Cocaine



β-CFT

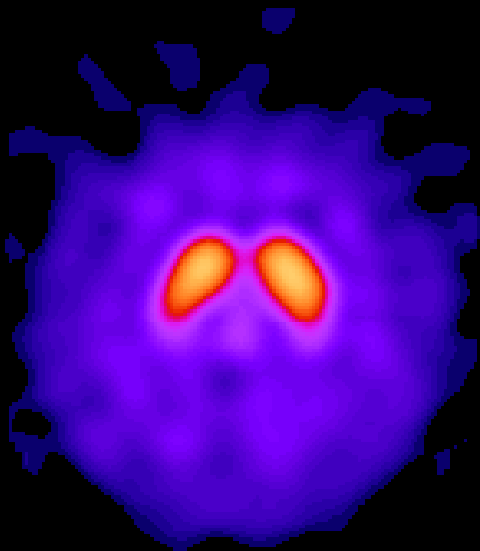


α-CIT

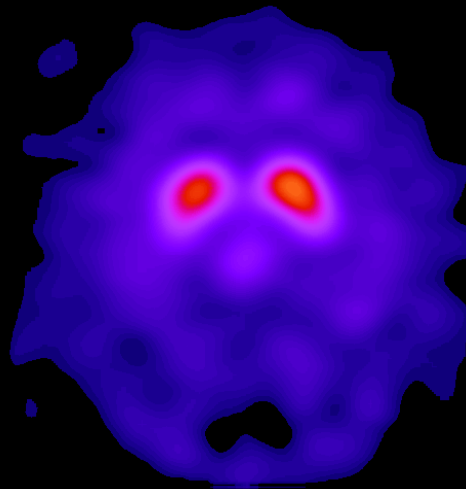


β-CIT

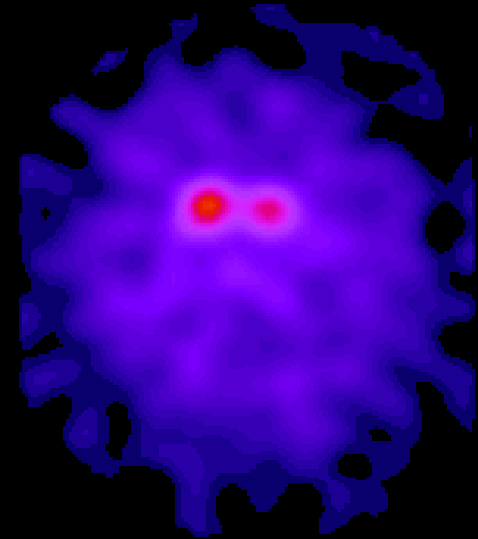
# *Dopamine Transporter Imaging in PD ( $[^{123}\text{I}]\beta\text{-CIT SPECT}$ )*



Healthy control

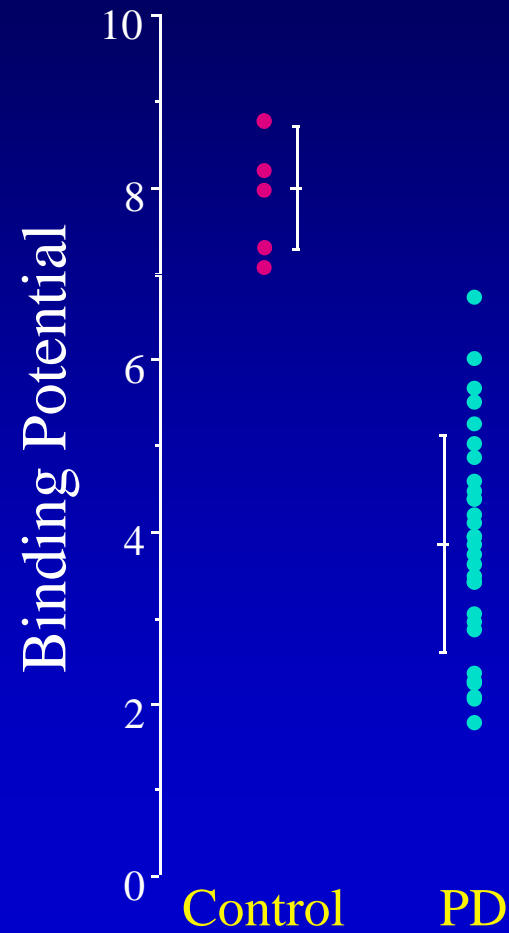


Hoehn-Yahr stage 1

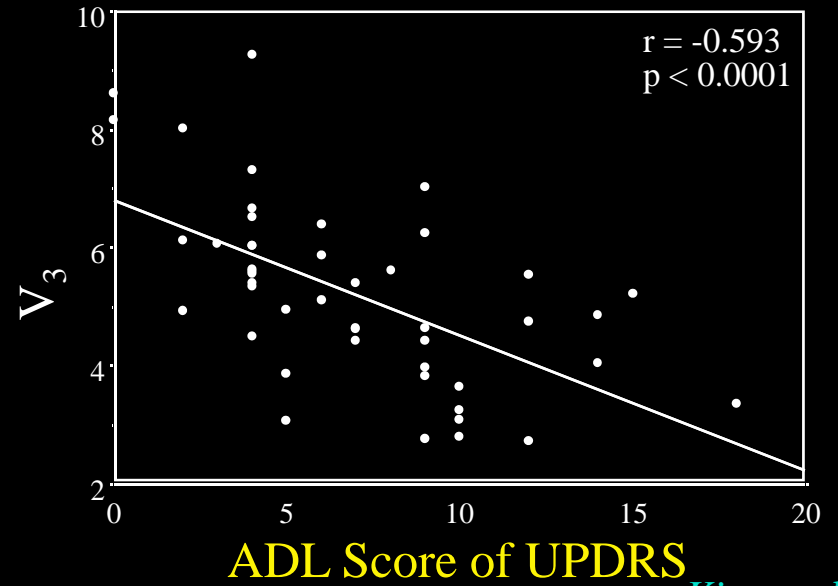
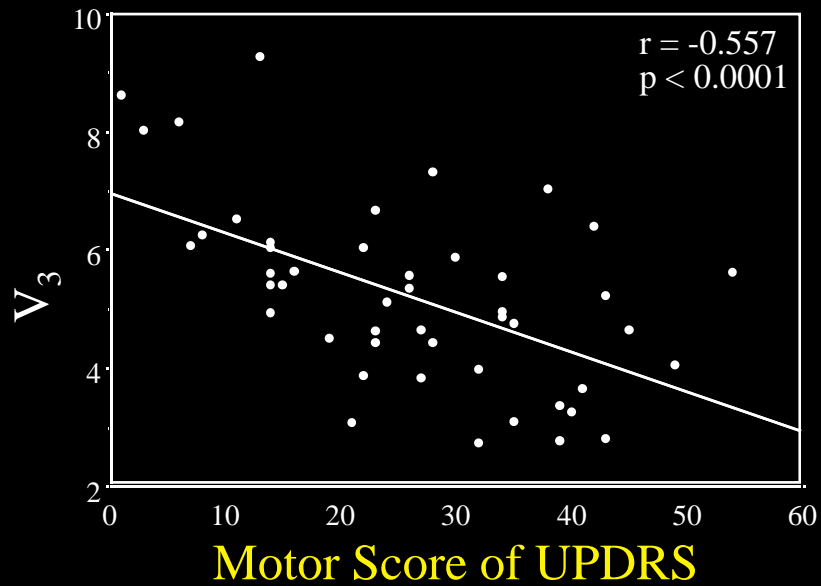
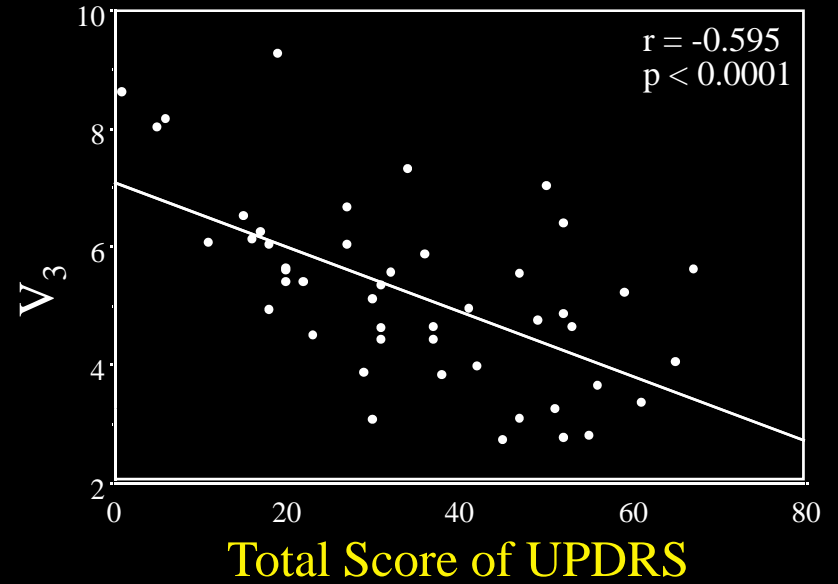
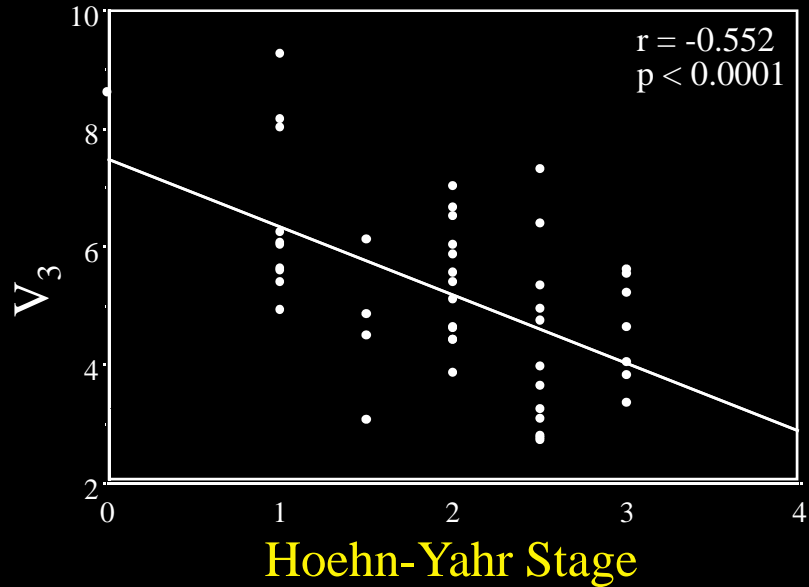


Hoehn-Yahr stage 3

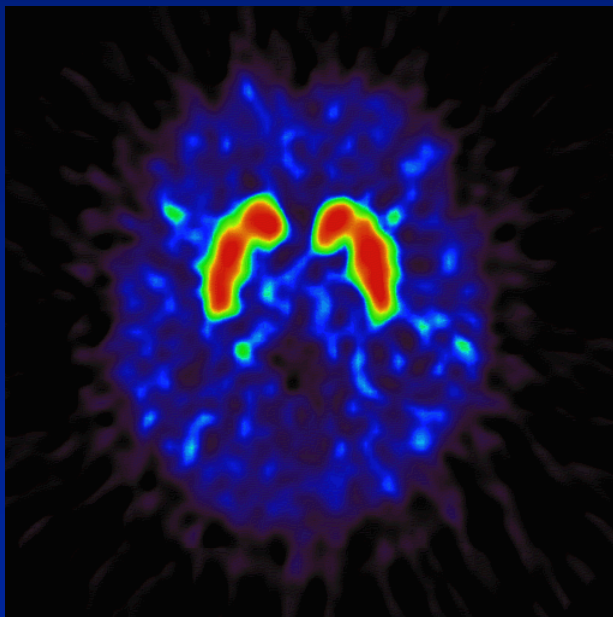
# $[^{123}\text{I}]\beta\text{-CIT}$ binding (Control vs. PD)



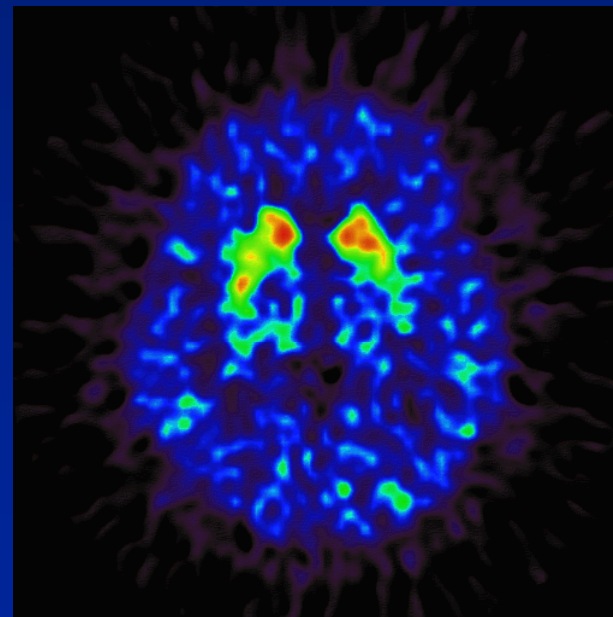
# DA Transporter Density versus Clinical Severity



# *[<sup>11</sup>C]WIN 35,428 PET Study*

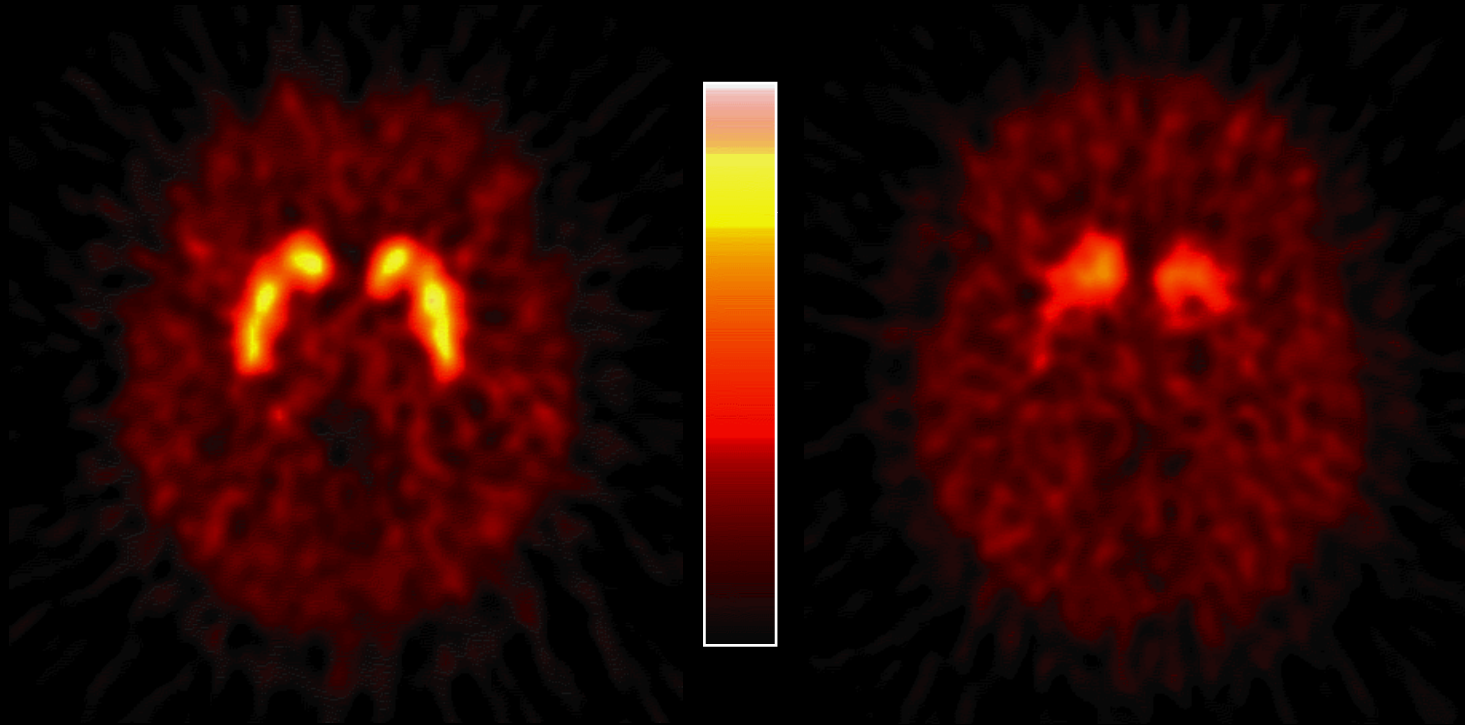


Healthy control



PD

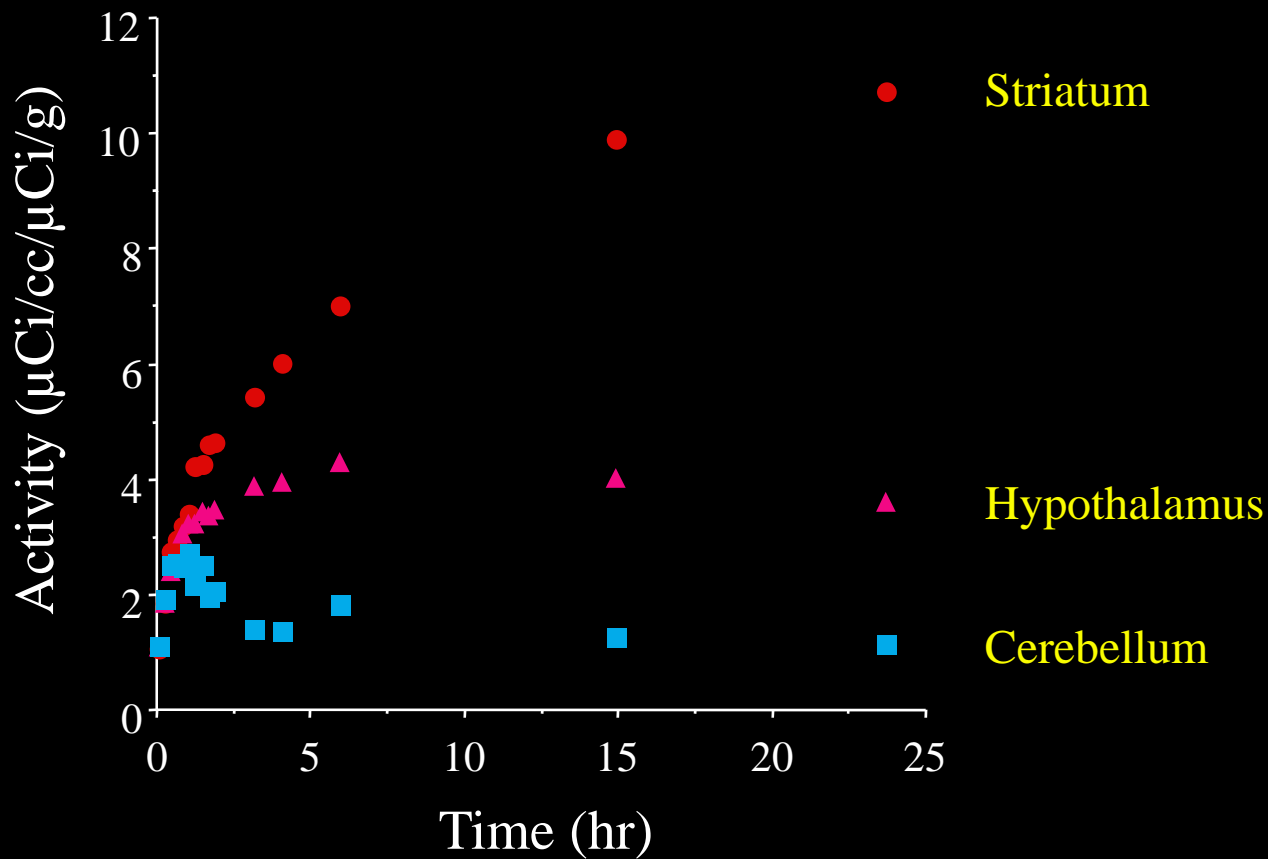
# *[<sup>11</sup>C]WIN 35,428 PET Study*



Healthy control

Hemi-Parkinson's disease

# $[^{123}\text{I}]\beta\text{-CIT}$ Time-Activity Curves in a Healthy Control



## *Affinity of N-(Fluoroalkyl)tropanes for DA and 5-HT Transporters*

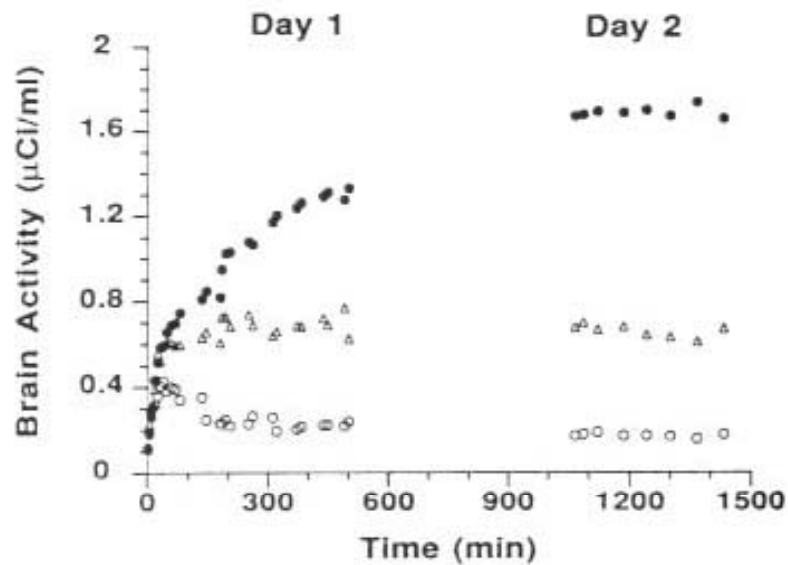
Compound	DA transporters* Ki (nM)	5-HT transporters† Ki (nM)	DA selectivity 5-HT Ki/DA Ki
β-CIT	1.40 ± 0.20	2.35 ± 0.42	1.68
<b>FP-CIT</b>	3.50 ± 0.39	9.73 ± 0.58	2.78
FE-CIT	4.00 ± 0.73	14.53 ± 3.52	3.6

\* *Neumeyer et al., 1994*

† *Abi-Dargham et al., 1996*

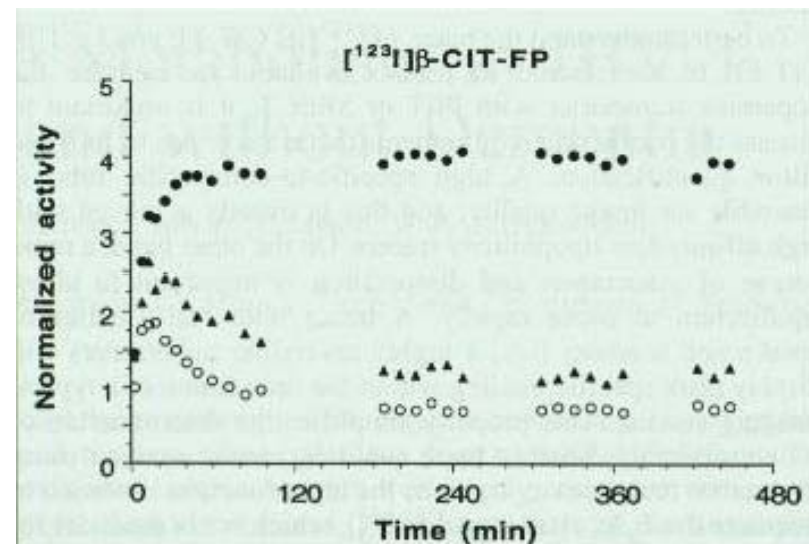
# $[^{123}\text{I}]$ FP-CIT: Faster kinetics and higher selectivity for dopamine transporters

$[^{123}\text{I}]\beta$ -CIT



Laruelle et al., 1993

$[^{123}\text{I}]$ FP-CIT



Abi-Dargham et al., 1996

## Differentiation of dementia with Lewy bodies from Alzheimer's disease using FDG PET and [<sup>123</sup>I]FP-CIT SPECT

### Affinity of *N*-(Fluoroalkyl)tropanes for DA and 5-HT Transporters

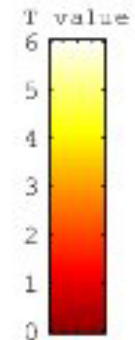
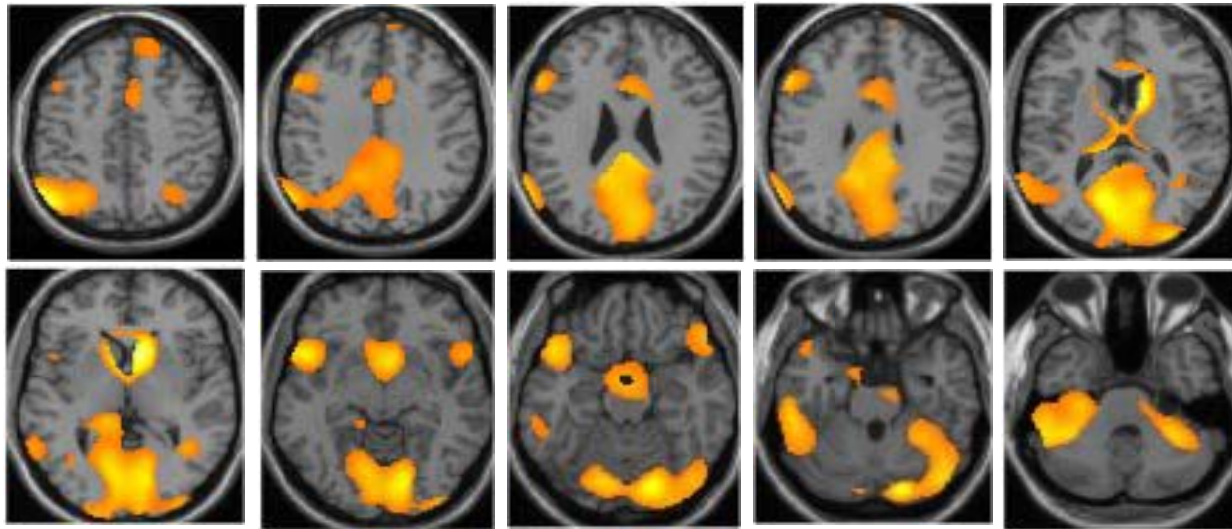
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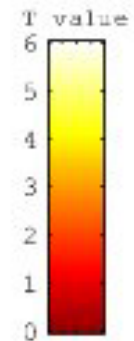
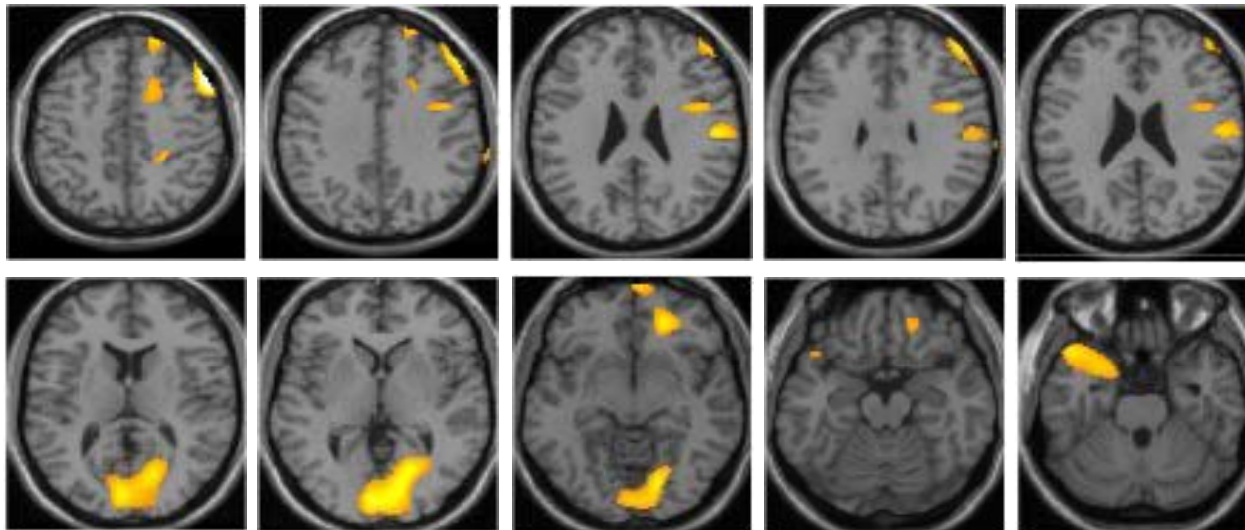
# Regional brain metabolic alterations in DLB

Hypometabolic regions in DLB compared with controls



$p < 0.01$  uncorrected  
 $k = 100$

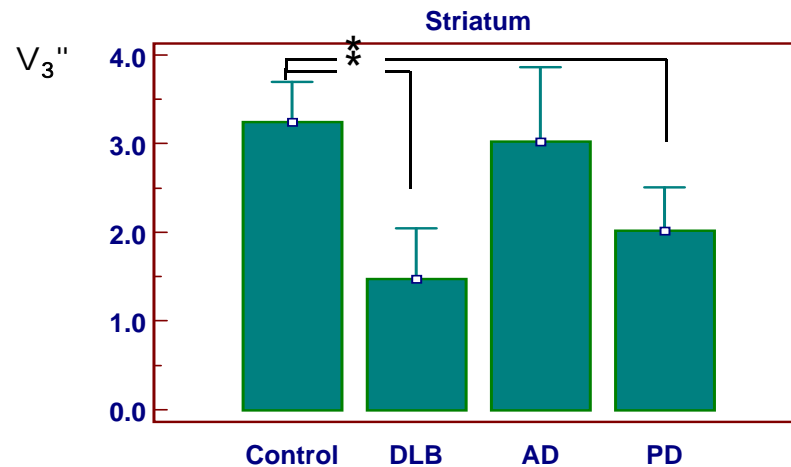
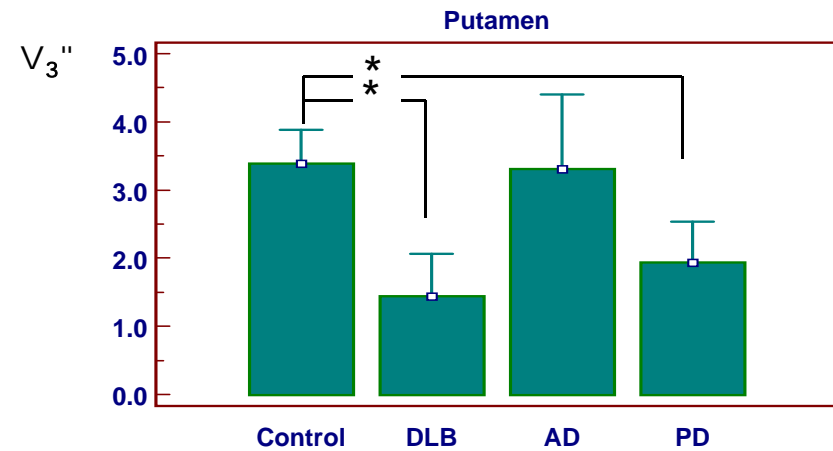
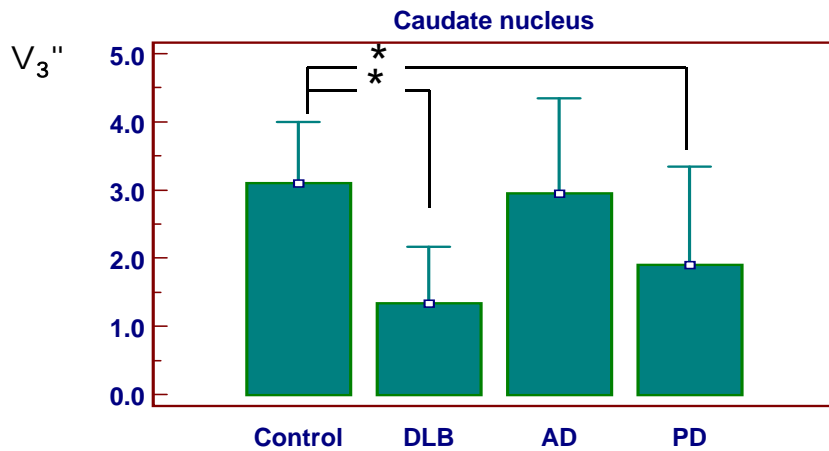
Hypometabolic regions in DLB compared with AD



$p < 0.01$  uncorrected  
 $k = 100$

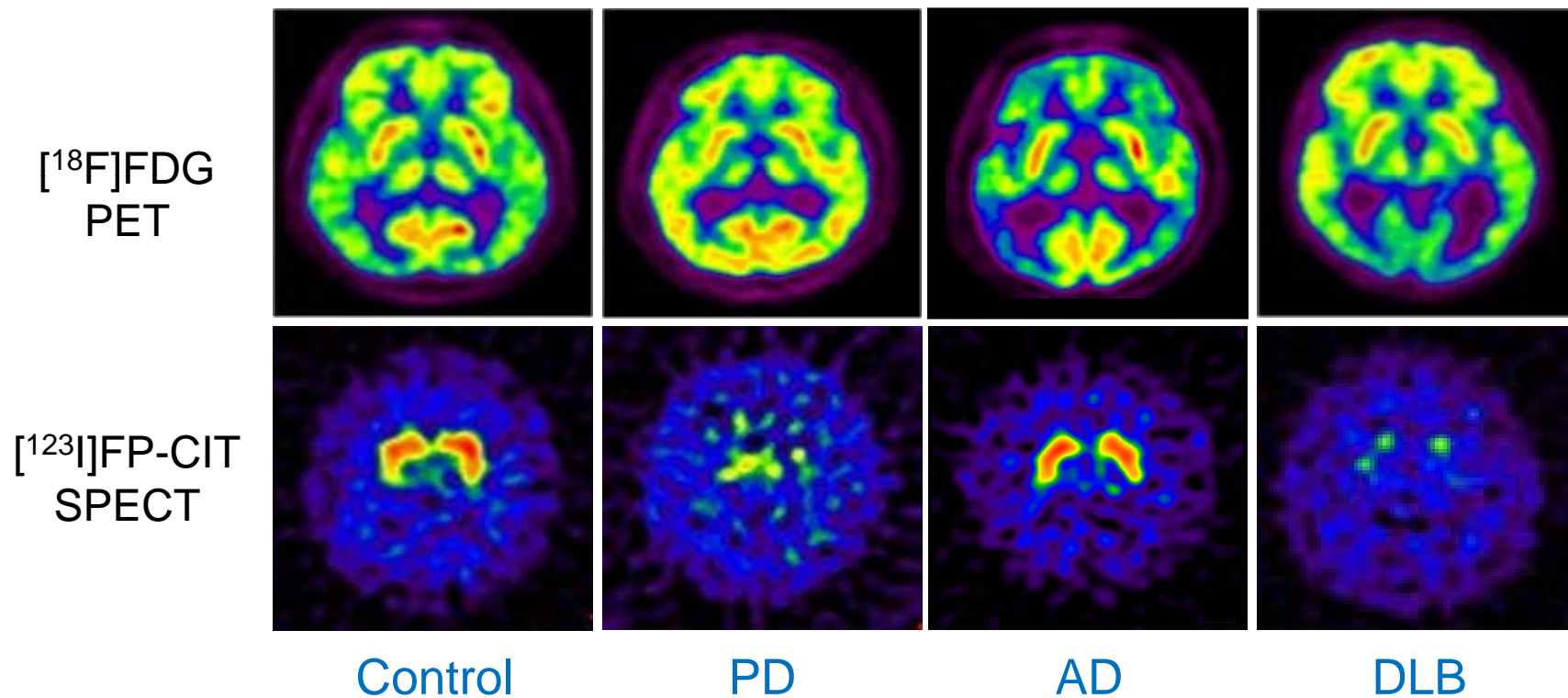
*Kim et al., 2004*

# DAT availability in patients with DLB, AD, and PD ([<sup>123</sup>I]FP-CIT SPECT study)



\* $p < 0.001$

# Metabolic and Dopaminergic Alterations in Neurodegenerative Diseases



*Kim et al., 2004*

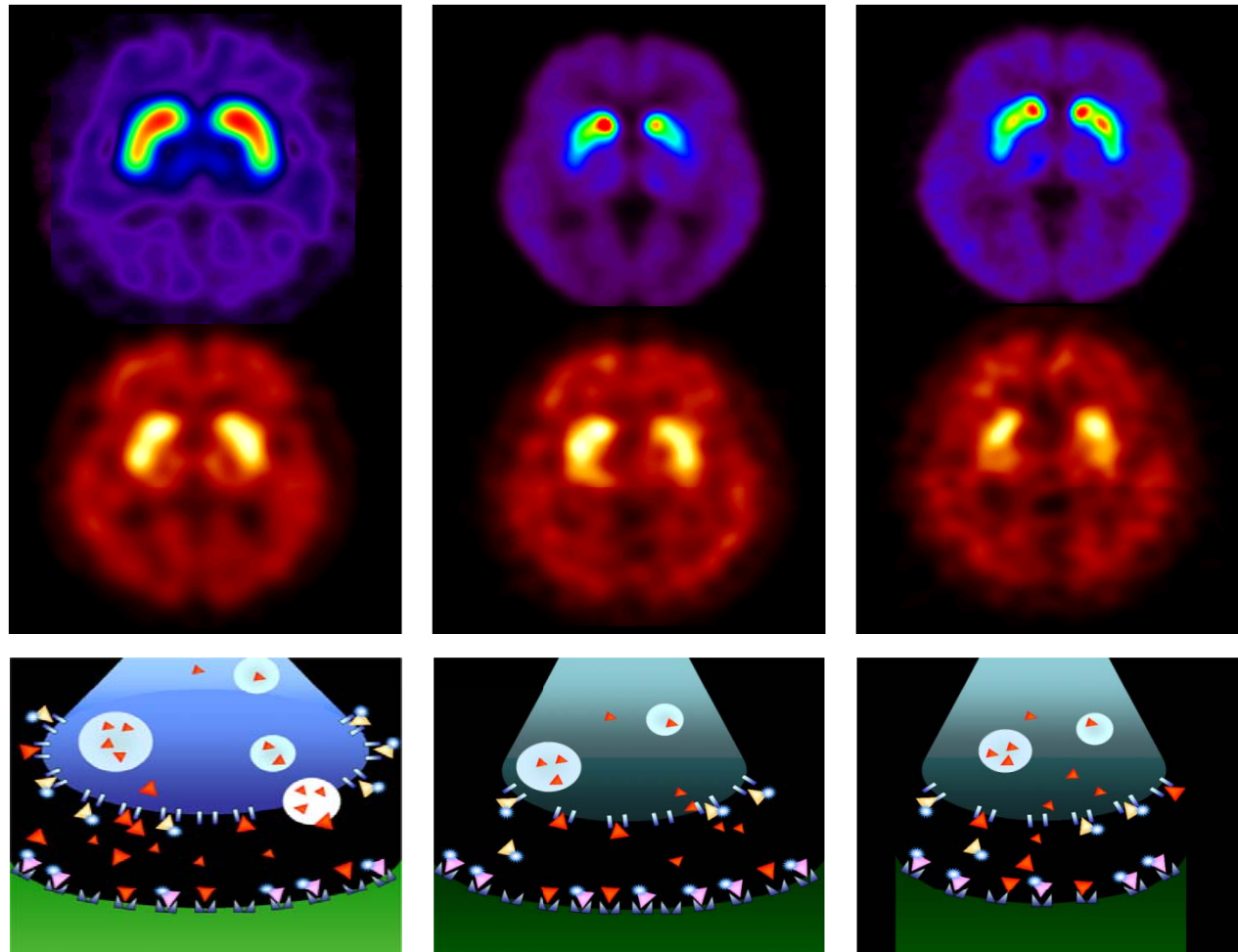
## MSA versus PD

	MSA	PD
<b>Onset</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> decade of life	6 <sup>th</sup> decade of life
<b>Prevalence</b>	1.9-4.9/100,000	1-3% of people > 65 y
<b>Features</b>	Parkinsonism, cerebellar ataxia, pyramidal signs, autonomic failure	Tremor, rigidity, hypokinesia
<b>Pathology</b>	Glial cytoplasmic inclusions	Lewy bodies
<b>Main involvement sites</b>	Striatonigral systems, olivopontocerebellar systems, pontomedullary reticular formation, serotonergic neurons of the medullary raphe, etc.	Substantia nigra pars compacta
<b>Diagnosis</b>	Clinical criteria	Clinical criteria
<b>Treatment</b>	Symptomatic	L-dopa
<b>Response to L-dopa</b>	<b>Poor</b>	Good
<b>Prognosis</b>	<b>Poor</b>	Relatively good

Dopamine transporter and dopamine D<sub>2</sub> receptor changes  
in PD and MSA  
(<sup>123</sup>I]FP-CIT/<sup>123</sup>I]IBZM SPECT studies)

<sup>123</sup>I]FP-CIT  
SPECT  
(Dopamine  
transporter:  
presynaptic)

<sup>123</sup>I]IBZM  
SPECT  
(Dopamine D<sub>2</sub>  
receptor:  
postsynaptic)



Control

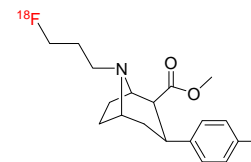
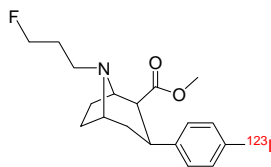
PD

MSA-P

*Kim et al., 2005*

## Advantages of SPECT radiotracer for DAT imaging ([<sup>123</sup>I]FP-CIT versus [<sup>18</sup>F]FP-CIT)

	SPECT radiotracer ([ <sup>123</sup> I]FP-CIT)	PET radiotracer ([ <sup>18</sup> F]FP-CIT)
Kinetic	Excellent for imaging and quantification	Excellent for imaging and quantification
Cyclotron and related facilities	Not needed	Needed
PET system	Not needed	Needed
Half-life	13 h	110 min
On-site radiolabeling	Yes	No
Availability	High	Low
Labeling efficiency	50%-80%	20%
Amount of precursor per study	micrograms	milligrams
Cost	Low	High



# Preclinical Imaging

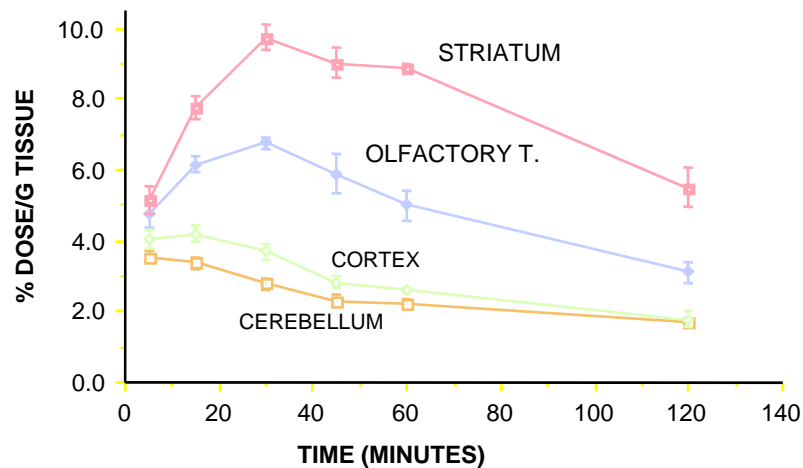
## - the molecular imaging advantage

- Longitudinal imaging within individual subjects
- Entire PK/PD studies in individual subjects
- Whole-body analysis of PK/PD
- Quantitative evaluation
- No Histology required (in most cases)

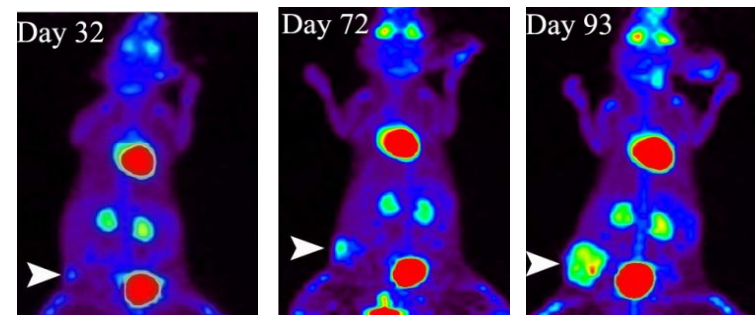


- Improving scientific data
- Accelerating development
- Reducing costs

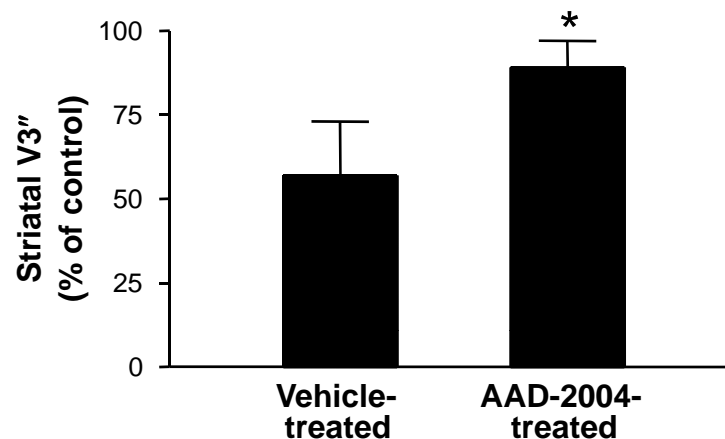
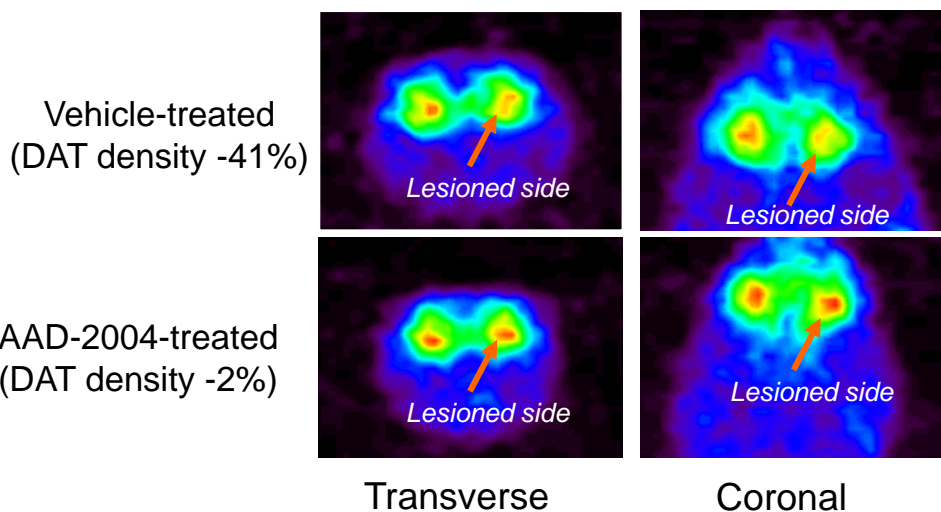
*Killing animals*



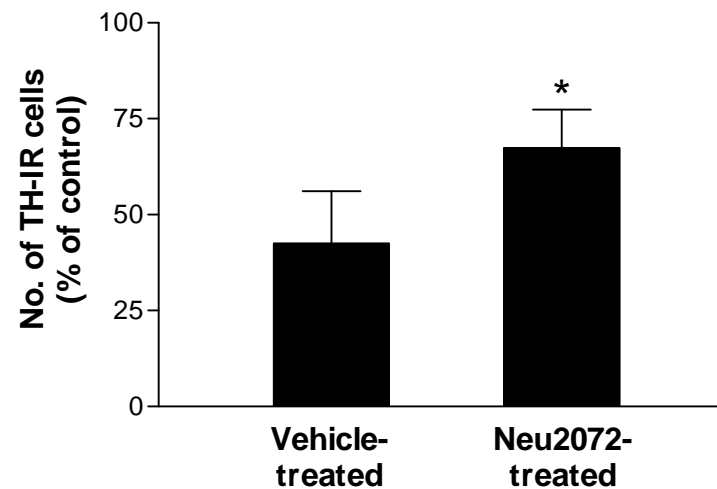
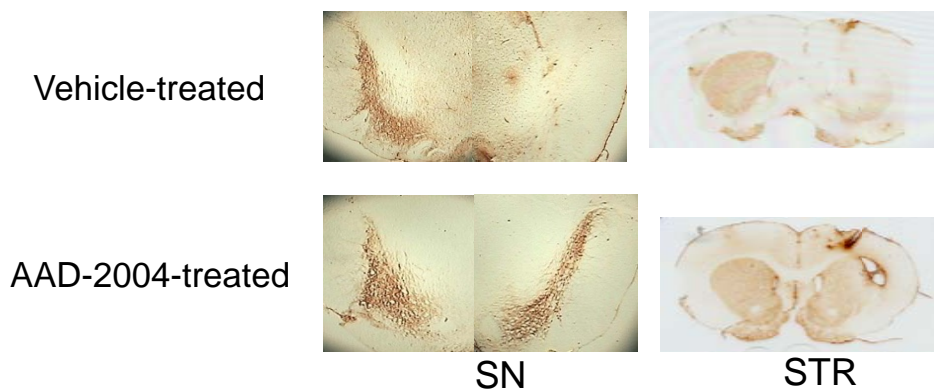
*Imaging animals*



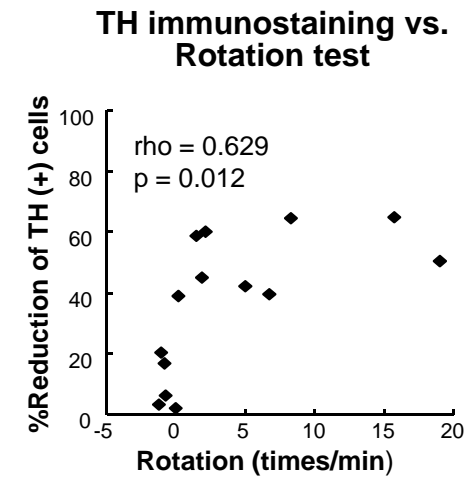
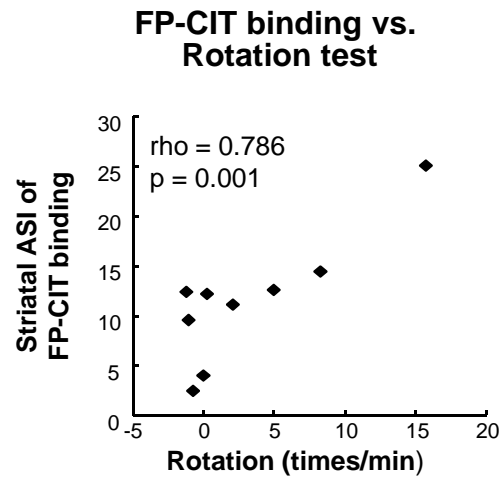
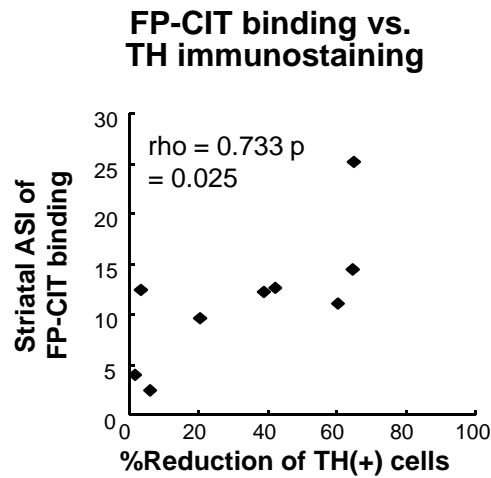
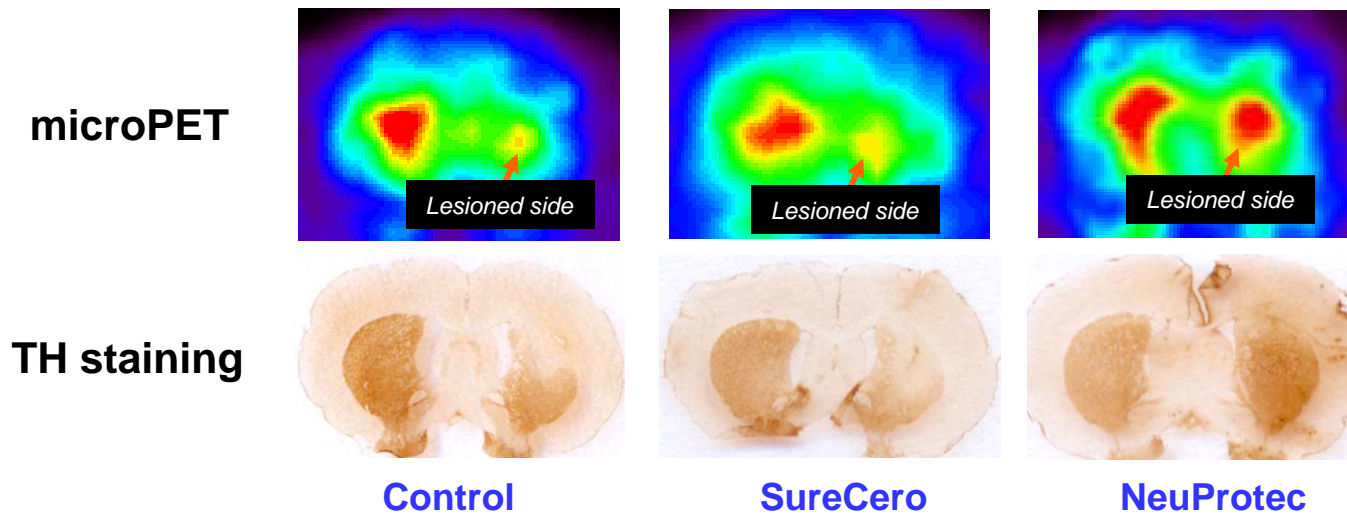
## Neuroprotective effect of AAD-2004 on the dopaminergic system (I-124-FP-CIT DAT microPET imaging in rat PD model)



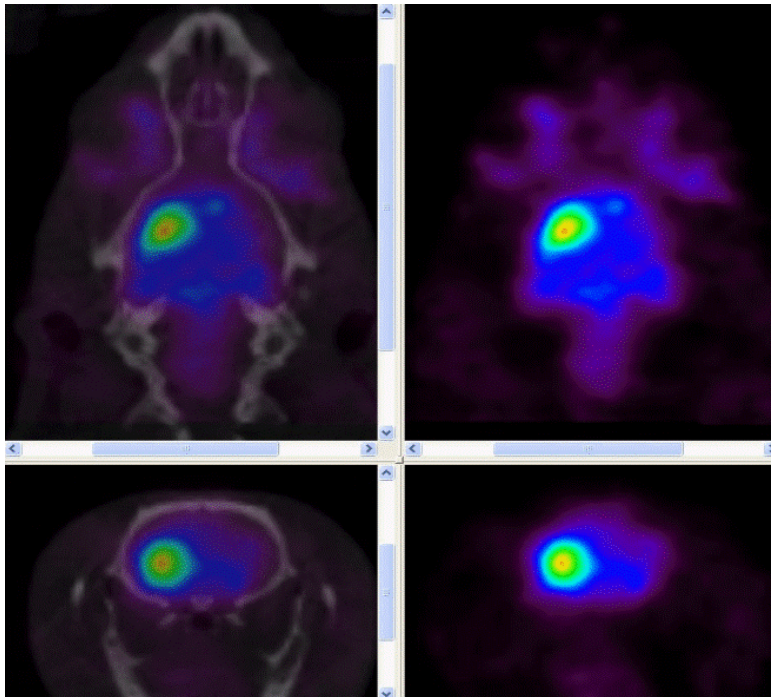
## TH immunohistochemistry



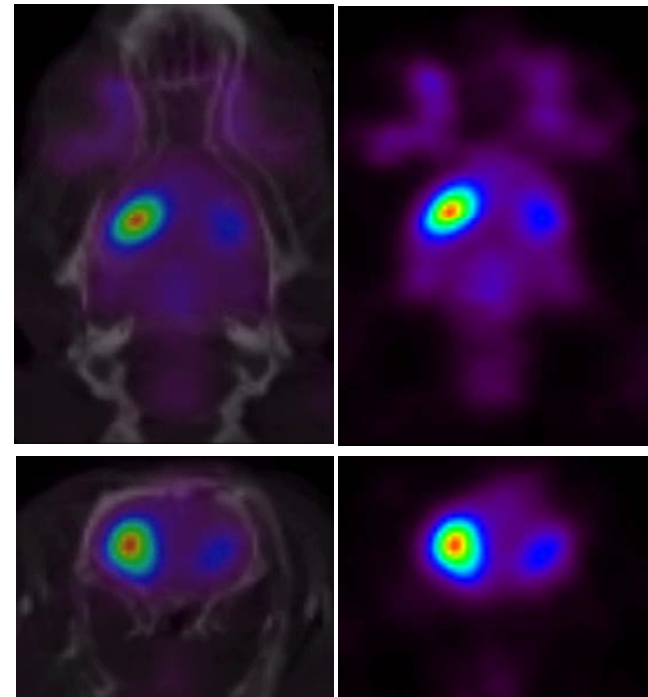
## Neuroprotective effect of NeuProtec on the dopaminergic system (I-124-FP-CIT DAT microPET imaging in rat PD model)



## Effect of stem cell therapy ( [ $^{123}\text{I}$ ]β-CIT DAT nanoSPECT imaging in rat PD model)



Vehicle-treated  
(DAT density -95%)



Stem cell-treated  
(DAT density -71%)

# Dopamine transporter imaging

- In vivo assessment of dopaminergic neuronal integrity
- Early diagnosis of Parkinson's disease
- Differential diagnosis of parkinsonism
- Monitoring of disease progression
- Evaluation of treatment efficacy
- Pharmaceutical development

## Going together for molecular neuroimaging in Asian countries

If you are interested in SPECT and/or PET imaging of dopamine transporters, please contact me at [kse@snu.ac.kr](mailto:kse@snu.ac.kr).

We will be happy to provide you with precursors of dopamine transporter radiotracers along with iodine-123 and assist you with radiolabeling.

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**Department of Nuclear Medicine**

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**Seoul, Korea**

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## Neurochemistry

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Ji Sun Kim  
Young Shin Jeon  
Kyung Il Sohn

## Cognitive Neuroscience

Sang Soo Cho  
Sang Hee Kim  
Sung Ae Bang  
Jee Hee Hwang  
Chang Soo Park  
Hyun Jung Han

## Animal/Human imaging

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Won Woo Lee  
Jae Sung Lee  
Jong Jin Lee  
Sujin Kim  
So Yeon Park  
Hyun Soo Park  
Eun Jin Yoon  
Ji Youn Sohn