# Bridging Disciplines to Heal the Whole System: Collaboration as the Engine for Brain and Whole Health Applications

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#### **Disclosures**

- National Institutes of Health
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  - U24NS107215
  - U24NS129500
  - R21NS145048
- Astrocyte, American Heart Association, Alva Health, Bexorg, BrainQ, Genentech, Hyperfine, Rhaeos

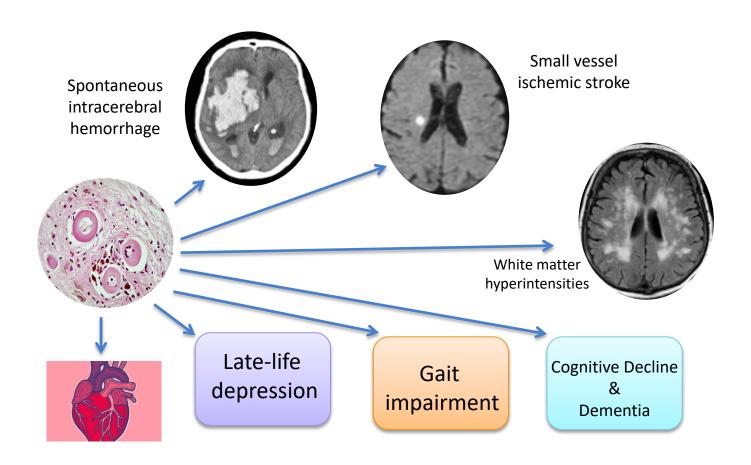
### I Work to Prevent and Treat Stroke and Preserve Brain Health

- Stroke is the #5 cause of death in United States; #2 globally
- 90% of stroke risk could be attributed to modifiable risk factors such as hypertension, obesity, diabetes, hyperlipidemia
- 50% of stroke risk can be attributed to behavioral risk factors such as smoking, sedentary lifestyle, and an unhealthy diet





### Systemic Vascular and Inflammatory Disease Causes Stroke and Much More



Lancet Neurol. 2014 Apr;13(4):405-18.

## The Brain Controls the Body . . . And the Body Controls the Brain?

#### Cardiogenic control of affective behavioural state

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-023-05748-8

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Open access

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### A microbiome-dependent gut-brain pathway regulates motivation for exercise

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-022-05525-z

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Check for updates

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#### How do we improve health?

- Science, yes.
- Translation, yes.
- Technology, yes.
- But most of all: interdisciplinary collaboration.

#### Center for Brain & Mind Health



CBMH Winter Symposium

## Making it Happen: Neuroscience Discovery to Treatment



Amy FT Arnsten, PhD
Albert E Kent Professor of Neuroscience and Psychology, Yale Medical School
Successful Translation of Guanfacine for the Treatment of Prefrontal Cortical
Cognitive Disorders



Allyson Berent, DVM, Dipl. ACVIM, CSO
Foundation for Angelman Syndrome Therapeutics
Parents' Journey Through Drug Development: Making the Impossible Possible:
The Angelman Syndrome Story



Christopher van Dyck, MD Director, Yale Alzheimer's Disease Research Unit Lecanemab: The First Disease-Modifying Therapy for Alzheimer's Disease



Tim Yu, MD, PhD
Division of Genetics and Genomics, Manton Center for Orphan Disease, and Translational
Neuroscience Center, Harvard Medical School
Prospects for "Individualized" Neurotherapeutics Using Antisense
Oligonucleotides

December 7, 2023 | 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM 100 College St., 11th Floor New Haven, CT Refreshments and conversations with speakers to follow

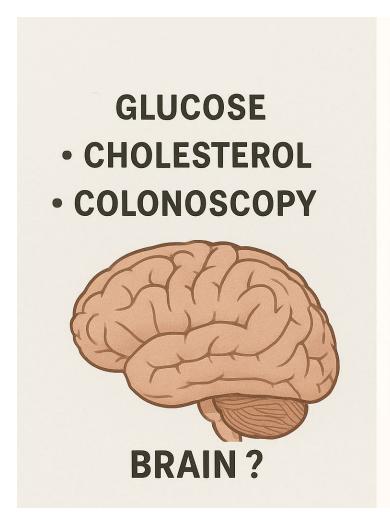


### "To be a relentless force for a world of longer, healthier lives."



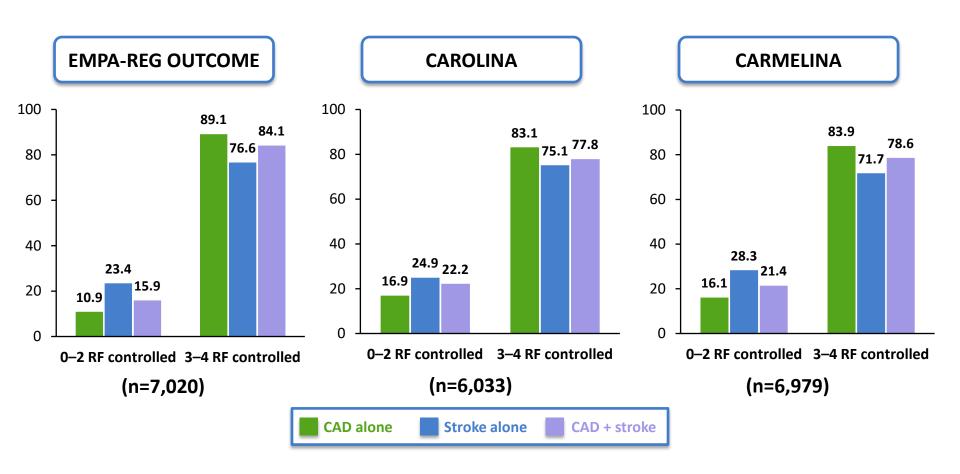
American Heart Association Mission Statement

## Longer, Healthy Aging Means Healthy Brain Aging





### Trial Data Show We Do Not Provide Adequate Preventative Care for Brain Vulnerable Patients



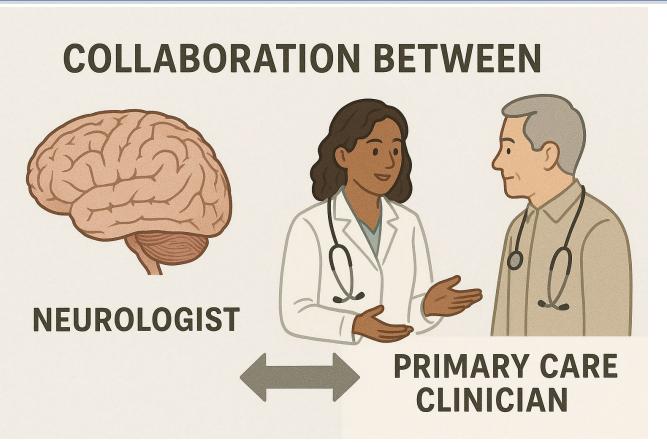
Balasubramanian P et al. Stroke 2023;54:2013-21

#### Real World Data Show The Same

	UK Biobank			All of Us		
	MI	Stroke	р	MI	Stroke	р
N	9,193	5,567		4,367	2,948	
Controlled LDL (<100 mg/dl) (%)	4479 (48.7%)	2078 (37.3%)	<0.001	2,948 (67.5%)	1,709 (58.0%)	<0.001
Controlled BP (<140 & <90) (%)	5,286 (57.5%)	2,739 (49.2%)	<0.001	2,421 (55.4%)	1455 (49.4%)	0.004
Statin use (%)	7,267 (79.0%)	3,252 (58.4%)	<0.001	3,215 (73.6%)	1895 (64.3%)	<0.001
Anti-platelet (%)	7,947 (86.4%)	3,425 (61.5%)	<0.001	3,214 (73.6%)	1710 (58.0%)	<0.001

Rivier CA et al. J Am Heart Assoc 2024;13:e033322

## Collaboration: Neuroscience and Primary Care



Interdisciplinary Engagement In Neurocardiology: A Key Opportunity

#### Modifiable Risk Factors for Disease

Scientific consensus is that approximately 40% of dementia, over 50% of strokes, and at least 35% of depression can be prevented through modifiable lifestyle factors.



Non-modifiable risk factors



Modifiable risk factors\* that are highly dependent on context and circumstance

Dementia prevention, intervention, and care: 2024 *Lancet* Commission reported these additional modifiable factors of dementia:

Cholesterol

Hearing loss

Vision Loss

Medication adherence



EDITORIAL

Blood-Based Biomarkers for Alzheimer Disease—Ready for Primary Care?

Lawren VandeVrede, MD, PhD; Gil D, Rabinovici, MD

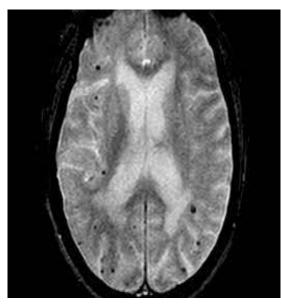
Digital Biomarkers for Neurodegenerative Disease

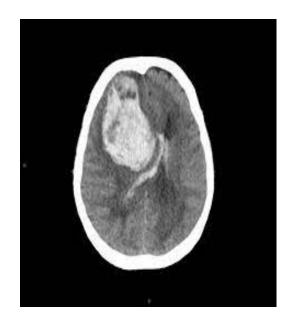
Claire M. Erickson, PhD, MPA; Anna Wexler, PhD; Emily A. Largent, JD, PhD

- Polygenic risk scores?
- Prevention & Pre-Disease?
- Do we need a new model:
   Brain & Mind Health Clinics

### All Stroke is Not the Same and So Clinical Trials Need Patient Centered Endpoints







- These strokes have different consequences
  - They result in different kinds of disability
    - So we must collaborate with patients!

## Landmark Stroke Trials Have Excluded Disabled Patients

- NIHSS NIH Stroke Scale
  - 0 equal no deficit and 42 is the maximum
- What was the mean/median NIHSS?
  - ARCADIA
    - 1
  - PROFESS
    - 1
  - IRIS
    - ()

 Enrolling a higher proportion of participants with poststroke disability improves statistical power <u>and</u> helps trials address generalizability issues due to low levels of participation among female, Black and Hispanic individuals

**Original Investigation | Neurology** 

Disability and Recurrent Stroke Among Participants in Stroke Prevention Trials

### ASPIRE and SATURN Break Ground: Collaboration with Disabled Patients

- Most stroke prevention trials enroll very mild stroke
- Burden is on patients with disability, so the irony . . .
- Another kind of health disparity – aging, disabled populations















### Interdisciplinary Collaboration at the Yale Center for Brain & Mind Health

- Collaboration Across a Medical School and Across a University
- Anesthesiology
- Biomedical Engineering (SEAS)
- Biostatistics (YSPH)
- Child Study Center
- Comparative Medicine
- Computer Science (SEAS)
- Electrical Engineering (SEAS)
- Economics (FAS)
- Emergency Medicine
- Environmental Health Sciences (YSPH)
- Epidemiology (YSPH)

- Genetics
- Immunobiology
- Internal Medicine
  - General Internal Medicine
  - Cardiology
  - Digestive
     Diseases
  - Infectious
     Diseases
- Lab Medicine
- Mathematics (FAS)
- Neurology
- Neuroscience
- Neurosurgery
- School of Nursing

- Obstetrics, Gynecology & Reproductive Sciences
- Pediatrics
- Philosophy (FAS)
- Political Science (FAS)
- Psychiatry
- Psychology (FAS)
- Radiology & Biomedical Imaging
- School of Law
- School of Management
- School of Music
- Surgery
- Urology
- Yale Ventures

## Collaboration: Engineering, Industry, Foundation, Government

- Due to high costs, MRI remains largely unavailable to majority of the people on the planet
- Higher magnetic field is not always better



	High Field	Low Field	
Cooling	Liquid Cryogens	No Cryogenic Requirement	
Power ~1 house/day		~Single Coffee Maker	
Shielding	Shielded Room	Shielded or Unshielded	







## Collaboration: Patients and Health Care Environments

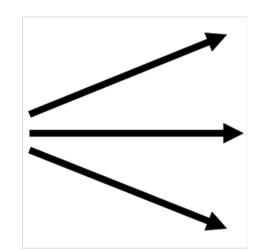




## Brain Technology That Comes to Patients





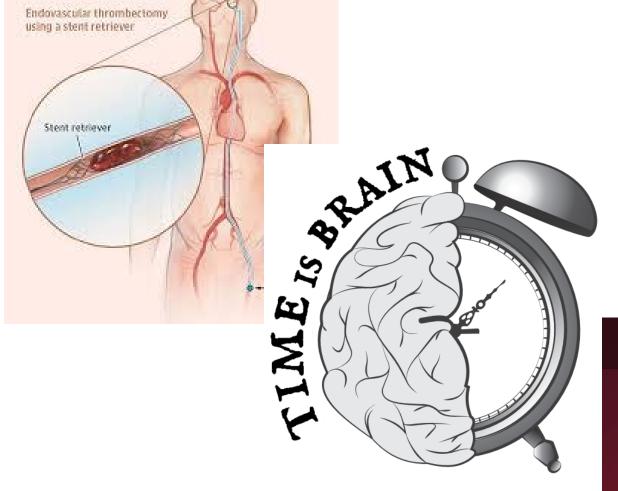








**New Paradigm** 





#### Inequities in Access and Delivery of Acute Stroke Care

A Brain Attack Coalition Symposium Report October 2022



### For Decades, We've Been Working on Getting to the Patient Faster



### Shouldn't We Start from the Patient, When A Stroke Begins, Instead?



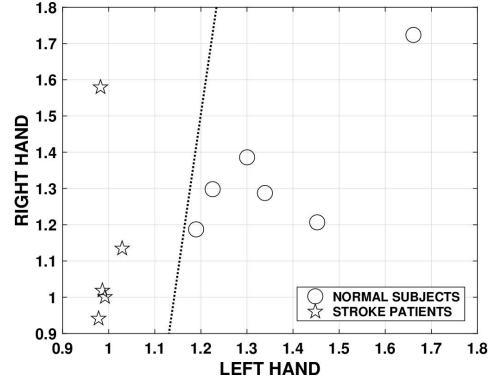
### Collaboration: Patients and MedTech Make Neuro-Wearables















#### ARTICLE

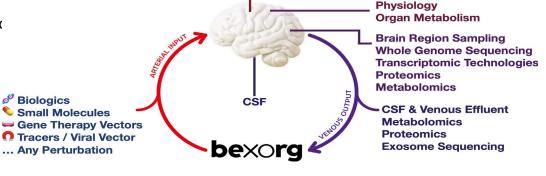
https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-019-1099-1

### Restoration of brain circulation and cellular functions hours post-mortem

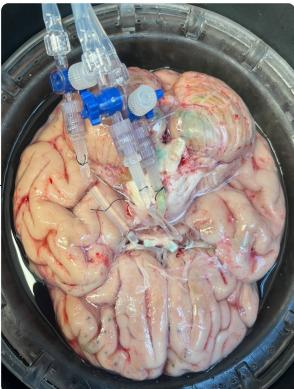
Zvonimir Vrselja<sup>1,2,18</sup>, Stefano G. Daniele<sup>1,2,3,18</sup>, John Silbereis<sup>1,2</sup>, Francesca Talpo<sup>1,2,4</sup>, Yury M. Morozov<sup>1,2</sup>, André M. M. Sousa<sup>1,2</sup>, Brian S. Tanaka<sup>5,6,7</sup>, Mario Skarica<sup>1,2</sup>, Mihovil Pletikos<sup>1,2,8</sup>, Navjot Kaur<sup>1,2</sup>, Zhen W. Zhuang<sup>9</sup>, Zhao Liu<sup>9,10</sup>, Rafeed Alkawadri<sup>6,11</sup>, Albert J. Sinusas<sup>9,10</sup>, Stephen R. Latham<sup>12</sup>, Stephen G. Waxman<sup>5,6,7</sup> & Nenad Sestan<sup>1,2,13,14,15,16,17</sup>\*

### Collaboration: Translational Neuroscience and Drug Discovery Technology

- Animal and in vitro models have mostly failed
- 1,961 Phase 1 trials in neurodegenerative lead to
   12 NDAs for disease modifying therapies
- 0.6% success rate in the clinic





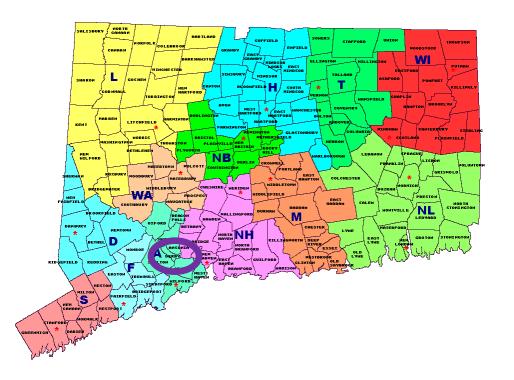


**Donor Medical History** 

## Collaboration is Local & Community Based



Adoption of population-health methods developed in health systems to the care of whole **geopolitical communities.** 



Adult Residents of a City or Town



Join PROSPER



Every Resident has BP < 130/80

#### Collaboration is Global



- CLARITY is the Cilastazol Stroke Prevention Trial
- Based on CSPS.com; hazard ratio of 0.52
- 4000 patients in a trial to answer the following question:

  Does the long-term addition of cilostazol to antiplatelet therapy with aspirin or clopidogrel reduce stroke recurrence and cardiovascular events in a randomized clinical trial?
- 2000 patients in the United States; the rest enrolled globally!

Toyoda K, et al. Lancet Neurol 2019;18:539-48.

#### Conclusions

- The brain centric view of neurological translation is yielding to one in which brain health is intertwined with overall health
- Basic and translational advances must be developed in their ultimate context of use - persons and populations
- Interdisciplinary investigative collaboration is the foundation for realizing successful neuroscience applications