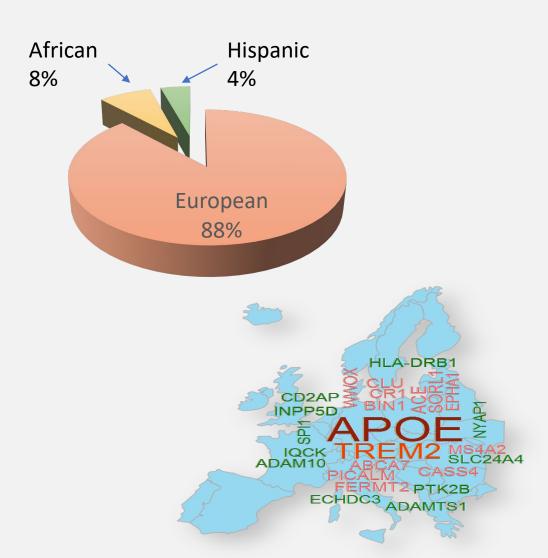
## **Background**

# **Alzheimer's Disease Sequencing Project (ADSP)**

The overarching goals of the ADSP are to:

- Identify new genes and genetic variations that contribute to increased risk for or protection against AD/ADRD
- Provide insight as to why these genes and variations impact AD/ADRD
- Identify potential avenues or approaches to transform genetic results into meaningful therapeutic targets for further development.

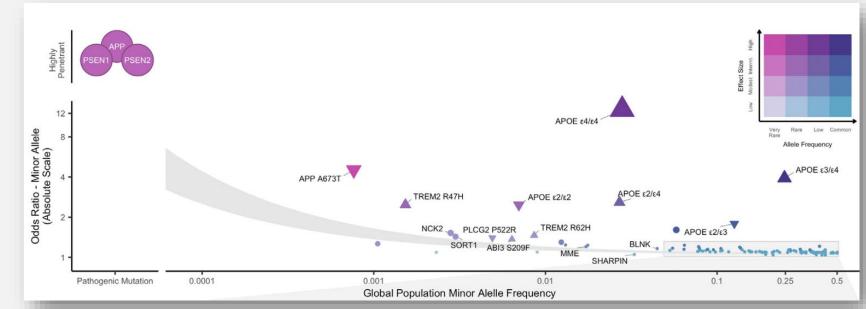


## **Research Progress**

# **Alzheimer Disease Genetics: Recent Accomplishments**

- Alzheimer Disease (AD) is a genetic disease that is between 70 and 80% heritable.
- More than 80 regions of the genome contain risk factor genes for late-onset AD.
- AD is not one entity; it is a genetic spectrum with a number of sub-phenotypes.
  - Early Onset and Late Onset AD are parts of a genetic continuum.
- There are a few strong and common protective variant signals in the AD genome.
- Many signals are rare or very rare variants are located in "noncoding" regions of the genome.

- Pathways such as inflammation, lipid metabolism, endocytosis, and amyloid deposition are an important part of the etiology of the disease.
- Ancestral background plays an important role in AD risk and protection.
- Important factor in determining risk and protection for AD.



## **Clinical Progress**

# **Genetically Driven NIA Supported Clinical Trials**

#### **INVOKE-2: Phase 2 clinical trial**

Reduction in *TREM2* functionality may lead to AD and other forms of dementia.

- TREM2 is a transmembrane receptor expressed on a subset of innate immune cells and selectively on microglia.
- Evaluating the efficacy and safety of AL002, the first product candidate targeting TREM2.
- AL002 aims to counteract decreased functionality by optimizing TREM2 signaling to improve cell survival and proliferation, and activity of microglia.

## **APOE2 Phase 1/2 Clinical Trial**

Gene Therapy for APOE4 Homozygotes of Alzheimer's Disease

- Using AAV 10 vector to transfer ApoE2 cDNA into CSF/CNS of 15 patients. Phase 1/2, Cornell Medical Center
- No substantial side-effects reported
- -Decrease of initial CSF biomarkers

#### **APOLLOE4: Phase 3 clinical trial**

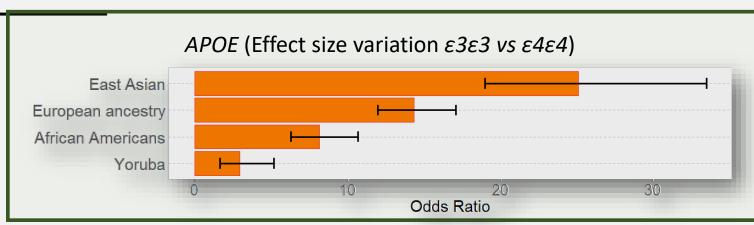
People with two copies of *APOE4* are at significantly elevated risk for developing AD.

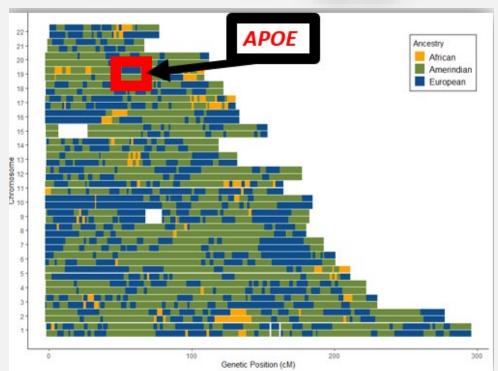
- Evaluating effects of the experimental drug ALZ-801 in older adults with early AD and two copies of the APOE4 allele.
- ALZ-801 is designed to slow the progression of AD by reducing amyloid deposits, a hallmark of AD.

#### **Discoveries**

# **Ancestry-Related Variations in AD Genetic Studies\***

- The APOE4 allele has a heterogeneous AD risk effect across diverse ancestral populations.
- The difference in risk between European and African ancestries for *APOE4* is due to differences between the local ancestry region surrounding *APOE*.
- AD patients with African Local Ancestry express significantly lower levels of APOE compared APOE4 carriers with European Local Ancestry.
- These differences in *APOE4* expression could contribute to the reduced risk for AD seen in African *APOE4* carriers.

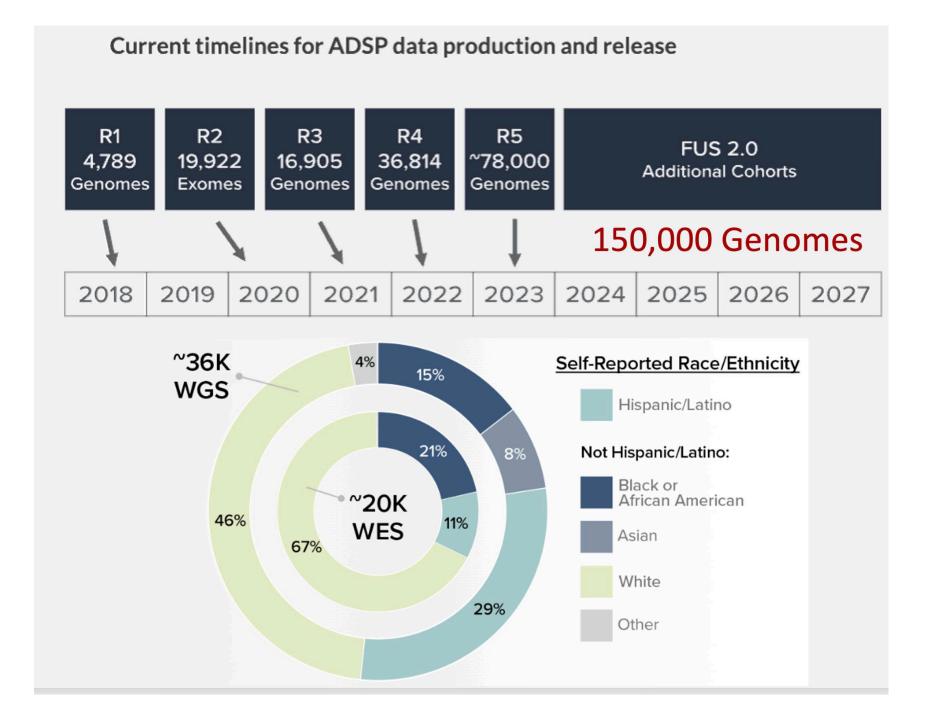




<sup>\*</sup>Rajabli et al., Hendrie et al., Blue et al., Griswold et al.

## **CHALLENGES**

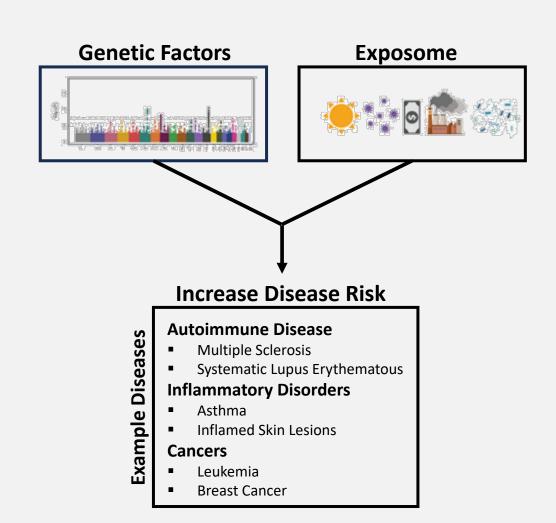
# Pathway Towards Inclusion: Increasing Diversity



#### **CHALLENGES**

## Integrating Genetics and Exposome to Advance AD Research

- The Exposome in Alzheimer Disease,
  - Encompasses all non-genetic factors: social, behavioral, environmental, etc.
- Interplay of Genetics and Exposome is important for
  - Developing comprehensive AD risk models
  - Assessing factors contributing to cognitive resilience
  - Identifying interactions between exposome and genetics that affect AD risk and progression
- Implications for Treatment and Prevention,
  - Emphasizing prevention strategies including exposome modifications
  - Aiming for early detection and personalized intervention approaches



#### **Future Efforts**

## **Key Components for Addressing Alzheimer Disease**

