



Virtual KOL Event: Reviewing the Predictive Nature  
of P300 in Determining the Clinical Benefit of  
Alzheimer's Disease Treatments  
*with Dr. Larry Ereshefsky*

October 28, 2020

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Larry Ereshefsky, PharmD, BCPP, FCCP leverages his over 45 years experience as a clinician, scientist and investigator to develop treatments and innovate clinical methodologies to make a difference in the lives of patients with neurodegenerative and psychiatric disorders. He has contributed significantly to several drug approvals spanning neurology and psychiatry, including drug development planning, PK/PD evaluation, and methodological innovation for Parkinson's (PD), Alzheimer's Diseases (AD), chronic and acute pain models, as well as numerous psychiatric indications including schizophrenia, TRD, bipolar and anxiety disorders.

Dr. Ereshefsky is a retired Regents Professor of Pharmacy, Psychiatry, and Pharmacology from The University of Texas/UT Health Science Center (UT). He has been a leader in the application of translational drug development tools including neurocircuitry/biomarker based (RDoC) strategies, i.e., continuous CSF sampling, QEEG, ERP, PSG, sMRI, fMRI, MRS, PET, pain models including capsaicin, UV burn, NGF, allodynia evaluations, and cognitive and behavioral paradigms.

He served twice on the FDA Psychopharmacological Drugs Advisory Committee. His PharmD and Residency in Psychopharmacology and Clinical Pharmacy were at the University of Southern California and LA County Medical Center. He is also a founding advisory board member and consultant to the ERP Biomarker Qualification Consortium.

# Agenda



- Athira corporate overview
  - *Leen Kawas*
- Introduction to P300
  - *Larry Ereshefsky*
- Video demonstration of P300
- Background on P300 and its utility as a functional measurement of cognition
  - *Larry Ereshefsky*
- Clinical results from completed trials of ATH-1017 in individuals with Alzheimer's disease and ongoing trials
  - *Leen Kawas*
- Question & answer session with analysts

**Pipeline focused on regeneration of neuronal damage in CNS and peripheral diseases to restore function**

**ATH-1017 LEAD INDICATION:**  
Alzheimer's disease

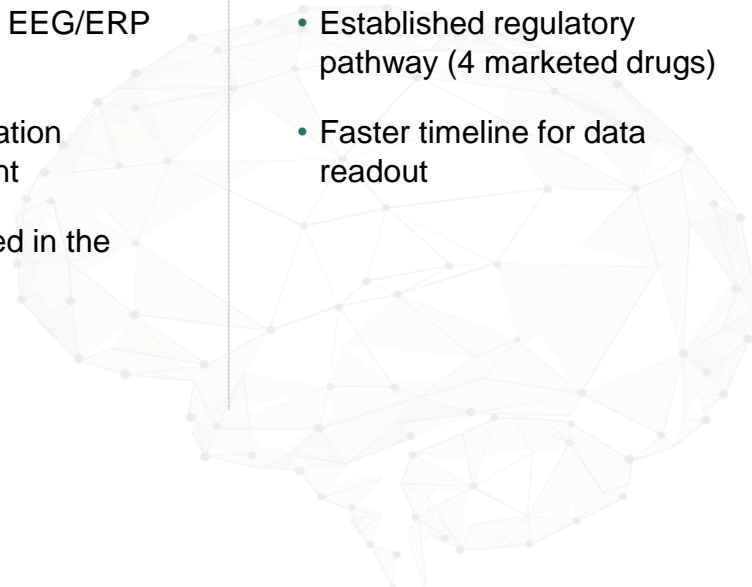
**POTENTIAL FOLLOW-ON INDICATIONS:**  
Parkinson's dementia, ALS, MS, neuropathy, and neuropsychiatric etc. (additional compounds in development)

## Lead asset ATH-1017 with novel regenerative MOA

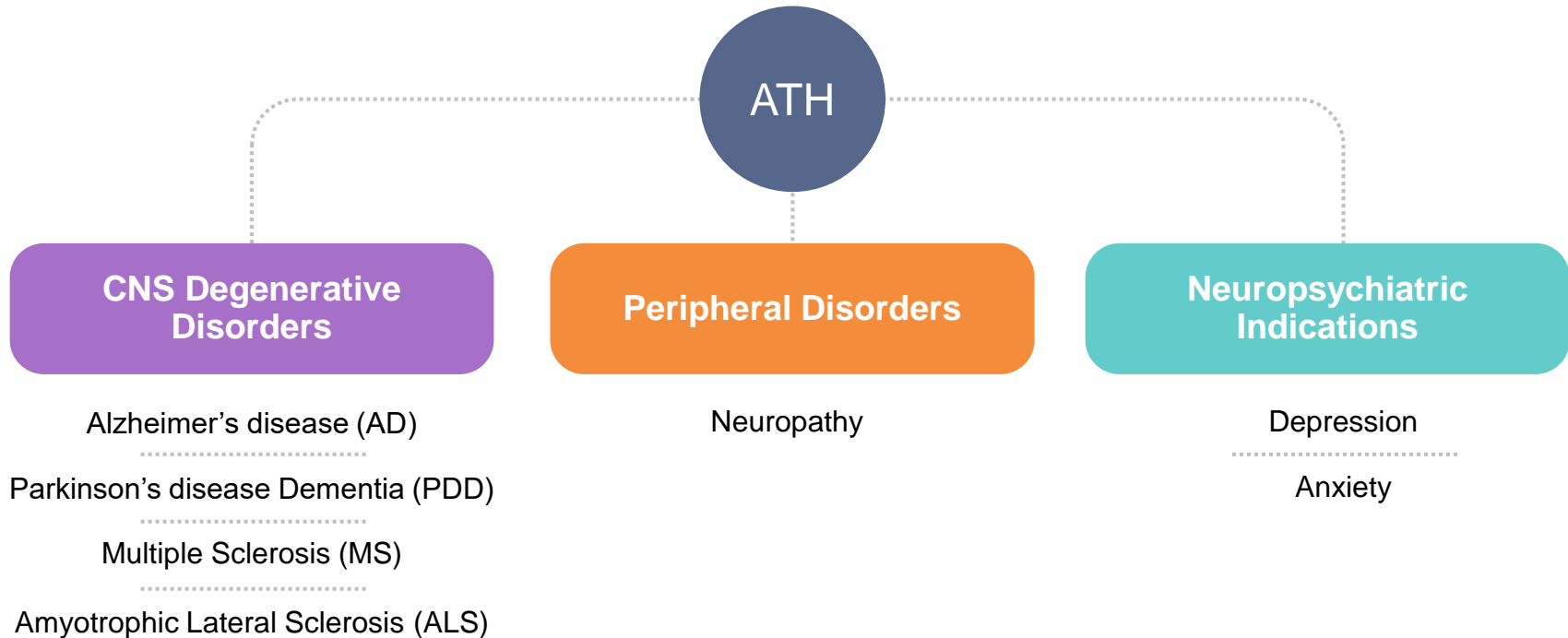
- Encouraging data in AD subjects (double blind study)
- Rapid improvement in EEG/ERP P300 latency
- Supports CNS penetration and target engagement
- Generally well-tolerated in the Phase 1 a/b

## Efficient Clinical development strategy





- Cost and time efficient clinical trials
- Established regulatory pathway (4 marketed drugs)
- Faster timeline for data readout



# ATH Compounds Have Therapeutic Potential in a Broad Range of Clinical Applications



# Current Development Stage of ATH Compounds and Discovery Research Programs to Improve Neuronal Health

Program (RoA) <sup>(1)</sup>	Indication	PRECLINICAL	CLINICAL			Anticipated Upcoming Milestones
		Discovery and Development	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	
<b>ATH-1017</b> (SC)	Alzheimer's Disease			LIFT-AD Phase 2/3 Clinical Trial <sup>(2)</sup>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LIFT-AD initiated September 2020</li> <li>• Topline data by end of 2022</li> <li>• Initiate ACT-AD P300 Phase 2 Trial by end of 2020</li> <li>• Topline data by early 2022</li> </ul>
	Parkinson's Disease Dementia		PDD Phase 2 Clinical Trial			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IND filing by H1 2021 (no Phase 1 expected)<sup>(3)</sup></li> <li>• Phase 2 initiation by end of 2021</li> </ul>
<b>ATH-1019</b> (PO)	Neuropsychiatric Indications					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IND filing H1 2022</li> </ul>
<b>ATH-1018</b> (PO)	Neuropathy					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IND filing by end of 2022</li> </ul>

(1) RoA: route of administration; SC: subcutaneous; PO: oral.

(2) ATH-1017 for AD is moving from Phase 1b to a Phase 2/3 clinical trial that may provide pivotal data in support of registration based on discussions with FDA.

(3) We plan to initiate a Phase 2 clinical trial in PDD based on results from Phase 1a and 1b clinical trials in AD with ATH-1017. A second IND for PDD can cross-reference the already active IND for AD. It is not required that we repeat any studies or trials that are applicable across the two indications for the second IND for PDD, including a Phase 1 clinical trial.

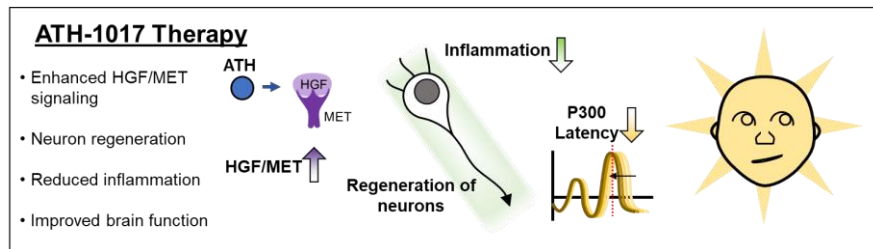
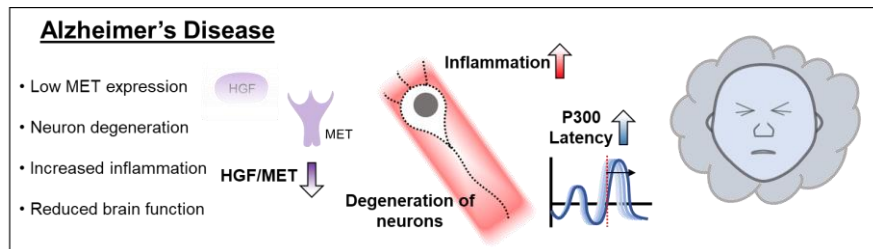
# Athira's Target, HGF/MET, is a Vital Neuronal Growth Factor that Promotes Neuronal Health and Regeneration

## Hepatocyte\* Growth Factor (HGF)/MET Receptor

- ✓ **Critical to neuron function, learning, and memory**
- ✓ **Gene expression is reduced in Alzheimer's**
- ✓ **Multi-modal beneficial mechanism of action**

## Demonstrated Effects of HGF/MET in Animal Models

- **Alleviation of A $\beta$ -induced cognitive impairment**
- **Prevention of onset of Parkinson's disease**
- **Prolongs life span in a transgenic mouse model of ALS**
- **Improved learning and memory dysfunction of microsphere-embolized rats**



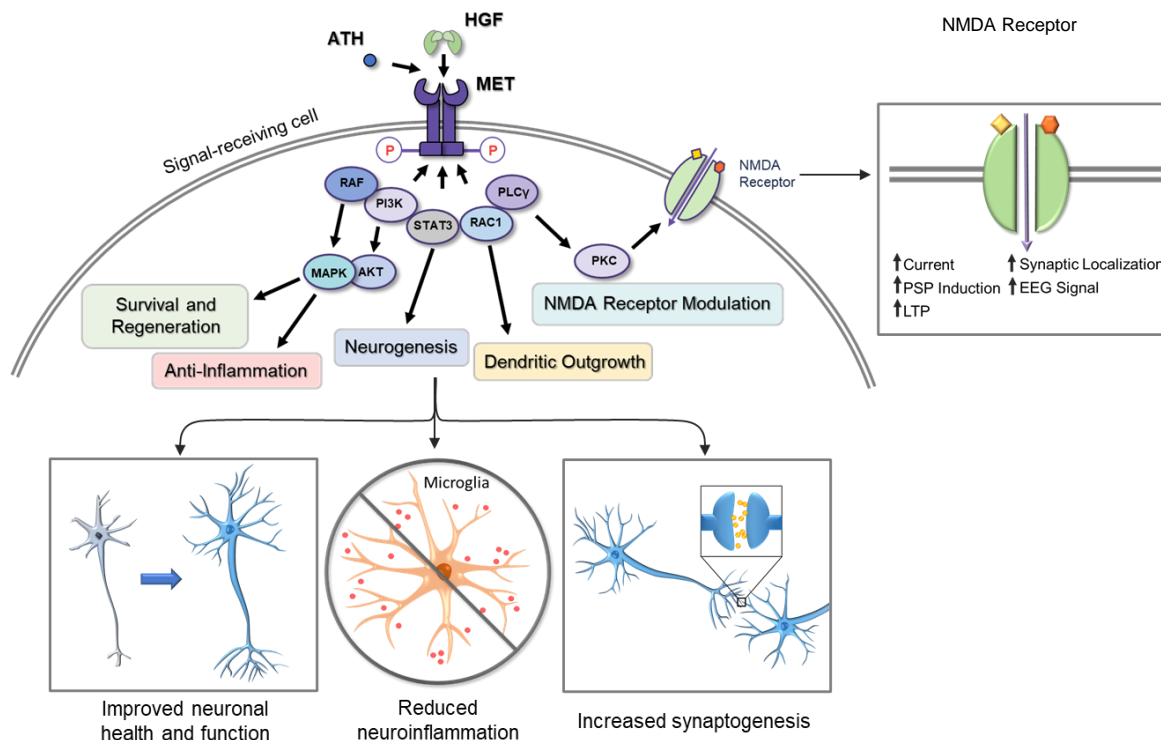


# HGF/MET Enhances and Improves Key Neuronal Receptor Activity

Acute and Sustained Effects on  
Synaptic and Network Function

- ✓ Fast-acting  
positive modulator
- ✓ Protective and  
regenerative
- ✓ Procognitive  
(Symptomatic)
- ✓ EEG measure

ATH-1017 Is Designed to Enhance HGF/MET



# Introduction to Evoked-Response Potential (ERP)

# Introduction to Evoked-Response Potential (ERP)

Dr. Larry Ereshefsky, PharmD, BCPP, FCCP  
CSO, Apex Innovative Sciences  
Follow the Molecule CNS Consulting

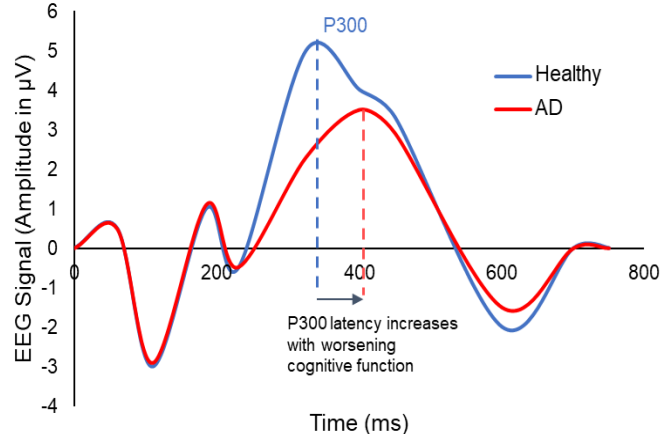


# EEG Measures Electrical Activity from Firing Neurons in the Brain

## EVENT RELATED POTENTIALS (ERP): P300 Latency

- Functional measurement for working memory access and executive function
- Strongly suggestive of memory improvement

**Pathological changes in P300 latency correlate with cognitive impairment**



EEG records brain electrical activity from electrodes placed on the scalp

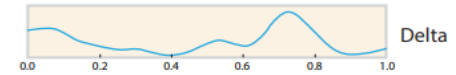
## QUANTITATIVE EEG (qEEG)

- Translational tool from rodents to humans
- PK/PD modeling for dose selection

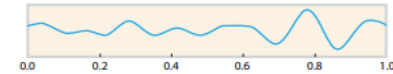
**Noninvasive EEG recordings reflect brain activity and function**



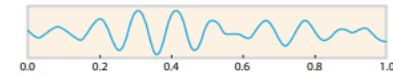
Raw signal filtered to reveal individual frequency band activity



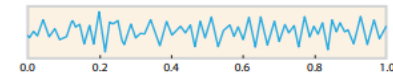
Delta



Theta



Alpha

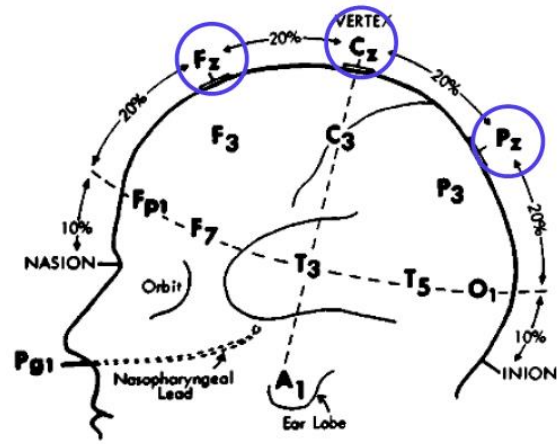


Beta

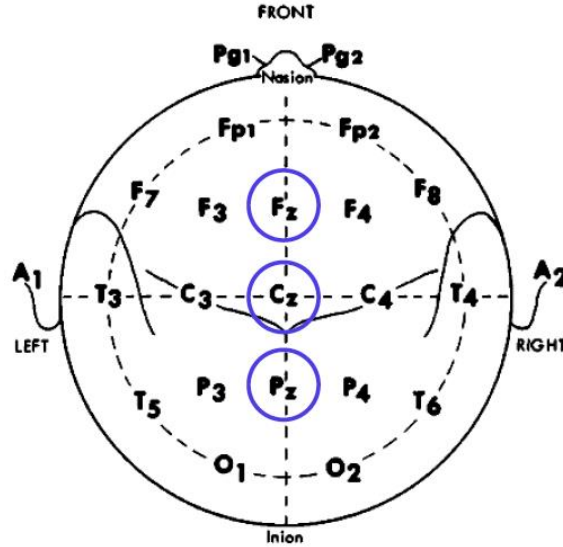


Gamma

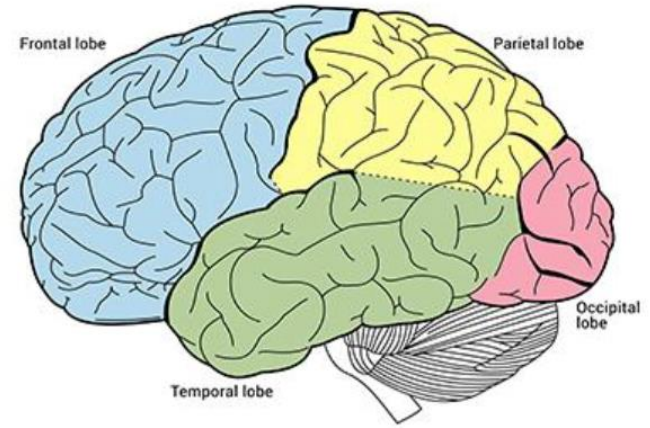
# Diagram of Standard 10-20 Montage: Electrode Placement on Scalp



LEFT SIDE OF HEAD



TOP OF HEAD

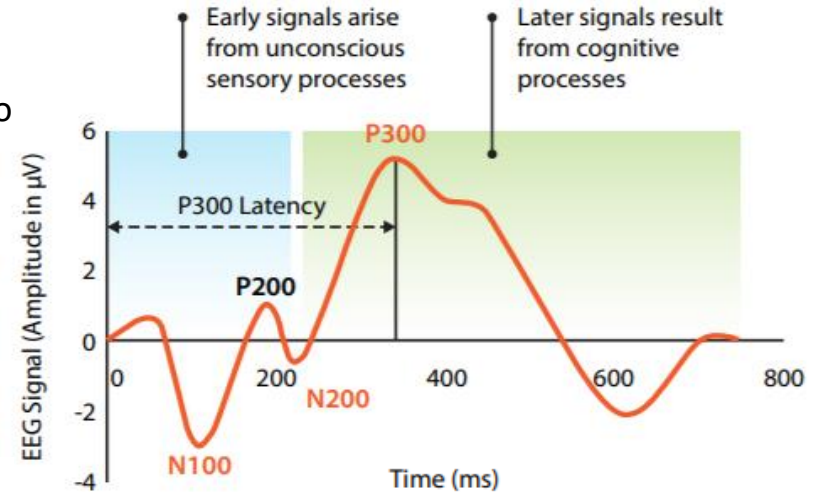
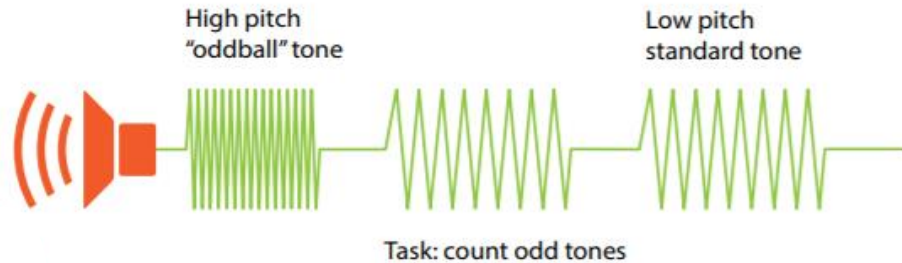


Midline structures (circled) considered most relevant for ERP

- Frontal Fz
- Frontal Parietal CZ
- Parietal Regions Pz

# Auditory ERP Paradigm

- Task is to count the “oddball” tones
- A P300 wave is generated in response to the “oddball” tone
- Repetition is key, the more trials the better the data quality
- Phase-locked responses to a target “oddball” tone are averaged to produce an ERP waveform



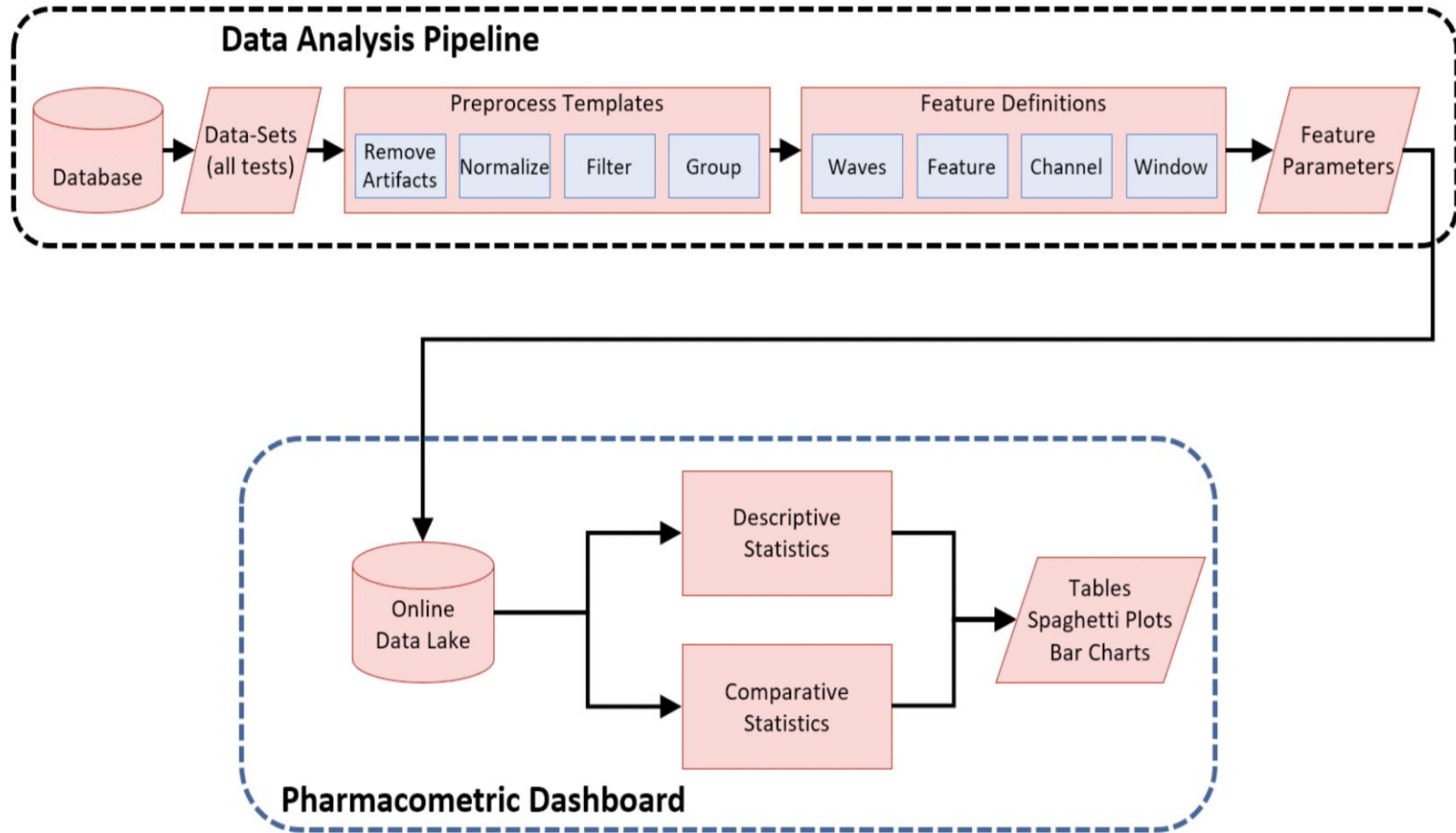
Working Memory  
Access

Pre-attentional

Emotional Processing

# Video

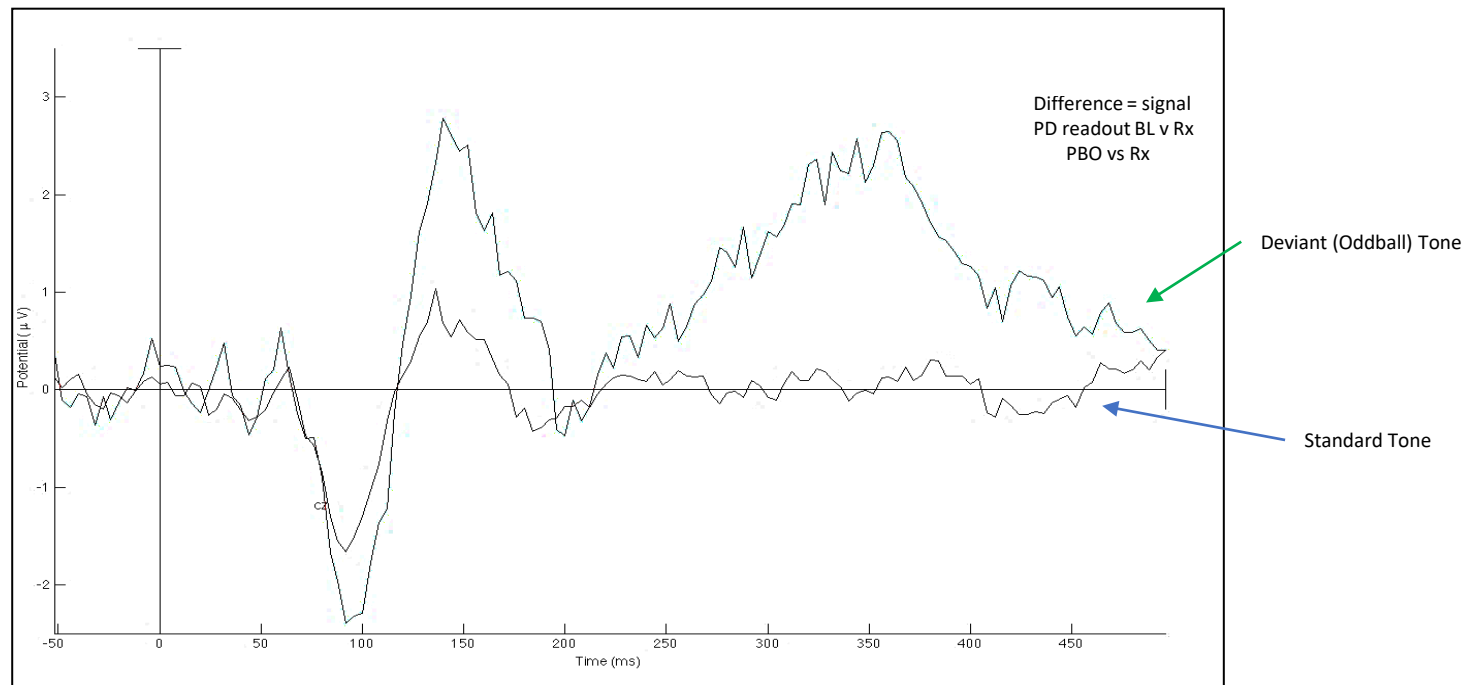
# ERP Data Processing Flow





# Cognitive ERP Relation to Memory Function:

## Auditory P300 – 10-20 lead system Qmetrx Acquisition at Hassman Research Institute (Ereshefsky)

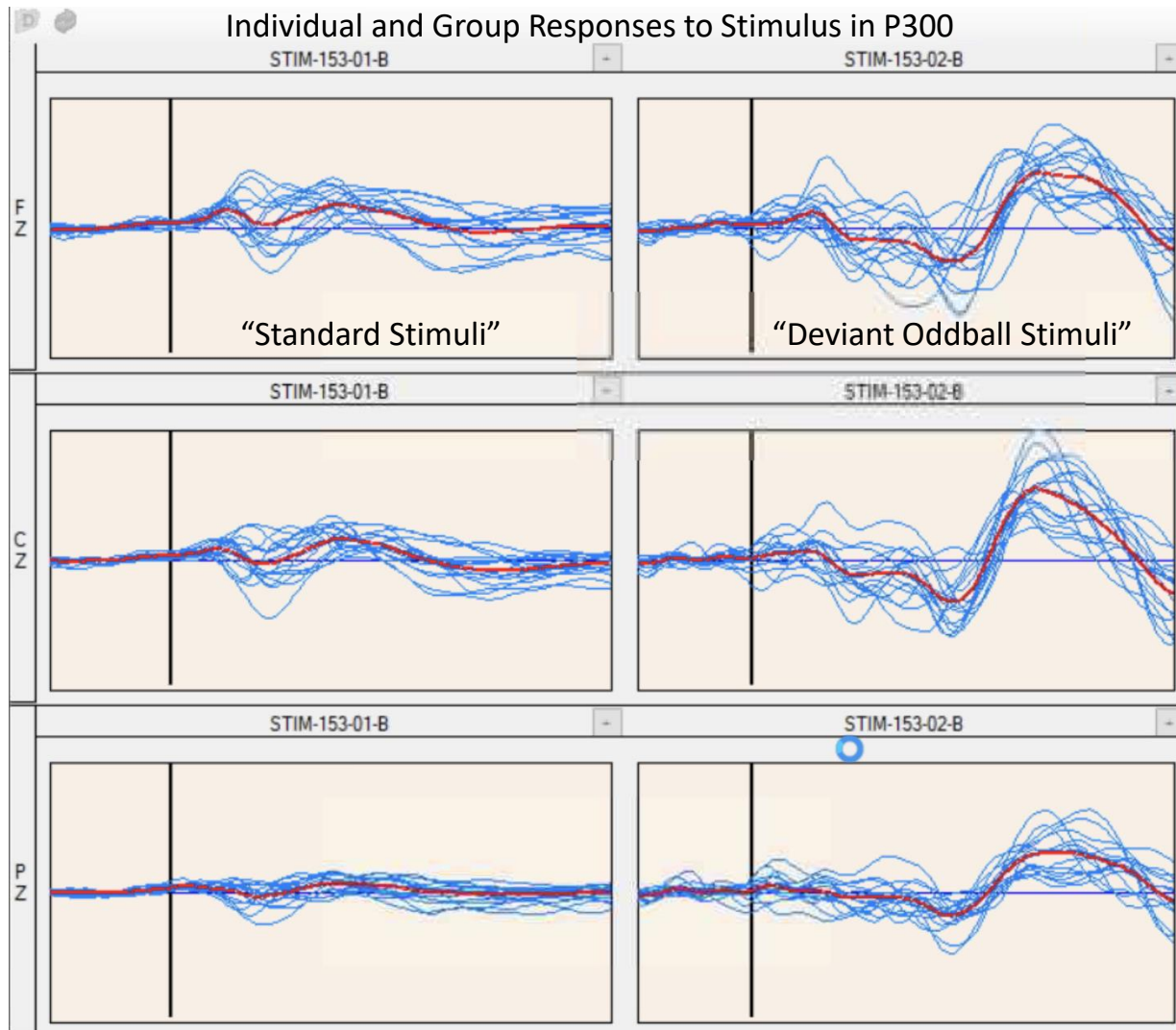


Averaged P300 waveforms from the vertex midline (Cz, referenced to midtemporal sites (T7,T8). \*Note that the deviant tone produces a sustained positivity over the 250-450 msec range with a robust peak at 350 msec.

*Responses to approximately 80 deviant and 240 standard stimuli averaged in one subject*

# Individual and Group Responses to Stimulus in P300

μV



Grand Average Waves

Window

Display

☒ Grand Average Wave

☒ Average Waves

☐ Peaks

Averaging

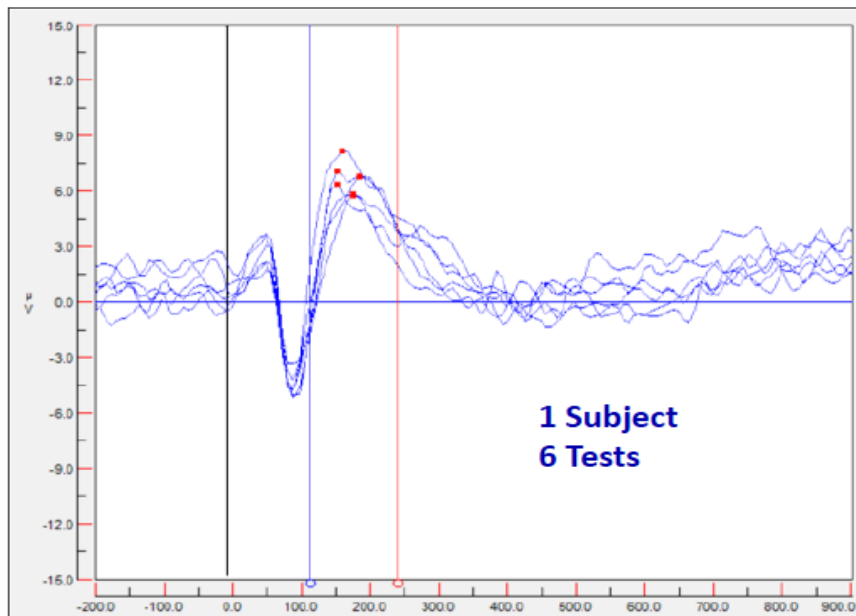
Feature Boundaries

Signal Processing

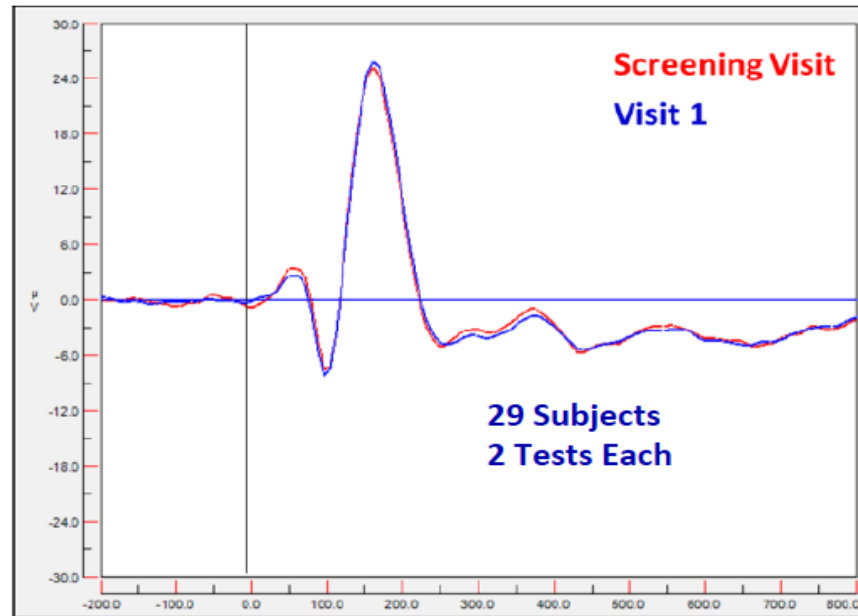
- P300 latency variability measures have been reported in several studies in AD patients
- Studies (N=100) have reported standard deviations of P300 values (approximately <30 ms)

# Test and Retest Reliability of ERP Data Collected by Cognision Consortium (CNS Network and Hassman Research Institute, Ereshefsky CSO)

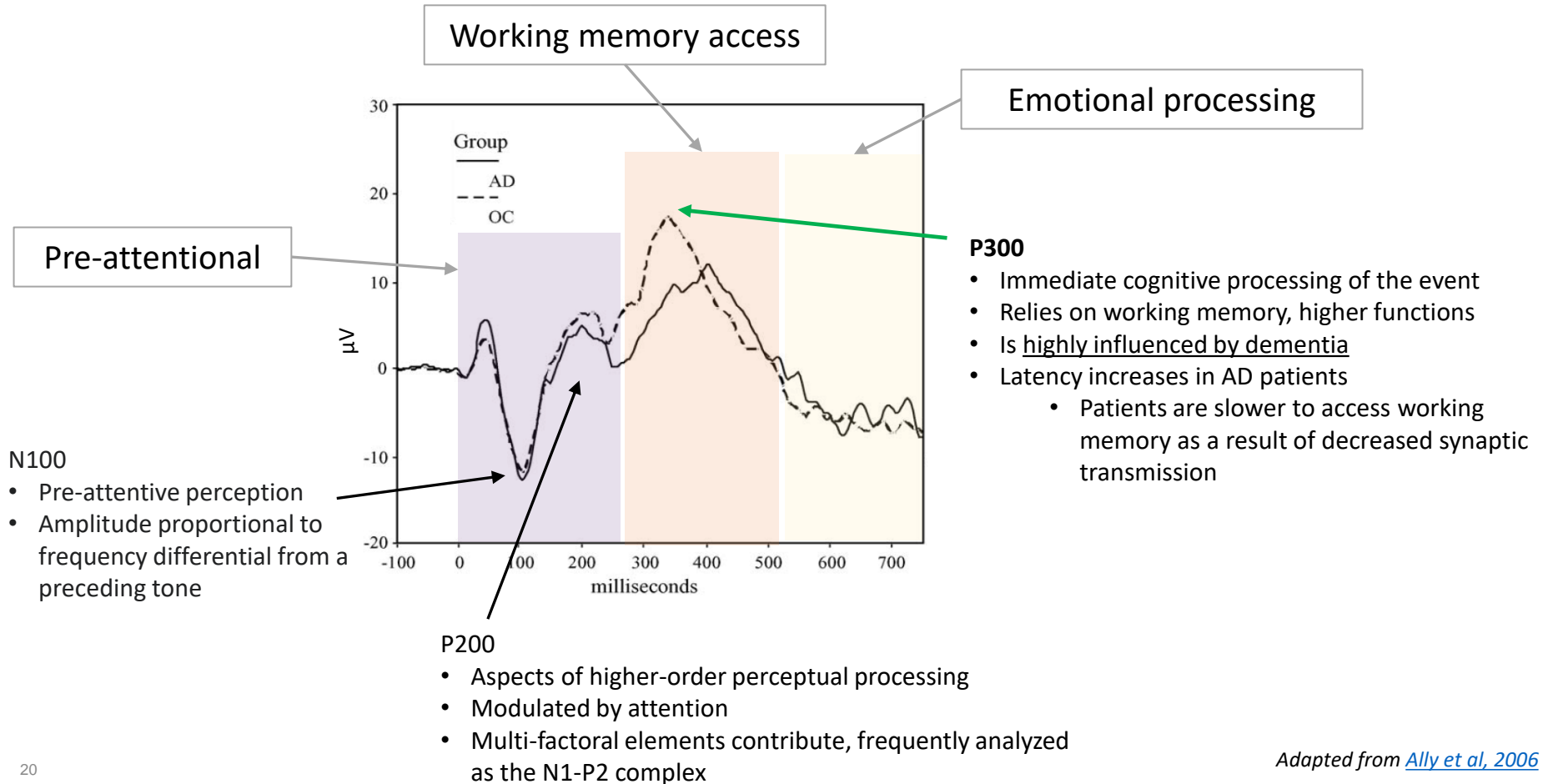
## Intra-subject



## Group



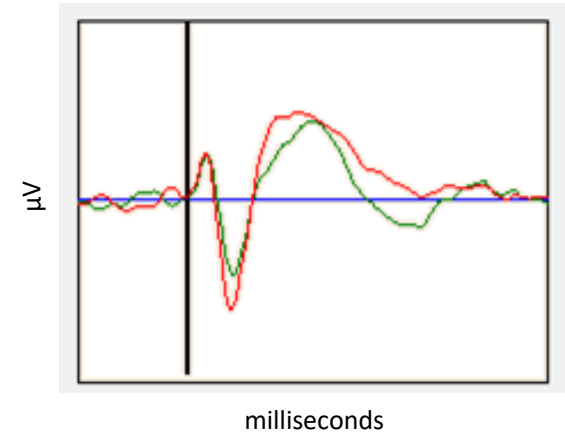
# Event Related Potential Signal Processing



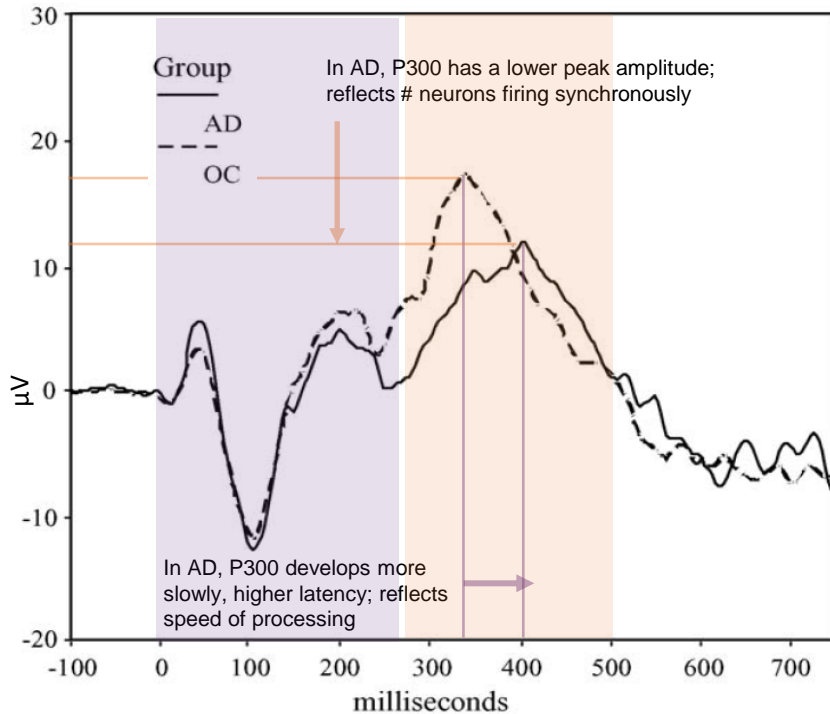
# ERP in Alzheimer's: a Synaptic Measure for a Synaptic Disease

- Regardless of the root cause of AD, the cognitive symptoms represent a widespread loss of synaptic input caused by degeneration of neurons
- Event-related potentials (ERPs) directly measure the speed and strength of cognitive processing ([Olichney et al, 2011](#))
- ERP signals erode during normal aging –This process is further accelerated in dementia patients
- Many studies have discriminated between healthy elderly and AD cohorts based on ERP waveform morphology –as early as published reports from 1980s

Active Oddball  
Age-matched Healthy (57) v AD (44)



# ERP in Alzheimer's Disease



- Many studies have identified differences in P300 in AD and MCI
- P300 latency more consistent than amplitude reduction
- Fewer subjects yield significant and reproducible amplitude reduction

Study	Population (n)	Electrode placement	P300 Latency	P300 Amplitude
<b>Caravaglios et al., 2008</b>	HC (16)	Fz, Cz	AD > HC	--
	AD (21)	and Pz		
<b>O'Mahony et al., 1996</b>	HC (20)	Fz, Cz	AD > HC	--
	AD (18)	and Pz		
<b>Lai et al., 2010</b>	HC (16)	Fz, Cz	AD > HC	--
	AD (16)	and Pz		
<b>Yamaguchi et al., 2000</b>	HC (16)	Cz	AD > HC	HC > AD
	AD (16)	and Pz		
<b>Golob and Starr, 2000</b>	HC (12)	Fz, Cz	AD > HC	HC > AD
	AD (10)	and Pz		
<b>Bennys et al., 2007</b>	HC (10)	Fz, Cz	AD > MCI > HC	HC > MCI = AD
	MCI (20)	and Pz		
	AD (30)			
<b>Juckel et al., 2008</b>	HC (16)	32	AD > HC	HC > AD
	AD (18)	channels		
<b>Frodl et al., 2002</b>	HC (26)	29	AD > MCI > HC	HC > MCI = AD
	MCI (26)	channels		
	AD (30)			
<b>Ally et al., 2006</b>	HC (80)	10-20	AD > HC	HC > AD
	AD (80)			
<b>Cecchi et al., 2015</b>	HC (101)	Fz, Cz, Pz, F3, P3, F4, and P4	AD > HC	HC > AD
	Mild AD (103)			

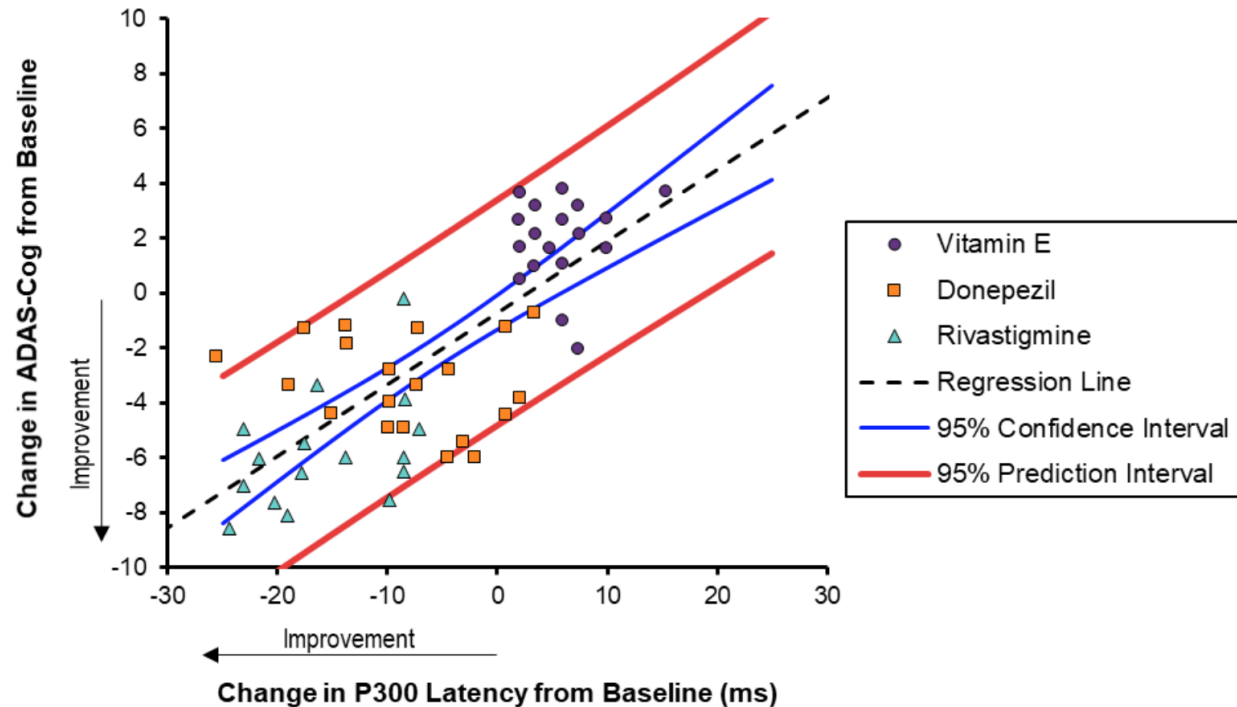
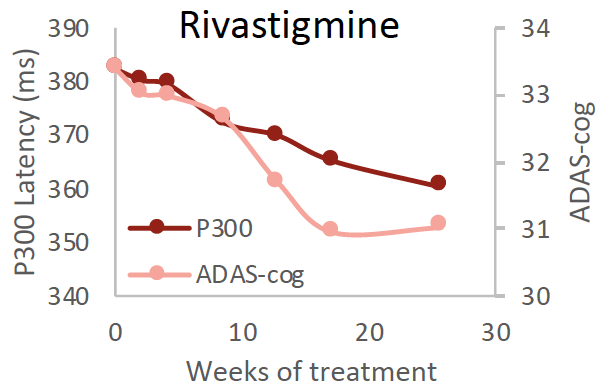
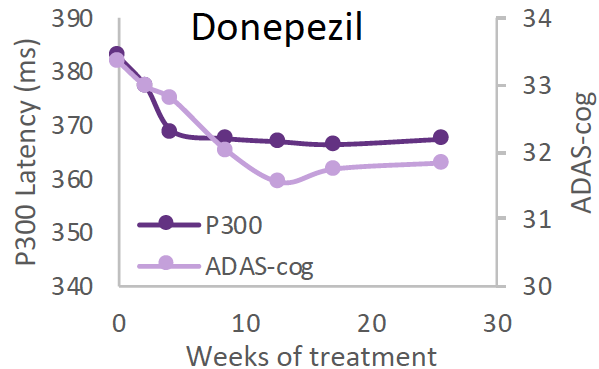
Figure adapted from [Ally et al., 2006](#)

# P300 Latency v Amplitude Measurements for Drug Response

- Small molecules with a range of neuroactive mechanisms can influence cognitive performance
- The pharmacodynamics of these drugs has been clearly detected by changes in P300 latency
- Changes in P300 amplitude are less sensitive to procognitive therapeutics

Treatment	Population	Cognitive Effects	ERP Effects		References
			P300 Latency	P300 Amplitude	
Donepezil (AChEI)	Alzheimer's	Improved ADAS-cog scores	Significant improvement	Inconsistent - No effect in Katada study; significant improvement in Thomas study but was not correlated to cognition at baseline	<a href="#">Katada et al., 2003</a> <a href="#">Thomas et al., 2001</a>
Modafinil	Sleep deprivation	Improved cognition and alertness after sleep deprivation	Significant improvement	Inconsistent - Increased at only one electrode site (Yaman); no effect in Saletu study	<a href="#">Yaman et al., 2015</a> <a href="#">Saletu et al., 2009</a>
Valsartan	Hypertension	Improved word-list memory and recall	Significant improvement	No effect	<a href="#">Katada et al., 2014</a>
Nicergoline	Alzheimer's	Improved GBS scale; improved MMS and SCAG scores	Significant improvement	Inconsistent - Increased at only one electrode site (Iwanami), not reported in Saletu study	<a href="#">Iwanami et al., 1993</a> <a href="#">Saletu et al., 1995</a>
Scopolamine	Healthy volunteers	Worsened memory recognition task scores	Significant delay	Small/mixed effects	<a href="#">Potter et al., 2000</a>

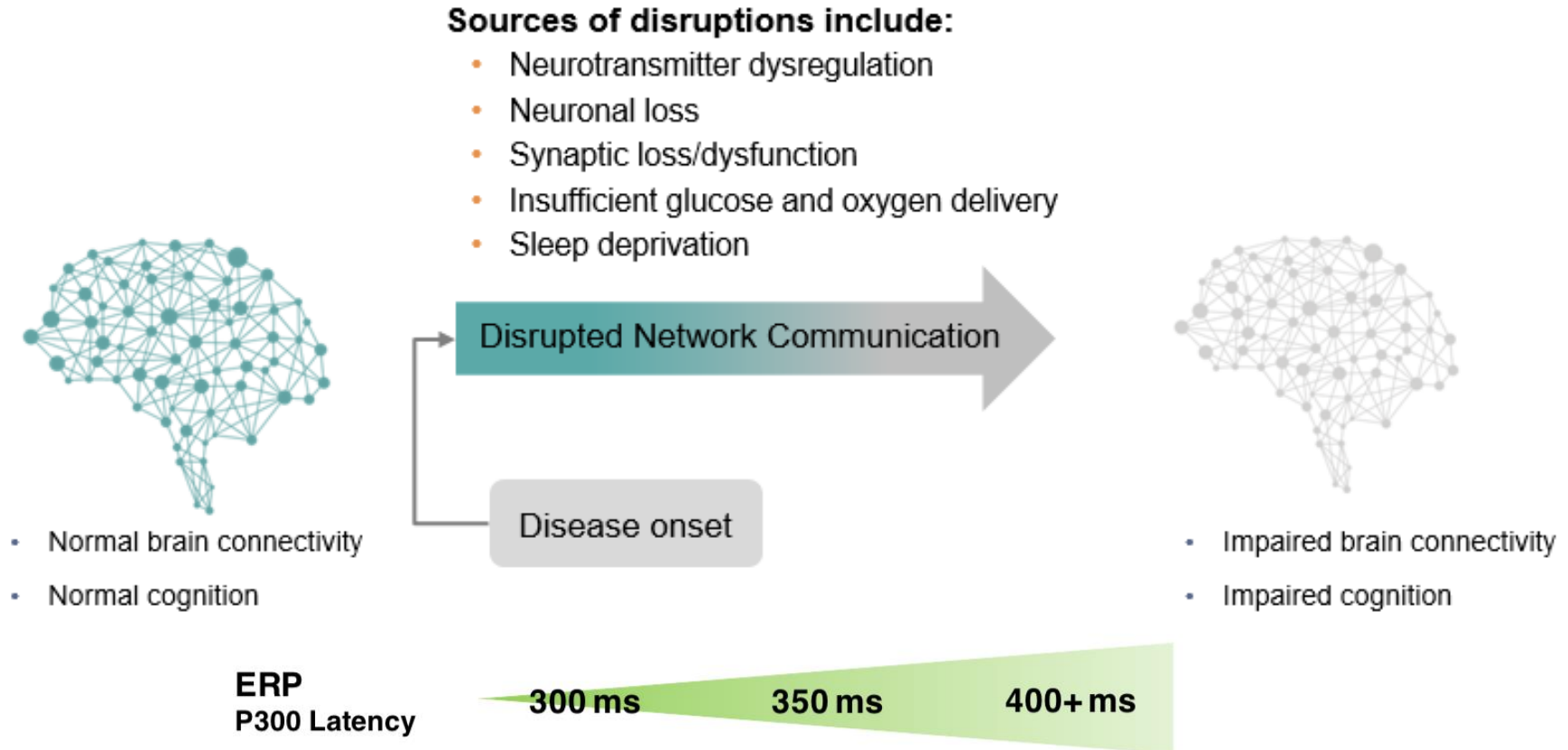
# ERP P300 Data with Suggestive Correlation to Cognitive Changes



Modified from Thomas et al 2001



# Electrophysiology as a Measure for Brain Function in Alzheimer's Disease



# Athira Pharma Alzheimer's Patient Data

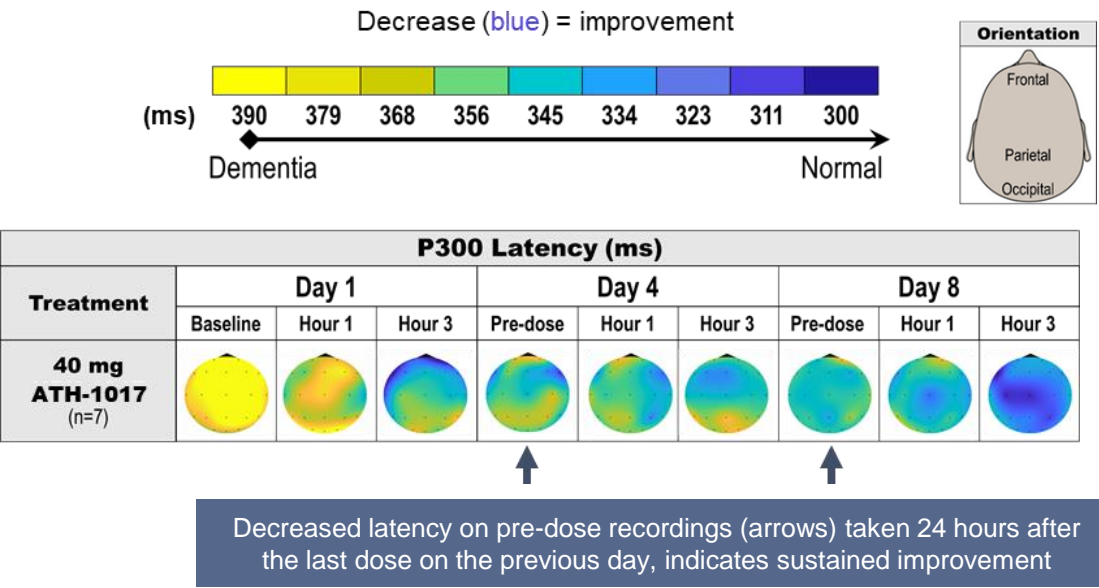
Phase 1b – AD Subjects

- **ATH-1017 – 40 mg**
- **(SC, OD, 8 days, n=7)**

ERP OBSERVATIONS

ERP analysis to date suggests treatment effects on P300 latency

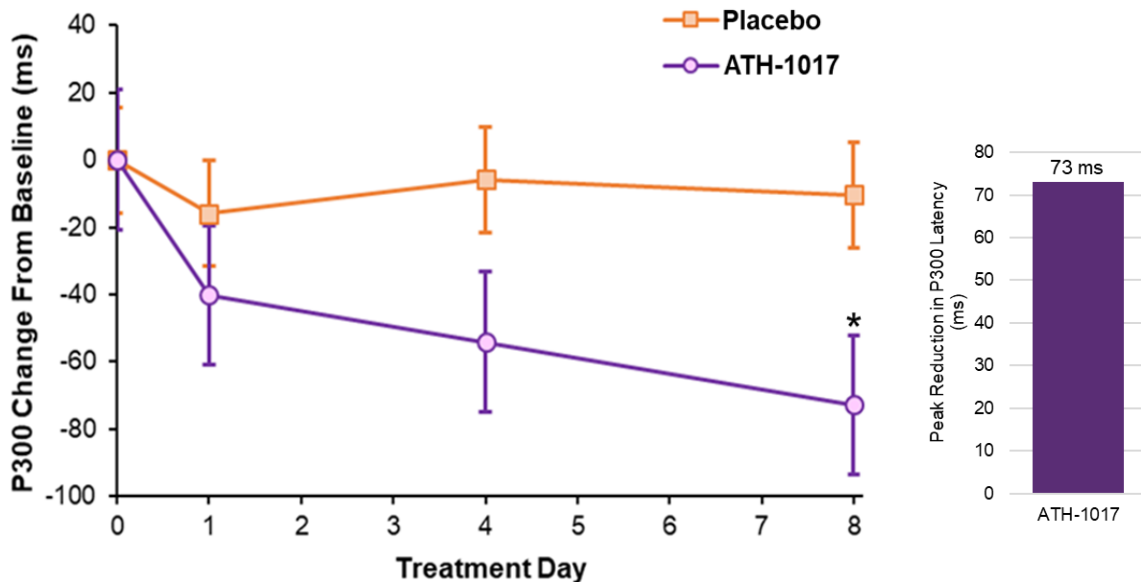
- Gradual decrease in latency over time in the treated group (n=7)



## Phase 1b – AD Subjects

- Group averages of AD subjects receiving ATH-1017 (n=7) demonstrate decreased P300 over time
  - Significant change from baseline observed on Day 8**
- AD subjects receiving placebo (n=4) had no consistent change from baseline to study end

### P300 Latency: AD Subject ATH-1017 Treated and AD Subject Placebo

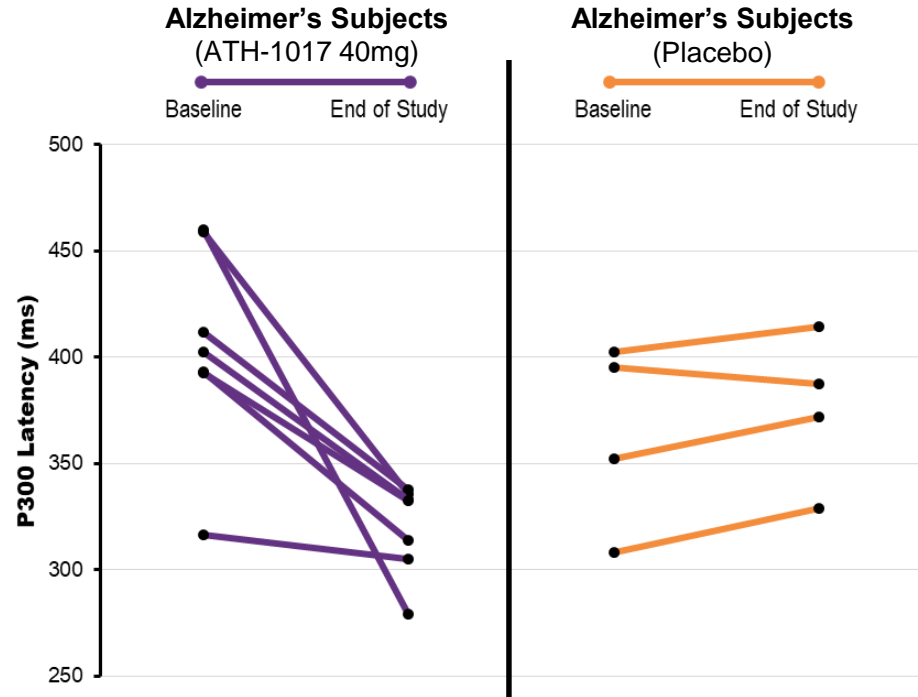


Note: P300 data from FZ, CZ, and PZ electrodes, Data plotted as mean +/- SE... \*p<0.05 with MMRM.

## Phase 1b – AD Subjects

- Every AD subject receiving ATH-1017 had a level of improvement in P300 latency
- AD patients receiving placebo had no consistent response from baseline to end of study

### P300 Latency: AD Subject ATH-1017 Treated and AD Subject Placebo



Note: P300 data from FZ, CZ, and PZ electrodes.



- Phase 2/3 –potentially pivotal
- Trial initiated Sept 2020
- Treatment for mild – moderate AD subjects
- Target enrollment of approximately up to 300 subjects
- Clinical endpoints (ADAS-Cog11 and ADCS-CGIC)
- Target data readout end of 2022



- Trial initiated Oct 2020
- Treatment for mild – moderate AD subjects
- Target enrollment of approximately up to 75 subjects
- P300 measure
- Clinical endpoints (ADAS-Cog11 and ADCS-CGIC)
- Target data readout early 2022

***Learn more about both and find the nearest trial location at [www.athiraclinicaltrials.com](http://www.athiraclinicaltrials.com)***



Thank You



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