

# Achieving Therapeutic Success in Alzheimer's Disease: The Case for Refining our Approach

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Welcome to Vancouver....eh !

NB Cross the street with care on Sunday !

# Disclosure

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- 2012-16 UBC service agreements, or sponsored clinical trials;
  - Eli Lilly, Kyowa Kirin, GE Healthcare, Biogen, Arena, Roche/Genentech, Merck, Eisai, Baxter, Tau Rx
- Peer Reviewed Research Support:
  - NIA, CIHR, Brain Canada, Weston Foundation
  - PI Alzheimer Disease Study Cooperative (From April 1, 2016)
- 2009-2011, on leave from UBC and employed at Bristol-Myers Squibb Company in CT, USA
  - VP and Therapeutic Area Head, Neuroscience Global Clinical Research

# Objectives

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- **To review the landscape and trajectory of Alzheimer's disease therapeutic development**
- **To provide some reflections on progress to date**
- **To offer a viewpoint on how we can refine our approach to increase likelihood of success**

# Global Viewpoint on Therapeutic Goals

- NAPA: Prevent and effectively treat AD by 2025.
- G8 Global Action Against Dementia: Summit declaration



- The ambition to identify a cure or a disease-modifying therapy for dementia by 2025
- We will increase the number of people in dementia related research studies

- WHO 2012:



- Efforts to improve the quality and availability of care, and to seek for a cure, should be coupled with urgent investment in primary prevention measures.

# The State of the Alzheimer Disease Pipeline

## Report of the Office of Health Economics 2015

- **Pipeline of antidementia drugs vs cancer**
  - 3.8% drugs in discovery vs 31% cancer
  - 1.2% in phase 3 compared to 24% cancer
- **Pipeline Analysis (2000 trials all sources over 20 years)**
  - 900 registered compounds commercial R&D source
  - Of these 197 in active development
  - 129 terminated , withdrawn or suspended
  - Remainder non active, presumed terminated or discontinued

# The Need to Learn from Clinical Trials:

- **For terminated trials only 45% provided a reason,**
  - **most commonly recruitment problems**
- **Rationale for d/c products in only 26%**
  - **most common safety and efficacy**

- Insufficient reporting of trial outcomes
- Inability to learn quickly from failures across classes
- Needless exposure of trial participants to products having low probability of success
- Need for clinical trials data sharing for modelling, simulation and hypothesis generation

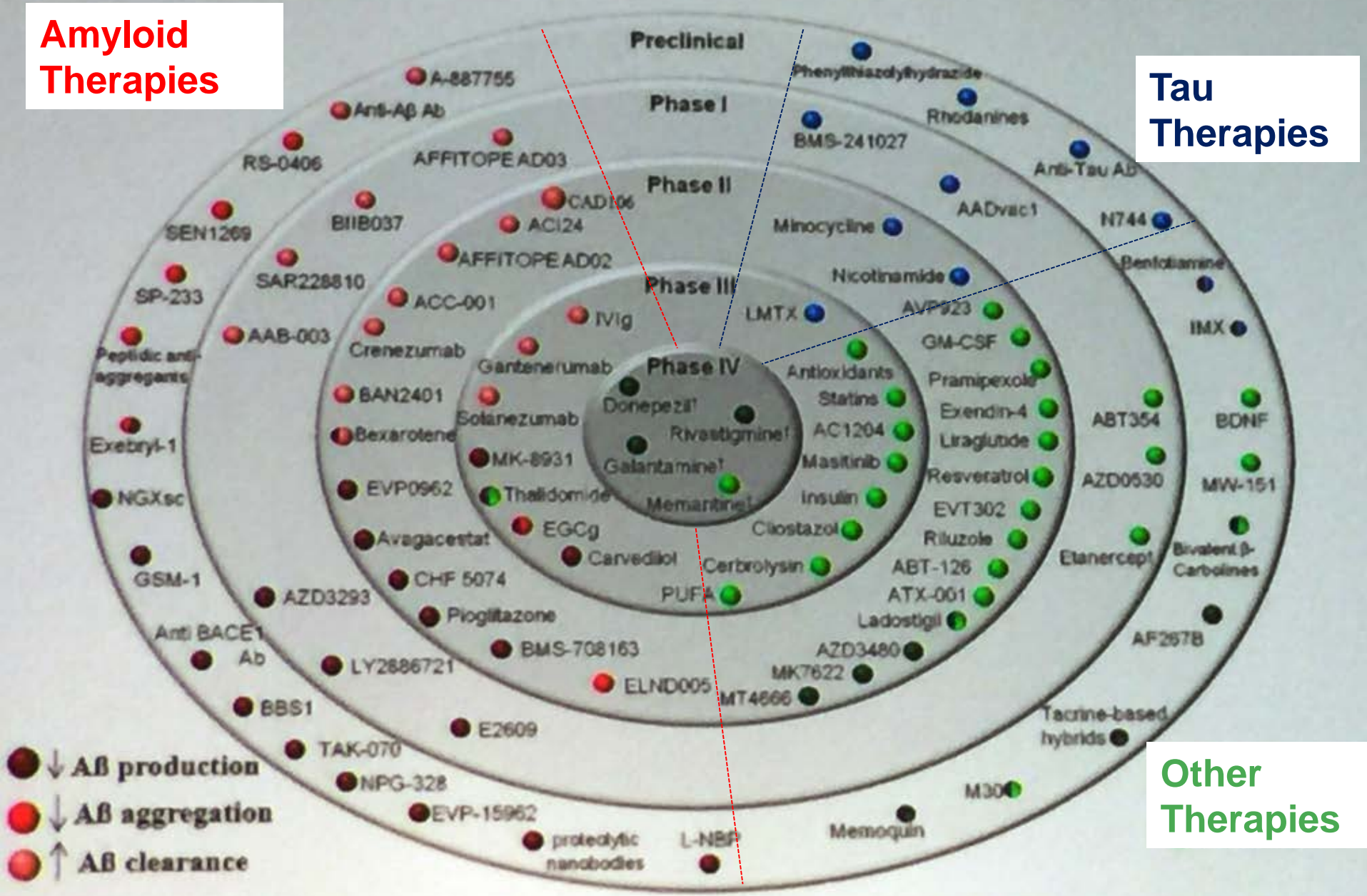
# 2014 Report on the Milestones for the US National Plan to Address AD

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- **To achieve a cure....**
  - 30 new therapeutic drugs need to reach early clinical testing
  - 3 diverse classes of drug targets
  - 12 new drugs advancing from first in man to phase 2 trials
- **A massive underestimate?**

# Amyloid Therapies

# Tau Therapies



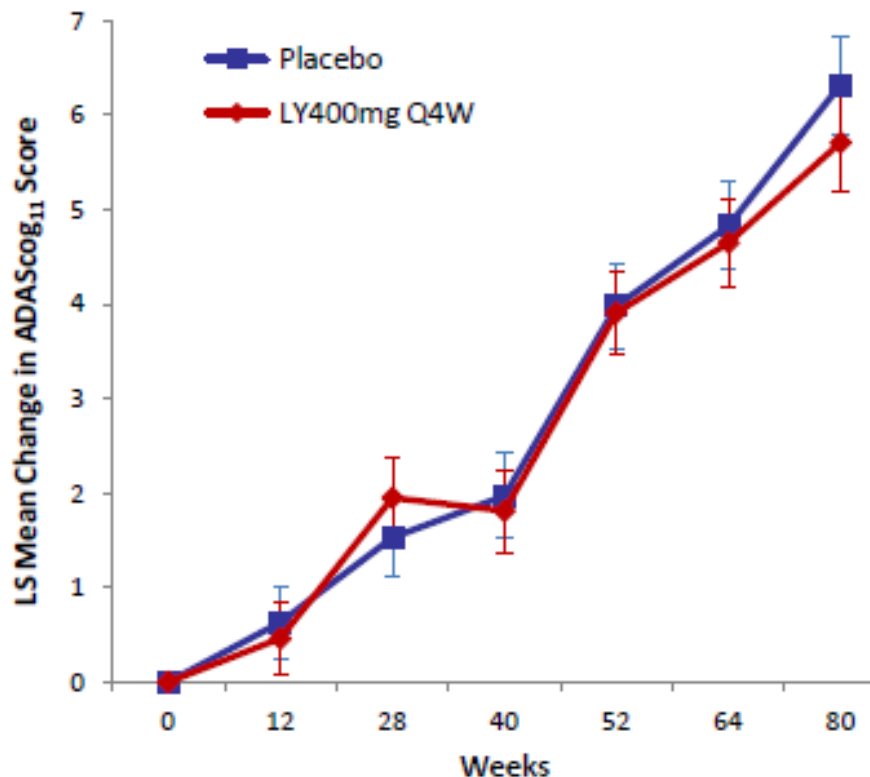
# Other Therapies



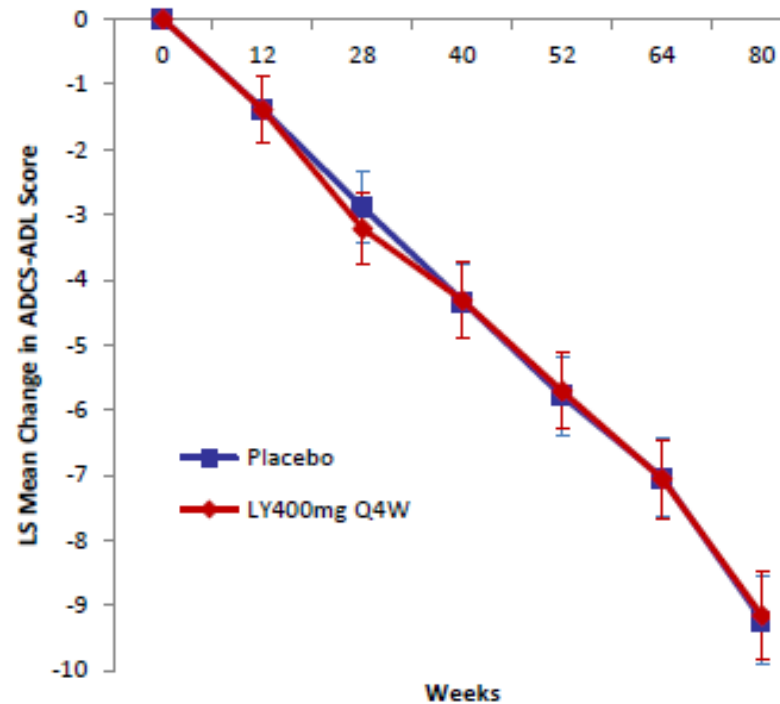
# Solanezumab: Phase 3 Results

## Expedition 1 Trial: Mild to Moderate AD

### ADAS-cog 11



### ADCS-ADL



# Solanezumab: Expedition Trials: Phase 3 Results: Subanalysis of Mild AD (MMSE 20-26)

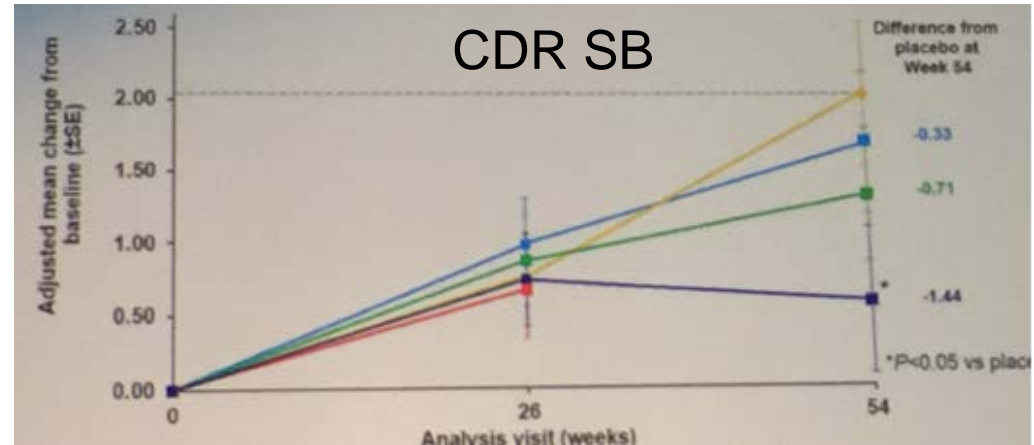
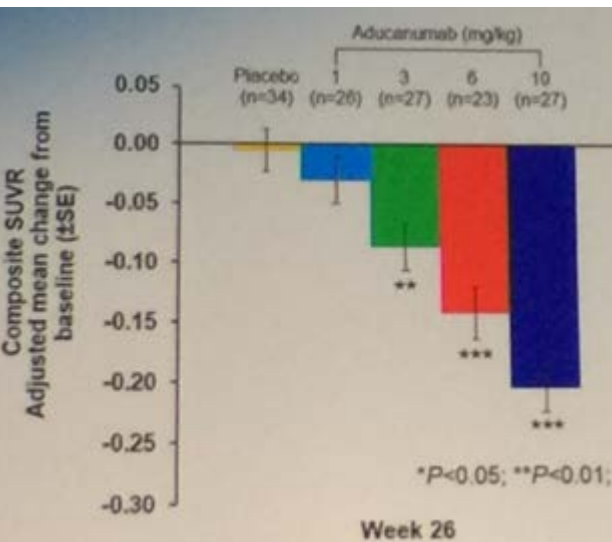
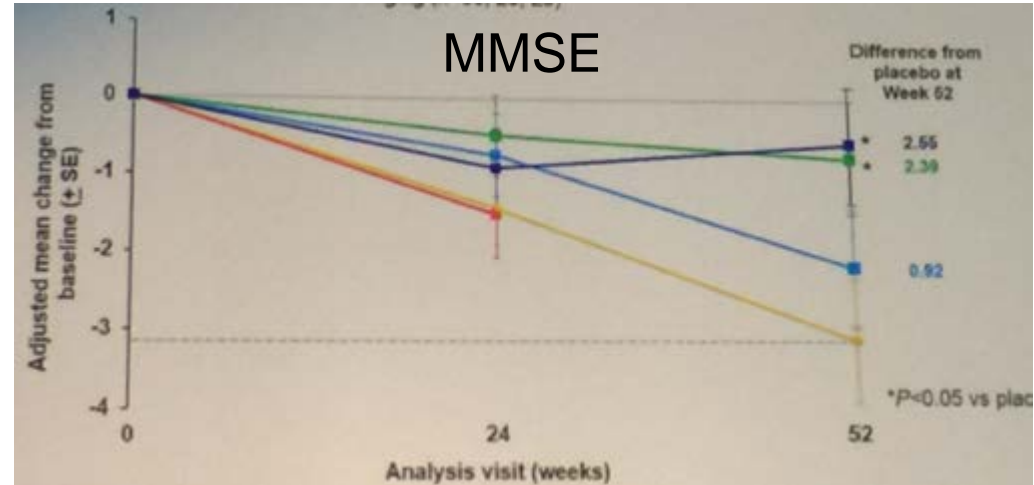
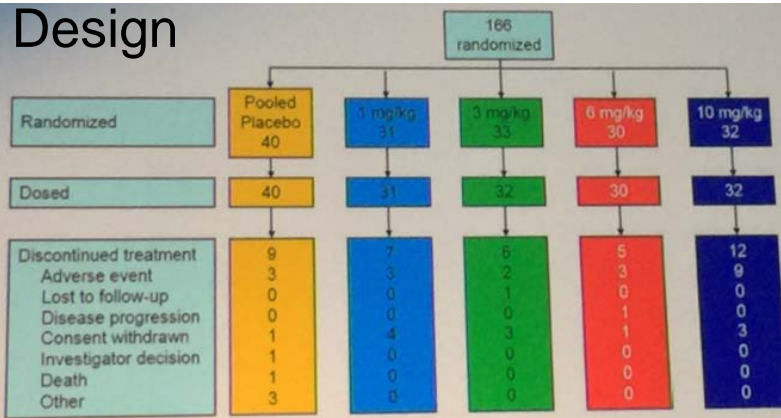
n= 2,052

	EXP1 overall	EXP1 mild		EXP2 overall	EXP2 mild		Pooled overall	Pooled mild
<b>Cognitive</b>								
ADAScog <sub>11</sub>	<b>.312</b>	<b>.008</b>		.060	<b>.097</b>		<b>.042</b>	<b>.001</b>
ADAScog <sub>14</sub>	.155	<b>.006</b>		.075	<b>.120</b>		<b>.025</b>	<b>.001</b>
MMSE	.067	<b>.002</b>		<b>.004</b>	<b>.099</b>		<b>.002</b>	<b>.001</b>
<b>Functional</b>								
ADCS-ADL	<b>.931</b>	.302		.062	.076		.217	.057
ADCS-iADL	.919	.319		.080	<b>.029</b>		.250	<b>.045</b>

[http://files.shareholder.com/downloads/LLY/2110812184x0x604107/6a7ad129-ff1d-4dbc-9e6e-828f09e7b60b/Solanezumab\\_ANA\\_Slides\\_8-Oct-2012.pdf](http://files.shareholder.com/downloads/LLY/2110812184x0x604107/6a7ad129-ff1d-4dbc-9e6e-828f09e7b60b/Solanezumab_ANA_Slides_8-Oct-2012.pdf)

# Aducanumab: Phase 1 'Multiple Ascending Dose' PRIME Study in Prodromal or Mild AD

## Design

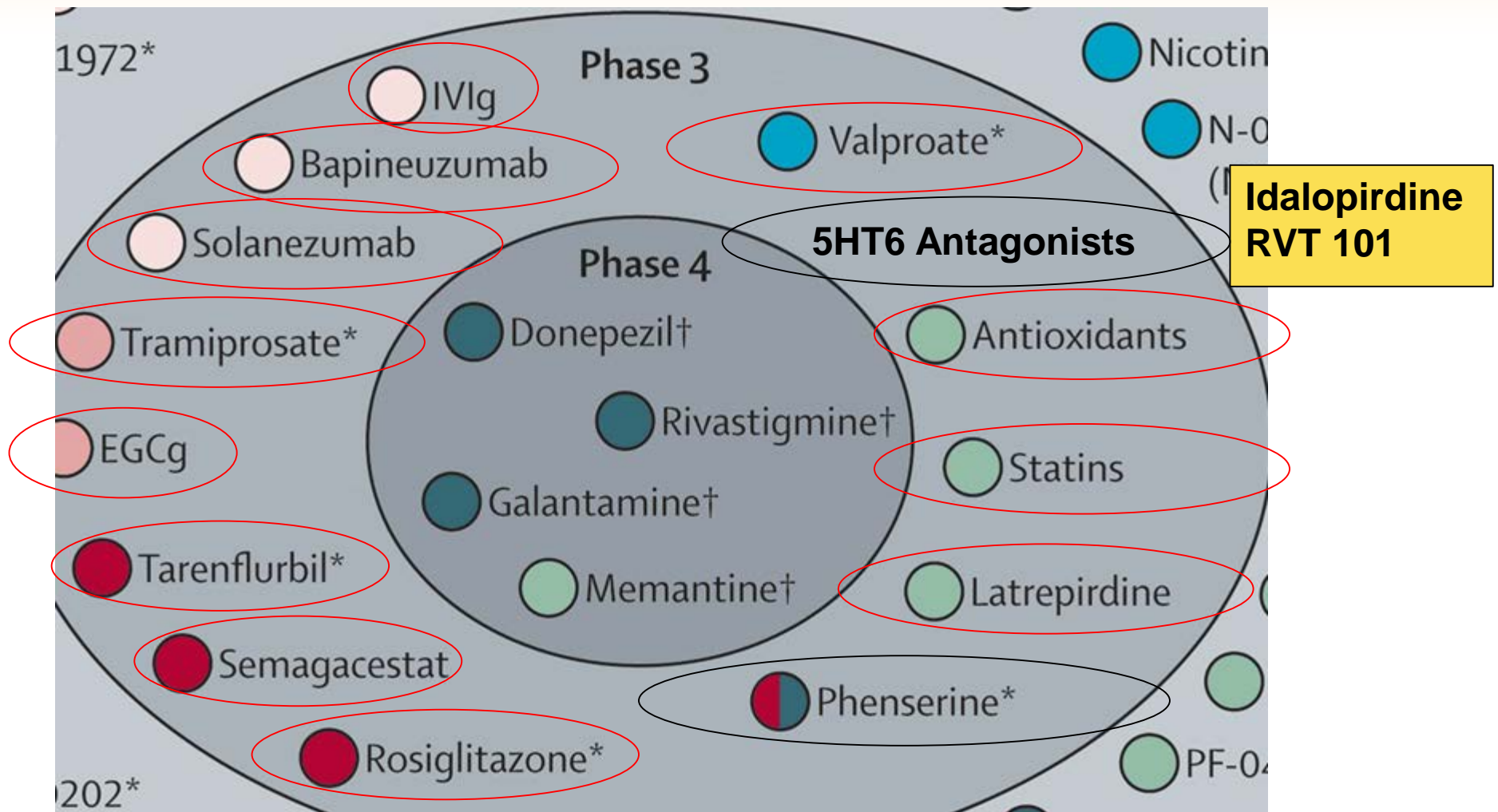


PET SUVR (OC)

# Next Up for Amyloid Related Phase 3 Trials

Small Molecules	Other names	Background	Target Type	Phase 1-2 data in AD	PD effects at selected doses	Clinical POC	Comment
ALZT-OP1	Cromolyn Na Intal + Ibuprofen	2 FDA approved drugs	Amyloid related inflammation	N/A	N/A	N/A	No phase 1 or phase 2 trials, no PD biomarkers
Azeliragon <sup>1</sup>	TTP 488 PF 04494700	High dose stopped, + futility analysis in phase 2	Amyloid related inflammation	Available	N/A	N/A	No consistent or clinically meaningful effect on plasma levels of A $\beta$ , or on inflammation biomarkers
Verubecestat <sup>2</sup>	MK8931	Mild to mod AD (n=1960); Prodromal (n=1500)	BACE inhibitor	Phase 2-3	Y	N/A	Dose proportional plasma and CSF exposure and dose dependent lowering of A $\beta$

# AD Drug Development Results 2010-present



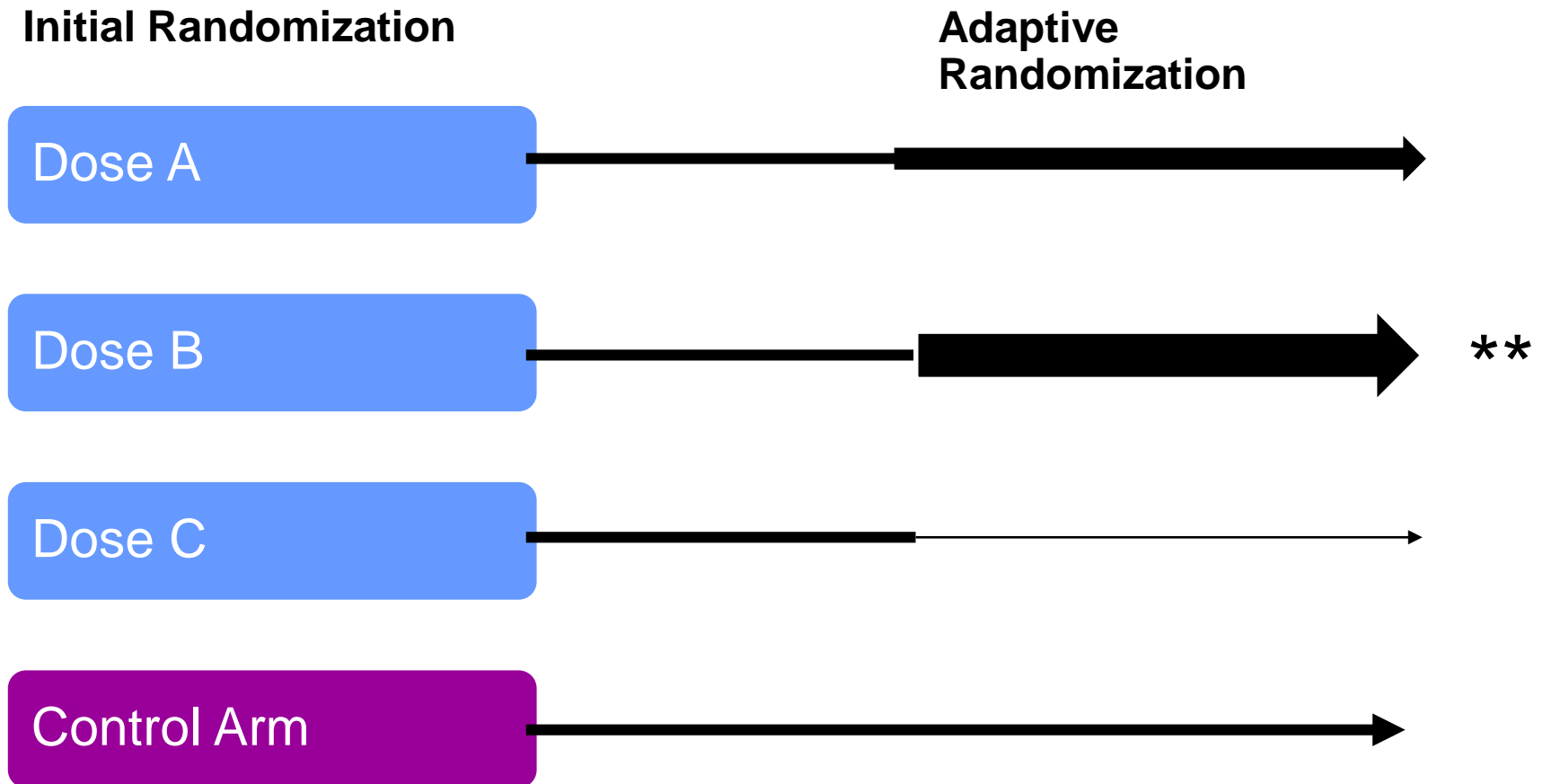
# Regrouping and Refining the Approach

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- **Pharmacology matters**
  - First principles: PK, PD, biological effects
- **Achieving clinical POC is difficult but needs our creativity to achieve**
  - Novel designs, seamless studies, sensitive and ecologically interesting outcome measures
- **Effect sizes: updating our approach to trials**
  - Bigger samples are not necessarily better.....
  - Aim for ES that are clinically important not just statistically significant
  - More programs enabled
    - Investment in more front end costs
  - Attention to the therapeutic product profile



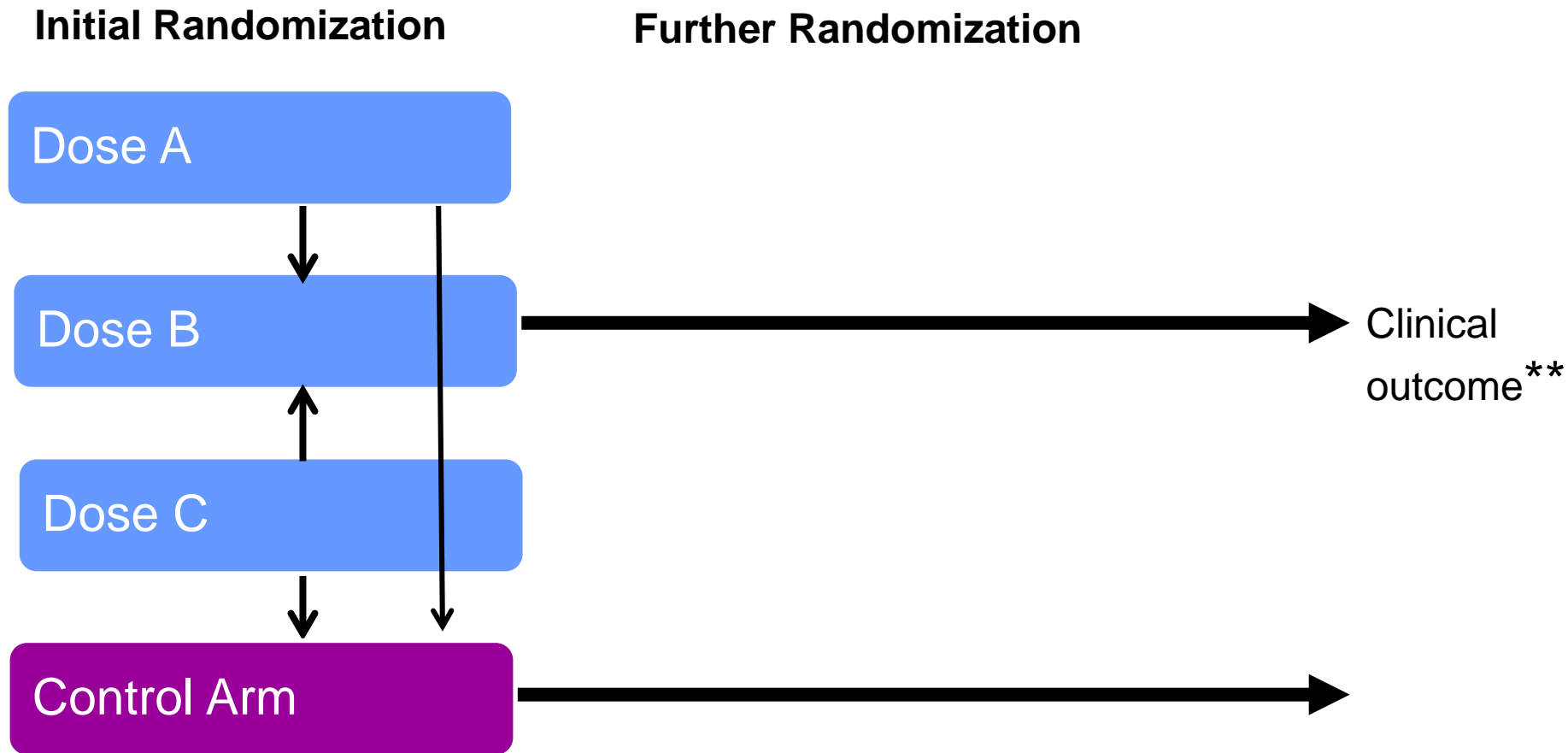
# Adaptive Trial Design Phase 1



Study sample powered for significant results on biomarker primary outcome  
Study duration 3-6 months n=50 tbd



# Adaptive Trial Design Phase 2



Study sample powered for significant results on clinical outcome measure  
Study duration further 6 – 12 months n=500 tbd

# Evolving our Approach

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## ■ Precision medicine:

- Intensive analytics around endophenotypes and biomarker panels to predict who may respond
  - Inflammatory endophenotype for an inflammatory therapeutic
  - Metabolic, vascular to specific interventions
- Novel individualized treatment screening response
  - iPSC cell systems and models to find responders before trials

## ■ Taking a broader approach to define responders

- Including more real world populations
  - comorbid cerebrovascular and other neurodegenerative pathologies
  - Seek responding populations more intensively
  - Adjust designs adaptively
  - Value genetic models for genetic disease but sporadic ?

“Skate where the puck  
is going to be.....”



- The Canadian  
Philosopher  
Wayne Gretzky



Global Alzheimer Platform  
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CCNA and CPAD  
EPAD  
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Mike Krams

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