

# Short Report: NACC CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub>, t-Tau

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# Overall Goal of this Presentation

- Give a short summary of the NACC CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub>, and t-Tau data as it stands now.



# Objectives

1. Brief overview of CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub> and t-Tau measures in Alzheimer's disease (AD).
2. Determine how many ADRC sites have contributed CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub> and t-Tau biomarker data to NACC, which platforms were used, and the demographics of the participants.
3. Characterize NACC CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub> and t-Tau biomarker differences between sites.
4. Examine the sensitivity, specificity and cut-points of the NACC CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub> and t-Tau data so far.



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# CSF A $\beta$ and tau levels are abnormal in AD with some variability in levels across studies

**THE LANCET**  
Neurology

Volume 15, Issue 7, June 2016, Pages 673-684

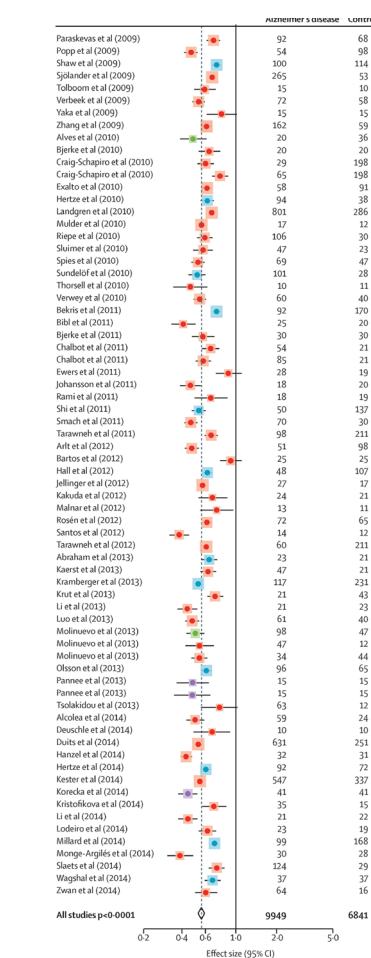
## Articles

### CSF and blood biomarkers for the diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease: a systematic review and meta-analysis

Dr Bob Olsson PhD <sup>a, b, c</sup>, Ronald Lautner MD <sup>a</sup>, Ulf Andreasson PhD <sup>a</sup>, Annika Öhrfelt PhD <sup>a</sup>, Erik Portelius PhD <sup>a</sup>, Maria Bjerke PhD <sup>a, b</sup>, Mikko Hölttä PhD <sup>a</sup>, Christoffer Rosén MD <sup>a</sup>, Caroline Olsson PhD <sup>c</sup>, Gabrielle Strobel MSc <sup>d</sup>, Elizabeth Wu MLIS <sup>d</sup>, Kelly Dakin PhD <sup>d</sup>, Prof Max Petzold PhD <sup>e, f</sup>, Prof Kaj Blennow MD <sup>a</sup>, Prof Henrik Zetterberg MD <sup>a, g</sup>



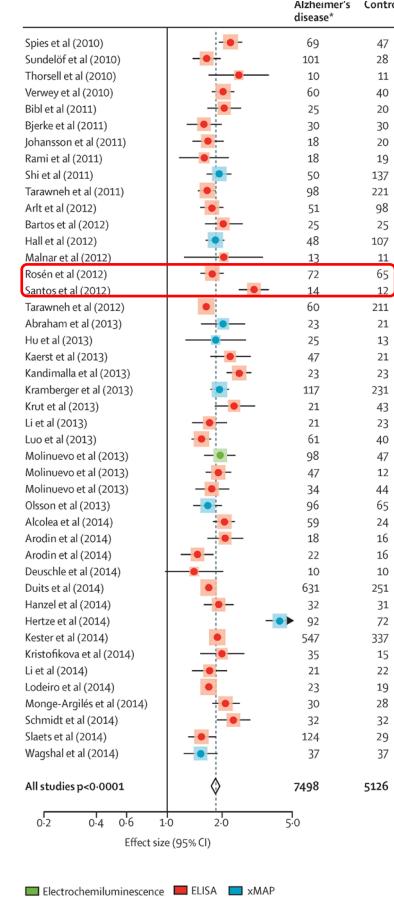
CSF A $\beta$ 42



All studies p<0.0001  
9949 6841

Effect size (95% CI)

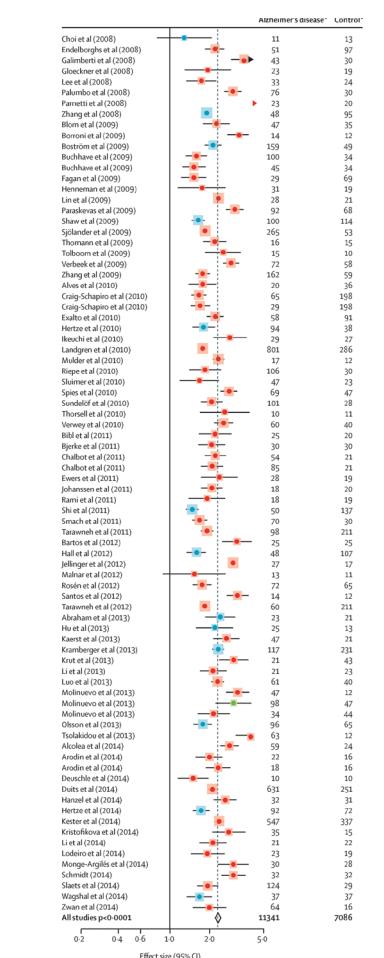
CSF p-Tau



All studies p<0.0001  
7498 5126

Effect size (95% CI)  
Electrochemiluminescence ELISA xMAP

CSF t-Tau

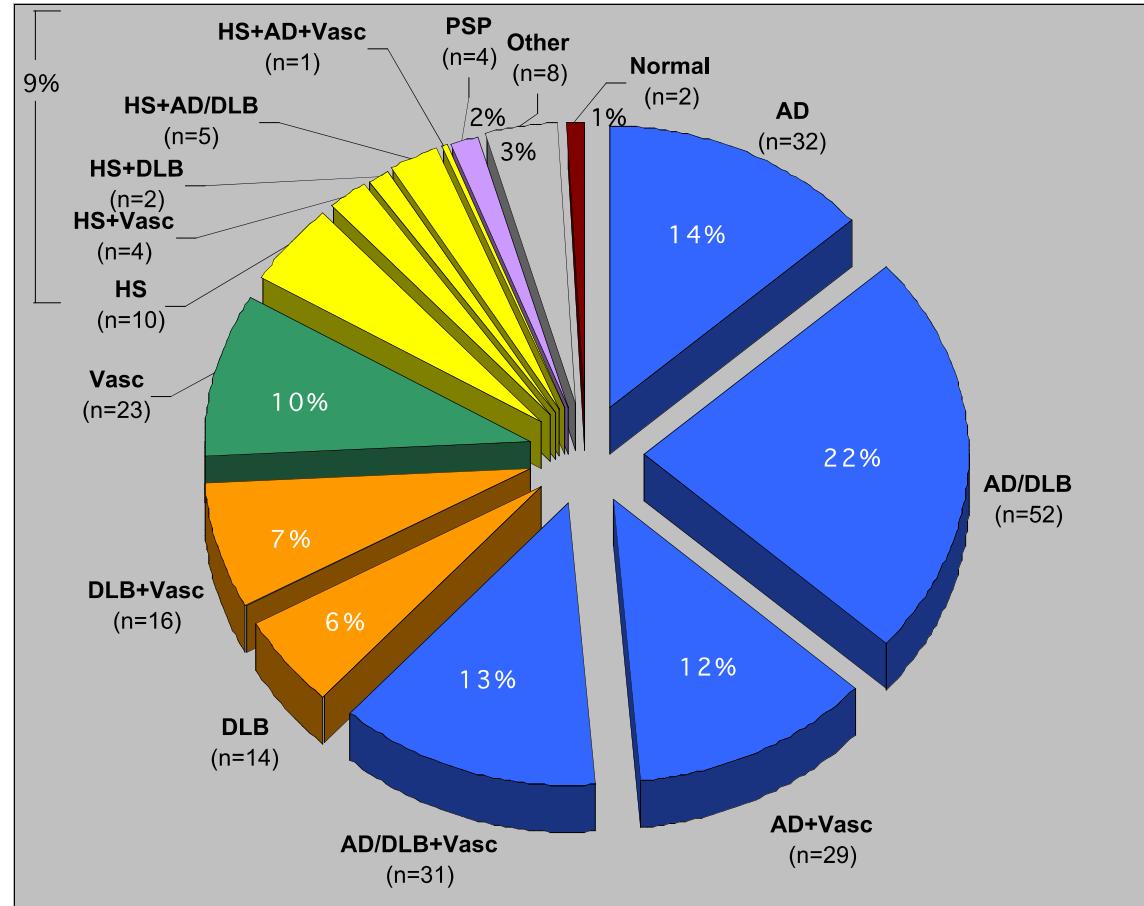


All studies p<0.0001  
11241 7086

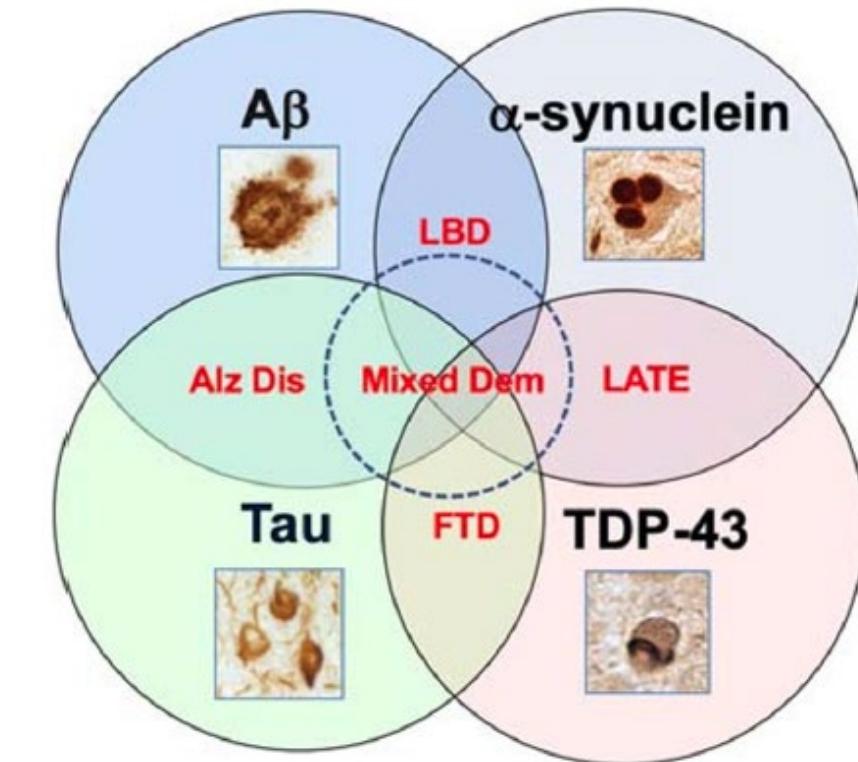
Effect size (95% CI)



# CSF A $\beta$ and tau data are necessary to sub-type AD/ADRД



Leverenz et al, JAMA Neurol, 2002; Riekse et al JAGS, 2004; Leverenz et al, Brain Path, 2008; Boyle PA et al. 2018



Kwon S, Iba M, Kim C, Masliah E, Review, Immunotherapy, 2020

# CSF A $\beta$ (A), p-Tau (T) and neurodegeneration (N) identifies AD pathology and supports biomarker discovery hypotheses



Alzheimer's & Dementia 14 (2018) 535-562



Alzheimer's  
&  
Dementia

2018 National Institute on Aging—Alzheimer's Association (NIA-AA) Research Framework  
NIA-AA Research Framework: Toward a biological definition  
of Alzheimer's disease

Clifford R. Jack, Jr., <sup>a,\*</sup> David A. Bennett<sup>b</sup>, Kaj Blennow<sup>c</sup>, Maria C. Carrillo<sup>d</sup>, Billy Dunn<sup>e</sup>,  
Samantha Budd Haerlein<sup>f</sup>, David M. Holtzman<sup>g</sup>, William Jagust<sup>h</sup>, Frank Jessen<sup>i</sup>,  
Jason Karlawish<sup>j</sup>, Enchi Liu<sup>k</sup>, Jose Luis Molinuevo<sup>l</sup>, Thomas Montine<sup>m</sup>, Creighton Phelps<sup>n</sup>,  
Katherine P. Rankin<sup>o</sup>, Christopher C. Rowe<sup>p</sup>, Philip Scheltens<sup>q</sup>, Eric Siemers<sup>r</sup>,  
Heather M. Snyder<sup>s</sup>, Reisa Sperling<sup>t</sup>

Contributors<sup>t</sup>: Cerise Elliott, Eliezer Masliah, Laurie Ryan, and Nina Silverberg

## ATN Biomarkers

Table 1

### AT(N) biomarker grouping

A: Aggregated A $\beta$  or associated pathologic state  
CSF A $\beta_{42}$ , or A $\beta_{42}$ /A $\beta_{40}$  ratio  
Amyloid PET

T: Aggregated tau (neurofibrillary tangles) or associated pathologic state  
CSF phosphorylated tau  
Tau PET

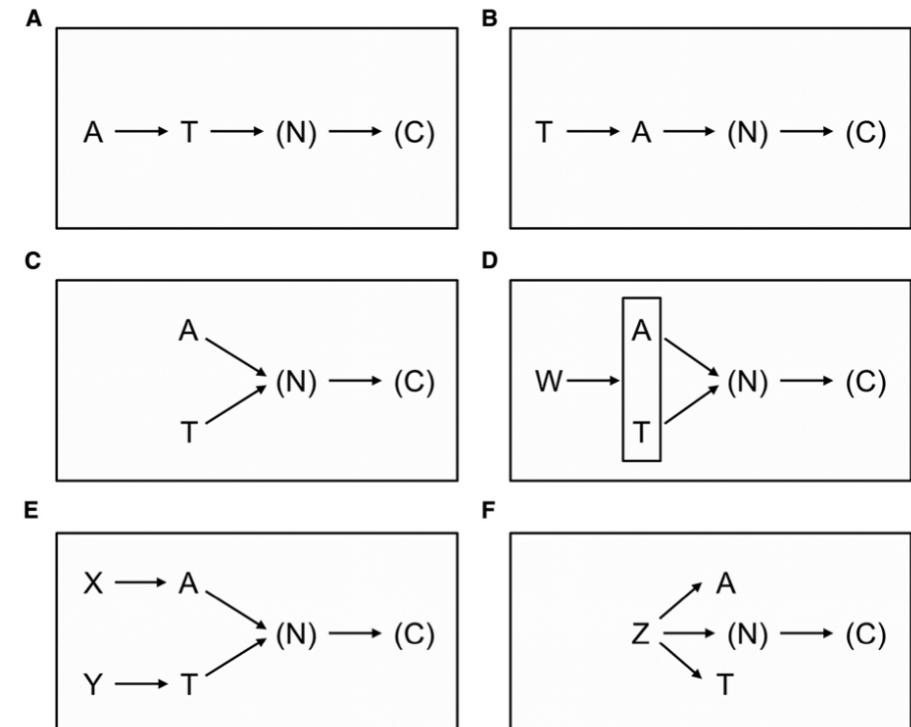
(N): Neurodegeneration or neuronal injury  
Anatomic MRI  
FDG PET  
CSF total tau

## Biomarker categories

Table 2  
Biomarker profiles and categories

AT(N) profiles	Biomarker category	
A-T-(N)-	Normal AD biomarkers	
A+T-(N)-	Alzheimer's pathologic change	Alzheimer's continuum
A+T+(N)-	Alzheimer's disease	
A+T+(N)+	Alzheimer's disease	
A+T-(N)+	Alzheimer's and concomitant suspected non Alzheimer's pathologic change	
A-T+(N)-	Non-AD pathologic change	
A-T-(N)+	Non-AD pathologic change	
A-T+(N)+	Non-AD pathologic change	

## Hypothesis testing



Cleveland Clinic  
Lerner Research Institute

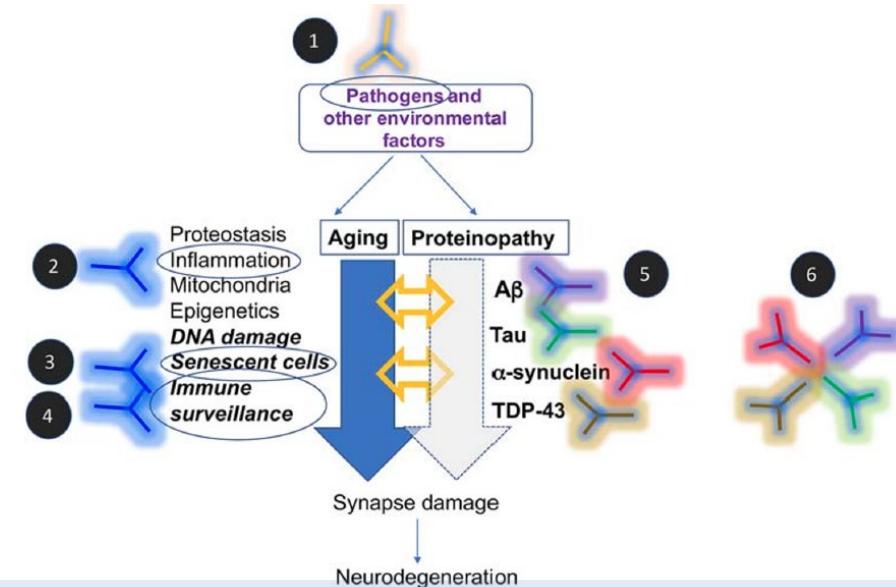
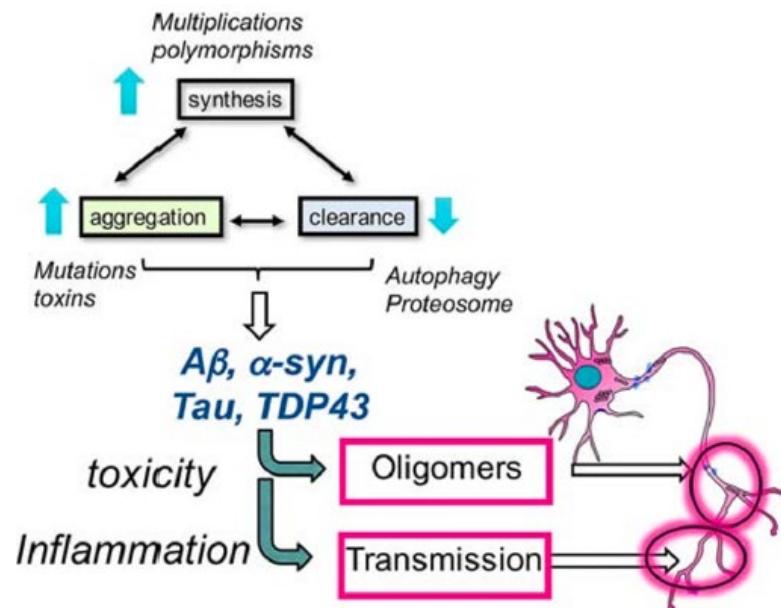
# ATN categorization supports studies of novel biomarkers and drug targets that are a critical unmet medical need in AD/ADR

Neurotherapeutics (2020) 17:935–954  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s13311-020-00853-2>

CURRENT PERSPECTIVES

## Immunotherapies for Aging-Related Neurodegenerative Diseases—Emerging Perspectives and New Targets

Somin Kwon<sup>1</sup> • Michiyo Iba<sup>1</sup> • Changyoun Kim<sup>1</sup> • Eliezer Masliah<sup>1,2</sup>



# FDA approval of Fujirebio/Lumipulse CSF A $\beta$ test

- On May 4<sup>th</sup> 2022 the FDA permitted marketing for the first in vitro diagnostic test for early detection of amyloid plaques associated with Alzheimer's disease.
- “The Lumipulse G  $\beta$ -amyloid Ratio (1-42/1-40) was granted Breakthrough Device designation, a process designed to expedite the development and review of devices that may provide for more effective treatment or diagnosis of life-threatening or irreversibly debilitating diseases or condition.”



<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-permits-marketing-new-test-improve-diagnosis-alzheimers-disease>

# Summary: Overview of CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub> and tau in AD

- CSF A $\beta$  and tau levels are abnormal in AD with some variability in levels across sites/studies
- CSF A $\beta$  and tau data are necessary to sub-type AD/ADRD
- CSF A $\beta$  (A), p-Tau (T) and neurodegeneration (N) identifies AD pathology and supports biomarker discovery hypotheses
- ATN categorization supports studies of novel biomarkers and drug targets that are a critical unmet medical need in AD/ADRD
- FDA approval has ramifications for use of the Lumipulse CSF A $\beta$  ratio in AD research



# Objectives

1. Brief overview of CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub> and t-Tau measures in Alzheimer's disease (AD).
2. Determine how many ADRC sites have contributed CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub> and t-Tau biomarker data to NACC, which platforms were used, and the demographics of the participants.
3. Characterize NACC CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub> and t-Tau biomarker differences between sites.
4. Examine the sensitivity, specificity and cut-points of the NACC CSF A $\beta$ 42, p-Tau181 and t-Tau data so far.



# NIH ADRC 2021 CSF biomarker inventory indicates the majority of centers collect and quantitate CSF A $\beta$ and tau

Plasma	Serum	Buffy Coat	CSF	DNA	DNA at NCRAD	Frozen Tissue	Fixed Tissue	Dermal Fibroblast	IPSCs
25,567	17,449	8,980	6,963	24,050	17,560	11,284	14,014	885	146

Category	# Centers Yes	# Centers No
Collects CSF	26	5
Quantitate CSF AB40	21	10
Quantitate CSF AB42	22	9
Quantitate CSF Ttau	22	9
Quantitate CSF ptau	22	9

As of 11/1/21 (courtesy of Cerise Elliott)



# Ten ADRC sites have contributed CSF A $\beta$ and tau biomarker data from Luminex, ELISA and “other” platforms to NACC

Site ID	Luminex				ELISA				Lumipulse	Other	ELISA A $\beta$ & Luminex t-Tau
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Total n=	48	108	234	367	88	70	12	181	773	170	
Baseline Visit Year Dates	2006-2021	2017-2022	2005-2021	2005-2021	2015-2021	2015-2021	2014-2022	2009-2021	2005-2021	2005-2022	
Case/Control	11/37	18/90	84/150	197/170	56/32	36/34	7/5	45/136	297/476	38/132	
APOE4+ : Case/Control	4/11	5/25	53/45	117/49	42/18	10/1	5/4	31/51	172/163	21/41	
Proportion Female	0.50	0.43	0.44	0.55	0.41	0.46	0.46	0.59	0.51	0.60	
Mean Age	66.9	70.2	67.9	71.4	72.8	64.6	65.1	65.5	72.8	71.2	
Hispanic	0.04	0.04	0.01	0.10	0.02	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	
White	0.75	0.87	0.94	0.74	0.89	0.77	1.00	0.99	0.90	0.89	
Black or African American	0.13	0.07	0.01	0.09	0.05	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.08	0.00	
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Native Hawaiian	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Asian	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.09	
Other	0.04	0.01	0.00	0.07	0.02	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	

All ten sites: n=2051



# **Summary:** ADRC sites that have contributed CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub> and t-Tau biomarker data to NACC

- NIH ADRC 2021 CSF biomarker inventory indicates the 22 centers collect and quantitate CSF A $\beta$  and tau with a total of 6963 samples
- Ten ADRC sites have contributed CSF A $\beta$  and tau biomarker data from Luminex, ELISA and “other” platforms to NACC
- Nine out of ten sites contributed CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub> and tau utilizing one platform for all three analytes.

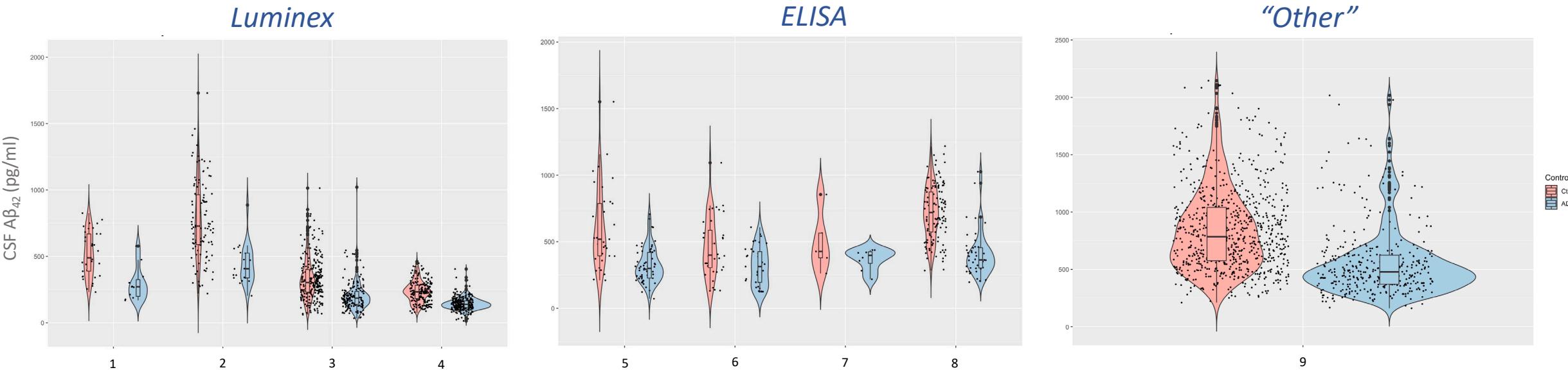


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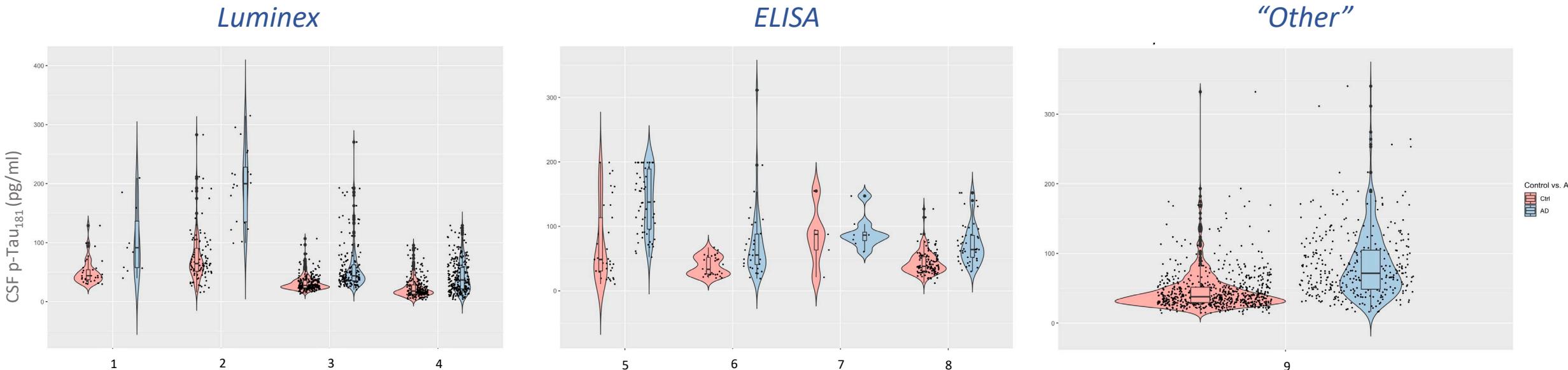
# CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub> is significantly different between controls and AD for all but one site



CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>	Luminex				ELISA				Other
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
mean AD	296.70	439.02	203.35	143.51	322.92	316.25	368.36	407.91	557.60
mean Ctrl	517.74	775.44	330.76	235.64	599.03	460.59	497.33	718.88	843.89
p-value	0.000132	3.92E-10	< 2.2e-16	< 2.2e-16	3.15E-06	0.001803	0.2804	< 2.2e-16	< 2.2e-16



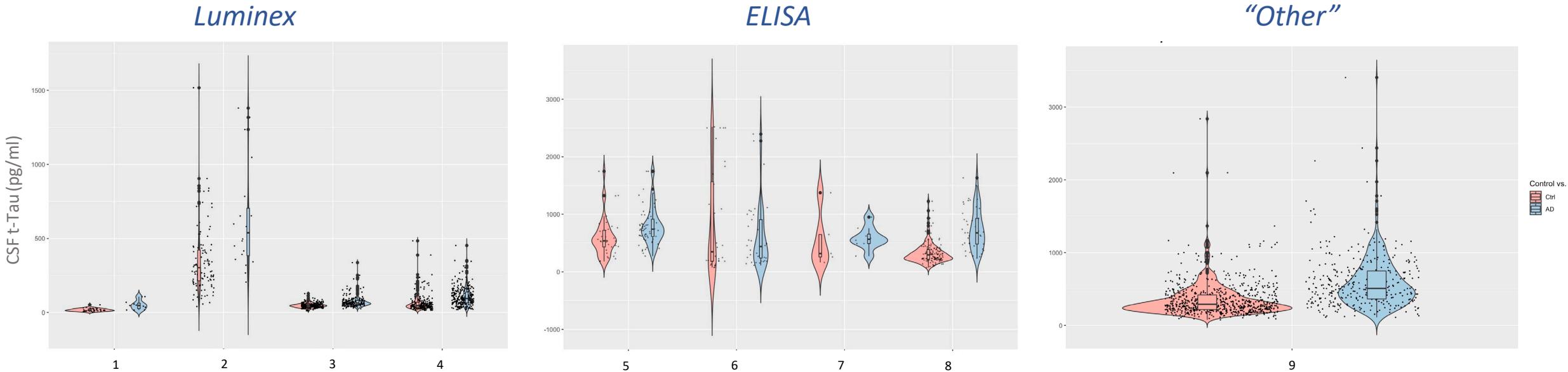
# CSF p-Tau<sub>181</sub> is significantly different between controls and AD for all but one site



p-Tau	Luminex				ELISA				Other
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
mean AD	104.52	197.83	58.85	42.11	138.21	73.81	90.46	73.02	83.88
mean Ctrl	50.40	76.77	31.80	23.62	73.18	38.49	84.10	43.32	45.50
p-value	0.0106	3.86E-08	7.95E-15	< 2.2e-16	4.57E-07	0.0007531	0.798	1.44E-07	< 2.2e-16



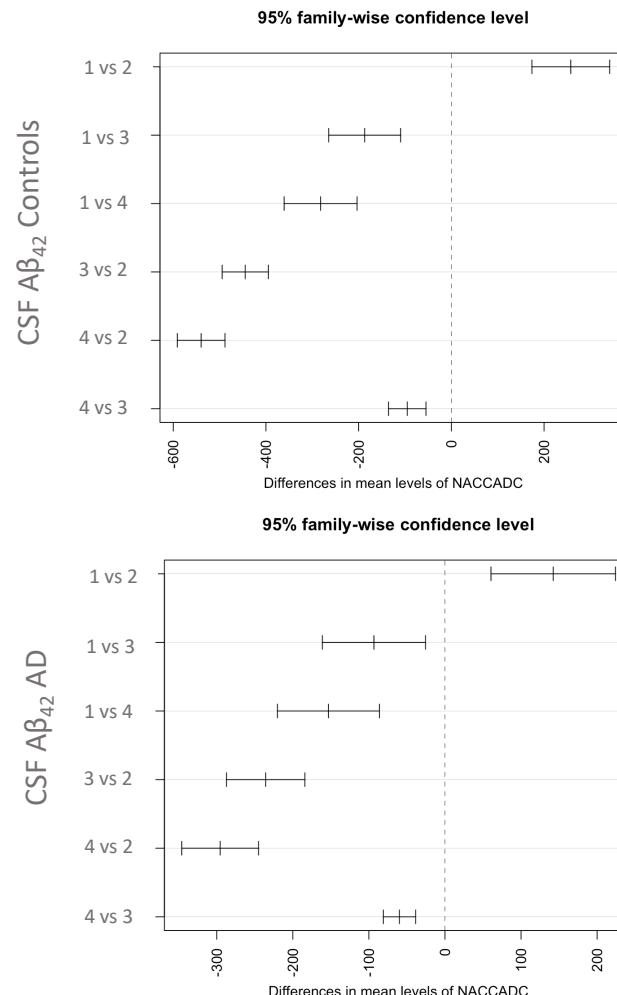
# CSF t-Tau is significantly different between controls and AD for all but two sites



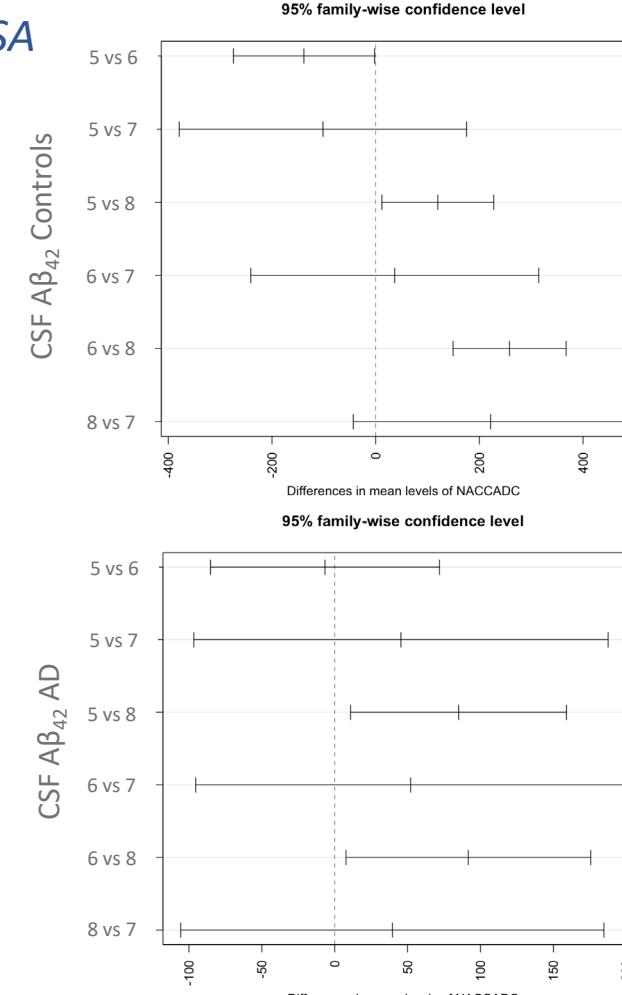
t-Tau	Luminex				ELISA				Other
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
mean AD	51.59	632.70	75.71	107.05	800.67	614.25	589.10	740.87	596.87
mean Ctrl	18.34	347.11	48.16	63.63	600.42	873.99	551.35	324.82	351.21
p-value	0.006632	0.00198	1.20E-14	2.35E-15	0.004704	0.1468	0.8775	6.67E-10	< 2.2e-16

# CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub> is significantly different between all sites for Luminex, but not all sites for ELISA.

Luminex

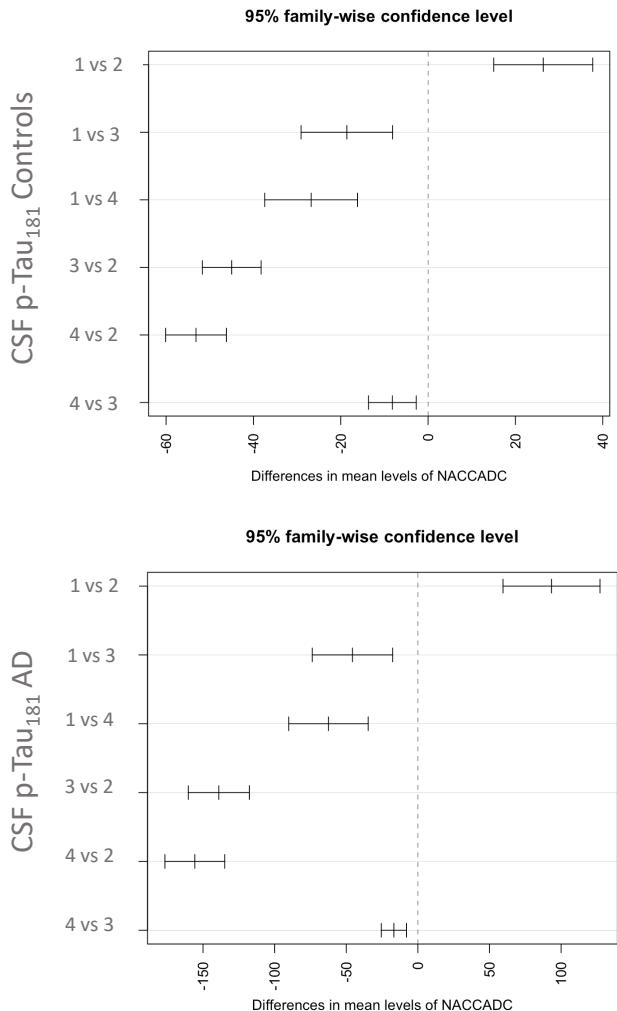


ELISA

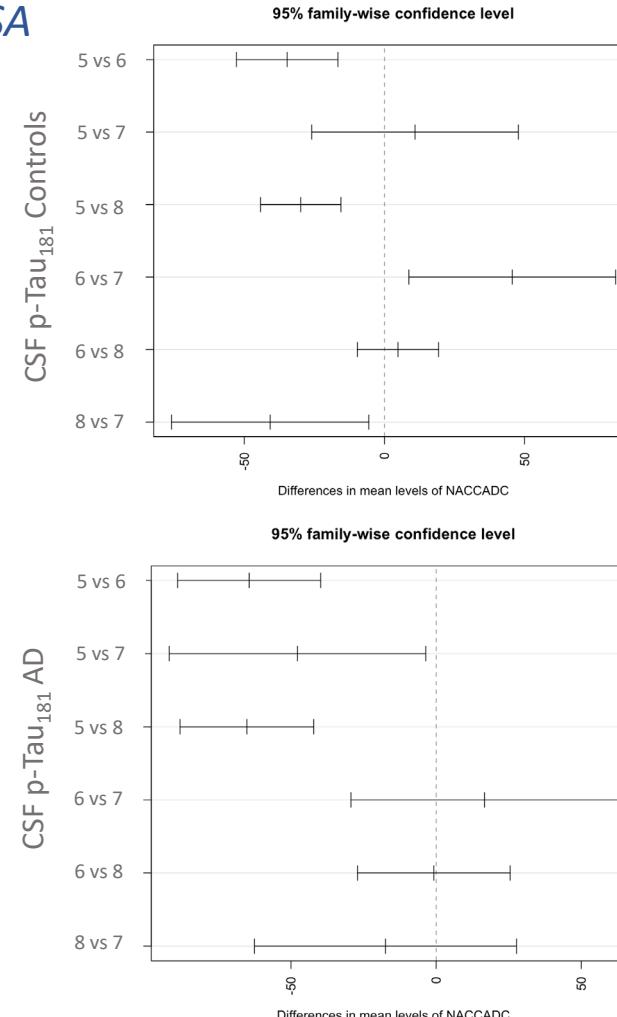


# CSF p-Tau<sub>181</sub> is significantly different between all sites for Luminex, but not all sites for ELISA.

Luminex

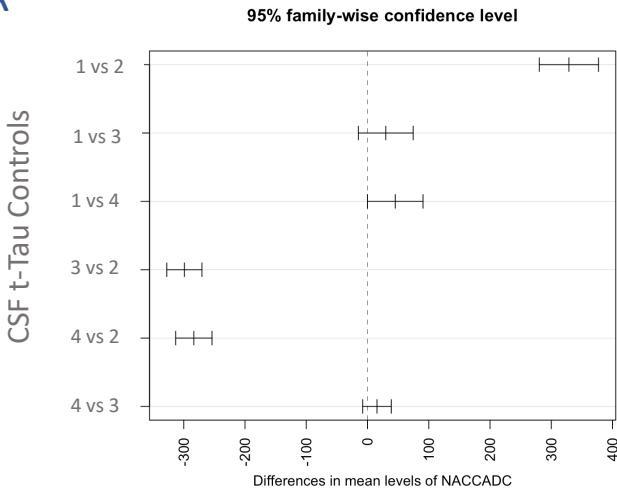


ELISA

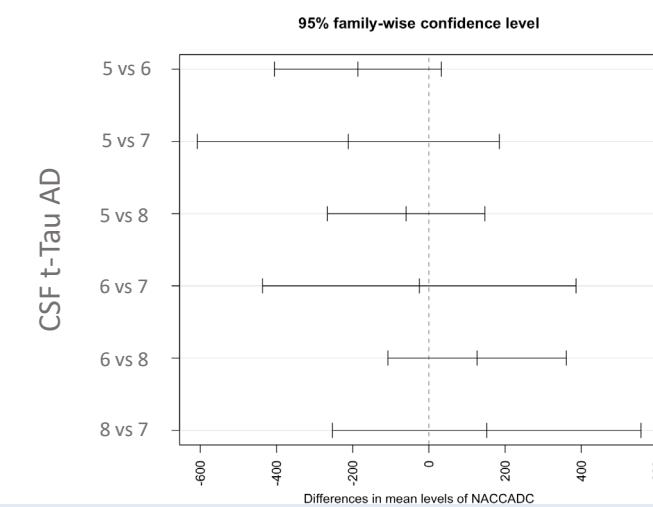
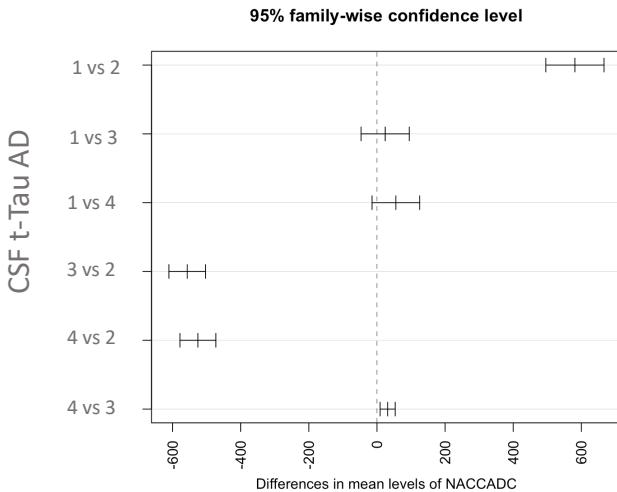
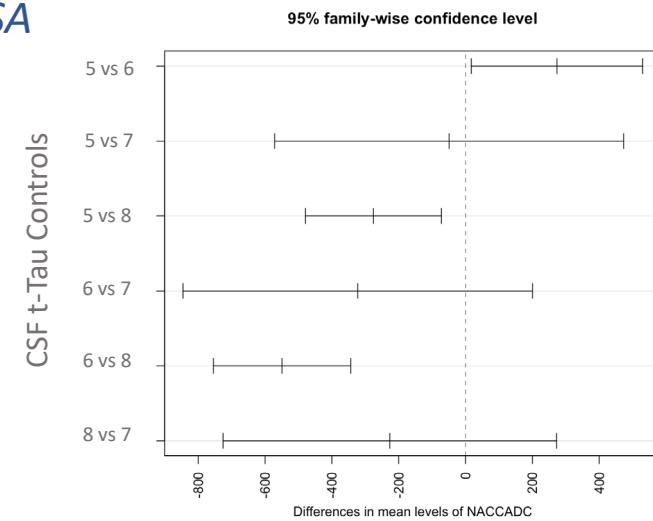


# CSF t-Tau is significantly different between some sites for Luminex and ELISA.

Luminex



ELISA



# Summary: NACC CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub> and t-Tau

- For the nine ADRC sites that contributed data, CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub> and t-Tau are all significantly different between controls and AD, for all but one site with limited samples collected.
- CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub> and t-Tau is significantly different between most sites for Luminex, but fewer sites for ELISA.

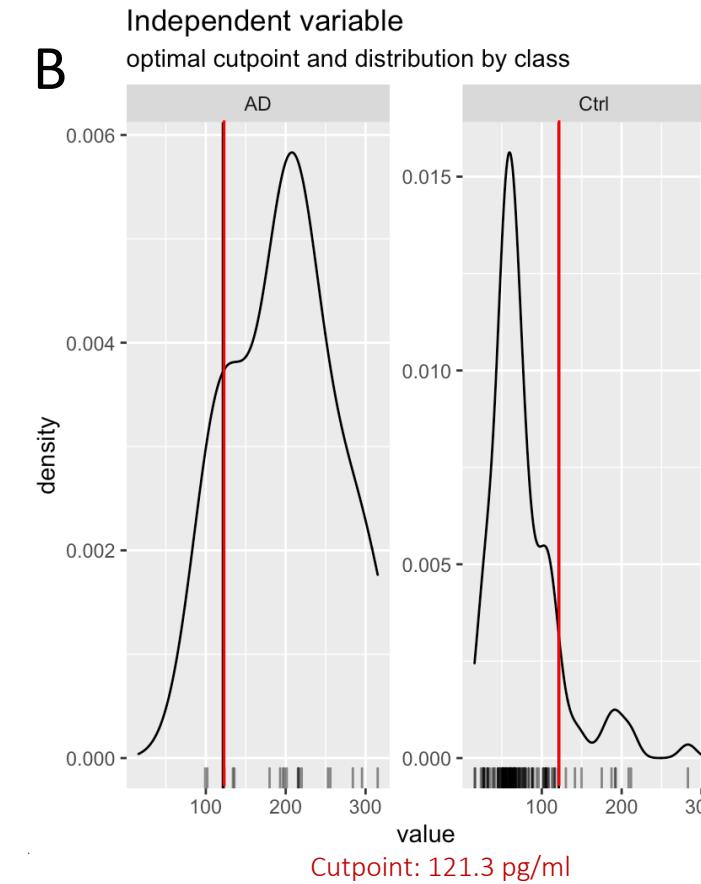
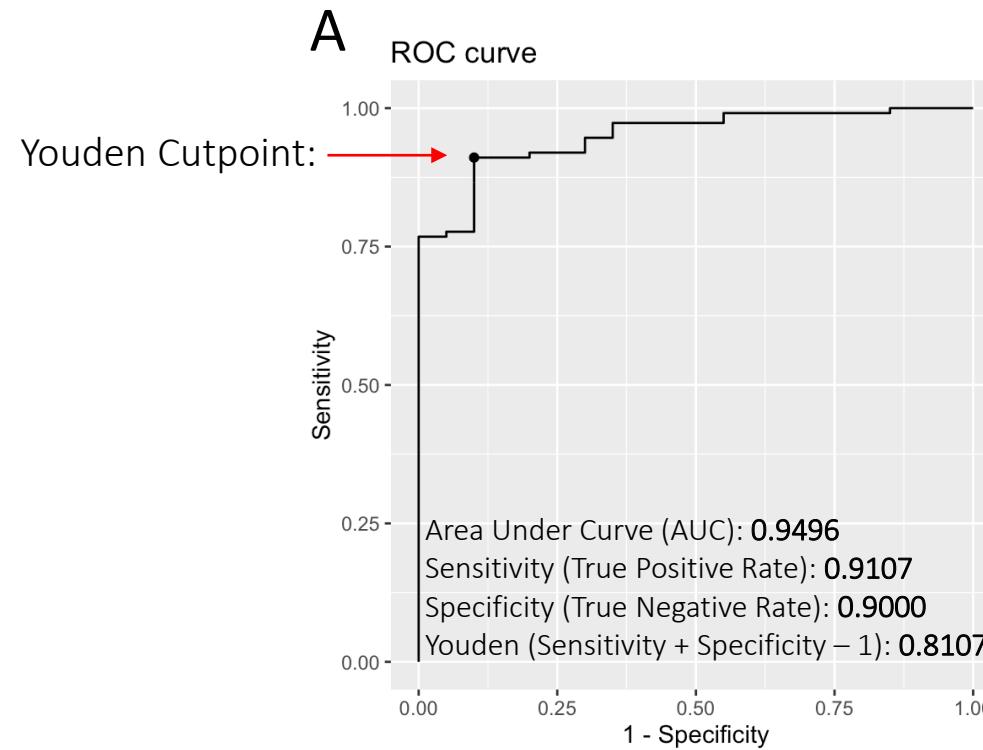


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# Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) defines the sensitivity and specificity and establishes cut-points of biomarker positivity



# ROC analyses per NIH ADRC site suggest that the sensitivity, specificity and cut-points vary between sites

CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>

	CSF A $\beta$ 42								
	Luminex				ELISA				Other
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Area Under the Curve	0.8649	0.8549	0.7791	0.8437	0.8219	0.6914	0.6500	0.8891	0.7697
Sensitivity	0.8182	0.9500	0.7412	0.8804	0.7097	0.9189	1.0000	0.8222	0.7047
Specificity	0.8108	0.7589	0.7603	0.7327	0.8378	0.4167	0.4000	0.8750	0.7429
Youden	0.6290	0.7089	0.5015	0.6132	0.5475	0.3356	0.4000	0.6972	0.4476
Cutpoints	348.40	583.31	227.42	189.13	349.17	508.40	437.20	469.00	582.00

p-Tau<sub>181</sub>

	CSF p-Tau181								
	Luminex				ELISA				Other
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Area Under the Curve	0.8550	0.9496	0.8221	0.7381	0.8130	0.7500	0.4750	0.8235	0.7949
Sensitivity	0.7027	0.9107	0.6742	0.6083	0.6216	0.9722	0.4000	0.8741	0.7823
Specificity	0.9091	0.9000	0.8235	0.7826	0.9839	0.4722	0.8750	0.6444	0.7019
Youden	0.6118	0.8107	0.4977	0.3909	0.6055	0.4444	0.2750	0.5185	0.4843
Cutpoints	51.00	121.30	33.44	20.55	53.80	63.22	63.35	59.00	54.00

t-Tau

	CSF t-Tau								
	Luminex				ELISA				Other
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Area Under the Curve	0.8600	0.7873	0.7956	0.7690	0.7129	0.4962	0.6250	0.8814	0.7657
Sensitivity	0.9730	0.6696	0.7828	0.7143	0.7027	0.4722	0.6000	0.8593	0.6694
Specificity	0.7273	0.8000	0.6941	0.7935	0.7419	0.7297	0.8750	0.7778	0.7632
Youden	0.7002	0.4696	0.4769	0.5078	0.4446	0.2020	0.4750	0.6370	0.4326
Cutpoints	35.90	357.96	56.72	63.00	613.38	247.30	316.70	457.50	355.00

# **Summary: NACC CSF A $\beta$ <sub>42</sub>, p-Tau<sub>181</sub> and t-Tau sensitivity, specificity and cut-points**

- ROC analyses per NIH ADRC site suggest that the sensitivity, specificity and cut-points vary between sites within assay type

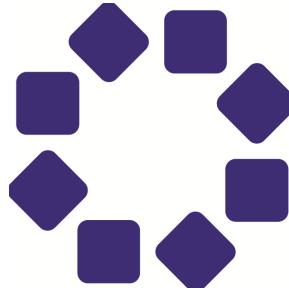


# Conclusion

- Ten sites that contributed data to NACC allowed examination of site to site variability between nine sites within two assay types and reveals site to site differences.
- ROC analyses indicate potentially important site to site differences in sensitivity, specificity and cut-points.



# Cleveland Alzheimer's Disease Research Center



**Director**  
James Leverenz

## CORE LEADERS



**Alan Lerner**  
*CC Leader*



**Lynn Bekris**  
*BC Leader*



**Jonathan Haines**  
*DMSC Leader*



**Martha Sajatovic**  
*OREC Leader*



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**Mark Cohen**  
*NPC Co-Leader*



**Andrew Pieper**  
*TTC Leader*



**Mark Lowe**  
*Neuroimaging Core*



**Frank DiFilippo**  
*Neuroimaging Core*



# Discussion – Next Steps?

- Is the collection of the CSF A $\beta$  and tau data in the current state helpful or not?
  - What are the barriers to uploading or sharing data?
  - Should more data fields be added to NACC (e.g. other assay types, pre-analytical methods)?
- How can we increase and improve NACC CSF A $\beta$  and tau biomarker data?
- Will sharing CSF A $\beta$  and tau data advance the field?