

## Supplementary Online Content

Ossenkoppele R, Smith R, Mattsson-Carlgrén N, et al. Accuracy of tau positron emission tomography as a prognostic marker in preclinical and prodromal Alzheimer disease: a head-to-head comparison against amyloid positron emission tomography and magnetic resonance imaging. *JAMA Neurol*. Published online June 28, 2021. doi:10.1001/jamaneurol.2021.1858

**eFigure 1.** Replication of Figure 1 (PET vs MRI Comparison) Using [<sup>18</sup>F]RO948 PET in an Independent Dataset

**eFigure 2.** [<sup>18</sup>F]Flortaucipir SUVR in Entorhinal Cortex and Hippocampal Volumes as Predictors of Change in MMSE

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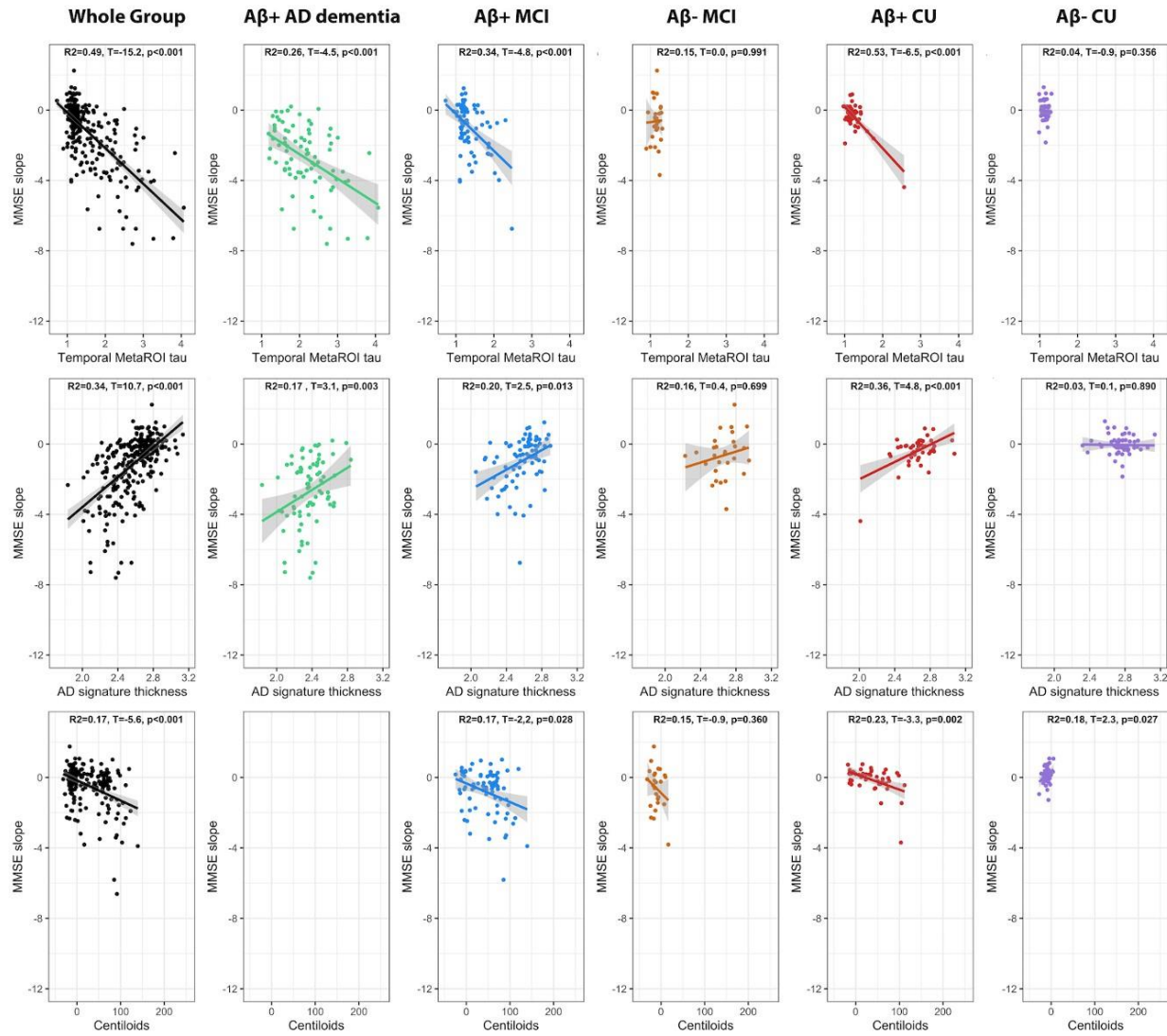
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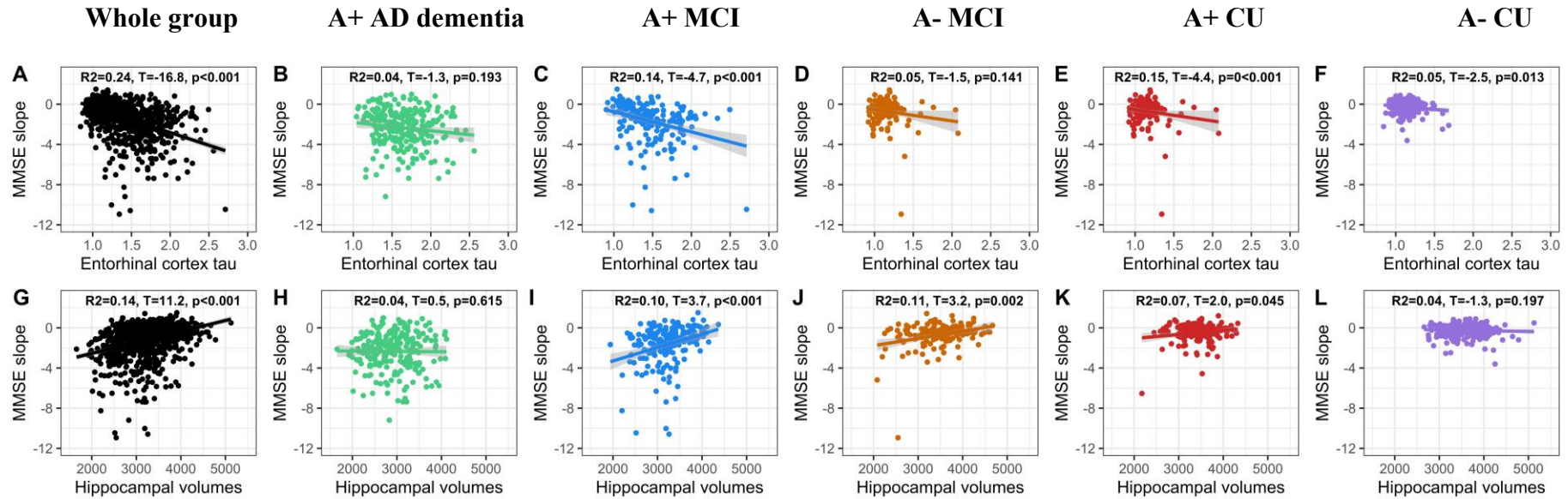
This supplementary material has been provided by the authors to give readers additional information about their work.

eFigure 1. Replication of Figure 1 (PET vs MRI Comparison) Using [<sup>18</sup>F]RO948 PET in an Independent Dataset

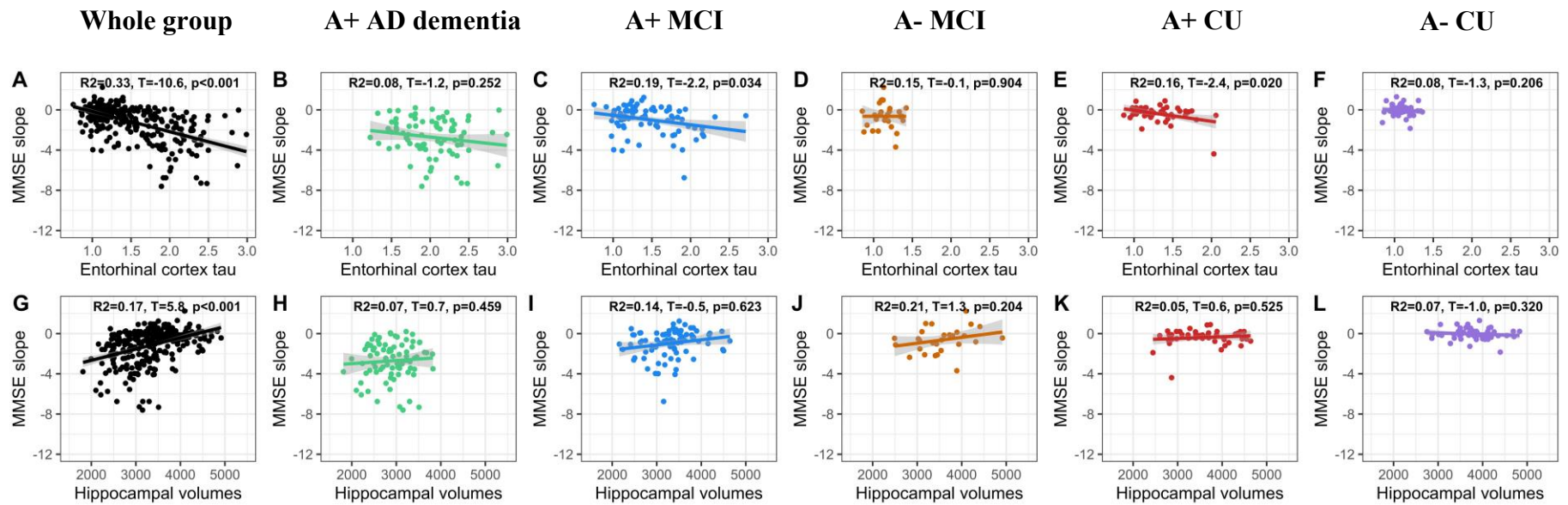


Graphs represent associations between baseline [<sup>18</sup>F]RO948 (tau) PET uptake in a temporal region-of-interest (upper panel), cortical thickness in an Alzheimer's disease signature region defined on MRI (middle panel) and Amyloid PET (bottom panel) with annual slopes of Mini-Mental State Examination scores across all participants (in black), Aβ<sup>+</sup> Alzheimer's disease dementia (in green), Aβ<sup>+</sup> mild cognitive impairment (in blue), Aβ<sup>-</sup> mild cognitive impairment (in orange), Aβ<sup>+</sup> cognitively unimpaired individuals (in red) and Aβ<sup>-</sup> cognitively unimpaired individuals (in purple). Model outputs are derived from a linear regression model between baseline tau PET/MRI/amyloid PET and MMSE slopes, adjusted for age, sex, education and cohort. R<sup>2</sup> values are provided for the full model (including covariates), and T and p-values represent the interaction between the imaging modality and time. Note that amyloid-PET was only available in 5 participants with AD dementia of the Swedish BioFINDER-2 study and therefore no scatterplot was included for this group.

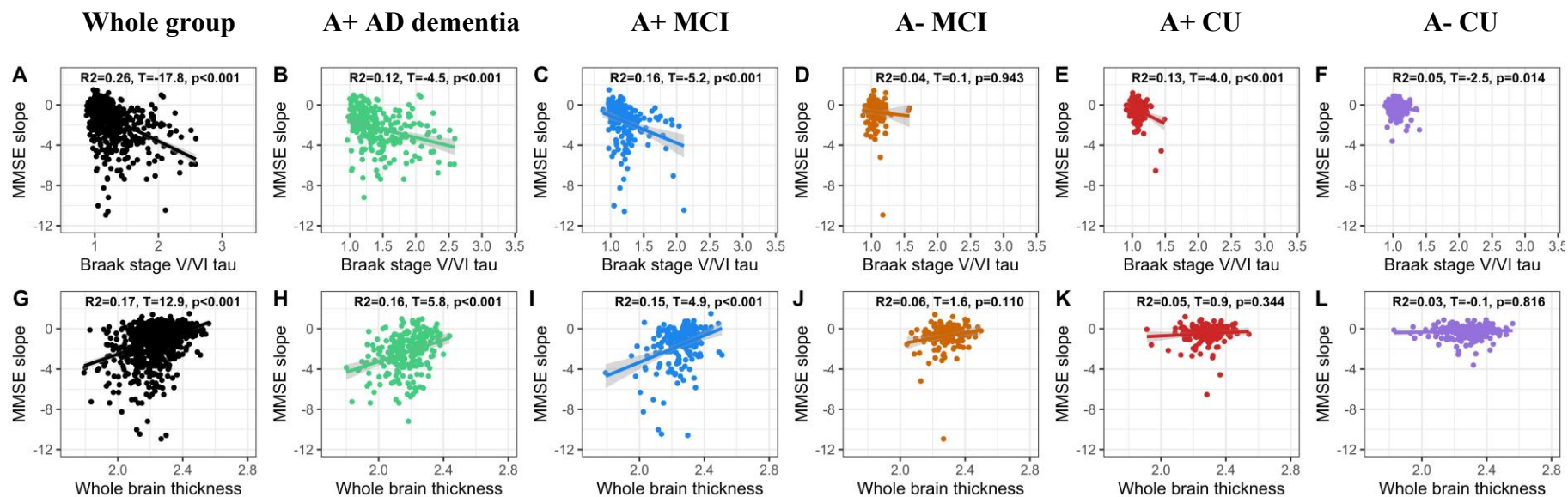
eFigure 2. [<sup>18</sup>F]Flortaucipir SUVR in Entorhinal Cortex and Hippocampal Volumes as Predictors of Change in MMSE



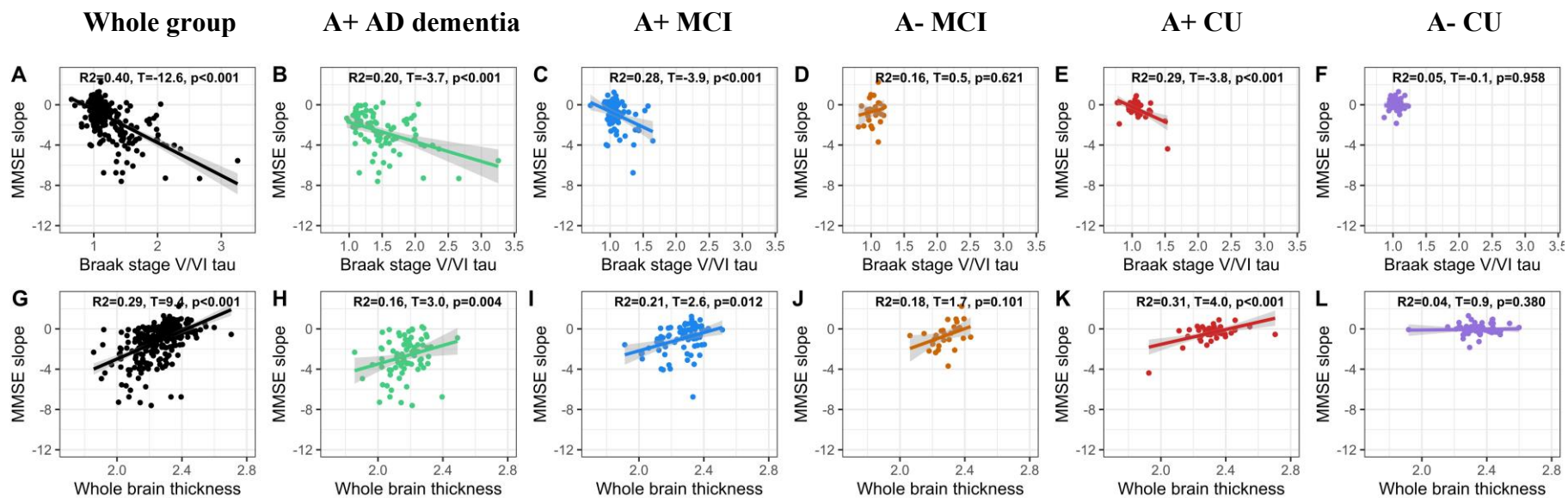
eFigure 3. Replication of eFigure 2 With [<sup>18</sup>F]RO948 PET in an Independent Dataset



eFigure 4. [<sup>18</sup>F]Flortaucipir SUVR in Braak V/VI ROIs and Whole Brain Cortical Thickness as Predictors of Change in MMSE

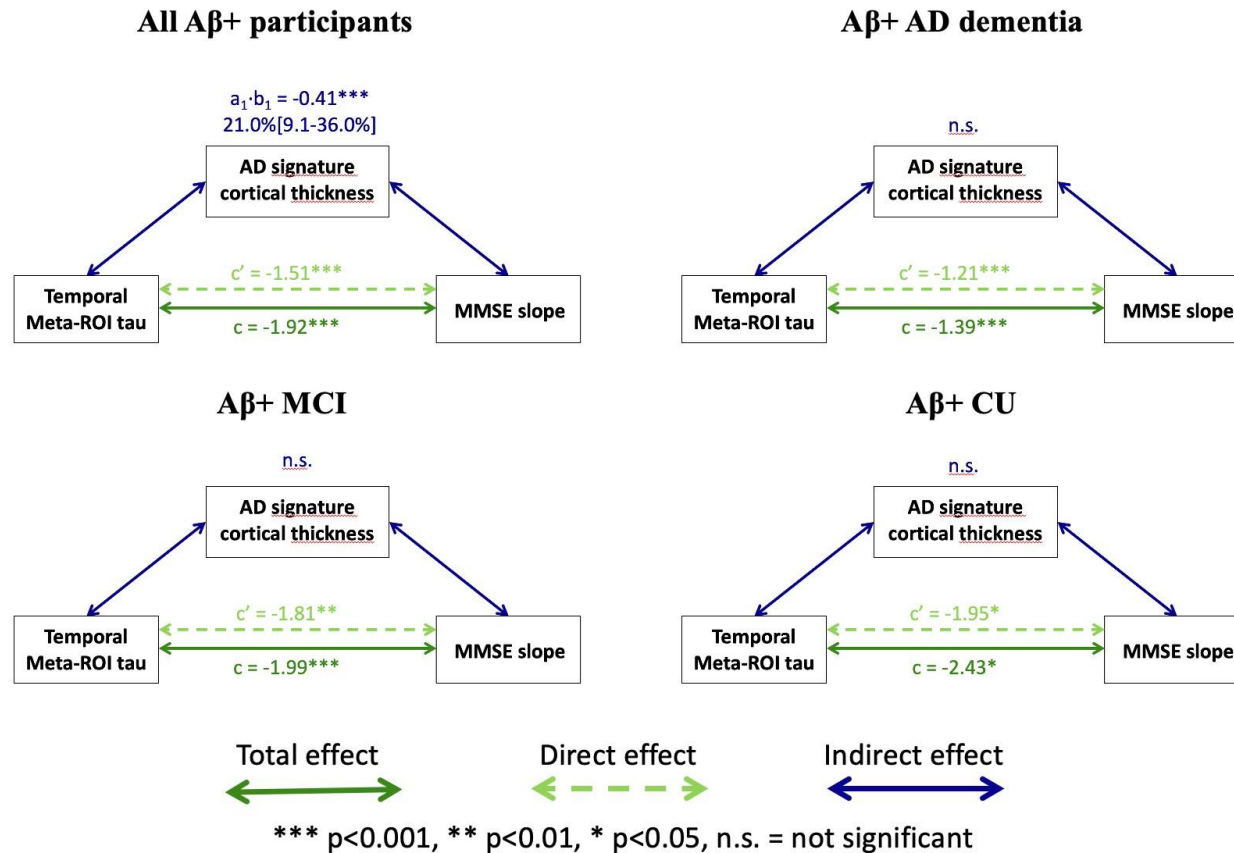


eFigure 5. Replication of eFigure 4 With [18F]RO948 PET in an Independent Dataset





eFigure 6. Replication of Figure 2 (Mediation Analysis) Using [<sup>18</sup>F]RO948 PET in an Independent Dataset

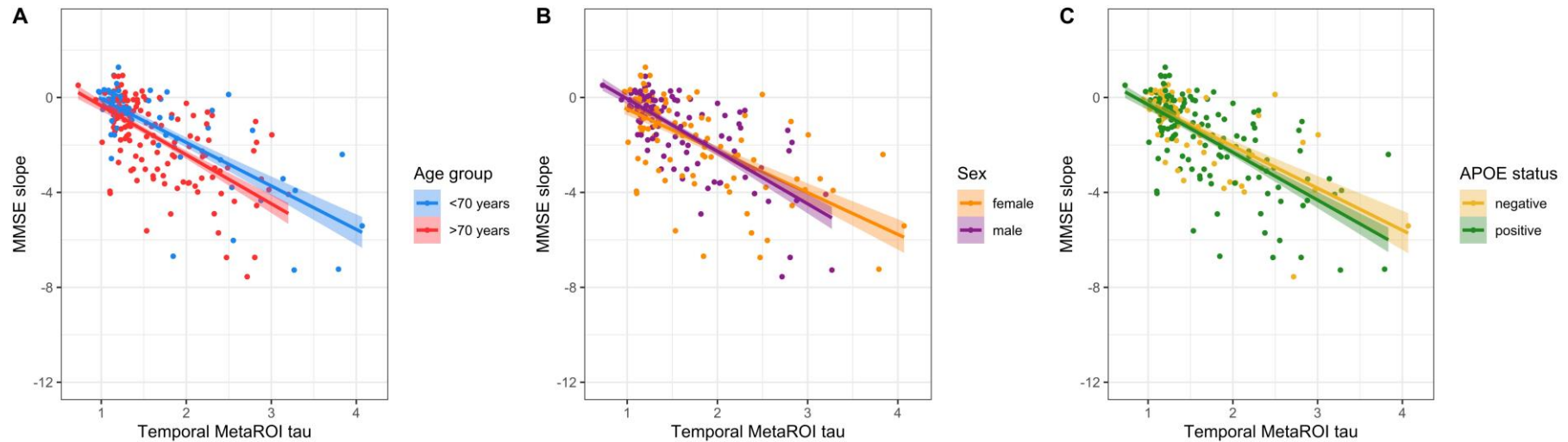


Path diagrams indicate whether AD-signature cortical thickness mediates the associations between baseline [<sup>18</sup>F]RO948 SUVR in the temporal meta-ROI and MMSE slopes, adjusting for age, sex, education and *APOE* ε4 status. The direct effect (i.e., coefficient:  $c'$ ) reflects the extent to which MMSE slopes change when baseline tau PET increases by one unit while baseline cortical thickness remains unaltered. The indirect effect (i.e., coefficient:  $a_1 \cdot b_1$ ) reflects the extent to which MMSE slopes changes when baseline tau PET is held constant and baseline cortical thickness changes by the amount it would have changed had baseline tau PET increased by one unit. The coefficient “ $c$ ” represents the total effect (i.e., direct



+ indirect effects).

eFigure 7. Replication of Figure 3 (Associations With Age, Sex, and *APOE*) Using [<sup>18</sup>F]RO948 PET in an Independent Dataset



Linear mixed effects models with random intercepts and fixed slopes were performed to examine whether age (A), sex (B) and *APOE*  $\epsilon 4$  status (C) moderate the association between baseline [<sup>18</sup>F]RO948 uptake in a temporal region-of-interest and change over time in Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) scores, while adjusting for age, sex, education, cohort and diagnostic group when appropriate. The T- and p-value represent the 3-way interaction Age/Sex/*APOE*  $\epsilon 4$  status \* time \* tau PET. Age was entered as continuous variable in the linear mixed effects models, but was dichotomized at age 70 for visualization purposes.

eTable 1. Participant Characteristics for the Discovery Cohort (A) vs the Replication Cohort (B)

A. [<sup>18</sup>F]Flortaucipir

	Whole group	Aβ+ AD dementia	Aβ+ MCI	Aβ- MCI	Aβ+ CU	Aβ- CU
N	1135	235	190	144	208	358
Age, years	71.6 (8.3)	71.7 (8.9)	71.5 (8.2)	70.4 (8.5)	74.3 (6.3)	70.5 (8.5)
Sex (% male)	52.2	62.1	48.4	42.4	50.5	52.8
Education, years	13.7 (6.4)	12.6 (5.1)	12.1 (5.4)	12.7 (5.9)	16.1 (9.4)	14.2 (5.2)
<i>APOE</i> ε4, % positive	41.1%	67.3%	60.2%	20.3%	52.5%	17.3%
MMSE, baseline score	26.7 (3.7)	21.6 (5.1)	27.0 (2.6)	28.1 (1.8)	28.9 (1.2)	29.0 (1.2)

B. [<sup>18</sup>F]RO948

	Whole group	Aβ+ AD dementia	Aβ+ MCI	Aβ- MCI	Aβ+ CU	Aβ- CU
N	296	80	81	28	45	62
Age, years	69.6 (10.3)	74.0 (6.5)	72.1 (7.1)	68.9 (6.8)	70.2 (9.8)	60.9 (13.6)
Sex (% male)	53.4	47.5	55.6	64.3	44.4	59.7
Education, years	12.6 (4.2)	12.1 (4.7)	12.5 (4.4)	11.8 (2.7)	13.1 (4.1)	13.3 (3.5)
<i>APOE</i> ε4, % positive	56.8%	68.4%	66.2%	21.4%	68.9%	37.1%
MMSE, baseline score	25.9 (4.6)	19.9 (4.4)	27.1 (1.9)	27.3 (2.3)	28.8 (1.2)	29.1 (1.1)

Data are presented as mean (standard deviation), unless otherwise stated.

Aβ = amyloid-β, AD = Alzheimer's disease, *APOE* = Apolipoprotein E, CU = Cognitively unimpaired, MCI = Mild cognitive impairment, MMSE = Mini-mental state examination.

eTable 2. Participant Characteristics for the Different Cohorts

BioFINDER-1:

	<b>Whole group</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ AD dementia</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ CU</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- CU</b>
N	136	44	27	1	32	32
Age, years	72.3 (10.3)	71.0 (7.5)	71.6 (9.5)	66	74.1 (8.0)	73.0 (7.1)
Sex (% male)	54.4	56.8	66.7	100	37.5	56.2
Education, years	12.4 (3.7)	12.3 (3.8)	12.4 (3.7)	13.9	11.9 (3.7)	12.8 (3.8)
<i>APOE</i> $\epsilon$ 4, % positive	59.2%	64.9%	80.8%	0%	80.0%	16.1%
MMSE, baseline score	25.7 (4.7)	20.8 (4.9)	25.8 (2.9)	30.0	28.9 (1.1)	28.8 (1.1)

Seoul:

	<b>Whole group</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ AD dementia</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ CU</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- CU</b>
N	161	42	37	16	8	58
Age, years	69.4 (9.6)	72.7 (9.5)	71.8 (8.6)	69.8 (9.9)	71.0 (4.4)	65.2 (9.4)
Sex (% male)	64.0	76.2	54.1	68.1	62.5	60.3
Education, years	11.5 (4.9)	10.2 (5.8)	11.8 (4.6)	10.6 (4.4)	12.5 (4.1)	12.4 (4.4)
<i>APOE</i> $\epsilon$ 4, % positive	35.0%	58.5%	48.6%	12.5%	37.5%	15.5%
MMSE, baseline score	25.0 (5.0)	19.0 (5.3)	25.4 (3.2)	26.5 (2.3)	27.9 (2.1)	28.3 (1.7)

UCSF:

	<b>Whole group</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ AD dementia</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ CU</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- CU</b>
N	44	28	8	6	1	2
Age, years	63.9 (10.1)	64.6 (10.4)	61.8 (10.0)	67.3 (7.2)	70	60.9 (13.6)
Sex (% male)	61.4	70.4	62.5	33.3	100	0
Education, years	16.9 (2.7)	22.5 (3.9)	17.9 (3.1)	16.8 (1.3)	20.0	18.5 (2.1)
<i>APOE</i> $\epsilon$ 4, % positive	45.7%	52.5%	40.0%	0%	0%	100%
MMSE, baseline score	24.6 (4.2)	6.4 (2.7)	17.9 (3.1)	16.8 (1.3)	27.0	30.0 (0)

ADNI:

	<b>Whole group</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ AD dementia</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ CU</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- CU</b>
N	445	17	77	83	116	152
Age, years	71.6 (6.7)	72.1 (10.1)	72.0 (6.9)	70.8 (7.8)	73.5 (6.3)	70.4 (5.5)
Sex (% male)	49.0	35.3	39.0	33.7	57.8	57.2
Education, years	16.5 (2.6)	16.4 (2.6)	15.8 (2.6)	16.5 (2.7)	16.6 (2.4)	16.7 (2.6)
<i>APOE</i> $\epsilon$ 4, % positive	36.2%	76.9%	62.7%	17.5%	47.4%	20.1%
MMSE, baseline score	28.5 (1.9)	22.6 (2.6)	27.7 (2.0)	28.5 (1.4)	29.0 (1.2)	29.2 (1.0)

AO5:

	<b>Whole group</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ AD dementia</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ CU</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- CU</b>
N	160	26	41	38	5	50
Age, years	71.3 (9.6)	76.5 (8.2)	72.2 (8.2)	70.3 (9.7)	77.8 (7.0)	67.9 (10.3)
Sex (% male)	48.1	57.5	46.3	50.0	40.0	44.0
Education, years	13.7 (6.4)	12.6 (2.6)	12.6 (2.4)	13.7 (6.7)	13.2 (3.4)	15.2 (9.3)
<i>APOE</i> $\epsilon$ 4, % positive	41.4%	73.1%	55.3%	33.3%	40.0%	19.1%
MMSE, baseline score	27.4 (3.4)	21.5 (4.1)	27.5 (1.9)	28.2 (1.8)	29.6 (0.6)	29.5(0.5)

EXPEDITION-3:

	<b>Whole group</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ AD dementia</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ CU</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- CU</b>
N	79	79	NA	NA	NA	NA
Age, years	72.4 (7.5)	72.4 (7.5)	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sex (% male)	62.0	62.0	NA	NA	NA	NA
Education, years	14.7 (2.9)	14.7 (2.9)	NA	NA	NA	NA
<i>APOE</i> $\epsilon$ 4, % positive	74.0%	74.0%	NA	NA	NA	NA
MMSE, baseline score	22.9 (2.0)	22.9 (2.0)	NA	NA	NA	NA

BACS:

	<b>Whole group</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ AD dementia</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ CU</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- CU</b>
N	110	NA	NA	NA	46	64
Age, years	77.1 (6.1)	NA	NA	NA	77.0 (7.2)	77.3 (7.2)
Sex (% male)	40.9	NA	NA	NA	39.1	42.2
Education, years	18.2 (12.1)	NA	NA	NA	19.4 (18.4)	17.4 (2.8)
<i>APOE</i> $\epsilon$ 4, % positive	26.6%	NA	NA	NA	51.1%	9.4%
MMSE, baseline score	28.7 (1.2)	NA	NA	NA	28.6 (1.4)	28.8 (1.1)

BioFINDER-2:

	<b>Whole group</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ AD dementia</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- MCI</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ CU</b>	<b>A<math>\beta</math>- CU</b>
N	296	80	81	28	45	62
Age, years	69.6 (10.3)	74.0 (6.5)	72.1 (7.1)	68.9 (6.8)	70.2 (9.8)	60.9 (13.6)
Sex (% male)	53.4	47.5	55.6	64.3	44.4	59.7
Education, years	12.6 (4.2)	12.1 (4.7)	12.5 (4.4)	11.8 (2.7)	13.1 (4.1)	13.3 (3.5)
<i>APOE</i> $\epsilon$ 4, % positive	56.8%	68.4%	66.2%	21.4%	68.9%	37.1%
MMSE, baseline score	25.9 (4.6)	19.9 (4.4)	27.1 (1.9)	27.3 (2.3)	28.8 (1.2)	29.1 (1.1)

Data are presented as mean (standard deviation), unless otherwise stated.

A $\beta$  = amyloid- $\beta$ , AD = Alzheimer's disease, *APOE* = Apolipoprotein E, CU = Cognitively unimpaired, MCI = Mild cognitive impairment, MMSE = Mini-mental state examination.

eTable 3. Bootstrapping of  $R^2$  Values From Tau PET vs MRI Models Predicting MMSE Change

	DISCOVERY COHORT ( $[^{18}\text{F}]$ flortaucipir)				REPLICATION COHORT ( $[^{18}\text{F}]$ RO948)			
	$R^2$ difference PET - MRI	95% CI	T	P	$R^2$ difference PET - MRI	95% CI	T	P
<b>Total group</b>	0.099	0.970-0.101	80.3	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	0.137	0.136-0.139	147.9	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ AD dementia</b>	-0.041	-[0.045-0.036]	-17.2	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	0.134	0.129-1.140	50.6	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ MCI</b>	0.104	0.097-0.110	30.8	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	0.086	0.079-0.094	23.1	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ CU</b>	0.098	0.093-0.103	38.6	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	0.184	0.163-0.206	16.7	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>A<math>\beta</math>- MCI</b>	-0.092	-[0.094-0.091]	-114.0	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	-0.047	-[0.048-0.045]	-61.4	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>A<math>\beta</math>- CU</b>	0.022	0.018-0.025	13.6	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	0.010	0.008-0.011	15.4	<b>&lt;0.001</b>



eTable 4. Linear Mixed Models With [<sup>18</sup>F]RO948 PET and MRI as Predictors of Change in MMSE

	$\beta$ (SE)	P	R <sup>2</sup>	AIC	X <sup>2</sup> for difference	P for difference
<b>ALL A<math>\beta</math>+ PARTICIPANTS</b>						
Model 1: Age, sex, education, cohort			0.066	3070		
Model 2: Model 1 + Tau PET	-0.22 (0.02)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.596	2775	307.3	< <b>0.001</b>
Model 3: Model 1 + Tau PET + MRI	-0.22 (0.02)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.729	2633	107.8	< <b>0.001</b>
Model 2: Model 1 + MRI	0.49 (0.05)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.409	2868	176.2	< <b>0.001</b>
Model 3: Model 1 + MRI + Tau PET	0.48 (0.05)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.723	2666	205.5	< <b>0.001</b>
<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ AD DEMENTIA</b>						
Model 1: Age, sex, education, cohort			0.152	1187		
Model 2: Model 1 + Tau PET	-0.15 (0.04)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.384	1142	46.8	< <b>0.001</b>
Model 3: Model 1 + Tau PET + MRI	-0.15 (0.04)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.419	1137	6.6	< <b>0.001</b>
Model 2: Model 1 + MRI	0.42 (0.14)	<b>0.002</b>	0.282	2265	24.0	< <b>0.001</b>
Model 3: Model 1 + MRI + Tau PET	0.42 (0.14)	<b>0.002</b>	0.413	1144	22.9	< <b>0.001</b>
<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ MILD COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT</b>						
Model 1: Age, sex, education, cohort			0.125	1017		
Model 2: Model 1 + Tau PET	-0.27 (0.05)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.300	973	48.4	< <b>0.001</b>
Model 3: Model 1 + Tau PET + MRI	-0.27 (0.05)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.308	971	1.6	< <b>0.001</b>
Model 2: Model 1 + MRI	0.35 (0.09)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.210	999	22.9	< <b>0.001</b>
Model 3: Model 1 + MRI + Tau PET	0.35 (0.09)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.274	988	11.2	< <b>0.001</b>
<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ COGNITIVELY UNIMPAIRED INDIVIDUALS</b>						
Model 1: Age, sex, education, cohort			0.096	418		
Model 2: Model 1 + Tau PET	-0.25 (0.06)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.382	381	40.3	< <b>0.001</b>
Model 3: Model 1 + Tau PET + MRI	-0.25 (0.06)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.384	381	1.0	0.311
Model 2: Model 1 + MRI	0.13 (0.08)	0.098	0.161	414	7.6	<b>0.023</b>
Model 3: Model 1 + MRI + Tau PET	0.16 (0.08)	<b>0.038</b>	0.318	395	21.3	< <b>0.001</b>

eTable 5. Bootstrapping of  $R^2$  Values From Tau PET vs Amyloid PET Models Predicting MMSE Change

	DISCOVERY COHORT ( $[^{18}\text{F}]$ flortaucipir)				REPLICATION COHORT ( $[^{18}\text{F}]$ RO948)			
	$R^2$ difference TAU – A $\beta$	95% CI	T	P	$R^2$ difference TAU – A $\beta$	95% CI	T	P
<b>Total group</b>	0.181	0.178-0.183	147.1	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	0.139	0.135-0.143	64.5	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ AD dementia</b>	0.149	0.146-0.153	81.1	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	NA	NA	NA	<b>NA</b>
<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ MCI</b>	0.190	0.184-0.196	63.3	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	0.192	0.184-0.199	49.8	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>A<math>\beta</math>+ CU</b>	0.102	0.098-0.106	47.0	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	0.259	0.240-0.279	26.3	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>A<math>\beta</math>- MCI</b>	0.002	0.002-0.003	8.1	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	-0.065	-[0.067-0.063]	-61.5	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
<b>A<math>\beta</math>- CU</b>	0.034	0.031-0.037	21.7	<b>&lt;0.001</b>	-0.096	-[0.099-0.093]	-63.2	<b>&lt;0.001</b>

eTable 6. Linear Mixed Models With [<sup>18</sup>F]Flortaucipir PET and Amyloid PET as Predictors of Change in MMSE

	β (SE)	P	R <sup>2</sup>	AIC	X <sup>2</sup> for difference	P for difference
<b>ALL Aβ+ PARTICIPANTS</b>						
Model 1: Age, sex, education, cohort			0.185	8333		
Model 2: Model 1 + Tau PET	-0.21 (0.02)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.488	7867	470.0	< <b>0.001</b>
Model 3: Model 1 + Tau PET + Amyloid PET	-0.21 (0.02)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.492	7862	7.1	<b>0.008</b>
Model 2: Model 1 + Amyloid PET	0.001 (0.0002)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.254	8254	83.7	< <b>0.001</b>
Model 3: Model 1 + Amyloid PET + Tau PET	0.001 (0.0002)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.463	8001	254.7	< <b>0.001</b>
<b>Aβ+ AD DEMENTIA</b>						
Model 1: Age, sex, education, cohort			0.196	3129		
Model 2: Model 1 + Tau PET	-0.18 (0.03)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.329	3050	46.8	< <b>0.001</b>
Model 3: Model 1 + Tau PET + Amyloid PET	-0.18 (0.03)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.329	3052	0.1	0.822
Model 2: Model 1 + Amyloid PET	-0.0003 (0.0004)	0.386	0.198	3131	1.3	0.522
Model 3: Model 1 + Amyloid PET + Tau PET	-0.0004 (0.0004)	0.328	0.302	3091	41.8	< <b>0.001</b>
<b>Aβ+ MILD COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT</b>						
Model 1: Age, sex, education, cohort			0.225	2855		
Model 2: Model 1 + Tau PET	-0.25 (0.03)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.387	2755	104.5	< <b>0.001</b>
Model 3: Model 1 + Tau PET + Amyloid PET	-0.25 (0.03)	< <b>0.001</b>	0.386	2757	0.0	0.972
Model 2: Model 1 + Amyloid PET	-0.0007 (0.0003)	<b>0.039</b>	0.237	2852	7.8	<b>0.020</b>
Model 3: Model 1 + Amyloid PET + Tau PET	-0.0007 (0.0003)	<b>0.032</b>	0.338	2807	46.3	< <b>0.001</b>
<b>Aβ+ COGNITIVELY UNIMPAIRED INDIVIDUALS</b>						
Model 1: Age, sex, education, cohort			0.095	1680		
Model 2: Model 1 + Tau PET	-0.17 (0.06)	<b>0.004</b>	0.175	1658	25.9	< <b>0.001</b>
Model 3: Model 1 + Tau PET + Amyloid PET	-0.17 (0.06)	<b>0.004</b>	0.175	1659	0.2	0.694
Model 2: Model 1 + Amyloid PET	-0.0005 (0.0002)	<b>0.023</b>	0.114	1675	8.4	<b>0.015</b>
Model 3: Model 1 + Amyloid PET + Tau PET	-0.0005 (0.0002)	<b>0.023</b>	0.168	1662	14.7	< <b>0.001</b>

## **eAppendix.** ADNI Investigators

Michael Weiner  
Paul Aisen  
Ronald Petersen  
Clifford R. Jack Jr.  
William Jagust  
John Q. Trojanowski  
Arthur W. Toga  
Laurel Beckett  
Robert C. Green  
Andrew J. Saykin  
John Morris  
Leslie M. Shaw  
Enchi Liu  
Tom Montine  
Ronald G. Thomas  
Michael Donahue  
Sarah Walter  
Devon Gessert  
Tamie Sather  
Gus Jiminez  
Danielle Harvey  
Natthew Bernstein  
Nick Fox  
Paul Thompson  
Norbert Schuff  
Charles DeCarli  
Bret Borowski  
Jeff Gunter  
Matt Senjem  
Prashanti Vemuri  
David Jones  
Kejal Kantarci  
Chard Ward  
Robert A. Koeppe

Norm Foster  
Eric M. Reiman  
Kewei Chen  
Chet Mathis  
Susan Landau  
Nigel J. Cairns  
Erin Householder  
Lisa T. Reinwald  
Virginia Lee  
Magdalena Korecka  
Michal Figurski  
Karen Crawford  
Scott Neu  
Tatiana M. Foroud  
Steven Potkin  
Li Chen  
Faber Kelley  
Sungeun Kim  
Kwangsik Nho  
Zaven Kachaturian  
Richard Frank  
Peter J. Snyder  
Susan Molchan  
Jeffrey Kaye  
Joseph Quinn  
Betty Lind  
Raina Carter  
Sara Dolen  
Lon S. Schneider  
Sonia Pawluczyk  
Mauricio Beccera  
Liberty Teodoro  
Bryan M. Spann  
James Brewer  
Helen Vanderswag  
Adam Fleisher

Judith L. Heidebrink  
Joanne L. Ford  
Sara S. Mason  
Colleen S. Albers  
David Knopman  
Kris Johnson  
Rachelle S. Doody  
Javier Villanueva  
Munir Chowdhury  
Susan Rountree  
Mimi Dang  
Yaakov Stern  
Lawrence S. Honig  
Karen L. Bell  
Beau Ances  
Maria Carroll  
Sue Leon  
Erin Householder  
Mark A. Mintun  
Stacy Schneider  
Angela Oliver  
Randal Griffith  
David Clark  
David Geldmacher  
John Brockington  
Erik Roberson  
Hillel Grossman  
Effie Mitsis  
Leyla deToledo-Morrell  
Raj C. Shah  
Ranjan Duara  
Daniel Varon  
Maria T. Greig  
Peggy Roberts  
Marilyn Albert  
Chiadi Onyike

Daniel D'Agostino  
Stephanie Kleib  
James E. Galvin  
Dana M. Pogorelec  
Brittany Cerbone  
Christina A. Michel  
Henry Rusinek  
Mony J. De Leon  
Lidia Glodzik  
Susan De Santi  
Murali Doraiswamy  
Jeffrey R. Petrella  
Terence Z. Wong  
Jason H. Karlawish  
David Wolk  
Charles D. Smith  
Greg Jicha  
Peter Hardy  
Partha Sinha  
Elizabeth Oates  
Gary Conrad  
Oscar L. Lopez  
MaryAnn Oakley  
Donna M. Simpson  
Anton P. Porsteinsson  
Bonnie S. Goldstein  
Kim Martin  
Kelly M. Makino  
M. Saleem Ismael  
Connie Brand  
Ruth A. Mulnard  
Gaby Thai  
Catherina McAdams Ortiz  
Kyle Womack  
Dana M. Mathews  
Mary Quiceno



Ramon Diaz Arrastia  
Richard King  
Myron Steiner  
Kristen Martin Cook  
Michael Devous  
Allan I. Levey  
James J. Lah  
Janet S. Cellar  
Jeffrey M. Burns  
Heather S. Anderson  
Russell h. Swerdlov  
Liana Apostolova  
Kathleen Tingus  
Ellen Woo  
Daniel H. Silverman  
Po H. Lu  
George Bartzokis  
Neill R. Graff-Radford  
Francine Parfitt  
Tracey Kendall  
Heather S. Johnson  
Martin R. Farlow  
Ann-Marie Hake  
Brandy R. Matthews  
Scott Herring  
Cynthia Hunt  
Christopher H. van Dyck  
Richard E. Carson  
Martyha G. MacAvoy  
Howard Chertkow  
Howard Bergman  
Chris Hosein  
Sandra Black  
Bojana Stefanovic  
Curtis Caldwell  
Ging Yuek Robin

Howard Feldman  
Benita Mudge  
Michele Assaly Past  
Andrew Kertesz  
John Rogers  
Dick Trost  
Charles Bernick  
Donna Munic  
Diana Kerwin  
Marek M. Mesulam  
Kristine Lipowski  
Chuang Kuo Wu  
Nancy Johnson  
Carl Sadowsky  
Walter Martinez  
Raymond S. Turner  
Kathleen Johnson  
Brigid Reynolds  
Reisa A. Sperling  
Keith A. Johnson  
Gad Marshall  
Meghan Frey  
Jerome Yesavage  
Joy L. Taylor  
Barton Lane  
Allyson Rosen  
Jared Tinklenberg  
Marwan N. Sabbagh  
Christine M. Belden  
Sherye A. Sirrel  
Neil Kowal  
Ronald Killiany  
Andrew E. Budson  
Alexander Norbash  
Patricia L. Johnson  
Thomas O. Obisesan

Saba Wolday  
Joana Allard  
Alan Lerner  
Paula Ogrocki  
Leon Hudson  
Evan Fletcher  
Owen Carmichel  
John Olichney  
Smita Kittur  
Michael Borrie  
T.Y. Lee  
Rob Bartha  
Sterling Johnson  
Sanjay Asthana  
Cynthia M. Carlsson  
Steven G. Potkin  
Adrian Preda  
Daan Nguyen  
Pierre Tarlot  
Stephanie Reeder  
Vernice Bates  
Horacio Capote  
Michelle Rainka  
Douglas W. Scharre  
Maria Kataki  
Anahita Adeli  
Earl A. Zimmerman  
Dzintra Celmins  
Alice D. Brown  
Godfrey D. Pearlson  
Karen Blank  
Karen Anderson  
Robert B. Santulli  
Tamar J. Kitzmiller  
Eben S. Schwartz  
Kaycee M. Sinks

Jeff D. Williamson  
Pradeep Garg  
Franklin Watkins  
Brian R. Ott  
Henry Querfurth  
Geoffry Tremont  
Stephen Salloway  
Paul Malloy  
Stephen Correia  
Howard J. Rosen  
Bruce L. Miller  
Jacob Mintzer  
Kenneth Spicer  
David Bachman  
Elizabeth Pasternak  
Irina Rachiksky  
John Rogers  
Andrew Kertesz  
Nunzio Pomara  
Raymundo Hernando  
Antero Sarrael  
Susan K. Schultz  
Laura L. Boles  
Hyungsub Shim  
Karen E. Smith  
Norman Relkin  
Gloria Chaing  
Amanda Smith  
Kristin. Fargher  
Balebail A. Raj