## Parkinsons UK 2016 Edinburgh

Richard Davenport

#### Previous RJD talks

- 2013: Causation (after Roger Barker)
- 2014: ICD
- 2015: Fallow year
- 2016:?

## What causes IPD?

#### The story so far....

- 1817 James Parkinson publication
- 1912 Lewy describes inclusion body pathology



**FIG. 4.** In the laboratory of the neurology clinic, Munich: 1, F. Lotmar; 2, Frau Grombach; 3, St. Rosenthal; 4, Ugo Cerletti; 5, Allers(?); 6, F. Bonfiglio; 7, A. Alzheimer; 8, N. Achucarro; 9, G. Perusini; 10, F. H. Lewy.

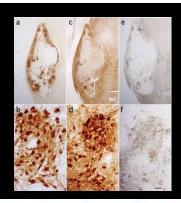
### The Lewy body

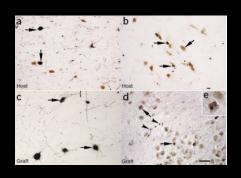
- Inclusions within neurones (microscopic)
- Found throughout brain
  - correlate with disease progression



### The Lewy body

- 1980s/90s
  - ?irrelevant (bystander)
  - 1997
  - α-synuclein mutation linked
  - α-synuclein identified in LB
  - 2008: α-synuclein identified in fetal grafts





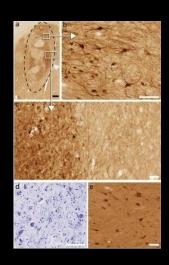
#### **BRIEF COMMUNICATIONS**

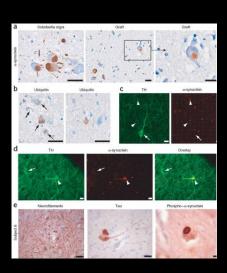
Lewy body–like pathology in long-term embryonic nigral transplants in Parkinson's disease

Jeffrey H Kordower<sup>1</sup>, Yaping Chu<sup>1</sup>, Robert A Hauser<sup>2</sup>, Thomas B Freeman<sup>3</sup> & C Warren Olanow<sup>4</sup> medicine

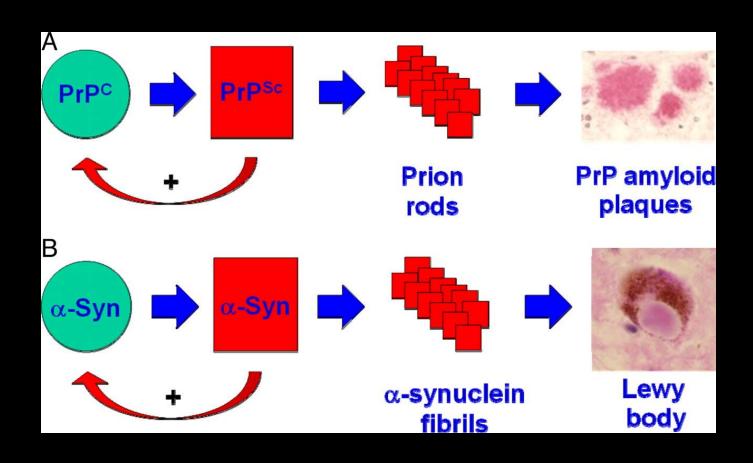
Lewy bodies in grafted neurons in subjects with Parkinson's disease suggest host-to-graft disease propagation

Jia-Yi Li<sup>1</sup>, Elisabet Englund<sup>2</sup>, Janice L Holton<sup>3</sup>, Denis Soulet<sup>1</sup>, Peter Hagell<sup>4</sup>, Andrew J Lees<sup>3</sup>, Tammaryn Lashley<sup>3</sup>, Niall P Quinn<sup>5</sup>, Stig Rehncrona<sup>6</sup>, Anders Björklund<sup>7</sup>, Håkan Widner<sup>4</sup>, Tamas Revesz<sup>3,9</sup>, Olle Lindvall<sup>4,8,9</sup> & Patrik Brundin<sup>1,9</sup>

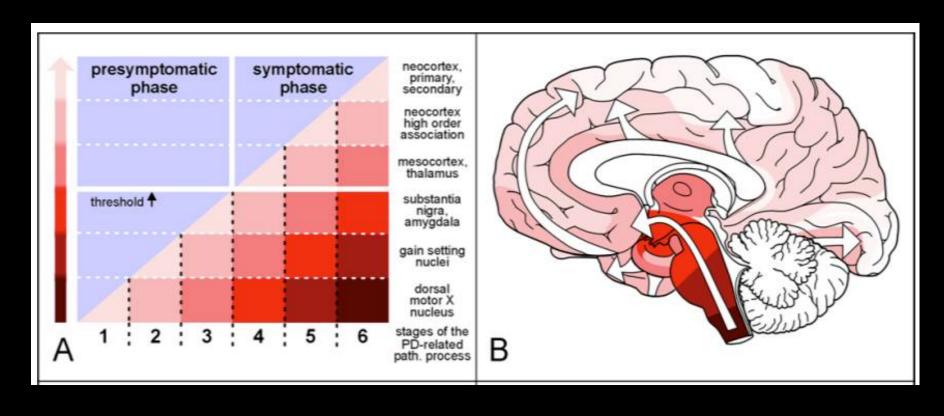




## Is PD a prion disease?



#### Braak Hypothesis 2003



Stage 6: Neocortex



Stage 1: Olfactory bulb/medulla

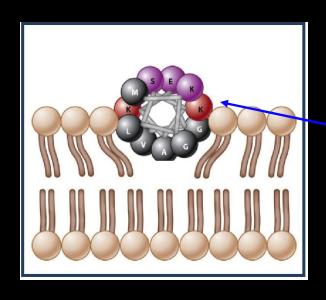
## $\alpha$ -Synucleinopathy



Natively unfolded α-synuclein

#### α-Synucleinopathy

 $\alpha$ -Synuclein can form  $\alpha$ -helices when in contact with membranes

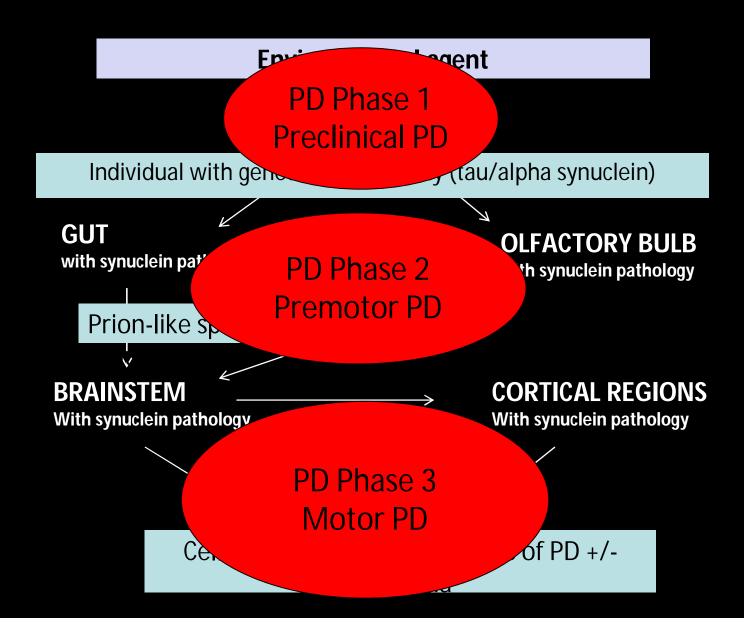


Fibril nucleus Natively unfolded α-synuclein Amyloid-like Partially fibrils folded intermediate

Normal function

Pathogenic versions found in synucleinopathies

#### **Hypothesis for PD**



#### 1. Pre-clinical phase

- No symptoms or signs
- PD pathology assumed to be present
  - ?biomarkers
- Decades prior to motor symptoms?

#### 2. Pre-motor phase

- Hyposmia (reduced smell)
- Depression/anxiety
- Constipation
- REM Behavioural disturbance
- Within decade prior to motor symptoms?

# 3. Motor (and non-motor) phase

- Tremor
- Akinetic/rigidity (stiffness/slowness)
- Postural problems
- Etc.....

## How does the causative "toxin" gain access to body?

- Prion disease
  - Ingested (variant CJD)
  - Implanted (iatrogenic CJD)
  - Genetic causes
  - Sporadic

### Toxin entry in PD

- Nose (hyposmia?)
- Gut (constipation?) via vagus nerve

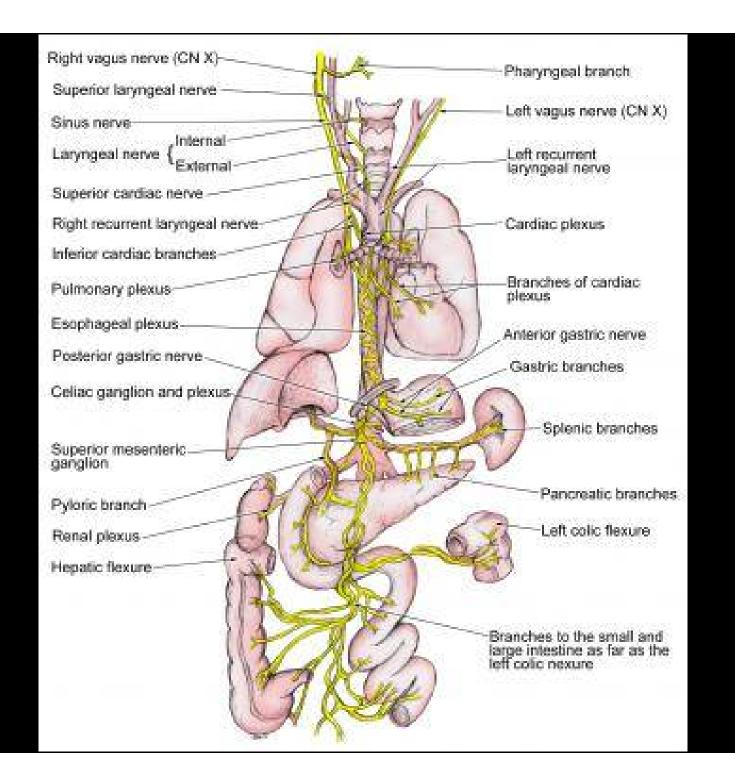


#### Colonic Biopsies to Assess the Neuropathology of Parkinson's Disease and Its Relationship with Symptoms

Thibaud Lebouvier<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>, Michel Neunlist<sup>1,4,6</sup>, Stanislas Bruley des Varannes<sup>1,2,3,6</sup>, Emmanuel Coron<sup>1,2,3,6</sup>, Anne Drouard<sup>2</sup>, Jean-Michel N'Guyen<sup>7</sup>, Tanguy Chaumette<sup>1,4</sup>, Maddalena Tasselli<sup>1,4</sup>, Sébastien Paillusson<sup>1,4</sup>, Mathurin Flamand<sup>1,2,3,6</sup>, Jean-Paul Galmiche<sup>1,2,3,6</sup>, Philippe Damier<sup>2,3,5</sup>, Pascal Derkinderen<sup>1,2,3,5,6</sup>,

1 UMR 913, Inserm, Nantes, France, 2 CIC-04, Inserm, Nantes, France, 3 UFR Médecine, Université de Nantes, Nantes, France, 4 UFR Sciences et Techniques, Université de Nantes, Nantes, France, 5 Service de Neurologie, CHU Nantes, Nantes, France, 6 Institut des Maladies de l'Appareil Digestif (IMAD), CHU Nantes, Nantes, France, 7 Pôle d'Information Médicale, Évaluation et Santé Publique (PIMESP), CHU Nantes, Nantes, France

- 29 PD, 10 controls:
  - 80% vs 10% chronic constipation
  - 72% vs 0% had Lewy neurites on biopsy



#### Vagus nerve transmission

- Animal models showing ASN tx from gut to brain
  - Does not occur if vagus nerve cut

#### Vagotomy

- Previously common treatment for peptic ulcers
  - H2 blockers (ranitidine and cimetidine)
  - Proton pump inhibitors (omeprazole etc)
  - H pylori hypothesis
- Vagotomy
  - Truncal
  - Super-selective (only branches to stomach cut)

#### Vagotomy hypothesis

- Risk of PD reduced after truncal but not super-selective vagotomy
- Denmark study (2015)
  - All vagotomies between 1977-1995
  - Age matched controls (up to 10 for every V patient)
  - Linked to subsequent diagnoses of PD

#### Results

- 14 883 vagotomies
  - 5339 TV >5 yrs follow up (66 711 controls)
  - 5870 SSV >5 yrs follow up (60 500 control)
- Lower risk of PD in TV vs SSV
- Lower risk of PD in TV vs controls
- Slightly higher risk of PD in SSV vs controls

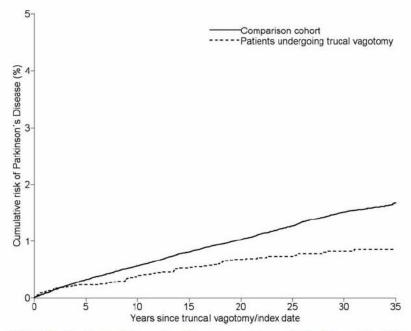


FIGURE 1: Cumulative incidence curves of Parkinson's disease for patients who underwent truncal vagotomy compared to a matched general population cohort.

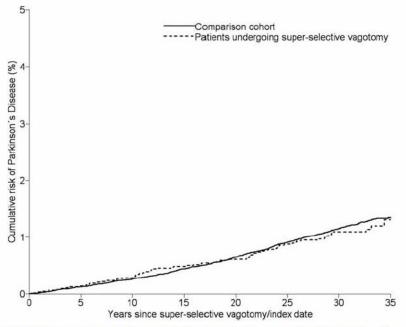


FIGURE 2: Cumulative incidence curves of Parkinson's disease for patients undergoing superselective vagotomy compared to a matched general population cohort.

#### So....

- Having intact vagus nerve associated with ↑ risk PD
- Why do some still get PD after TV?
  - Transfer occurred before TV
  - Alternative access (nose)
- But.....

#### Conclusions?

- None really possible....
- ....hypothesis generating....
- The search continues
  - Cause
  - Treatment