

5th Congress of the European Academy of Neurology

Oslo, Norway, June 29 - July 2, 2019

Teaching Course 16

**Traumatic Brain Injury, stroke and subarachnoid
haemorrhage - How to Make an Impact in neurocritical care
management and research (Level 2)**

**Neuroimaging, CSF and plasma biomarkers in
TBI**

Virginia Newcomb
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Neuroimaging, CSF and plasma biomarkers in TBI



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Consultant in Neurointensive Care and Emergency Medicine
RCEM Associate Professor



WHAT IS A BIOMARKER?

FDA

A defined characteristic that is measured as an indicator of normal biological processes, pathogenic processes, or responses to an exposure or intervention, including therapeutic interventions.

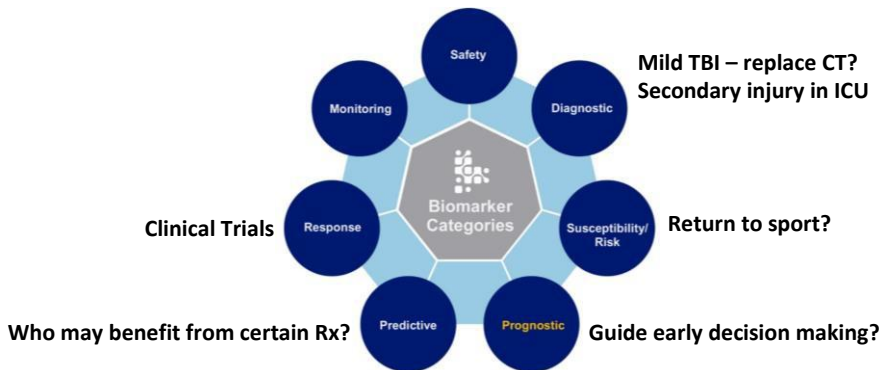




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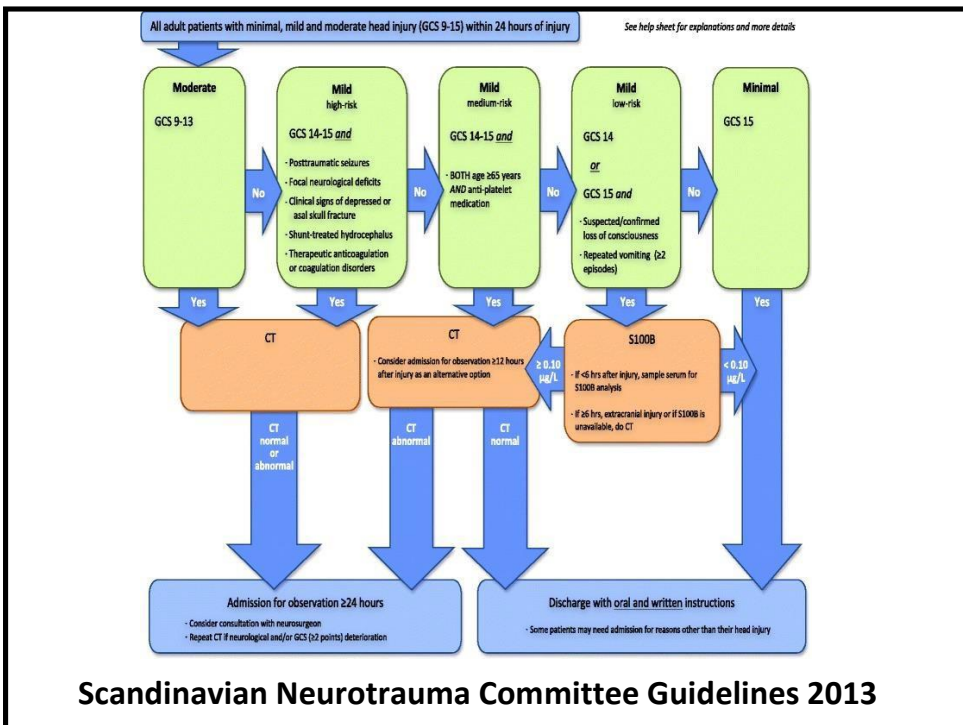
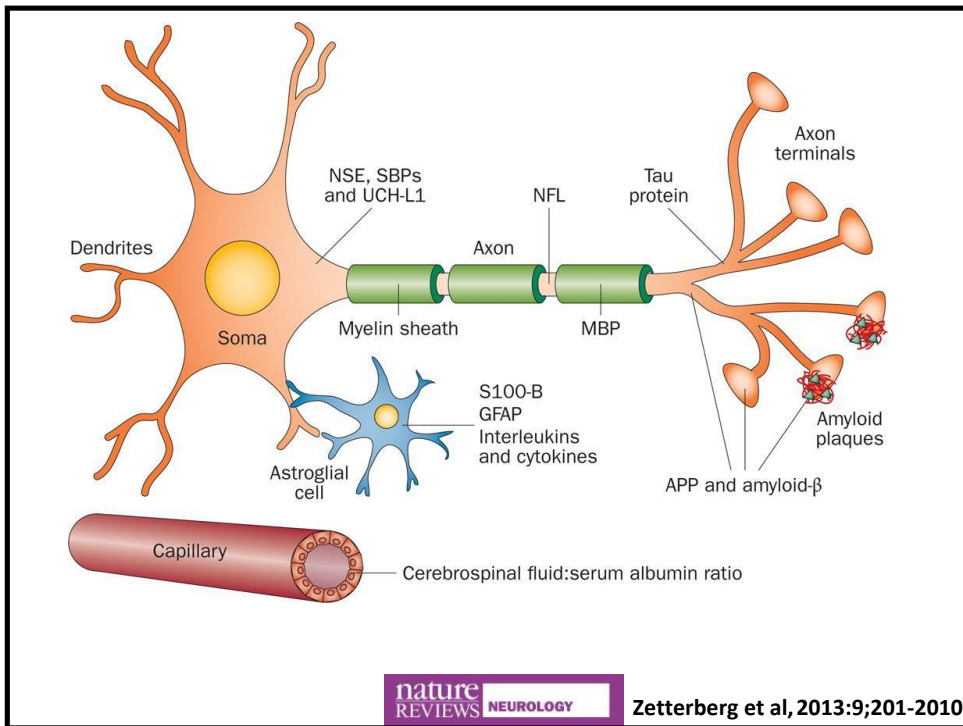


Potential biomarkers in TBI (in the ICU setting)

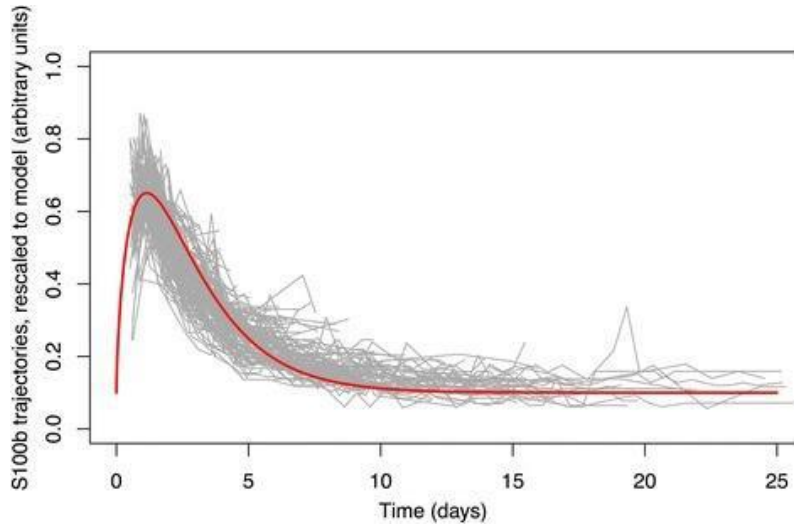
- Intracranial dynamics (ICP, CPP, PrX, PbtO₂)
- Microdialysis markers (glucose, lactate, pyruvate, glycerol, glutamate, tau).
- MRI
- PET (Regional cerebral metabolic rate of glucose (CMR_{glc}) or oxygen (CMRO₂), activated microglia (PK 11195))
- Blood and (CSF) (proteomics, metabolomics)

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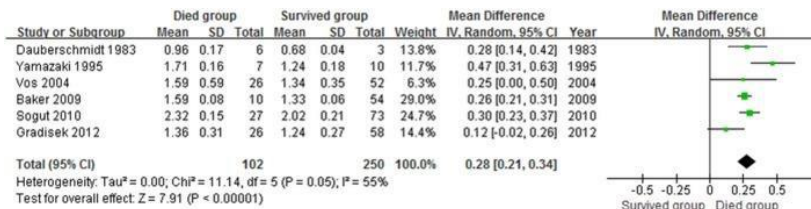
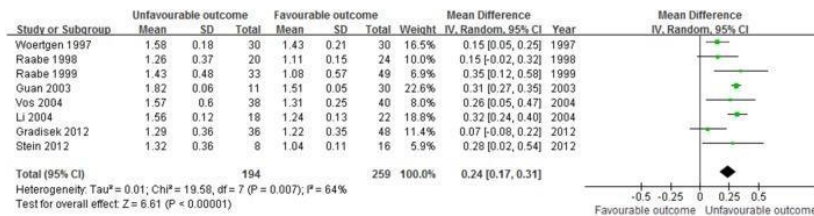


s100b in severe TBI



Ercole et al, BMC Neurol, 2016;16:93

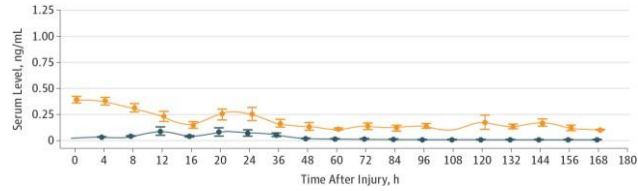
Neuron Specific Enolase (NSE)



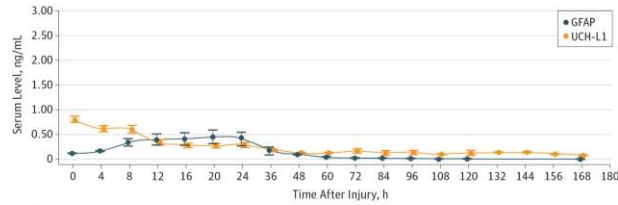
Cheng et al, Plos One, 2014;9(9)e106680

GFAP and UCH-L1 in mild TBI

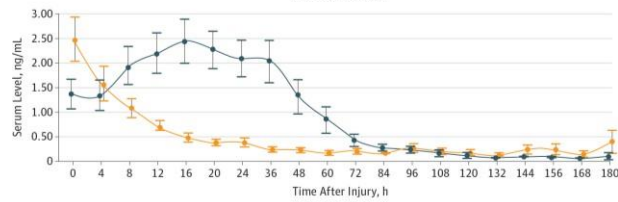
Trauma Controls



mTBI
No lesions



mTBI
Lesion positive



Pappa et al, JAMA Neurol, 2016;73(5):551-560

Serum GFAP and UCH-L1 for prediction of absence of intracranial injuries on head CT (ALERT-TBI): a multicentre observational study

Jeffrey J Bazzarian*, Peter Biberthaler*, Robert D Welch, Lawrence M Lewis, Pal Barzo, Viktoria Bogner-Flatz, P Gunnar Brodinsson, Andras Buki, James Y Chen, Robert H Christenson, Dallas Haak, J Stephen Huff, Sandeep Johat, J Dedrick Jordan, Bernd A Leidel, Tobias Lindner, Elizabeth Ludington, David O Okonkwo, Joseph Ormazá, W Frank Peacock, Kara Schmidt, Joseph A Tyndall, Arastoo Vossough, Andy S Jagoda

- Design: • Prospective, multicentre observational trial
- Patients: • 1959 patients
- Inclusion: • TBI with GCS 9 to 15, needed CT Head, bloods collected within 12 hours of injury
- Intervention: • Measurement UCH-L1 and GFAP
- Outcome: • Sensitivity and negative predictive value for lesion detected on CT



ALERT-TBI

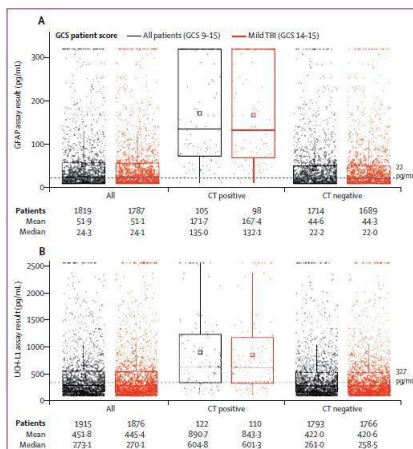
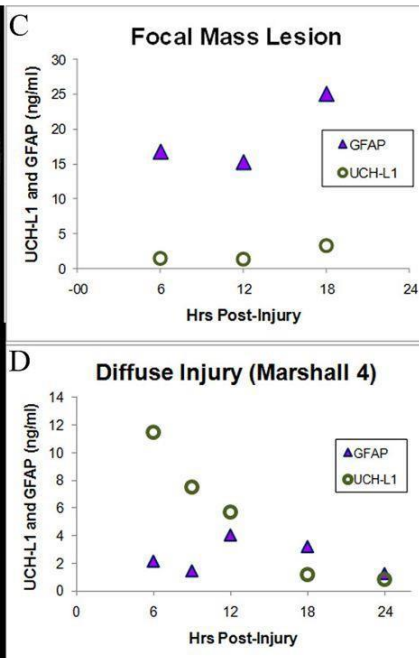
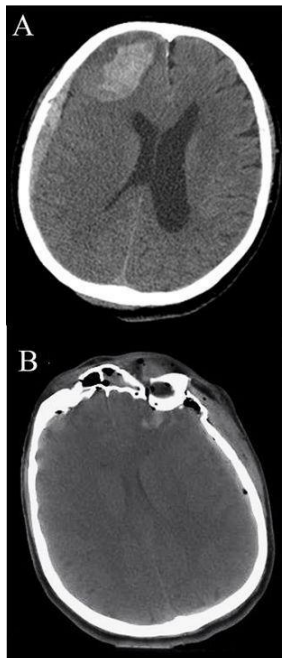
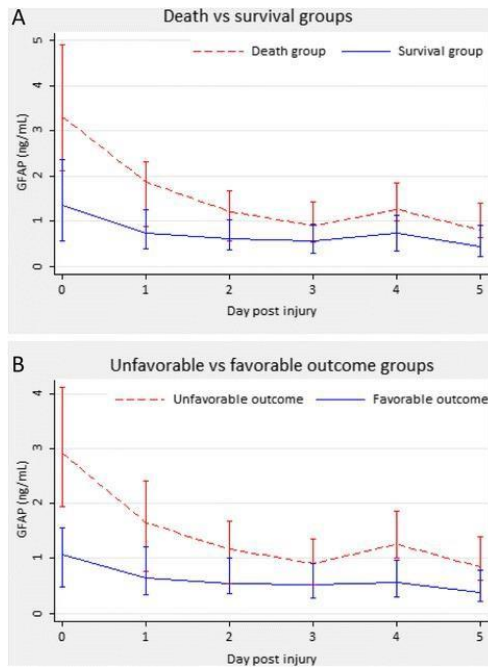


Figure 2: (A) Serum GFAP and (B) UCH-L1 levels by head CT result
 The upper and lower bounds of each box indicate the 75th and 25th percentiles, respectively. Within each box, the square marker symbol indicates the mean and the horizontal line indicates the median. Whiskers extend up to 1.5 x IQR (bounded by observed minimum and maximum). Small circles indicate actual datapoints, staggered by patient. Dotted horizontal lines represent prespecified cutoff value. UCH-L1-ubiquitin C-terminal hydrolase-L1. GFAP-gliofilibrillary acidic protein. GCS-Glasgow Coma Scale.



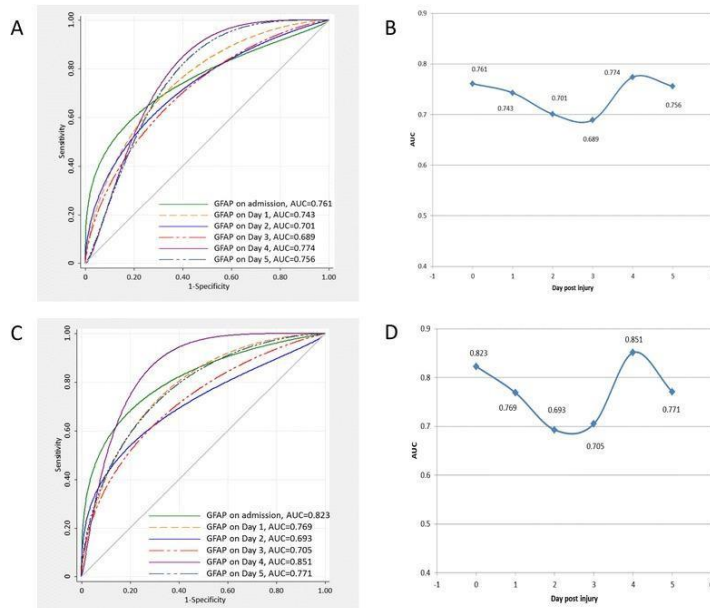
Mondello et al, Critical Care 2011;15:R156

GFAP in severe TBI



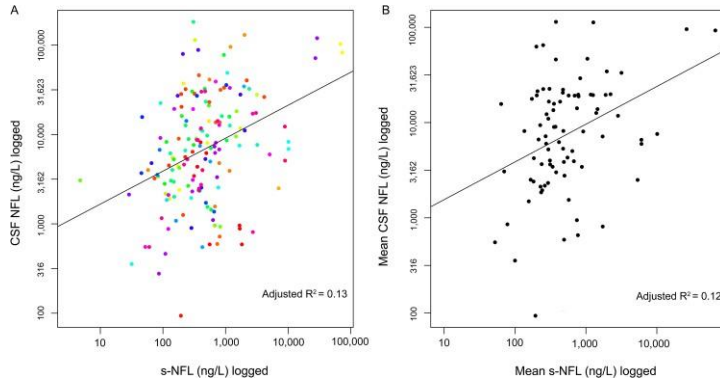
Lei et al, Crit Care, 2015;19:362

GFAP in severe TBI



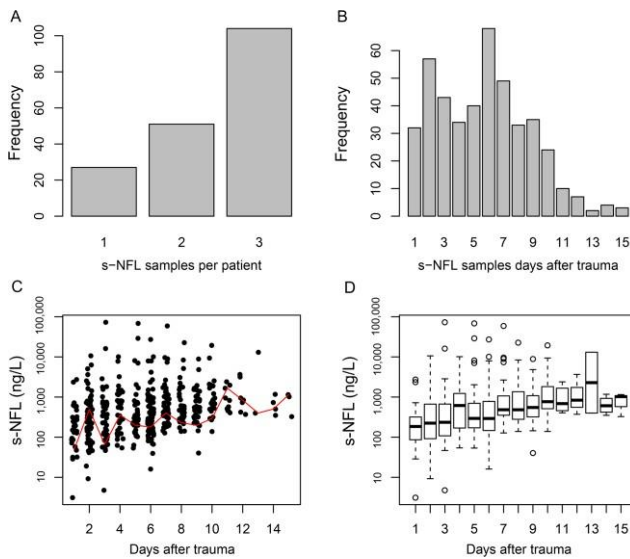
Lei et al, Crit Care, 2015;19:362

Neuro-filament Light in CSF and Plasma



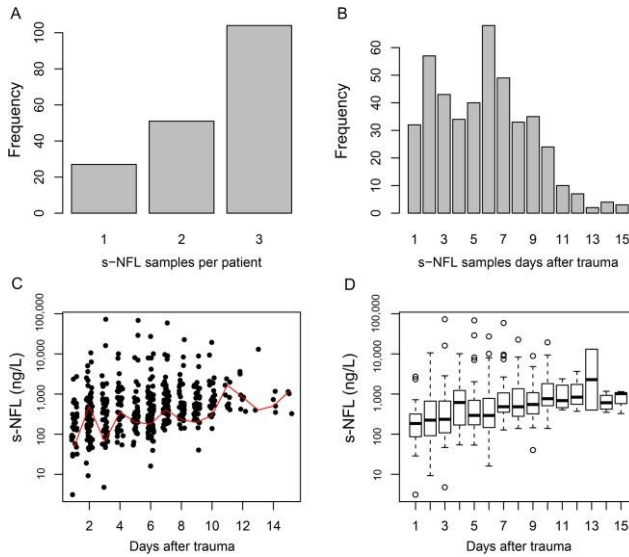
Al Nimer et al, PlosOne 2015

Neuro-filament Light in CSF



Al Nimer et al, PlosOne 2015

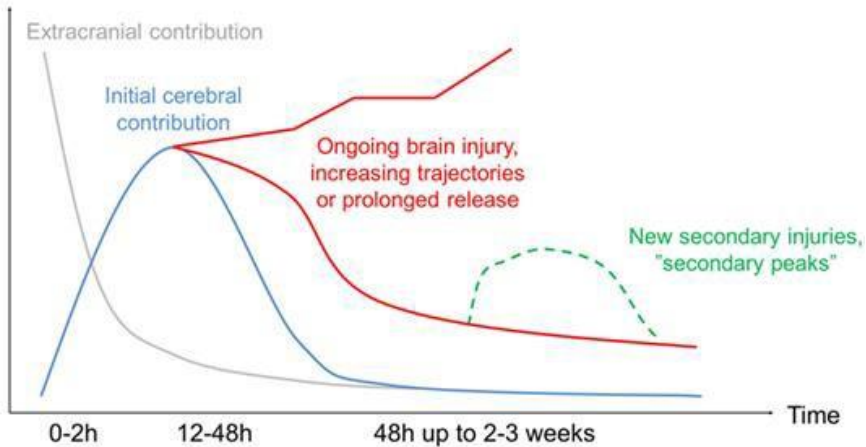
Neuro-filament Light in CSF



No relationship to outcome or imaging findings

Al Nimer et al, PlosOne 2015

Serum level



Serial Sampling of Serum Protein Biomarkers for Monitoring Human Traumatic Brain Injury Dynamics: A Systematic Review

REVIEW ARTICLE
Front. Neurol., 03 July 2017 |

Thelin et al

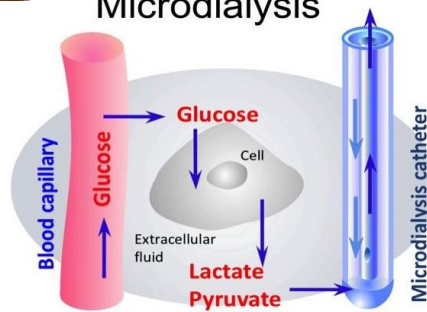
Biomarkers	AUC	Cohort	Condition	N	Controls	Reference	Timing	Comment
S100B	0.87	TBI all severity	TBI vs. non-TBI	50	50	(38)	Within 6 h	Non-specific
S100B	0.68	mTBI	Ice hockey vs. pre-season	28	28	(39)	Within 1 h	Poor performance
NSE	0.82	TBI all severity	TBI vs. non-TBI	50	50	(38)	Within 6 h	Non-specific
NSE	0.54	mTBI	Clinically important injury	28	28	(39)	Within 1 h	Poor performance
NSE	0.64	mTBI	Clinically important injury	25	82	(40)	Day 1	Non-specific
Myelin-basic protein	0.66	TBI all severity	TBI vs. non-TBI	50	50	(38)	Within 6 h	Poor performance
Cleaved Tau	0.74	mTBI	Injury vs. pre-season	28	28	(41)	At 36h	Late
Total Tau	0.8	mTBI	Ice hockey vs. pre-season	28	28	(39)	Within 1 h	Promising
GFAP	0.84	mild-moderate TBI	Positive CT	209	188	(42)	At 4 h	Limited sensitivity
UCH-L1	0.87	mTBI	GCS 15 vs. controls	86	199	(43)	Within 1 h	Promising
UCH-L1	0.73	TBI	positive CT	N/A	199	(43)	Within 1 h	Promising
Amyloid-β	N/A	sTBI	TBI vs. controls	12	20	(44)	Day 1	poor sensitivity
All-Spectrin break-down	0.76	mTBI	Injury vs. pre-season	25	N/A	(41)	At 36h	Late
CTS5	N/A	TBI all severity	sTBI vs. orthopedic injury	30	30	(45)	Within 1 h	Promising

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New biomarkers (for example microRNA)
 Panels rather than individual
 Better understanding of individual temporal dynamics
 Prevent secondary injury?



Microdialysis



Does brain chemistry monitored by microdialysis relate to clinical outcome?

doi:10.1093/brain/awg053 Brain 2017; 140: 494-504 | 494
BRAIN
 A JOURNAL OF NEUROLOGY

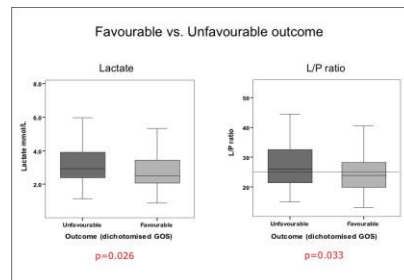
Cerebral extracellular chemistry and outcome following traumatic brain injury: a microdialysis study of 223 patients

Ivan Timofeev,¹ Kerl L. H. Carpenter,^{1,2} Jürgens Nortje,^{2,3} Pippa G. Al-Rawi,¹ Mark T. O'Connell,^{1,2} Marek Czosnyka,¹ Peter Smielewski,¹ John D. Pickard,^{1,2} David K. Menon,^{2,3} Peter J. Kirkpatrick,¹ Arun K. Gupta¹ and Peter J. Hutchinson^{1,2}

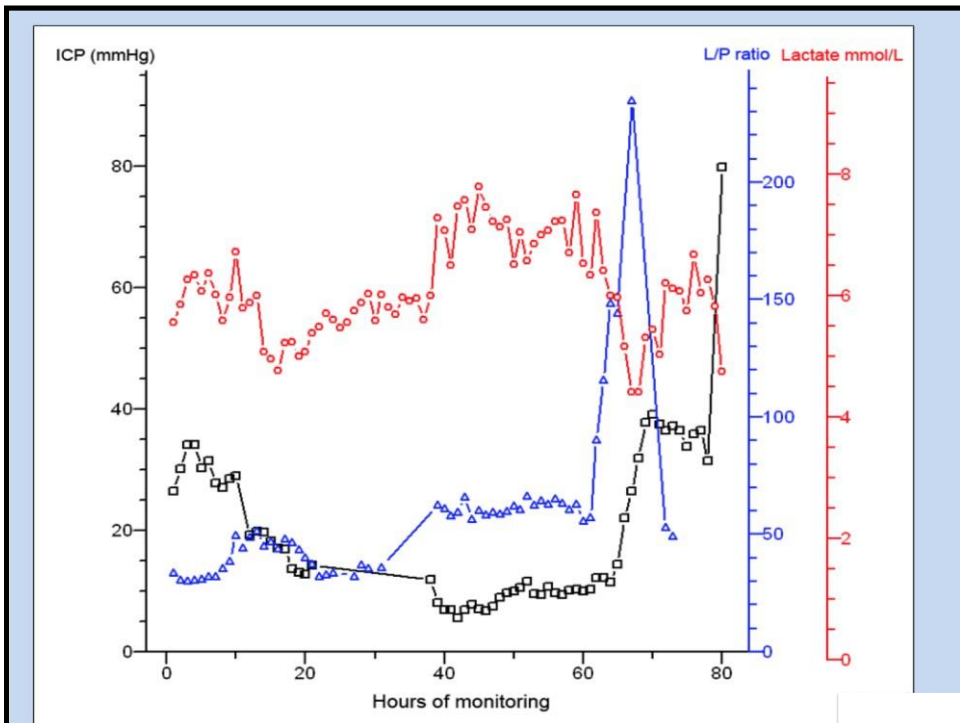
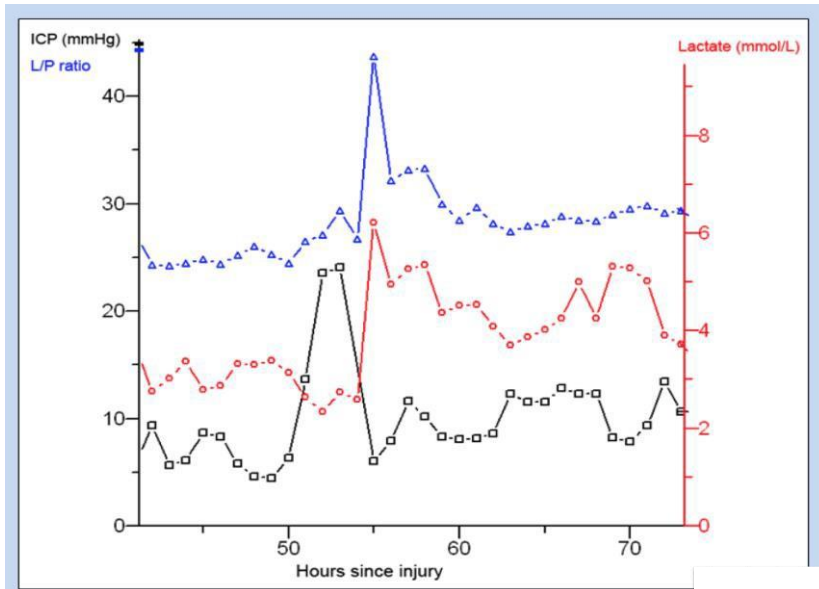
¹ Division of Neurosurgery, Department of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Cambridge, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, CB2 0QQ, UK
² Wellstar Brain Imaging Centre, Department of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Cambridge, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, CB2 0QQ, UK
³ Division of Anaesthesia, Department of Medicine, University of Cambridge, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, CB2 0QQ, UK

Unfavourable outcome is associated with:

- **High lactate / pyruvate ratio (> 25)**
 - hypoxia or mitochondrial dysfunction
- **High glutamate**
 - excitotoxic cell injury
- **High glycerol**
 - cell membrane breakdown



Interpreting Microdialysis Data



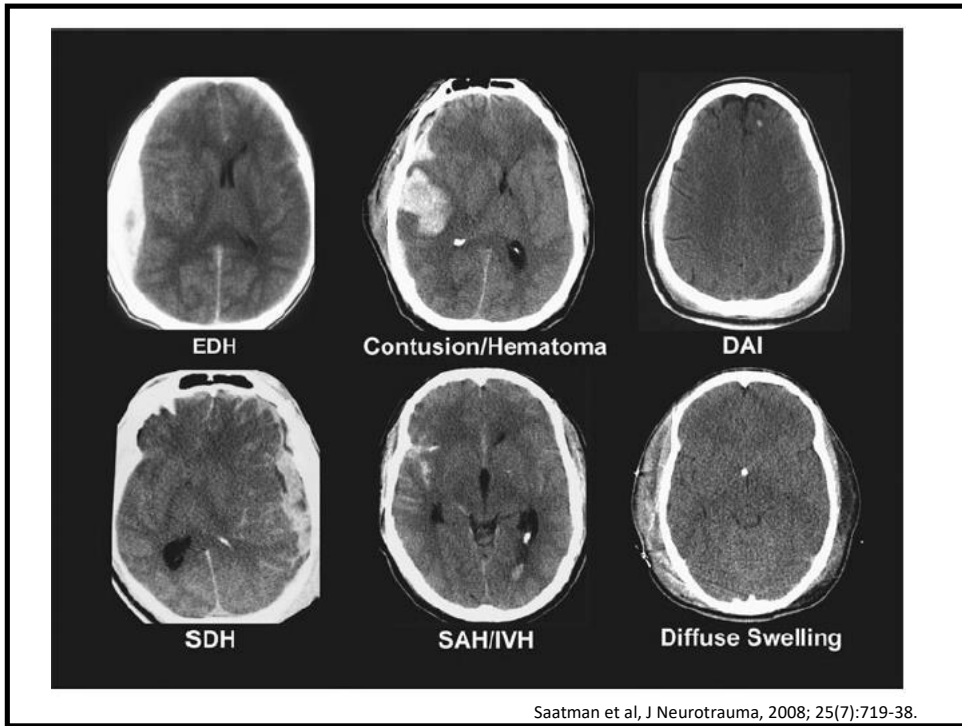
Can brain chemistry be improved with therapeutic interventions?

Intervention	Effect	Reference
Glucose / insulin	Reduction in glucose increase in LP ratio	Vespa 2006, Oddo 2008, Helbok 2010, Rostami 2011, Vespa 2012
Hyperoxia	Increase in brain tissue O ₂ , variable decrease in LP ratio	Tolias 2004, Nortje 2008, Rockswold 2012, Rockswold 2013
Hyperventilation	Decrease in glucose Increase in LP ratio	Marion 2002, Hutchinson 2002
Mannitol	Decrease in LP ratio	Sakowitz 2007, Helbok 2011
Decompressive craniectomy	Decrease in LP ratio, decrease in glycerol	Ho 2008, Nagel 2009
Hypothermia	Decrease in glucose, decrease in lactate, decrease in glutamate	Soukup 2002, Berger 2002, Stocchetti 2005

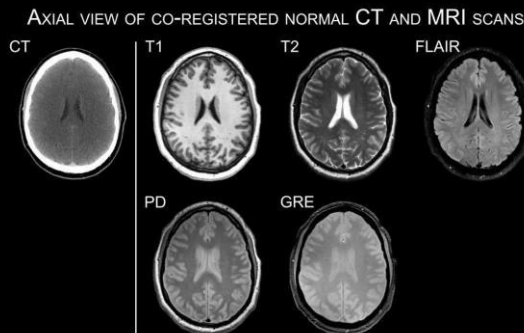
Imaging as a biomarker

- **Diagnostic: Who needs surgery or other urgent therapy?**





Sequence	Most relevant tissue contrasts for TBI imaging
T1	Normal grey-white contrast
T2	High signal in CSF, vasogenic oedema, gliosis, acute and subacute bleed (may be hypointense signal in hyperacute or chronic bleed)
FLAIR	Like T2, but CSF nulled, so good for superficial lesions
Gradient echo (SWI, SWAN)	Sensitised to blood – very useful for petechial haemorrhages associated with TAI. Most prone to artefacts (air in sinus, probes)
DWI, ADC, DTI	Early cytotoxic oedema, white matter shearing, tractography

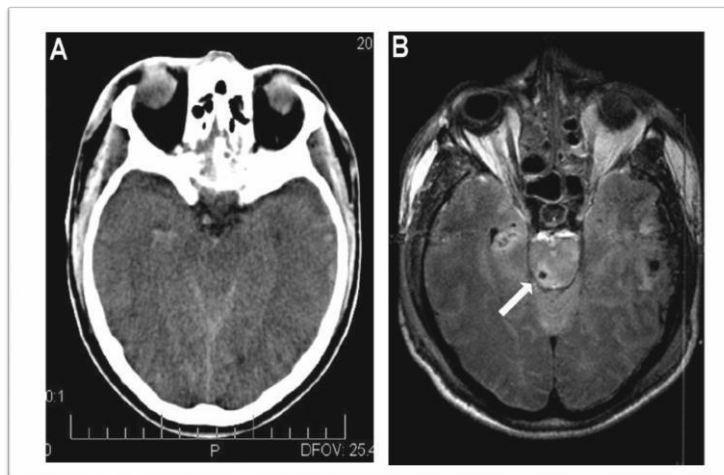


Imaging as a biomarker

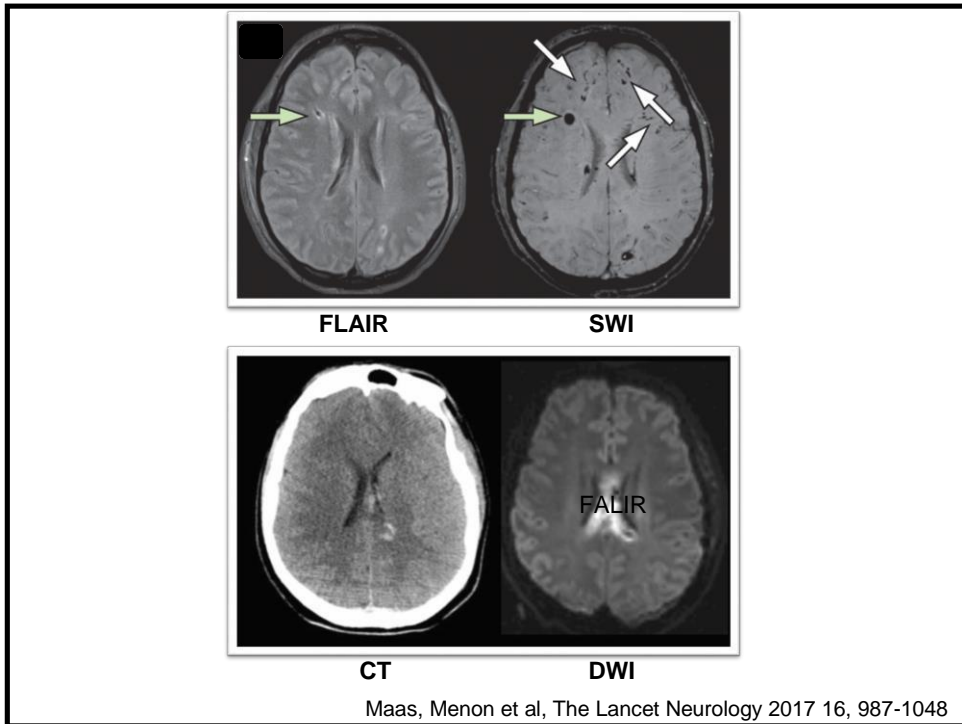
- Diagnostic: Who needs surgery or other urgent therapy?
- **Diagnostic: Impact of TBI on the brain**
 - Lesion detection
 - Lesion characterisation



Mechanism-Based MRI Classification of Traumatic Brainstem Injury and Its Relationship to Outcome



Mannion et al, 2007;24(11):128-35

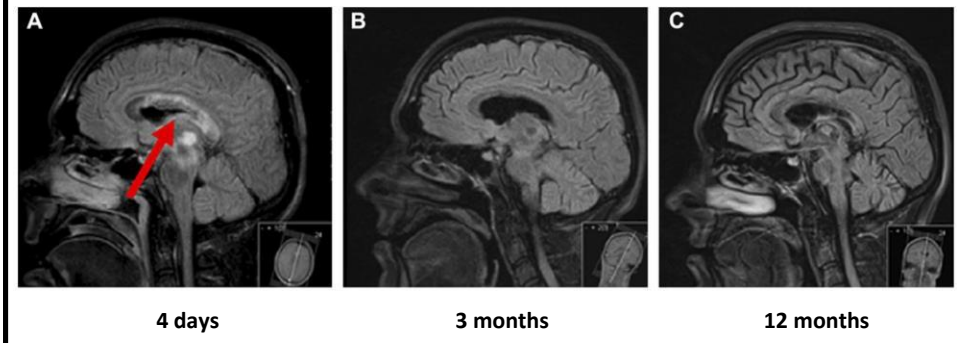


RESEARCH PAPER

A longitudinal MRI study of traumatic axonal injury in patients with moderate and severe traumatic brain injury

Kent Gøran Moen,^{1,2} Toril Skandsen,^{1,3} Mari Folvik,⁴ Veronika Brezova,⁵ Kjell Arne Kvistad,^{4,5} Jana Rydland,⁴ Geoffrey T Manley,⁶ Anne Vik^{1,2}

J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry 2012;**83**:1193–1200.



Imaging as a biomarker

- Diagnostic: Who needs surgery or other urgent therapy?
- Diagnostic: Impact of TBI on the brain
- **Prognostication**



IMPACT

International Mission for Prognosis and Analysis of Clinical Trials in TBI

Prediction models for 6 month outcome after TBI

Admission Characteristics	Value
Core	
Age (14-99 years)	<input type="text" value="42"/>
Motor Score	<input type="text" value="Abnormal Flexion"/>
Pupils	<input type="text" value="Both reacting"/>
Core+CT	
Hypoxia	<input type="text" value="No"/>
Hypotension	<input type="text" value="No"/>
CT Classification	<input type="text" value="Diffuse Injury II"/>
ISAH on CT	<input type="text" value="No"/>
Epidural mass on CT	<input type="text" value="No"/>
Core+CT+Lab	
Glucose (3-20 mmol/L)	<input type="text" value="9"/> <input type="text" value="mmol/L"/>
Hb (6-17 g/dL)	<input type="text" value="11"/> <input type="text" value="g/dL"/>

Calculate

Reset

CT Classification

[Select]

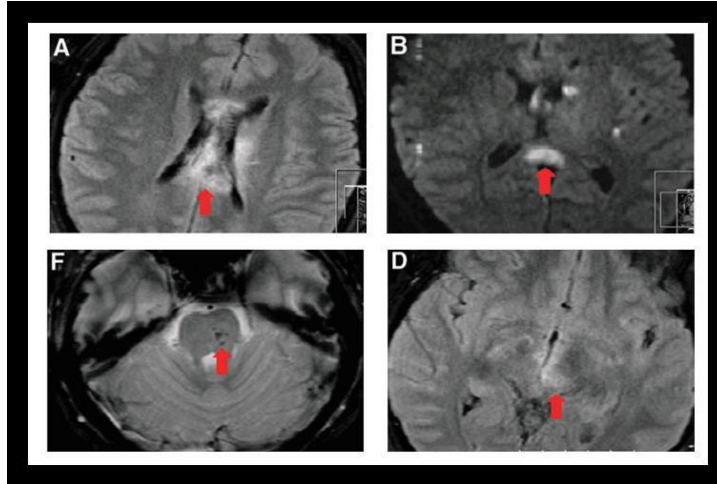
- Diffuse Injury I
- Diffuse Injury II
- Diffuse Injury III
- Diffuse Injury IV
- Evacuated Mass Lesion
- Nonevacuated Mass Lesion

[Select] ▼

<http://www.tbi-impact.org/?p=impact/calc>

Traumatic Axonal Injury (Severe TBI)

The Prognostic Value of Lesion Load in Corpus Callosum, Brain Stem, and Thalamus in Different MRI Sequences



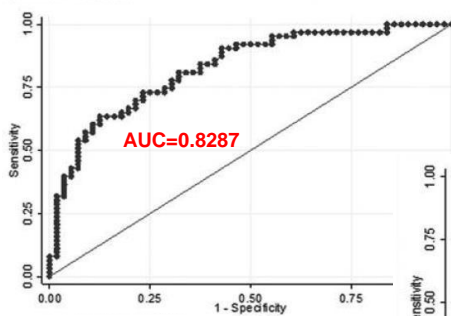
MRI mean of 8 days after injury (within 4 weeks)

Moen et al, J Neurotrauma. 2014;31:1486-1496

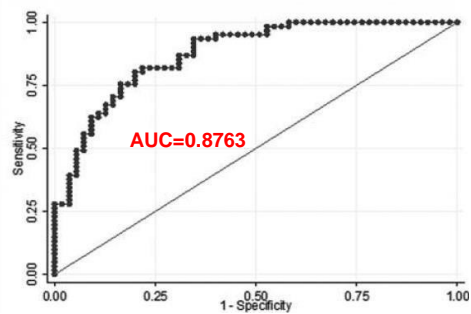
Traumatic Axonal Injury

The Prognostic Value of Lesion Load in Corpus Callosum, Brain Stem, and Thalamus in Different MRI Sequences

Core (IMPACT Model; age, GCS, pupils)



Core+ CT+ All MRI



Moen et al, J Neurotrauma. 2014;31:1486-1496

The Prognostic Value of MRI in Moderate and Severe Traumatic Brain Injury: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

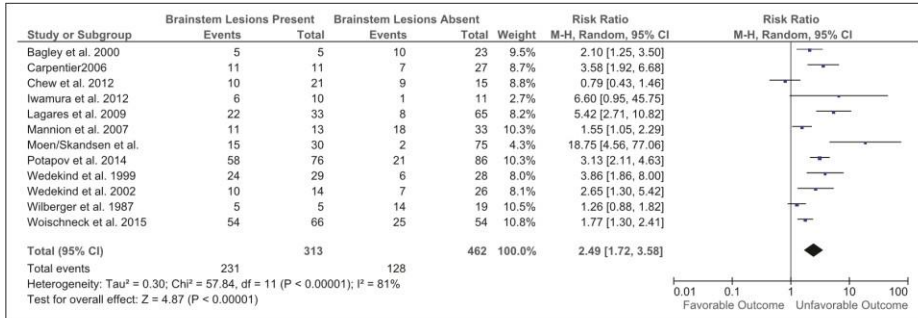


Figure 3. Relative risk of unfavorable Glasgow Outcome Scale in moderate and severe traumatic brain injury with brainstem lesions on acute MRI. M-H = Mantel-Haenszel.

Hagbayan et al, Critical Care Medicine, 2017(45);12:e1280-1288

The Prognostic Value of MRI in Moderate and Severe Traumatic Brain Injury: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Firsching Score

Supratentorial lesions only

OR 1.0

Unilateral Brainstem

OR 1.64

Bilateral midbrain

OR 2.67

Bilateral pons

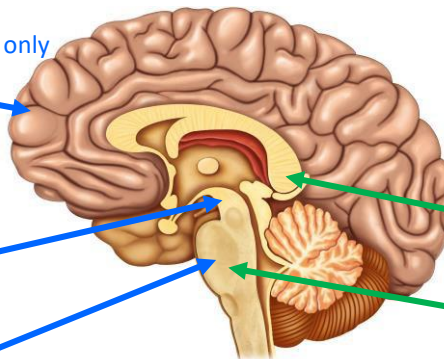
OR 2.81

Adams-Gentry Classification

Subcortical lobar WM/
Cerebellum OR 1

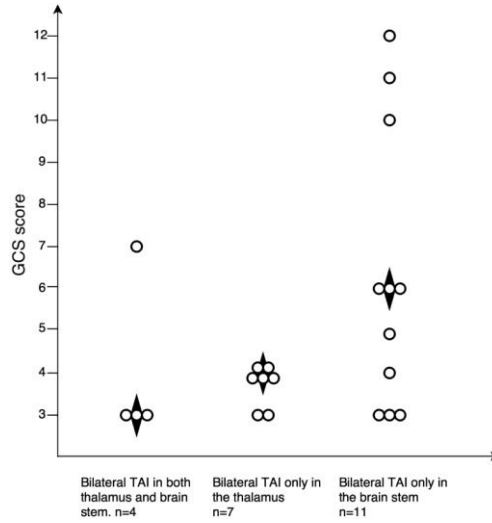
Corpus Callosum
OR 2.01

Brainstem
OR 4.57



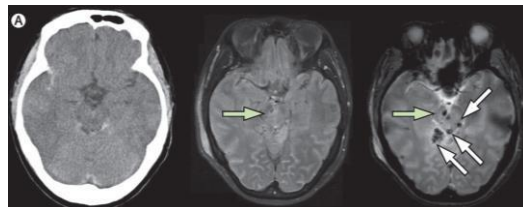
Hagbayan et al, Critical Care Medicine, 2017(45);12:e1280-1288

The Influence of Traumatic Axonal Injury in Thalamus and Brainstem on Level of Consciousness at Scene or Admission:
A Clinical Magnetic Resonance Imaging Study



Moe et al, JOURNAL OF NEUROTRAUMA 35:975-984 (April 1, 2018)

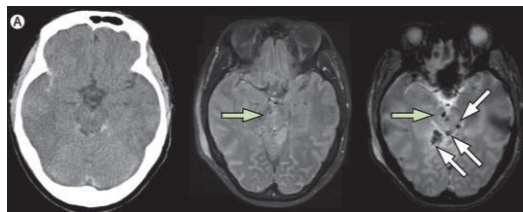
MRI is showing new, prognosis defining pathology



Maas, Menon et al, The Lancet Neurology 2017 16, 987-1048

MRI is showing new, prognosis defining pathology

May not be modified significantly by better ICP control, or decompressive craniectomy



Maas, Menon et al, The Lancet Neurology 2017 16, 987-1048

Revisiting Grade 3 Diffuse Axonal Injury: Not All Brainstem Microbleeds are Prognostically Equal

Saef Izzy^{1,2} · Nicole L. Mazwi^{4,5} · Sergi Martinez¹ · Camille A. Spencer¹ · Joshua P. Klein^{2,3} · Gunjan Parikh⁶ · Mel B. Glenn⁵ · Steven M. Greenberg¹ · David M. Greer⁸ · Ona Wu^{7,9} · Brian L. Edlow^{1,7}

Prognostic variable	Correlation coefficient [95% confidence interval]	<i>p</i>
Ventral brainstem TMBs	0.06 [−0.27, 0.38]	0.72
Dorsal brainstem TMBs	0.37 [0.06, 0.62]	0.02
Corpus callosum TMBs	0.26 [−0.07, 0.54]	0.10
Global brain TMBs	0.10 [−0.23, 0.41]	0.54
AAN nuclei TMB lesion burden	0.36 [0.04, 0.62]	0.02
Age	0.02 [−0.30, 0.35]	0.88
Admission GCS score	−0.22 [−0.51, 0.11]	0.18
Number of lobes with contusions	−0.14 [−0.44, 0.19]	0.40

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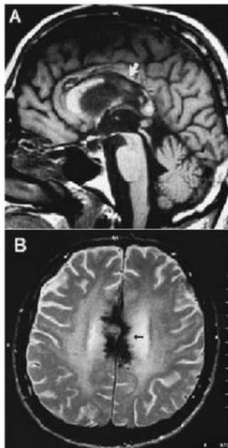
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Lancet 1998; 351: 1763–67

ARTICLES

Prediction of recovery from post-traumatic vegetative state with cerebral magnetic-resonance imaging

Andreas Kampff, Erich Schmutzhard, Gerhard Franz, Bettina Pfausler, Hans-Peter Haring, Hanno Ulmer, Stefan Felber, Stefan Golaszewski, Franz Aichner



Replicated by recent autopsy case series which suggest pivotal role for diffuse axonal damage, especially in dorsolateral midbrain

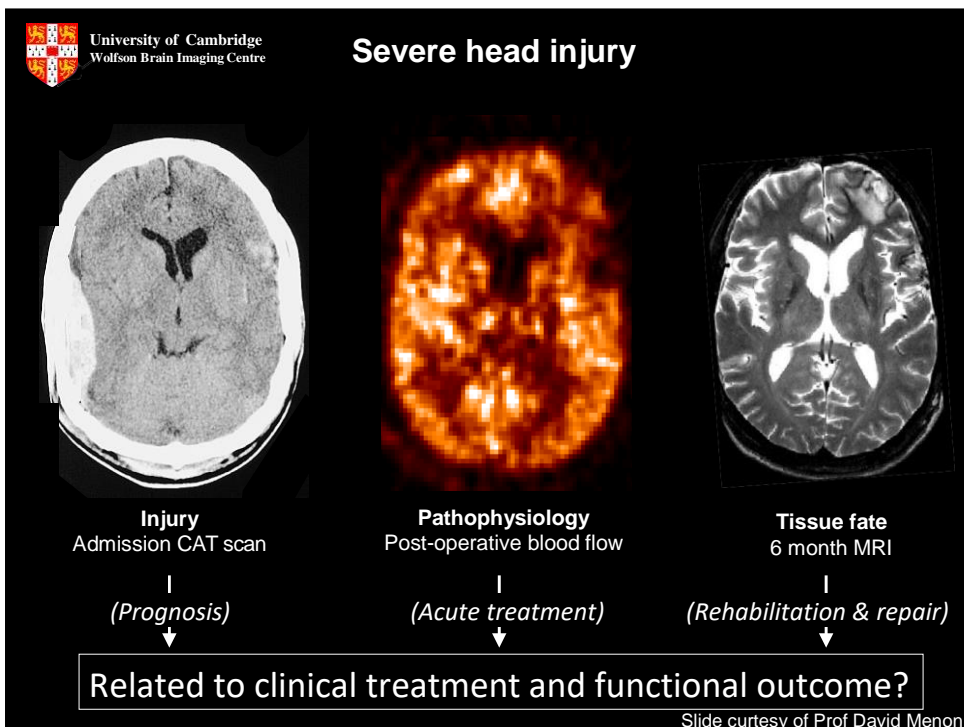
Jellinger. Brain Inj 2013; 27:917

Lesion location: Odds for developing PVS

Corpus callosum:	132(16-1100)
Corona radiata:	3.7 (1.5-9.6)
Dorsolateral upper brainstem:	7.9 (2.9-21.4)
Thalamus:	0.6

Imaging as a biomarker

- Diagnostic: Who needs surgery or other urgent therapy?
- Diagnostic: Impact of TBI on the brain
- Prognostication
- **Improved understanding of pathophysiology**





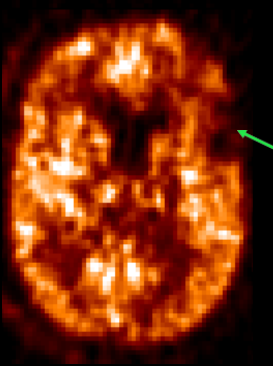
University of Cambridge
Wolfson Brain Imaging Centre

Severe head injury



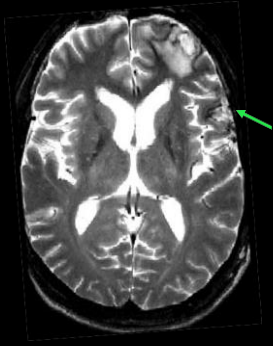
Injury
Admission CAT scan

(Prognosis)



Pathophysiology
Post-operative blood flow

(Acute treatment)



Tissue fate
6 month MRI

(Rehabilitation & repair)

Related to clinical treatment and functional outcome?

Slide courtesy of Prof David Menon



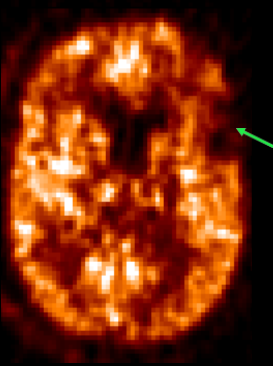
University of Cambridge
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Severe head injury



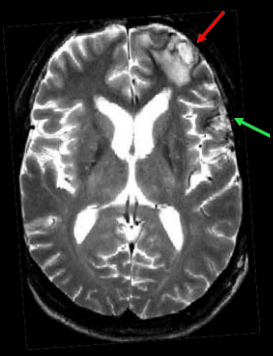
Injury
Admission CAT scan

(Prognosis)



Pathophysiology
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(Acute treatment)



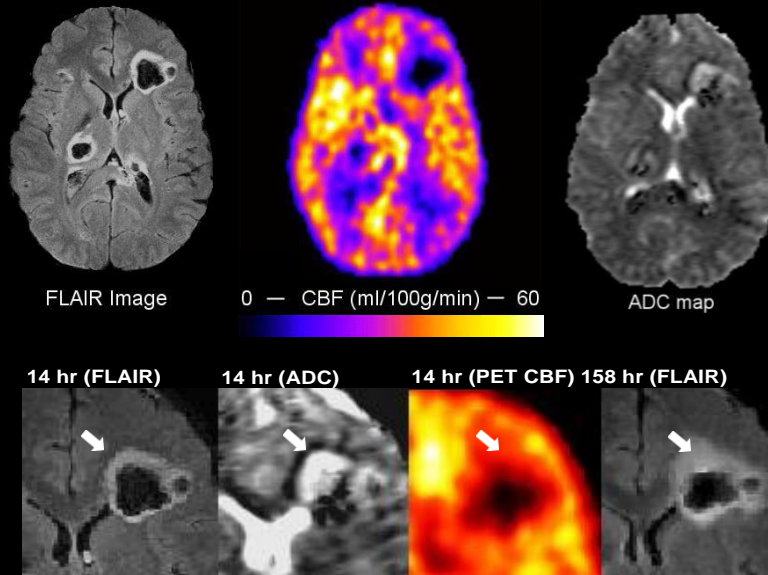
Tissue fate
6 month MRI

(Rehabilitation & repair)

Related to clinical treatment and functional outcome?

Slide courtesy of Prof David Menon

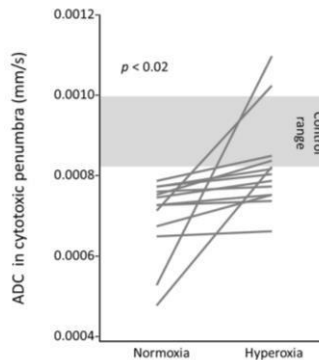
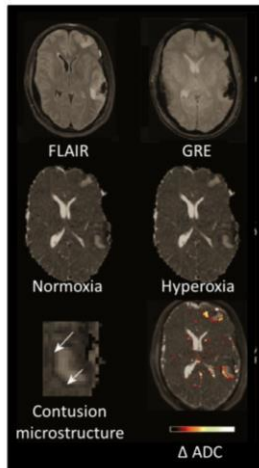
Contusion evolution in TBI



Newcombe et al. *J Cereb Blood Flow Metab* 2013

Use of diffusion tensor imaging to assess the impact of normobaric hyperoxia within at-risk pericontusional tissue after traumatic brain injury

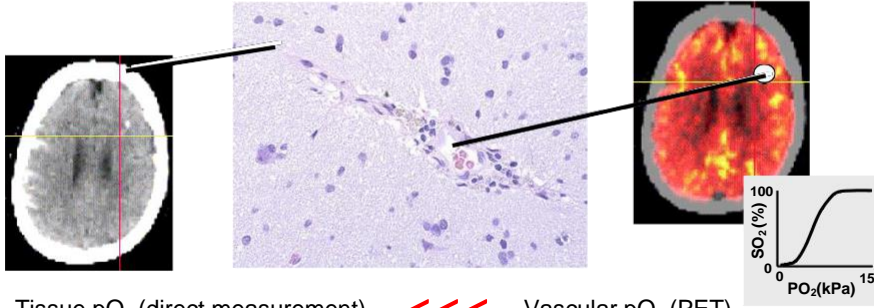
Tonny V Veenith¹, Eleanor L Carter¹, Julia Grossac¹, Virginia F Newcombe¹, Joanne G Outtrim¹, Sridhar Nallapareddy¹, Victoria Lupson², Marta M Correia², Marius M Mada², Guy B Williams², David K Menon¹ and Jonathan P Coles¹



Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow & Metabolism (2014),

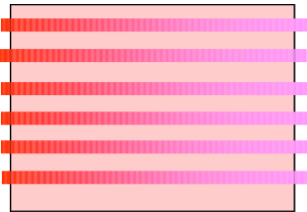
Diffusion limited oxygen delivery following head injury*

David K. Menon, PhD; Jonathan P. Coles, PhD; Arun K. Gupta, FRCA; Tim D. Fryer, PhD; Peter Smielewski, PhD; Doris A. Chatfield, BSc; Franklin Aigbirio, PhD; Jeremy N. Skepper, PhD; Pawan S. Minhas, FRCS; Peter J. Hutchinson, PhD; T. Adrian Carpenter, PhD; John C. Clark, DSc; John D. Pickard, FRCS



Tissue pO_2 (direct measurement) <<< Vascular pO_2 (PET)
(TBI)

Surprising finding: Implies a diffusion gradient for oxygen delivery



Normal

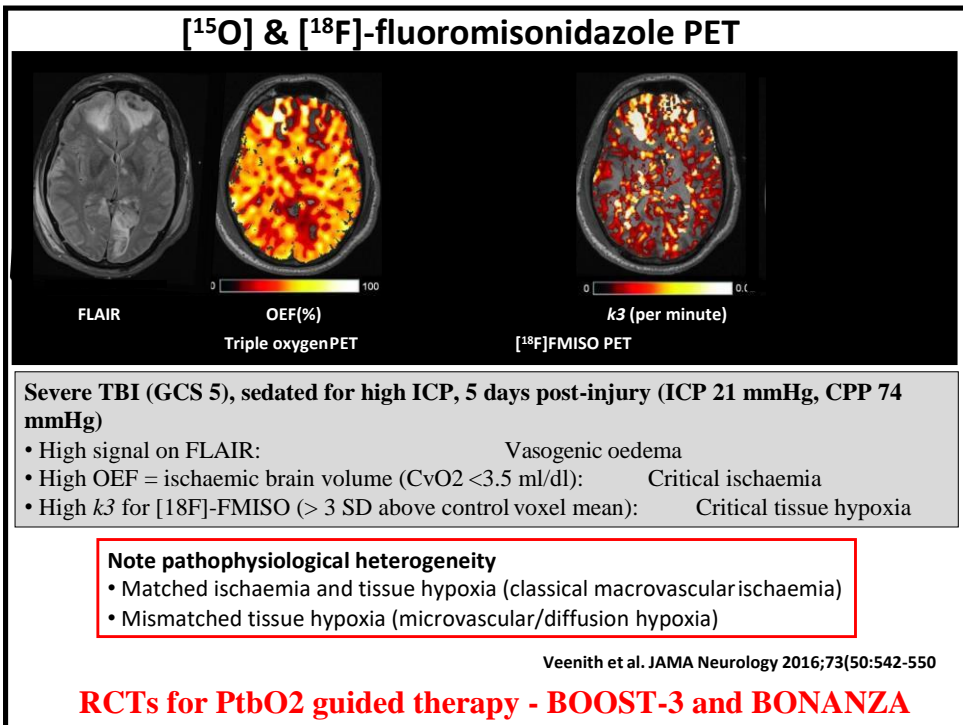
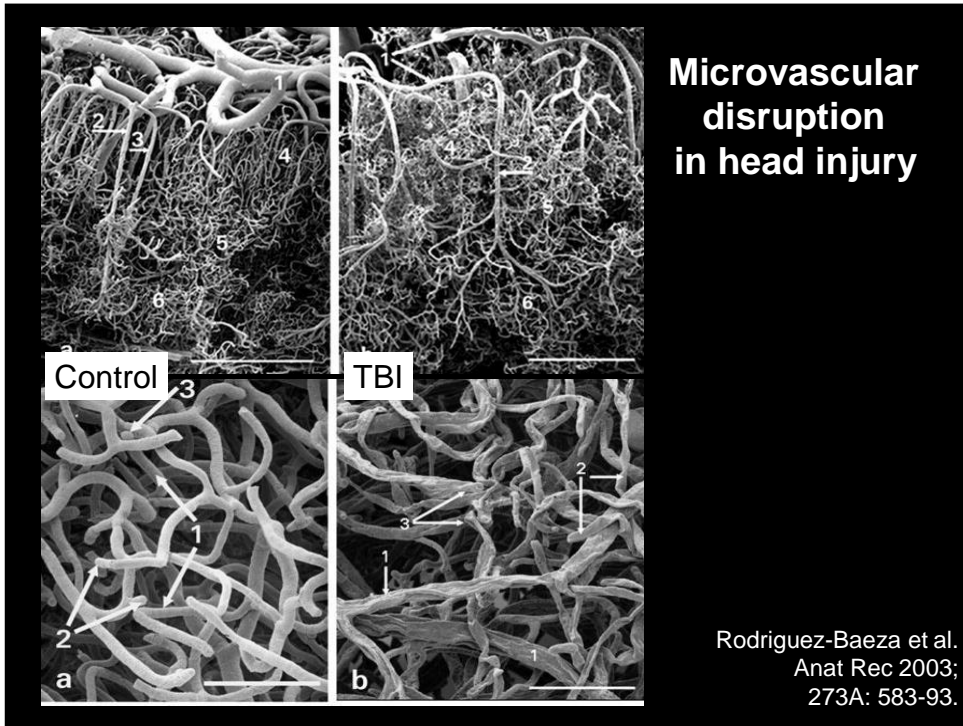


Simple hypoperfusion:
Macrovascular ischaemia

Microvascular dysfunction:

- Perfusion utilisation mismatch
- Microvascular ischaemia
- Increased O_2 diffusion barriers

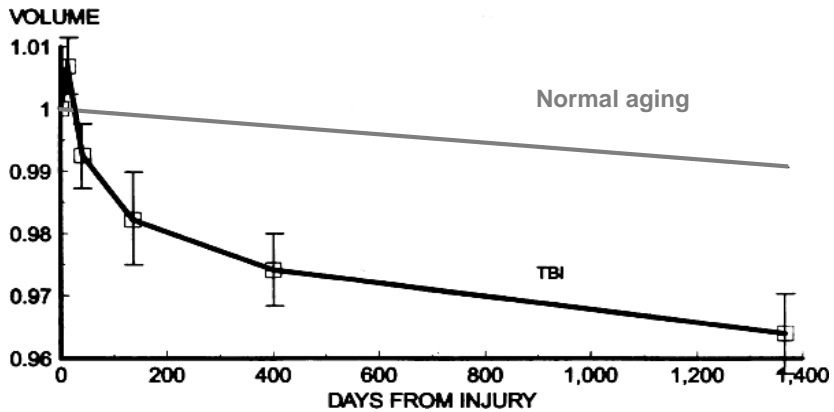
Menon et al. Crit Care Med 2004;32:1384-90.



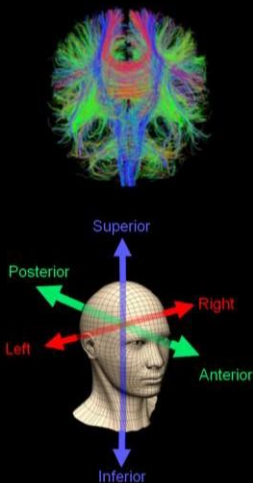


The lesion(s) in traumatic brain injury: implications for clinical neuropsychology[☆]

Erin D. Bigler*



Control

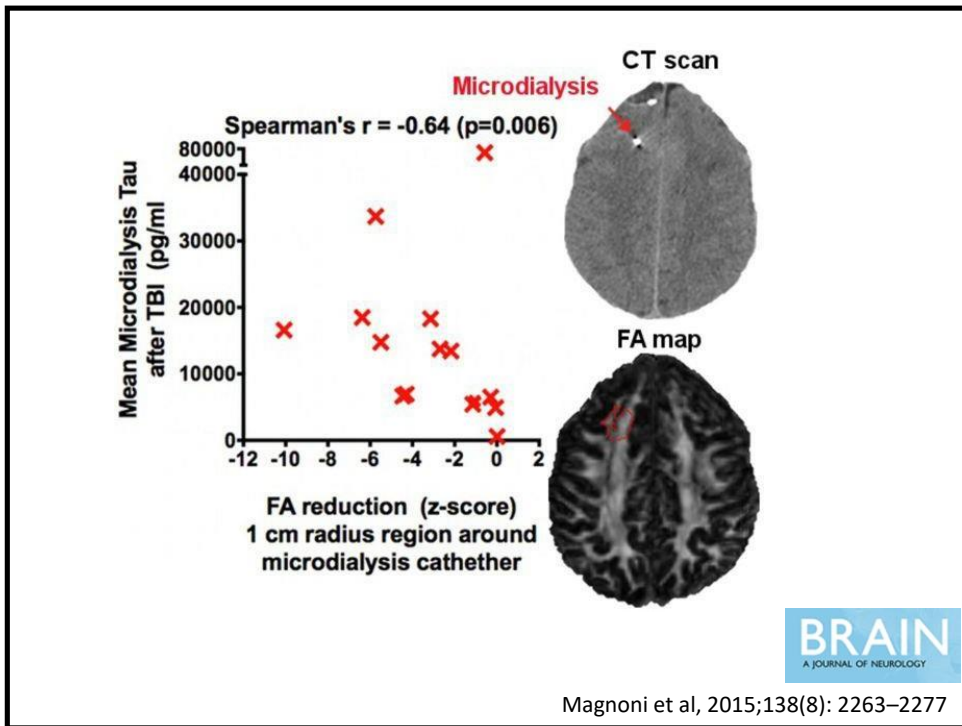


Pattern seen in ~20 to 30% of TBI patients

Correlates with trajectory of functional recovery

Potential new therapy biomarker

Newcombe et al. Neurorehab Neuro Repair 2016;30(1):49-62



Head injury as a risk factor for Alzheimer's disease: the evidence 10 years on; a partial replication

S Fleming, D L Oliver, S Lovestone, S Rabe-Hesketh, A Giora

See Editorial Commentary, p 841

J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry 2003;74:857–862

	Odds ratio (95% CI)	<i>p</i>
All	1.58 (1.21- 2.06)	0.001
♂	2.29 (1.47-3.58)	<0.001
♀	0.91 (0.56-1.47)	0.69

Overall, the risk of Alzheimer's Disease in later life may be increased up to ~2 fold in individuals who have sustained a significant head injury in the past

This increase in risk possibly scales with severity of head injury

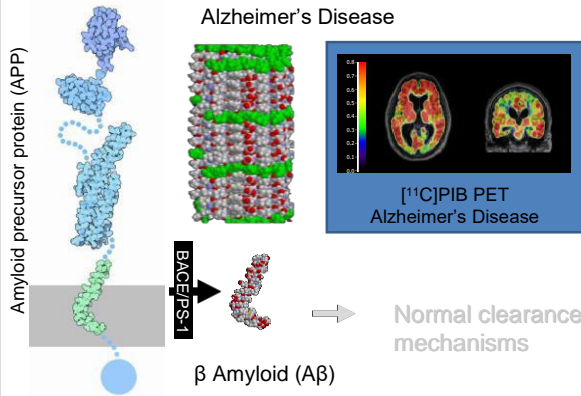
However, when combined with a genetic predisposition to Alzheimer's Disease, the risk may increase up to ~10 fold

OPINION

Traumatic brain injury and amyloid- β pathology: a link to Alzheimer's disease?

30% of patients who die hours - weeks after TBI show A β aggregates at postmortem, even in young patients

Victoria E. Johnson, William Stewart and Douglas H. Smith



Johnson VE, Stewart W, Smith DH. Widespread tau and amyloid- β pathology many years after a single traumatic brain injury in humans. *Brain Pathol* 2012; 22(2):142-9

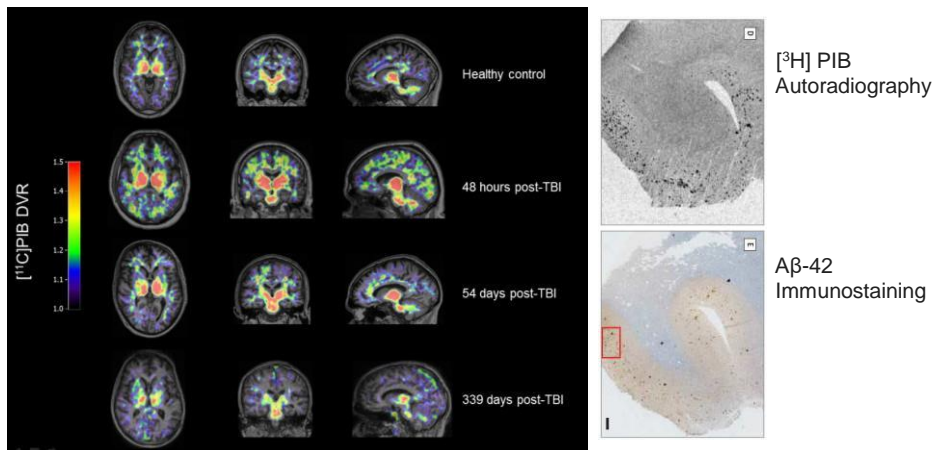
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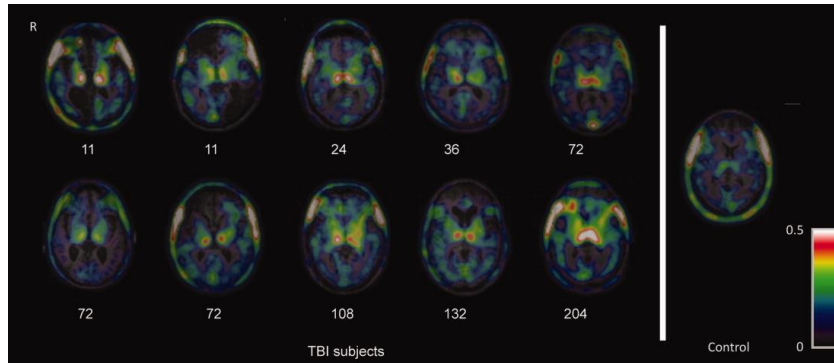
JAMA Neurol. 2014;71(1):23-31.

Amyloid Imaging With Carbon 11-Labeled Pittsburgh Compound B for Traumatic Brain Injury

Young T. Hong, PhD; Tonny Veenith, FRCA; Deborah Dewar, PhD; Joanne G. Outtrim, MSc; Vaithianadan Mani, FRCA; Claire Williams, FRCA; Sally Pimlott, PhD; Peter J. A. Hutchinson, FRCS, PhD; Adriana Tavares, PhD; Roberto Canales, PhD; Chester A. Mathis, PhD; William E. Klunk, MD, PhD; Franklin I. Aigbirhio, DPhil; Jonathan P. Coles, FRCA, PhD; Jean-Claude Baron, ScD, FMedSci; John D. Pickard, FMedSci; Tim D. Fryer, PhD; William Stewart, FRCPath, PhD; David K. Menon, PhD, FMedSci



Inflammation after Trauma: Microglial Activation and Traumatic Brain Injury



Ramlackhansingh et al. *Annals of Neurology*, Volume: 70, Issue: 3, Pages: 374-383.

Conclusions

Biomarkers may help us to understand:

- Diagnosis and the impact of TBI on the brain
- Improved understanding of pathophysiology and disease progression
- Prognostication
- Treatment effects
 - Biomarker for the effectiveness of treatments
 - Better selection of patients for trials
 - Better selection and monitoring of patients for therapy



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- Poe Phyu
- Sophie Richter
- Joanna Simpson
- Guy Williams
- Stefan Winzeck
- Lorenz Wernisch

Asterix books contain 704 victims of brain injury, study finds

Most were male, many Roman and more than half were attacked by Asterix and Obelix themselves ... medical academics get their heads around violence in the Asterix comics



Kamp et al, Acta Neurochir (Wien), 2011;153(6):1351-5

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