

Dementia caused by Borrelia infection of the Central Nervous System

Alan B. MacDonald, M.D.

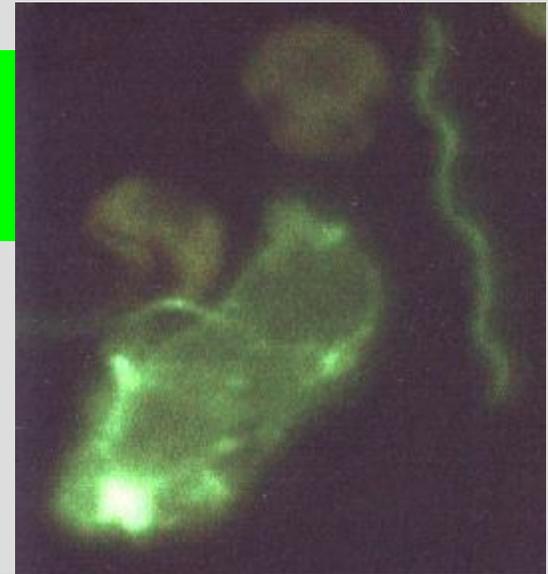
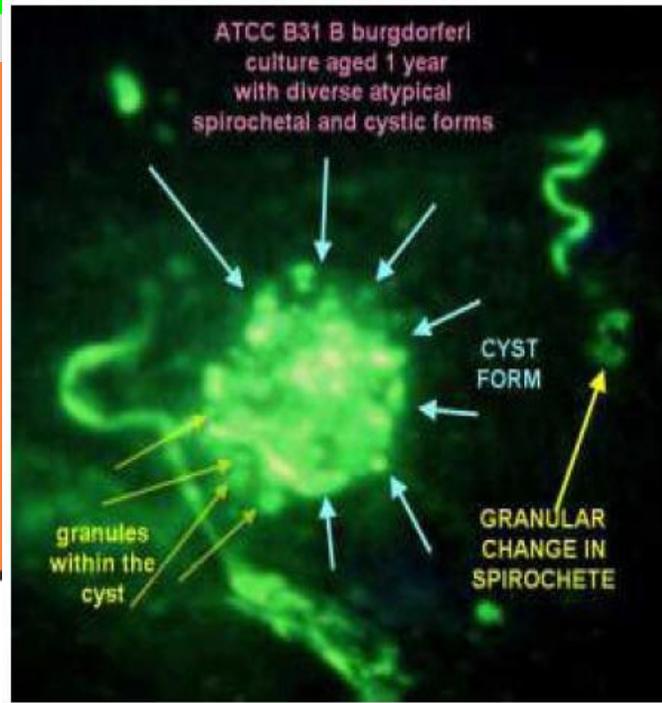
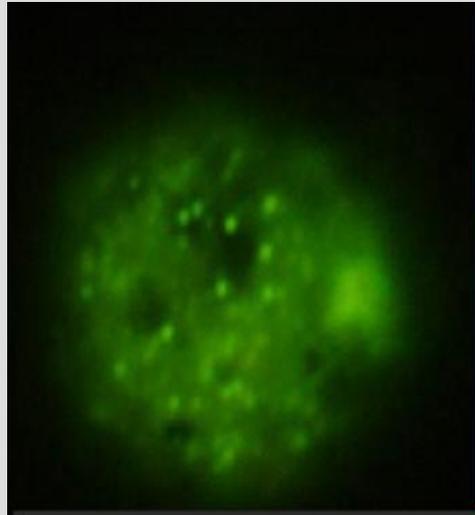
Staff Pathologist

St Catherine of Siena Medical Center

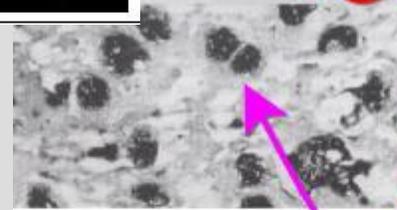
Smithtown, New York

Columbia University LDA National Scientific Meeting
October 20, 2006 , Philadelphia Pennsylvania

Walking on Thin Ice



**Cystic Borrelia
in Alzheimer
Autopsy Brain
1987**



**Plaques
Alzheimer
Disease**

DLB
**Diffuse Lewy Body
Disease**
Cystic Borrelia Form

**Concurrent Neocortical Borreliosis
and Alzheimer's Disease 1988**
**Ann. New York Acad Sci, vol 539 p.
468-470**

Spirochetal

Hypotheses ^ About Dementia

- Noguchi [...hypothesis testing]
--1913
- MacDonald[..hypothesis....]
-----1985
- Miklossy[hypothesis ...]
-----1992

Brain “Fog” as a Metaphor

Clouded Mentation

Apraxia of Thought

Senility

“Old Timer”

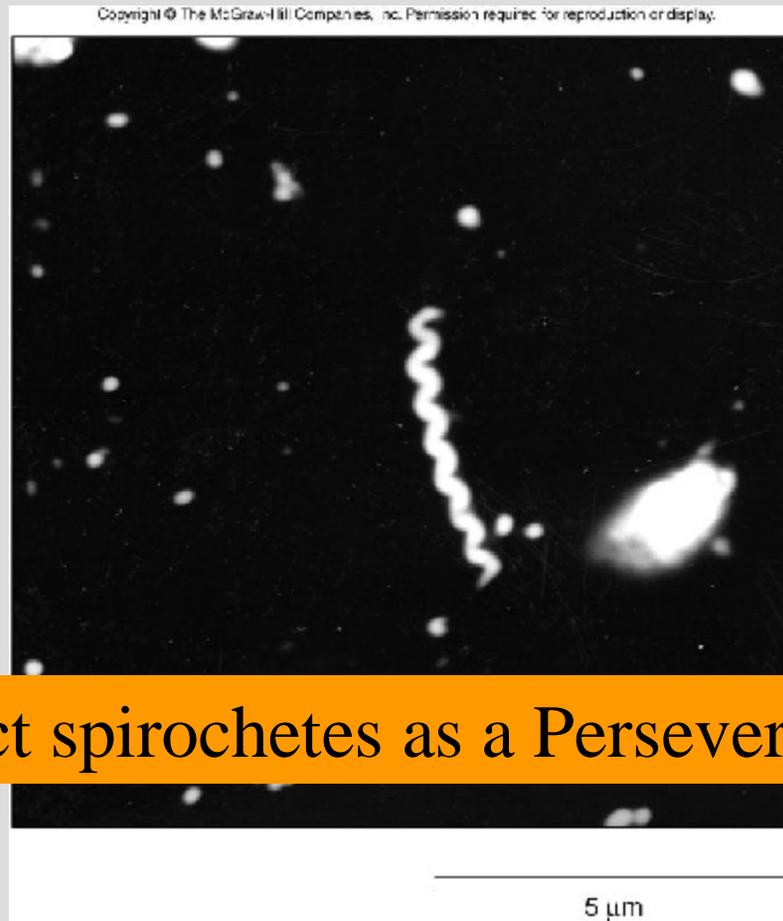
Apraxia...

**Loss of ability to carry out purposeful movements, in the absence of paralysis, ..
Especially inability to make proper use of an object...**

Perseveration

- “Broken Record” Type –
Perseveration in Dementias
Repetitions without Cognizance
- *Scientific Perseverations as a Motif*
Rigid and unweilding
“Herr Professor Types”

Problem of the Perfect spirochetes



Perfect spirochetes as a Perseveration “motif”

Anecdotes in Medicine

Un - Scientific

Un - Informative

Un - trustworthy

Where is it Written ??

Did you “Get it Past an Editor”?

Inside of the Nerve

Infections by Borrelia

Overview

Cystic Borrelia

(Rationale for Chronic Disease)

Evidence for Neural
Invasion

Trans-synaptic transmission
of Infection

Neural Circuit Infections –
Progressions in Nerve Disease

Time Capsules

1. **Dementia** – What makes it Alzheimer's
2. **Plaques** - of Alzheimer's
3. **Tangles** - of Alzheimer's
4. **GVB** - of Alzheimer's
5. **DNA in the GVB's**
6. **DNA in Plaques**
7. **SSPE model** – *Tangles from Viral Infection*
8. **Borrelia to Tangles** – *Pathway inside the Neuron*
9. **Trans-Synaptic transmission of Infections**
10. **Trans-Synaptic Neuroborreliosis**
11. **Braak Stages-** *of Alzheimer's Disease*
12. **Redefined Braak Stages** -
13. **Dr Miklossy** – *Landmark observations in Alzheimer's*
14. **Dr Noguchi** – *Landmark observations in General Paresis*

Time Capsules - Continued

15. **Negative Reviews** – *Borrelia and Alzheimer's*

16. **Rebuttals** - *from Miklossy and MacDonald*

Antibodies – Are they Necessary???

.....Evidence for New Discoveries?

{IDSA version of Truth ??}

Pre spirochetal times

Knowledge Acquired before the
Etiologic Agent



was in the Textbook

Post spirochetal times

Pre-Spirochetal Era

Spirochetal Era

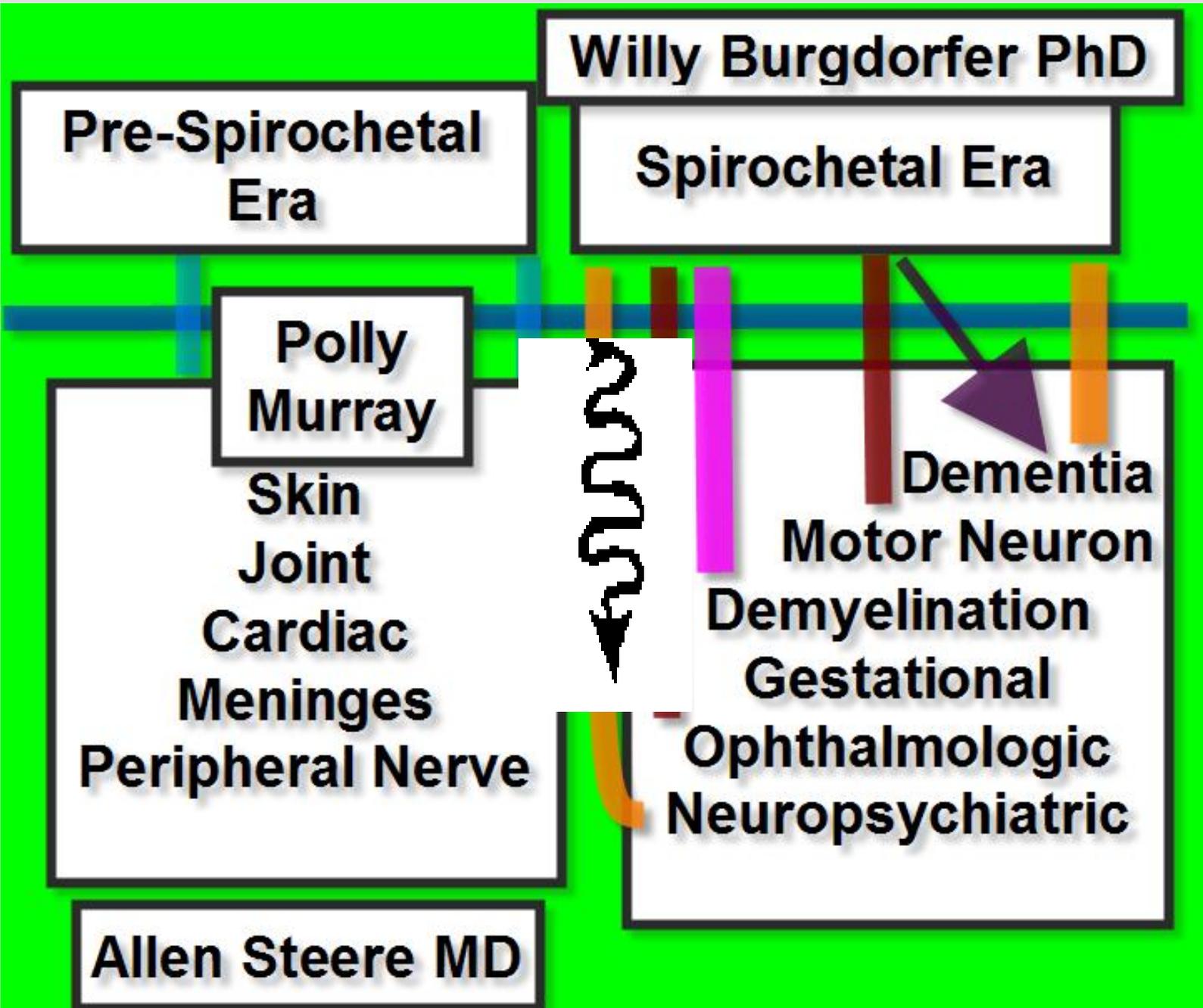
1492

1905

1913

**Protean
Disease
Manifestations
by Observation
without
Laboratory
testing**

**Dementia
General
Paresis
Spirochetes
in Autopsy
Brain**



Borrelia and Dementia – Previous Lecture
Topics from Miklossy 2004 LDA Lecture
And MacDonald 2005 Ilads Lecture

Cultures Alzheimer Brain tissue -----POSITIVE

Alzheimer Brain tissue – -----Positive for Borrelia

Spinal Fluid ----- Positive for Borrelia Antibodies

DNA Hybridization – Positive signals in Specific Brain regions

New Topics in 2006 - Bridges to Pathogenesis of

Alzheimer's Neuroborreliosis

Tangles of Alzheimer's Disease – *Infection Connections*

Plaques of Alzheimer's disease –*DNA Probes Borrelia Specific*

Mutations in Alzheimer's Disease- *Transfection Mechanisms*

Spinal Fluid Testing in Alzheimer's Disease –

Borrelia DNA detection methods

Braak Stages of Alzheimer's Disease-

TransSynaptic spread of Infection in Neural Networks

Dementia – What makes it Alzheimer’s

Under the microscope: The Big Three

Many Plaques --- (Silver +, Amyloid, Tau protein +)

Many Tangles --- (Silver +, _____, Tau protein +)

GVB Granules ---- (Silver +, _____, _____)

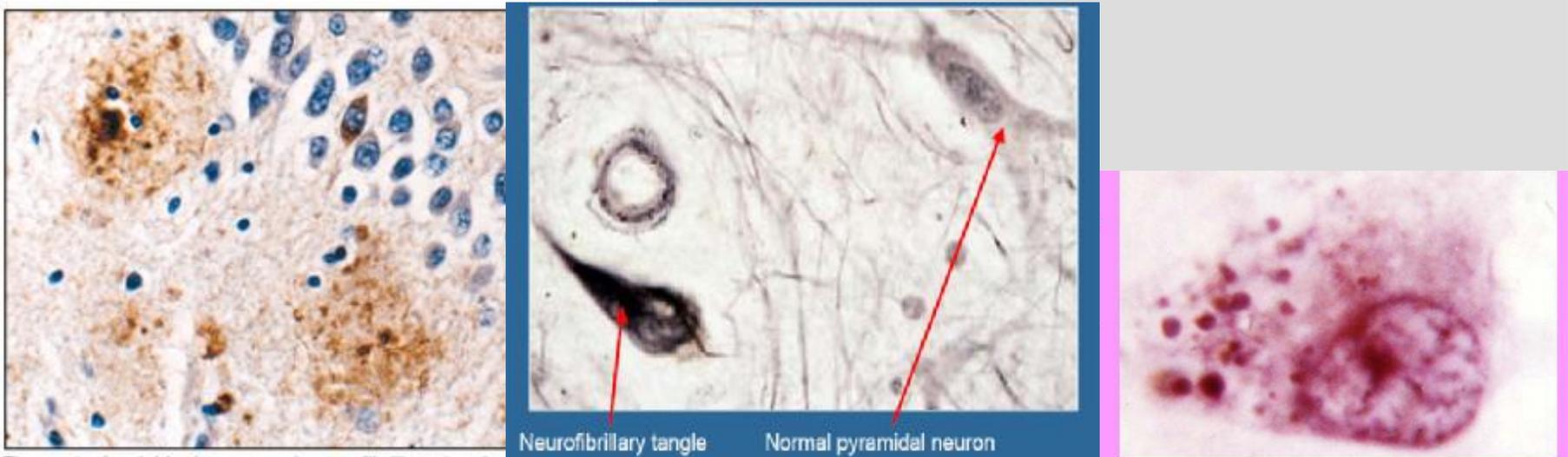
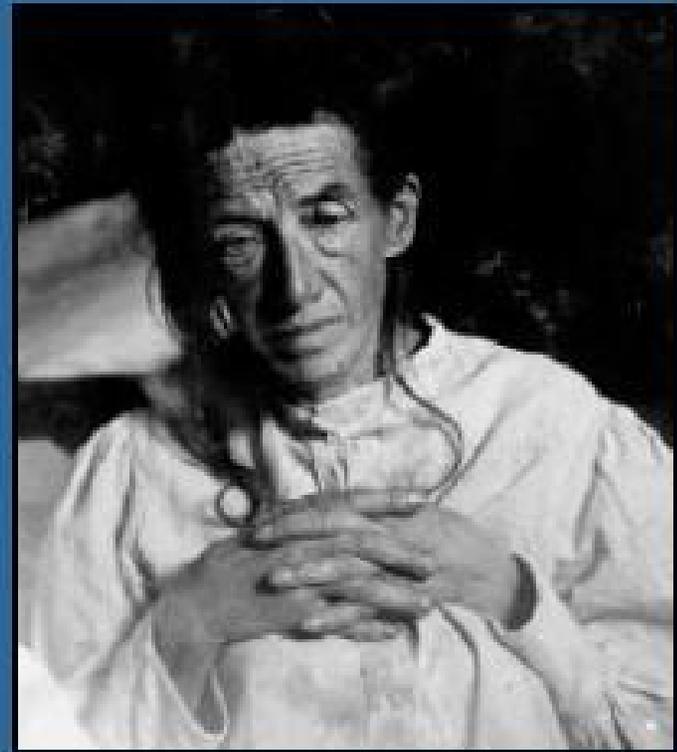


Figure 1. Amyloid plaques and neurofibrillary tangles at specimen densities in sectioned brain tissue constitute the neuropathologic criteria confirming Alzheimer's disease. Here both plaques and tangles appear

Granules vary in size ---little to big

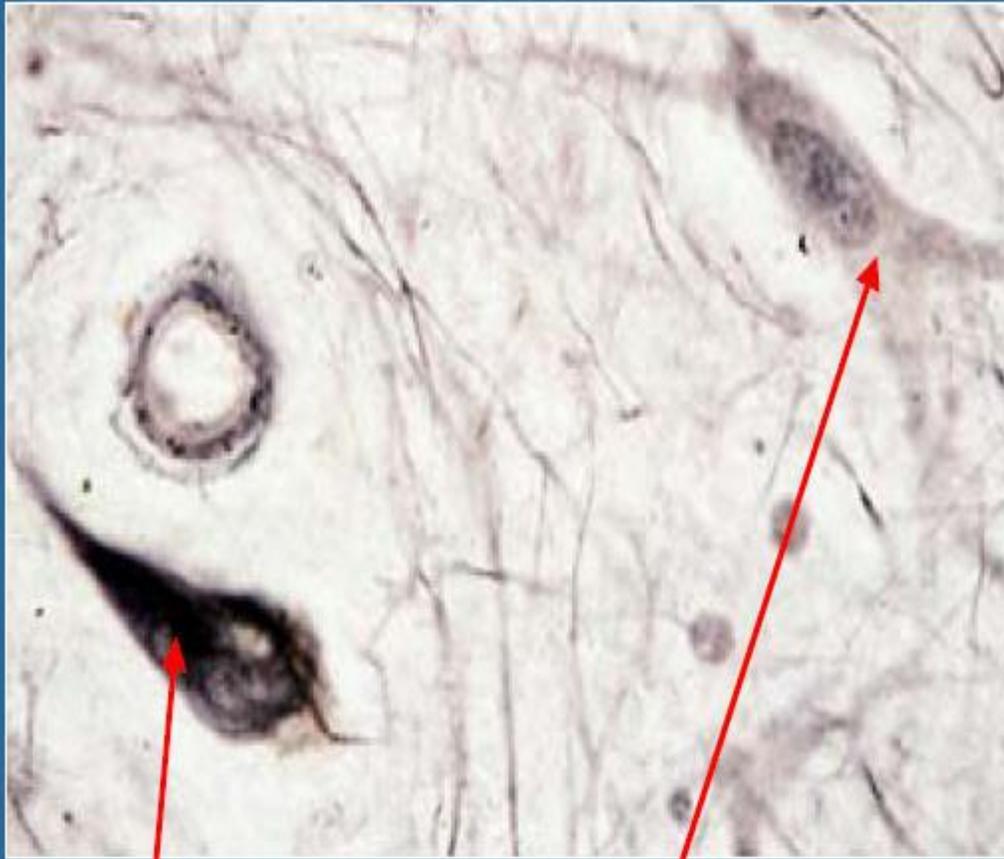
Alois Alzheimer



Auguste D. in 1902

An Anecdotal Case Report – Just one !!

Dementia – What makes it Alzheimer’s



Neurofibrillary tangle

Normal pyramidal neuron

UNDERSTANDING ALZHEIMER'S

The Aging Brain and Dementia

Stages of Alzheimer's Disease

Abnormal Cellular Structures

Neurofibrillary Tangles

Neurofibrillary Tangles

Normal Neuron

Abnormal Neuron

Physical Changes in the Cortex

Neurotransmitter: The Messengers

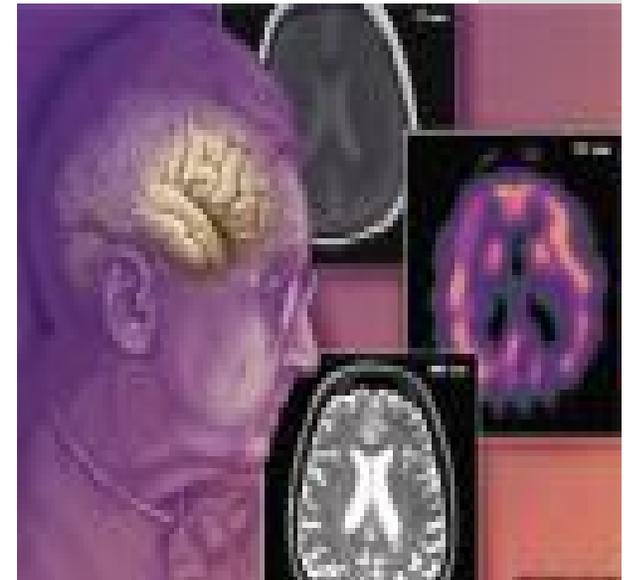
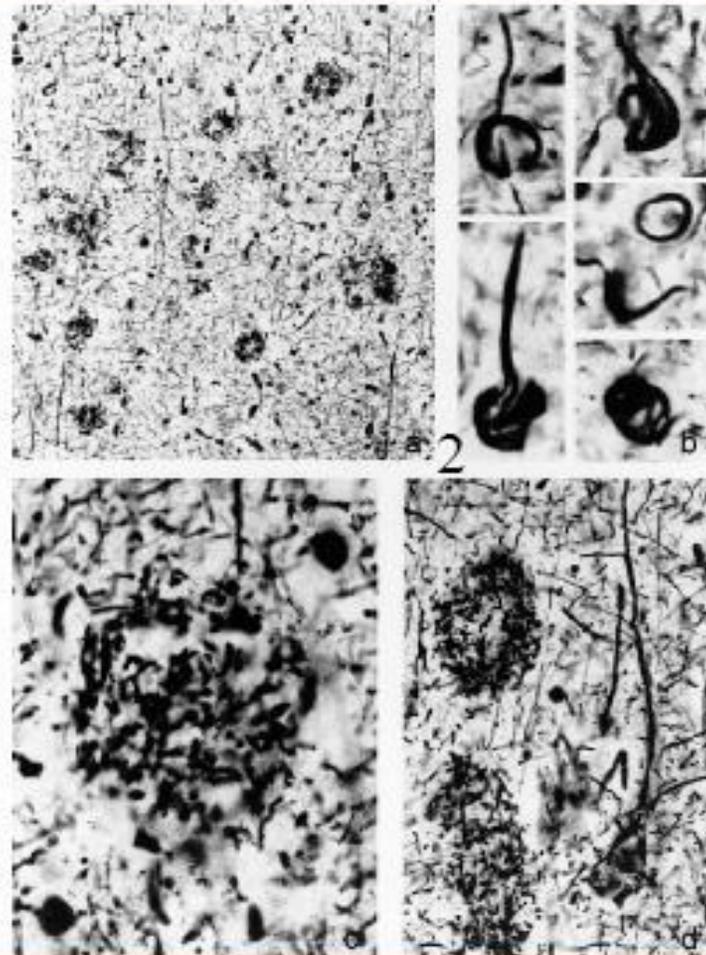
Alzheimer's

Normal

Prevention of Alzheimer's Disease

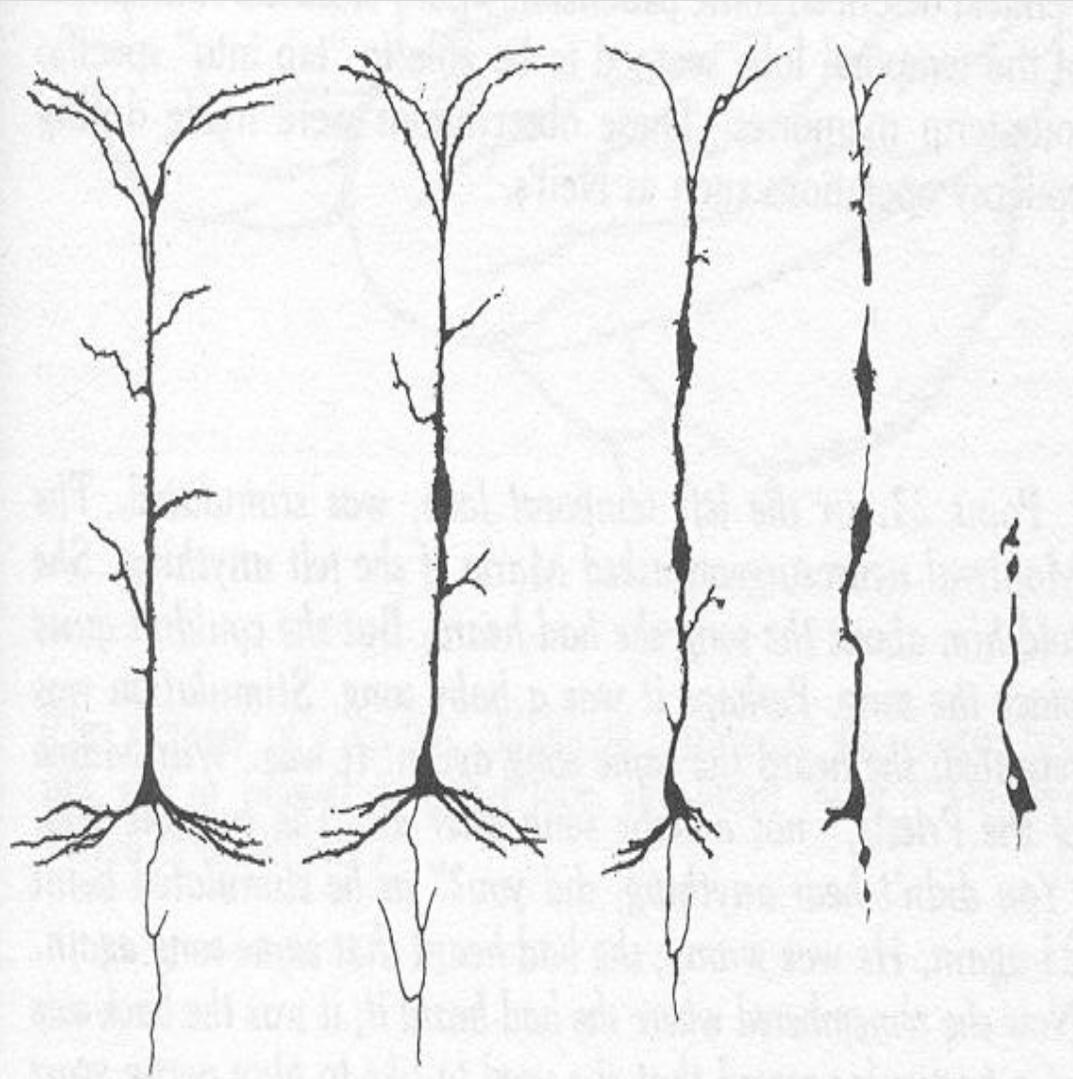
An infographic titled 'UNDERSTANDING ALZHEIMER'S' that provides a comprehensive overview of the disease. It features a central illustration of a human head in profile with the brain highlighted. Surrounding this are several detailed diagrams: 1) 'The Aging Brain and Dementia' and 'Stages of Alzheimer's Disease' which describe the progression from normal aging to dementia. 2) 'Abnormal Cellular Structures' and 'Neurofibrillary Tangles' which show microscopic views of neurons with dark, clumped protein deposits. 3) 'Normal Neuron' and 'Abnormal Neuron' which compare a healthy neuron with one affected by tangles. 4) 'Physical Changes in the Cortex' which shows a cross-section of the brain's outer layer, comparing the thickness in Alzheimer's patients versus normal individuals. 5) 'Neurotransmitter: The Messengers' which illustrates the chemical signaling between neurons. 6) 'Alzheimer's' and 'Normal' which compare the overall brain structure and volume. 7) 'Prevention of Alzheimer's Disease' which lists lifestyle factors that may reduce risk. The infographic uses various colors and labels to identify different components and stages.

Über eine eigenartige Erkrankung der Hirnrinde A. Alzheimer (1907)



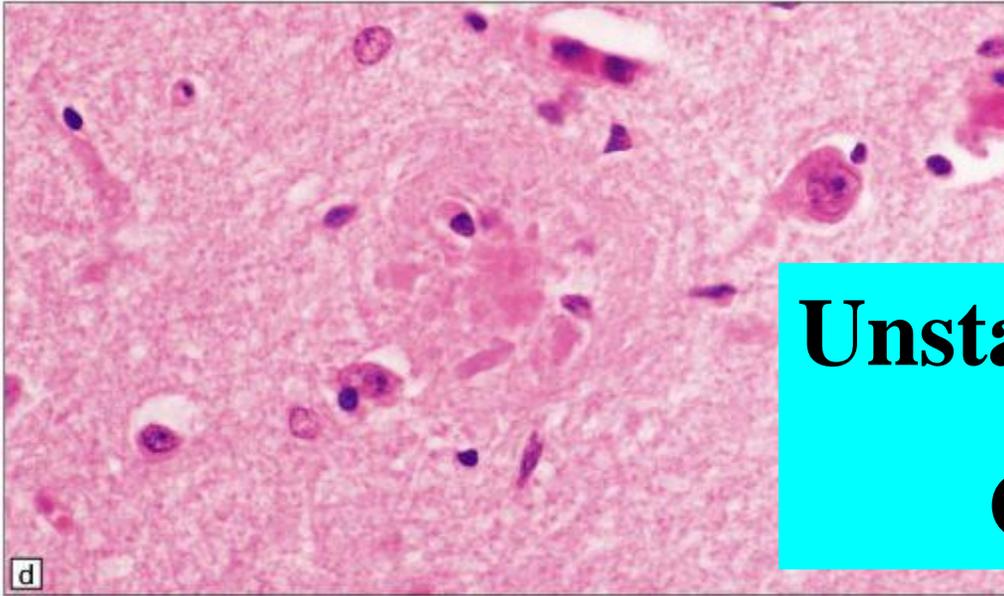
Allg. Zeitschrift Psychiatr. 64: 146-148

Dementia – What makes it Alzheimer's



Sequence of dendritic tree changes in senile dementia (from Scheibel and Scheibel 1977).

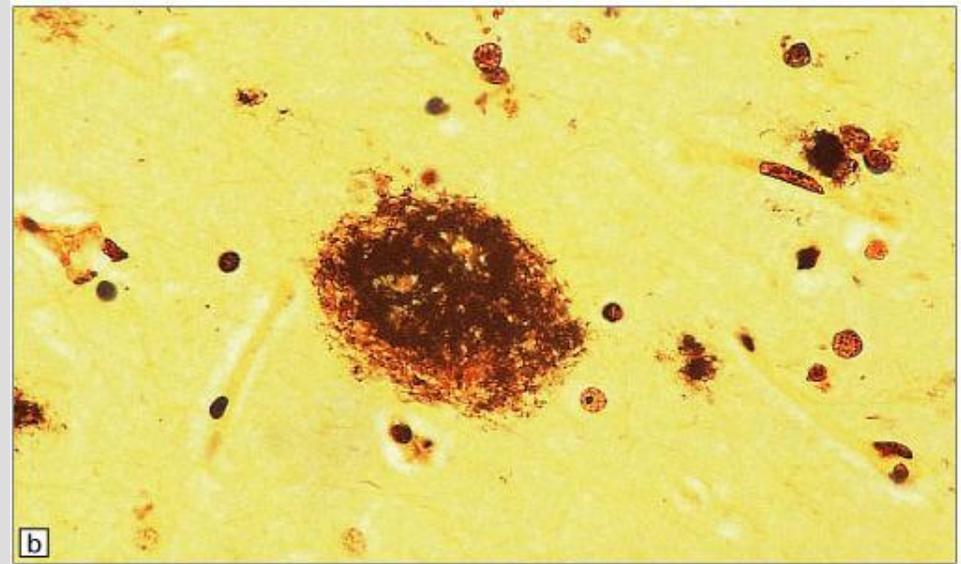
Synapses Are Lost
Nerve Structure Lost
Chemistry Corrupted
Sparkle - Dimmed



Unstained Plaques are Overlooked

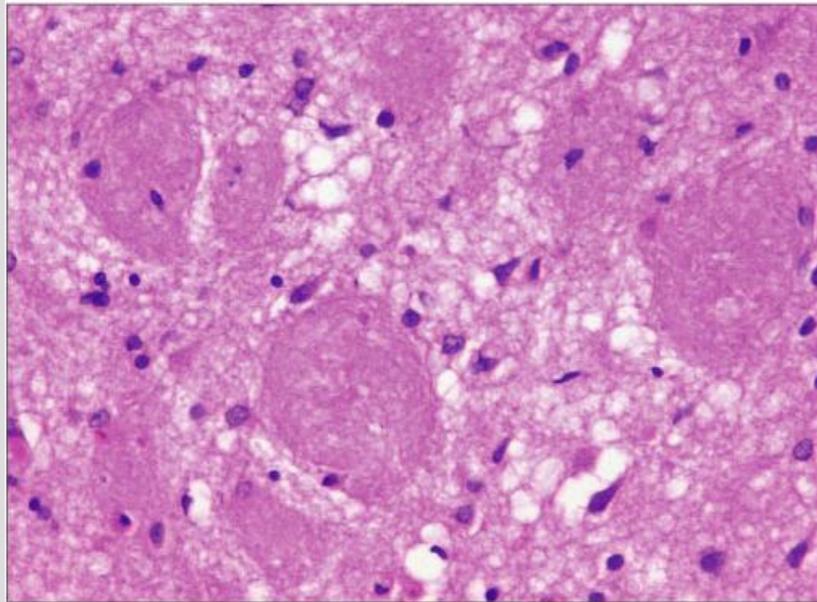
Ellison & Love: Neuropathology 2e © 2004 Elsevier Ltd.

Plaques
First
Requirement
for
Alzheimer's



Ellison & Love: Neuropathology 2e © 2004 Elsevier Ltd.

Plaques



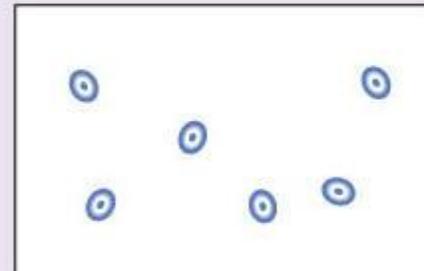
Ellison & Love: Neuropathology 2e © 2004 Elsevier Ltd.

**“Amyloid Free”
Plaques of the
Cotton Wool type**

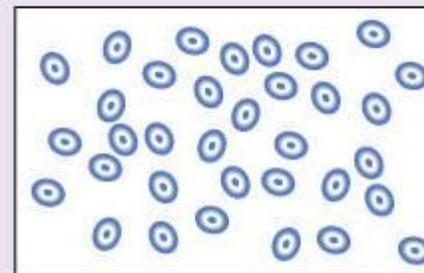
Silver stain



Sparse plaques

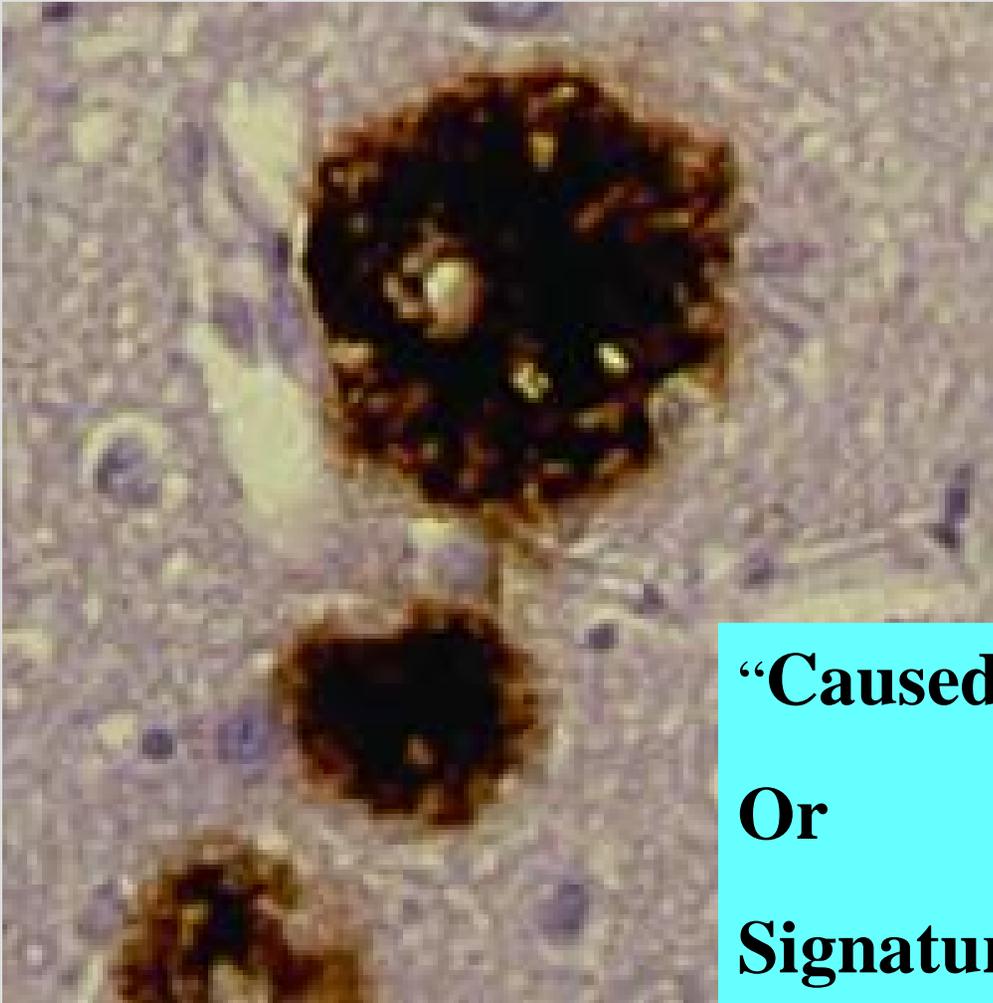


Moderate plaques



Frequent plaques

Density
Of
Plaques
And
Loss of
Brain
Weight



Plaques

“Caused By Amyloid” ???

Or

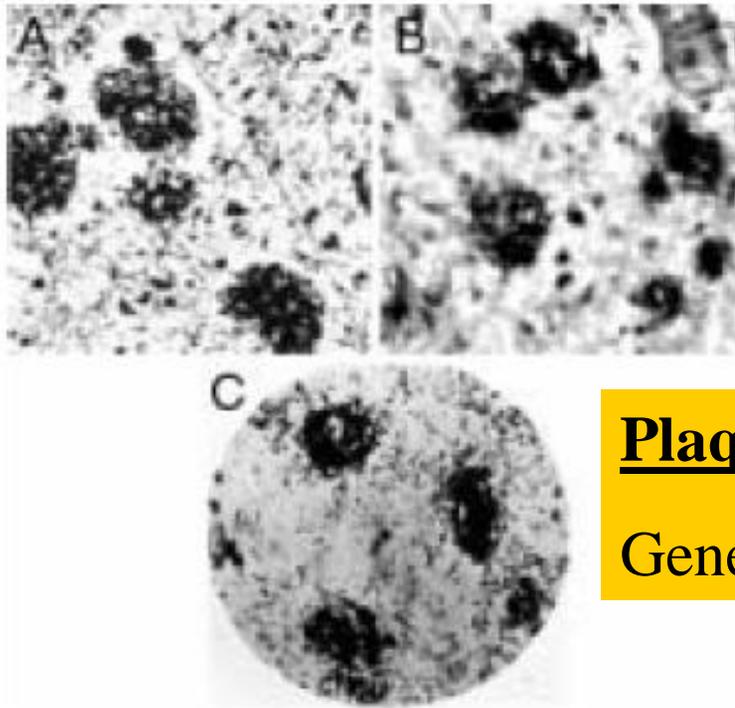
Signatures of a Microbial

Pathogen??

A Tale of Two Plaques

646

J. Miklossy et al. / Borrelia burgdorferi



Alzheimer's Disease - Plaques

Dr Judith Miklossy

Plaques in Tertiary Neurosyphilis

General Paresis Brain at Autopsy 1929

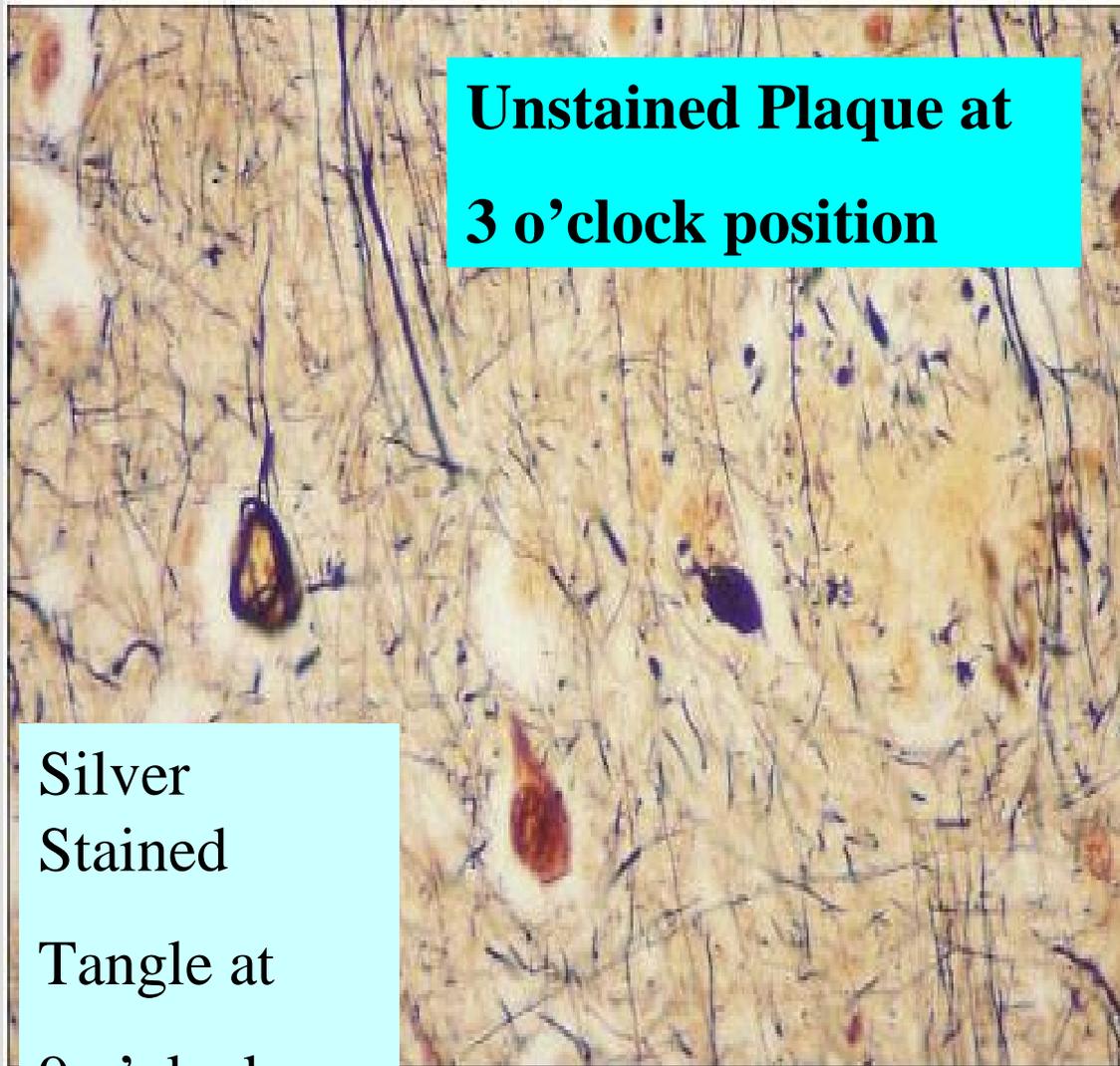
Fig. 4. Illustration of the striking similarity of the agglomeration of spirochetes in the cerebral cortex in case AD1 with positive Lyme serology and in general paresis. Compare the similarity of the silver

Tangles Second Requirement



Silver Stained Plaques
And Silver stained
Tangles

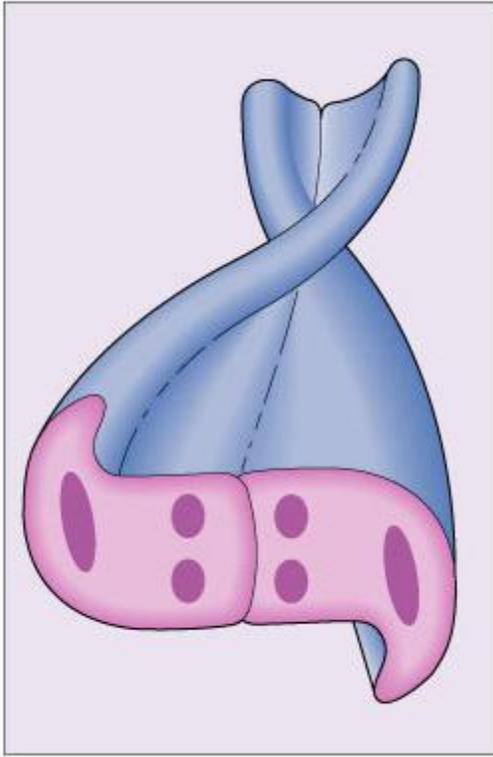
Unstained Plaque at
3 o'clock position



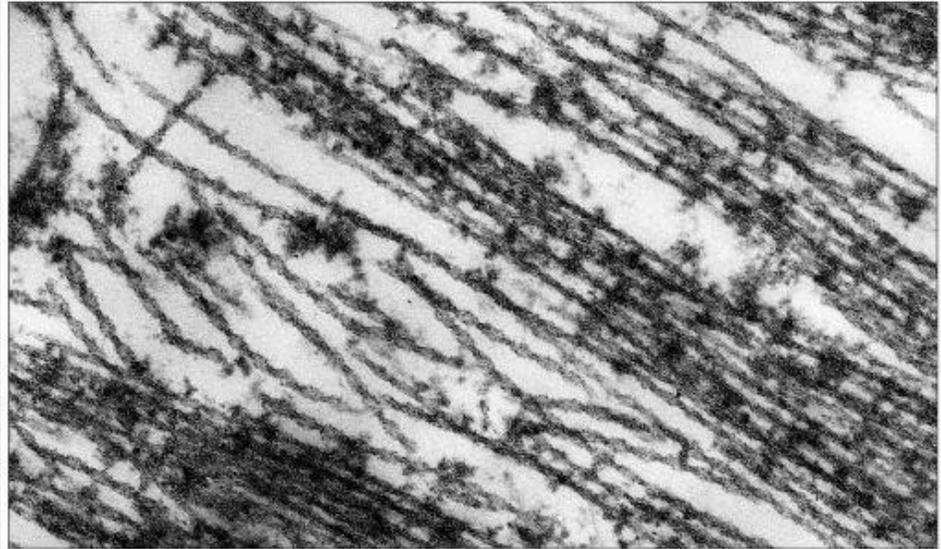
Silver
Stained
Tangle at
9 o'clock
position

Neuropathology 2e © 2004 Elsevier Ltd.

Tangles



Ellison & Love: Neuropathology 2e © 2004 Elsevier Ltd.



Ellison & Love: Neuropathology 2e © 2004 Elsevier Ltd.

Dr Kidd

Discovers that

**Tangles are Not “corpses”
of**

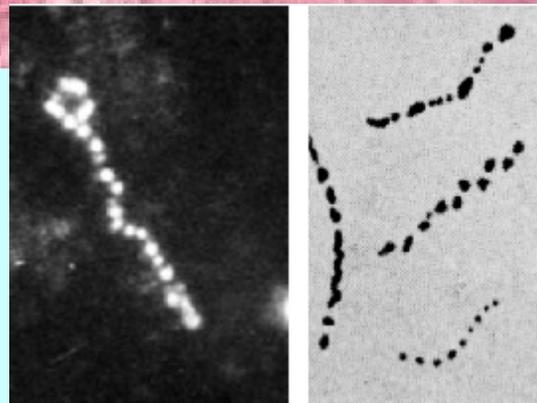
Previous Microtubules



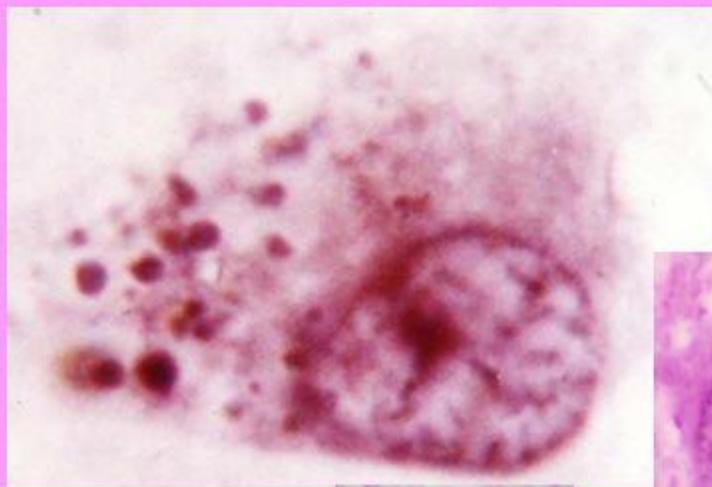
GVB Third Requirement for Alzheimer's

GVB are
“Dots” inside of
“Bubbles”
Which are
Inside of
Diseased Nerve cells

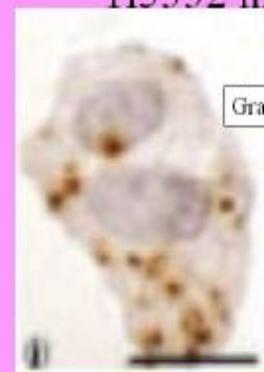
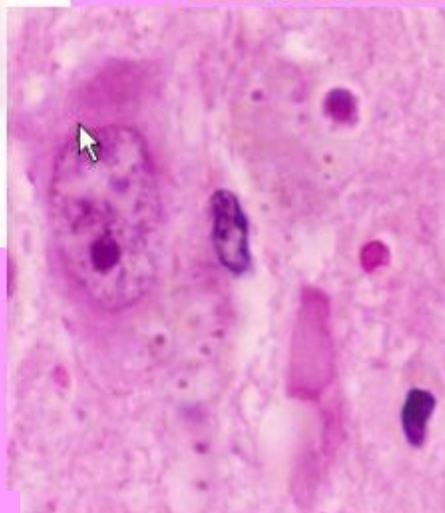
Hypothesis: GVB in Alzheimer's
Are the “signature” of Granular Spirochetes inside Nerve cells



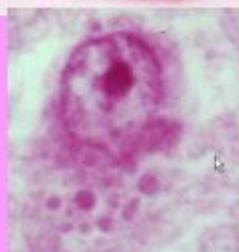
GVB



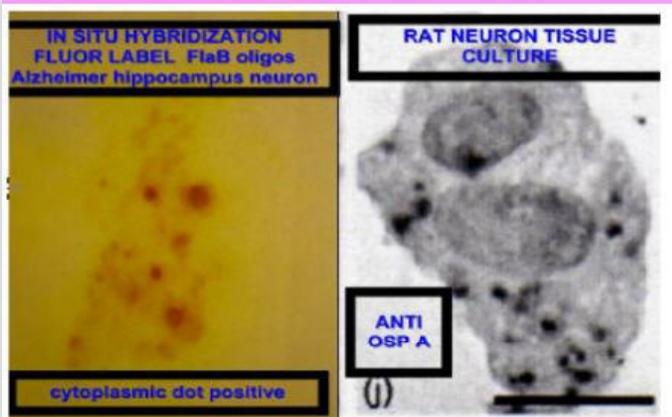
Miklossy
Rat nerve cell
H5332 monoclonal +



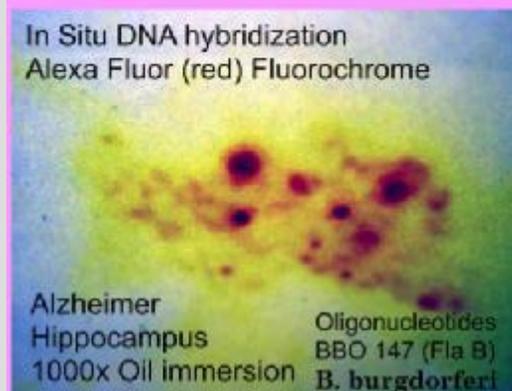
Granules vary in size – from little to big



In Situ Dna and Rat Tissue culture

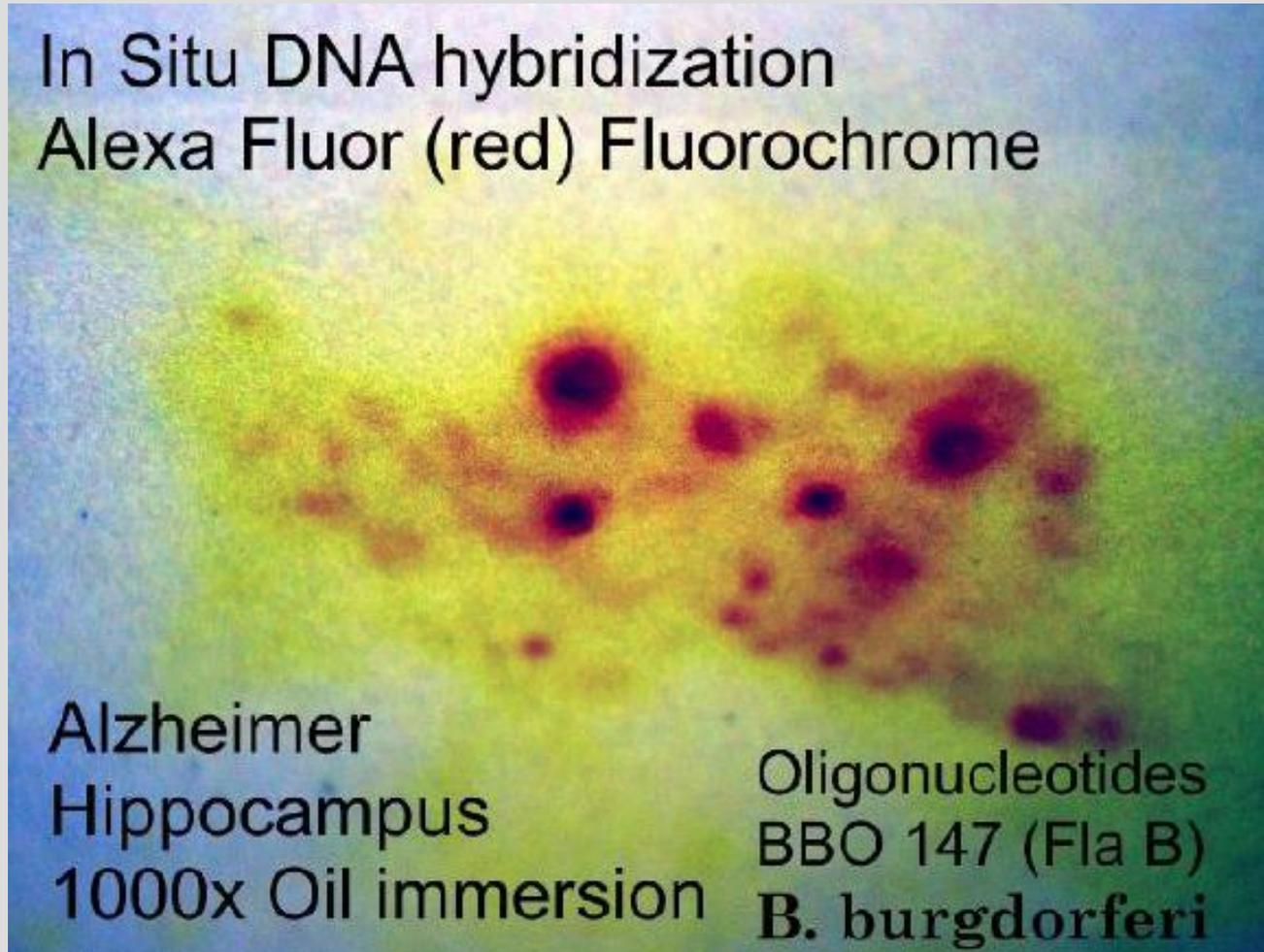


MacDonald
human Alzheimer In situ DNA



DNA in GVB

In Situ DNA hybridization
Alexa Fluor (red) Fluorochrome



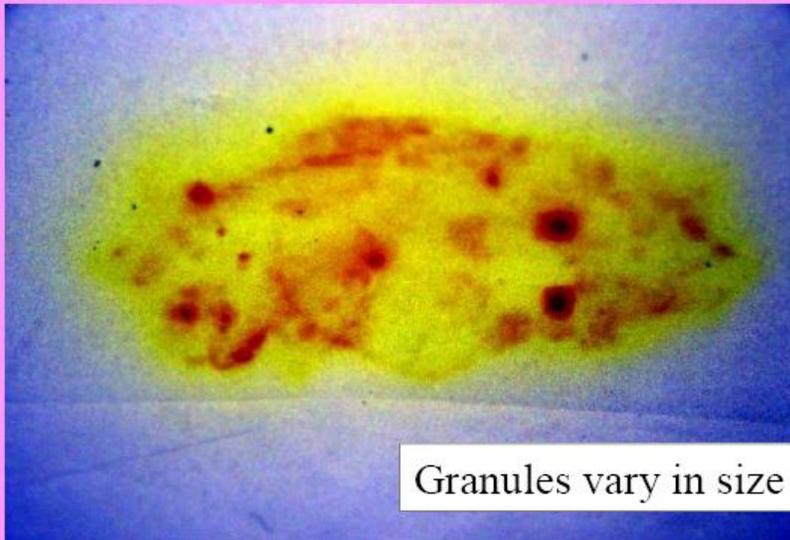
Alzheimer
Hippocampus
1000x Oil immersion

Oligonucleotides
BBO 147 (Fla B)
B. burgdorferi

DNA

in GVB

Human Alzheimer
In situ DNA hybridization for
Borrelia burgdorferi DNA

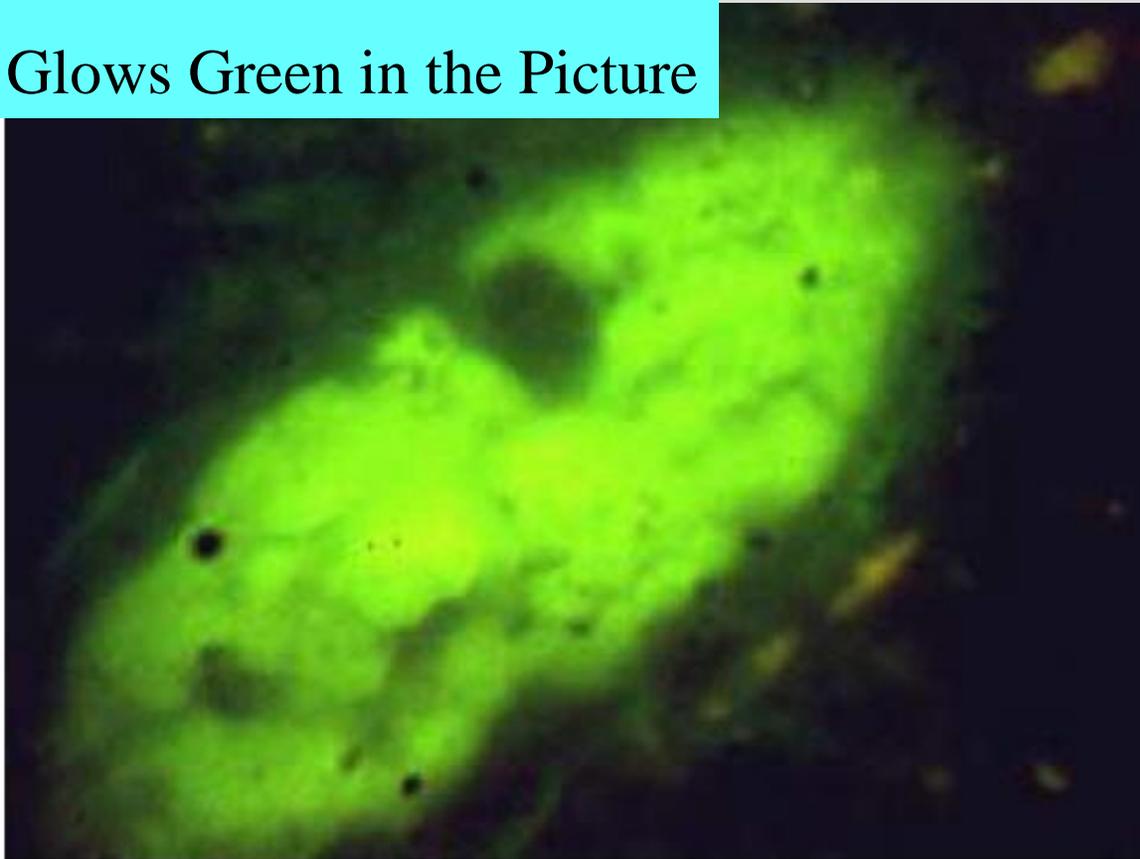


Granules vary in size – from little to big

DNA in Plaques

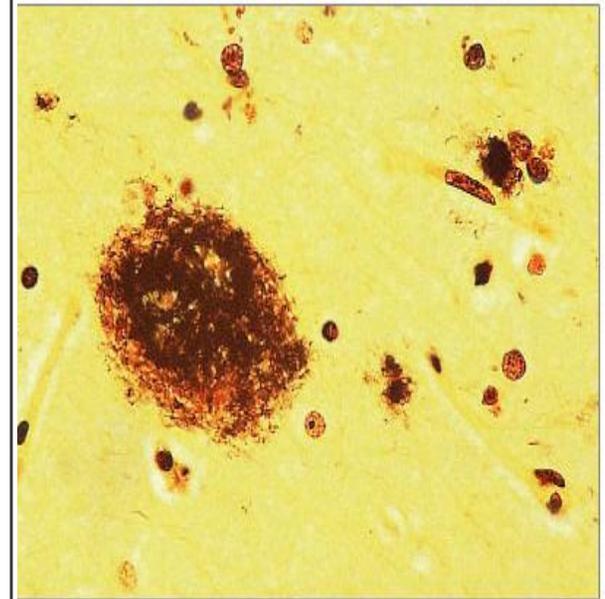
Only Borrelia DNA

Glow Green in the Picture



Borrelia burgdorferi Flagellin DNA , In situ hybridization, Large Plaque

1000x original magnification



on & Love: Neuropathology 2e © 2004 Elsevier Ltd.

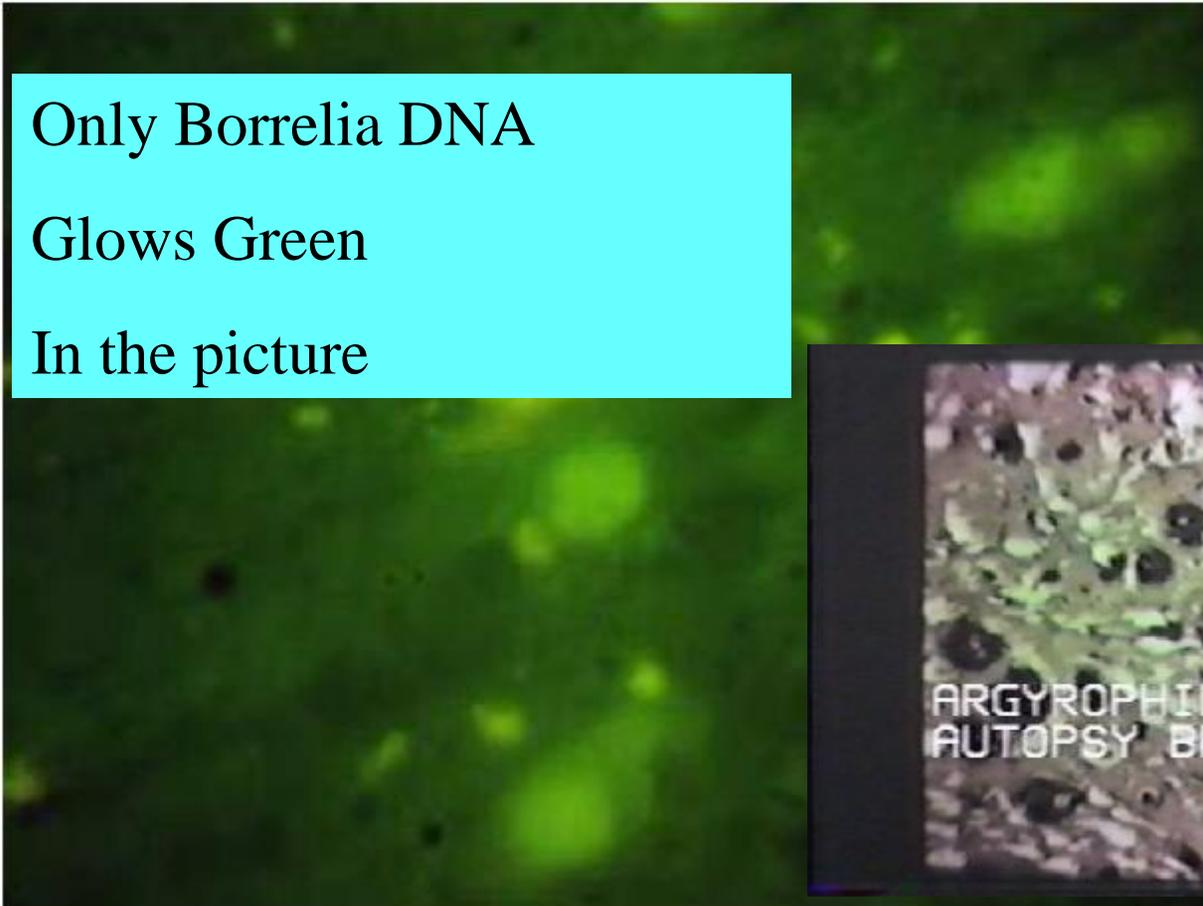
DNA

Plaques

Only *Borrelia* DNA

Glowes Green

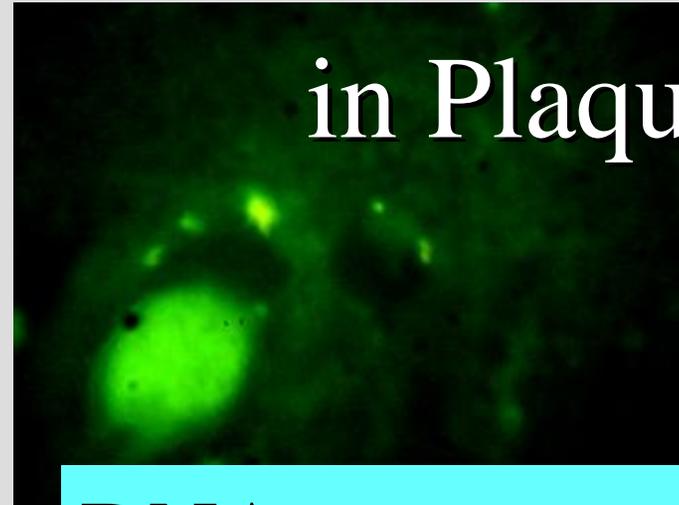
In the picture



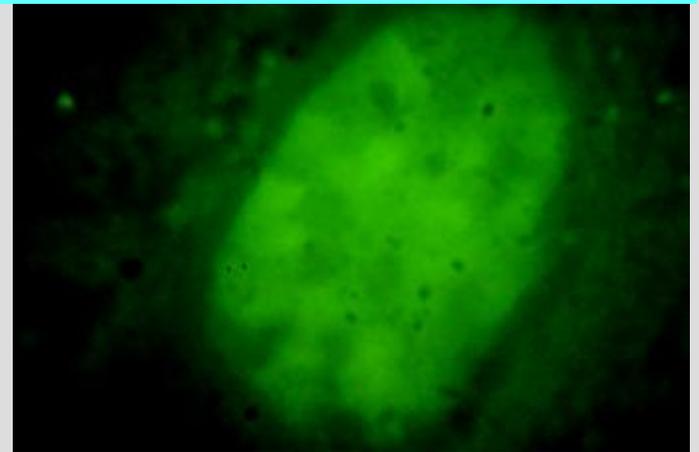
Borrelia burgdorferi flagellin DNA in situ DNA hybridization, Alzheimer hippocampus
1000x magnification.

DNA

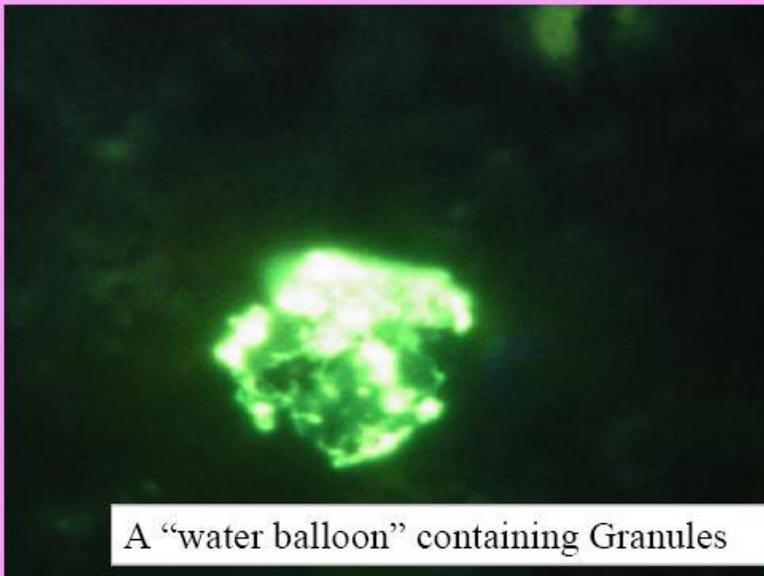
in Plaques



DNA
Hybridization



MacDonald 1987
Cyst form H9724 +
Alzheimer Brain



A "water balloon" containing Granules

Monoclonal Antibody for
The Flagellin protein of Borrelia
Developed by Dr Alan Barbour

Perfect Model for Tangles

**Based on Inside of the Nerve
Infection**

In Children

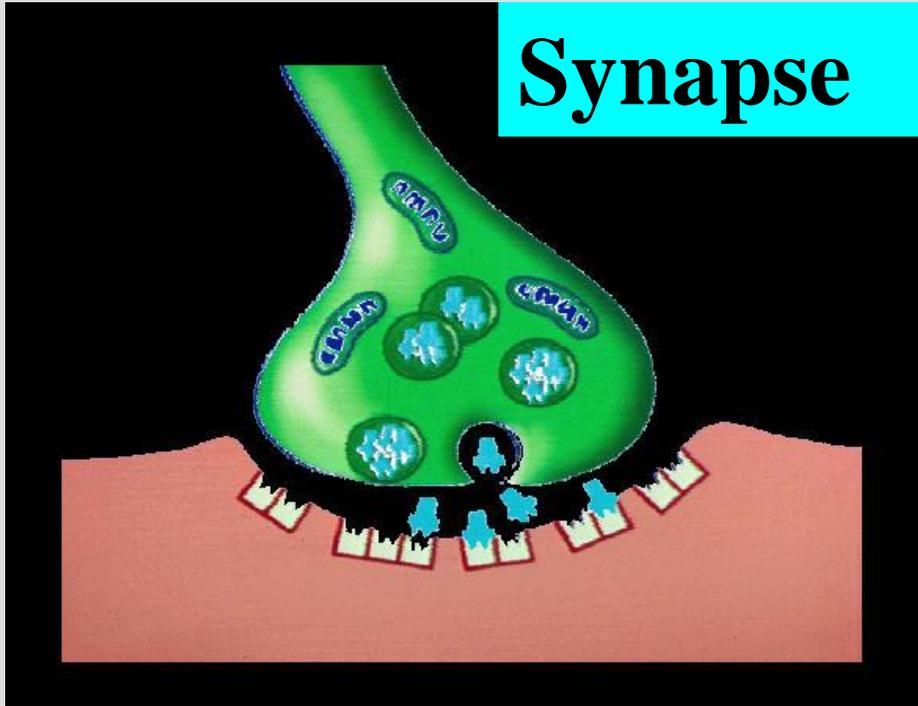
SSPE

Model

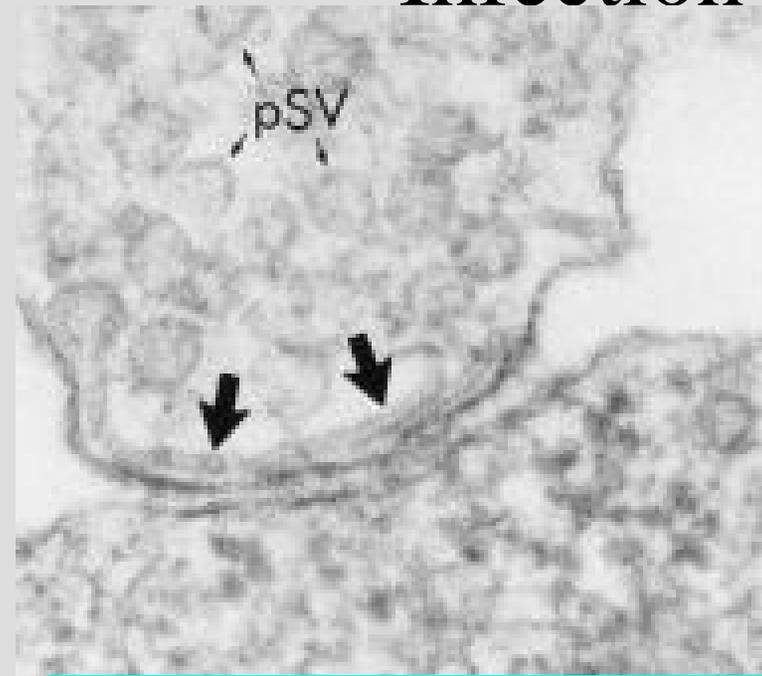
The distribution of Alzheimer's neurofibrillary tangles and gliosis in chronic subacute sclerosing panencephalitis

Journal	Acta Neuropathologica
Publisher	Springer Berlin / Heidelberg
ISSN	0001-6322 (Print) 1432-0533 (Online)
Subject	Medicine
Issue	Volume 80, Number 3 / July, 1990

Synapse

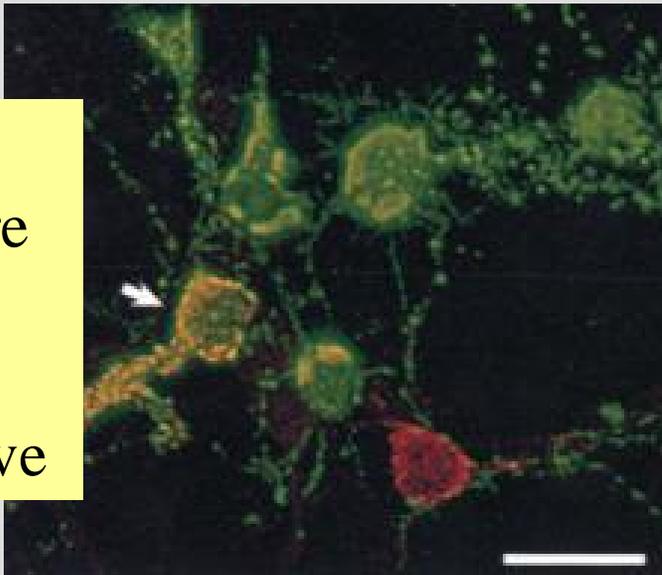


SSPE Model Tangles from Infection



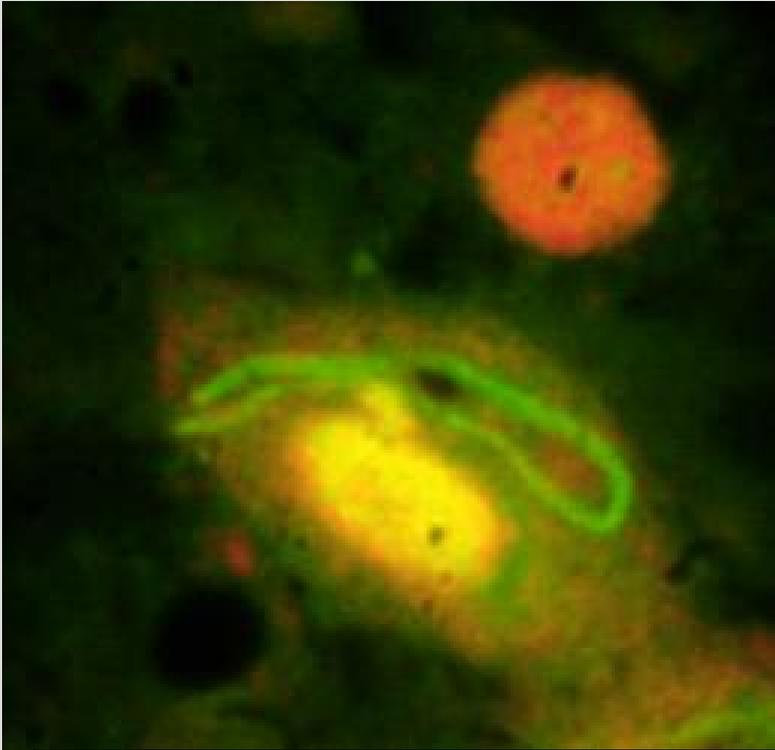
Infectious Agent Crosses The Synapse

Golden
particles are
Viruses
Inside Nerve



Borrelia to Tangles

Infectious Agent Inside of the Nerve cell

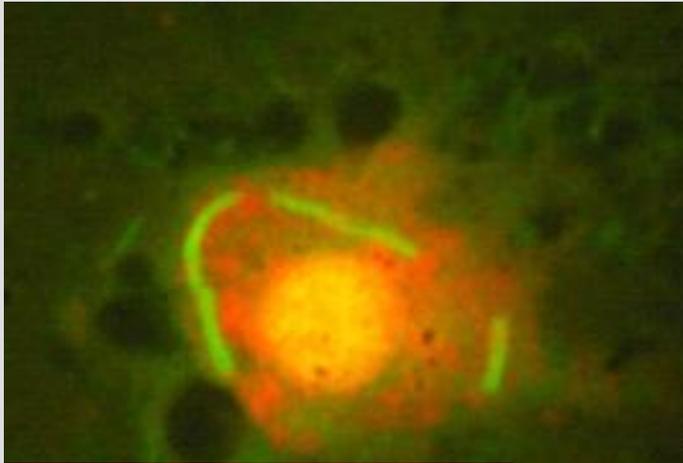


Borrelia spirochetes inside Hippocampal neurons in Alzheimer's disease

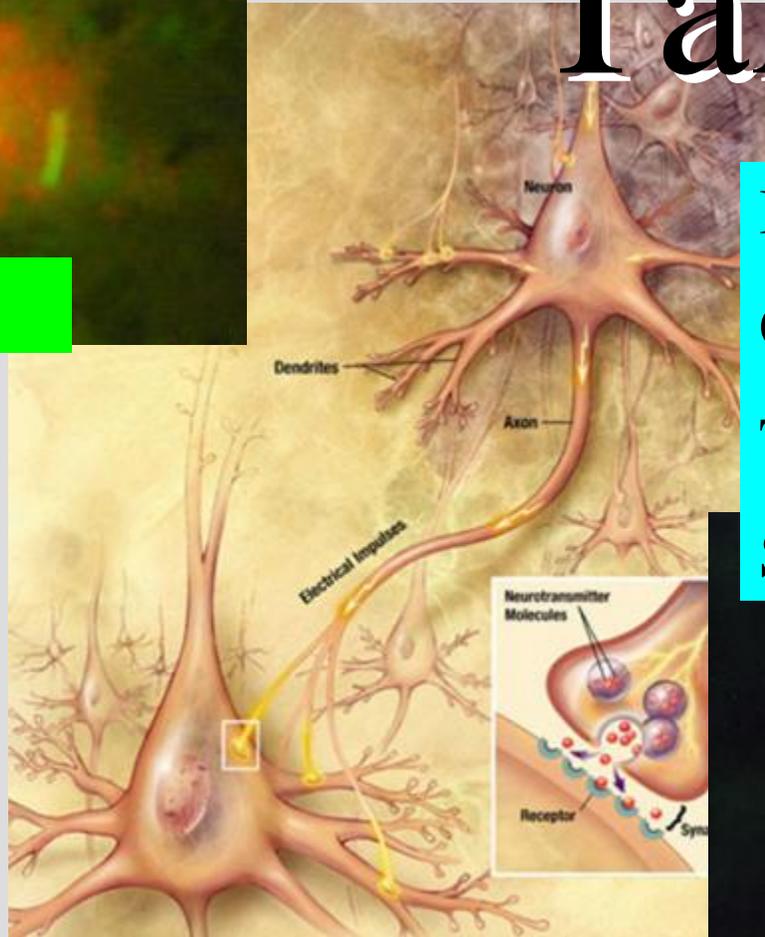
Inside of the cell Infection



Borrelia to Tangles



Infected Neuron



Infection

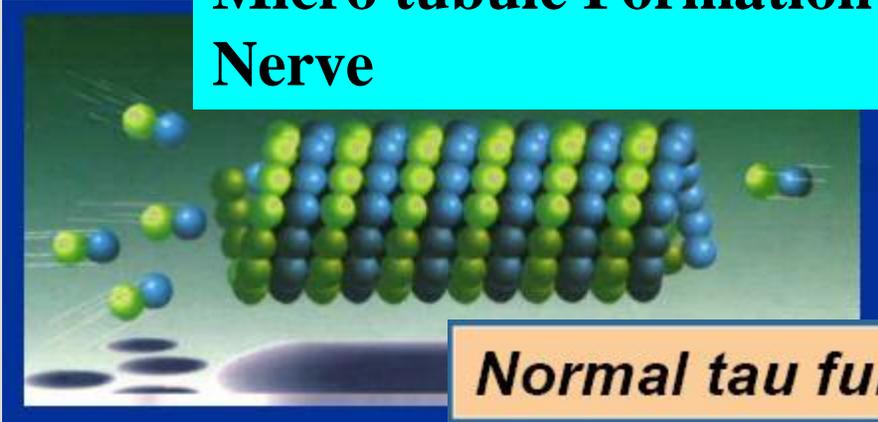
Crosses

The

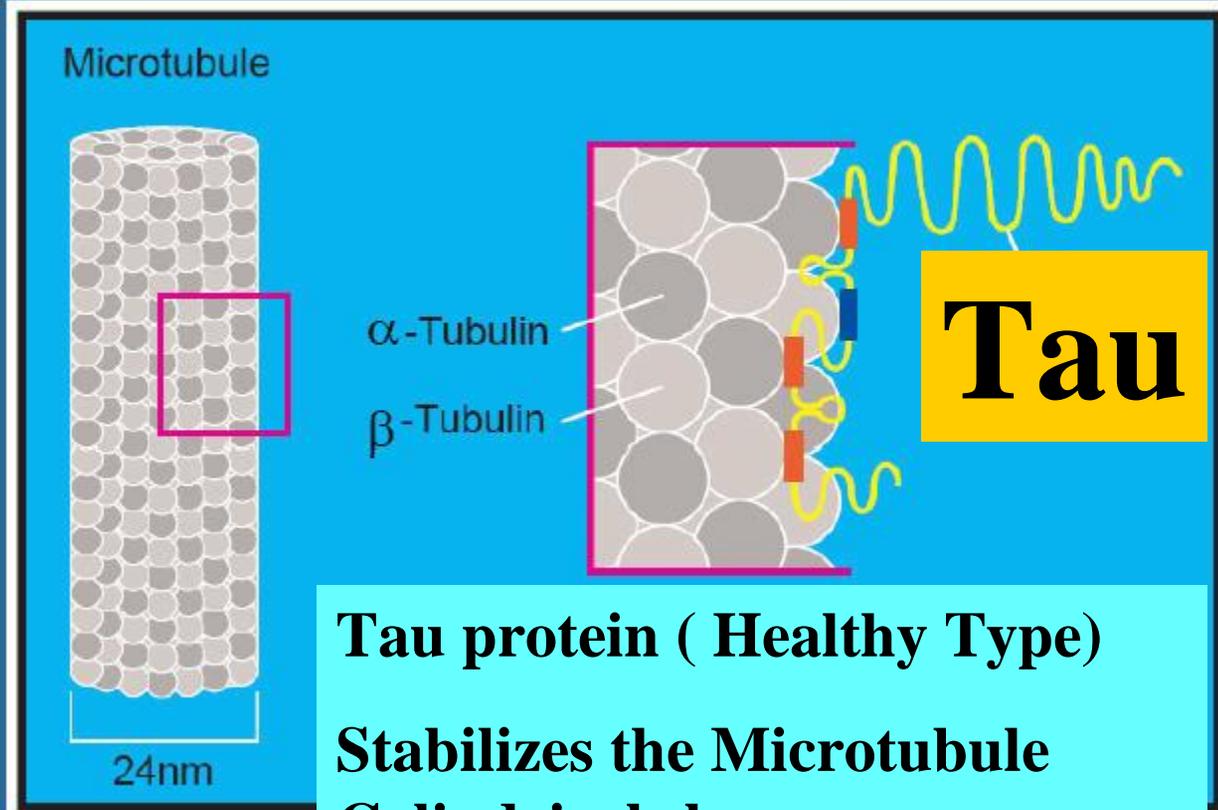
Synapse



Micro tubule Formation inside the Nerve

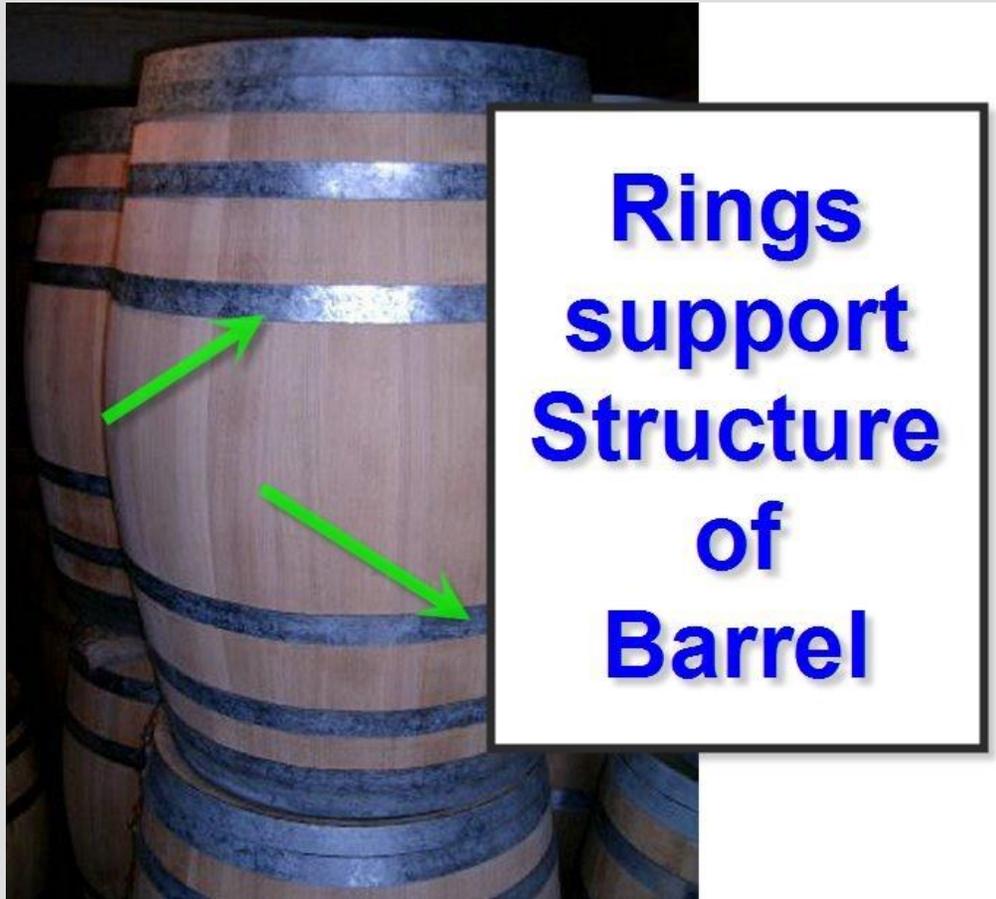


Normal tau function – axonal cytoskeleton



Tau protein (Healthy Type)
Stabilizes the Microtubule
Cylindrical shape

Tau support and the Model of the Barrel



Tau and Rings of the **Barrel**



**Healthy
Tau
Functions
to Support**

**Spout is Synapse
equivalent**

Healthy Nerve

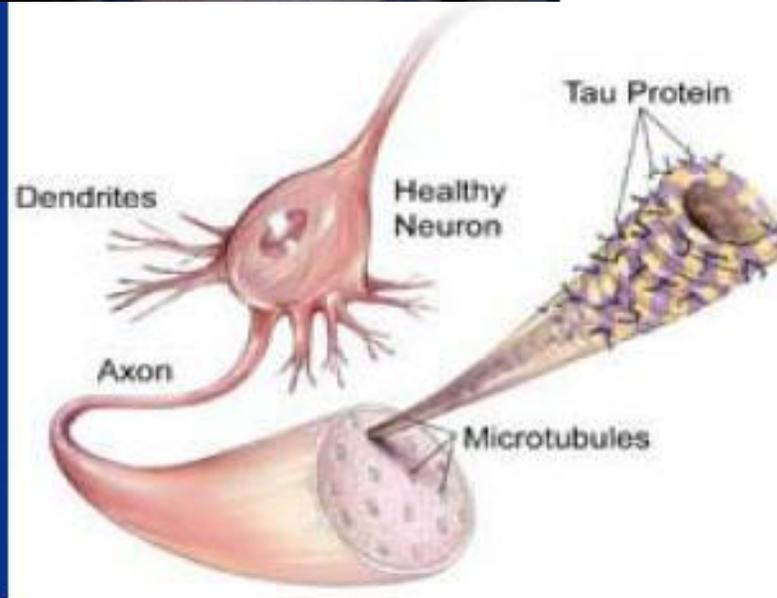
Needs

· Healthy

· Tau Protein to

Stabilize the

Microtubules

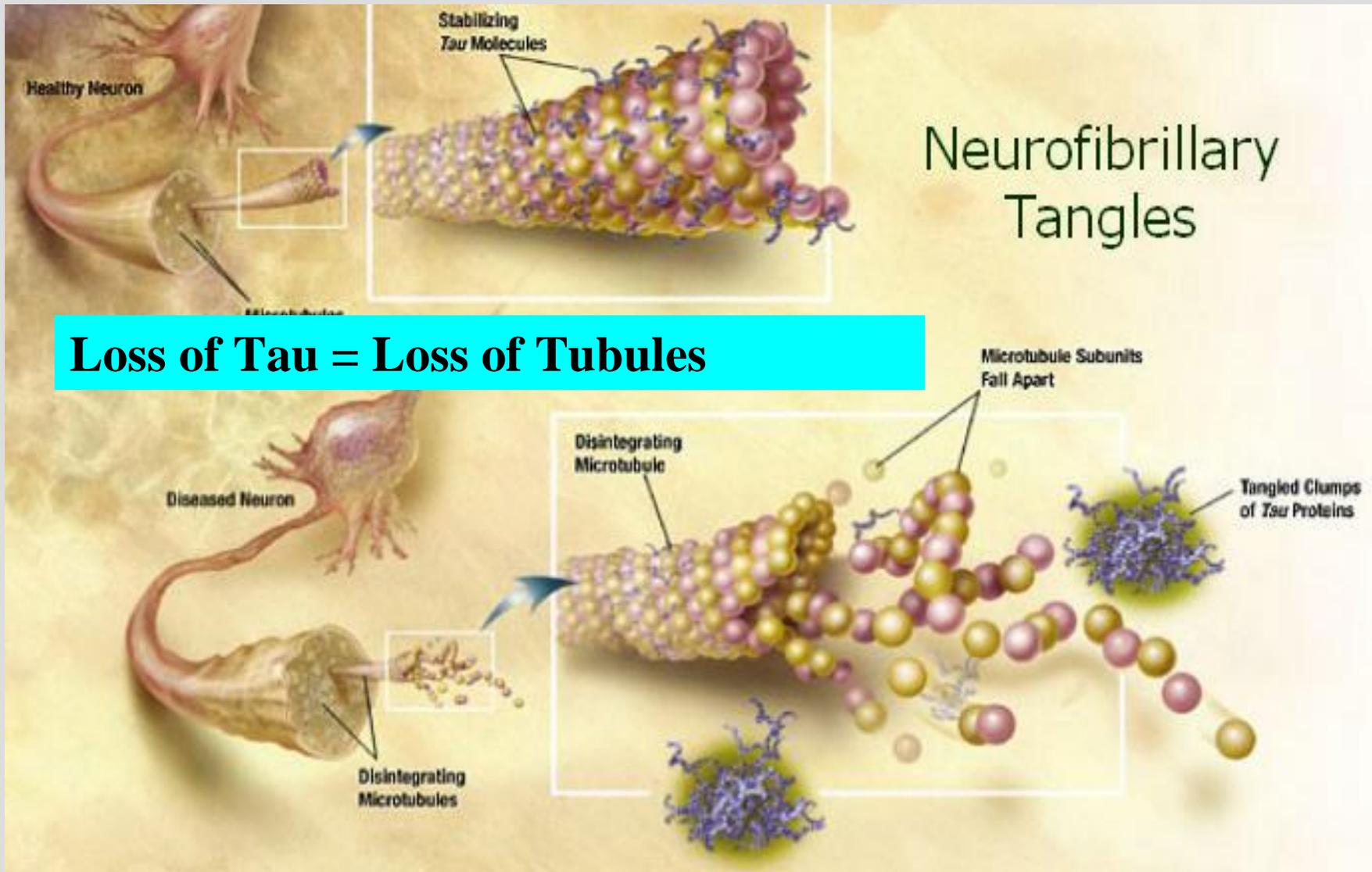


Many Healthy Tau structural supporting proteins—

A Ring of supports around

The tubule

Borrelia to Tangles



Borrelia inside the Nerve – and pathway to Tangle Formations

1. Infection inside of the Neuron

2. Biochemical Derangements

3. “Toxic” Products – (Phos) added to Tau

4. Loss of “healthy” Tau Supports

**5. Tangles (Unhealthy Tau proteins) -----
--Replace Microtubules -----Death of cell**

Infections Crossing Synapses

Herpes Zoster “Shingles”

Dormant Virus from Childhood Chicken Pox

Stays hidden inside of Nerves for 50-80 years
and *Reactivates to “March “ down Nerve pathways*

**Other Trans-synaptic
Infections**

Infections
Crossing
Synapses

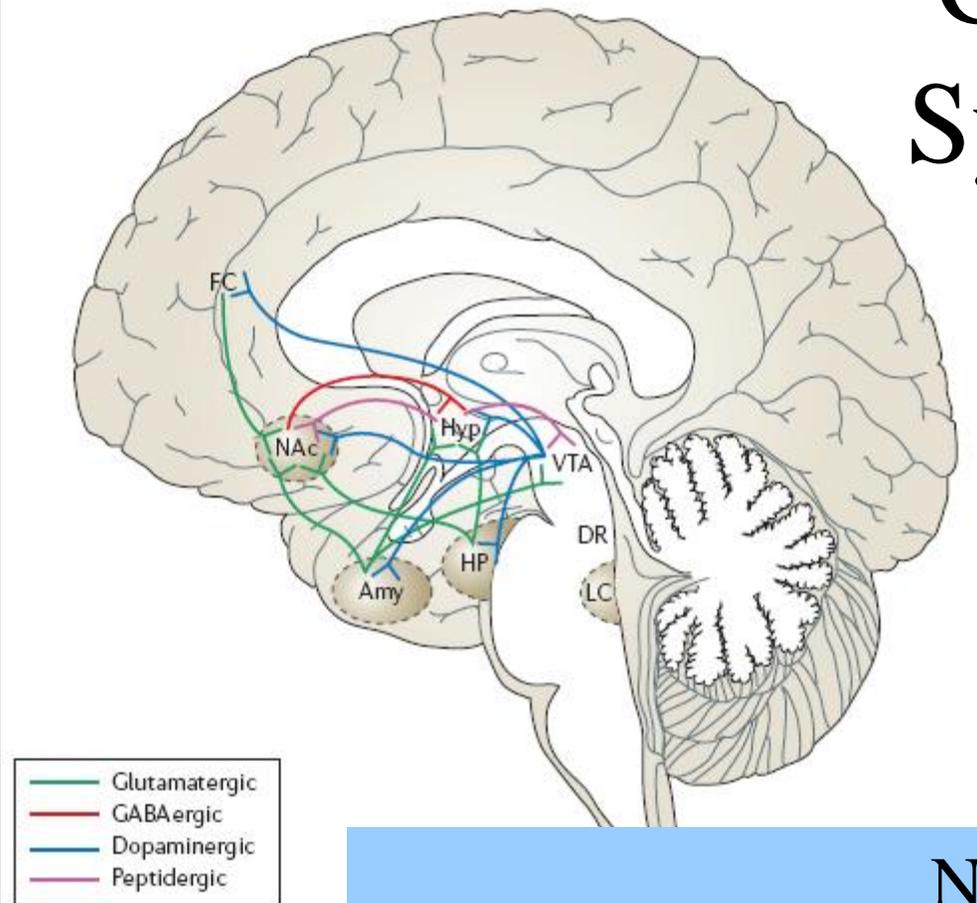
Rabies

Lethal March of Virus inside Nerve Networks

Pseudo Rabies Virus

Infections
Crossing
Synapses

Box 2 | Neural circuitry of mood



Non lethal Virus

Used to “Map” Neural Networks

Trans-Synaptic Neuroborreliosis

YMEHY 3712

4 October 2006; Disk Used

ARTICLE IN PRESS

No. of Pages 4

Medical Hypotheses (2006) x, xxx–xxx

1



ELSEVIER

medical
hypotheses

<http://intl.elsevierhealth.com/journals/mehy>

2 **Alzheimer's neuroborreliosis with *trans*-synaptic**
3 **spread of infection and neurofibrillary tangles**
4 **derived from intraneuronal spirochetes**

5 **Alan B. MacDonald ***

6 *Department of Pathology, St Catherine of Siena Medical Center, 50 Rte 25 A, Smithtown, NY 11787,*
7 *United States*

8 Received 22 August 2006; accepted 22 August 2006

Alzheimer's Disease – A Neuron with a Round “Green thing”

Describe what you see, Please

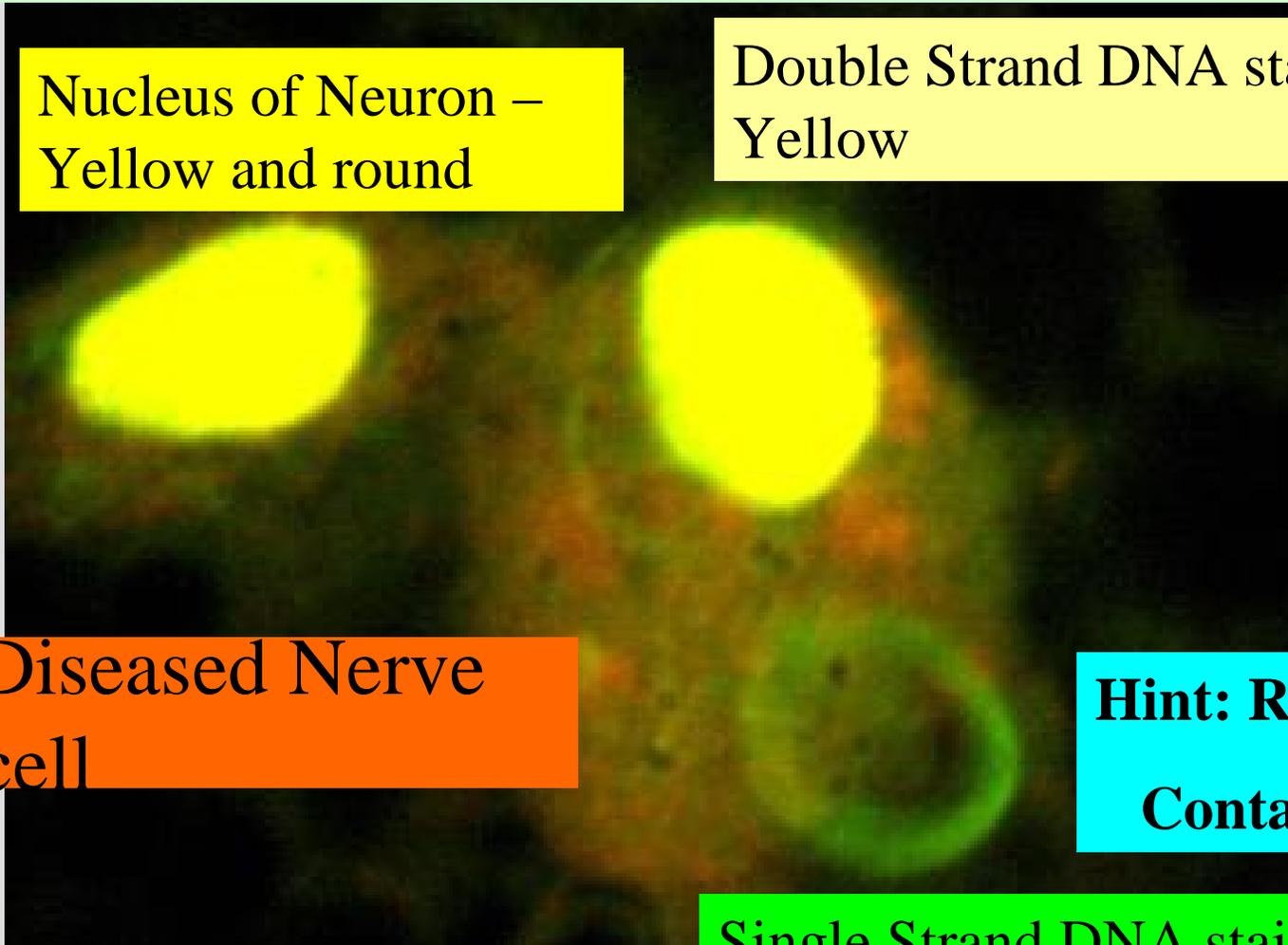
Nucleus of Neuron –
Yellow and round

Double Strand DNA stains
Yellow

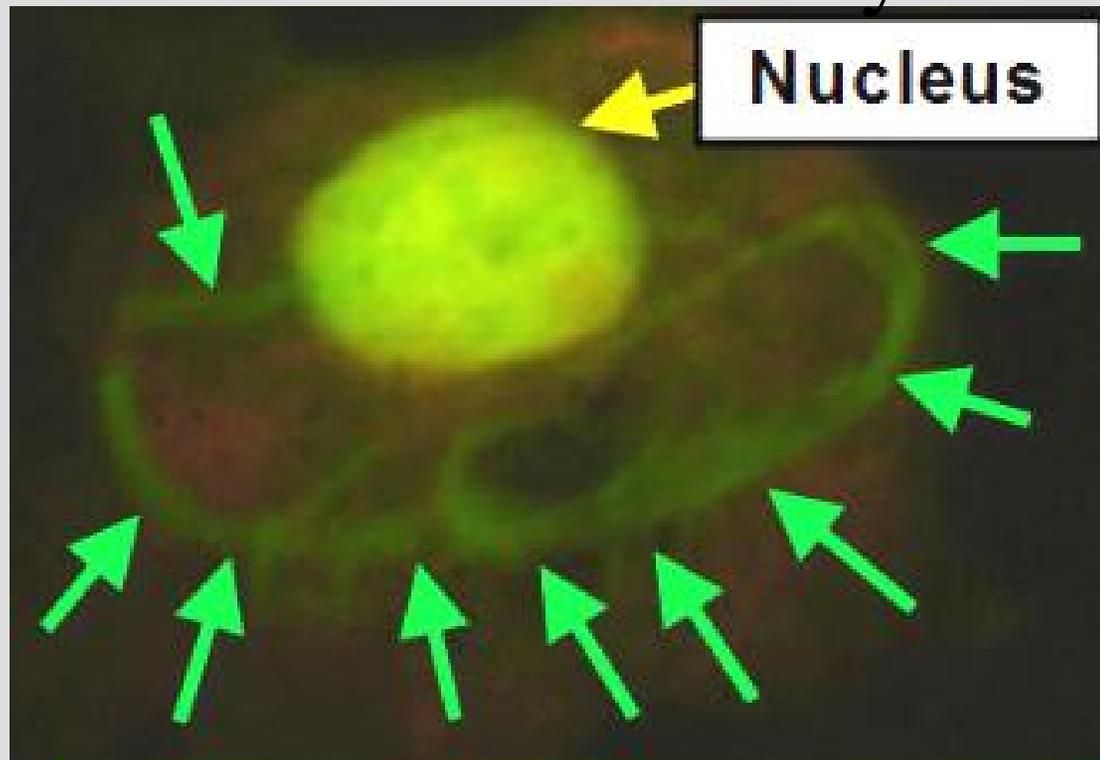
Diseased Nerve
cell

Hint: Round Thing
Containing DNA

Single Strand DNA stains Green



Single Strand DNA in Cytoplasm is Never seen in Healthy Neuron



Nucleus

Spirochetal DNA
Green strands inside cell

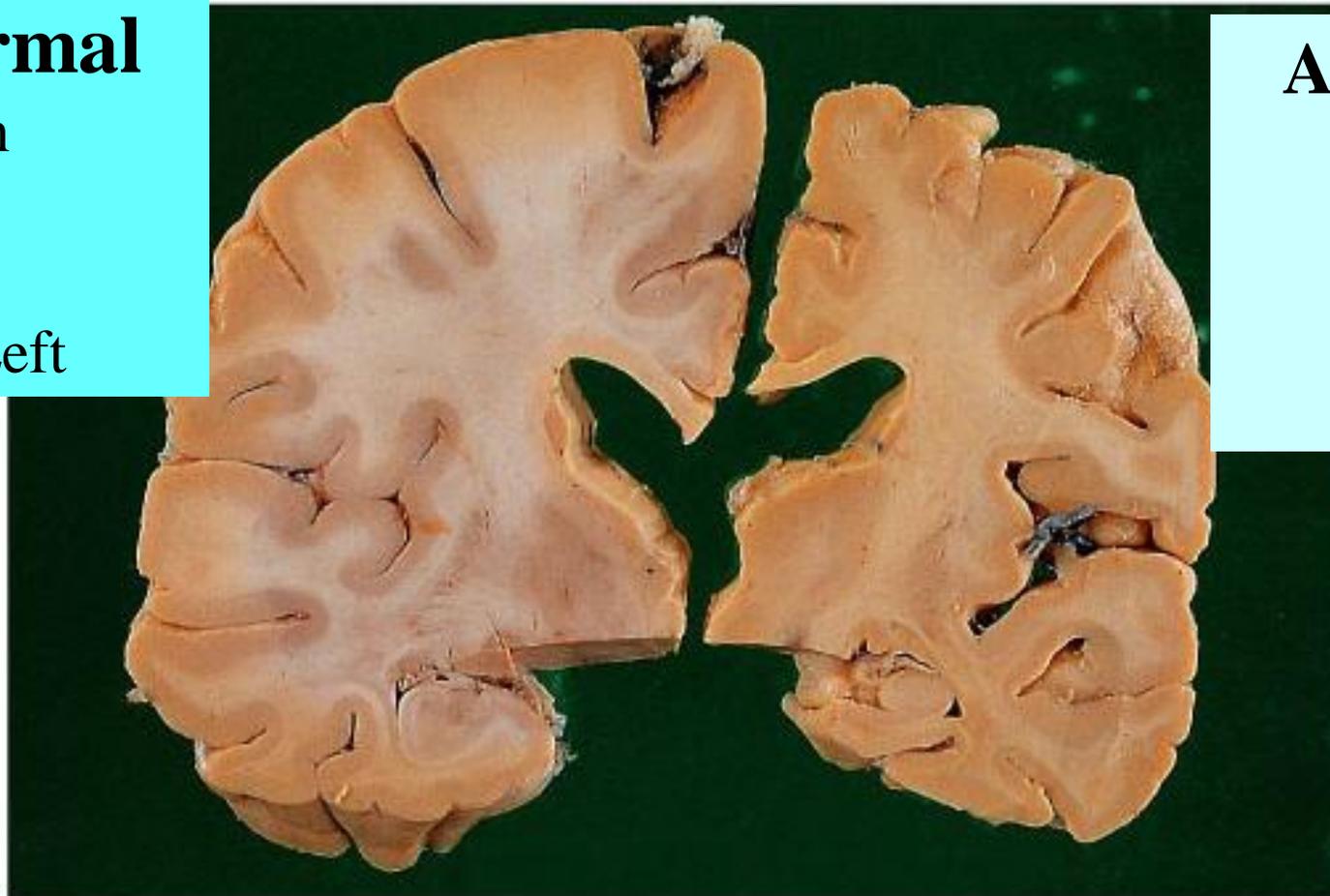
Braak Stages of Alzheimer's

Normal

Brain

Size

On Left



Alzheimer's

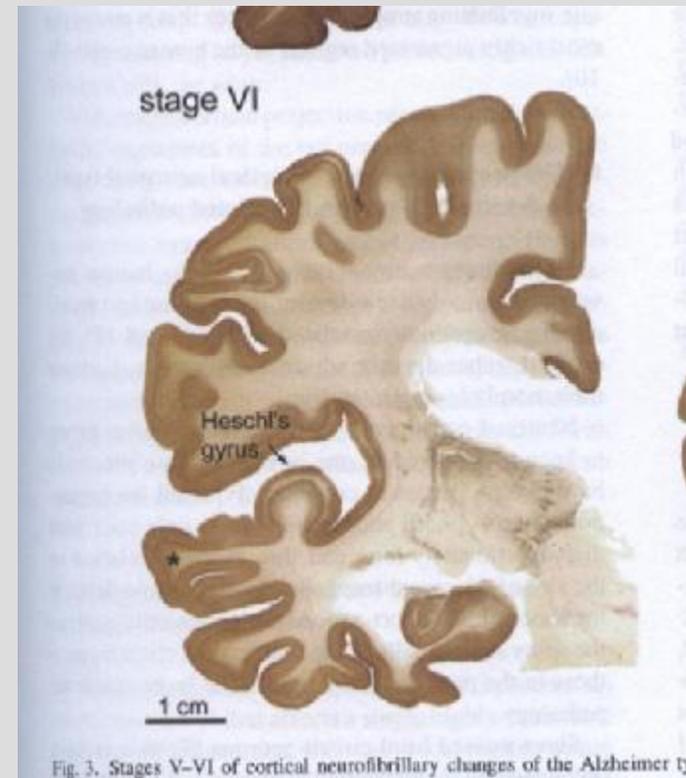
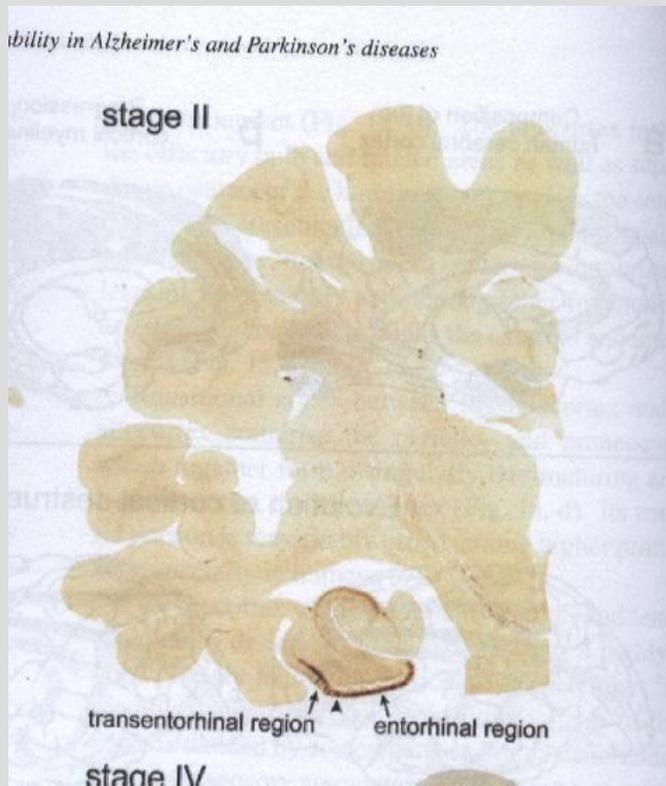
Disease

Brain size

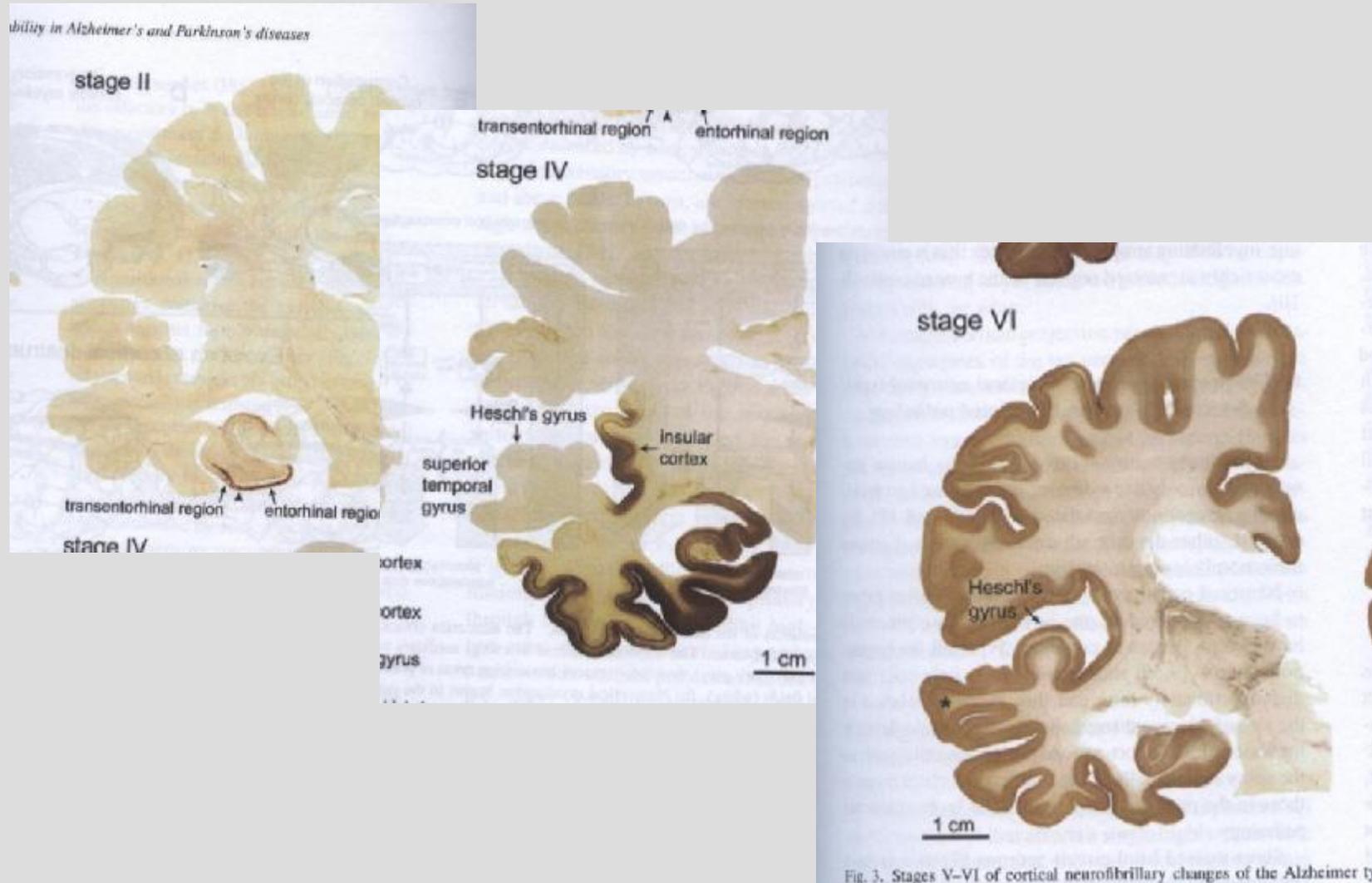
On Right

Ellison & Love: Neuropathology 2e © 2004 Elsevier Ltd.

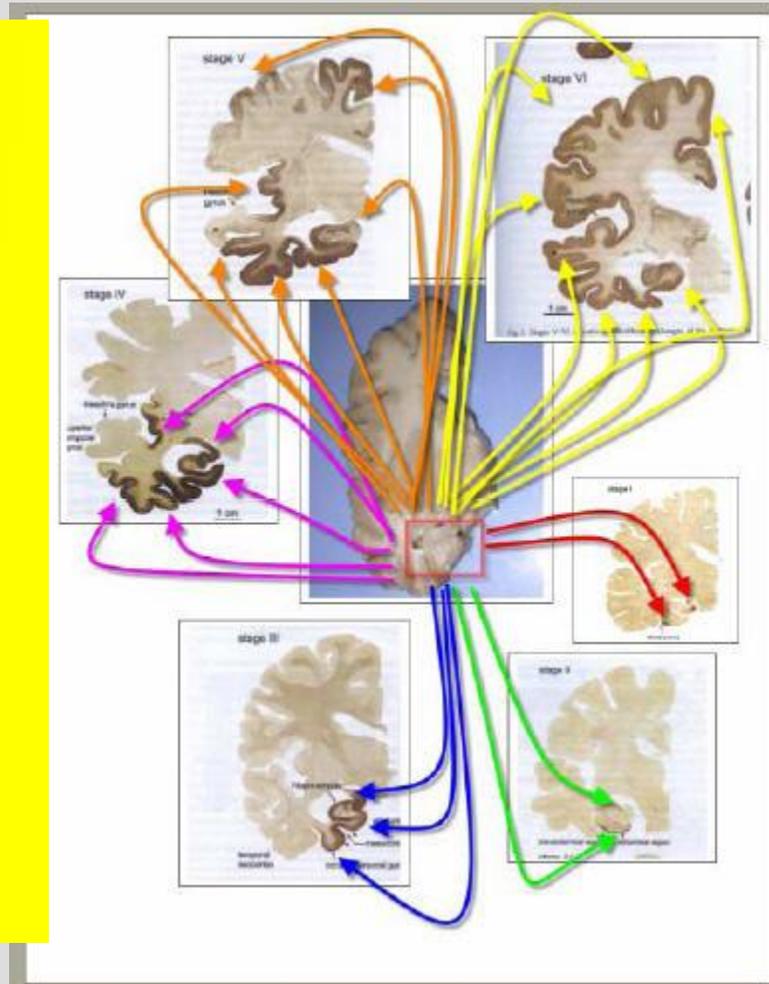
Braak Stages of Alzheimer's



Braak Stages of Alzheimer's



Braak Stages of Alzheimer's Redefined as Infection in Neural Networks



Escalator Model for Ascending Braak Stages



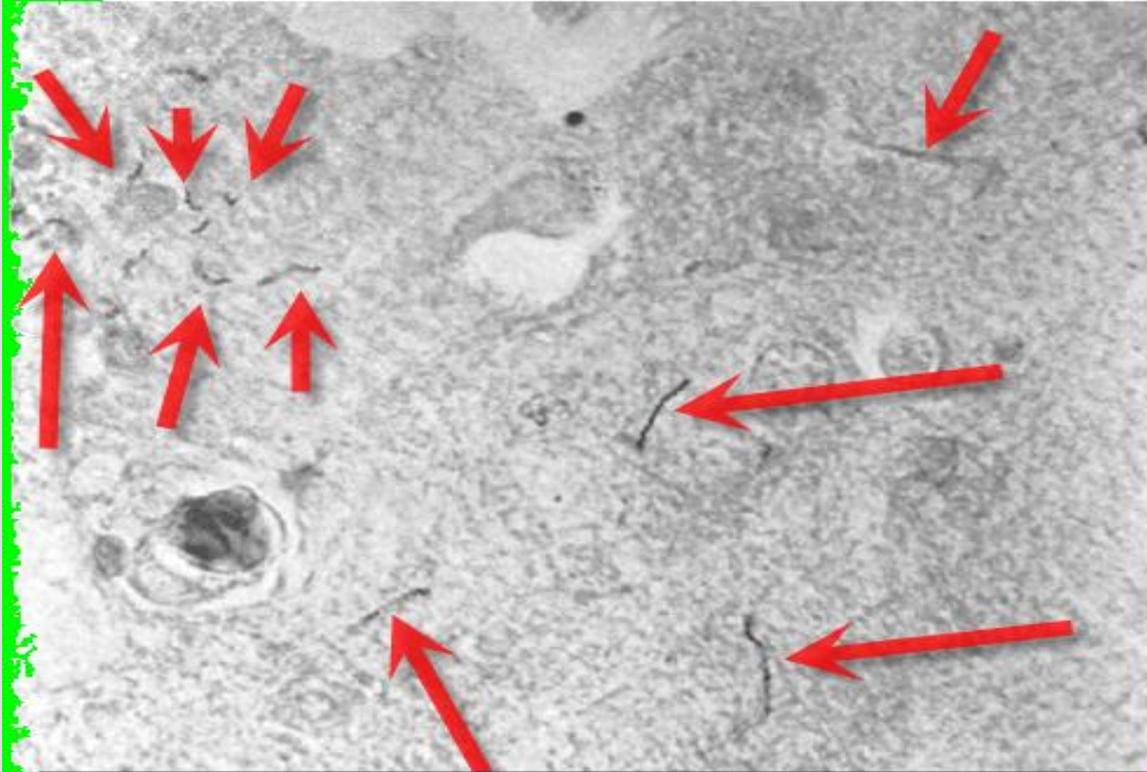
Escalator Schema
for Infection
movements through neural
Circuits



Dr Noguchi



Dr Noguchi



**Noguchi 1913
Treponema pallidum in General
Paresis autopsy brain**

Negative Reviews Borrelia/Alzheimer's

Marques et al – PCR Study using 16S target

Result***All Alzheimer's brains Negative for PCR product

Miklossy Rebuttal – PCR Alzheimer 16 S PCR – Positive Results in Alzheimer brains – Plus DNA Sequence Positive Evidence

Bergstrom Rebuttal – 16 S Nucleotides of Borrelia Differ among Strains of Borrelia Spirochetes – Wrong Strain Primers Yield Negative PCR when Borrelia are still present

Negative Reviews-Borrelia/Alzheimer's

Pappolla and Burgdorfer –

Pathology study of Alzheimer's Brain tissues for-
Corkscrew Borrelia spirochetes.

Result *No Borrelia corkscrew forms identified in Alzheimer
Brain tissues – Fragmentary Forms in Tissue Declared Artefacts**

MacDonald Rebuttal –

1. No Positive Controls—No tissues known to
show Borrelia Spirochetes in Brain tissue were
utilized by Pappolla.

2. No “truncated” forms” – in plane of Section
Allowed by Pappolla and Burgdorfer.

Negative Reviews-Borrelia/Alzheimer's

Dr Dennis Dickson's Letter of Protest
1987 Human Pathology

******* Dickson's Allegations of "False Hope" for Alzheimer's Patient's.. based on a Single Case Study published by MacDonald and Miranda**

"Concurrent Neocortical Borreliosis and Alzheimer's Disease"

MacDonald Rebuttal – The Case of

Mr Paul Christensen

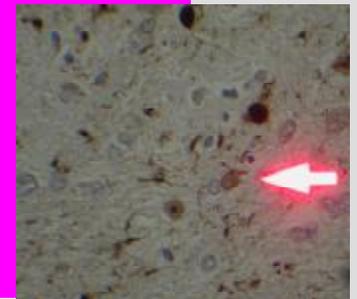
Mr Paul Christensen
Lyme disease in Spinal
Fluid 8 years before Death
from Alzheimer's disease

All Spinal Fluid testing Positive for Lyme
disease – SUNY School of Medicine Stony Brook
8 years prior to Death from Dementia

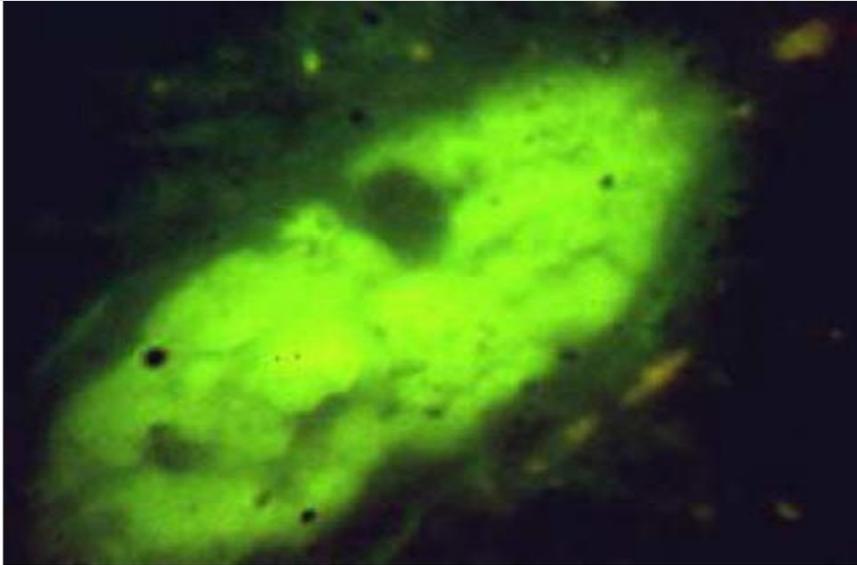
Autopsy Confirmed Alzheimer's Disease –

SUNY School of Medicine, Stony Brook, New York

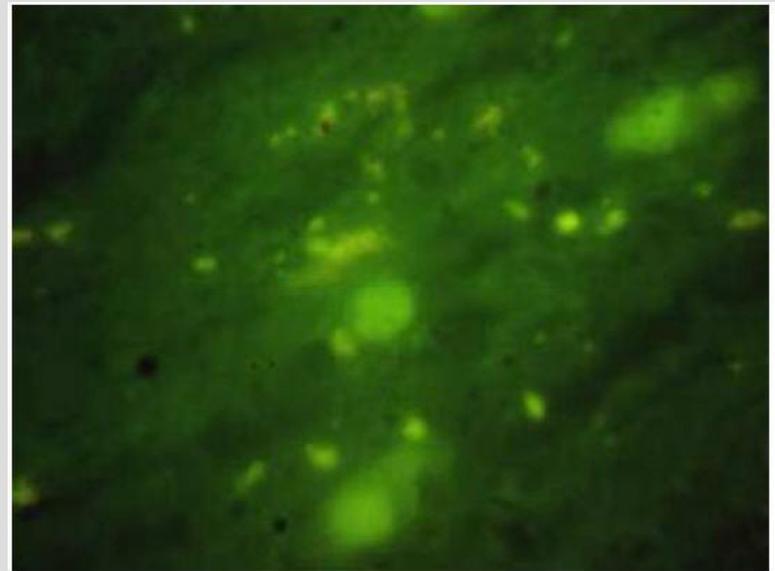
by Faculty Pathologist with Subspecialty Board
Certification in Neuropathology-



Mr Paul Christensen
Alzheimer's At Autopsy 8 years
after Spinal Fluid + for *Borrelia*
burgdorferi at Stony Brook



Borrelia burgdorferi Flagellin DNA , In situ hybridization, Large Plaque
1000x original magnification



Borrelia burgdorferi flagellin DNA in situ DNA hybridization, Alzheimer hippocampus
1000x magnification.

Mr Paul Christensen Alzheimer's at Autopsy
8 years after Spinal Fluid positive
for Borrelia burgdorferi Antibodies at SUNY Stony Brook
School of Medicine

Key points: Infection in Spinal Fluid – Lyme Positive

**Atypical Facial pain at presentation – later
onset of Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus –**

**Shunt Placement – Shunt Infection – Antibiotics –
Clinical improvement – Antibiotics discontinued –
Dementia again develops – Deterioration to Death –
Alzheimer's Disease at Autopsy**

CERAD criteria satisfied at Medical School SUNY-

**DNA Probes for Flagellin DNA – Positive hybridization
signals in Alzheimer Plaques**

Opportunities for
Improvement
in Alzheimer's
Patient Care

Contributions from
the Molecular version
of the Autopsy

Website

<http://www.molecularalzheimer.org>



Special Thanks to : Turn the Corner Foundation

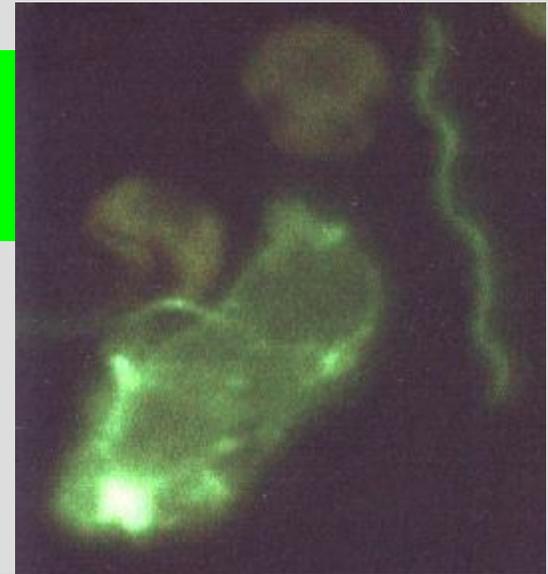
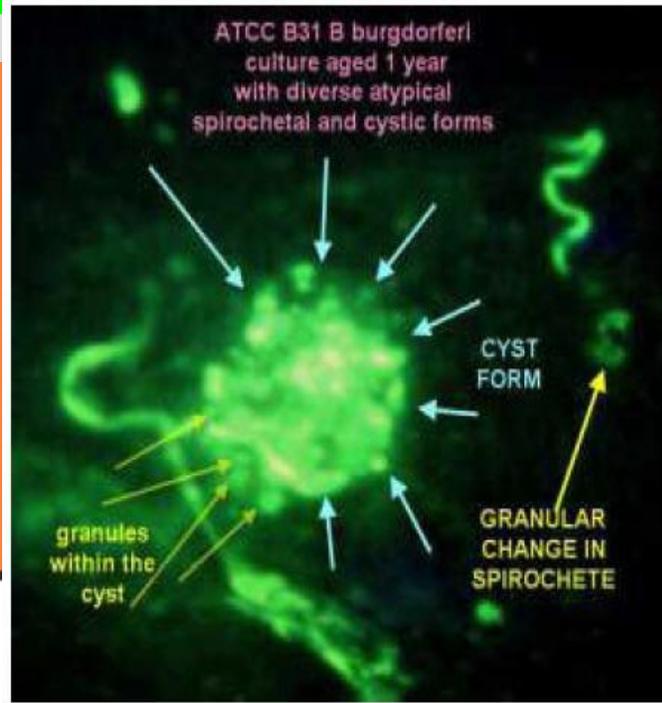
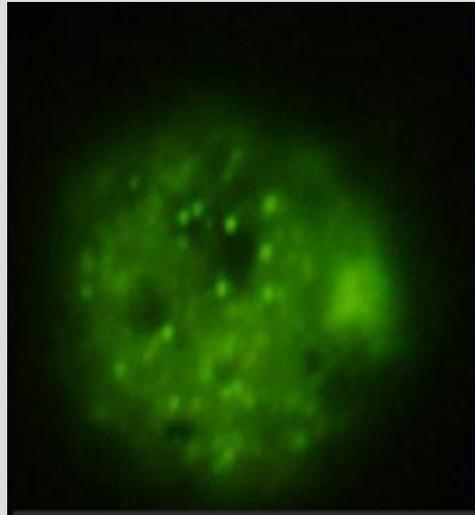
New York City, New York



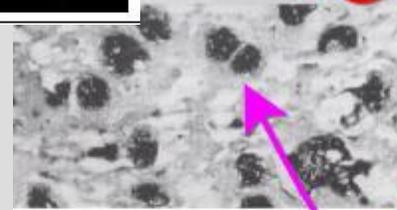
Turn the Corner Foundation
The Fight against Lyme Disease

St Catherine of Siena Medical Center,
Smithtown, New York

Walking on Thin Ice



**Cystic Borrelia
in Alzheimer
Autopsy Brain
1987**

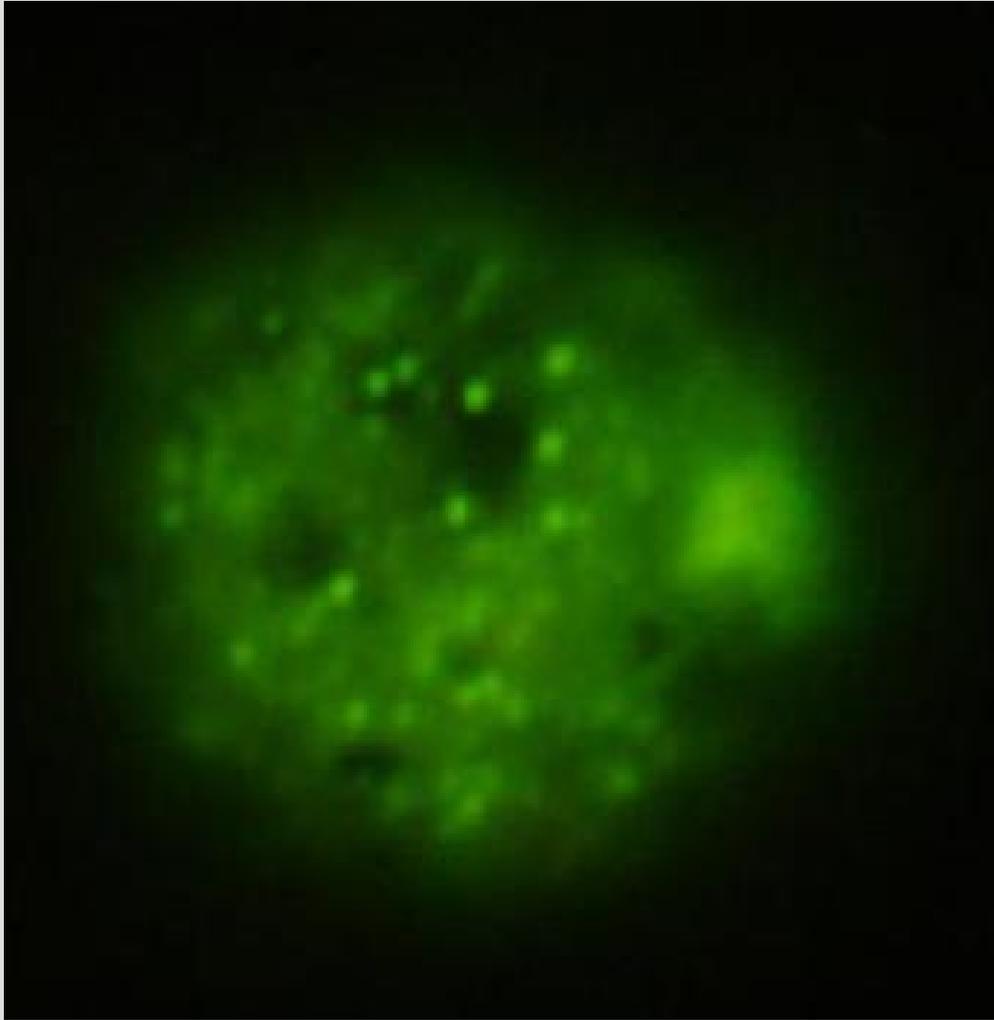


**Plaques
Alzheimer
Disease**

DLB
**Diffuse Lewy Body
Disease**
Cystic Borrelia Form

**Concurrent Neocortical Borreliosis
and Alzheimer's Disease 1988**
**Ann. New York Acad Sci, vol 539 p.
468-470**

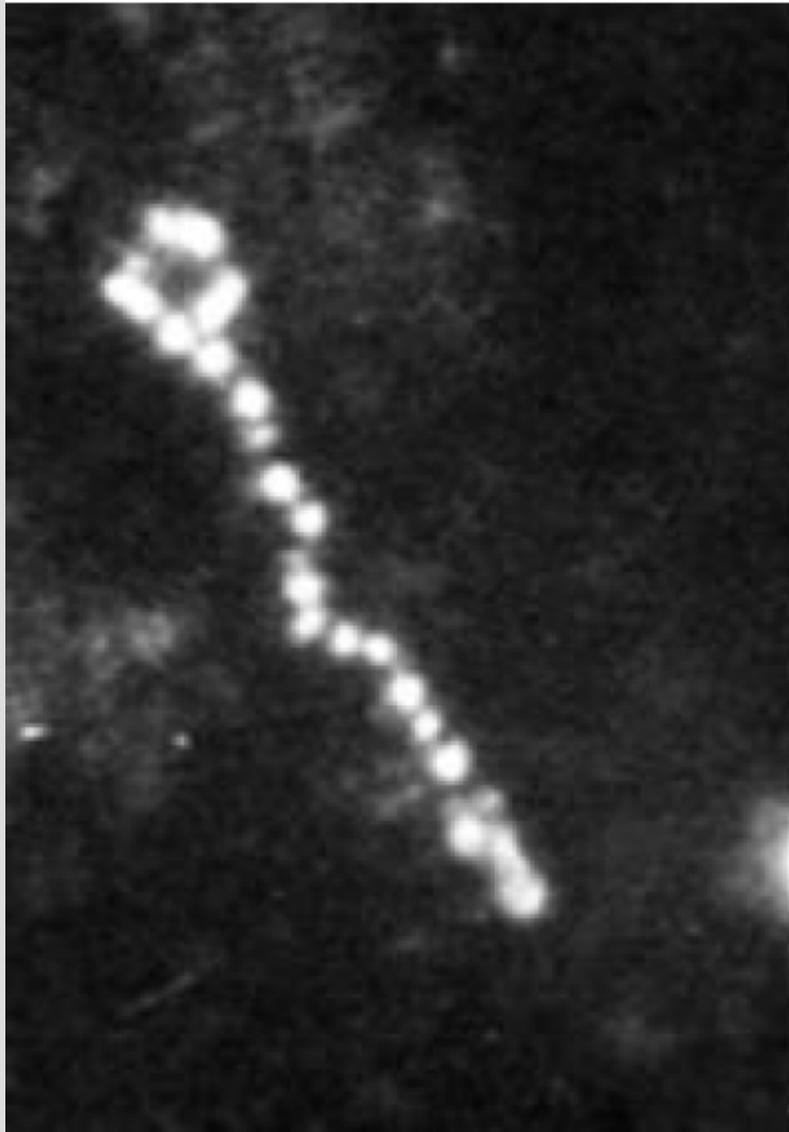
Ponder the Possibilities



Thank you

For

Your Kind
Attention

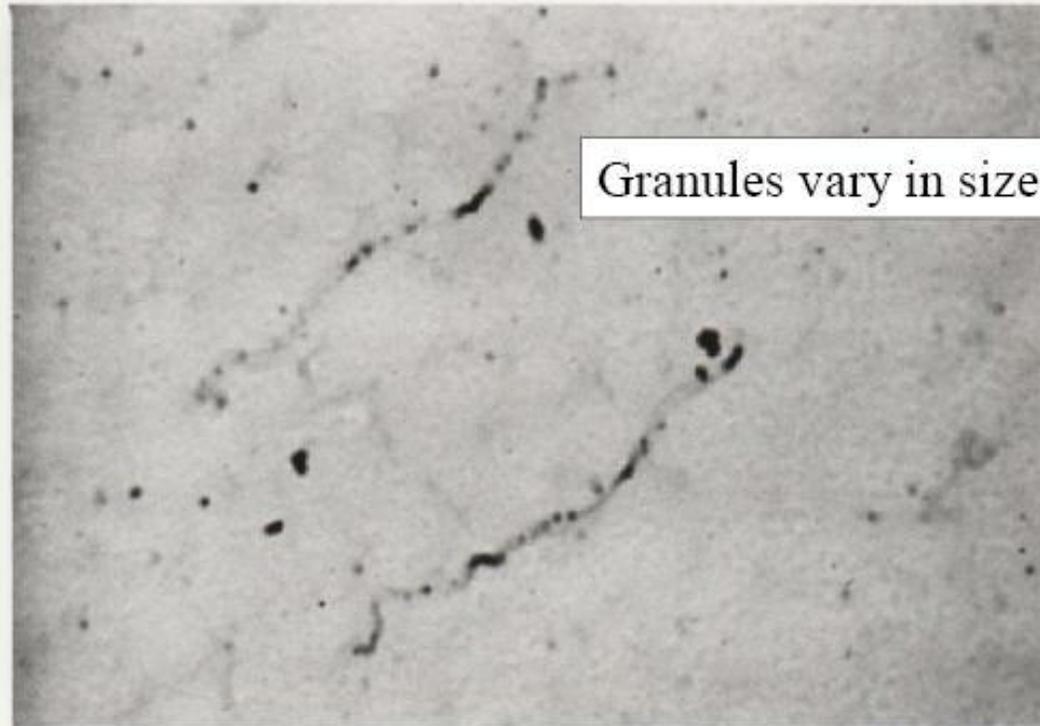


Alzheimer's with GVB and ? Spirochetal form at 9 oclock



Granules vary in size – from little to big

Borrelia burgd. In transformation to granular forms



Granules vary in size – from little to big

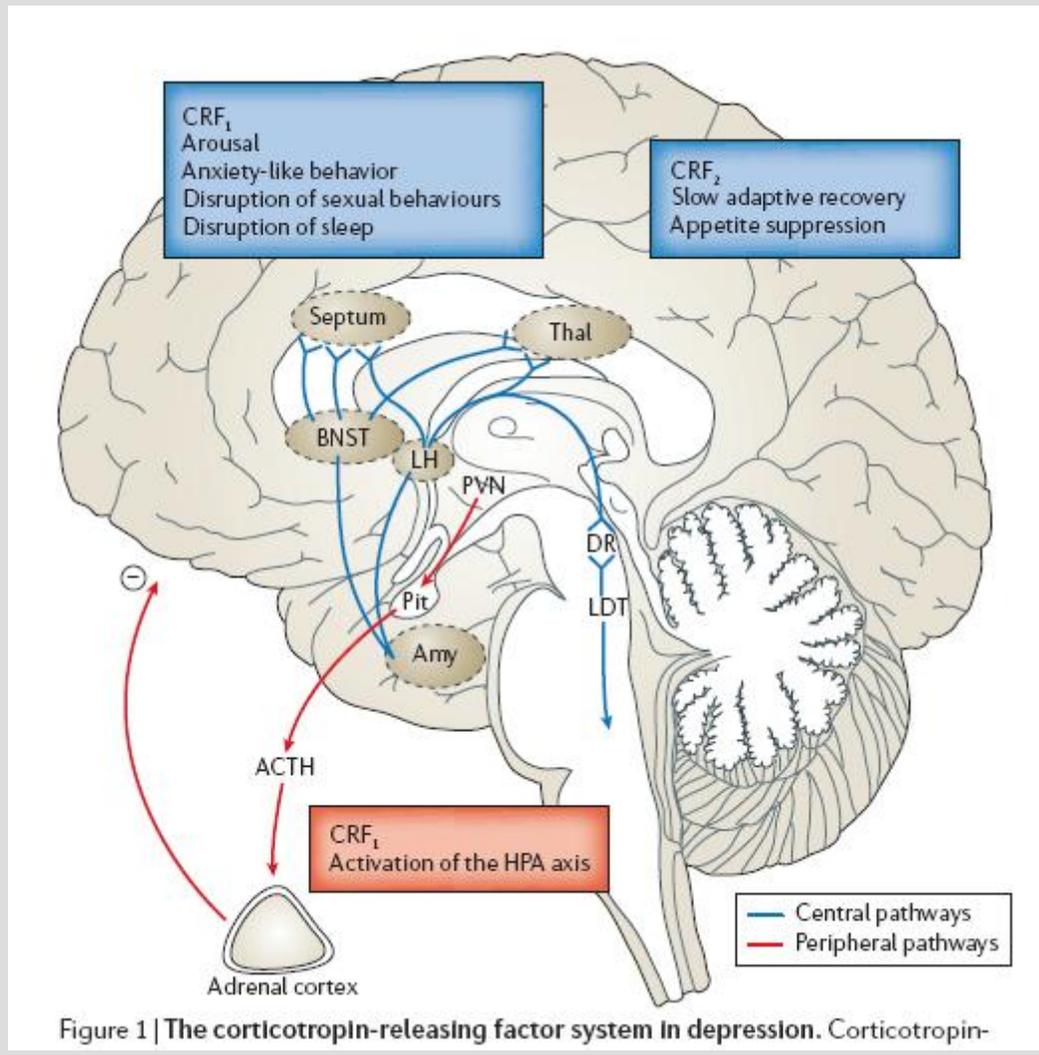
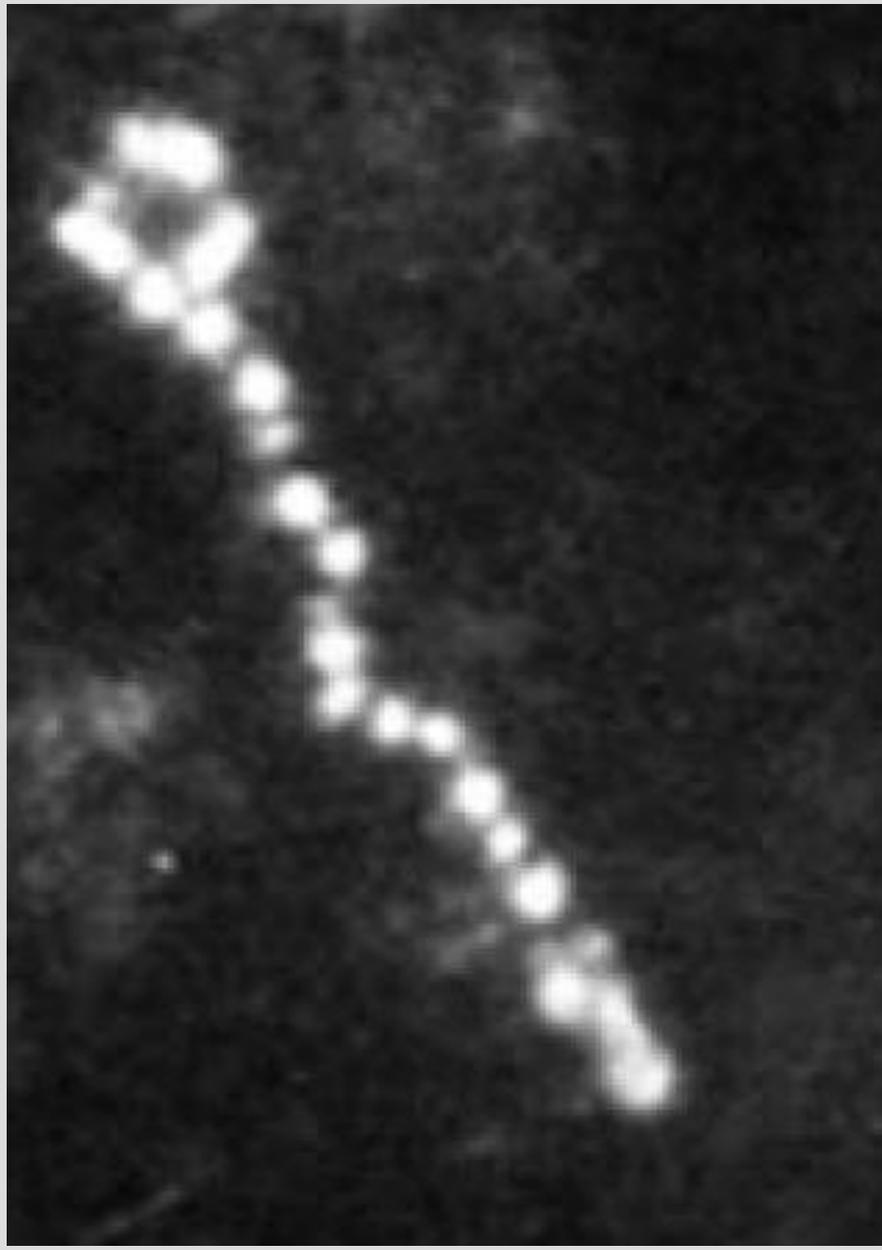


Figure 1 | The corticotropin-releasing factor system in depression. Corticotropin-



spirochete from culture of Alzheimer brain extract in culture
DNA stain
400 s original magnification

