



66° Congresso Nazionale

Palermo
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Simposio – La Fatica nella Sclerosi Multipla

Correlati clinici

Letizia Leocani

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Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele, Milano*

DISCLOSURES (alphabetical order):

Letizia Leocani:

- Advisory board/Consultancies: Abbvie, Biogen, Merck Serono, Novartis, Roche, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Janssen-Cilag
- Travel support: Almirall, Biogen, Genzyme, Merck, Novartis, Roche, Teva
- Research support: Almirall, Biogen, Merck, Novartis
- Speakers bureau: Almirall, Biogen, Excemed, Merck, Novartis, Roche, Teva, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Janssen Cilag

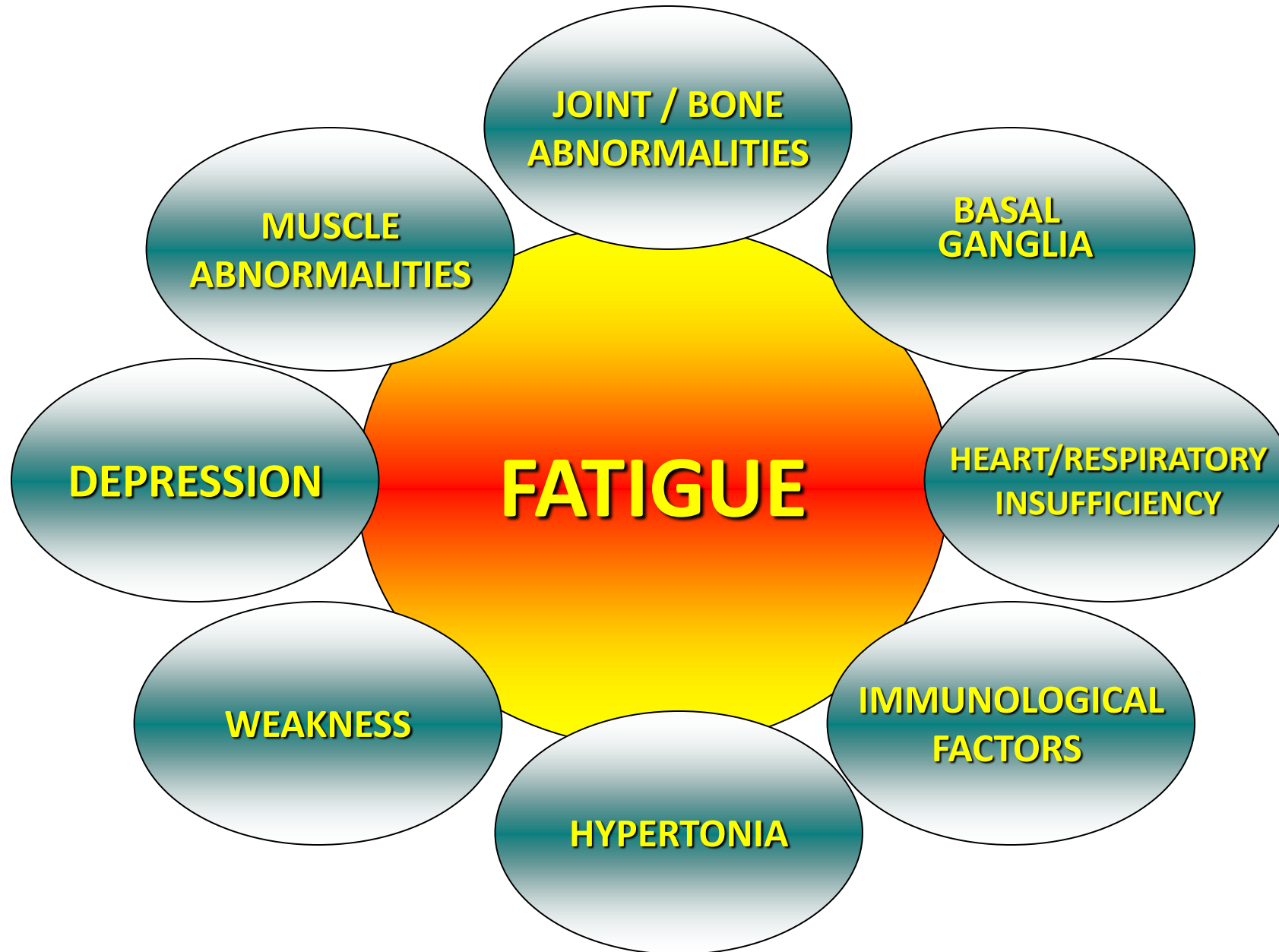
Fatigue in MS

- One of the most disabling symptoms
- Affects about 50-80% of the patients
- May be the onset symptom
- Transient or chronic
- May occur at any stage of the disease

Fatigue in MS

- Fatigue: overwhelming sense of tiredness, lack of energy, or feeling of exhaustion, already present at rest
- Fatigability: generalised sensation of exhaustion, not present at rest, affecting the patient after a few minutes of physical activity, that disappears after a short rest
- Fatigue and fatigability are not correlated although they can occur in the same individual

Pathophysiology of MS fatigue



The Fatigue Severity Scale

The Fatigue Severity Scale

Application to Patients With Multiple Sclerosis
and Systemic Lupus Erythematosus

Lauren B. Krupp, MD; Nicholas G. LaRocca, PhD; Joanne Muir-Nash, RN; Alfred D. Steinberg, MD

Table 2 The FSS: each patient is asked to respond to the following nine statements by choosing a number between one and seven, where one indicates strongly disagree and seven indicates strongly agree

Statement	Score
1. My motivation is lower when I am fatigued	_____
2. Exercise brings on my fatigue	_____
3. I am easily fatigued	_____
4. Fatigue interferes with my physical functioning	_____
5. Fatigue causes frequent problems for me	_____
6. My fatigue prevents sustained physical functioning	_____
7. Fatigue interferes with carrying out certain duties and responsibilities	_____
8. Fatigue is among my three most disabling symptoms	_____
9. Fatigue interferes with my work, family, or social life	_____
Total Score	_____

Are questionnaires adequate for quantification of fatigue severity?

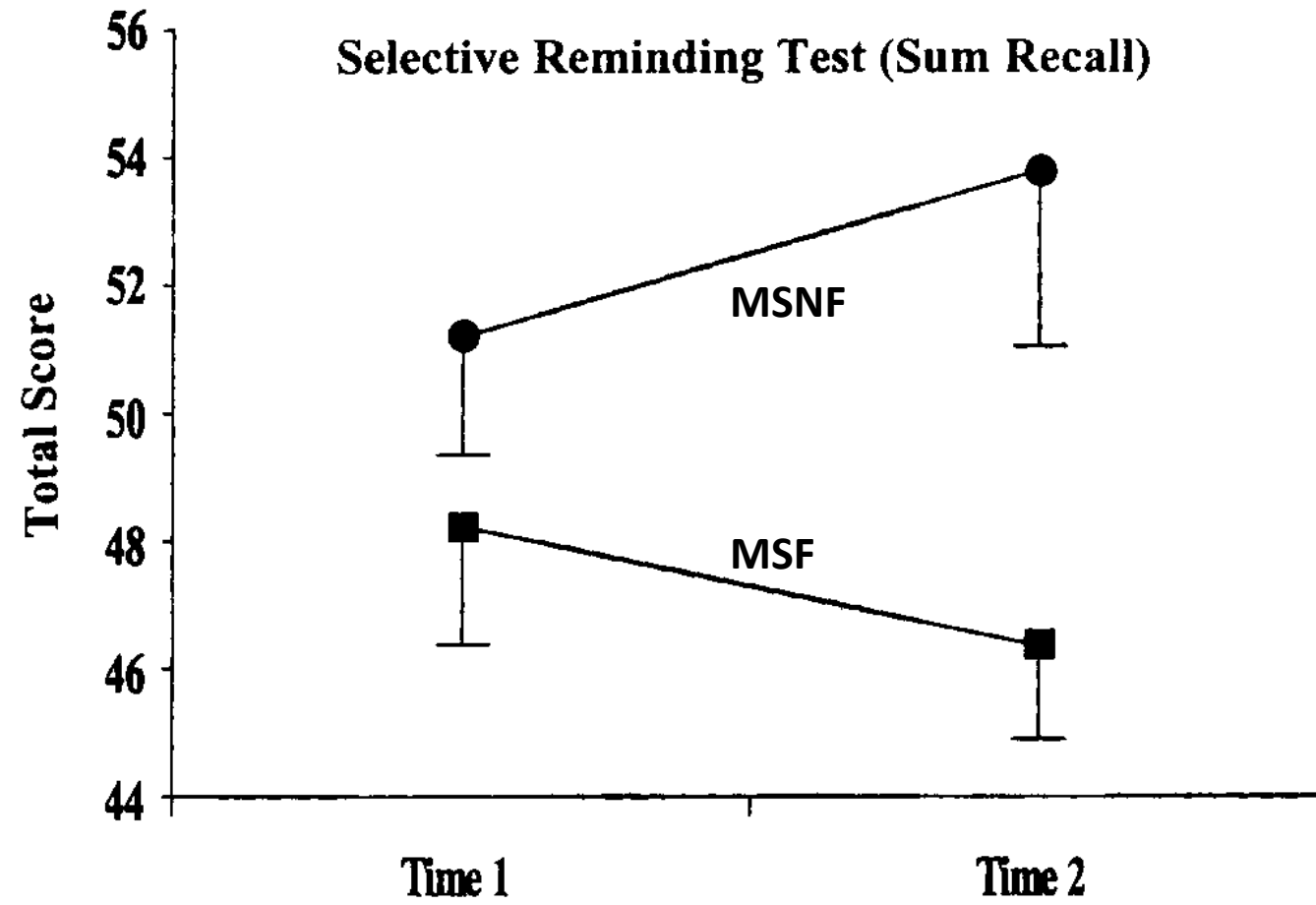
- They can be confounded by other symptoms of MS
- They are entirely subjective
- They require patients to make difficult retrospective assessments

Fatigue & disability correlations

Kroencke et al. 2000

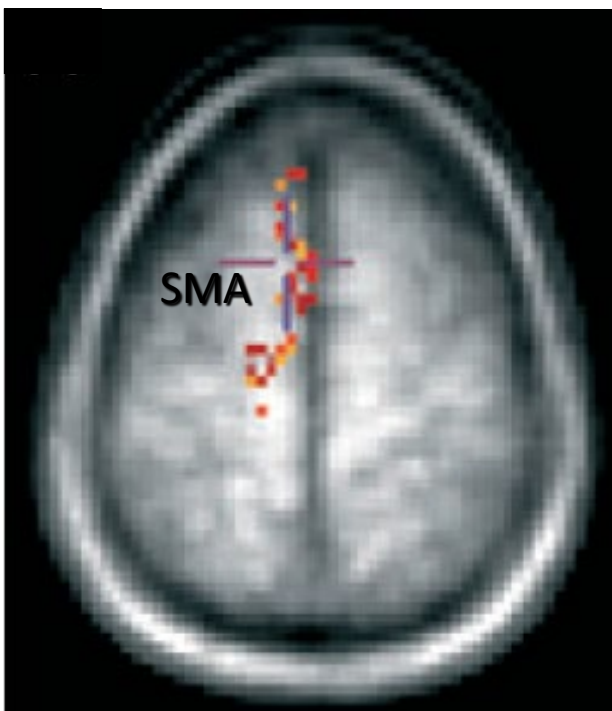
<u>Pyramidal</u>	0.33	<0.001
Cerebellar	0.29	<0.001
Brain stem	0.24	<0.001
Sensory	0.29	<0.001
Bowel and bladder	0.30	<0.001
Visual	0.12	NS
Cerebral	0.23	0.001
Other	0.01	NS
EDSS	0.33	<0.001

Verbal learning before-after effortful cognitive task

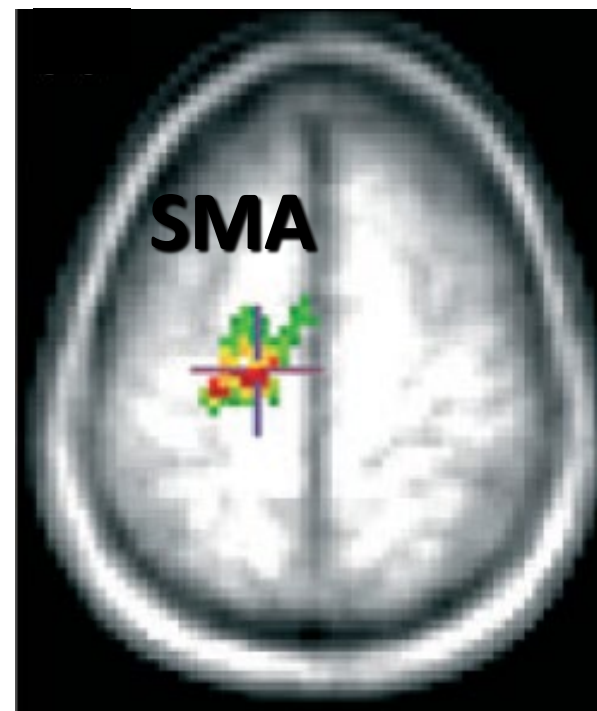


SMA overactivation to MOVEMENT after COGNITIVE fatigue in pwMS (FSS > 5)

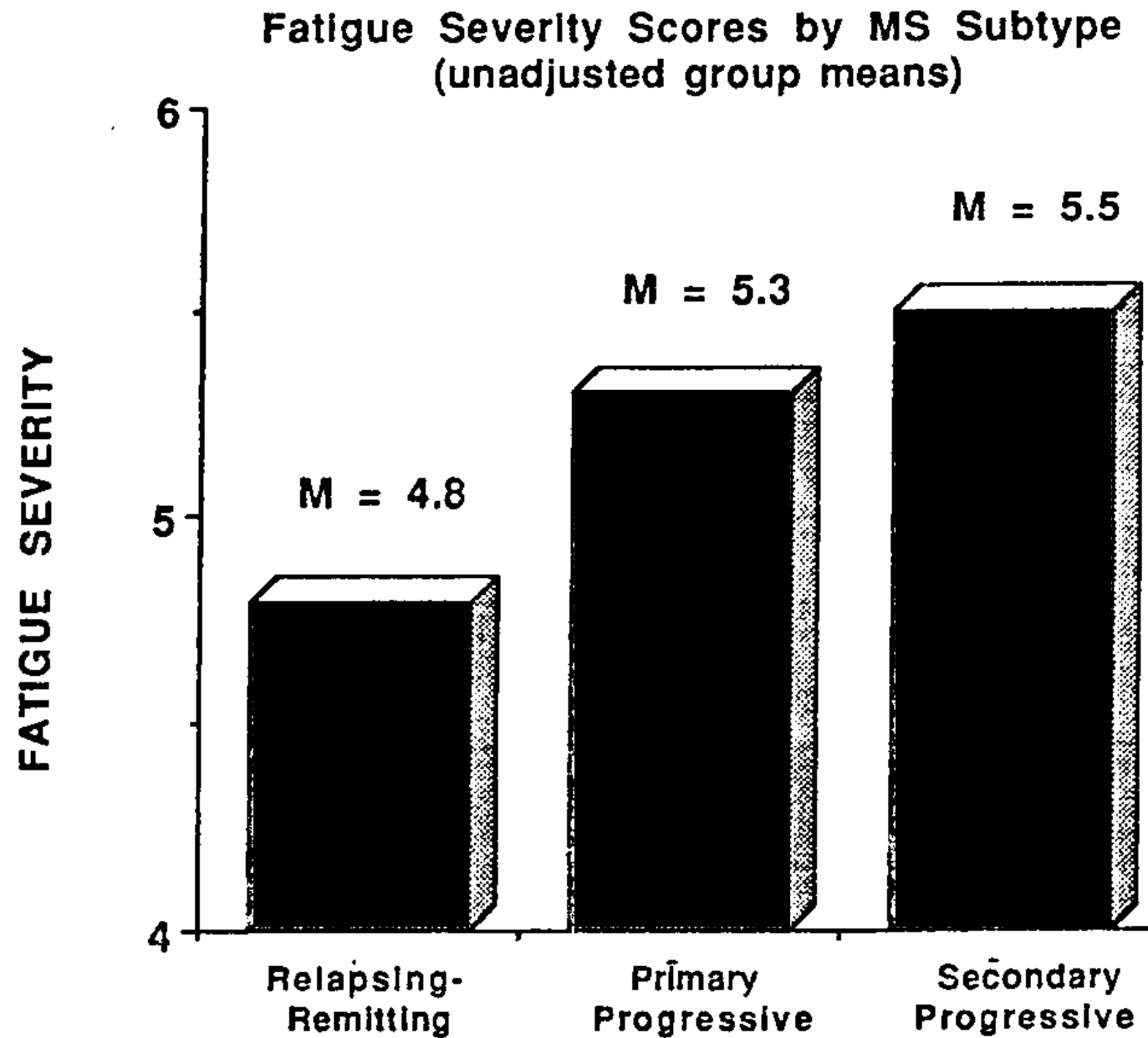
Pz vs controls
pre-PASAT



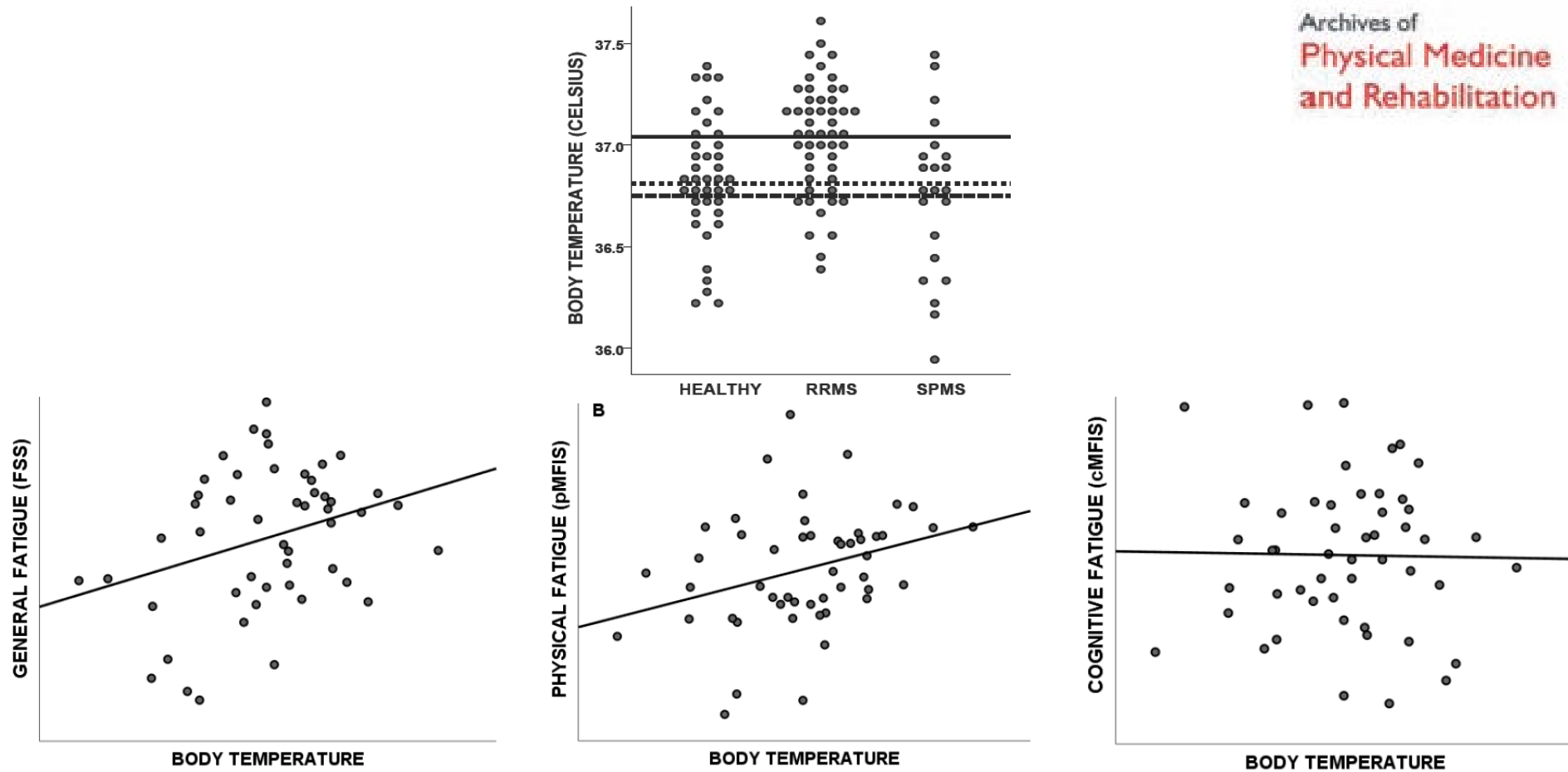
Pz vs controls
post-PASAT



Tartaglia et al 2008

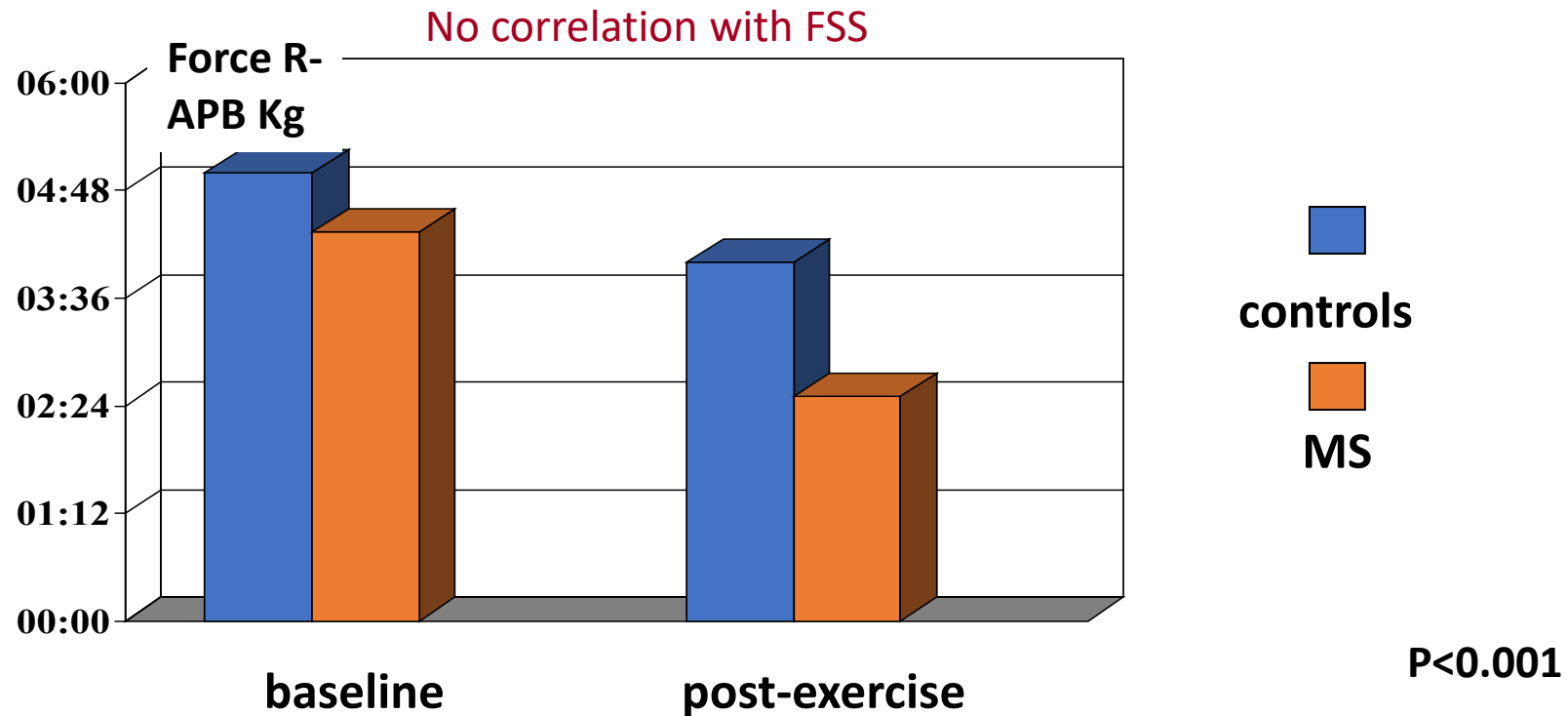


Body temperature is elevated and linked to fatigue in relapsing-remitting multiple sclerosis, even without heat exposure



Force pre- and post-fatiguing exercise in pwMS

pwMS & subjective fatigue - no severe UL weakness *Sheean et al. 1997*



Fatigue as a movement disorder?

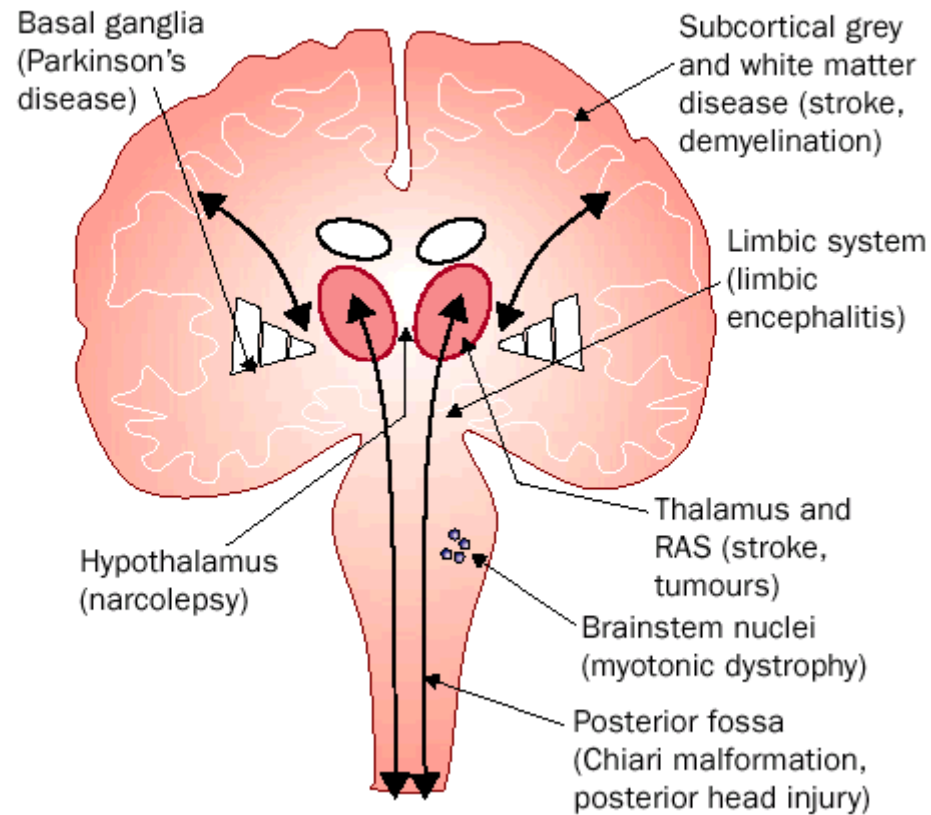
Increase of complex reaction times not related to slowing of conduction along the primary afferent or efferent pathways *(Sandroni et al., 1992)*



Role of the circuits related to motor planning:
basal ganglia-thalamus-cortex

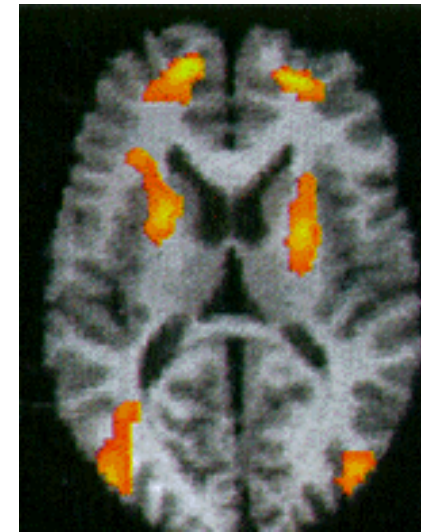
These circuits may be studied by means of functional techniques: EEG and fMRI

Basal ganglia participate in several functions -motor, cognitive, limbic- due to parallel circuitries



Chaudry and Behan 2004

MS-FAT vs No-FAT (FSS)
↓rCBF lat/medial PF, PM, SMA, putamen, caudate



Roelcke et al. 1997

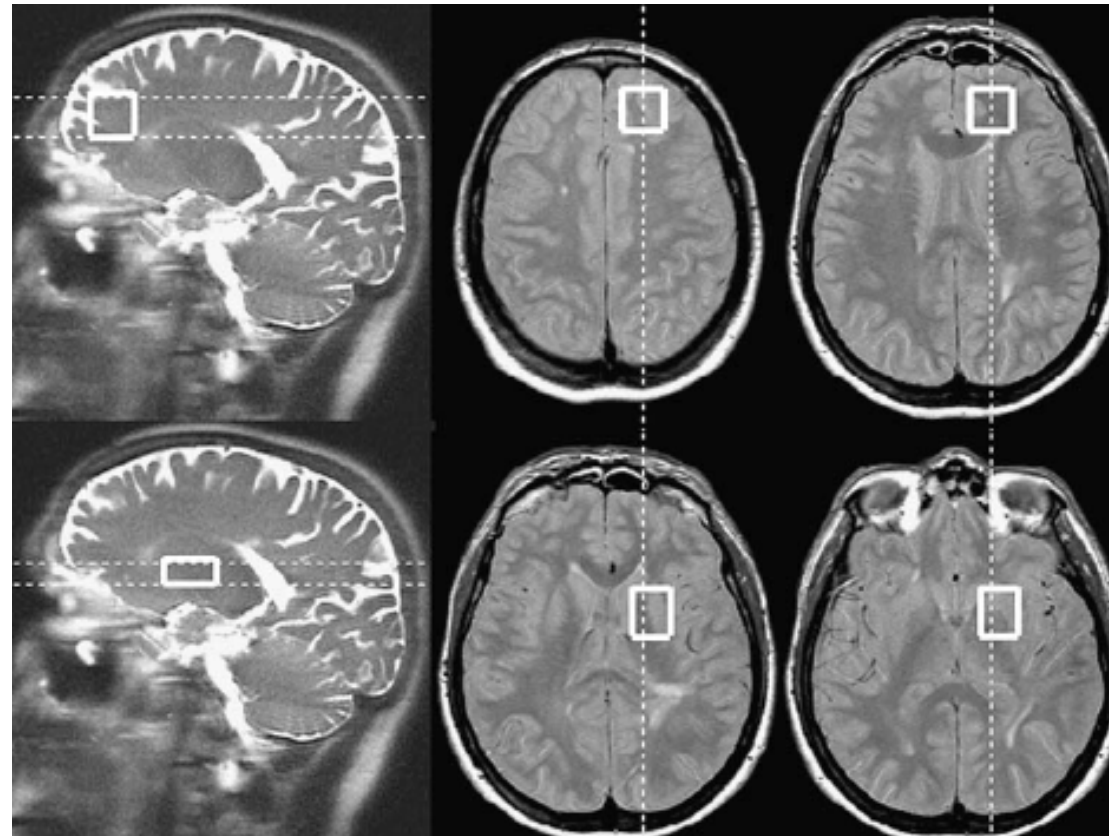
The basal ganglia: a substrate for fatigue in multiple sclerosis

N. Téllez • J. Alonso • J. Río • M. Tintoré • C. Nos •
X. Montalban • A. Rovira

MS Fatigue (≥ 5) vs non fatigue (<4)

Frontal wm
n.s.

Lentiform
nucleus
 $p=0.04$



significant NAA/Cr
decrease in the
lentiform nucleus

No differences in the
frontal white matter

**Posterior cingulate
and left parietal wm:
n.s. (Pokryszko-
Dragan et al. J Neurol
Sci 2014)**

But also higher Beck Depression score in Fat vs NFat

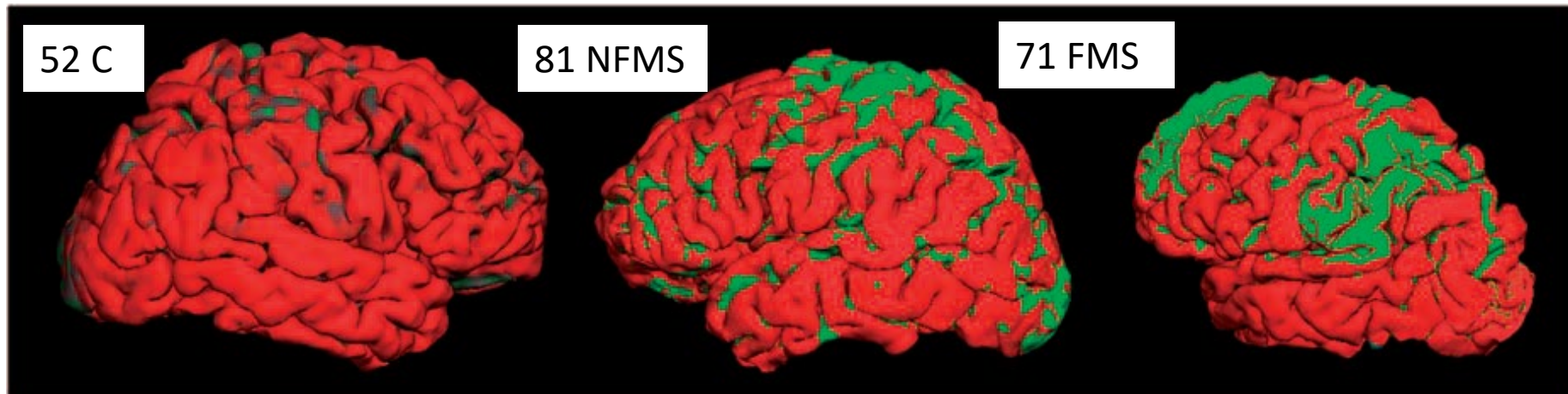
Fatigue in MS & tissue damage

Journal of the Neurological Sciences 263 (2007) 15–19

Correlation between fatigue and brain atrophy and lesion load in multiple sclerosis patients independent of disability

Gioacchino Tedeschi ^{a,b,*}, Daria Dinacci ^a, Luigi Lavorgna ^a, Anna Prinster ^c,

Basal ganglia and frontal/parietal cortical atrophy



Severe depression (BDI > 18) excluded –max 21

Calabrese et al Mult Sclerosis 2010

Fatigue in Multiple Sclerosis Is Associated with Abnormal Cortical Activation to Voluntary Movement—EEG Evidence

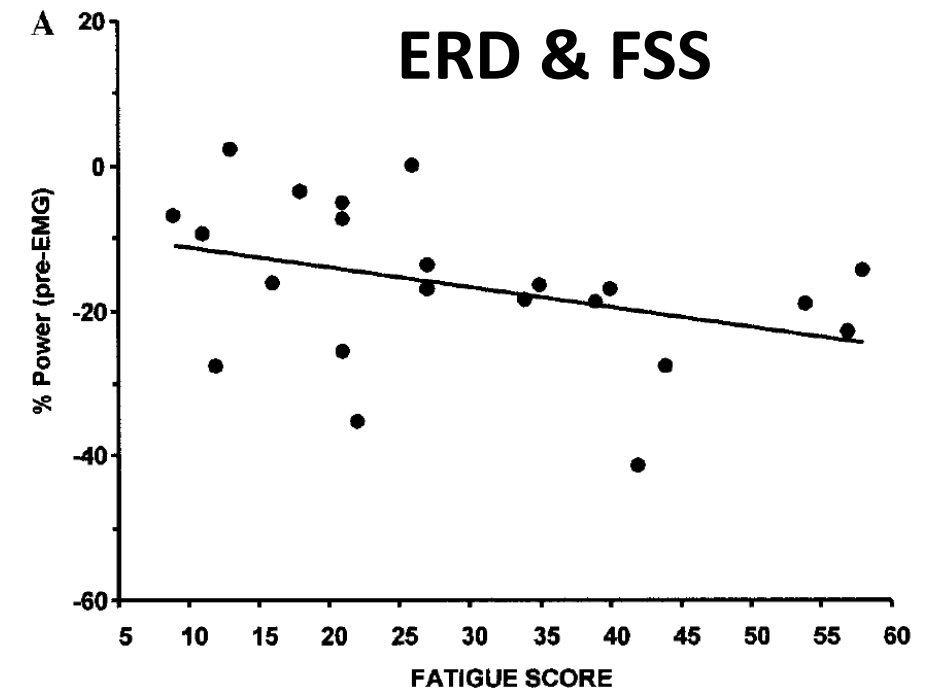
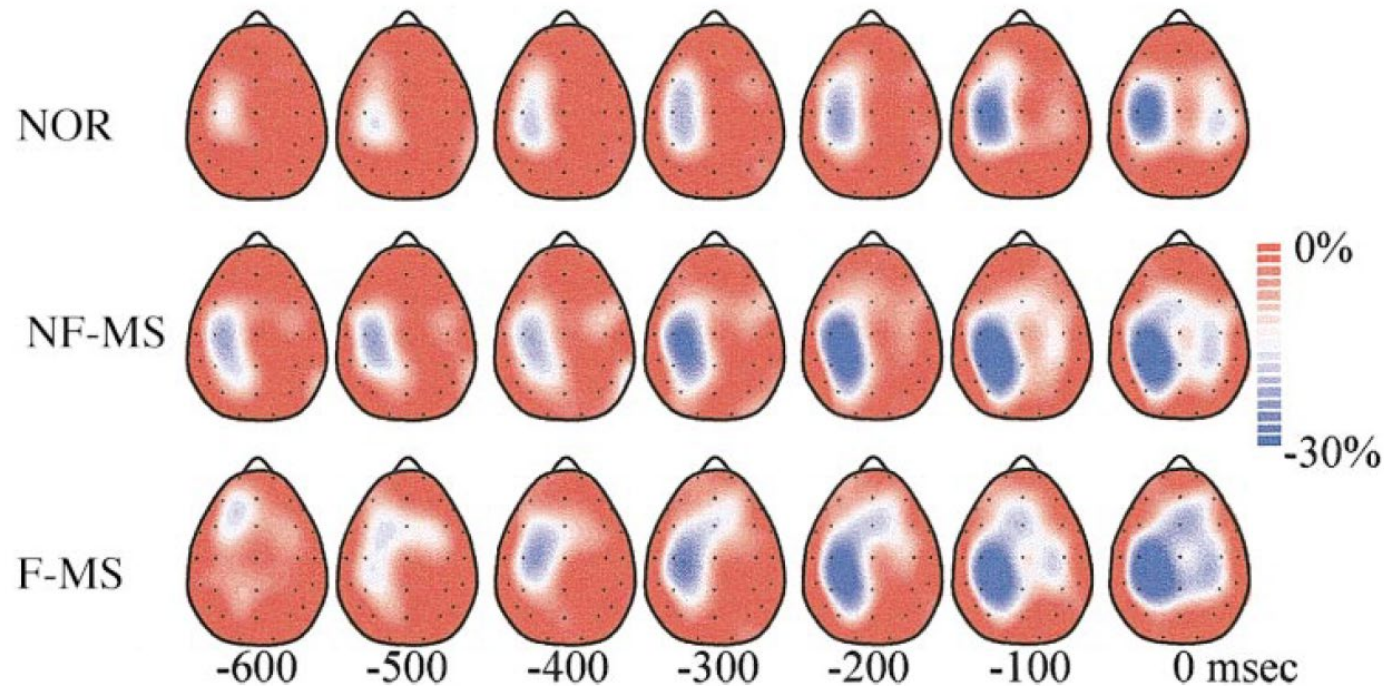
Letizia Leocani,^{*} Bruno Colombo,[†] Giuseppe Magnani,[†] Filippo Martinelli-Boneschi,[†] Marco Cursi,^{*} Paolo Rossi,[†] Vittorio Martinelli,[†] and Giancarlo Comi^{*,†}

^{*}Department of Neurophysiology and [†]Department of Neurology, Scientific Institute H. San Raffaele, Milan, Italy

Received September 6, 2000

Increased cortical Event-Related Desynchronization (ERD) of EEG rhythms in pwMS & fatigue

LEOCANI ET AL.



Fatigue treatment in MS: a complex scenario

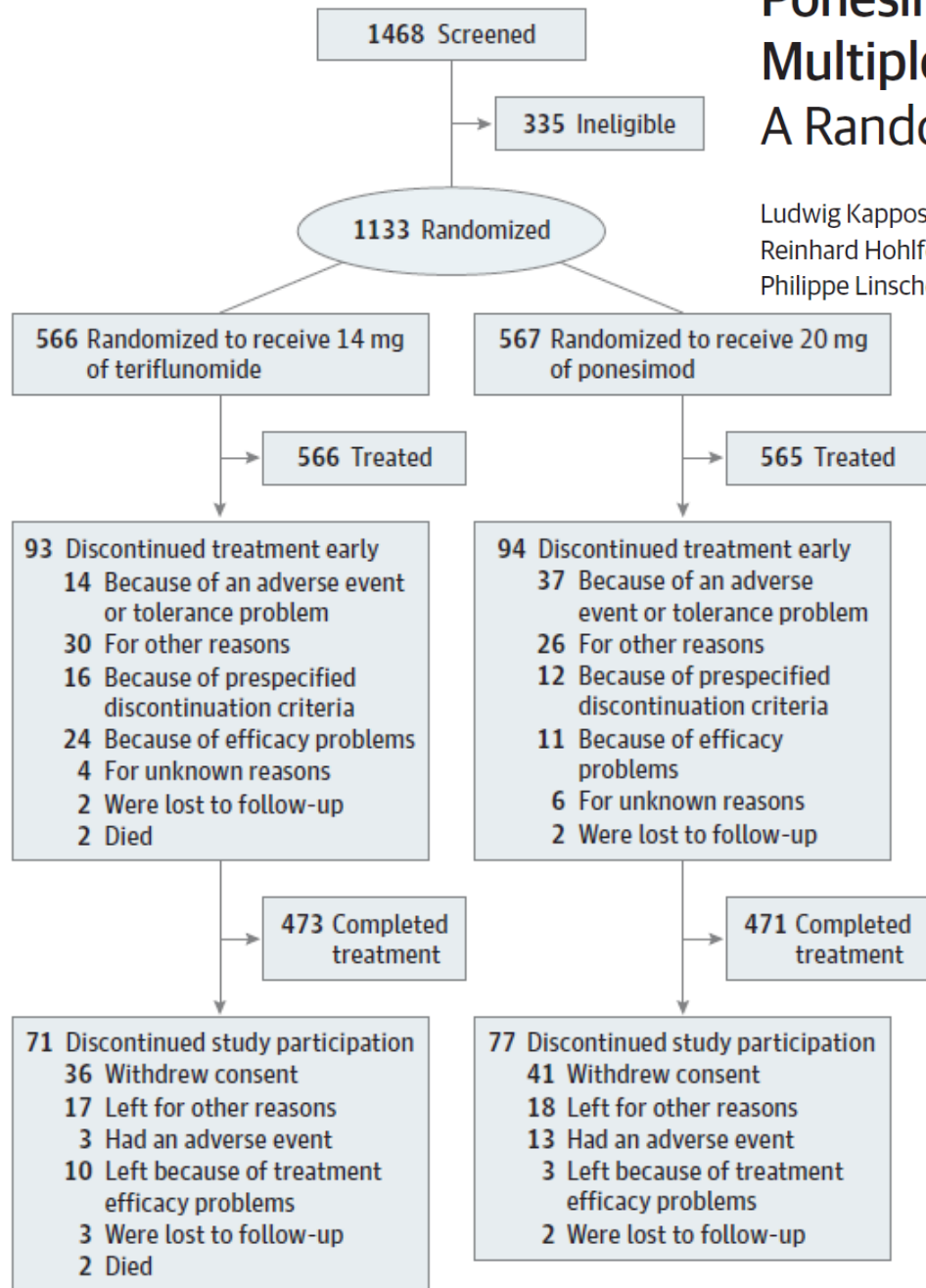
- Symptomatic Drugs
 - Modafinil, Amantadine, Aminopyridines, Methylphenidate
- Disease-modifying Drugs
 - Ponesimod (RCT)
- Cognitive behavioural therapy
- Physical activity
- Non-invasive brain stimulation

Fatigue treatment in MS: a complex scenario

- Symptomatic Drugs
 - Modafinil, Amantadine, Aminopyridines, Methylphenidate
- **Disease-modifying Drugs**
 - Ponesimod (RCT)
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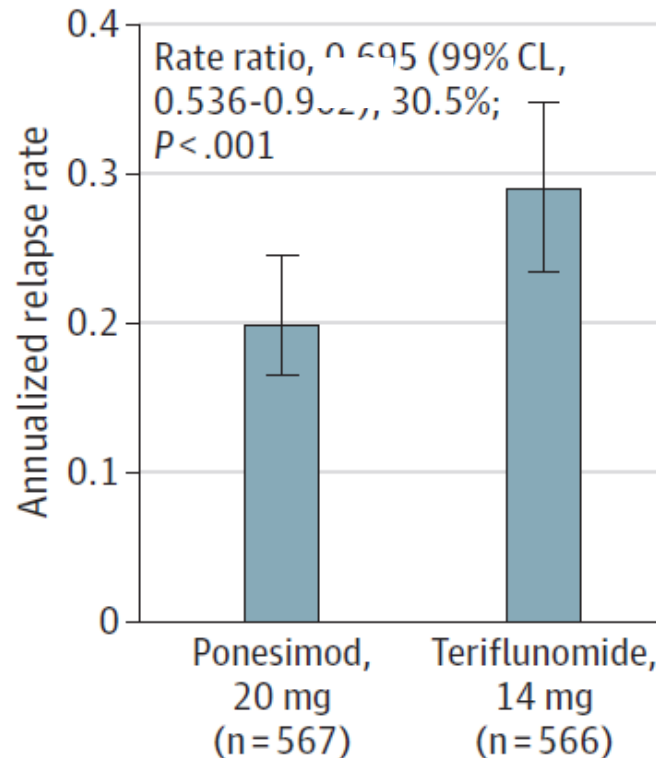
Ponesimod Compared With Teriflunomide in Patients With Relapsing Multiple Sclerosis in the Active-Comparator Phase 3 OPTIMUM Study A Randomized Clinical Trial

Ludwig Kappos, MD; Robert J. Fox, MD; Michel Burcklen, PhD; Mark S. Freedman, MSc, MD; Eva K. Havrdová, MD, PhD; Brian Hennessy, MSc; Reinhard Hohlfeld, MD; Fred Lublin, MD; Xavier Montalban, MD, PhD; Carlo Pozzilli, MD, PhD; Tatiana Scherz, MD, PhD; Daniele D'Ambrosio, MD, PhD; Philippe Linscheid, PhD; Andrea Vaclavkova, MD; Magdalena Pirozek-Lawniczek, MD; Hilke Kracker, PhD; Till Sprenger, MD

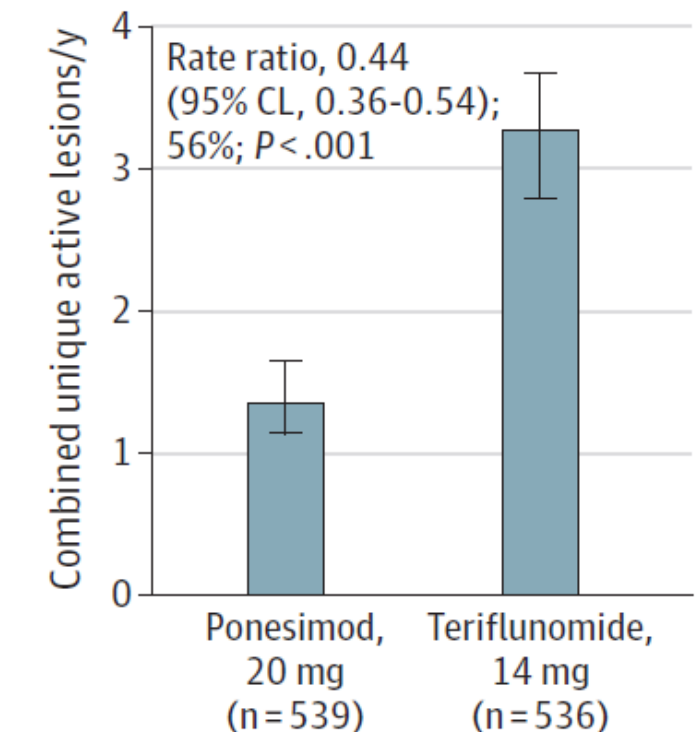


1133 patients randomized in a 1:1 ratio to ponesimod 20 mg or teriflunomide 14 mg

A Confirmed annualized relapse rate



C Combined unique active lesions/y



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Agenzia Italiana del
Farmaco

PONESIMOD
AUTHORIZED BY AIFA ON
2.09.2021

Italian translation and validation of fatigue symptoms and impacts questionnaire in relapsing multiple sclerosis (FSIQ-RMS)

Ilaria Ruotolo¹  · Giovanni Sellitto¹ · Antonio Ianniello² · Nikolaos Petsas³ · Letizia Castelli⁴ · Giovanni Galeoto²
Anna Berardi² · Valeria Barletta² · Antonella Conte^{2,3} · Carlo Pozzilli^{1,2}

20-item FSIQ-RMS which assesses fatigue severity through mean daily ratings over 7 days and the corresponding impacts of fatigue on three subdomains:

Physical
cognitive/emotional
Coping

FSIQ-RMS domain scores range from 0-100 (higher score indicates greater severity)

Fatigue-related Impacts

Physical Impacts

- Indoor household chores
- Rearranging plans
- Running errands
- Social activities
- Walking

Cognitive and Emotional Impacts

- Communicating clearly
- Forgetful
- Thinking clearly

Coping Impacts

- Motivation
- Napping
- Rearranging plans
- Social activities
- Taking a break
- Frustrated
- Maintaining relationships

Fatigue and disease-modifying drugs – a complex scenario: the example of ponesimod

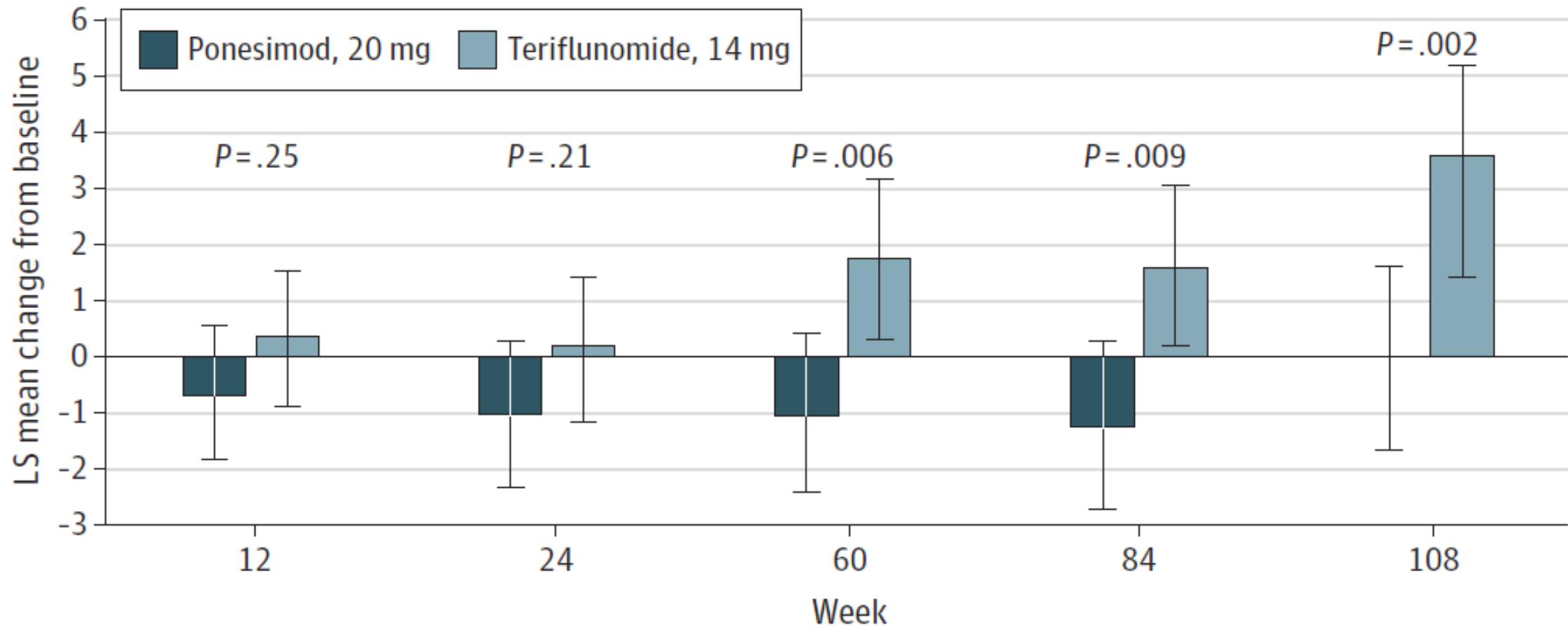
JAMA Neurology | Original Investigation

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Fatigue Symptom and impact questionnaire score

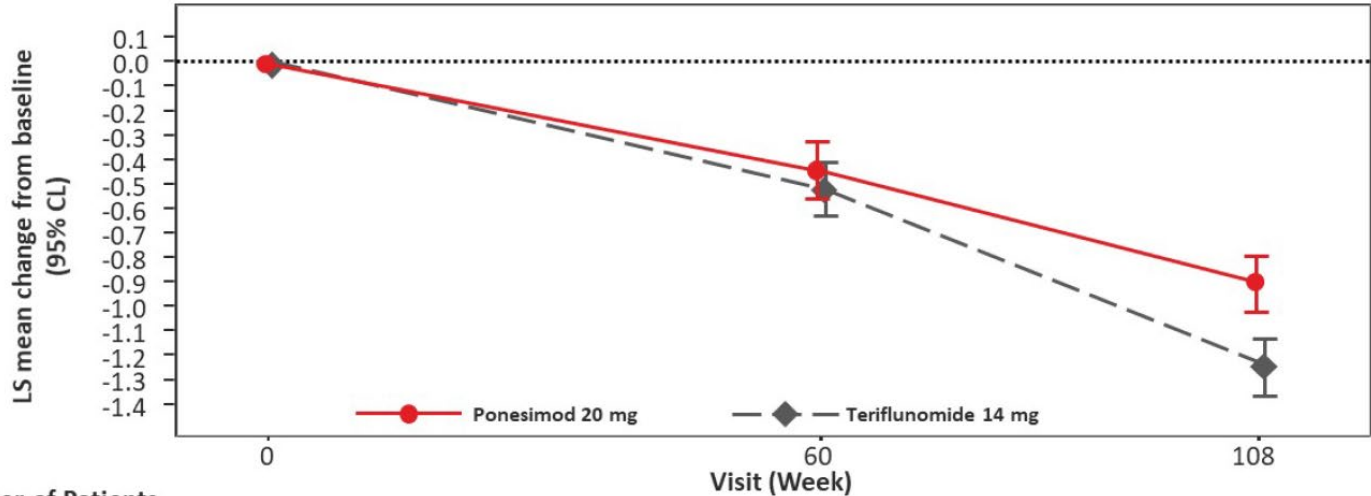
FSIQ-RMS symptoms score



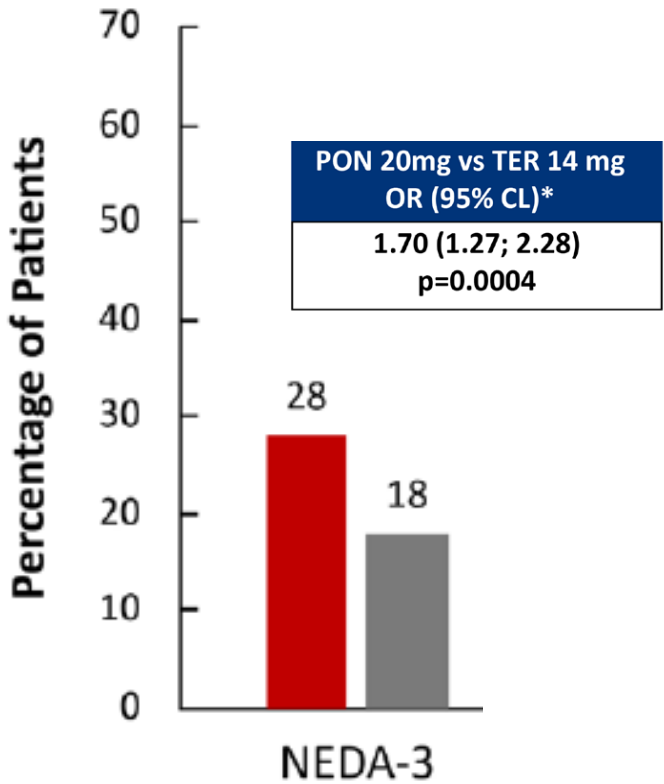
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A Randomized Clinical Trial

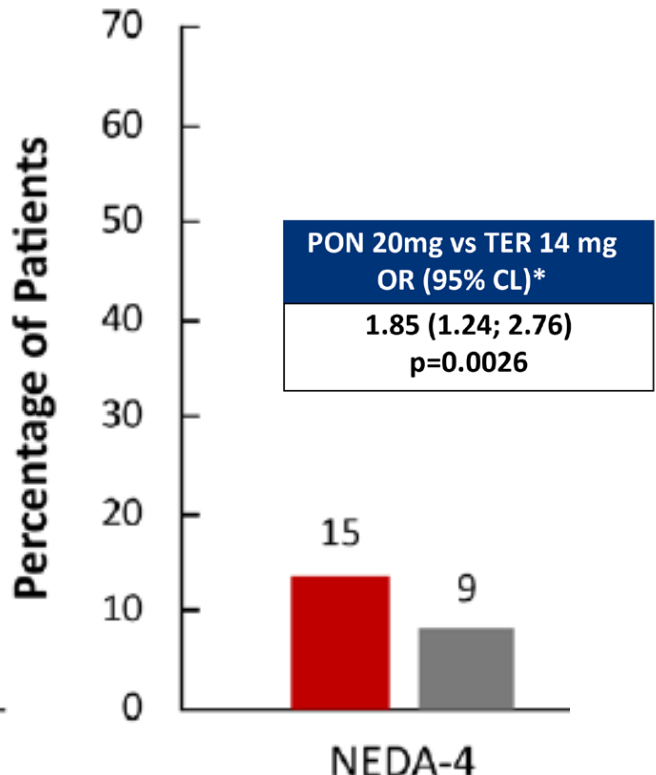
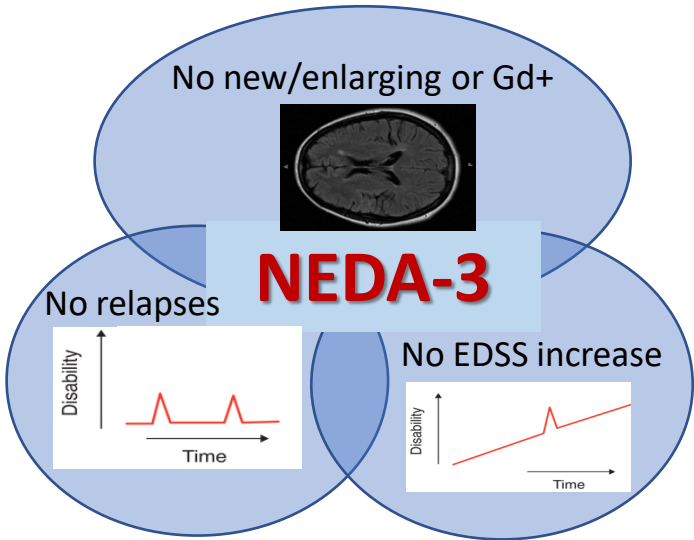
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Number of Patients
Ponesimod 20 mg N=567
Teriflunomide 14 mg N=566



PON 20mg vs TER 14 mg
OR (95% CL)*
1.70 (1.27; 2.28)
p=0.0004



PON 20mg vs TER 14 mg
OR (95% CL)*
1.85 (1.24; 2.76)
p=0.0026

Fatigue and disease-modifying drugs – a complex scenario: the example of ponesimod

JAMA Neurology | Original Investigation

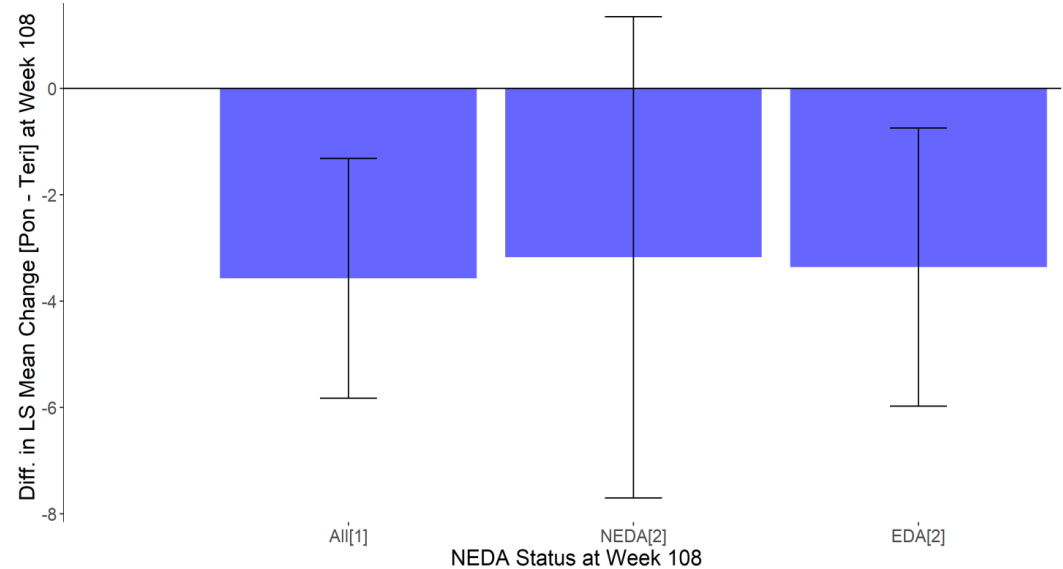
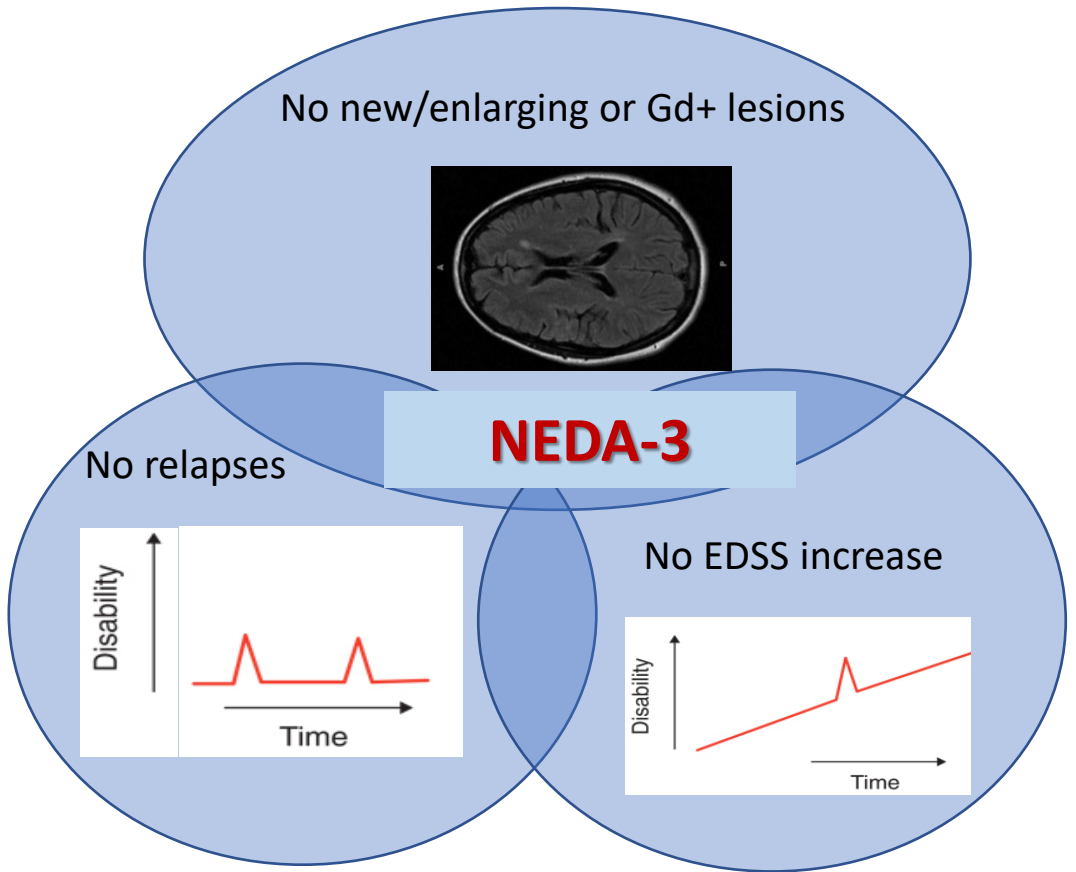
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FSIQ-RMS symptoms score

Change from baseline to week 108 in FSIQ-RMS mean daily ratings over 7 days.

- Proportion of patients achieving NEDA-3 at End of Study (defined by the absence of confirmed relapse, Gd+ T1 lesions, new or enlarging T2 lesions, and 12-week CDA).



Difference PON-TER in change from baseline to week 108 in FSIQ-RMS weekly score: -3.17 (NEDA) vs. -3.36 (EDA), both favoring ponesimod

Fatigue treatment in MS: a complex scenario

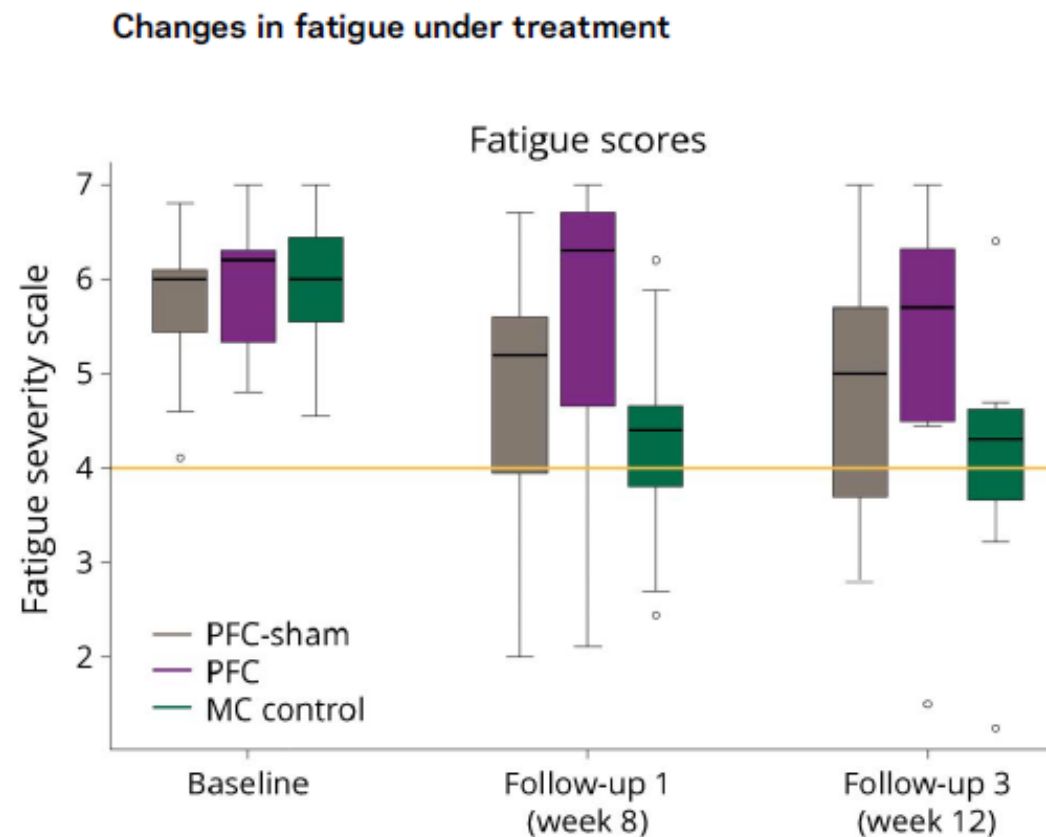
- Symptomatic Drugs
 - Modafinil, Amantadine, Aminopyridines, Methylphenidate
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Fatigue treatment in MS: non invasive brain stimulation

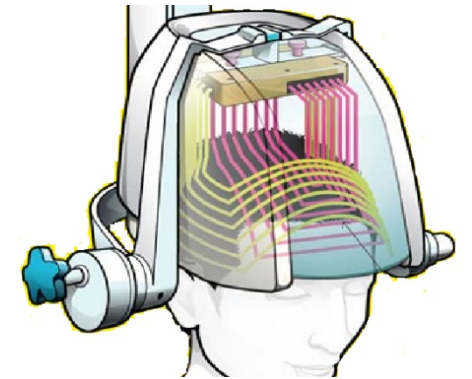
Repetitive Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation - rTMS

Safety and preliminary efficacy of deep transcranial magnetic stimulation in MS-related fatigue

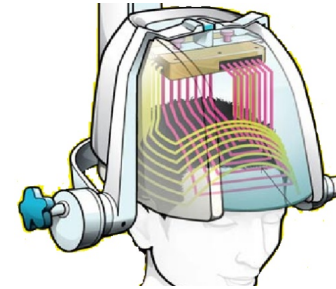
Gunnar Gaede, MD
Marina Tiede, MD
Ina Lorenz, MD
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Caspar Pfueller, MD
Jan Dörr, MD
Judith Bellmann-Strobl, MD
Sophie K. Piper, PhD
Yiftach Roth, PhD
Abraham Zangen, PhD
Sven Schippling, MD
Friedemann Paul, MD



Motor cortex (Lower Limb rTMS)

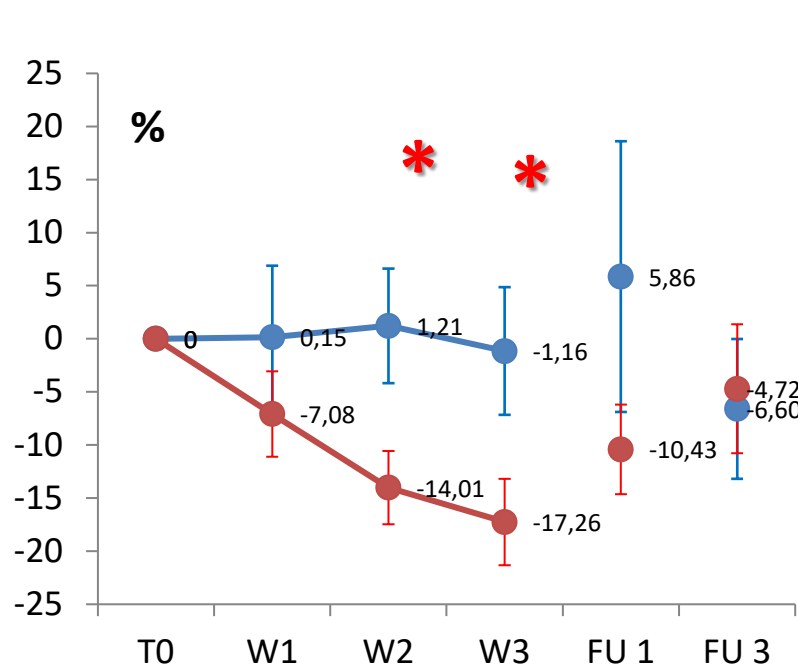


Motor cortex rTMS & walking in MS (Lower Limb rTMS)



Walking speed

10 mt walk *sec*



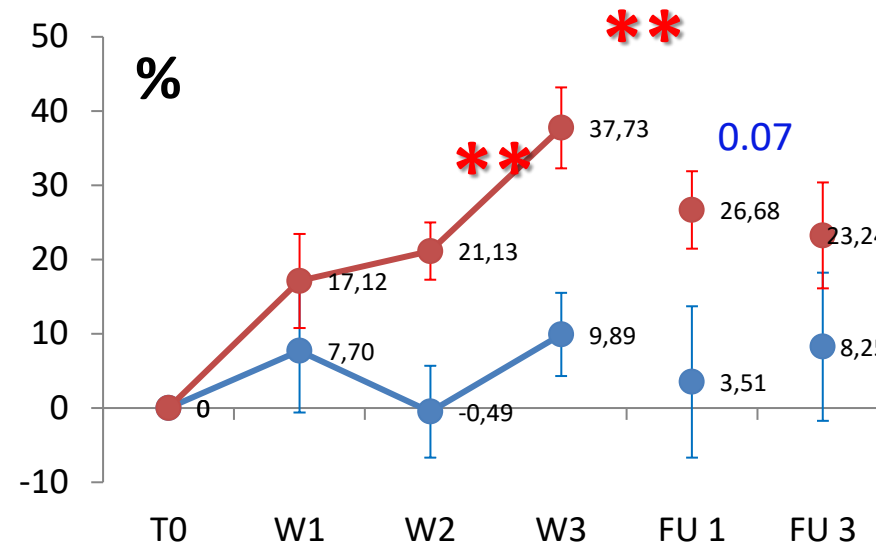
% of pts improved at W3

63% sham

90% real

Walking endurance

6 min walk *sec*



ANOVA post-hoc unpaired t $P < 0.05^*$; $P < 0.01^{**}$

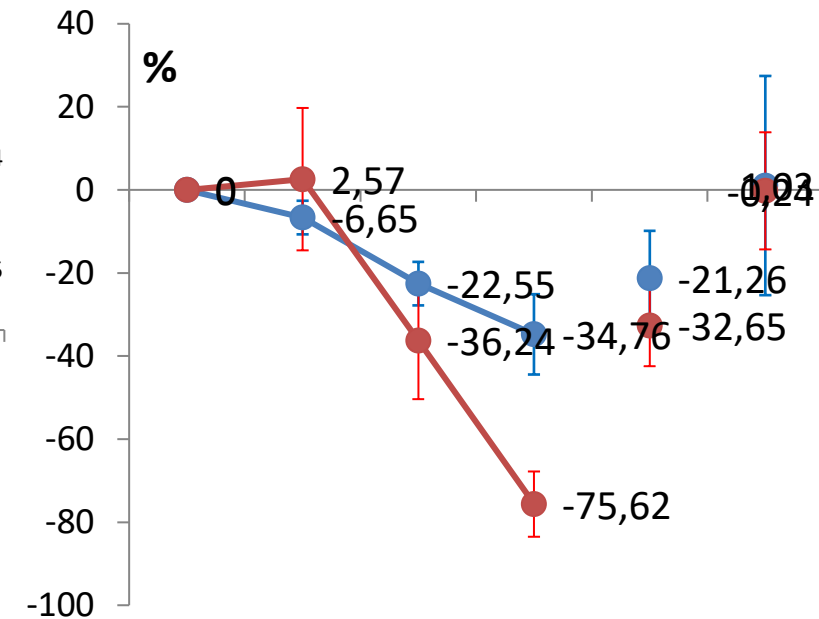
% of pts improved at W3

54% sham

100% real

Spasticity

m.Ashworth *hip-knee*



% of pts improved at W3

54% sham

100% real

Leocani et al submitted

Fatigue treatment in MS: non invasive brain stimulation

Transcranial direct current stimulation - tDCS

Effects of Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation on Cognition, Mood, Pain, and Fatigue in Multiple Sclerosis: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Wan-Yu Hsu^{1*}, Chia-Hsiung Cheng^{2,3,4,5}, Theodore P. Zanto^{1,6}, Adam Gazzaley^{1,6,7,8} and Riley M. Bove¹

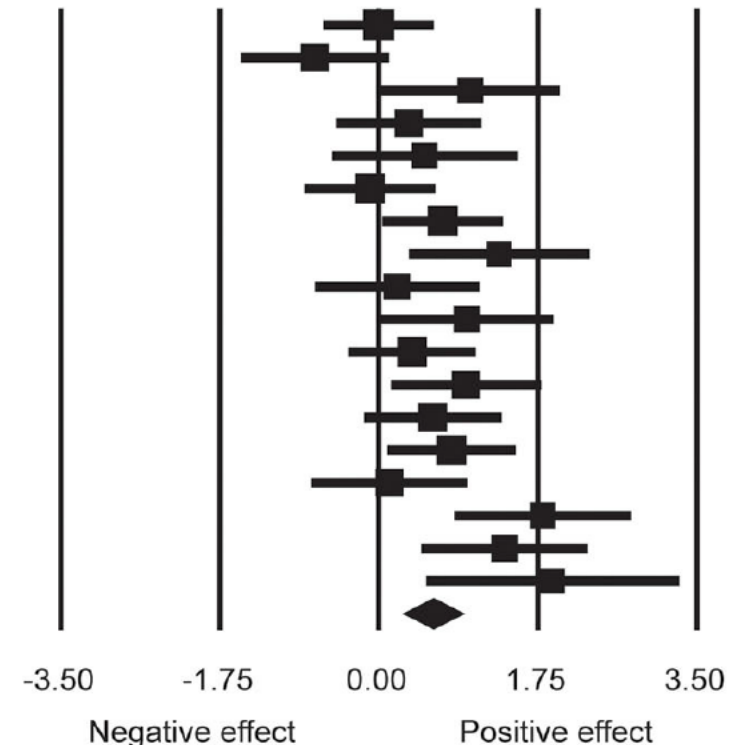
Fatigue ++

But ≠ outcome, brain region, dose, duration

statistics for each study

	Effect size	Lower limit	Upper limit	p-Value	Relative weight
Ferrucci et al (2014) [25]	0.00	-0.57	0.57	1.00	7.25
Saiote et al (2014) [30]	-0.70	-1.49	0.08	0.08	5.76
Tecchio et al (2014) [41]	1.00	0.05	1.96	0.03	4.80
Tecchio et al (2015) (SI) [33]	0.33	-0.44	1.10	0.40	5.88
Tecchio et al (2015) (SM1) [33]	0.50	-0.48	1.50	0.31	4.60
Ayache et al (2016) [22]	-0.09	-0.79	0.59	0.78	6.42
Hanken et al (2016) [26]	0.70	0.06	1.34	0.03	6.81
Chalah et al (2017) (DLPFC) [24]	1.32	0.35	2.29	0.00	4.74
Chalah et al (2017) (PPC) [24]	0.20	-0.67	1.07	0.65	5.24
Cancelli et al (2018) [39]	0.96	0.04	1.89	0.04	4.96
Charvet et al (2018) (OLS) [34]	0.36	-0.30	1.04	0.28	6.55
Charvet et al (2018) (RCT) [34]	0.95	0.15	1.76	0.01	5.71
Fiene et al (2018) [35]	0.59	-0.13	1.32	0.11	6.16
Porcaro et al (2019) [36]	0.80	0.12	1.48	0.02	6.52
Chalah et al (2020) [40]	0.11	-0.71	0.95	0.78	5.49
Mortezanejad et al (2020) (MC) [32]	1.80	0.85	2.75	0.00	4.84
Mortezanejad et al (2020) (DLPFC) [32]	1.38	0.49	2.27	0.00	5.16
Workman et al (2020) [42]	1.91	0.54	3.27	0.00	3.09
Pooled effect size (random effects model)	0.60	0.31	0.89	0.00	

Effect size and 95% CI



Fatigue treatment in MS: non invasive brain stimulation

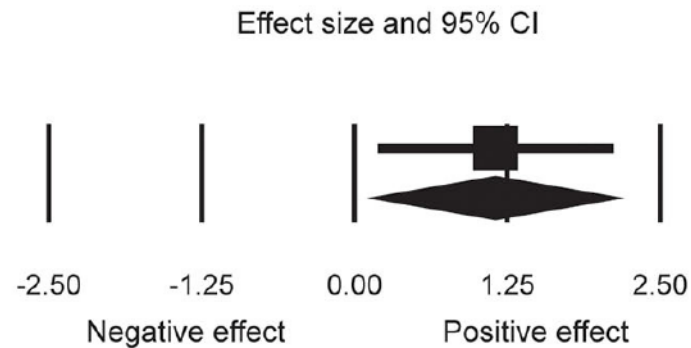
Transcranial direct current stimulation - tDCS

Effects of Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation on Cognition, Mood, Pain, and Fatigue in Multiple Sclerosis: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

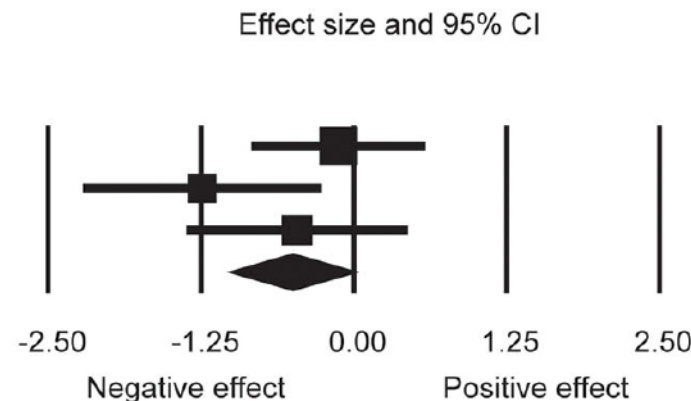
Wan-Yu Hsu^{1*}, Chia-Hsiung Cheng^{2,3,4,5}, Theodore P. Zanto^{1,6}, Adam Gazzaley^{1,6,7,8} and Riley M. Bove¹

Cognition \pm (outcome)

Study name	Cognition (SDMT) statistics for each study				
	Effect size	Lower limit	Upper limit	p-Value	Relative weight
Mattioli et al (2016) [21]	1.15	0.20	2.10	0.01	100.00
Pooled effect size (fixed effects model)	1.15	0.20	2.10	0.01	



Study name	Cognition (ANT) statistics for each study				
	Effect size	Lower limit	Upper limit	p-Value	Relative weight
Ayache et al (2016) [22]	-0.12	-0.82	0.56	0.72	46.84
Chalah et al (2017) (DLPFC) [24]	-1.24	-2.19	-0.28	0.01	24.60
Chalah et al (2017) (PPC) [24]	-0.46	-1.35	0.42	0.30	28.56
Pooled effect size (fixed effects model)	-0.49	-0.97	-0.02	0.04	

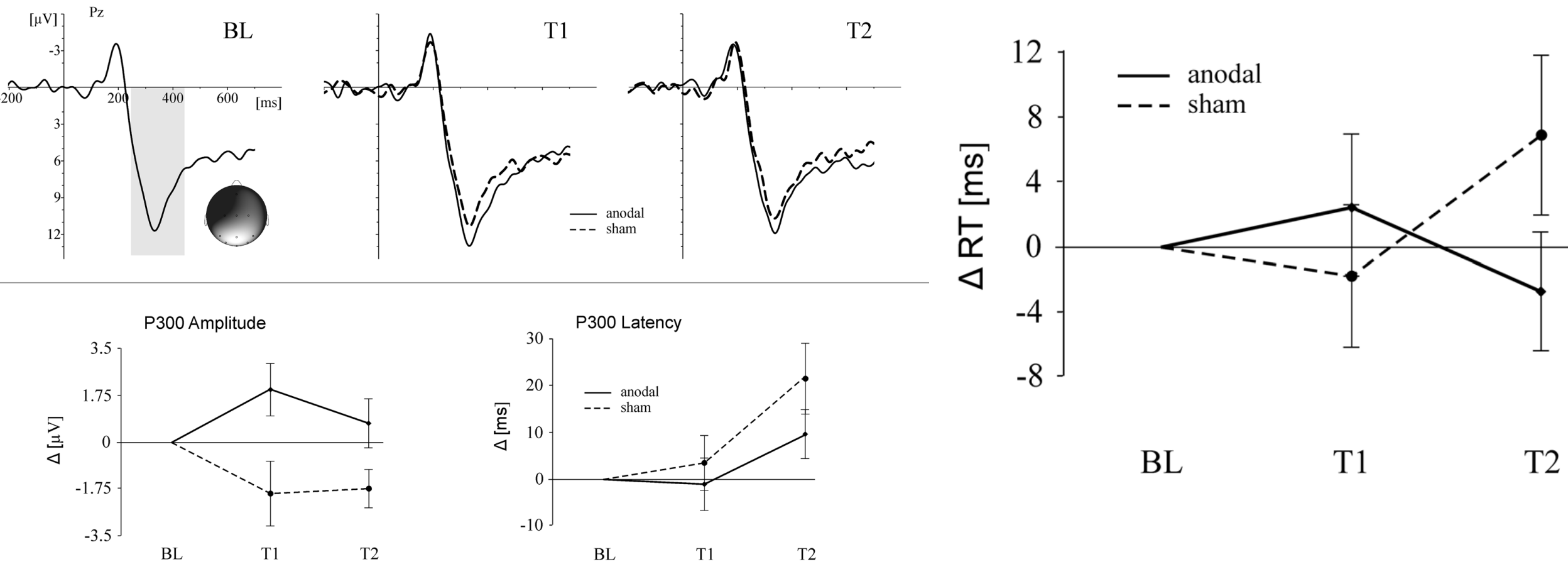




Left DLPF cortex

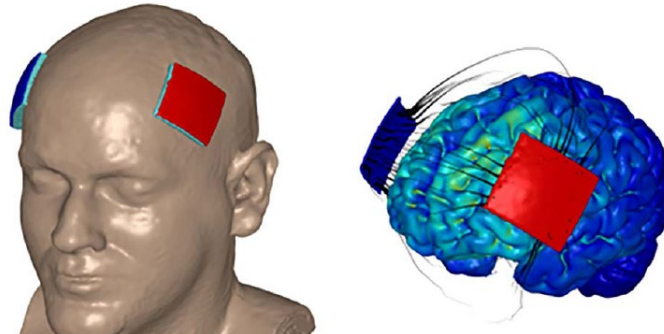
Electrophysiological and behavioral effects of frontal transcranial direct current stimulation on cognitive fatigue in multiple sclerosis

Marina Fiene^{1,2} · Katharina S. Rufener^{1,3} · Maria Kuehne¹ · Mike Matzke¹ · Hans-Jochen Heinze^{1,3} · Tino Zaehle^{1,3}



Remotely Supervised Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation Increases the Benefit of At-Home Cognitive Training in Multiple Sclerosis

Leigh Charvet, PhD*; Michael Shaw, BS*; Bryan Dobbs, MS*; Ariana Frontario, BS[†]; Kathleen Sherman, MS*; Marom Bikson, PhD[‡]; Abhishek Datta, PhD[§]; Lauren Krupp, MD*; Esmail Zeinapour, MS[‡]; Margaret Kasschau, BS[¶]



Remotely supervised transcranial direct current stimulation for the treatment of fatigue in multiple sclerosis: Results from a randomized, sham-controlled trial *Multiple Sclerosis Journal*

2018, Vol. 24(13) 1760–1769

Leigh E Charvet, Bryan Dobbs, Michael T Shaw, Marom Bikson, Abhishek Datta and Lauren B Krupp

Left DLPF cortex

Therapy That Just Might Beat MS Fatigue



OCTOBER 6, 2017



BY ED TOBIAS

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Evidence-based guidelines on the therapeutic use of repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation (rTMS): An update (2014–2018)

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A panel of experts
examined publications
until the end of 2018
[rTMS real vs placebo]

Level A evidence (definite efficacy):

- rTMS of the left dorsolateral prefrontal cortex (DLPFC) for depression (high frequency, figure-of-8 or a H1-coil)
- rTMS of the primary motor cortex (M1) contralateral to the painful side for neuropathic pain (High-frequency)
- rTMS of contralesional M1 for hand motor recovery in the post-acute stage of stroke (Low-frequency)



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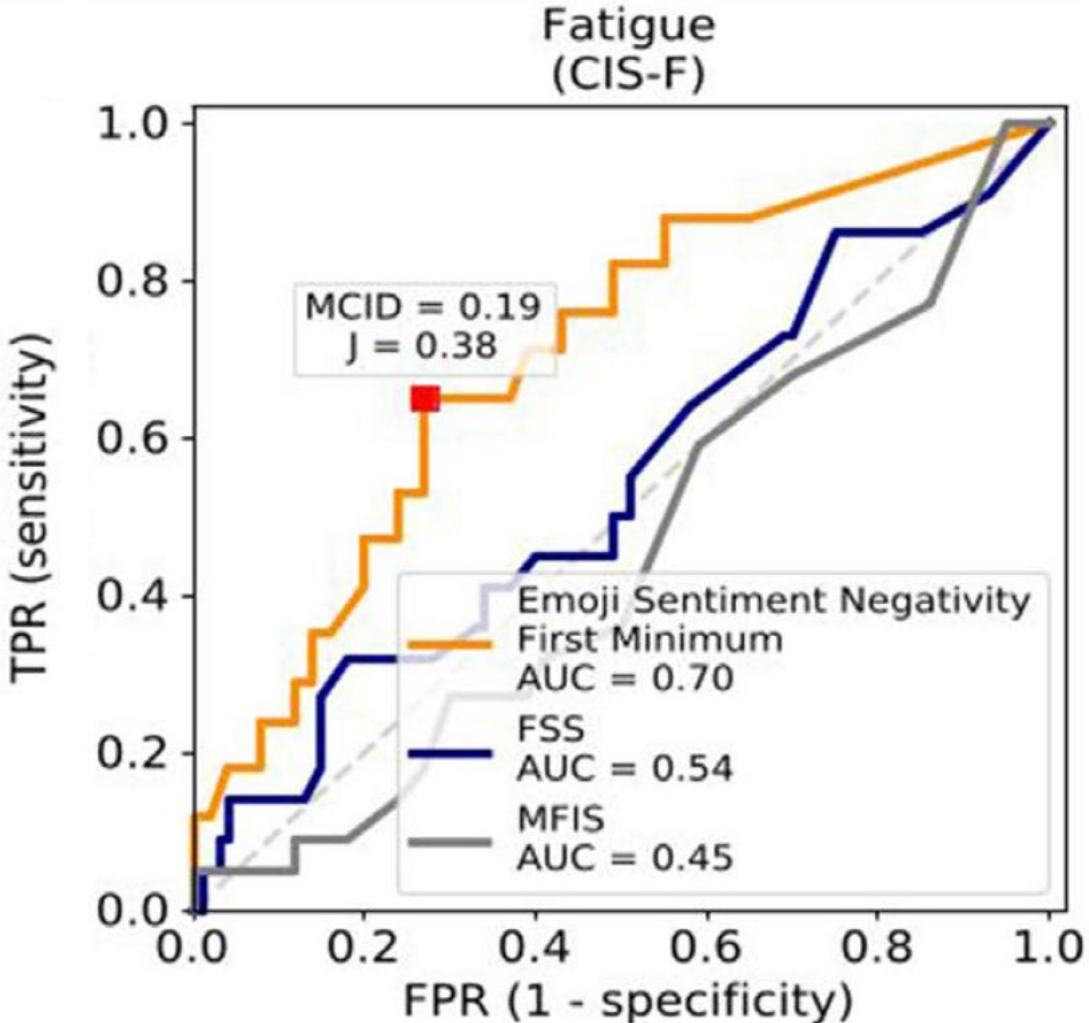
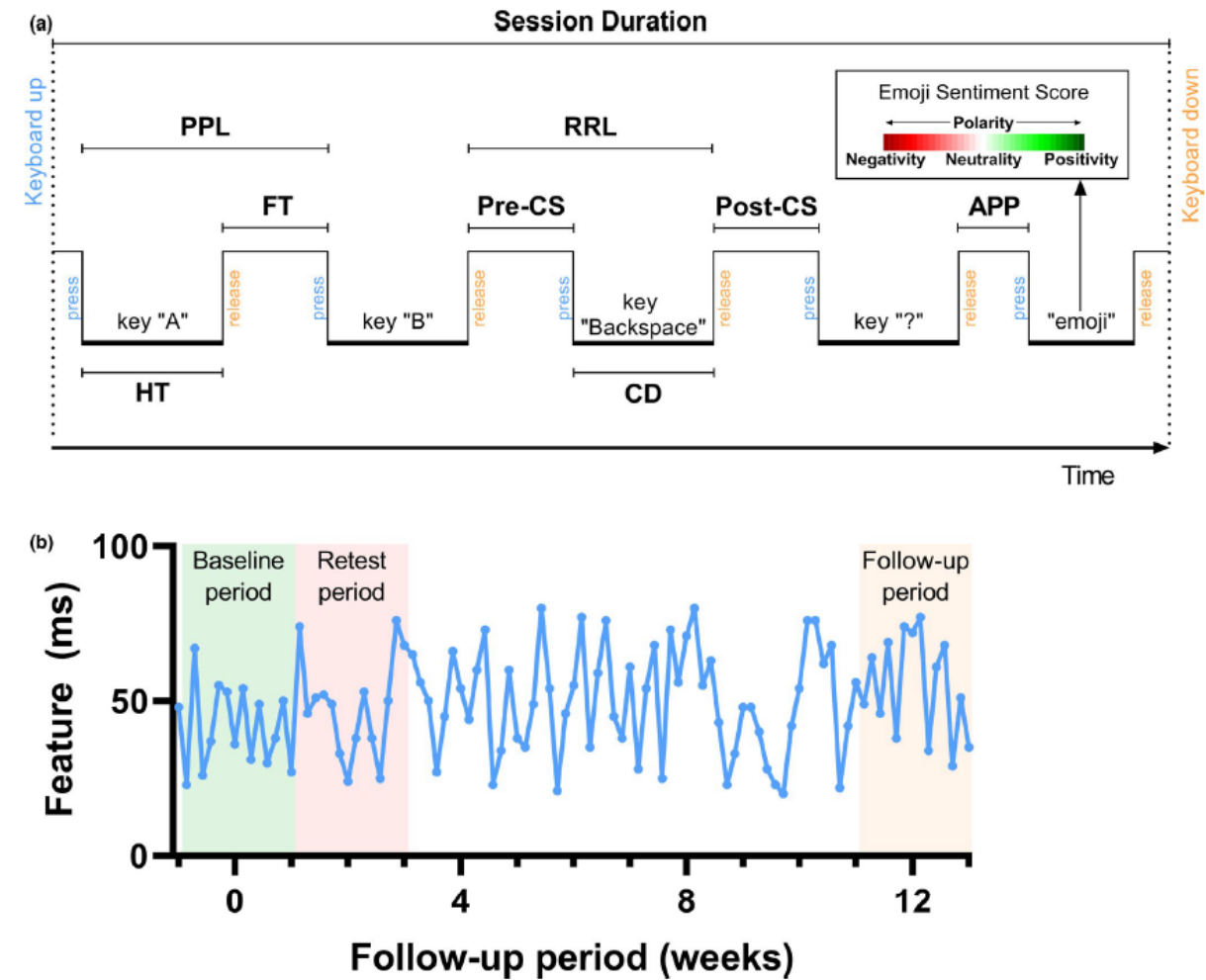
The uncertain outcome of prefrontal tDCS

Sara Tremblay^{1,2}, Jean-François Lepage³, Alex Latulipe-Loiselle^{1,2}, Felipe Fregni³, Alvaro Pascual-Leone⁴, and Hugo Théoret^{1,2}

Prefrontal tDCS has the potential to modulate numerous cognitive functions simultaneously, but to properly interpret the results, a clear a priori hypothesis is necessary, careful technical consideration are mandatory, further insights into the neurobiological impact of tDCS are needed, and consideration should be given to the possibility that some behavioral effects may be partly explained by parallel modulation of related functions.


Smartphone-derived keystroke dynamics are sensitive to relevant changes in multiple sclerosis

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ROC curves of change in keystroke dynamics (orange) and classification of clinically relevant change

The Berlin Treatment Algorithm: recommendations for tailored innovative therapeutic strategies for multiple sclerosis- related fatigue

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