

# Parkinson's Disease in an Ageing Population: Epidemiological & Clinical Studies



National  
Neuroscience Institute

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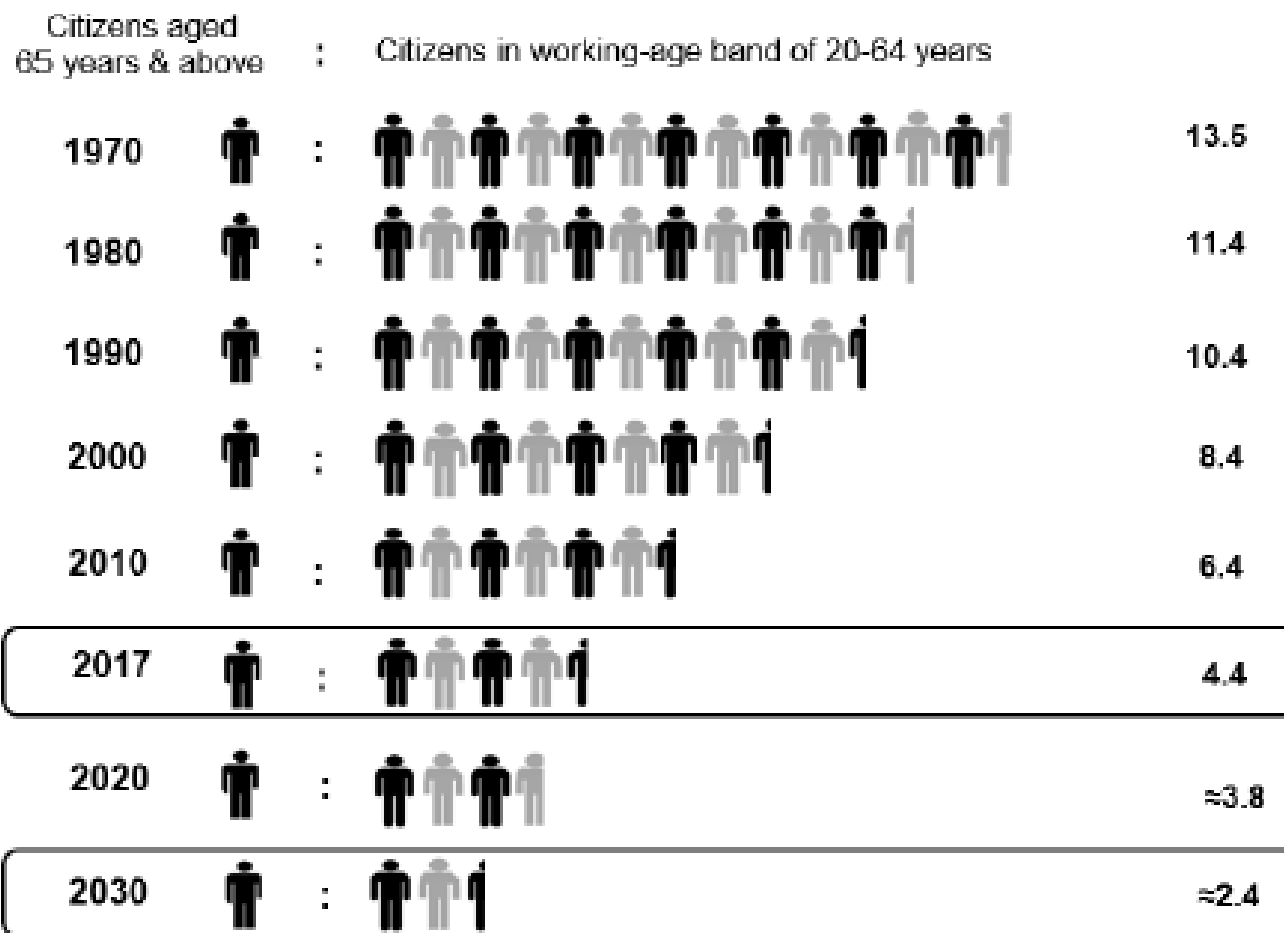
SingHealth

**A/Prof Louis Tan**  
**National Neuroscience**  
**Institute, Singapore**



# Fewer Working-Age Citizens to Each Citizen Aged 65 and Above

## Chart 5: Citizen old-age support ratio, 1970-2030



Source: Department of Statistics

# Prevalence of Parkinson disease in Singapore

## Chinese vs Malays vs Indians

L.C.S. Tan, MRCP(UK); N. Venketasubramanian, MMed; C.Y. Hong, FRACGP; S. Sahadevan, MRCP(UK);  
J.J. Chin, MRCP(UK); E.S. Krishnamoorthy, MD; A.K.Y. Tan, MRCP(UK); and S.M. Saw, PhD

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### Singapore PD Population

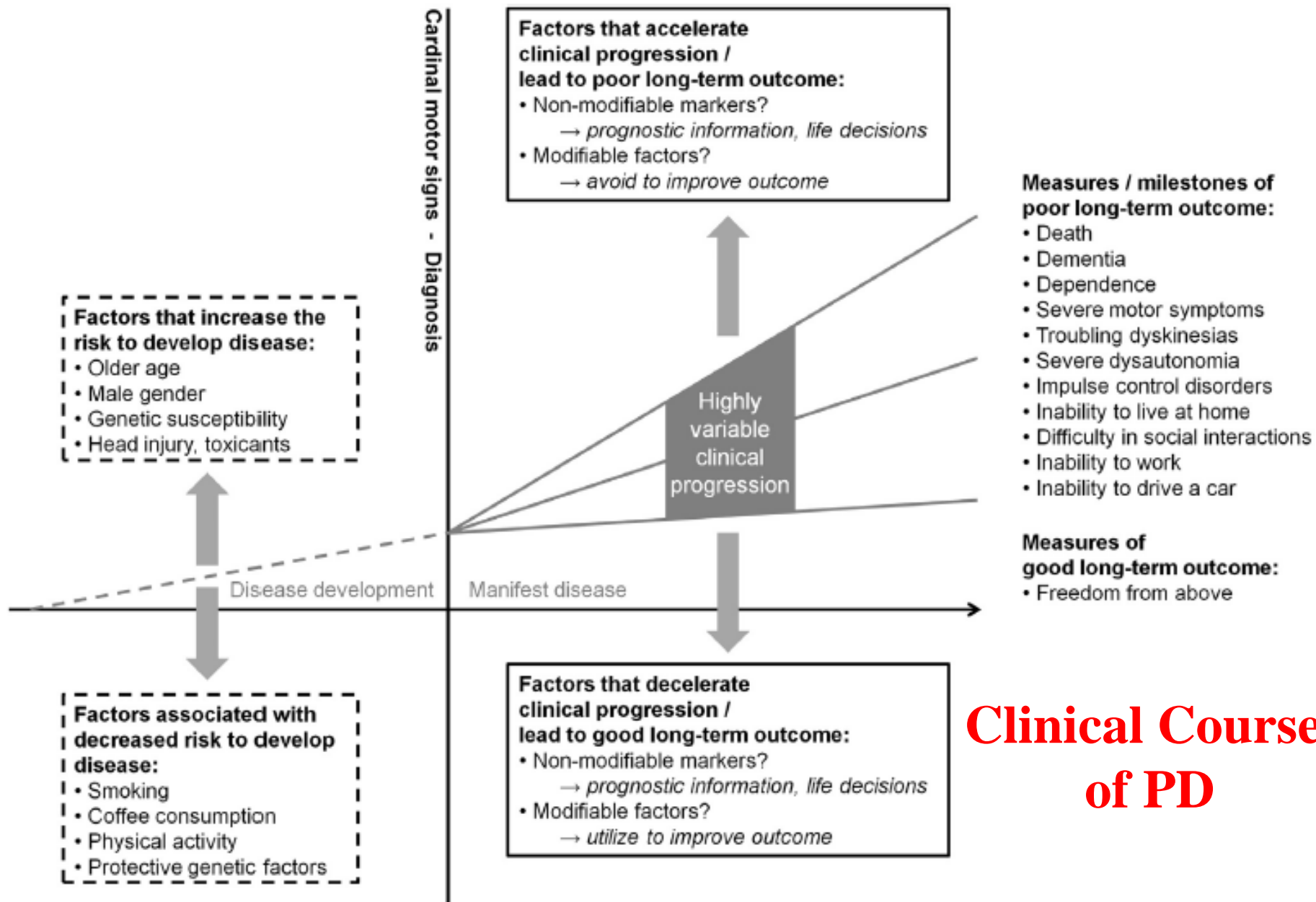
2016: 6,070

2030: 12,121

*Abstract—Objective:* To investigate the prevalence of Parkinson disease (PD) in Singapore and compare the rates between Singaporean Chinese, Malays, and Indians. *Methods:* A three-phase community-based survey among a disproportionate random sample of 15,000 Singaporeans (9,000 Chinese, 3,000 Malays, and 3,000 Indians) aged 50 years and above who live in central Singapore was conducted. In phase 1, a door-to-door survey using a validated 10-question questionnaire. In phase 2, medical specialists examined participants who screened positive to any of the questions. Participants suspected to have PD were confirmed in phase 3 by a movement disorders specialist. *Results:* The participation rate was 67% among 22,279 eligible individuals. Forty-six participants with PD were identified of which 16 were newly diagnosed cases. The prevalence rate of PD for those aged 50 and above in Singapore was 0.30% (95% CI: 0.22 to 0.41), age-adjusted prevalence rates increased significantly with age. The age-adjusted prevalence rates among Chinese (0.33%, 95% CI: 0.22 to 0.48), Malays (0.29%, 95% CI: 0.13 to 0.67), and Indians (0.28%, 95% CI: 0.12 to 0.67) were the same ( $p = 1.0$ ). *Conclusions:* The prevalence of PD in Singapore was comparable to that of Western countries. Race-specific rates were also similar to previously reported rates and similar among the three races. Environmental factors may be more important than racially determined genetic factors in the development of PD.

NEUROLOGY 2004;62:1999–2004

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# Tea & PD

- 11 case-control and 1 cohort study
- Pooled OR 0.83 (95% CI: 0.74-0.92)
- Significant heterogeneity across studies
- Chinese: OR 0.73 (95% CI: 0.6-0.9), homogeneity present (3 case-control studies)



# Black Tea & PD

Singapore Chinese Health Cohort Study

Adjusted for  
smoking status

Characteristics	Cases	HR (95% CI)	HR (95% CI)
Black tea			
Non-drinker	120	1.00	1.00
T1 (< 5 cups/mth)	20	0.89 (0.55-1.42)	0.87 (0.54-1.40)
T2 (5–23 cups/mth)	11	0.55 (0.30-1.03)	0.53 (0.29-1.00)
T3 (23+ cups/mth)	6	0.29 (0.13-0.65)	0.28 (0.12-0.64)
P for trend		0.0006	0.0004

- Green tea was not associated with ↓ PD risk
- Black tea effect present even after correction for caffeine

# Cholesterol, Fats & PD

RESEARCH PAPER

## Dietary cholesterol, fats and risk of Parkinson's disease in the Singapore Chinese Health Study

Louis C Tan,<sup>1,2</sup> Kulthida Methawasin,<sup>1</sup> Eng-King Tan,<sup>1,2</sup> June H Tan,<sup>3</sup>  
Wing-Lok Au,<sup>1,2</sup> Jian-Min Yuan,<sup>4,5</sup> Woon-Puay Koh<sup>2,6</sup>

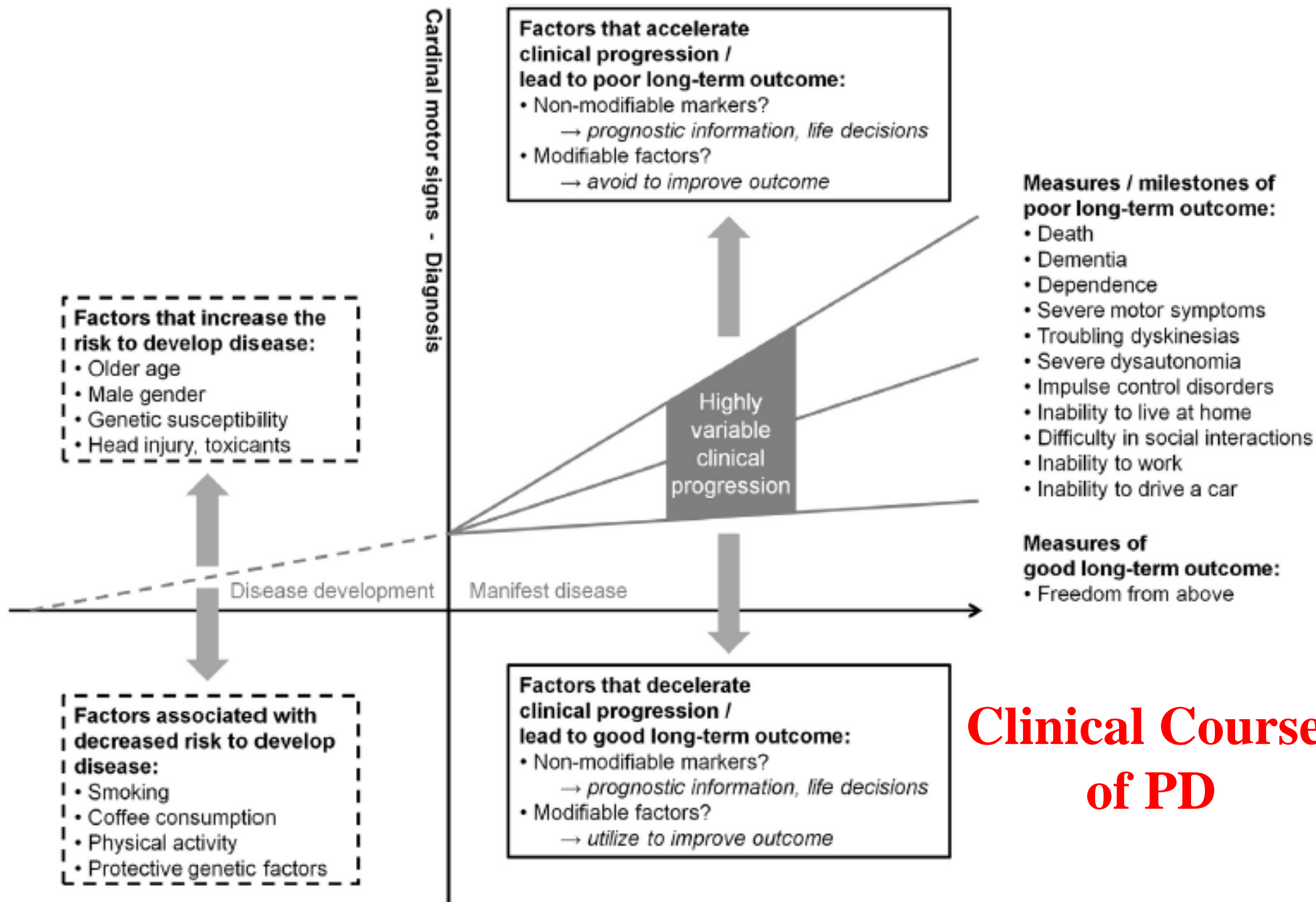
**Table 3** Dietary cholesterol and fatty acids in relation to risk of Parkinson's disease, The Singapore Chinese Health Study 1993–2010

Energy-adjusted intake by quartile	Total		Men		Women	
	Cases	HR (95% CI)	Cases	HR (95% CI)	Cases	HR (95% CI)
<b>Cholesterol (mg/day)</b>						
1st (<130.7)	130	1.00	82	1.00	48	1.00
2nd (130.7–166.5)	115	0.96 (0.74 to 1.23)	56	0.94 (0.67 to 1.32)	59	1.00 (0.68 to 1.47)
3rd (166.5–206.4)	91	0.84 (0.64 to 1.10)	44	0.83 (0.57 to 1.19)	47	0.87 (0.58 to 1.31)
4th (>206.4)	75	0.77 (0.58 to 1.02)	36	0.62 (0.42 to 0.93)	39	0.98 (0.64 to 1.5)
P for trend		0.046		0.018		0.72
<b>Monounsaturated fatty acids (g/day)</b>						
1st (<12.8)	116	1.00	69	1.00	47	1.00
2nd (12.8–14.9)	121	1.10 (0.85 to 1.42)	63	1.27 (0.9 to 1.79)	58	0.88 (0.6 to 1.29)
3rd (14.9–17.0)	102	1.01 (0.77 to 1.33)	45	1.05 (0.72 to 1.53)	57	0.90 (0.61 to 1.33)
4th (>17.0)	72	0.80 (0.60 to 1.08)	41	1.03 (0.7 to 1.52)	31	0.57 (0.36 to 0.90)
P for trend		0.16		0.99		0.029

# Cholesterol, Fats & PD: biological plausibility

- **Cholesterol** levels highest in brain (25%)
- chol turnover  $\uparrow$  in neurodegen disorders
- $\alpha$ -synuclein binds to chol with high affinity, aggregation modified by chol
- **MUFA** has anti-inflammatory and immunomodulatory, anti-oxidant
- **Gender differences** in lipoprotein metabolism





# Clinical Measures of PD Progression

- **UPDRS** – motor, ADL, total score
- **H&Y** – time to stage 3, transition times
- **Other motor/disability scales** -  
Columbia score, Northwestern Disability scale,  
UCLA scale
- **Levodopa therapy** – time to levodopa use
- **Quality of life measures**

# Stages of PD

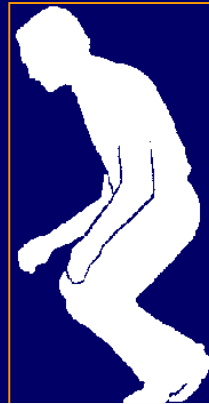
## Modified Hoehn & Yahr Staging



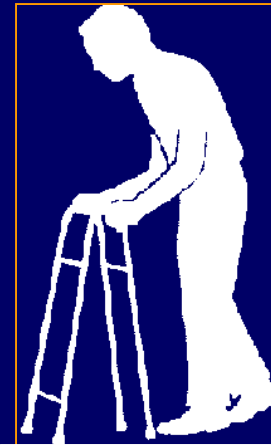
Stage 1 & 1.5  
Unilateral  
disease  
1.5: + axial  
involvement



Stage 2 & 2.5  
Bilateral disease  
without  
impairment of  
balance  
2.5: recovery on  
pull test



Stage 3  
Mild-mod  
bilateral  
disease, some  
postural  
instability,  
physically  
independent



Stage 4  
Severe  
disability;  
still able to  
walk or  
stand  
unassisted



Stage 5  
Wheelchair  
bound or  
bedridden  
unless aided

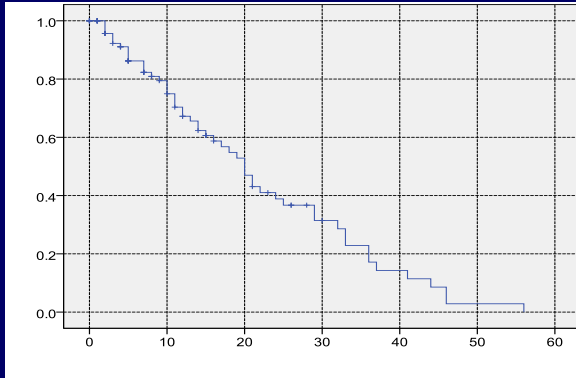
# Progression of PD Study

## Analyses

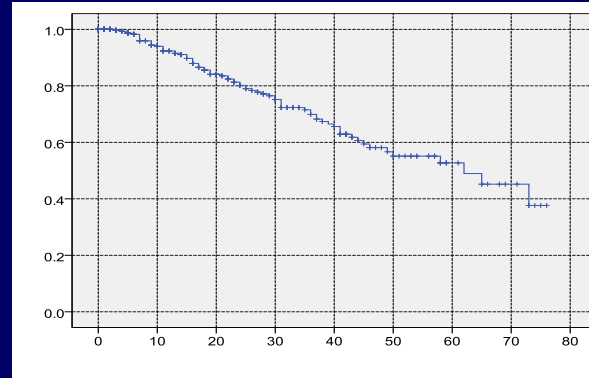
- Kaplan-Meier survival analysis in view of unequal follow-up times
- Entry requirement:
  - At H&Y stage at or within 1 year from PD diagnosis, or
  - clear documentation of entry from a prior H&Y stage
- Failure/transition event:
  - Progression to next H&Y stage
- 695 patients analysed

# H&Y Progression

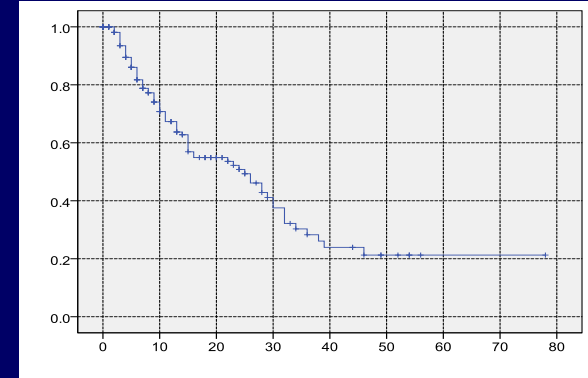
## Median time to transitions



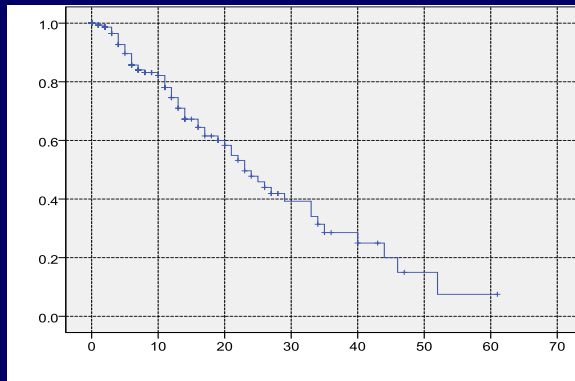
Stage 1 to 2, n=106  
20.0 (1.7) mths



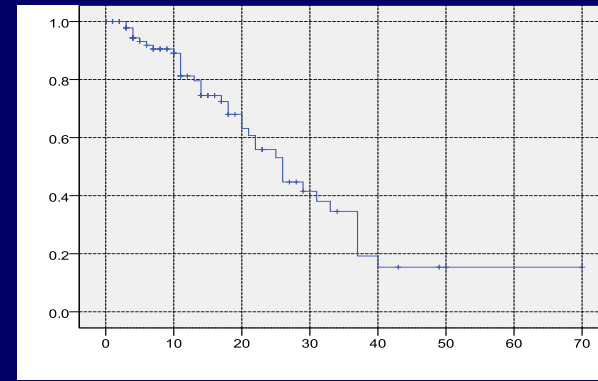
Stage 2 to 2.5, n=359  
62.0 (7.7) mths



Stage 2.5 to 3, n=194  
25.0 (4.6) mths



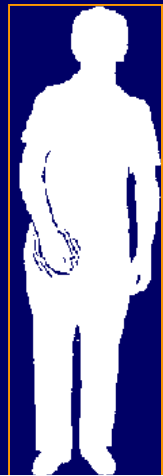
Stage 3 to 4, n=185  
24.0 (2.7) mths



Stage 4 to 5, n=114  
26.0 (2.7) mths

# Modified Hoehn & Yahr Staging

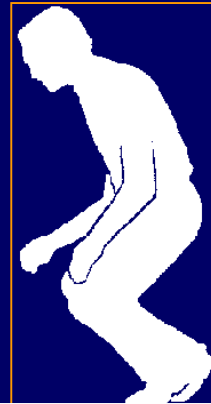
## Measuring Disease Progression



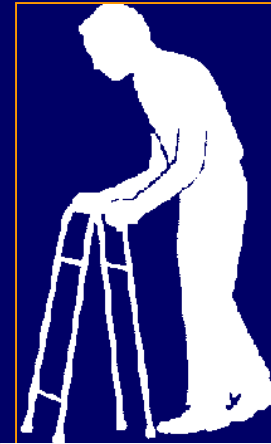
Stage 1 & 1.5



Stage 2 & 2.5



Stage 3



Stage 4



Stage 5



20 mths/1.7 yrs



25 mths/2.1 yrs



24 mths/2 yrs



26 mths/2.2 yrs



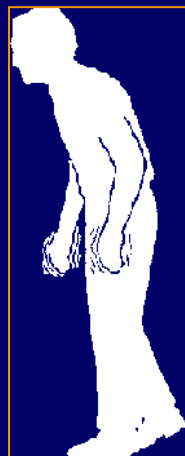
62 mths/5.2 yrs

# Modified Hoehn & Yahr Staging

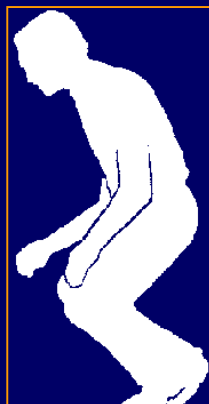
## Factor Affecting Disease Progression



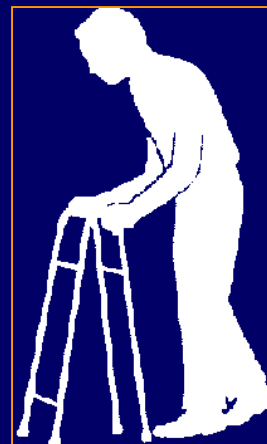
Stage 1 & 1.5



Stage 2 & 2.5



Stage 3



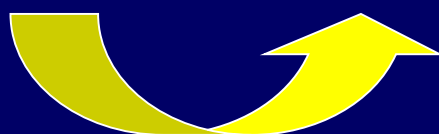
Stage 4



Stage 5



↑ UPDRS motor



↑ disease  
duration

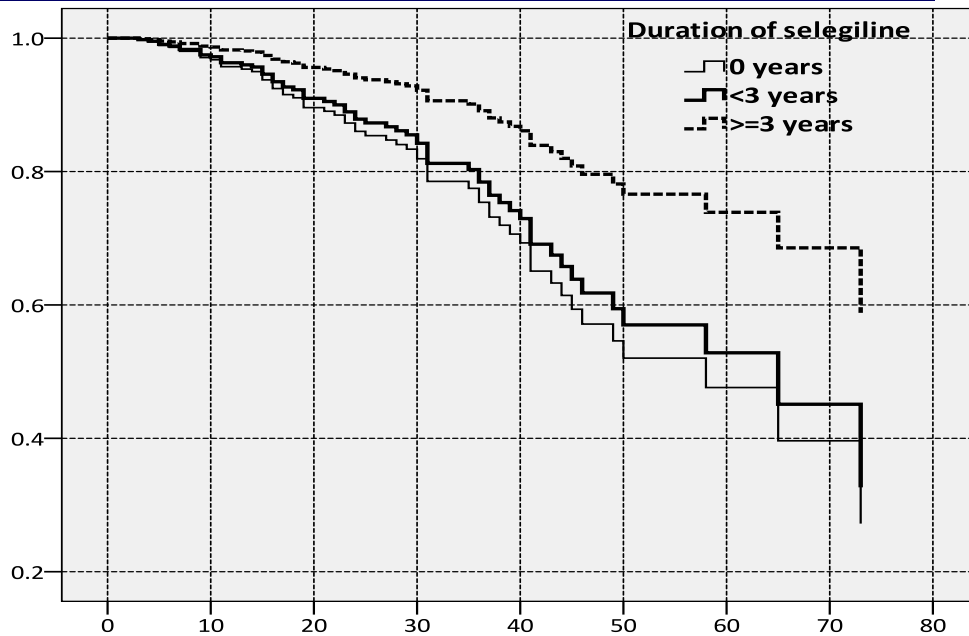


↑ UPDRS motor

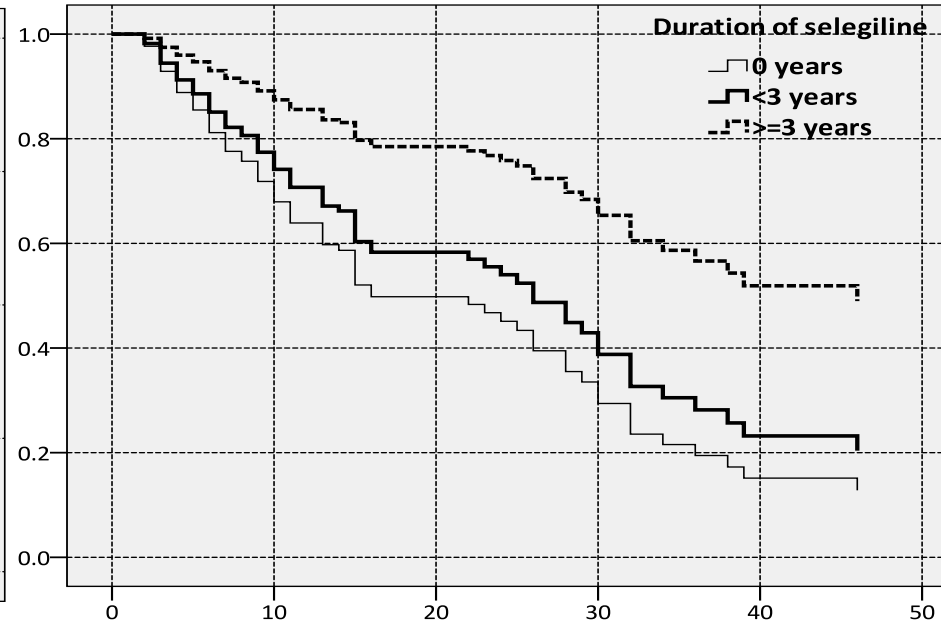


Older age at diagnosis, ↑ disease duration, ↑ UPDRS motor

# Effect of Selegiline on PD Progression



Transition from stage 2 to 2.5  
( $p=0.03$ )



Transition from stage 2.5 to 3  
( $p=0.002$ )



## Clinical evolution of Parkinson's disease and prognostic factors affecting motor progression: 9-year follow-up study

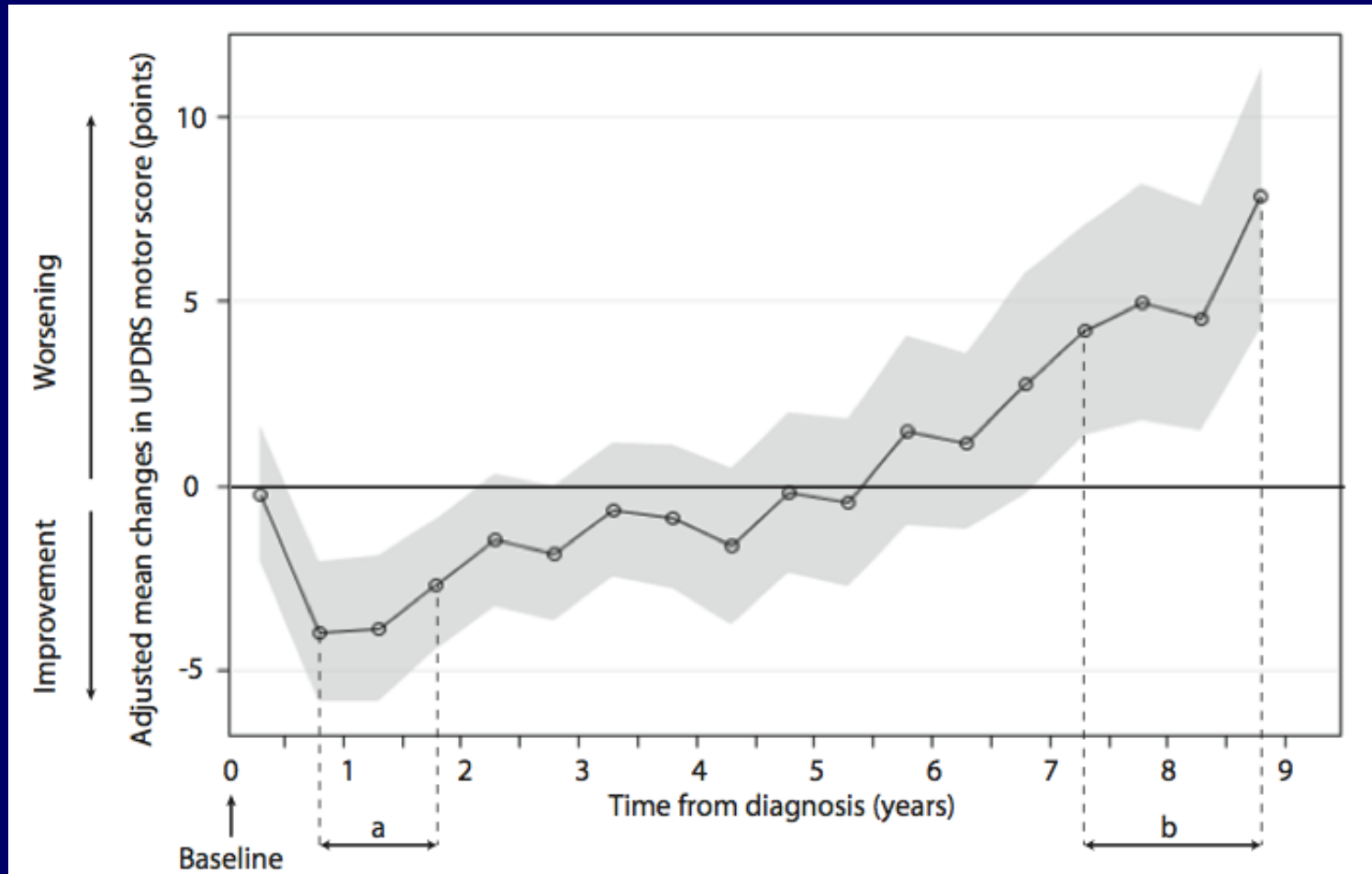
G. Reinoso<sup>a</sup>, J. C. Allen Jr<sup>a</sup>, W.-L. Au<sup>b,c</sup>, S.-H. Seah<sup>b,c</sup>, K.-Y. Tay<sup>b,c</sup> and L. C. S. Tan<sup>b,c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>*Duke – NUS Graduate Medical School, Singapore;* <sup>b</sup>*Department of Neurology, National Neuroscience Institute, Singapore;* and <sup>c</sup>*Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Centre, USA National Parkinson Foundation Centre of Excellence, National Neuroscience Institute, Singapore, Singapore*

576 patients derived from the NNI Movement Disorders Database (2002-2012) were selected with the following criteria:

- Idiopathic PD (based on NINDS criteria)
- Did not undergo DBS surgery
- Baseline assessment done within 2 years of diagnosis
- Followed up for at least 3 years

# Progression was non-linear

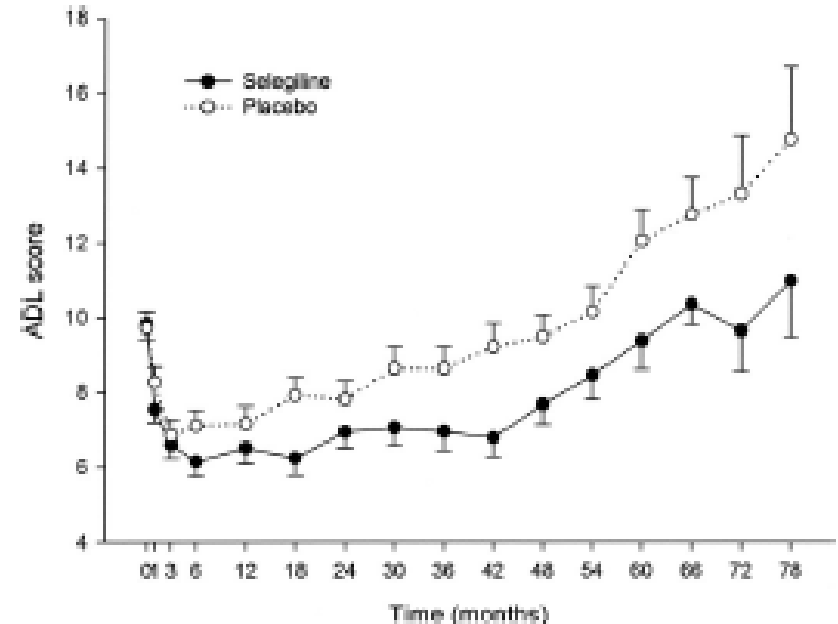
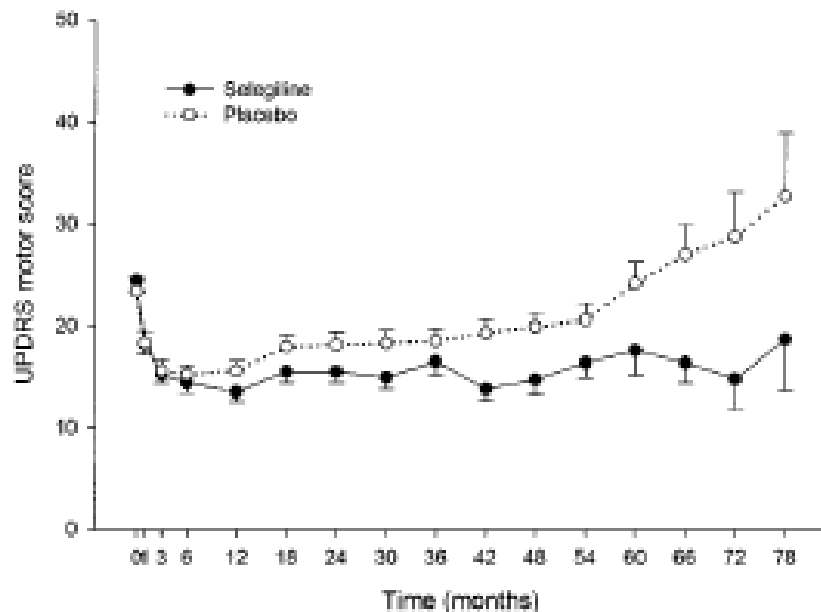




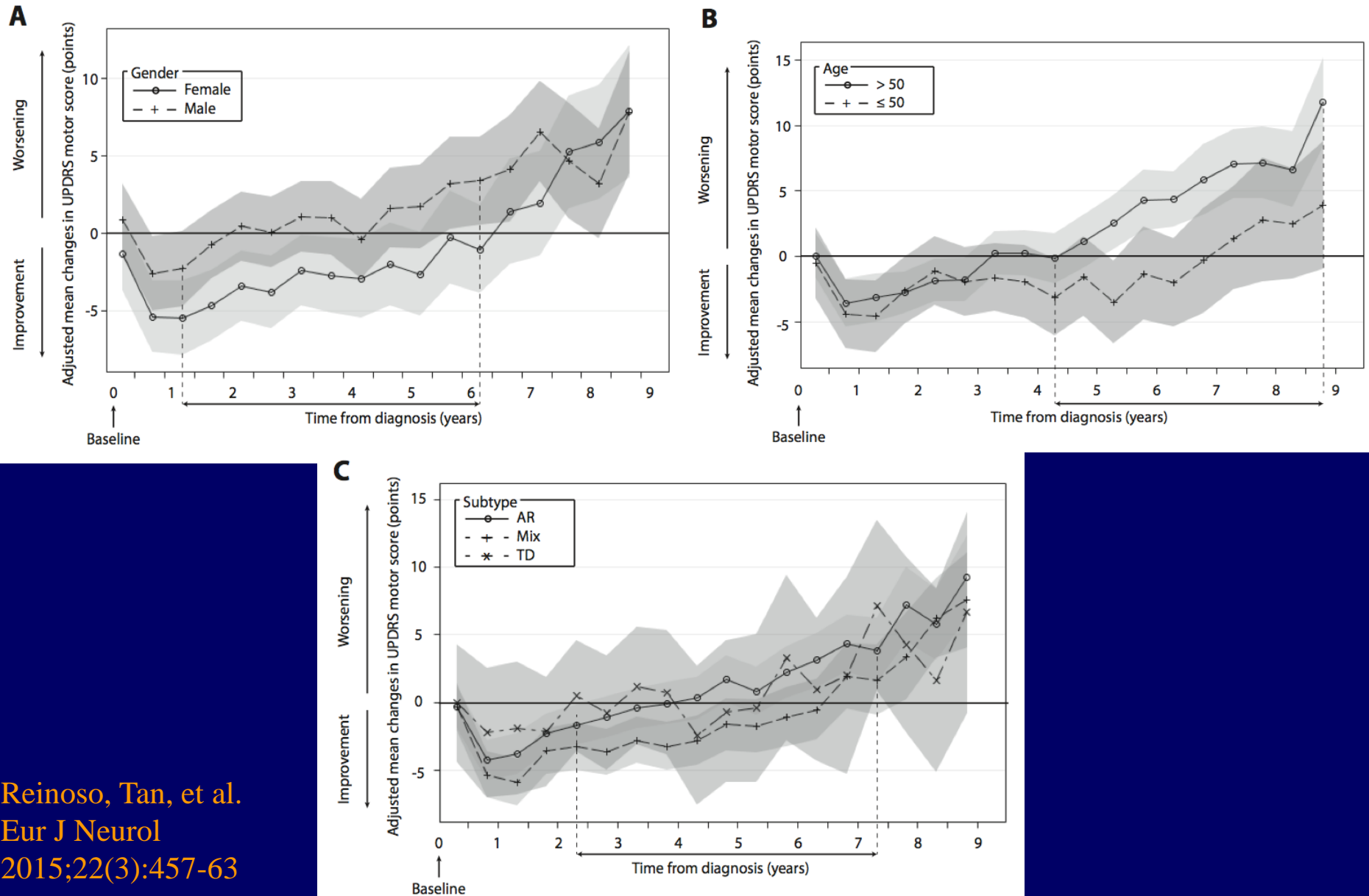
# Selegiline slows the progression of the symptoms of Parkinson disease

S. Pålhagen, MD; E. Heinonen, MD; J. Hägglund, MD; T. Kaugesaar, MD; O. Mäki-Ikola, MD; R. Palm, MD; and the Swedish Parkinson Study Group\*

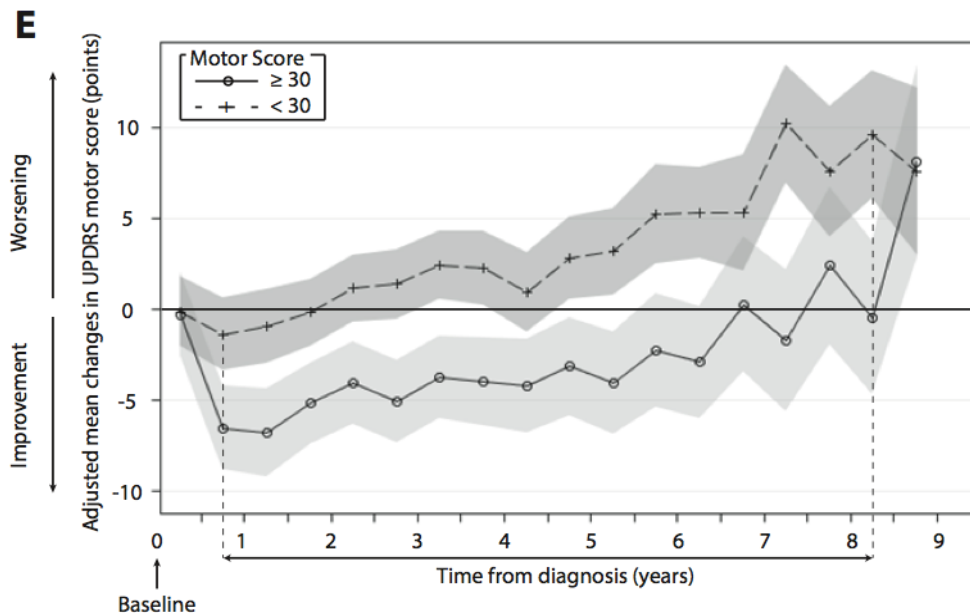
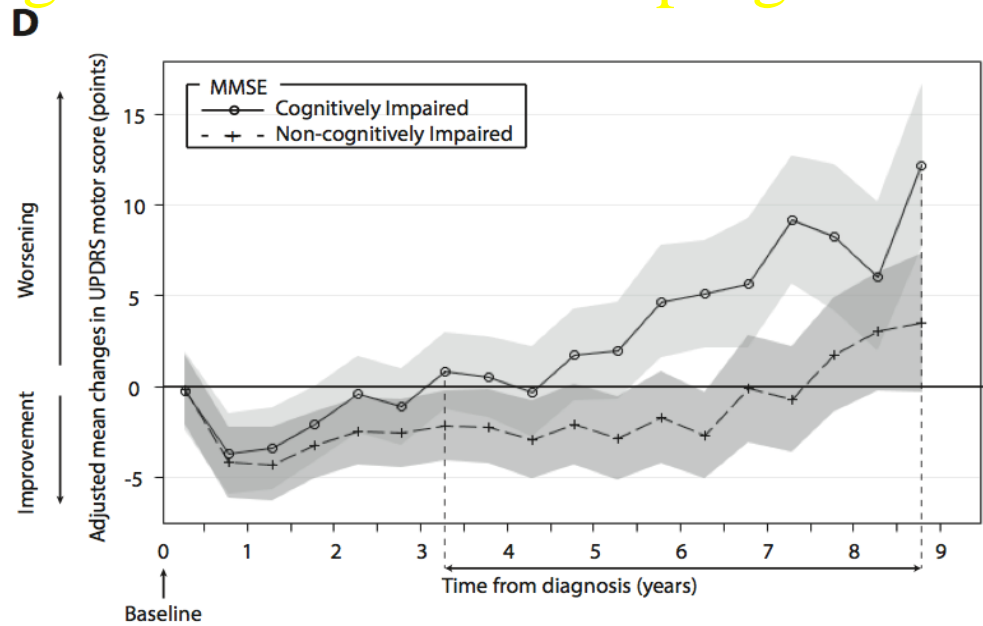
**Abstract—Objective:** To study the long-term effects of selegiline in monotherapy and in combination with levodopa in the early phase of Parkinson disease (PD). **Methods:** One hundred fifty-seven de novo PD patients were randomized in a double-blind, placebo-controlled study of 7 years' duration. In the monotherapy part, selegiline significantly delayed the initiation of levodopa therapy vs placebo. The authors now report the results from the combination part of the study, in which 140 patients received selegiline or placebo in addition to individually tailored levodopa therapy. **Results:** Compared with placebo, selegiline slowed the progression of disease disability as measured by the Unified Parkinson Disease Rating Scale (UPDRS) total score ( $p = 0.003$ ) or by motor ( $p = 0.002$ ) and Activities of Daily Living ( $p = 0.0002$ ) subscores. After 5 years in combination therapy, the mean difference in the UPDRS total score was nearly 10 points, with patients



# Male, Older age at diagnosis, AR subtype had significant motor score progression



# Cognitively impaired and low baseline motor score had significant motor score progression

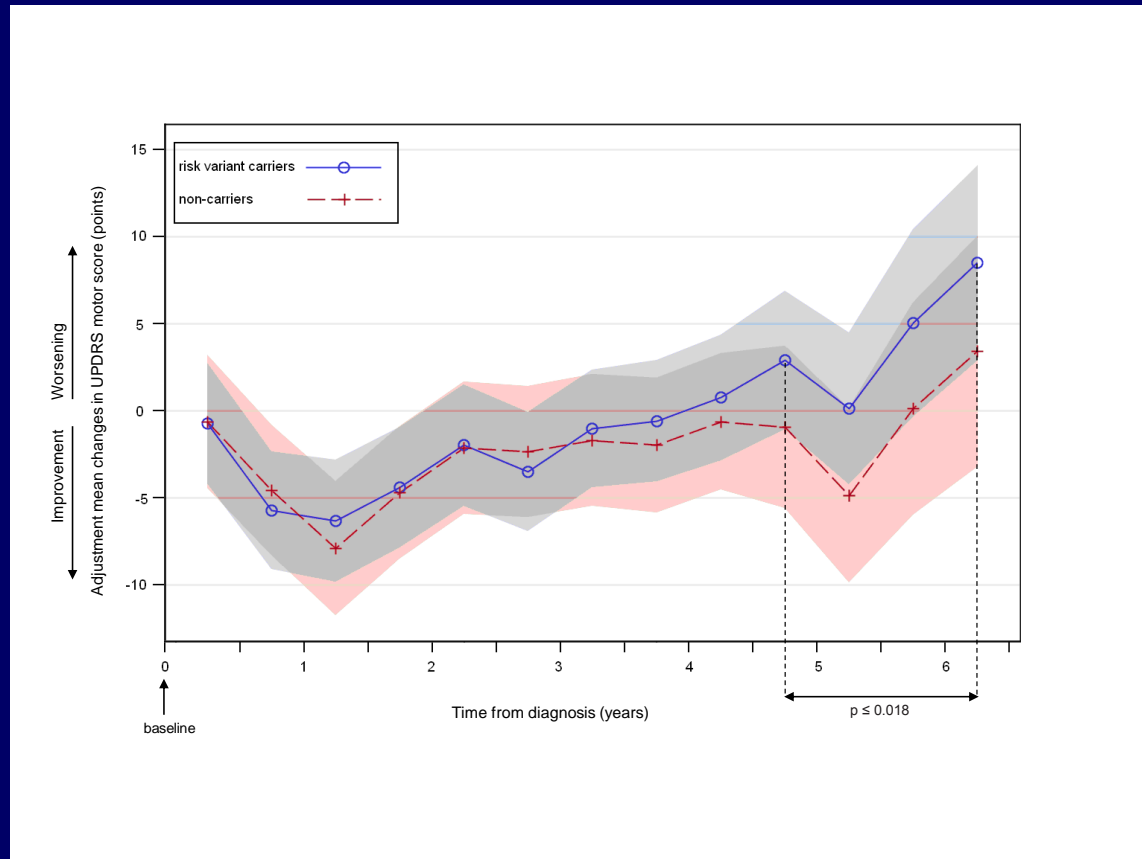


# Clinical Evolution of PD

## Conclusions

- When measured clinically, disease progression was non-linear, and occurred in distinct phases
- Factor associated with ↑ disease progression:
  - male gender
  - older age at diagnosis
  - cognitive impairment
  - akinetic-rigid subtype
  - low baseline motor score

# LRRK2 risk variant carriers vs non-carriers



risk variant carriers had a greater rate of motor progression than non-carriers after 4 years from the date of diagnosis ( $p \leq 0.018$ )



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## Parkinsonism and Related Disorders

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/parkreldis](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/parkreldis)

## Prognostic factors for early mortality in Parkinson's disease

Linda P. Oosterveld<sup>a, b, 1</sup>, John C. Allen Jr.<sup>c</sup>, Giselle Reinoso<sup>a, b, c</sup>, Soo-Hoon Seah<sup>a, b</sup>,  
Kay-Yaw Tay<sup>a, b</sup>, Wing-Lok Au<sup>a, b</sup>, Louis C.S. Tan<sup>a, b, \*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Neurology, National Neuroscience Institute, 11 Jalan Tan Tock Seng, Singapore 308433, Singapore

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Survival

## ABSTRACT

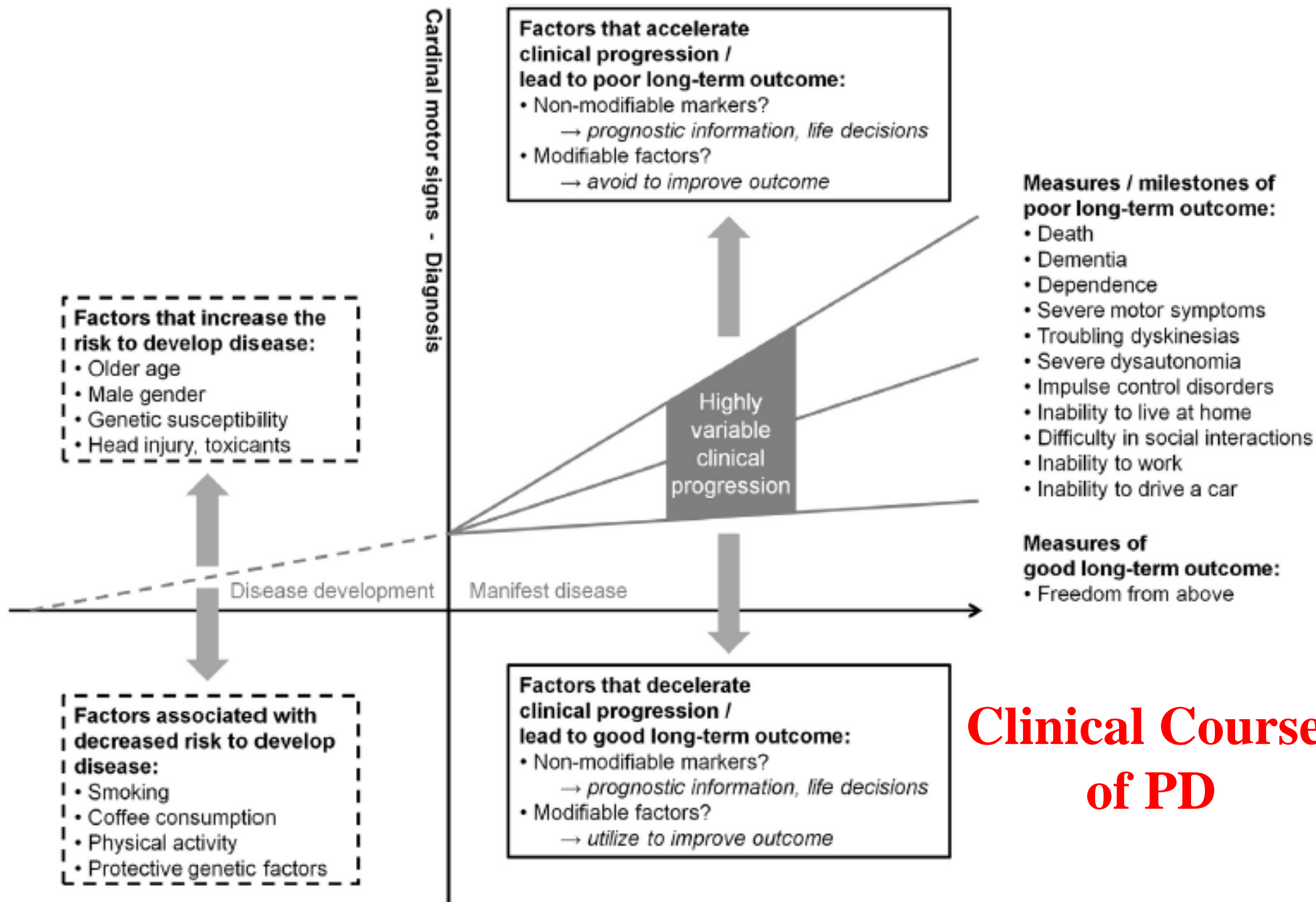
**Introduction:** There are few large studies that have evaluated prognostic factors for mortality in Parkinson's disease (PD). This large study aimed to identify demographic and clinical features associated with early mortality in PD.

**Methods:** PD patients at the National Neuroscience Institute were identified from the Movement Disorders Database from which demographic information and prospectively collected baseline disease characteristics were obtained. All study patients were linked to the Singapore Registry of Birth and Death to obtain information on vital status through December 31, 2012. The prognostic variables analyzed include patient demographics, baseline disease characteristics, and type of PD medication used. Multivariate Cox regression analysis was carried out to identify factors associated with the risk of mortality in PD.

**Results:** Of the 1786 PD patients identified, 363 (20.3%) had died during the 11-year study period. Median survival time from diagnosis was 15.8 years (range 0.3–31). Factors associated with higher mortality (HR, 95% CI) were older age at diagnosis (1.06, 1.03–1.08), male gender (2.29, 1.57–3.35), Hoehn & Yahr (HY) stage  $\geq 2.5$  (1.54, 1.07–2.22), UPDRS motor score  $\geq 30$  (1.63, 1.13–2.35), higher bradykinesia subscores (1.05, 1.01–1.09) and cognitive impairment (2.30, 1.55–3.41).

**Conclusions:** In the largest study to date evaluating baseline disease characteristics prognostic of mortality risk in PD, we found that male gender, older age at diagnosis, higher baseline HY stage, higher baseline UPDRS motor scores, higher bradykinesia subscores and baseline cognitive impairment were associated with early mortality in PD.





## Clinical Course of PD

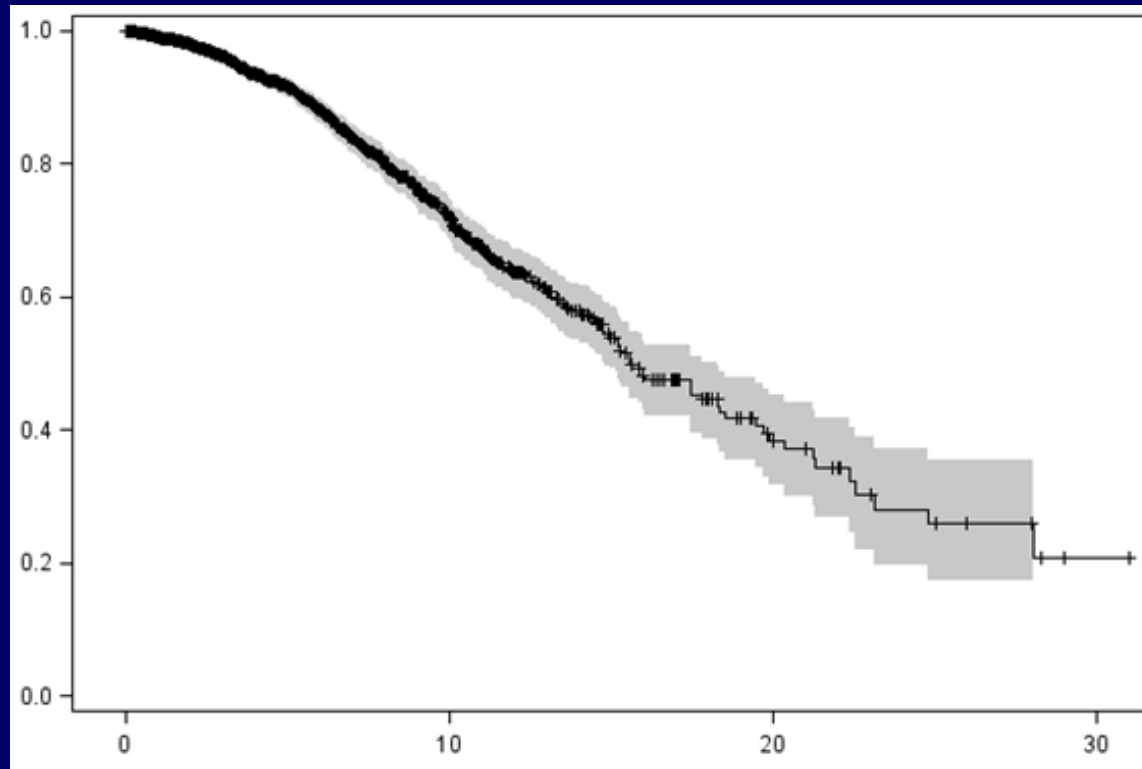
# PD Mortality

- 1986 patients derived from the NNI Movement Disorders Database (2002-2012) were selected with the following criteria:
  - Idiopathic PD (based on NINDS criteria)
  - Did not undergo DBS surgery
  - Baseline assessment done within 2 years of diagnosis
- Linkage with Singapore Registry of Birth and Death

# PD Mortality

- 1786 PD patients
- 363 (20.3%) died
- Most common primary causes of death:
  - infection or sepsis (197, 54.3%)
  - cardiac disease (63, 17.4%)
  - malignancy (35, 9.6%)
  - stroke (29, 8%)

# Kaplan-Meier cumulative survival curve



Median survival from time of diagnosis: 15.8 years (0.3 – 31 years)

**Table 2**  
Prognostic factors for increased mortality risk in Parkinson's disease.

Parameter	Univariate		Multivariate Cox regression <sup>c</sup>		Multivariate Cox regression <sup>d</sup>	
	Hazard ratio (95% confidence interval)	P-value <sup>b</sup>		Hazard ratio (95% confidence interval)	P-value <sup>b</sup>	Hazard ratio (95% confidence interval)
		Cox reg.	Log-rank (K-M)			
Age at diagnosis <sup>a</sup>	1.092 (1.079–1.104)	<0.0001		1.056 (1.029–1.084)	<0.0001	1.067 (1.044–1.090)
Gender (male vs. female)	1.099 (0.889–1.358)	0.3812	0.3811	2.292 (1.570–3.345)	<0.0001	2.598 (1.736–3.889)
Ethnicity (other vs. Chinese)	1.240 (0.926–1.660)	0.1489	0.1484	1.226 (0.741–2.030)	0.4277	1.222 (0.740–2.018)
Education (<10 vs. ≥10)	1.949 (1.468–2.586)	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.983 (0.631–1.530)	0.9389	0.971 (0.625–1.507)
MMSE (CI vs. no CI)	3.205 (2.291–4.483)	<0.0001	<0.0001	2.301 (1.552–3.411)	<0.0001	2.225 (1.484–3.336)
HY stage (≥2.5 vs. <2.5)	2.484 (1.823–3.383)	<0.0001	<0.0001			
UPDRS motor score (≥30 vs. <30)	2.267 (1.659–3.098)	<0.0001	<0.0001	1.632 (1.132–2.351)	0.0086	
Tremor subscore <sup>a</sup>	1.042 (0.981–1.107)	0.1816				0.975 (0.910–1.045)
Rigidity subscore <sup>a</sup>	1.070 (1.022–1.121)	0.0040				0.957 (0.894–1.023)
Bradykinesia subscore <sup>a</sup>	1.060 (1.038–1.082)	<0.0001				1.051 (1.012–1.093)
PIGD subscore <sup>a</sup>	1.153 (1.114–1.193)	<0.0001				1.036 (0.938–1.144)
Use of levodopa (yes vs. no)	3.006 (0.958–9.428)	0.0592	0.0473	0.945 (0.228–3.913)	0.9383	
Use of amantadine (yes vs. no)	0.914 (0.375–2.231)	0.8436	0.8436	2.275 (0.904–5.724)	0.0808	
Use of trihexyphenidyl (yes vs. No)	0.479 (0.303–0.759)	0.0017	0.0013	1.026 (0.601–1.750)	0.9252	
Use of dopamine agonist (yes vs. no)	0.270 (0.179–0.407)	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.768 (0.460–1.282)	0.3129	
Use of selegiline (yes vs. no)	0.336 (0.229–0.492)	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.727 (0.461–1.147)	0.1710	

# PD Mortality

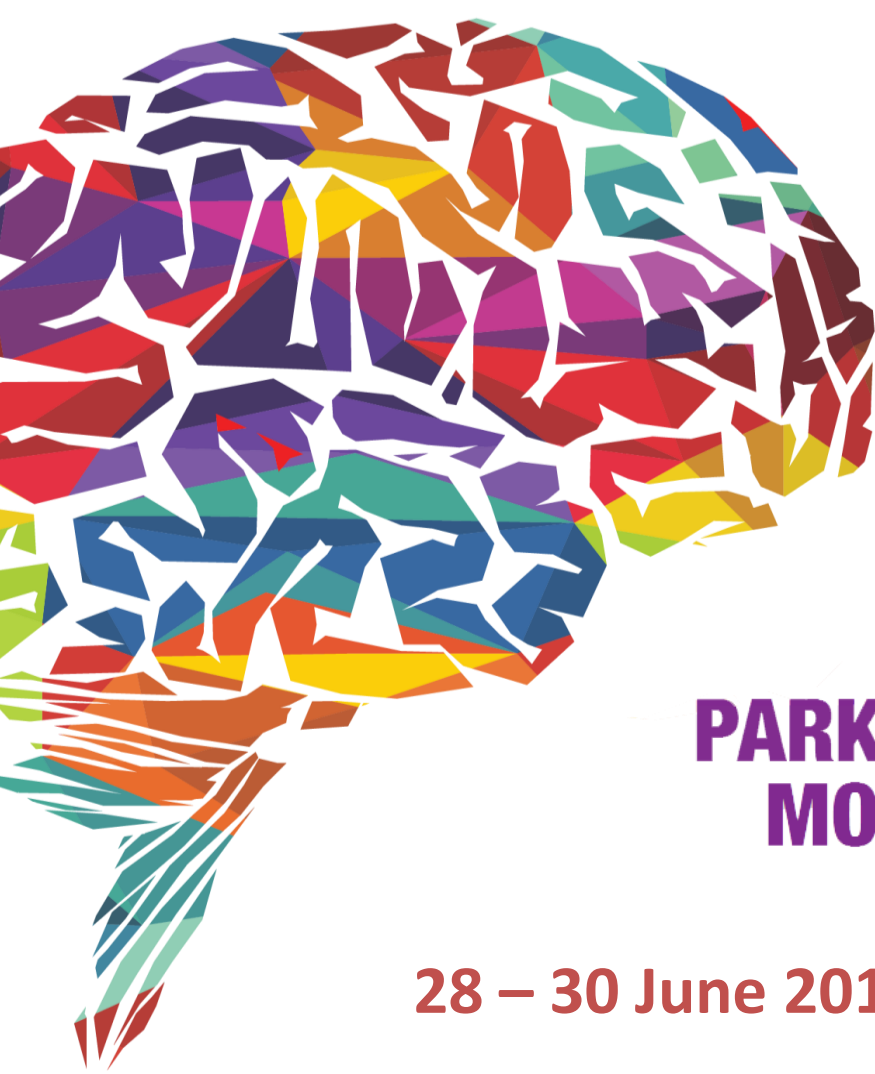
## Independent predictors of mortality

- older age at diagnosis
- male gender
- baseline cognitive impairment
- ↑ baseline Hoehn and Yahr stage
- ↑ baseline UPDRS motor score
- ↑ baseline bradykinesia subscore

# Summary

1. Burden of PD will rise with ageing population
2. Epidemiological risk factors for PD
3. H&Y transition times and factors that increase transition times
4. UPDRS motor progression and predictors of progression
5. Predictors of PD mortality

SAVE THE DATE!



8<sup>th</sup>

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INTERNATIONAL  
**PARKINSON DISEASE AND  
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*Thank you!*

