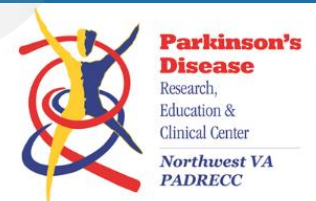




Neuropsychiatric Issues in Parkinson's Disease

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VA Portland HCS
March 14, 2025



Disclosures

- No conflicts of interest to disclose
- The content of this presentation does not represent the views of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs or the United States Government
- The following presentation may contain information including off-label use of medications

Learning Objectives

- Recognize common neuropsychiatric symptoms (NPS) experienced by PwPD
- Understand the role PD and its treatments may play in developing PD NPS
- Consider initial treatments for PD NPS
- Highlight the importance of coordinated, multi-disciplinary care in PD

1817- “the senses and intellects
being uninjured.”

AN
ESSAY
ON THE
SHAKING PALSY.

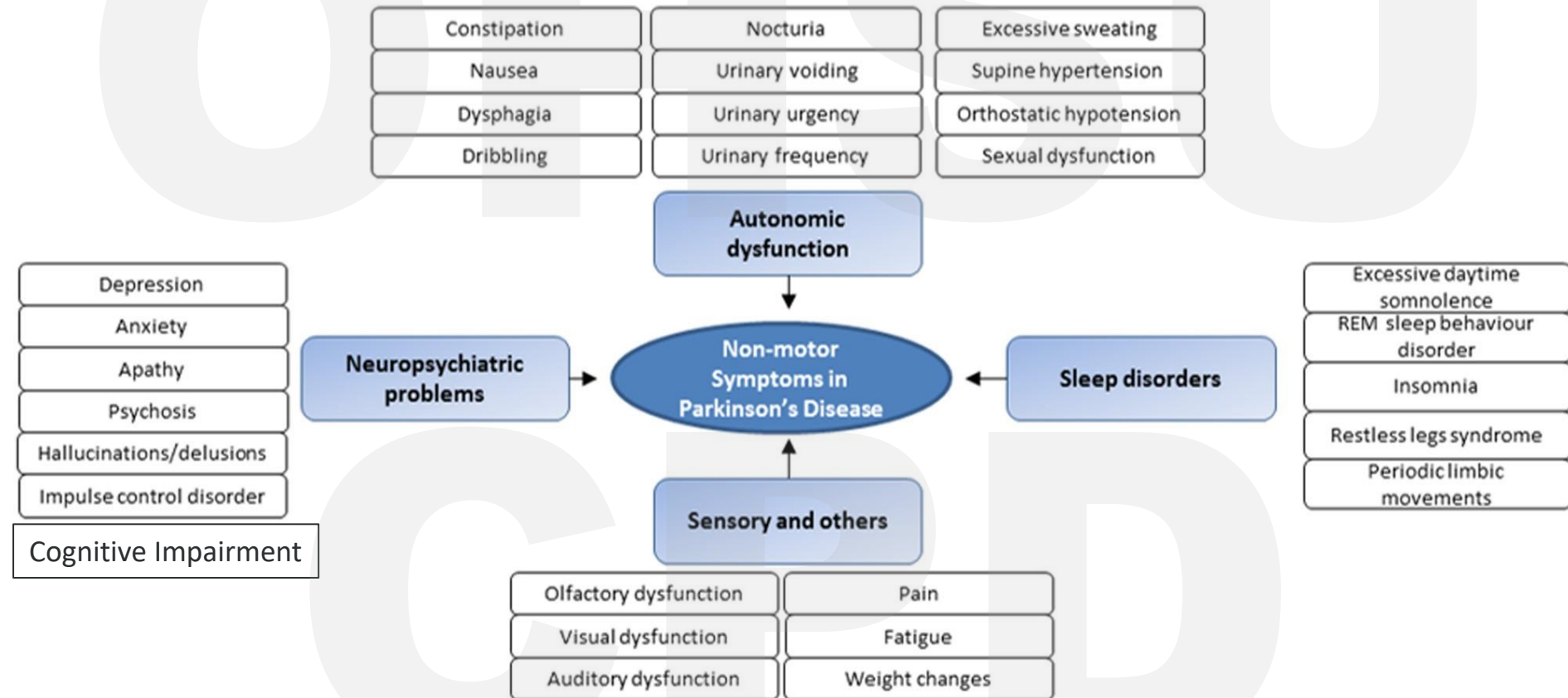
CHAPTER I.

DEFINITION-HISTORY-ILLUSTRATIVE CASES.

SHAKING PALSY. (*Paralysis Agitans.*)

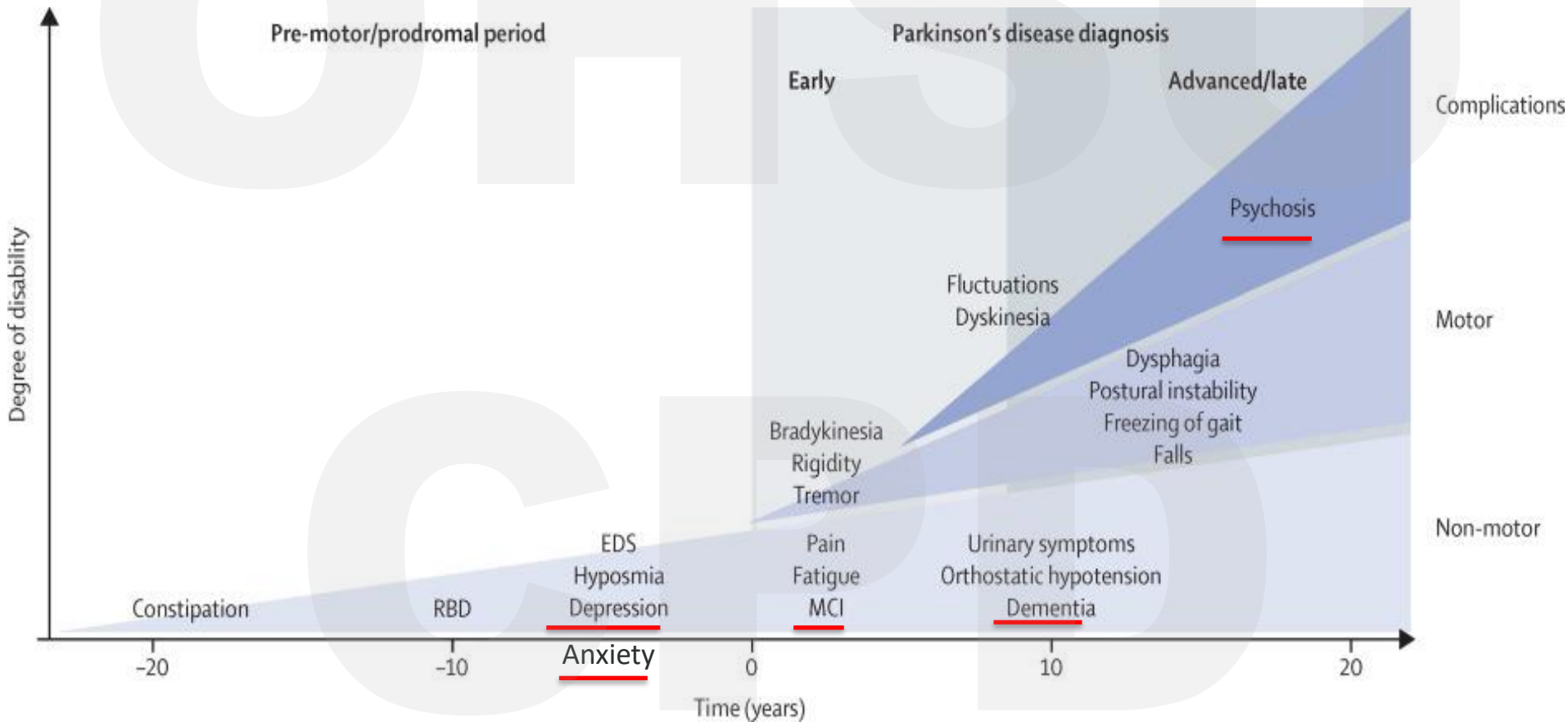
Involuntary tremulous motion, with lessened muscular power, in parts not in action and even when supported; with a propensity to bend the trunk forward, and to pass from a walking to a running pace; the senses and intellects being uninjured.

Non-motor symptoms in PD

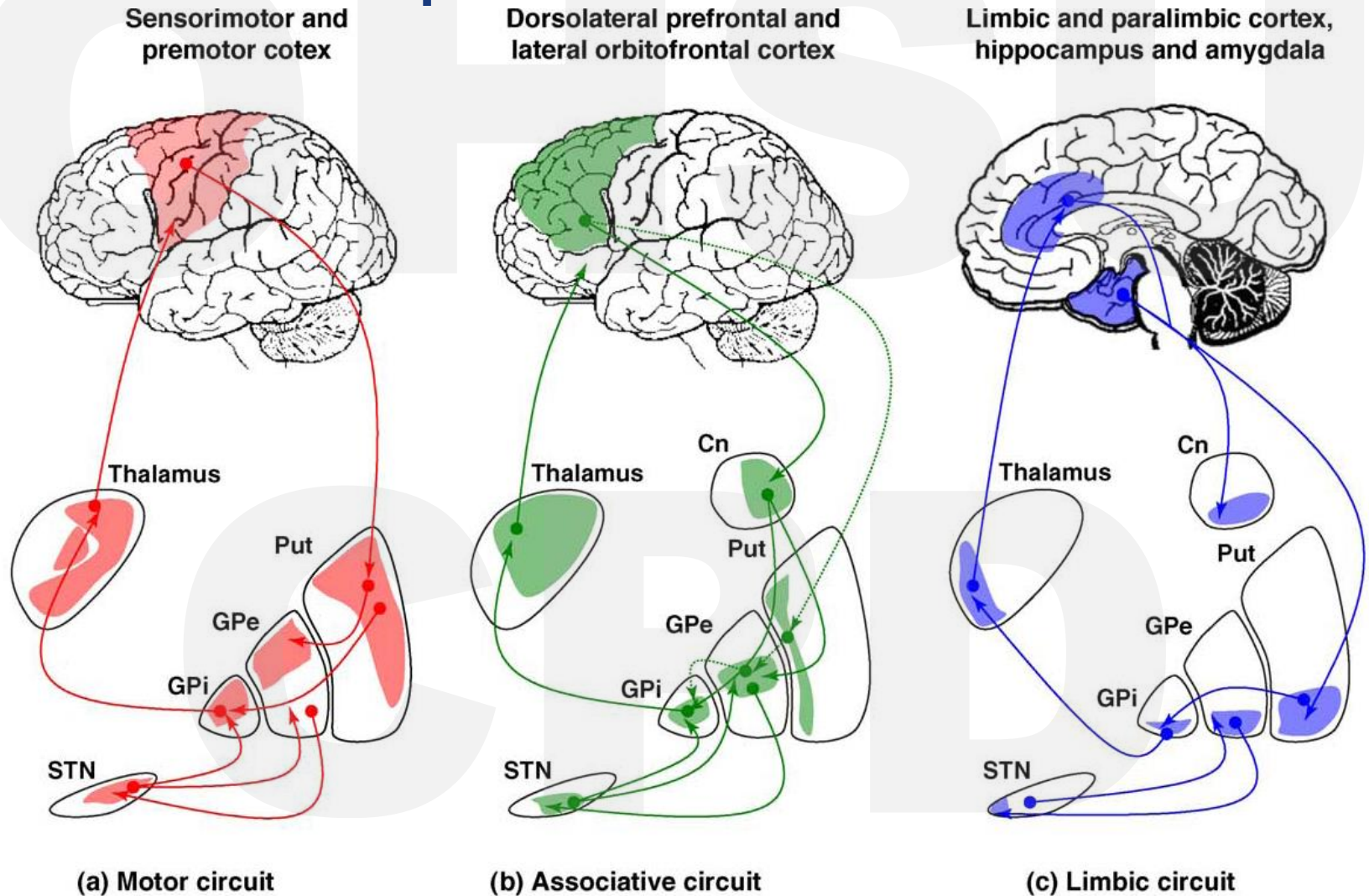


PD: “THE QUINTESSENTIAL
NEUROPSYCHIATRIC DISORDER”
- Weintraub, 2011

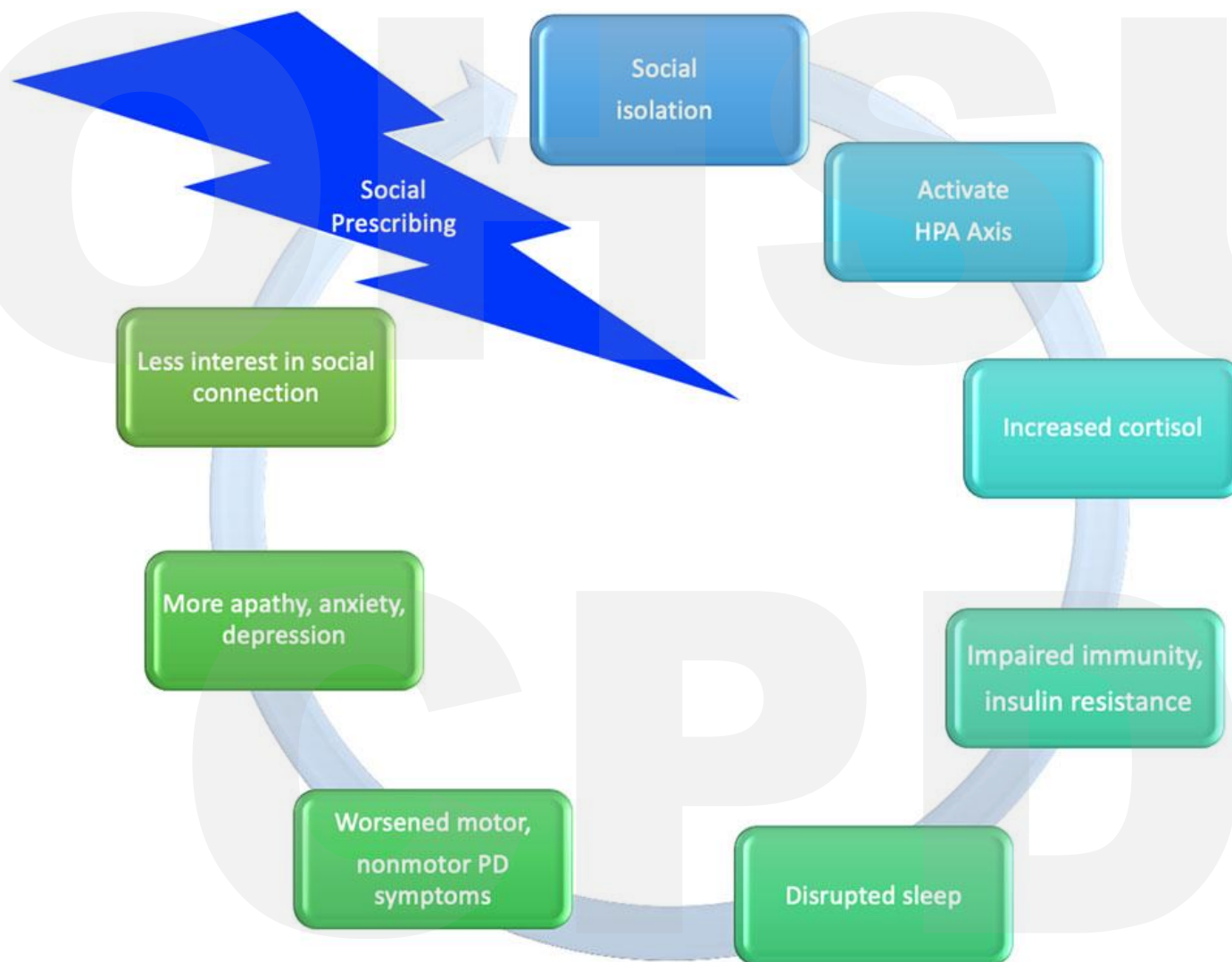
Clinical symptoms and time course of PD progression



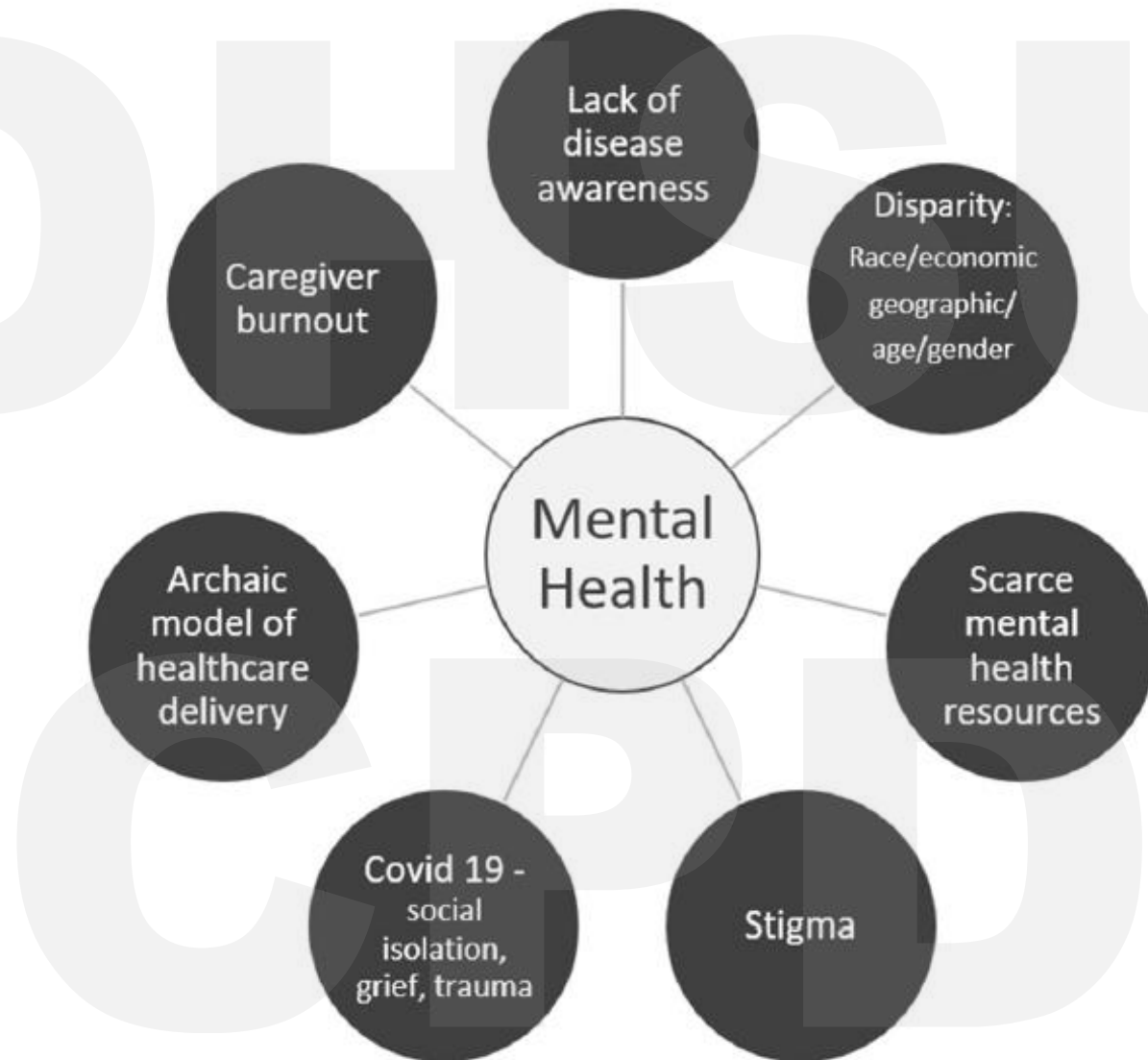
Cortico-Striatal-Pallido-Thalamo-Cortical Loops



Social Isolation, Stress, and PD Symptoms



Barriers to Mental Health and Wellness in PD



Depression in PD

Depression
in 35-50%

Major

5-20%

Minor

10-30%

- Underrecognized and undertreated

(Weintraub D et al. *J Geriatr Psychiatry Neurol* 2003; 16:178-183)

- Poorer functioning and quality of life

(Schrag A et al. *Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery & Psychiatry* 2000;69:308-312)

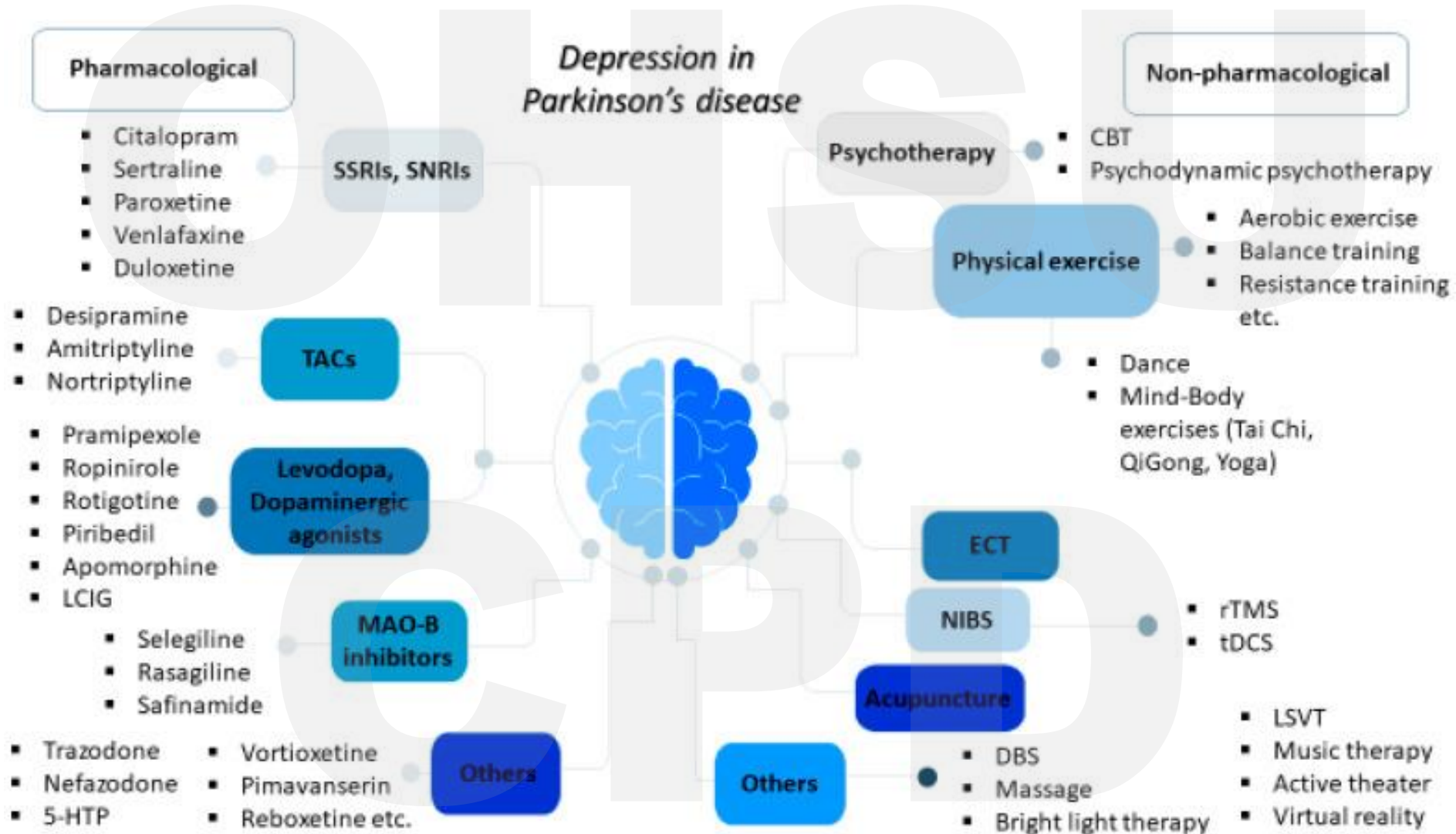
- Increases difficulty for caregivers
- May be prodromal (~5 years pre-PD Dx)
- Not just a normal reaction to PD Dx

Overlapping Symptoms of PD and Depression

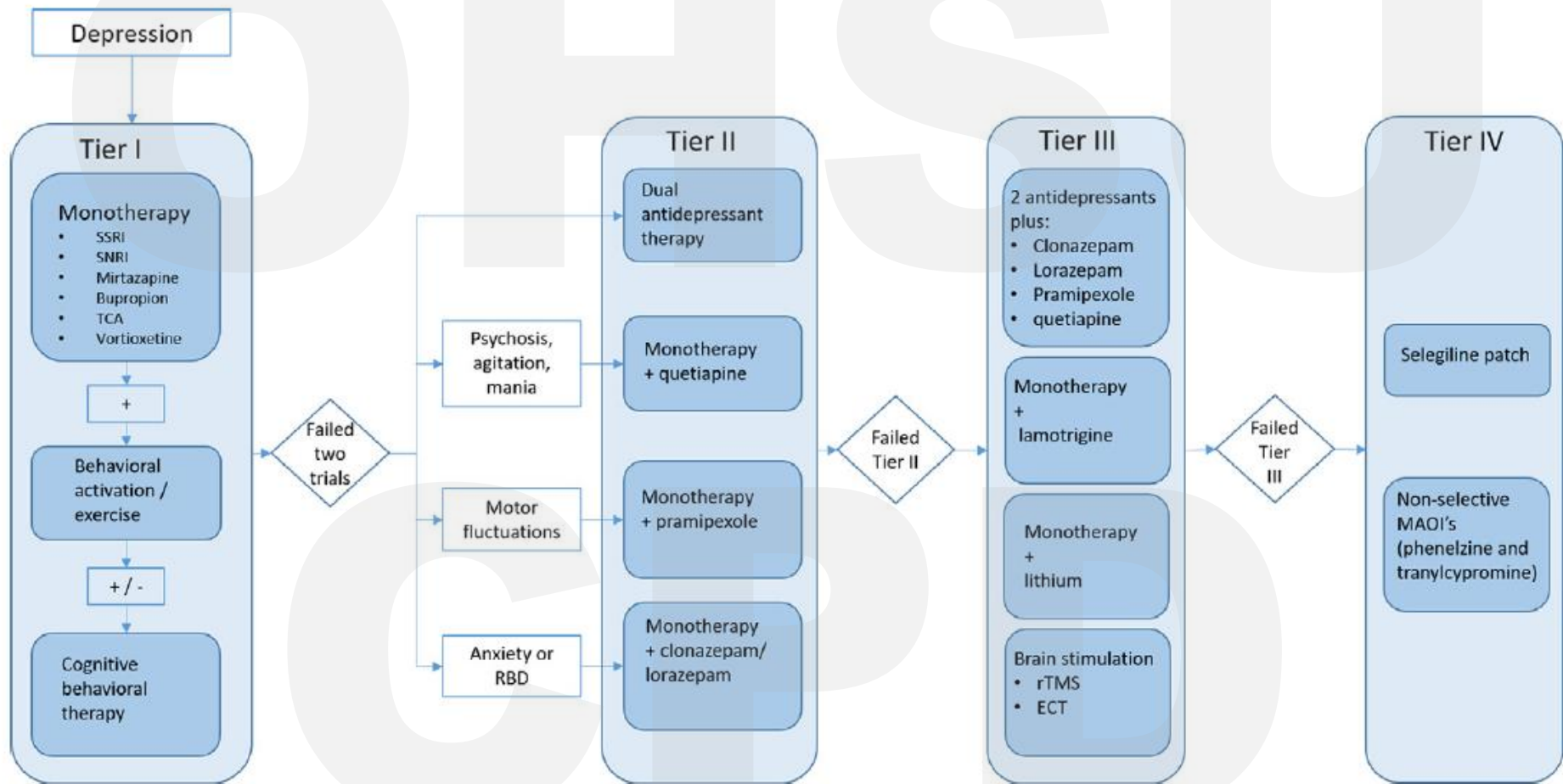
	<i>MAJOR DEPRESSION</i>	<i>PARKINSON DISEASE</i>
<i>MOTOR PHENOMENA</i>	Psychomotor retardation, stooped posture, restricted/depressed affect, agitation	Bradykinesia, stooped posture, masked face/hypomimia, tremor
<i>OTHER SOMATIC COMPLAINTS</i>	Physical complaints, muscle tension, gastrointestinal symptoms, sexual dysfunction	
<i>VEGETATIVE CHANGES</i>	Decreased energy, fatigue, sleep and appetite changes	
<i>COGNITIVE DISTURBANCES</i>	Poor concentration, decreased memory, impaired problem-solving	

Marsh L. *Current neurology and neuroscience reports*. 2013;13(12):409.

Overview of PD Depression Tx Options



Algorithm for Tx of PD Depression



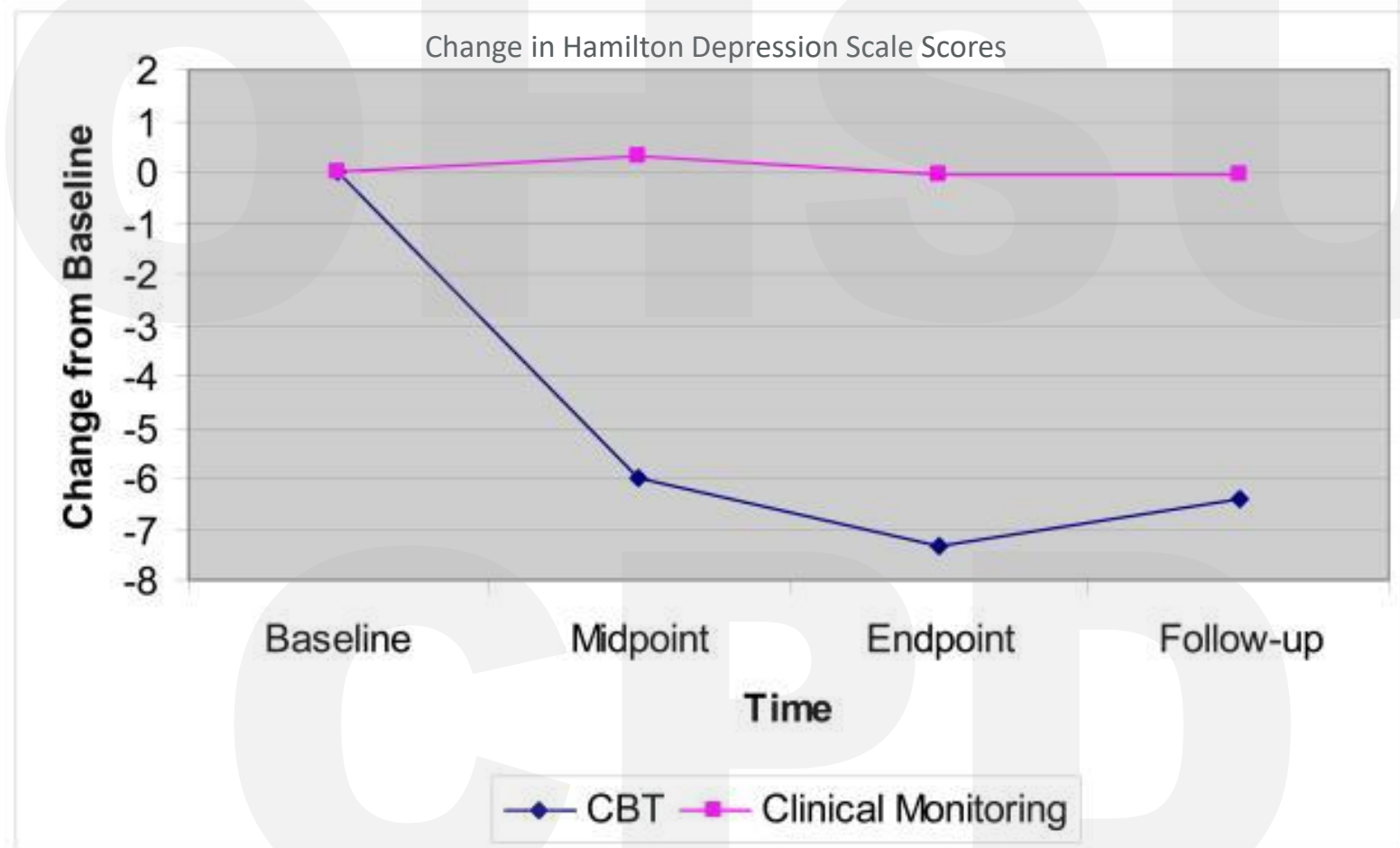
PD Depression: Treatment

Medication Class	Dose Range (mg/day)	Side Effects for Medication Class
Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors	Sertraline 25–200 mg/day; Fluoxetine: 10–60 mg/day; *(Es)Citalopram: 10–40; Escitalopram 5-20 mg/day *Paroxetine 10–50 mg/day	<i>Common:</i> GI side effects, sexual dysfunction, insomnia vs sedation. Low risk of worsening motor sx. QTc issue with Citalopram.
Serotonin norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors	*Venlafaxine: 37.5–225 mg/day; *Duloxetine: 20–120 mg/day Desvenlafaxine 50-100 mg/day	Same as SSRIs; also dose-dependent increased blood pressure with venlafaxine
Tricyclic antidepressants	Amitriptyline: 25–300 mg/day; *Desipramine: 25–200 mg/day; *Nortriptyline: 25–150 mg/day	<i>Common:</i> Anticholinergic (cognitive) side effects, weight gain, dizziness, orthostatic hypotension, sexual dysfunction; <i>Rare/serious:</i> QTc prolongation, cardiac arrhythmias, sudden death
Other	*Mirtazapine: 7.5–45 mg/day	<i>Common:</i> Sedation, increased appetite, weight gain
Other	Bupropion: 100–450 mg/day	<i>Common:</i> Nausea, weight loss, anxiety, agitation, insomnia; <i>Rare/serious:</i> Seizure
Dopamine Agonist	*Pramipexole: 1–3 mg/day	<i>Common:</i> Nausea, somnolence, dizziness; <i>Rare/serious:</i> Impulse control disorders, paranoia, hallucinations, confusion

*Supported by studies

~Rare complications of serotonergic agents: serotonin syndrome;
induction of mania

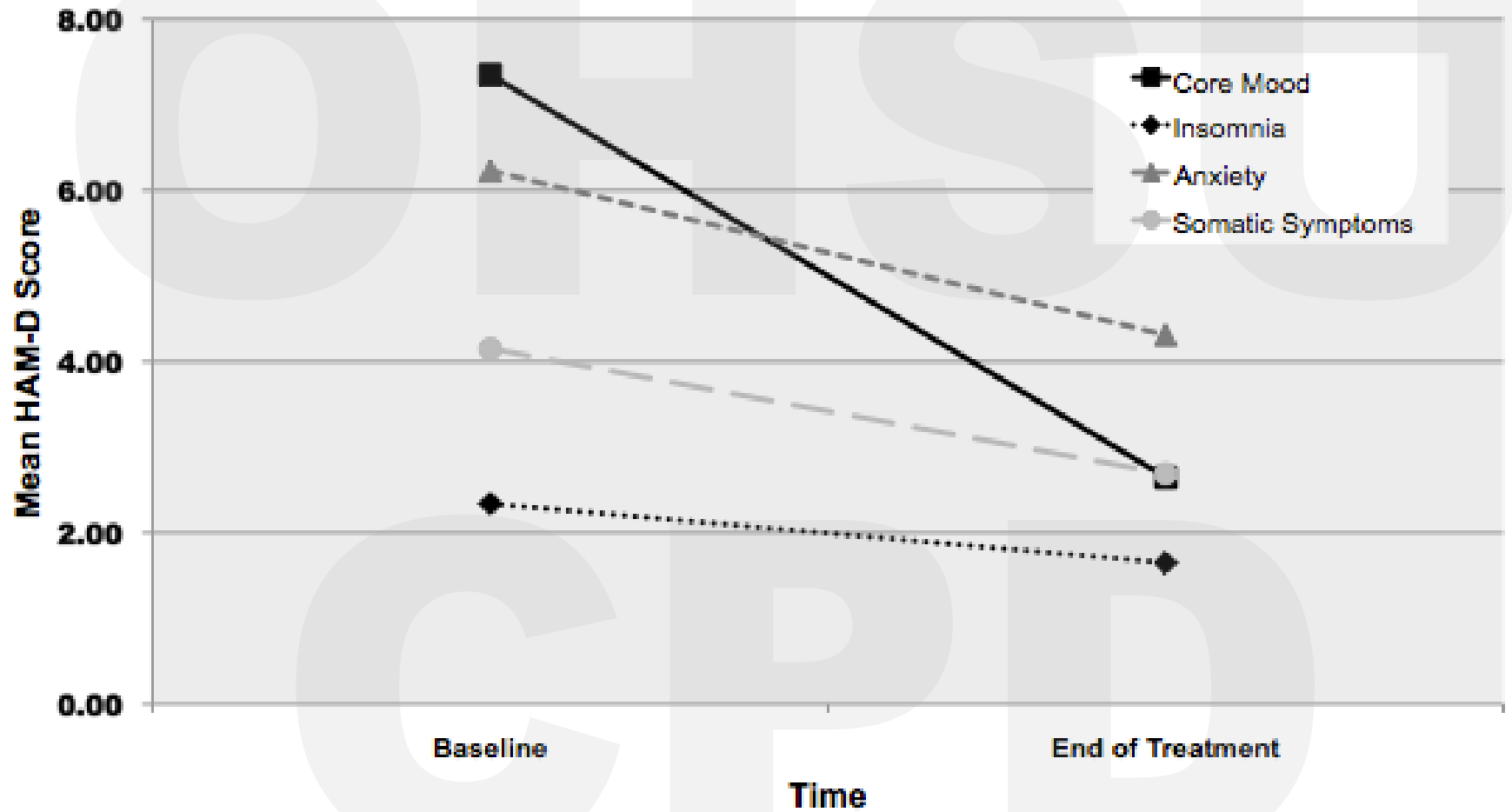
CBT for PD Depression



5 (midpoint), 10 (end of treatment), and
14 weeks (follow-up evaluation)

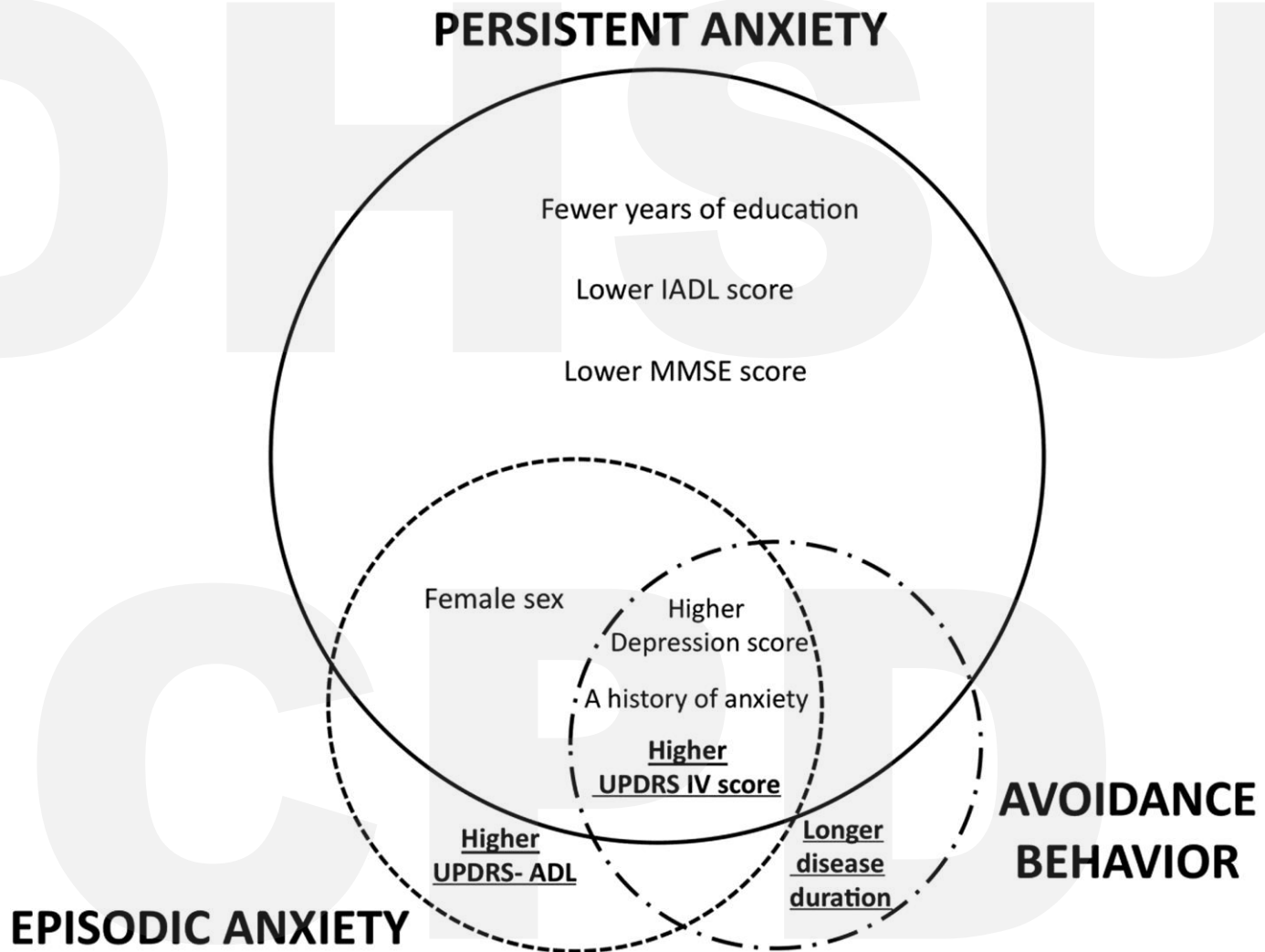
Dobkin et al, Am J Psychiatry. 2011 October; 168(10): 1066–1074.

Figure 1. Change in HAM-D Symptoms

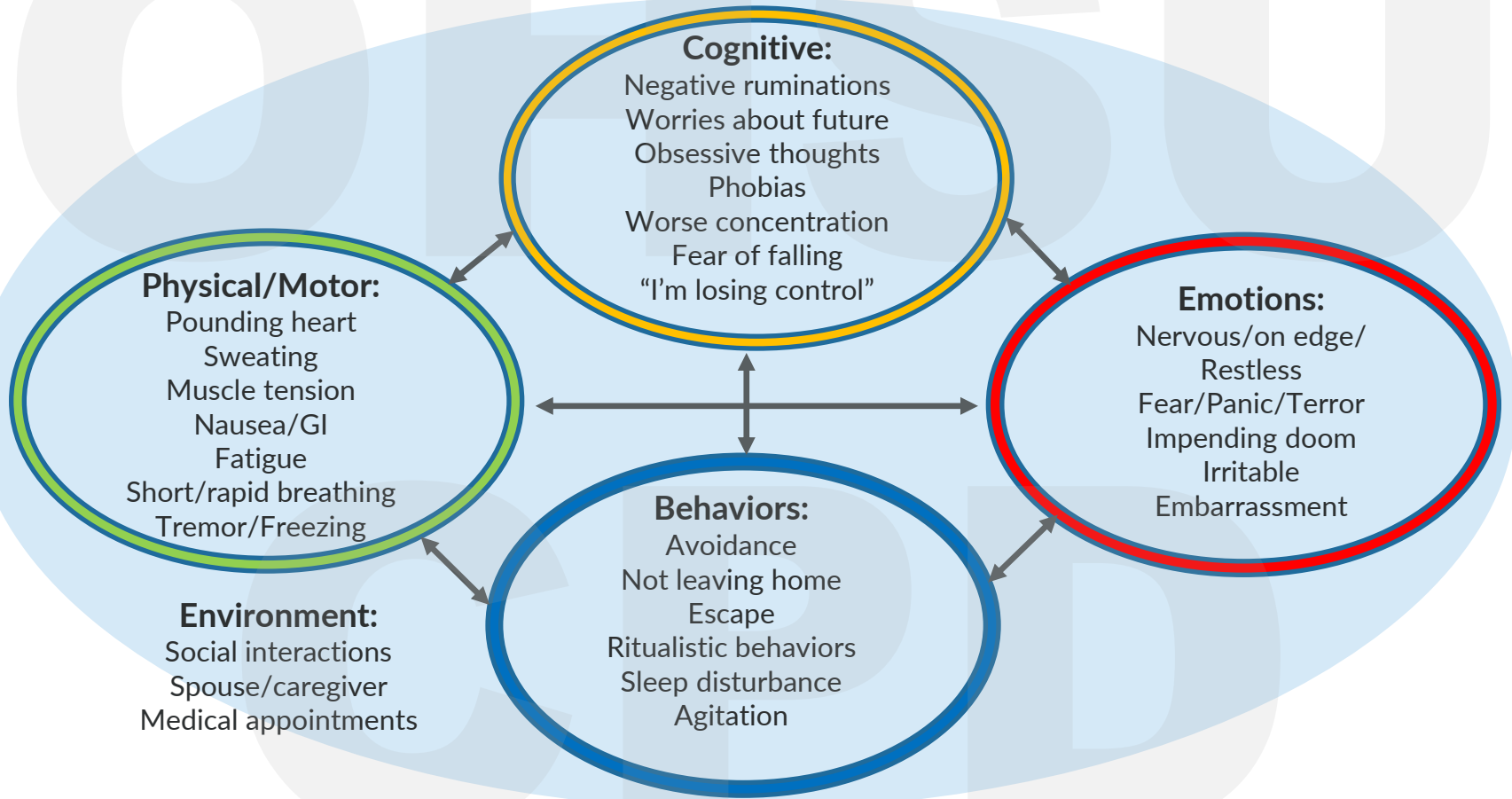


PD Anxiety

- Prevalence:
~30-40%



Manifestations of PD Anxiety



Non-Motor “off” symptoms

Hyperdopaminergic behaviour

Motor: dyskinetic

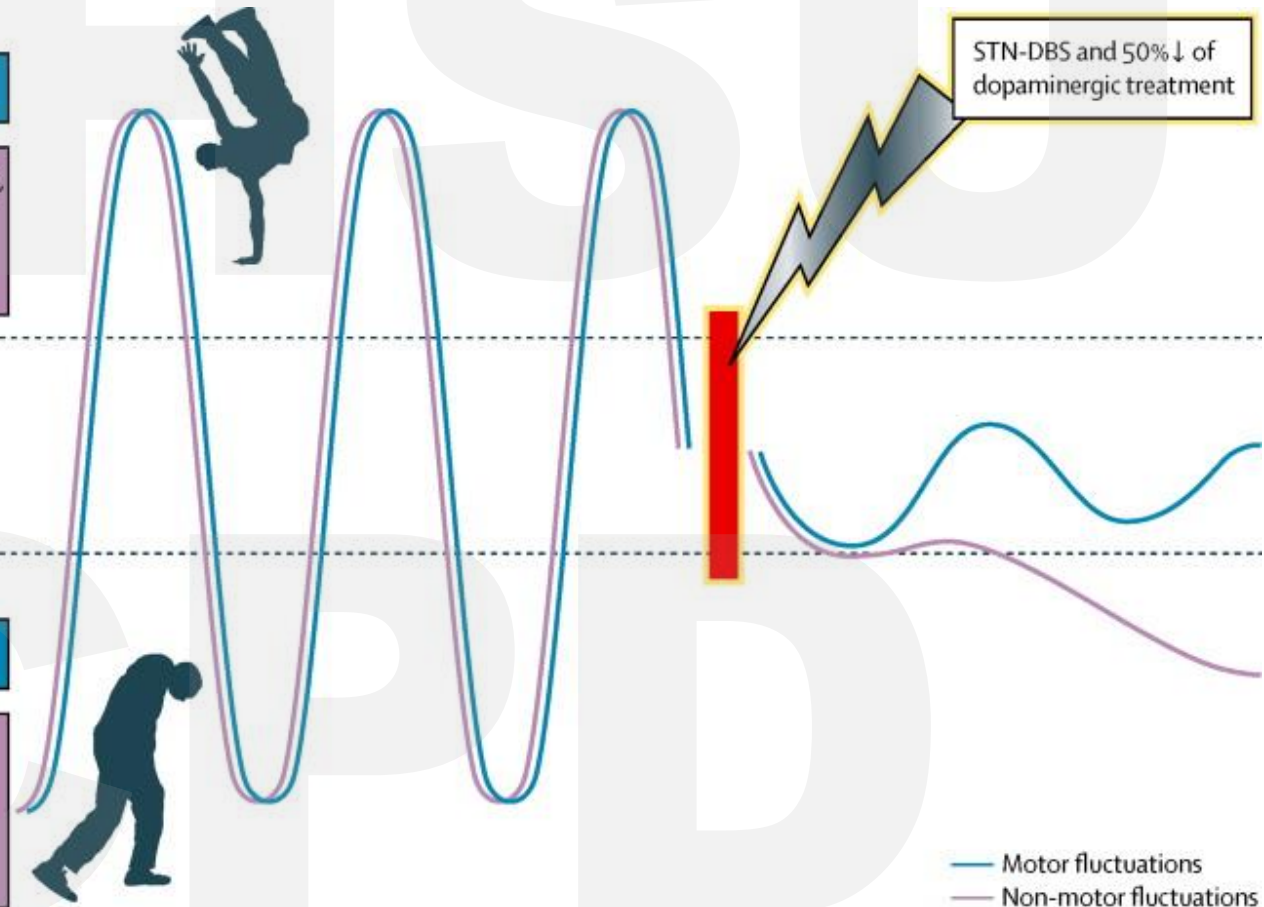
Non-motor: relaxed, sensation and pleasure seeking, creative, socialising, talkative, joking, teasing, self-confident, euphoric, self-satisfied, hyperactive, messy, myopic of the future, disinhibited, manic

Normodopaminergic behaviour

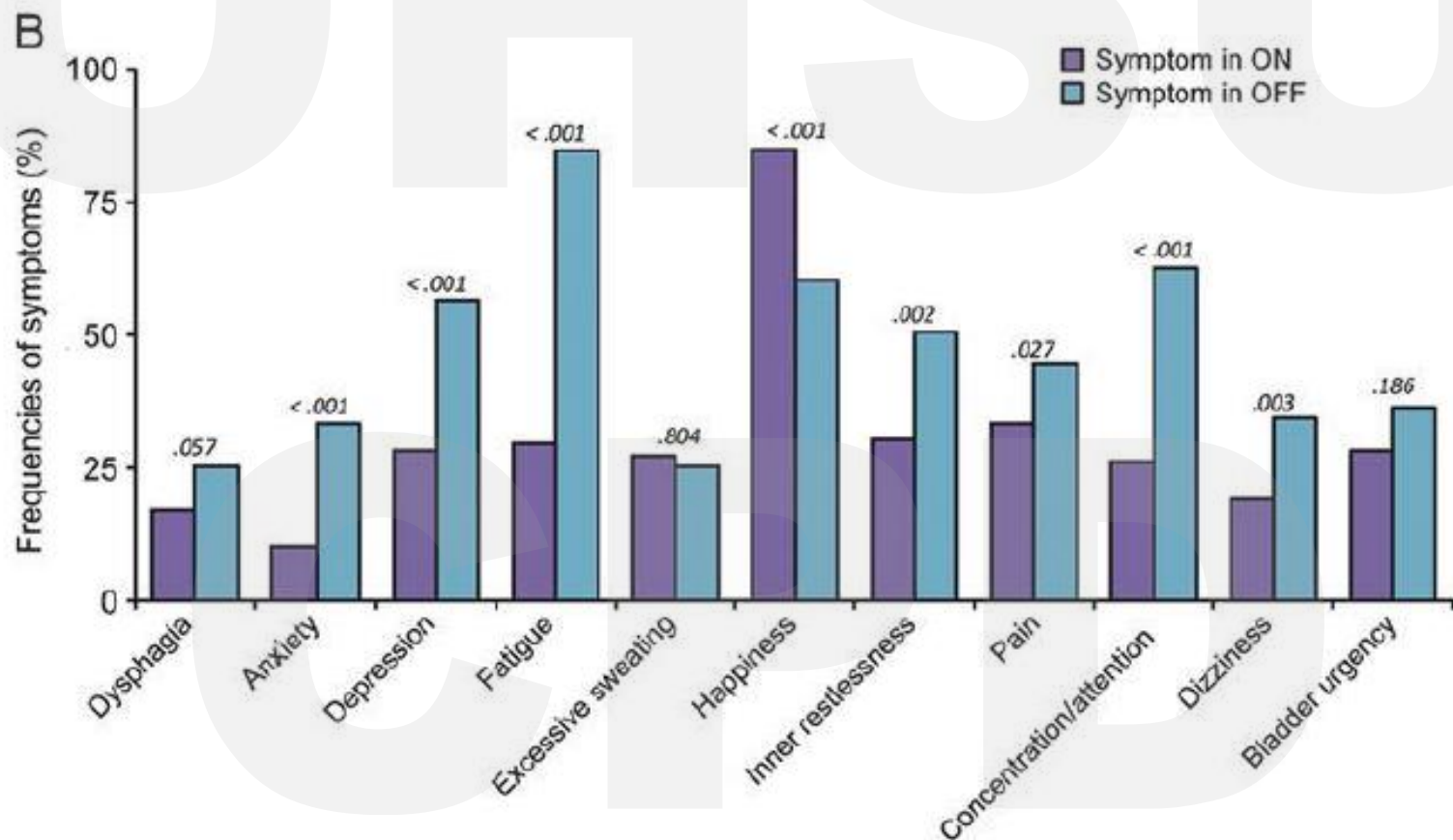
Hypodopaminergic behaviour

Motor: akinetic, rigid

Non-motor: feeling dull, weak, tired, slow, apathetic, indifferent, withdrawn, vulnerable, without self-confidence, anxious, having panic attacks, craving for levodopa, dysphoric, sad, suicidal

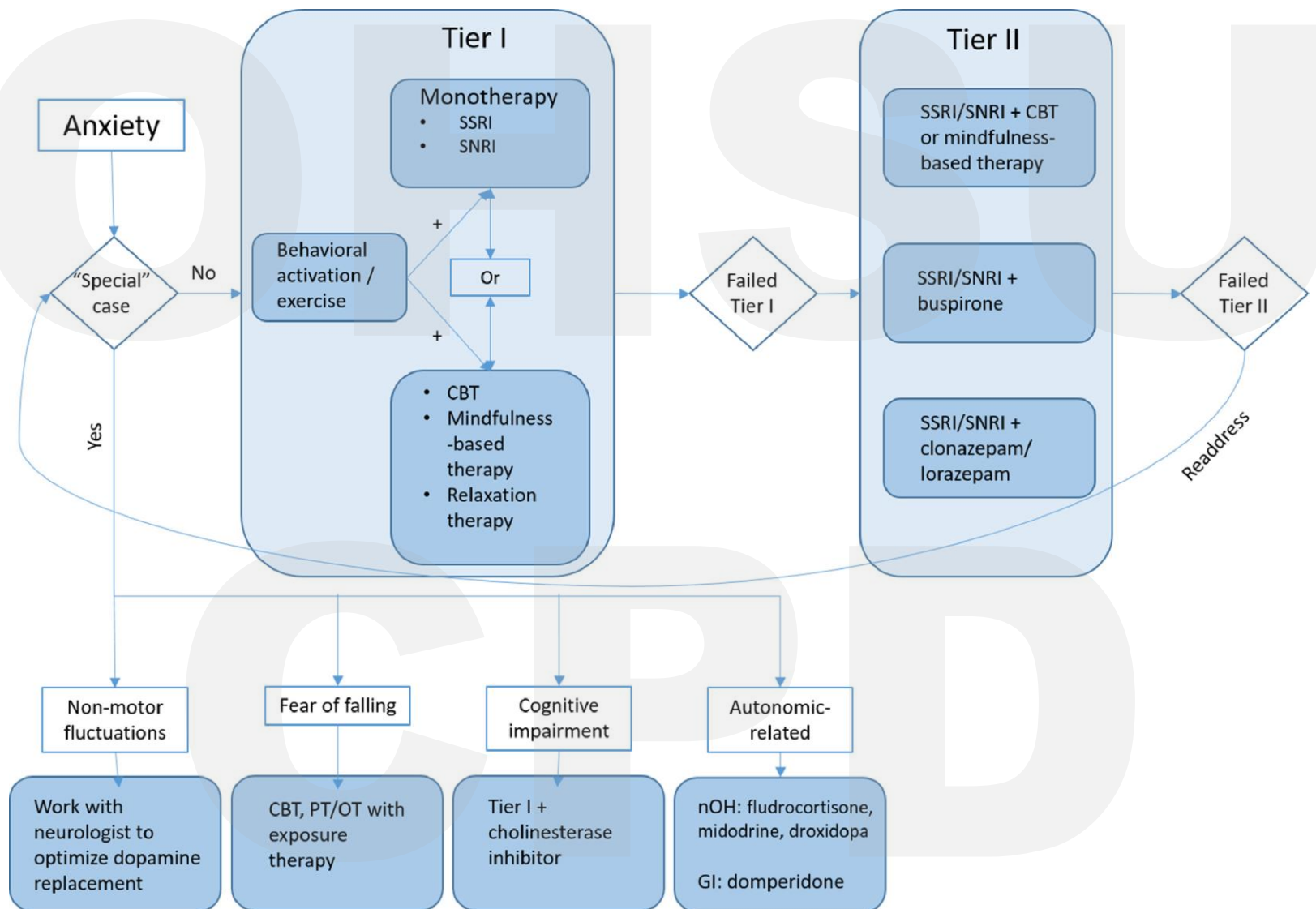


Frequency of nonmotor symptoms in on and off states

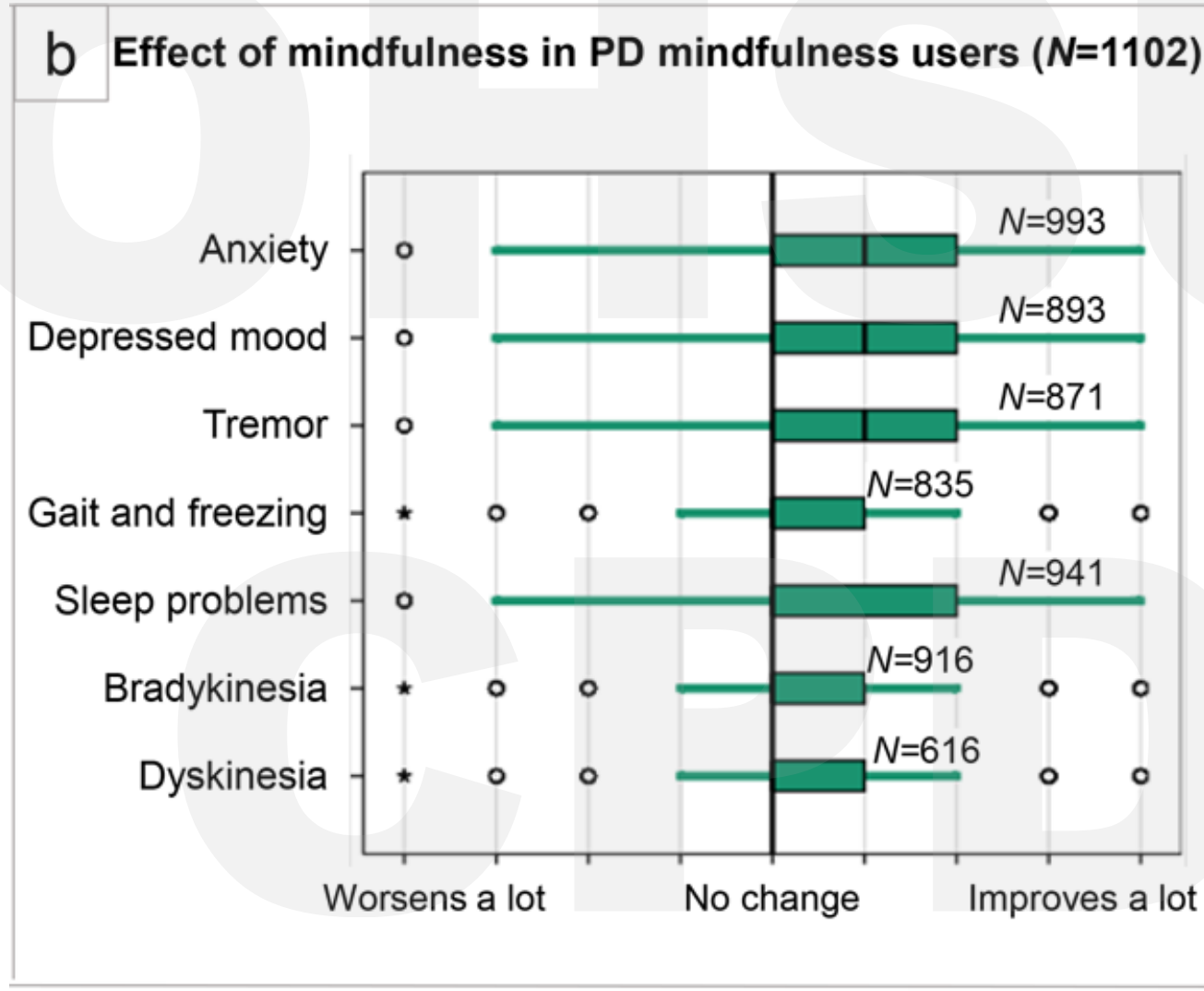


Storch et al. Neurology 2013;80:800-809

Management of PD Anxiety



Perceived effect of mindfulness to reduce stress in PD patients

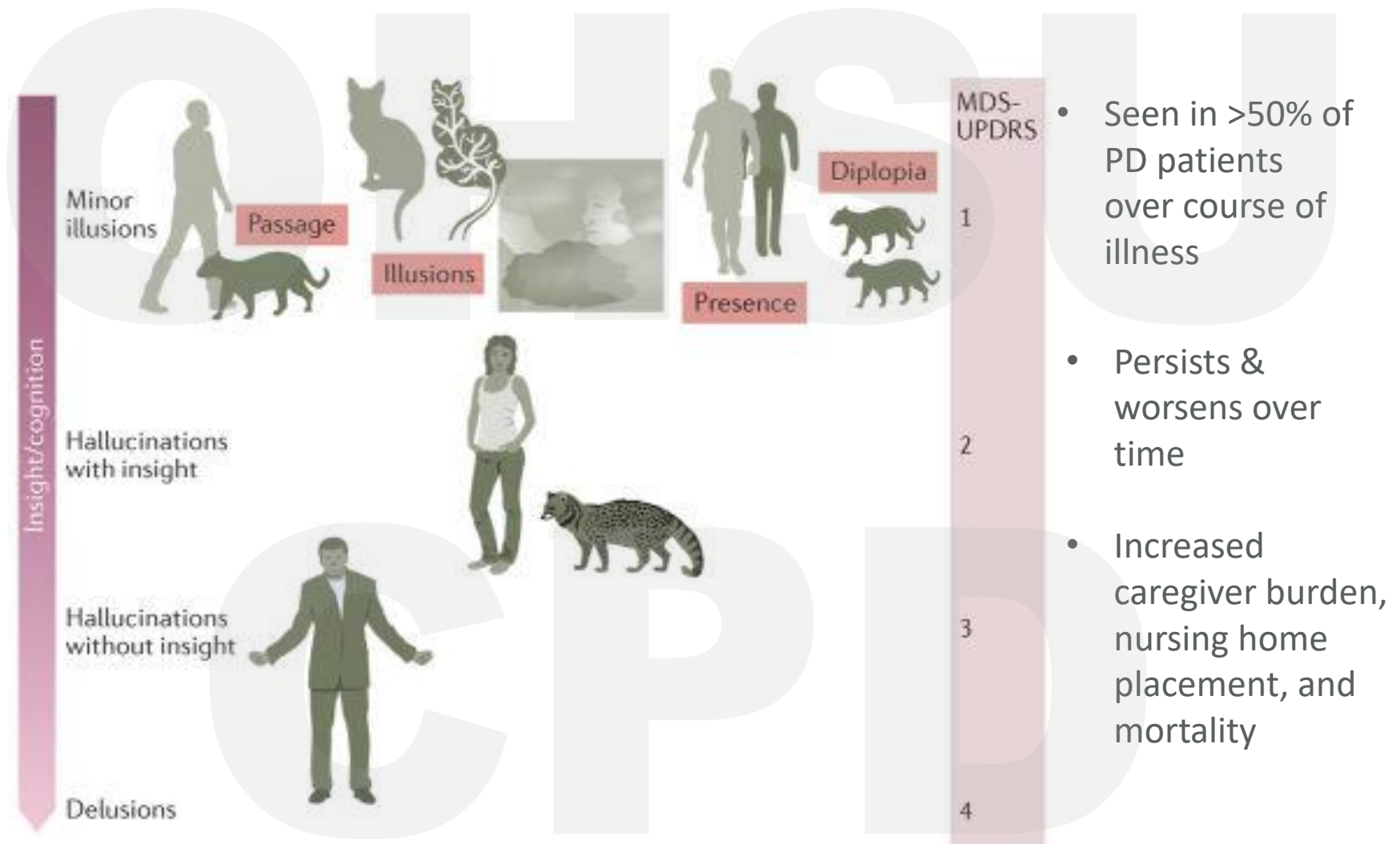


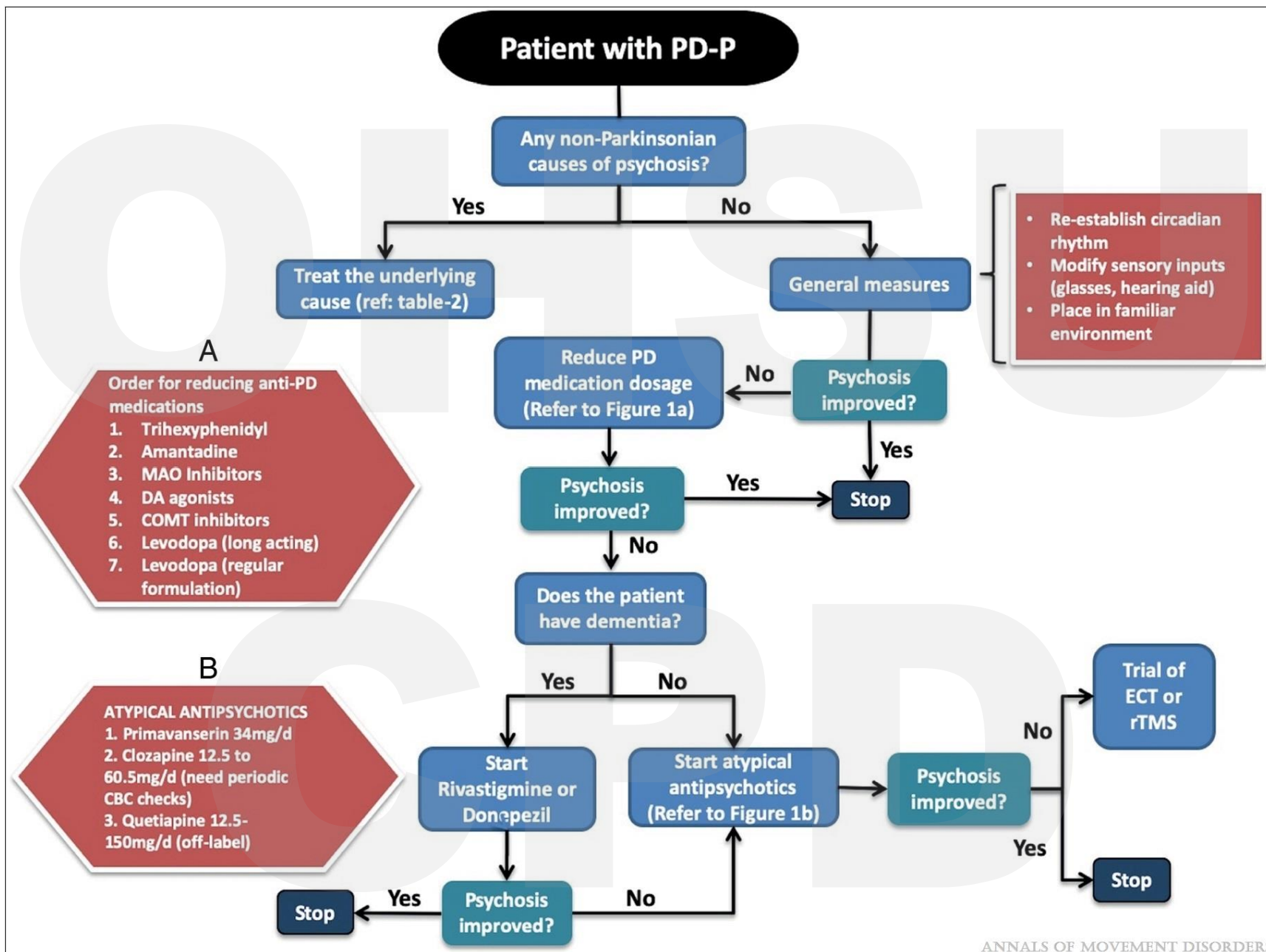
Integrative Mind-Body Interventions for PD-NPS

Intervention	Improvements
Mindfulness	anxiety; depression; QoL
Tai Chi	sleep; QoL
Dance	cognition; apathy; QoL
Yoga	QoL; anxiety; depression
Acupuncture	depression; QoL; sleep
Exercise/PT/OT	QoL; sleep; fatigue; depression; subsets of cognition; apathy; anxiety

Adopted from Subramanian I. International Review of Neurobiology. Vol 134, 2017, pp 1163-1188.(with updates)

The Psychosis Spectrum in PD



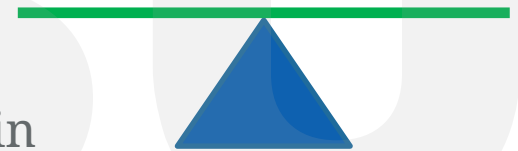


PD Psychosis: Treatment

- Cholinesterase inhibitors
- Quetiapine 12.5-200 mg/day
 - Orthostatic hypotension, drowsiness, weight gain
- Clozapine 6.25-50+ mg/day
 - Drowsiness, sialorrhea, constipation/GI, seizures, *agranulocytosis, orthostatic hypotension, myocarditis/cardiomyopathy
 - * Requires weekly blood draws to monitor CBC
- Pimavanserin, 34 mg/day
 - Two-week bridge from quetiapine
 - Confusion, hallucinations, nausea, peripheral edema, constipation

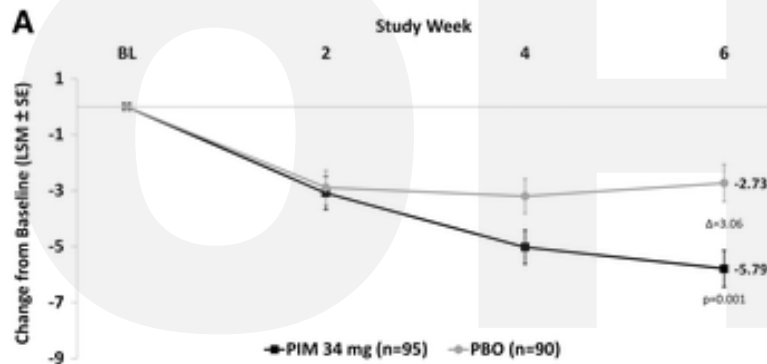
Worsening
Motor Sx

Treating
Psychosis

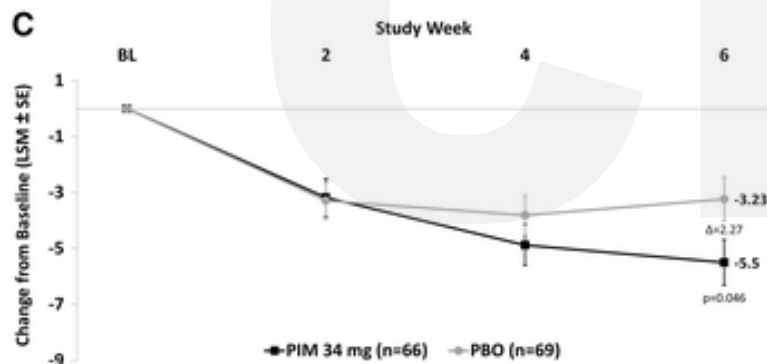
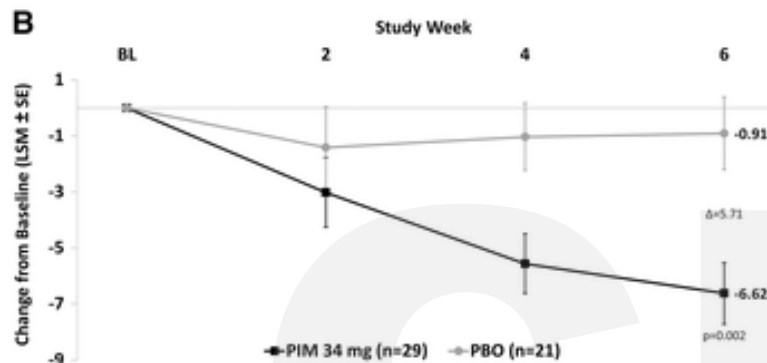


*Black Box warning for all antipsychotics:
Elderly patients with dementia-related psychosis treated with
antipsychotic drugs are at an increased risk of death (cardiovascular,
pneumonia).*

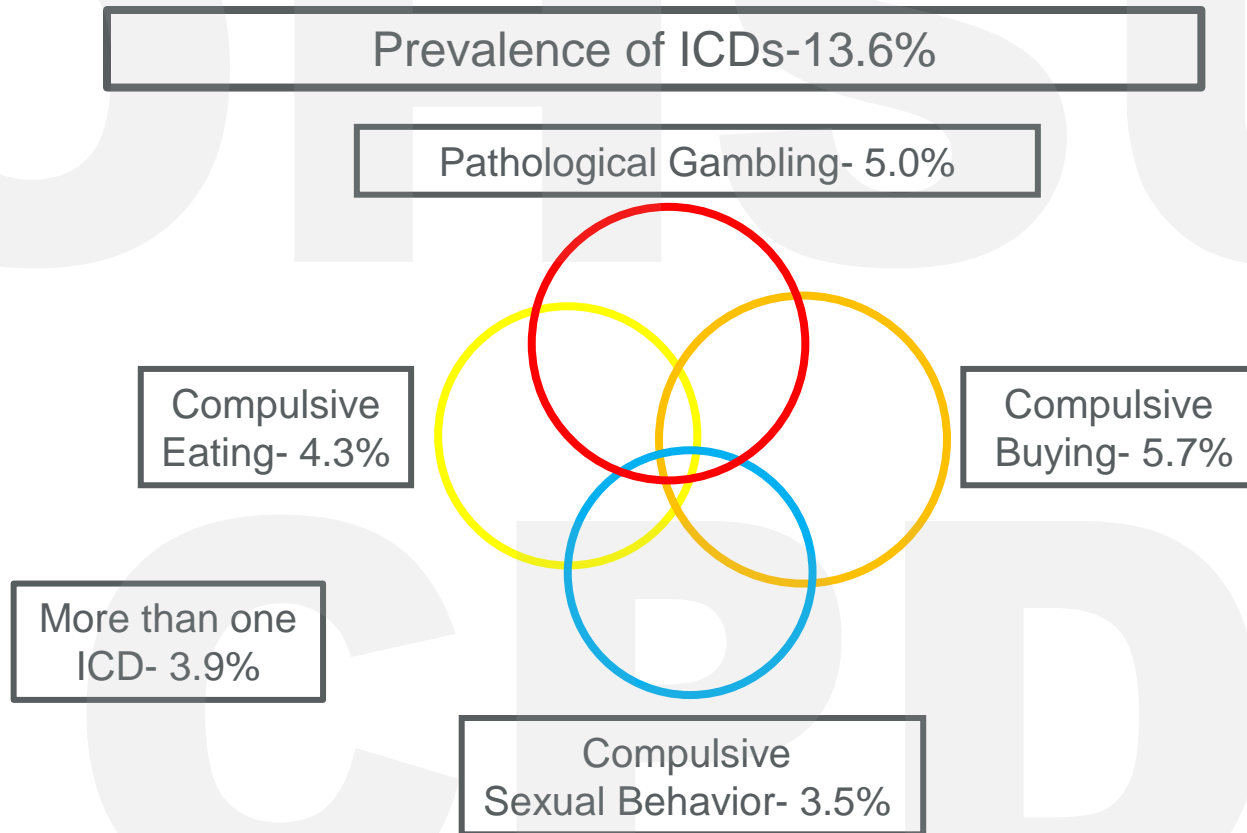
Pimavanserin effects stratified by baseline cognition



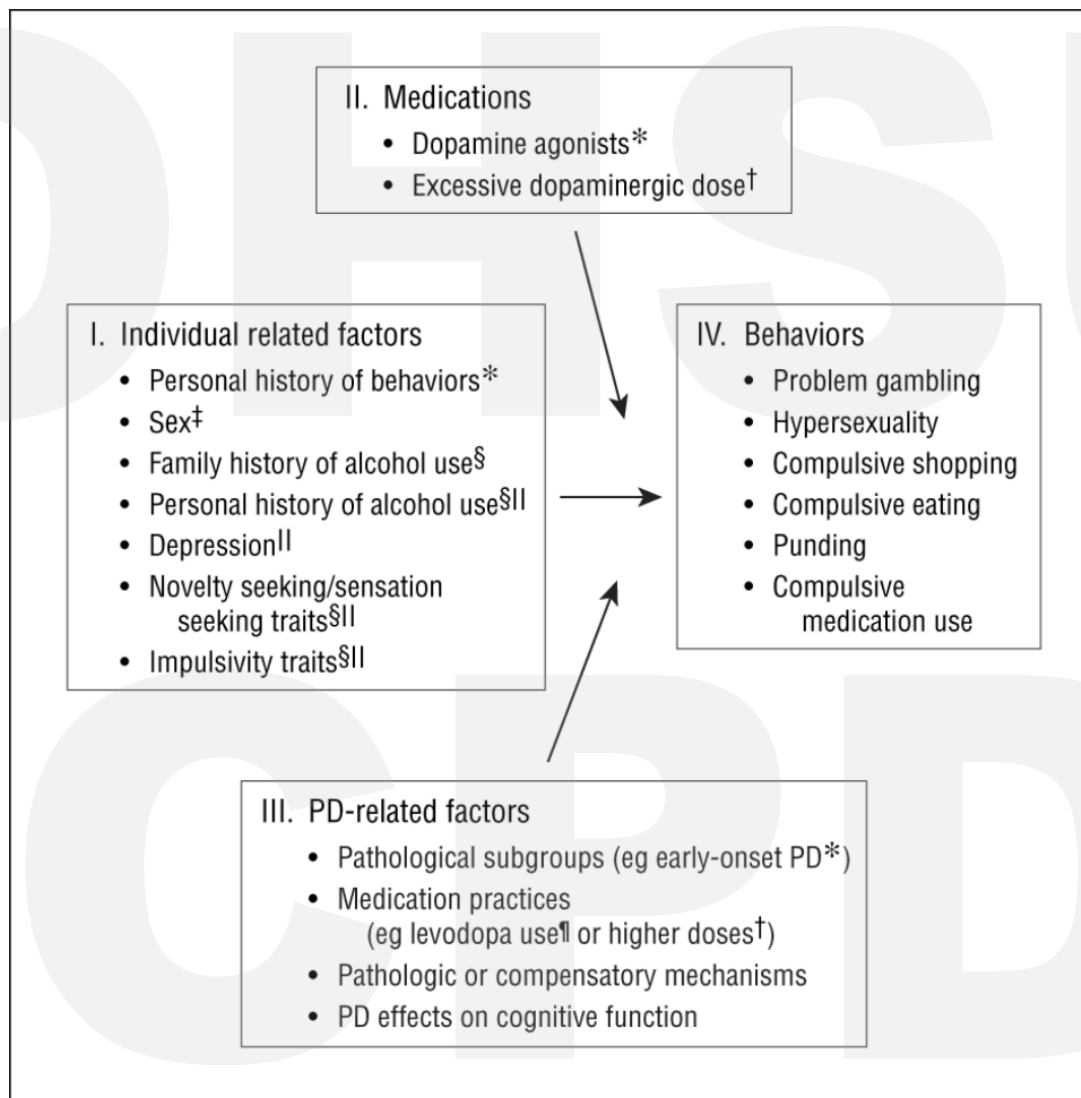
SAPS-PD change from baseline stratified by baseline MMSE score. (A) overall population, (B) MMSE 21 to 24, and (C) MMSE ≥ 25. LSM, least squares mean; SE, standard error; PBO, placebo.



Impulse Control Disorders (ICDs)

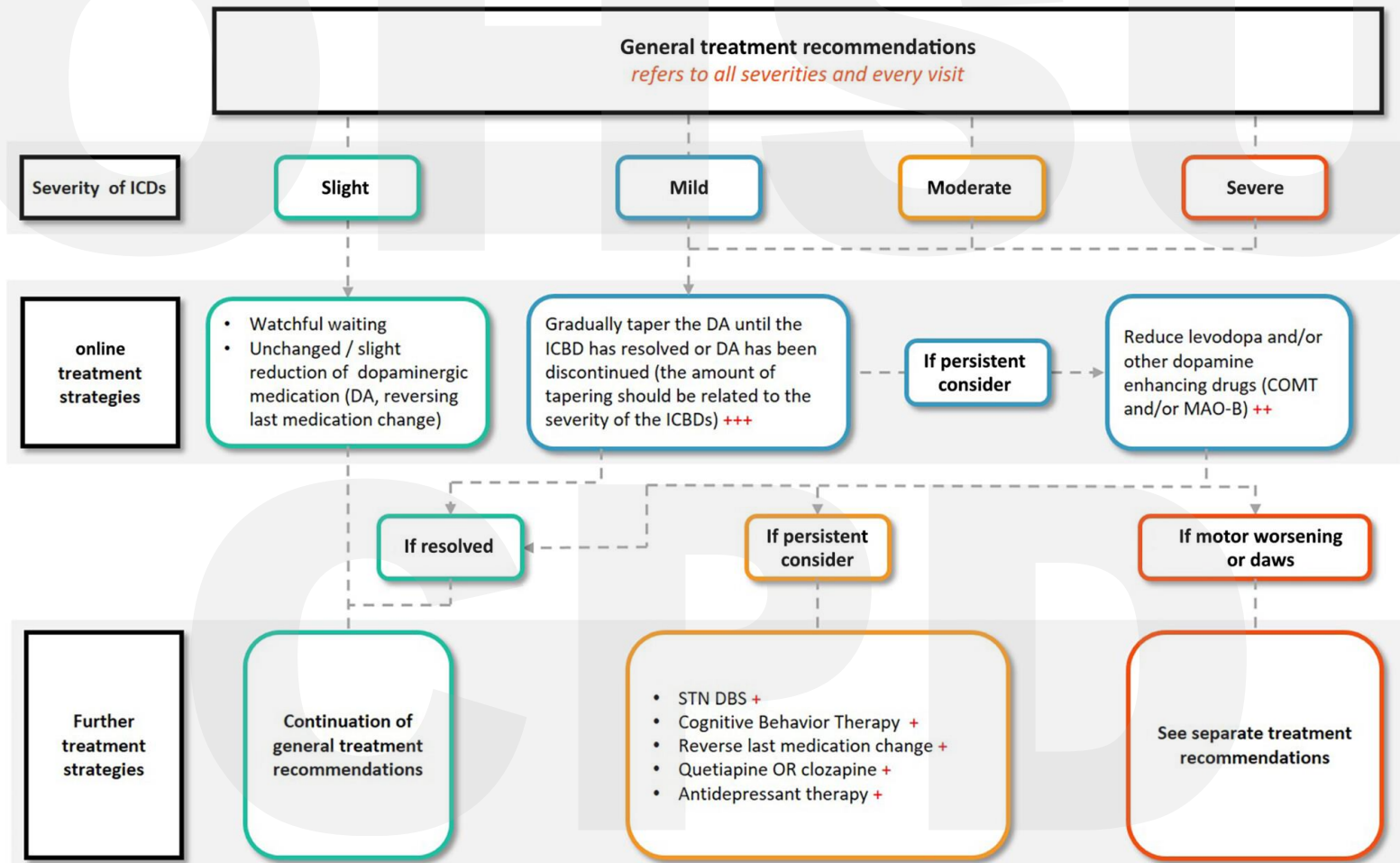


PD-ICD Risk Factors



Management of ICDs in PD

Treatment strategy for ICDs and related behaviors (except for punting and dopamine dysregulation syndrome)



Apathy vs Depression in PD

Apathy point prevalence= ~35%

Apathetic symptoms

- Reduced initiative
- Decreased participation in external activities unless engaged by another person
- Loss of interest in social events or everyday activities
- Decreased interest in starting new activities
- Decreased interest in the world around him or her
- Emotional indifference
- Diminished emotional reactivity
- Less affection than usual
- Lack of concern for others' feelings or interests

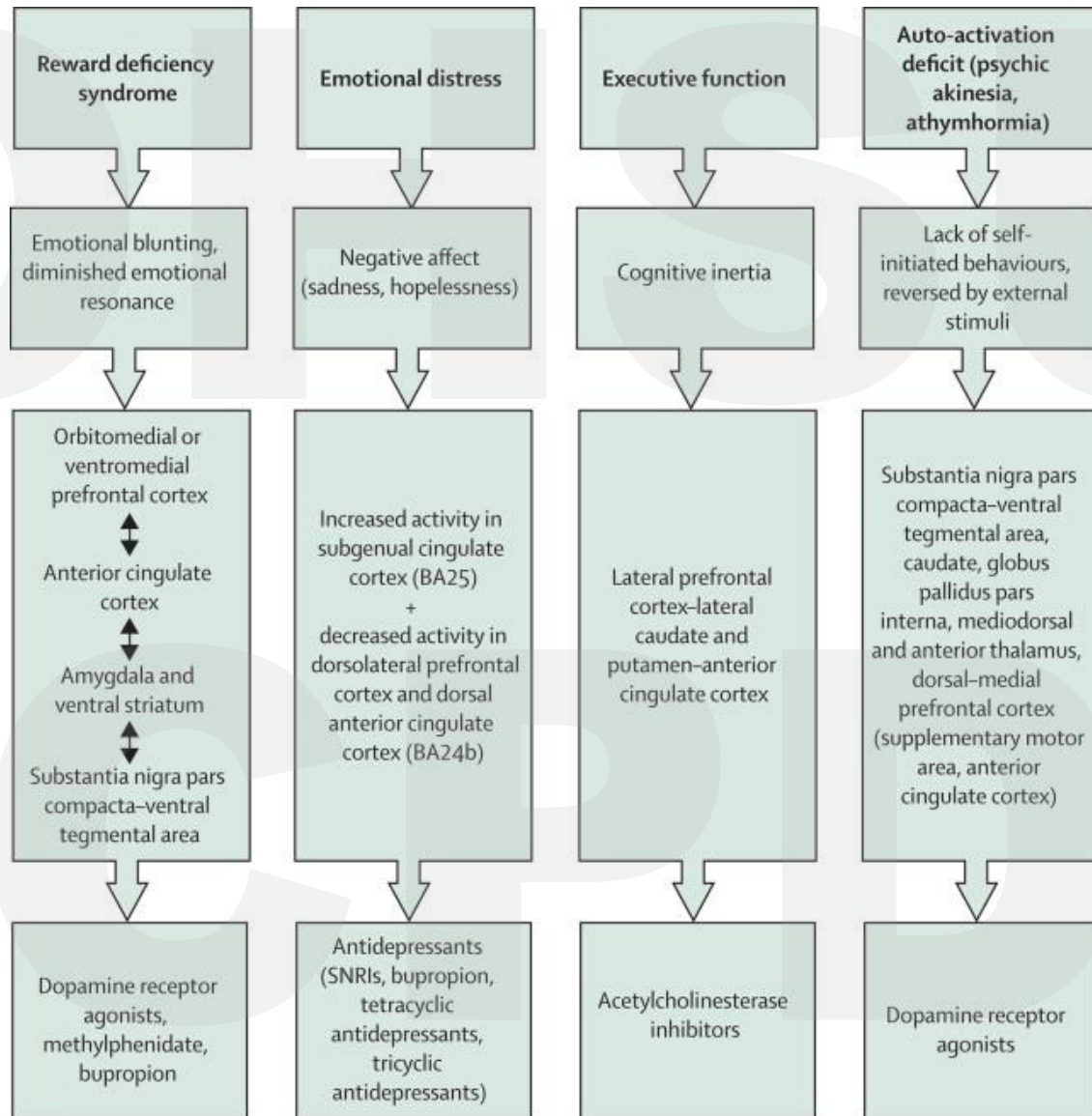
Overlapping symptoms

- Psychomotor retardation
- Anhedonia
- Anergia
- Less physical activity than usual
- Decreased enthusiasm about usual interests

Emotional symptoms of depression

- Sadness
- Feelings of guilt
- Negative thoughts and feelings
- Helplessness
- Hopelessness
- Pessimism
- Self-criticism
- Anxiety
- Suicidal ideation

Apathy in PD



Pagonabarraga et al. *The Lancet Neurology*, 14 (5):518-531

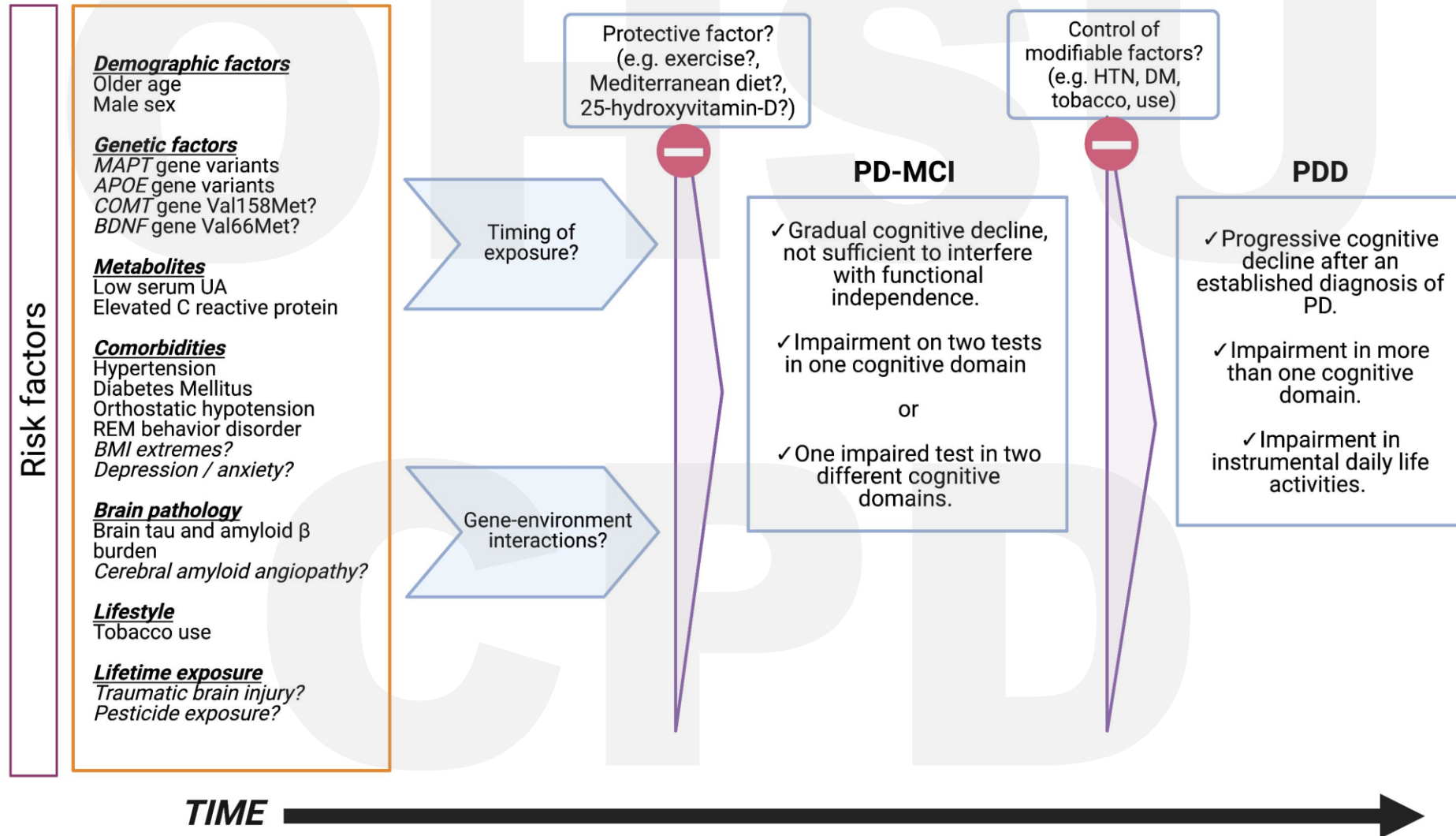
Apathy subdomains,
neural substrates, and
potential treatments

PD Mild Cognitive Impairment

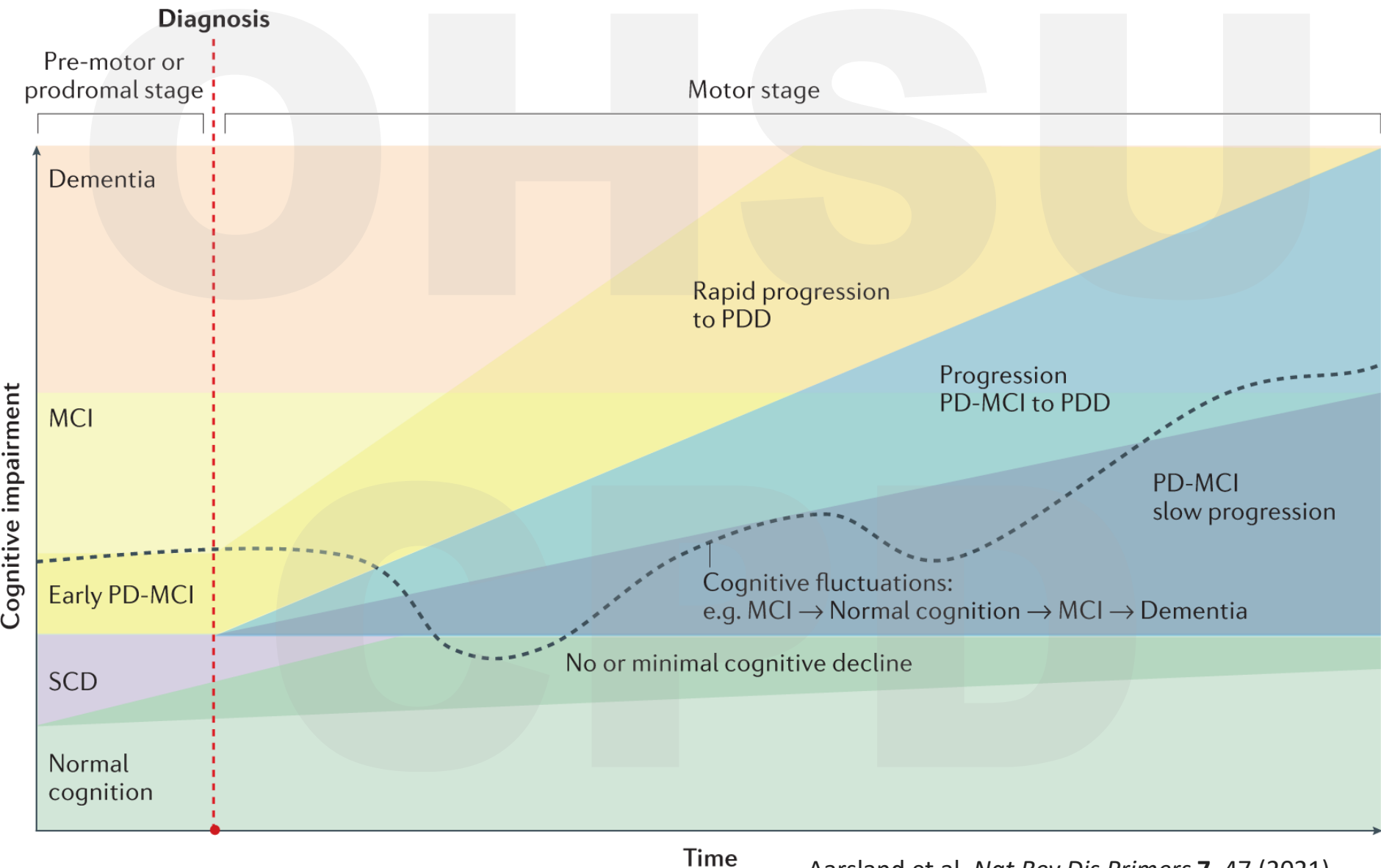
- 25% of non-demented PD patients
- A risk factor for PDD (50%+ conversion at 5 years)

PD Dementia

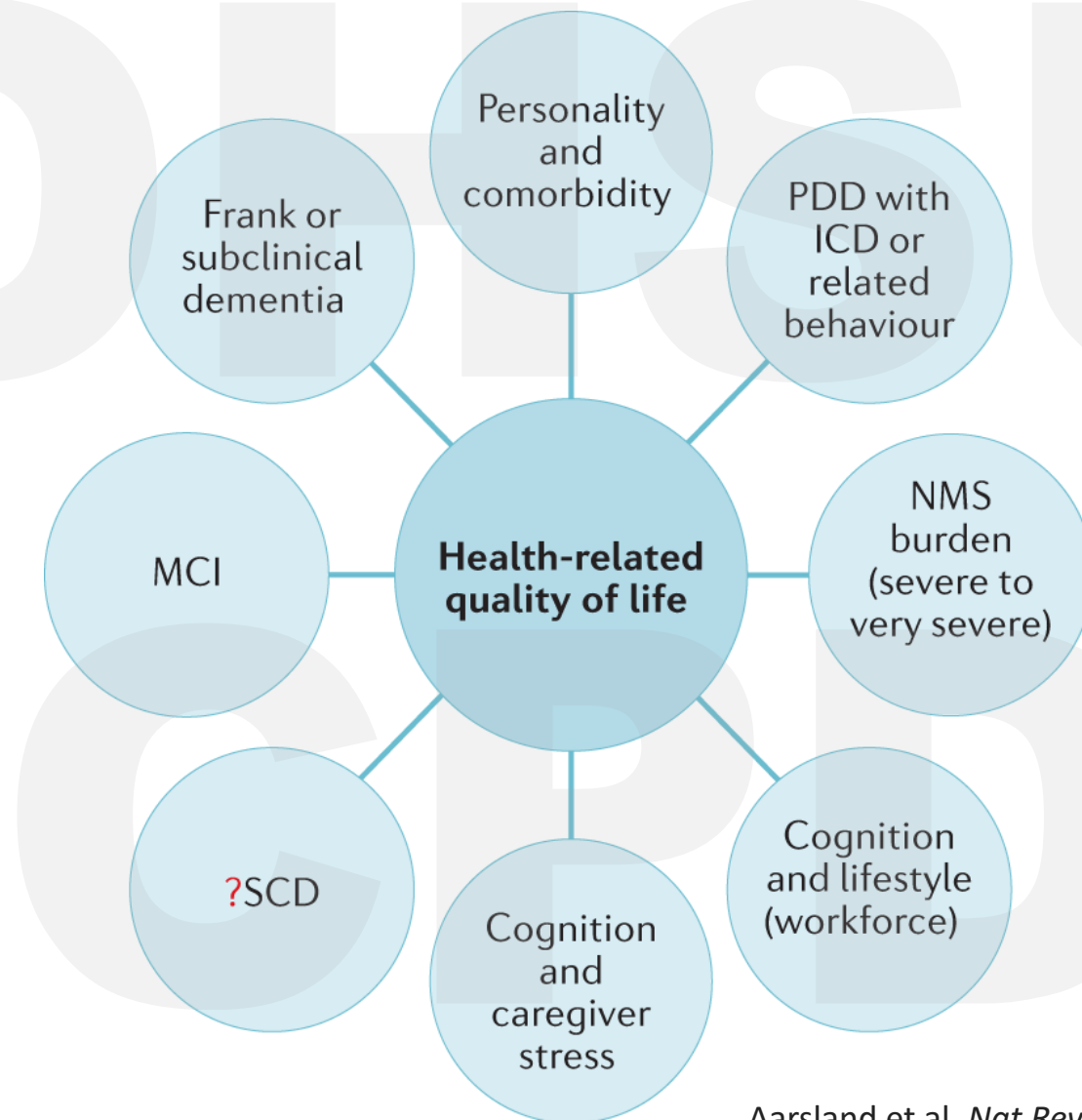
- Up to 50% at 10 years, 80% over the full course of illness
- Point prevalence: 15-40%



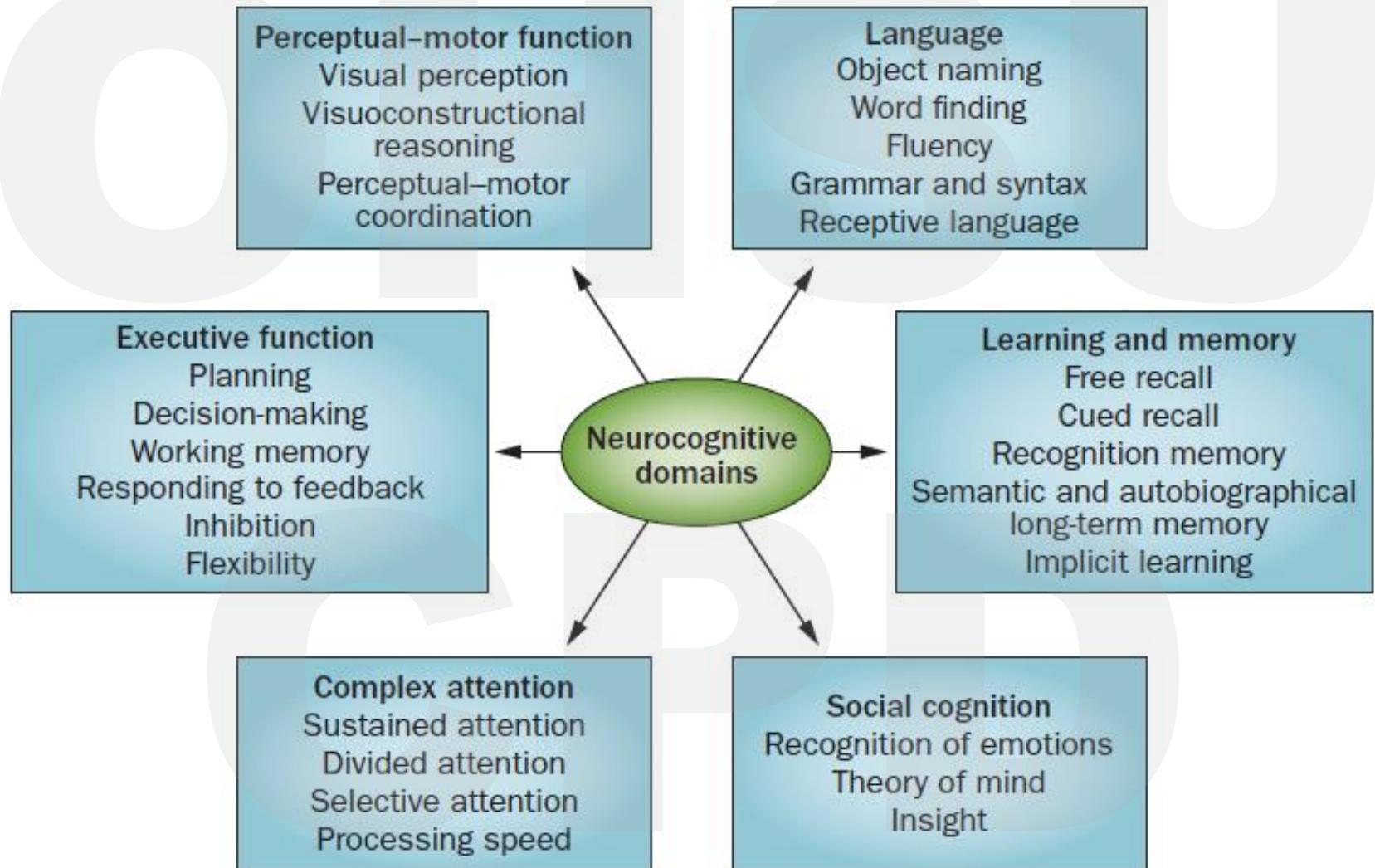
Cognitive spectrum and the heterogeneity of progression of cognitive impairment in PD



QoL in PD Cognitive Impairment



Neurocognitive Domains



PD Dementia: Duration of illness

Supplementary Table 2. Estimated probability of dementia and cumulative number of diagnoses by PD duration in Penn cohort

PD Duration	Dementia Diagnosis Probability 95% CL	Cumulative Dementia Diagnoses
Year 5	11.82% (8.8%, 15.77%)	27
Year 10	26.5% (22.15%, 31.51%)	74
Year 15	49.66% (44.42%, 55.15%)	133
Year 20	74.39% (69.76%, 78.8%)	167
Year 25	90.23% (86.57%, 93.25%)	178
Year 30	90.23% (86.57%, 93.25%)	183
Year 35*		183
(24.756 - 34.693 years)	90.23% (86.57%, 93.25%)	
(35.622 - 38.052 years)	95.12% (92.47%, 97.05%)	

What to do?

Recommendations for early to mid-stage PD:

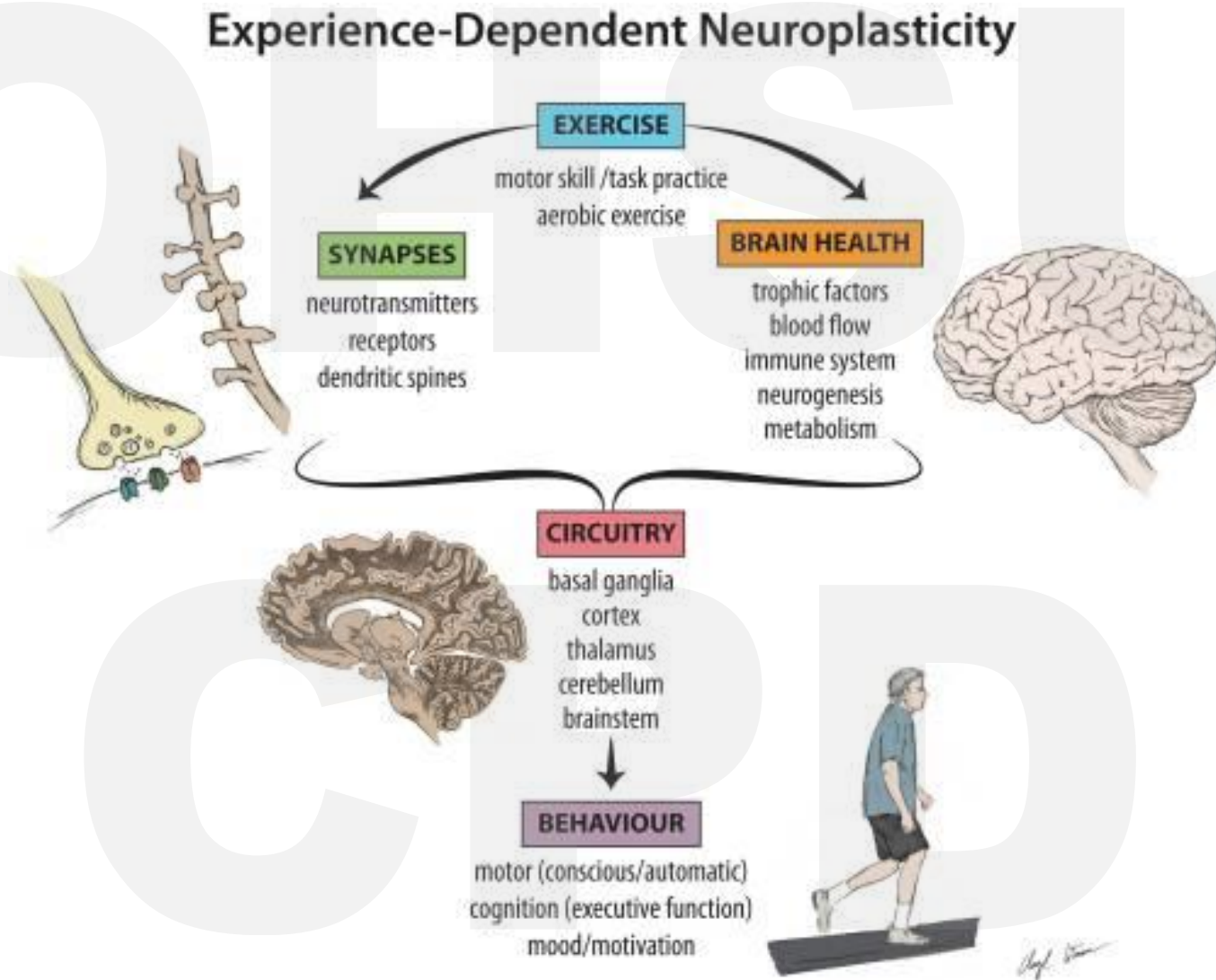
1. Exercise (American Heart Association guidelines)
2. Stay active socially; join a support group
3. Engage in cognitive training exercises
4. Learn coping strategies such as with an occupational therapist
5. Nutrition affects cognition; try a Mediterranean diet
6. Take your time when doing tasks; do not multitask
7. Communicate with family/friends if you are struggling

Recommendations for advanced PD:

Continue above recommendations, PLUS:

1. Develop a highly structured daily routine that you follow
2. Consider the use of medication for cognitive impairment
3. Have an advanced directive in place (living will, treatments)
4. *Care partners*- take care of your own health as well
5. *Care partners*-- seek support such as counseling

Exercise Enhances Neuroplasticity in PD



Offending Medications

Table 3. Common medications associated with adverse cognitive effects.

Drug Class	Examples
Anticholinergics	
Tricyclic antidepressants	Amitriptyline, nortriptyline
First generation antihistamines	Diphenhydramine, hydroxyzine
Bladder antimuscarinics	Oxybutynin, trospium
Antipsychotics	Fluphenazine
Antimuscarinic spasmolytic	Atropine, hyoscyamine
Antiemetics	Meclizine
Muscle relaxants	Tizanidine
Anti-Parkinson	Benzotropine, trihexyphenidyl
Benzodiazepines	Alprazolam, clonazepam, diazepam, lorazepam
Opioids	Codeine, hydrocodone, morphine, oxycodone, tramadol, methadone, fentanyl

This table is non-exhaustive.

PD Dementia: Medications

PD Dementia Medications				
Drug class	Drug/Typical dose	Efficacy	Common Adverse Effects	Practice implications
Dementia				
Acetylcholinesterase inhibitors	Donepezil 5-10 mg/day	Insufficient evidence	Nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, cramping, weight loss Severe: Cardiac/GI complications	<i>Possibly useful</i>
	Rivastigmine Capsule: 3-12 mg/day Patch: 4.6-13.3 mg/day	Efficacious	Capsules: Nausea, Vomiting, weight loss Patch: nausea, vomiting, falls Severe: Cardiac/GI complications	Clinically useful
	Galantamine 8-24mg/day	Insufficient evidence	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea Severe: SJS, seizure, GI	<i>Possibly useful</i>
N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) antagonists	Memantine 10 mg twice daily ER: 28 mg/day	Insufficient evidence	Dizziness, HA, Diarrhea, constipation, confusion Severe: stroke, seizure, renal failure	Investigational

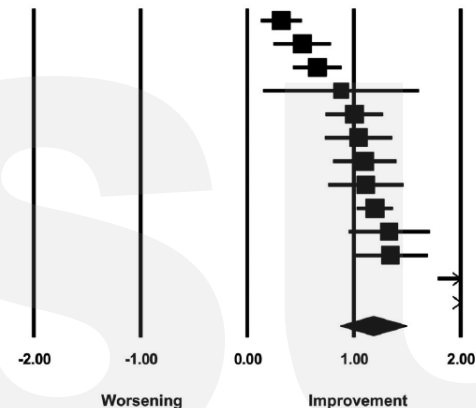
Others are investigational: rasagiline and atomoxetine;
cognitive rehabilitation; brain stimulation

Adopted in part from:
Seppi K, Ray Chaudhuri K, Coelho M, et al. *Mov Disord.* 2019;34(2):180–198.

ECT in PD

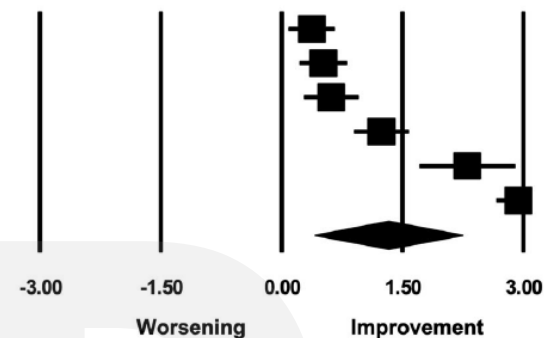
Motor

	Std diff in means	Standard error	Lower limit	Upper limit	Z-Value	p-Value
Anderson et al. (1987)	0.318	0.098	0.127	0.510	3.256	0.001
Fall et al. (2000)	0.515	0.137	0.246	0.785	3.751	0.000
Pintor et al. (2012)	0.657	0.116	0.429	0.884	5.650	0.000
Pridmore et al. (1995)	0.880	0.372	0.150	1.610	2.363	0.018
Usui et al. (2011)	1.004	0.137	0.735	1.273	7.323	0.000
Grover et al. (2018)	1.044	0.160	0.730	1.359	6.507	0.000
Douyon et al. (1989)	1.100	0.151	0.803	1.397	7.264	0.000
Ueda et al. (2010)	1.111	0.180	0.759	1.464	6.178	0.000
Calderón-Fajardo et al. (2015)	1.197	0.086	1.028	1.366	13.856	0.000
Birkett. (1991)	1.331	0.184	0.950	1.711	6.852	0.000
Williams et al. (2017)	1.342	0.178	0.993	1.691	7.541	0.000
Fall et al. (1995)	2.059	0.140	1.785	2.332	14.745	0.000
Nishioka et al. (2014)	3.647	0.437	2.790	4.504	8.339	0.000
	1.181	0.157	0.873	1.489	7.509	0.000



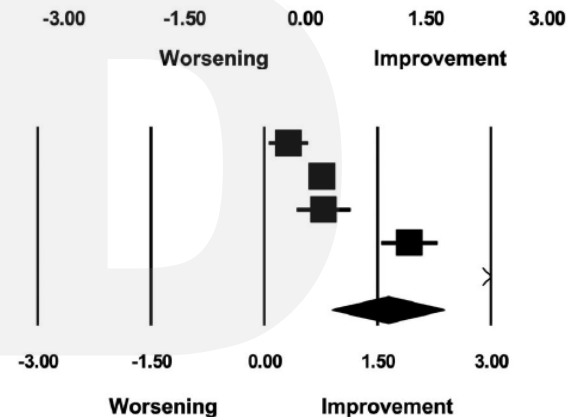
Depression

	Std diff in means	Standard error	Lower limit	Upper limit	Z-Value	p-Value
Birkett. (1991)	0.375	0.146	0.088	0.662	2.563	0.010
Ueda et al. (2010)	0.518	0.151	0.223	0.814	3.442	0.001
Nishioka et al. (2014)	0.615	0.172	0.277	0.953	3.565	0.000
Williams et al. (2016)	1.239	0.172	0.902	1.575	7.218	0.000
Grover et al. (2018)	2.305	0.302	1.712	2.897	7.623	0.000
Calderón-Fajardo et al. (2015)	2.940	0.140	2.665	3.215	20.941	0.000
	1.325	0.464	0.415	2.235	2.852	0.004



Psychosis

	Std diff in means	Standard error	Lower limit	Upper limit	Z-Value	p-Value
Williams et al. (2017)	0.318	0.132	0.059	0.578	2.406	0.016
Calderón-Fajardo et al. (2015)	0.763	0.069	0.627	0.898	11.031	0.000
Nishioka et al. (2014)	0.785	0.181	0.430	1.139	4.340	0.000
Usui et al. (2011)	1.921	0.189	1.551	2.290	10.186	0.000
Ueda et al. (2010)	5.846	0.601	4.667	7.025	9.720	0.000
	1.637	0.378	0.897	2.377	4.335	0.000



Resources

- Parkinson's Foundation MIND guide: Cognition
[Cognition: A Mind Guide to Parkinson's Disease | Parkinson's Foundation](#)
- Parkinson's Resources of Oregon
Numerous resources for wellness, support groups, exercise, mindfulness, etc
- Davis Phinney Foundation: <https://davisphinneyfoundation.org/resources/>
- Brian Grant Foundation:
 - Journaling Together - A stand alone class offered monthly.
 - MBSR Course - Next 8-week session starts Oct '24.
 - Breath by Breath - A weekly meditation class every Tuesday at 12pm PT.
- UCSD Center for Mindfulness (guided mindfulness meditations):
<https://medschool.ucsd.edu/som/fmph/research/mindfulness/programs/mindfulness-programs/MBSR-programs/Pages/audio.aspx>
- “Living with Parkinson's Disease: A Complete Guide for Patients and Caregivers” by Michael Okun
- Rock Steady Boxing: [Home - Rock Steady Boxing](#)
- Tai Chi classes in Oregon: [Oregon Health Authority : Tai Chi: Moving for Better Balance : Falls Prevention for Older Adults : State of Oregon](#)

NTMHC Parkinson's Neuropsychiatry Consultation

The Parkinson's Disease Neuropsychiatry Telehealth Program within the National TeleMental Health Center (NTMHC) has expert clinicians have availability to see any of your Veterans with psychiatric and cognitive complications of Parkinson's disease.

- Dr. Dan Weintraub (VA Philadelphia) & Dr. Joel Mack (VA Portland)
- The NTMHC Parkinson's Disease Neuropsychiatry Telehealth Program has the ability to:
 1. Conduct telehealth video-consultations with Veterans either in clinic or via VVC into the home
 2. Provide e-consultations to providers who work across inpatient or outpatient settings
 3. Answer any questions via the 'Ask The Expert' emails: AskTheExpert-ParkinsonsDiseaseNeuropsychiatry@va.gov



**Parkinson's
Disease**

Research,
Education &
Clinical Center

*Northwest VA
PADRECC*

Thank You

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NW PADRECC/VA Portland Health Care System

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“You can’t stop the waves,
but you can learn to surf.”

—Jon Kabat-Zinn