

# INFLAMMATION, IMMUNITY, AND THE GUT MICROBIOME IN PARKINSON'S RISK AND PROGRESSION

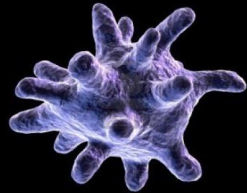
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***Department of Neuroscience***

***University of Florida College of Medicine***

***Co-Director, Center for Translational Research  
in Neurodegenerative Disease***



**UFHealth**  
NORMAN FIXEL INSTITUTE FOR  
NEUROLOGICAL DISEASES

# DISCLOSURES

- Ex-employee of Xencor Inc. and Co-inventor of DN-TNFs (XPro1595)

- Industry Collaborations:

- INmune Bio
- Prevail
- Merck
- Denali
- Longevity
- Biogen/IONIS
- Amylyx

- Advisory Boards:

- Weston Foundation
- Quebec Parkinson's Network
- Alzheimer's Association

- Grant Review Panels:

- NIH Study Section (CNNT)
- MJ Fox Foundation
- W. Garfield Weston Foundation
- Alzheimer's Association
- Bright Focus Foundation
- Alzheimer's Drug Discovery Foundation (ADDF)

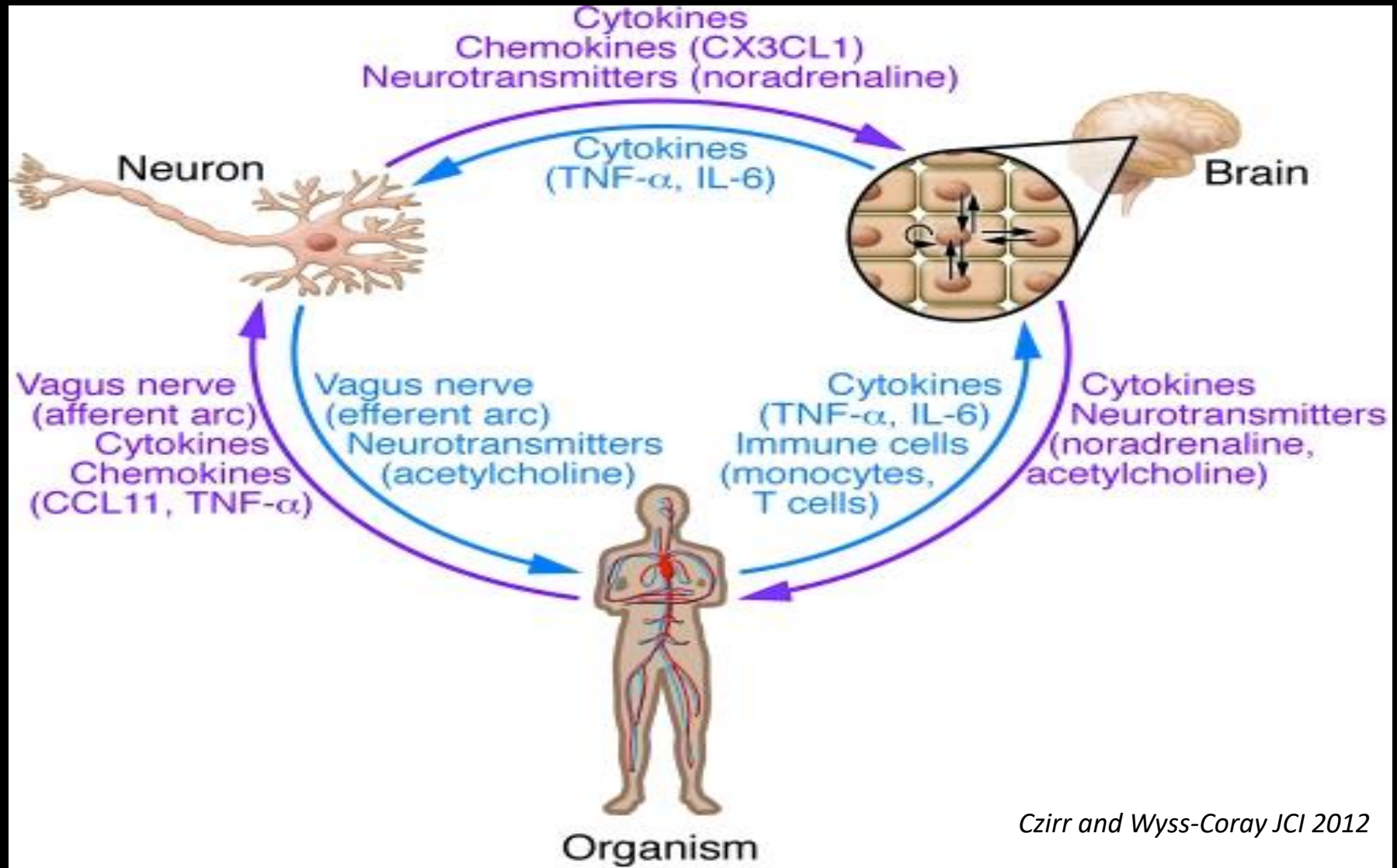
- Editorial Boards:

- *Neurobiology of Disease*
- *Experimental Neurology*
- *Journal of Parkinson's Disease*
- *NPJ Parkinson's Disease*
- *PLoS ONE*

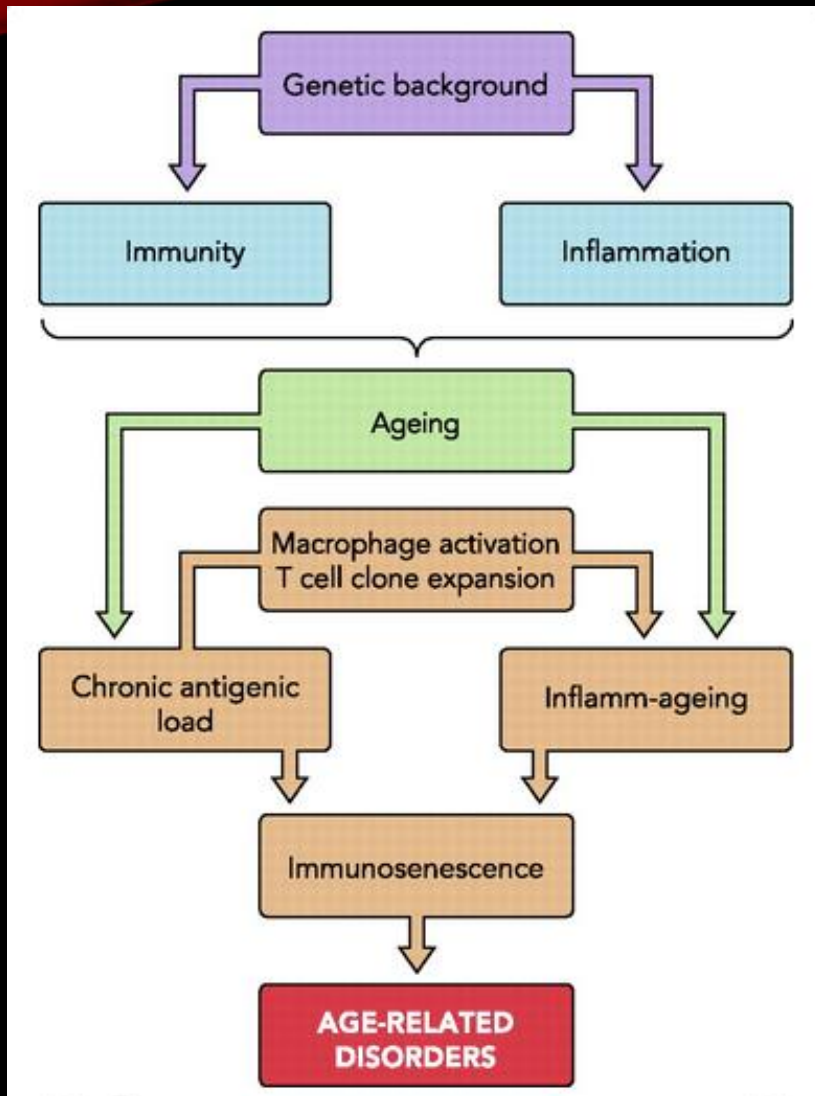
- Funding Support:

- NIH
- MJ Fox Foundation
- Parkinson's Foundation
- Alzheimer's Association
- ADDF/AFTD

# BIDIRECTIONAL COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE NERVOUS AND IMMUNE SYSTEMS IS CRITICAL FOR BRAIN HEALTH

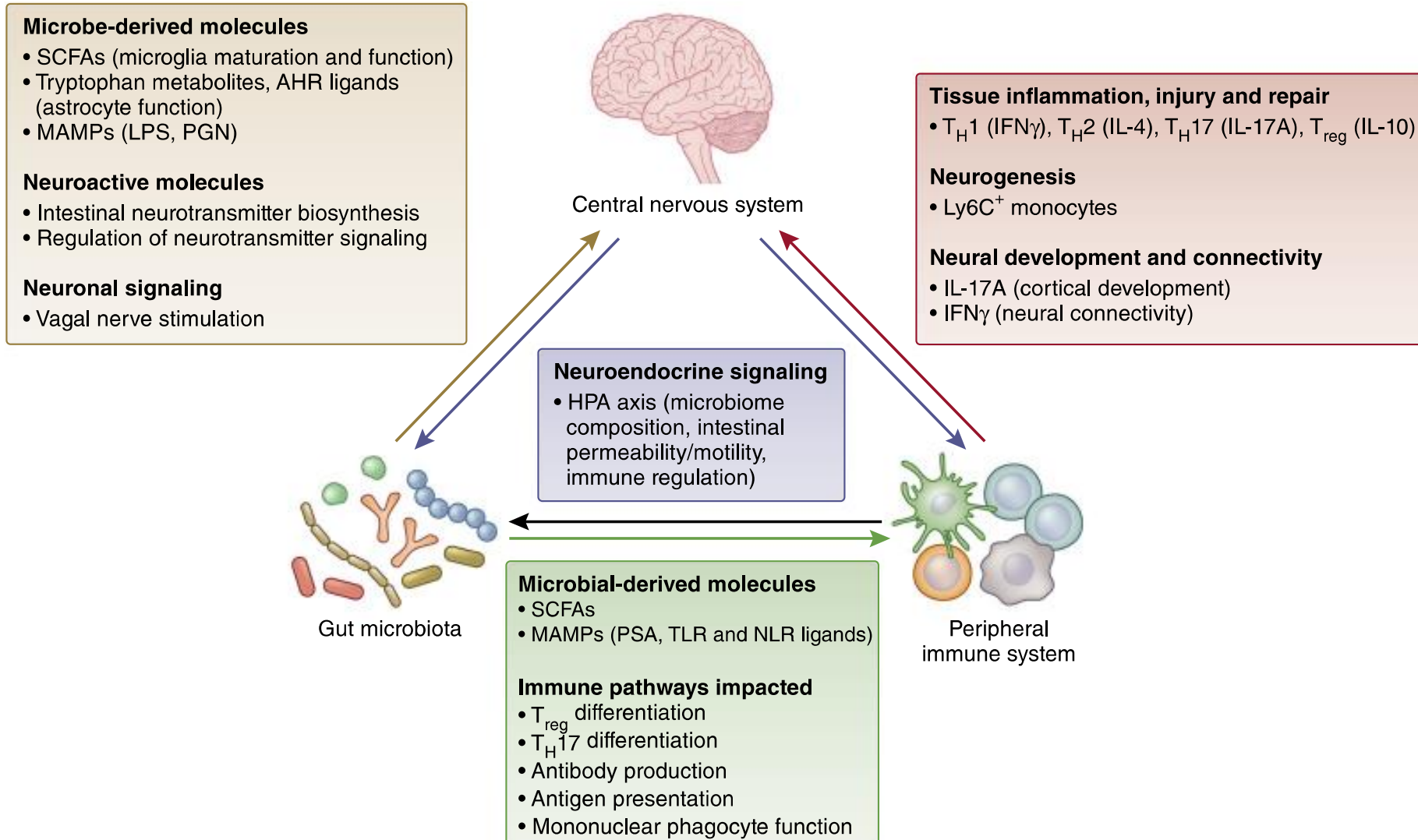


# HUMAN LONGEVITY, GENETICS AND INFLAMMATION

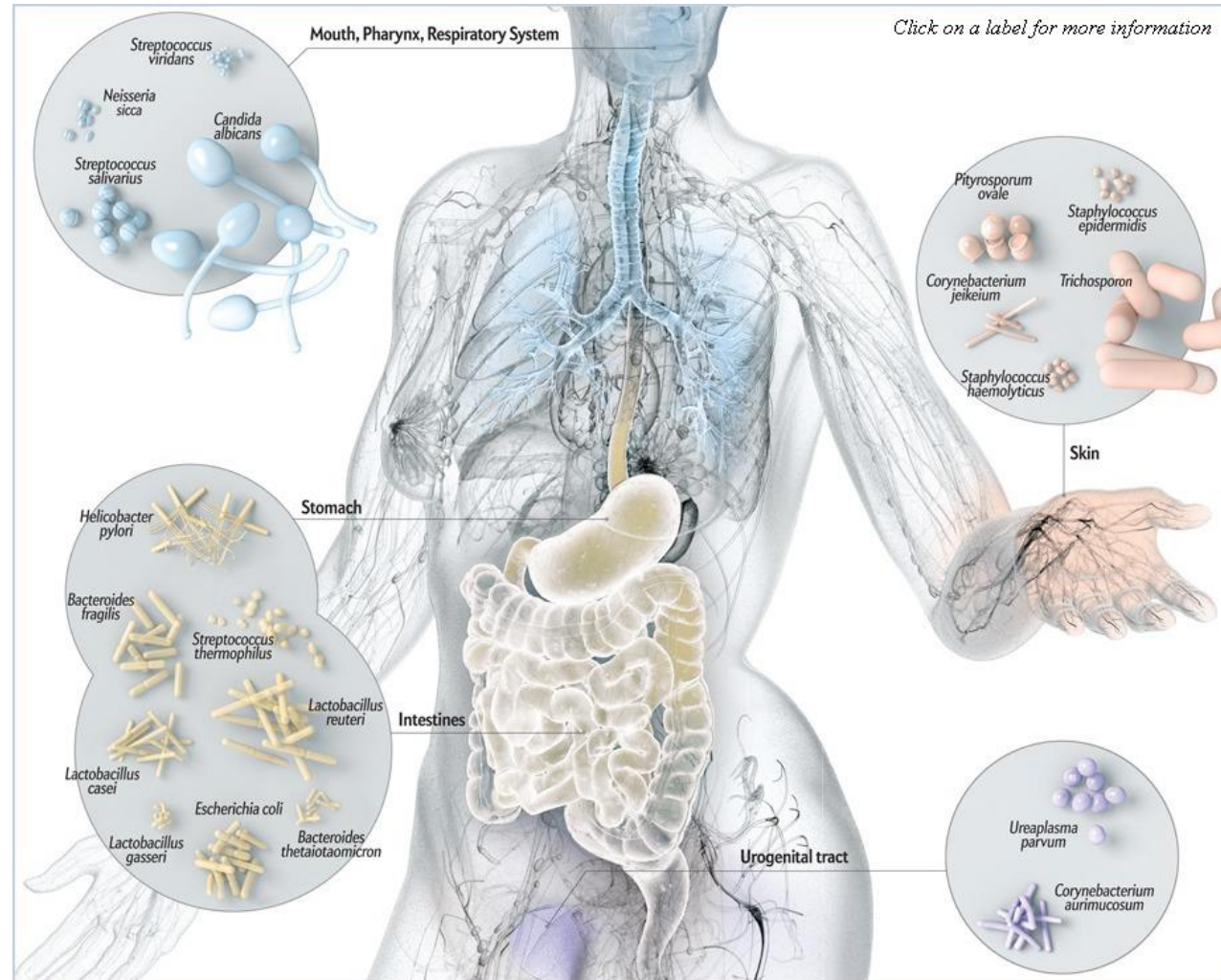


- Evolutionary pressure for genes and gene variants → robust immune responses
- Increased longevity → chronic antigenic load
- Inflamm-aging (increased low-grade chronic inflammation) and immunosenescence (loss of immunocompetence and autoimmunity)
- Age is the #1 risk factor for AD and PD

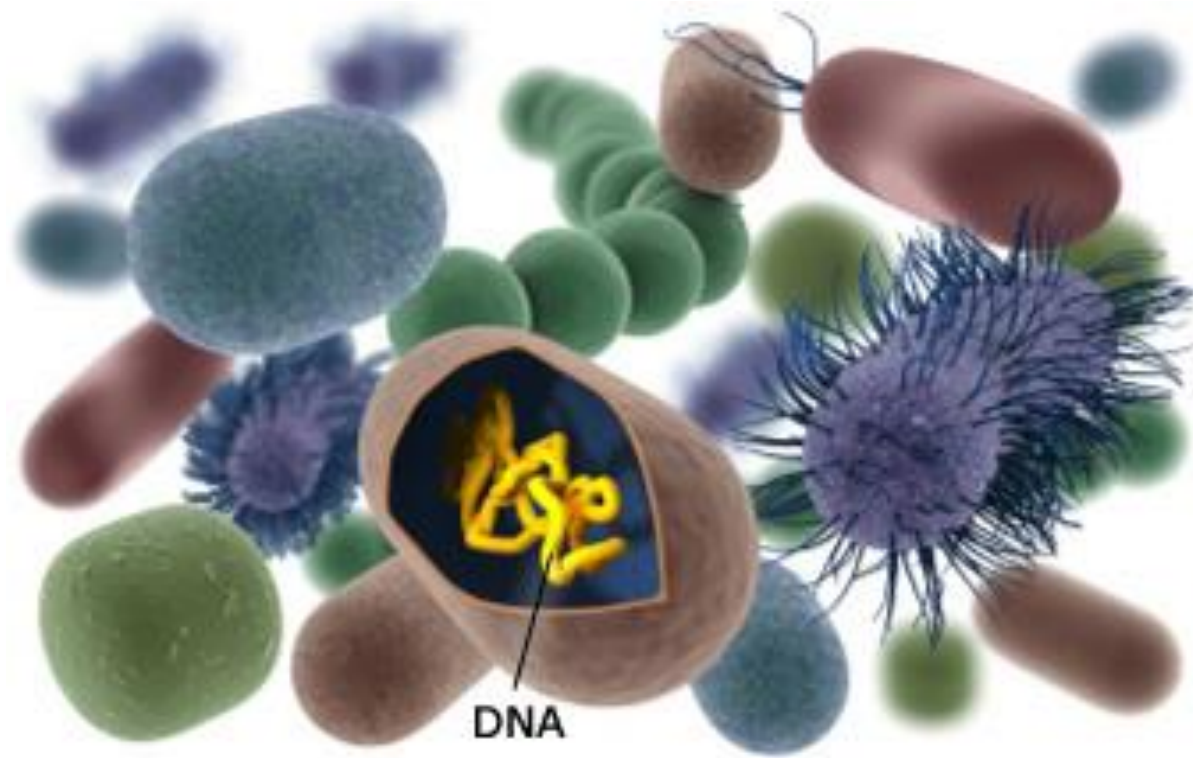
# CNS-Gut-Peripheral Immune System: Novel Targets for Therapeutic Intervention



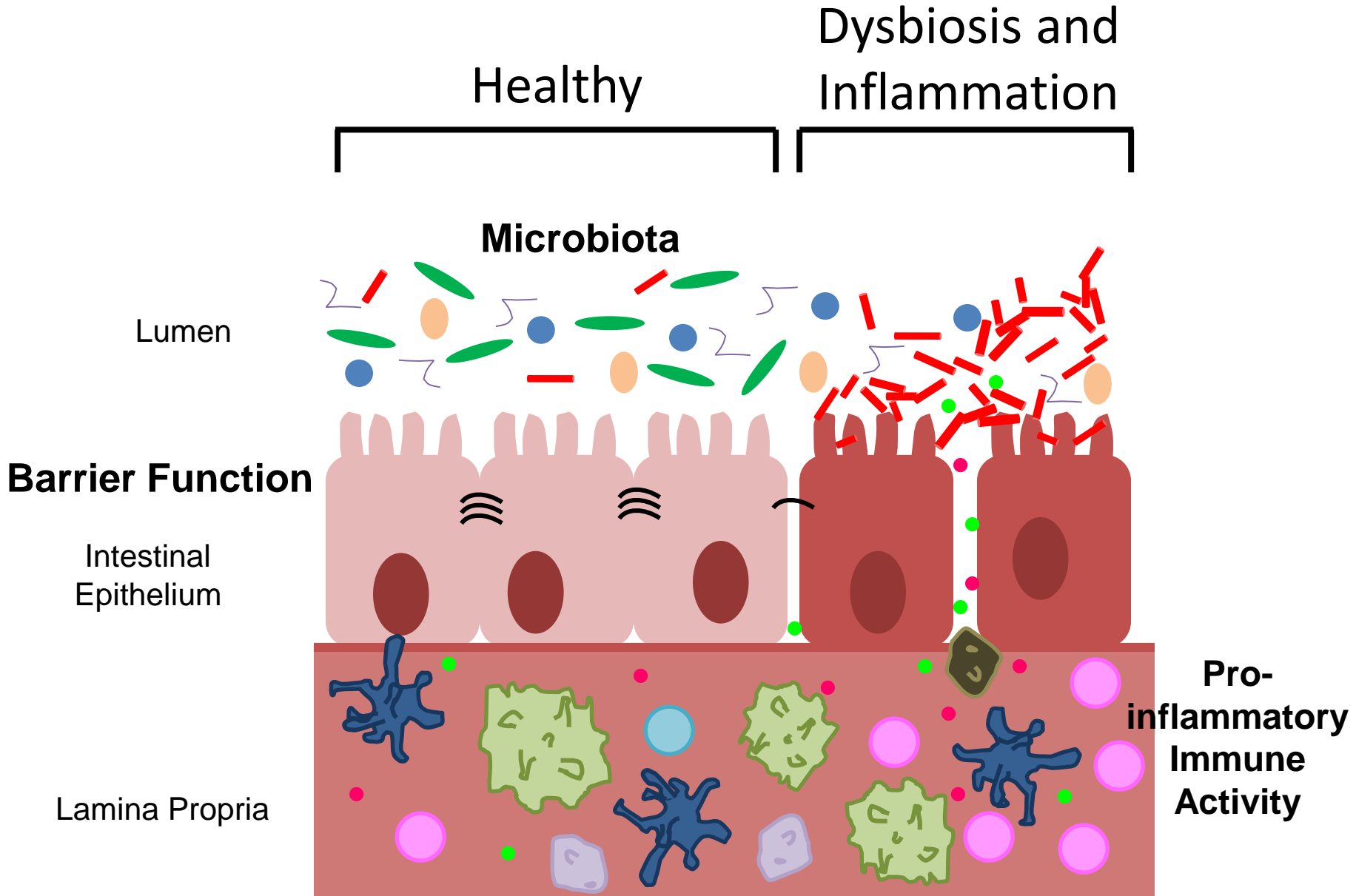
# What is the Microbiome?



Bacterial taxa can be identified by sequencing dna



# Gut Barrier Critical for Brain Health





# WHERE DOES IT COME FROM?

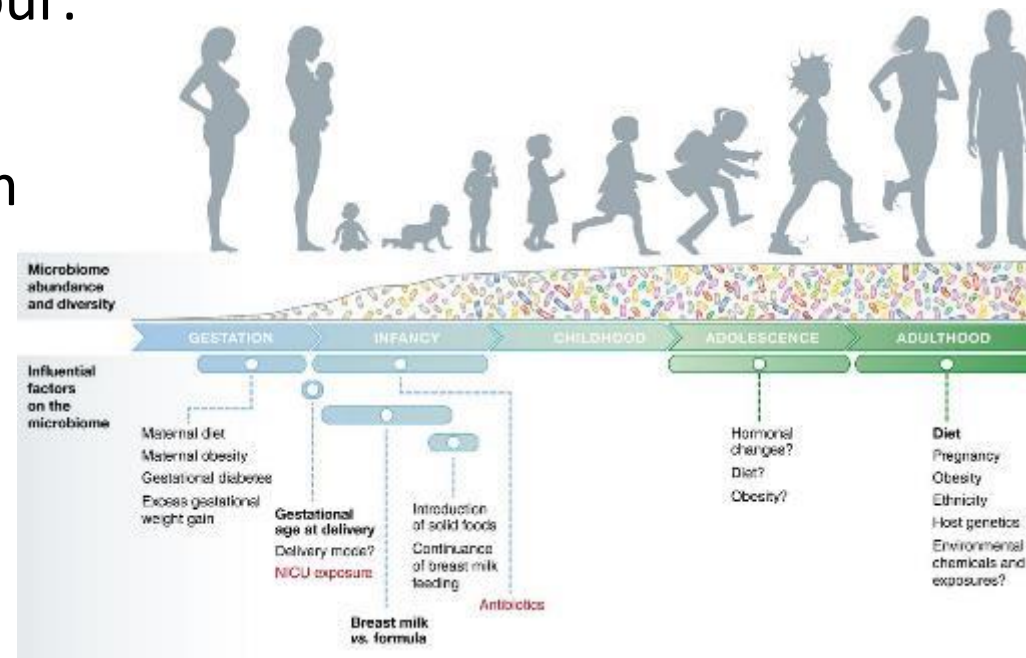
Fetus is traditionally considered sterile

Bacteria is acquired at birth, changes as the human develops/changes.

Bacterial composition is highly variable person to person, throughout a person's life.

Thought to be determined by our:

- Diet
- Genetics/Immune System
- Environment



## Most bacteria in the microbiota benefit us

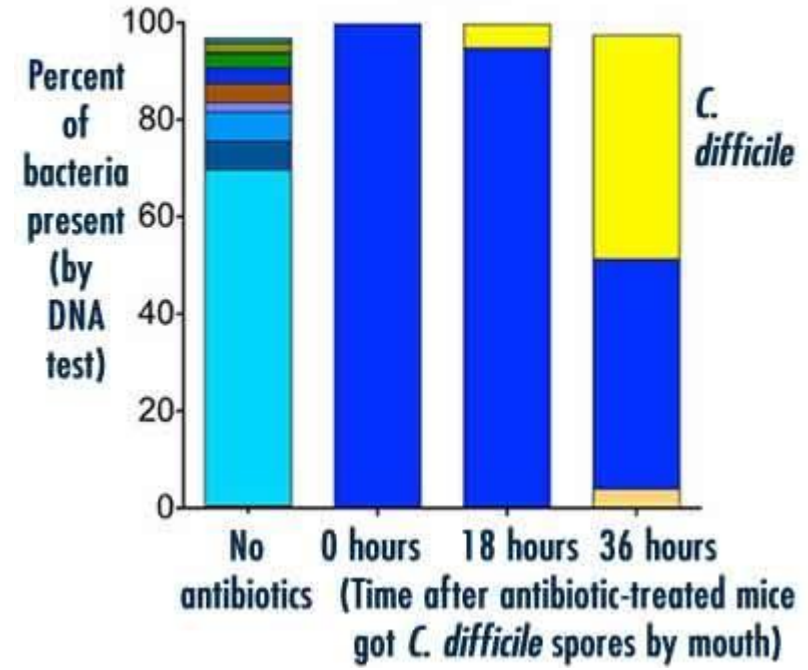
- Food digestion
- Wound healing
- Regulate immune system
- Etc.
- Etc.
- Etc.

## Antibiotics save lives, but...

- Destroy our microbiota
- Leave “space” for more pathogenic bacteria to colonize and cause disease



Effect of antibiotics & *C. difficile* on colon's microbiome



The GUT Microbiome has been Demonstrated to play a role in which 10 of these diseases?

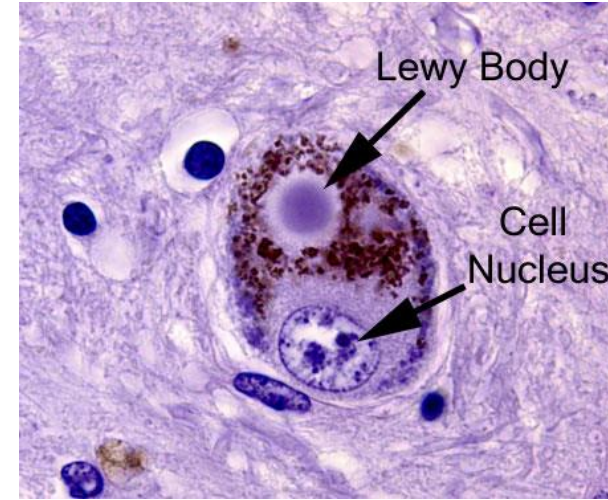
- Amphetamine abuse
- Anxiety
- Asthma
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Eyesight
- Gut health
- Hair growth
- High blood pressure
- Inheritance patterns of human DNA
- Mathematical ability
- Multiple sclerosis
- Nail growth
- Obesity
- Parkinson's disease
- Response to cocaine
- Tay-Sachs disease

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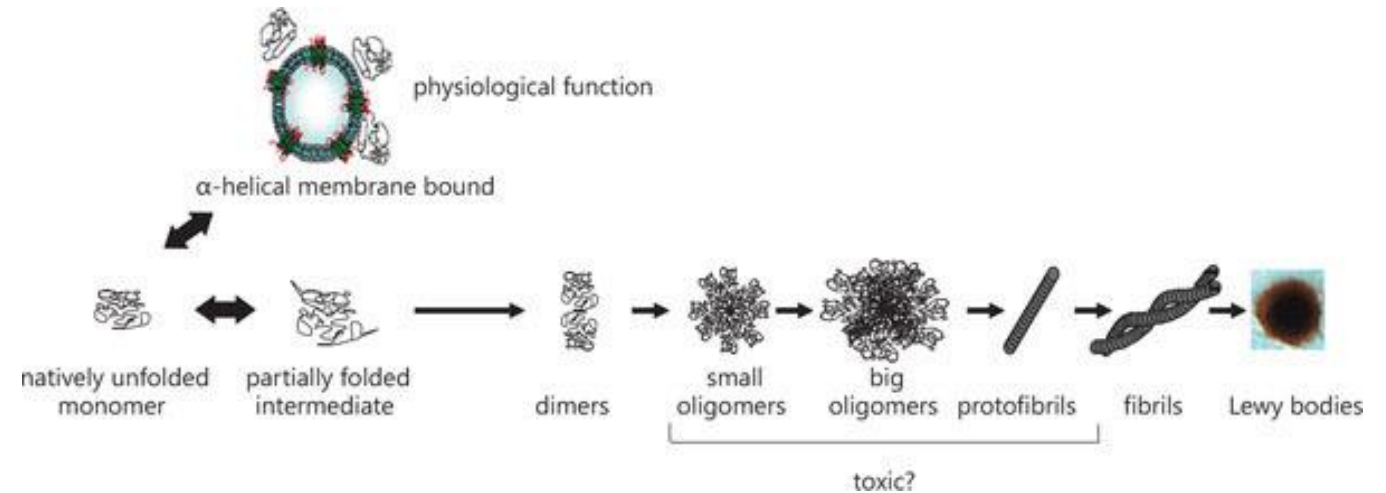
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# Alpha-synuclein and PD

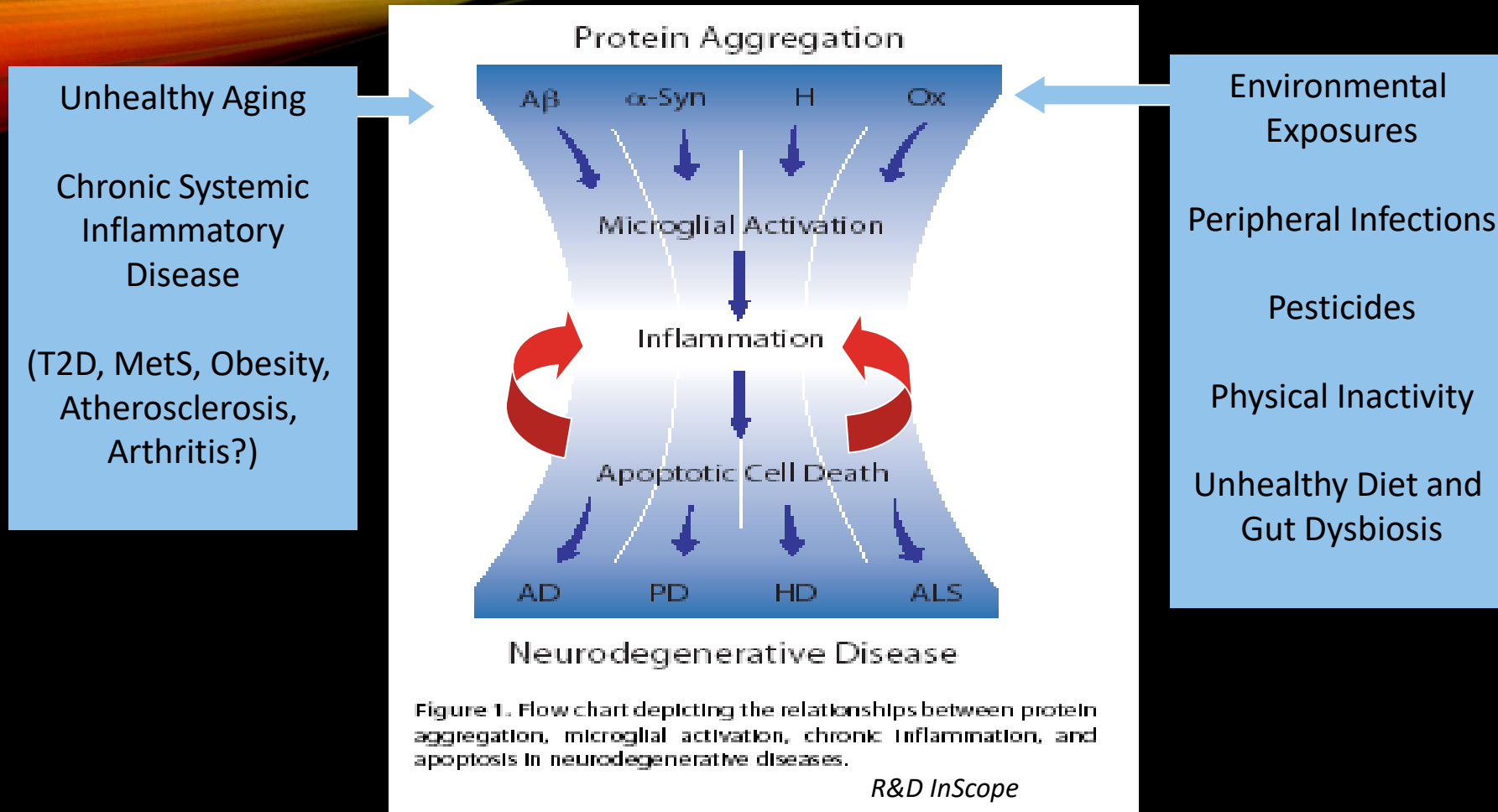
- Initiating event in  $\alpha$ -synuclein aggregation is unknown
- Increased expression of  $\alpha$ -synuclein is a factor in aggregation
- 5 *SNCA* mutations of familial PD have been identified (Roberts, 2015)



Houlden, 2012



Eschbach & Danzer, 2013



## Model Linking Chronic Central or Peripheral Inflammation to Neurodegeneration

# INFLAMMATION AND IMMUNE DYSFUNCTION IN PARKINSON'S DISEASE

Neurohistology

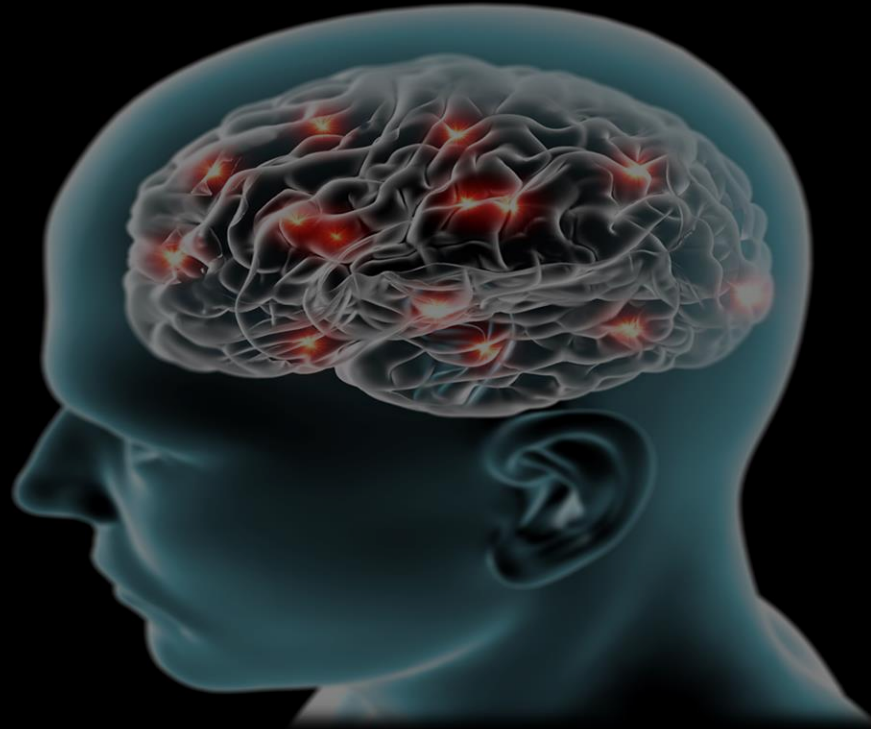
**Gliosis,  
Cytokines**

Biofluids

**Cytokines,  
Immune cells**

Neuroimaging

**Microgliosis**



Genetics

**Immune Gene  
SNPs**

Epidemiology

**Infections,  
NSAIDs, IBD**

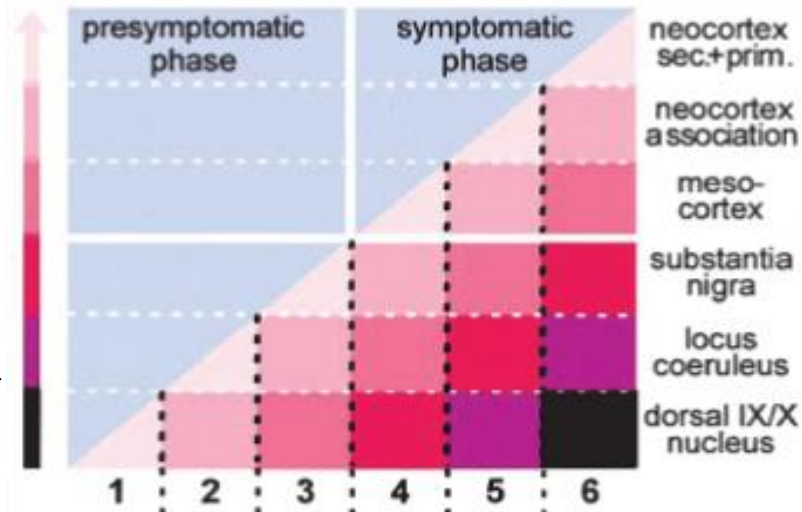
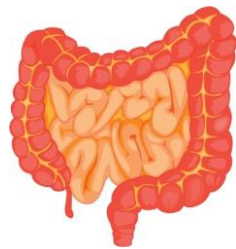


# Parkinson's disease: non-motor symptoms

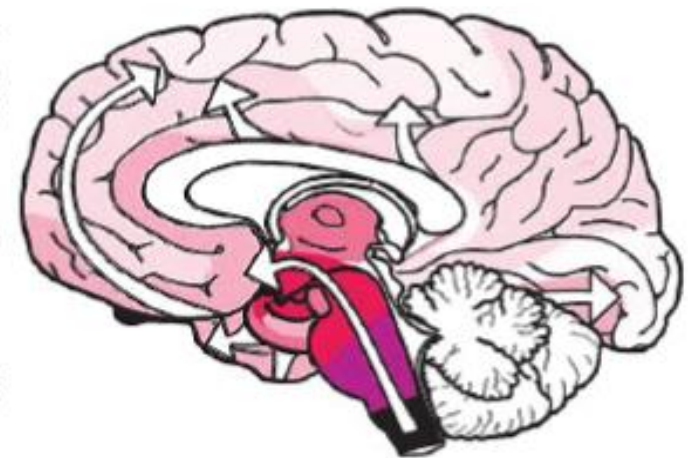


## Non-Motor symptoms

- Hyposmia
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Sleep disturbances
- **GI dysfunction**



Some non-motor  
symptoms are also  
**pre-motor  
symptoms**





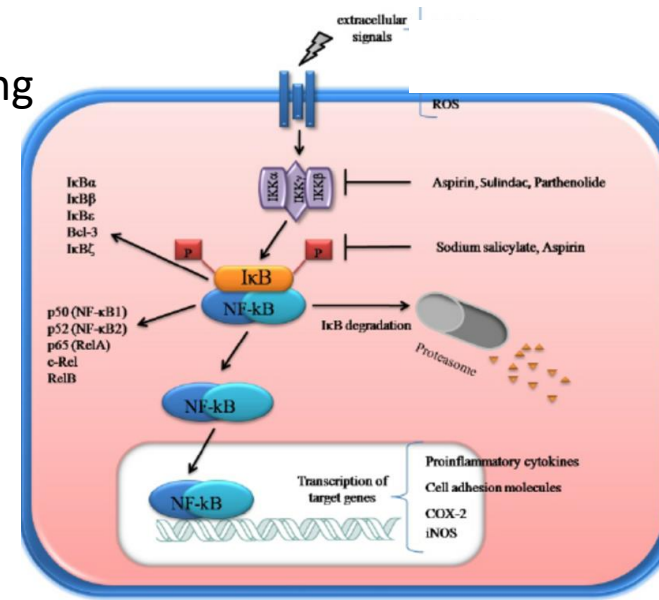
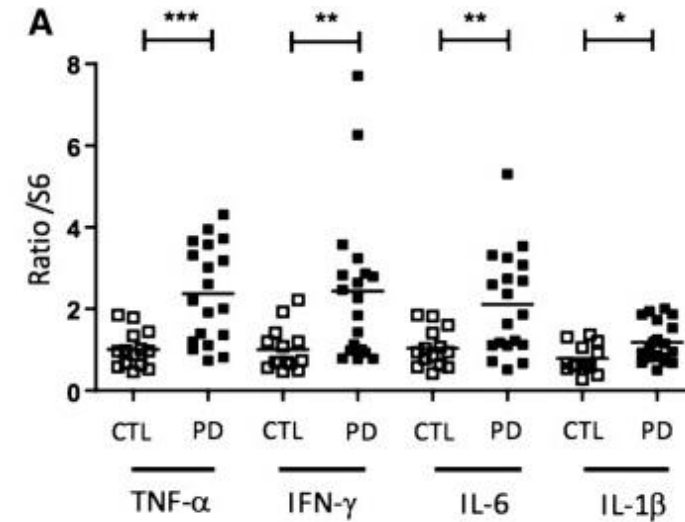
# Intestinal inflammation is present in Parkinson's disease



Houser et al.,  
*Movement Disorders*  
2018

## PD patients have:

- ↑ intestinal pro-inflammatory cytokines (TNF, IFN $\gamma$ , IL-6, IL-1 $\beta$ ) (Devos *Neurobiol Dis* 2013)
- ↑ fecal calprotectin and lactoferrin (Mulak *Gastroenterol* 2017, Schwartz *Parkinsonism Relat Disord* 2018)
- ↑ fecal IL-1 $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\beta$ , CXCL8, CRP (Houser *Mov Disord* 2018)
  - All associated with NF $\kappa$ B signaling

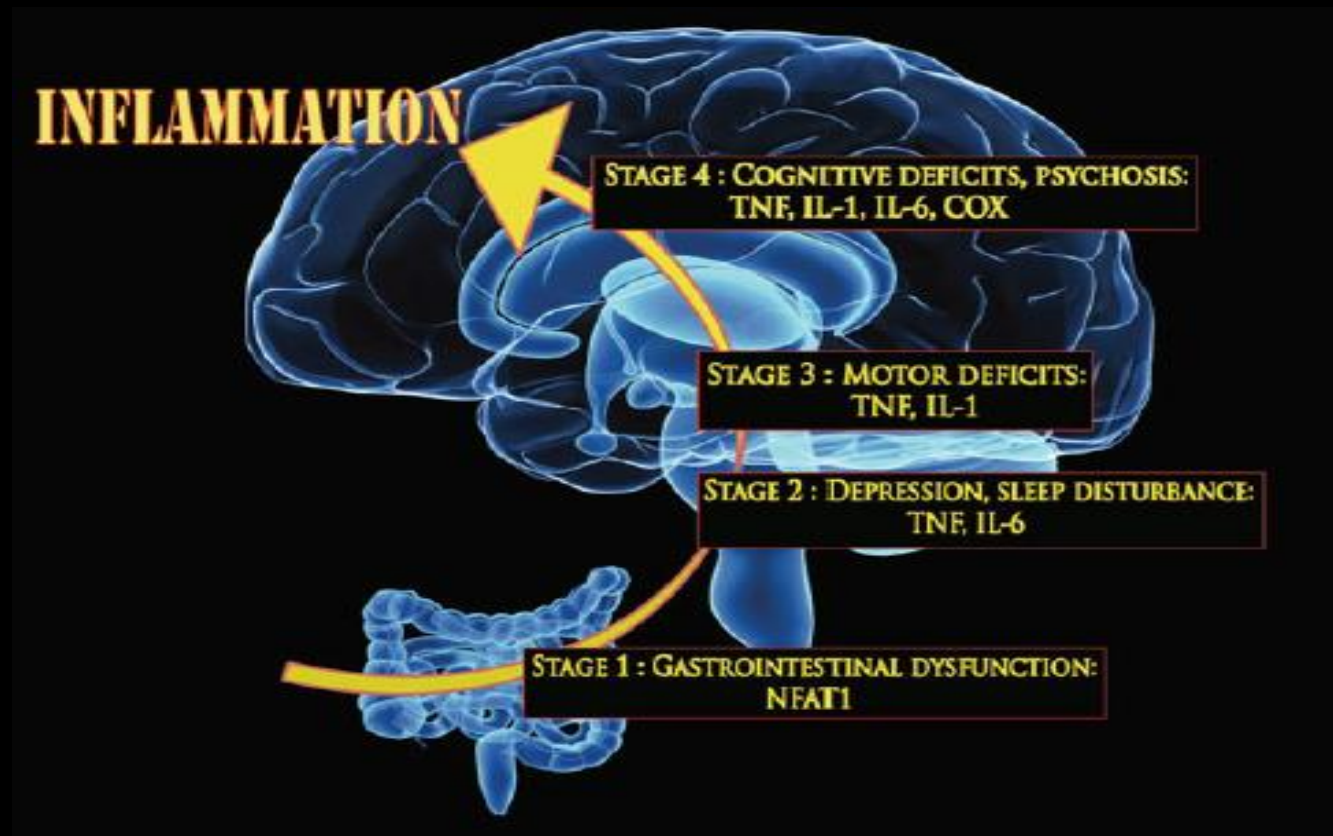


# Increased incidence of psychological and gastrointestinal symptoms in PD patients and decreased coffee and alcohol consumption

Question	Response	Subjects		$\chi^2$	p
		Controls	PD Patients		
Diagnosed or suspected anxiety	Yes	11 10.0%	41 26.1%	11.52	0.0007
	No	98 89.1%	110 70.1%		
Diagnosed or suspected depression	Yes	24 21.8%	52 33.1%	5.147	0.0233
	No	84 76.4%	95 60.5%		
Diagnosed or suspected sleep problems, insomnia	Yes	14 12.7%	61 38.9%	22.61	0.0001
	No	92 83.6%	89 56.7%		
Experienced digestive problems in the past 3 months	Yes	40 36.4%	101 64.3%	22.69	<0.0001
	No	58 52.7%	40 25.5%		
Currently on medication for digestive problems	Yes	16 14.5%	47 29.9%	8.086	0.0045
	No	89 80.9%	106 67.5%		

Question	Response	Subjects		$\chi^2$	p
		Controls	PD Patients		
Diagnosed or suspected IBD, IBS, Crohn's, or colitis	Yes	9 8.2%	26 16.6%	4.390	0.0361
	No	101 91.8%	126 80.3%		
How much caffeinated coffee do you drink	None	26 23.6%	40 25.5%	11.61	0.0205
	<6 cups a week	10 9.1%	27 17.2%		
	At least 1 cup a day	13 11.8%	16 10.2%		
	1-2 cups a day	36 32.7%	55 35.0%		
	3+ cups a day	25 22.7%	14 8.9%		
How much alcohol do you drink	None	31 28.2%	59 37.6%	19.38	0.0016
	< 2 drinks a week	47 42.7%	48 30.6%		
	2-6 drinks a week	8 7.3%	31 19.7%		
	1 drink a day	9 8.2%	7 4.5%		
	2 drinks a day	12 10.9%	5 3.2%		
	3+ drinks a day	3 2.7%	2 1.3%		

# Chronic inflammation as a driver in multisystem Dysfunction in PD



*Barnum and Tansey, Curr Neurol Neurosci Rep 2012*

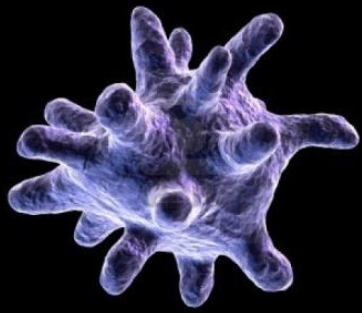
*MOVEMENT DISORDERS*

*Neuroinflammation and Non-motor Symptoms: The Dark Passenger of Parkinson's Disease?*

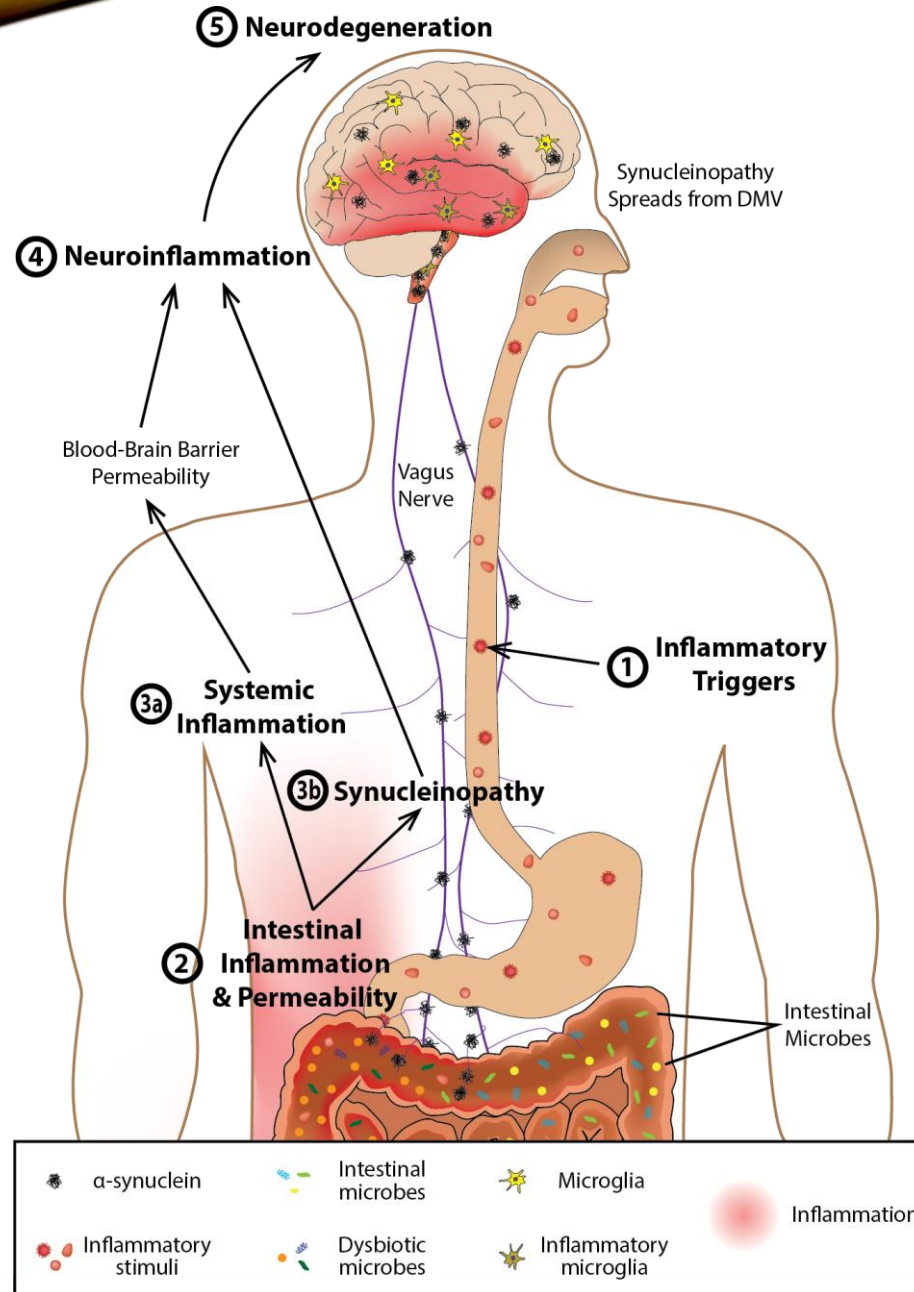
# IBD AND PD ARE EPIDEMIOLOGICALLY LINKED, AND ANTI-TNF BIOLOGICS REDUCE PD RISK

- Patients with IBD are more likely to develop PD (Lin *Inflamm Bowel Dis* 2016, Peter *JAMA Neurol* 2018, Villumsen *Inflamm Bowel Dis* 2018)
- Anti-TNF therapy reduces incidence of PD in IBD patients by 78% (Peter *JAMA Neurol* 2018)



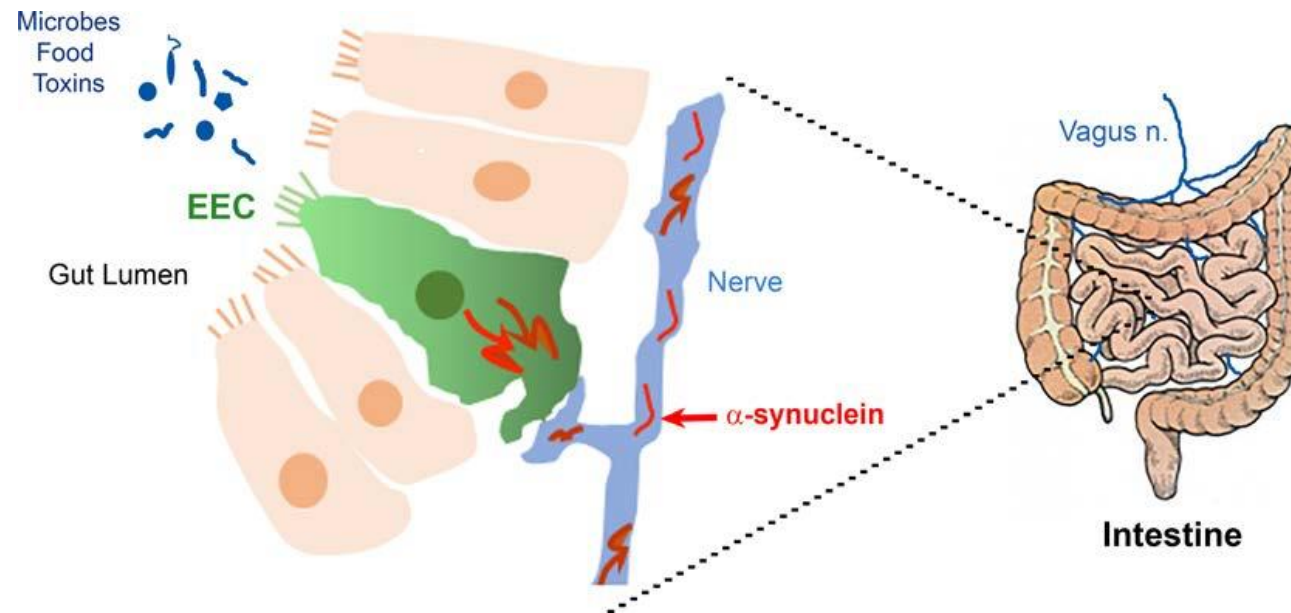


# INTESTINAL INFLAMMATION MAY DRIVE PD PATHOGENESIS



Houser, MC and MG Tansey, *NPJ Parkinson's Disease*, 2017

# Gut inflammation may trigger Asyn Upregulation, Aggregation and Propagation to the CNS



**Figure 10. Hypothetical pathway for pathogenic migration of  $\alpha$ -synuclein in the gut.** The apical surface of enteroendocrine cells (EECs) is exposed to the lumen and thus is in contact with ingested toxins and metabolites produced by gut microbes. The basolateral surface of EECs is in contact with enteric nerves and glia. We propose that toxin uptake by EEC can cause aggregation of  $\alpha$ -synuclein inside these cells and this aggregated protein can migrate to enteric nerves, thereby initiating a pathogenic cascade leading to  $\alpha$ -synucleinopathies.

# Gut microbiota influence peripheral immune cell traffic to CNS

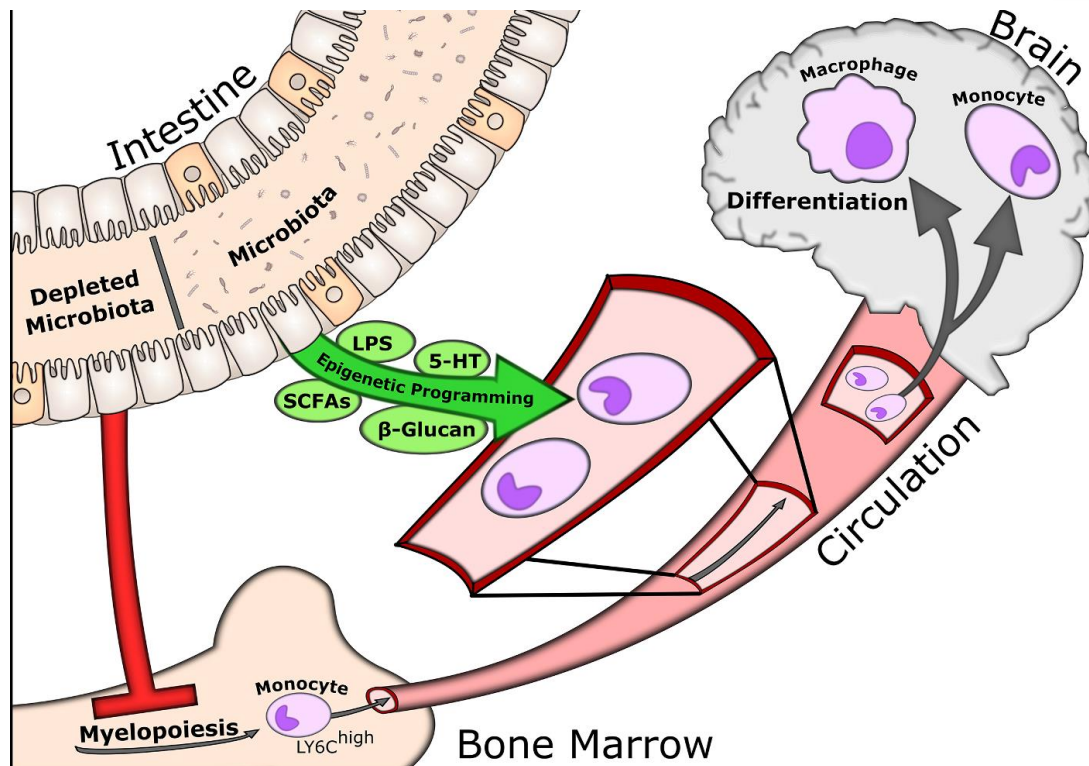
## Monocyte mobilisation, microbiota & mental illness

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<sup>a</sup> APC Microbiome Ireland, University College Cork, Cork, Ireland

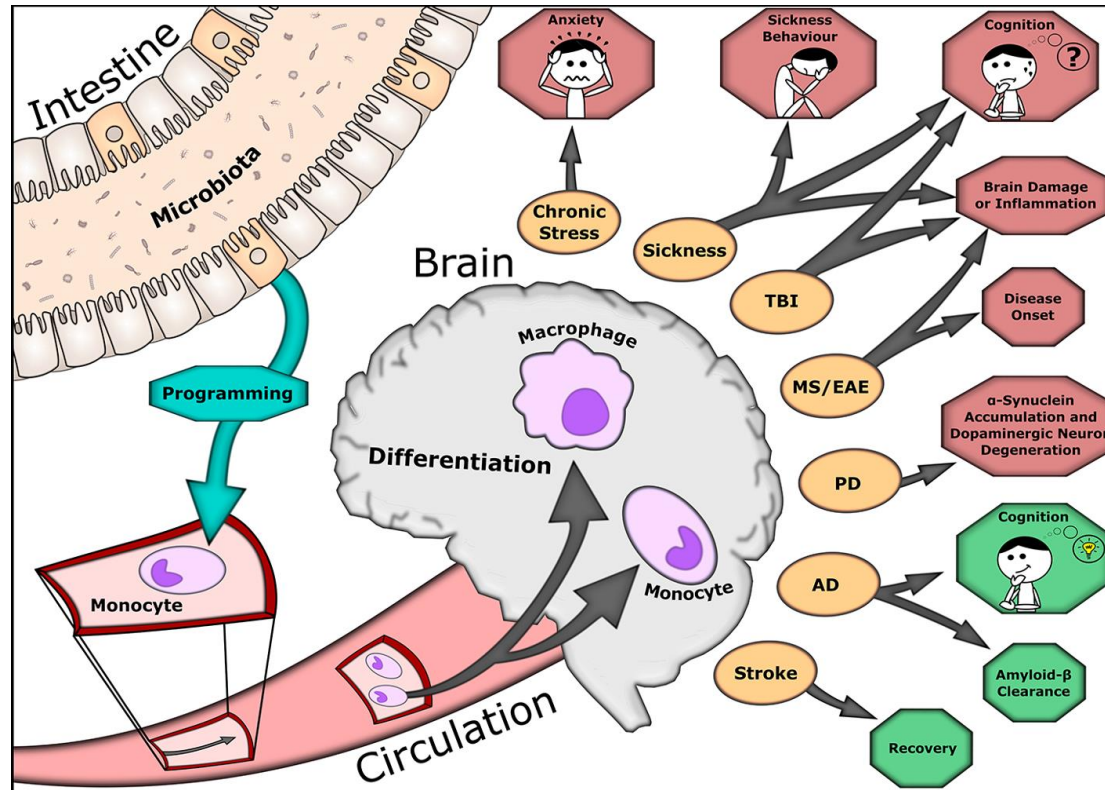
<sup>b</sup> Department of Psychiatry and Neurobehavioral Science, University College Cork, Cork, Ireland

<sup>c</sup> Department of Anatomy and Neuroscience, University College Cork, Cork, Ireland



**Fig. 2.** Pathways in which the microbiota can influence monocyte trafficking to the brain. A depleted gastrointestinal microbiota results in a decreased myelopoiesis and monocyte levels, resulting in reduced monocyte trafficking to the brain. Alternatively, gut microbiota-derived metabolites, such as lipopolysaccharide (LPS), serotonin (5-HT), SCFAs (short-chain fatty acids), and β-glucans, can influence monocyte properties and the macrophages they subsequently differentiate into.

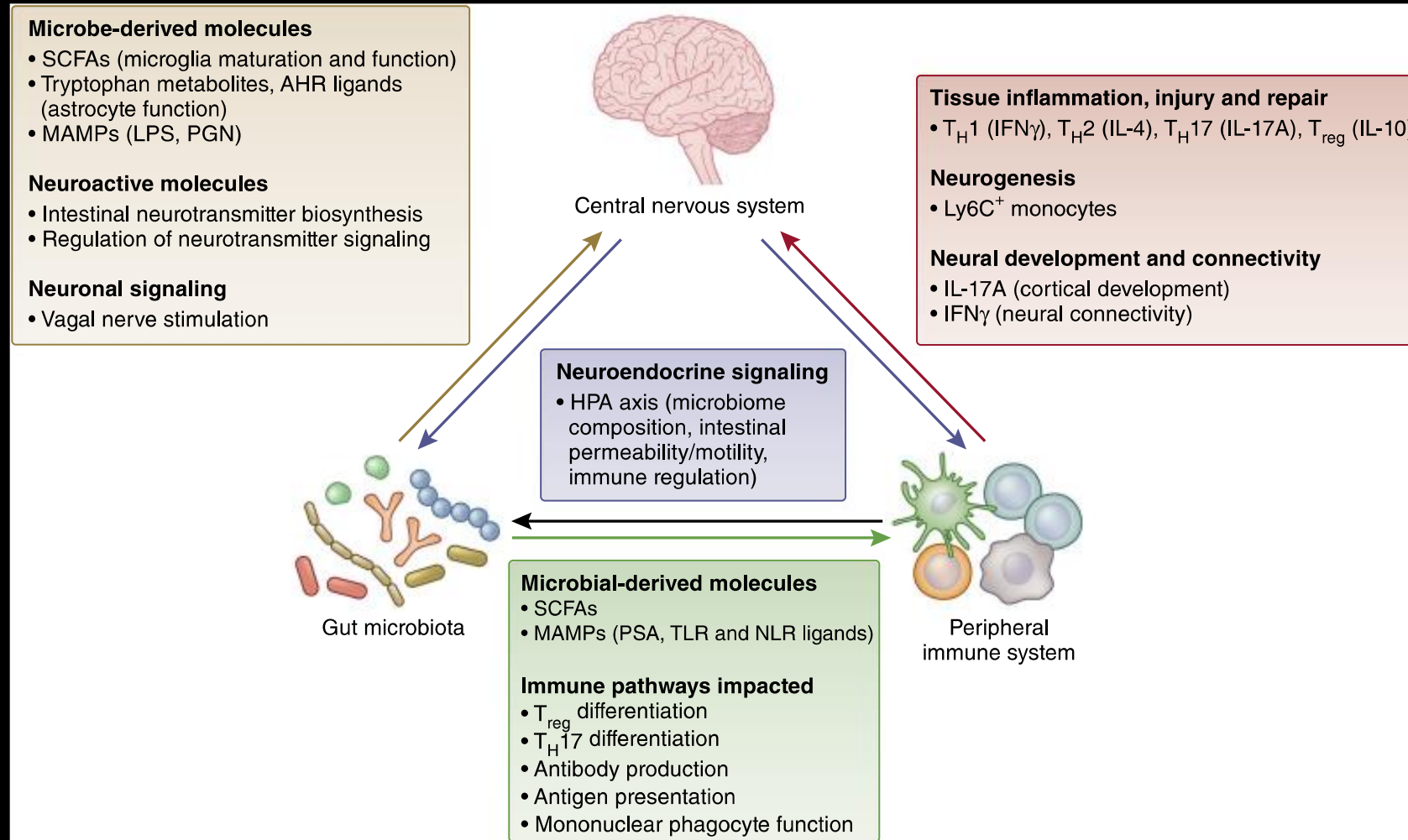
# Therapeutic Potential of Microbiota-targeted Strategies to Modulate Central and Peripheral Immunity in Multiple Neurological Disorders or Conditions



**Fig. 3.** The therapeutic potential of microbiota-targeted strategies in conditions associated with enhanced monocyte trafficking into the brain. The microbiota can (epigenetically) program circulating monocytes, prior to their trafficking into the brain and subsequent differentiation into macrophages. These monocytes and monocyte-derived macrophages play a causal role in specific aspects of pathophysiology of various disease conditions, such as traumatic brain injury (TBI), experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE) and human multiple sclerosis (MS), Parkinson's disease (PD), Alzheimer's disease (AD) and stroke, as well as conditions associated with chronic stress and sickness. Monocytes play a negative role (red boxes) or positive role (green boxes) depending on the disease condition.



# CNS-Gut-Peripheral Immune System: Novel Targets for Therapeutic Immunomodulatory Interventions?



# Questions?

