



AETIONOMY – Developing a "mechanism based taxonomy" of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Disease

AETIONOMY: Vision & Key Challenges

Developing a "mechanism-based" taxonomy of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Disease

- Current classification of neuro-degenerative diseases is purely phenotype based
- Vision: a molecular mechanism based classification
 - Potentially new ways of treating patients
- Project goal: first proof of principle

Per study

Highly complex and multi-factorial diseases

Scarce and unsystematically collected molecular data

• Genotype
• DNA methylation
• Proteomics

Different clinical characterization

Scientific Approach

A Truly Collaborative PPP Effort



Knowledge base of candidate disease mechanisms

Data management



Analysis

Patient clustering

Biological validation

Computational validation

Datasets

Existing datasets (clinical + genetic data): discovery

Newly generated

Further existing data (clinical + genetic): validation

Readout / delivery

Potential patient strata and associated mechanisms

Biological markers associated to mechanisms

Validated patient strata





Fraunhofer-Institut für Algorithmen und Wissenschaftliches Rechnen SCAI

6 partners





Fraunhofer-Institut für Algorithmen und Wissenschaftliches Rechnen SCAI



AETIONOMY Key Achievements



Large scale inventory of mechanistic hypotheses to map disease landscape

- Interactive, search-able
- Sustainable resource for future data mining activities



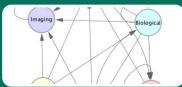
Integration and harmonization of ~100 AD + PD studies into one computational and sustainable environment

SMAR • 14 EFPIA datasets



Computational methods to validate stratification potential and use for clinical outcome prediction

- AD risk model
- PD diagnosis model
- •Genotype based (joint + separate) stratification of Parkinson's and Alzheimer's Disease



Concepts and first proof of concepts for simulating virtual patient cohorts



Experimental validation of disease mechanisms and biomarkers

- •New link between mitochondrial dysfunction and neuro-inflammation in PD
- •DNA methylation patterns in PD candidate mechanisms
- Validation of >15 neuro-inflammatory protein markers in AD
- Validation of YKL40 as a biomarker for AD



Impact of AETIONOMY

Resources	Inventory of mechanistic hypotheses	-
	Integrated data	Future scientific insights
Computational Methods and Tools	Clustering approaches	-
	Prediction models	Experiences and tools for future projects.
	Virtual cohorts	To rataro projecto.
Experiences & insights	New scientific findings	
	How to develop a disease taxonomy?	Role model for future IMI projects.



A first step towards mechanistically driven treatment of neuro-degenerative diseases.