



THINK NEUROSCIENCE

Complete Solutions for Research and Discovery



KNOWLEDGE IS EVERYTHING

Neuroscience and
Neurodegenerative
Disease Overview

Like the brain, neuroscience has a multitude of layers. Our broad solutions, innovative technologies, and proven expertise help researchers like you understand neurological diseases so that patients can benefit from better treatments and therapies.

Neuroscience investigates the complexity of structure and function behind the brain and the neurological processes of the nervous system, relying on scientific expertise across a diverse spectrum of techniques, from molecular biology to psychology.

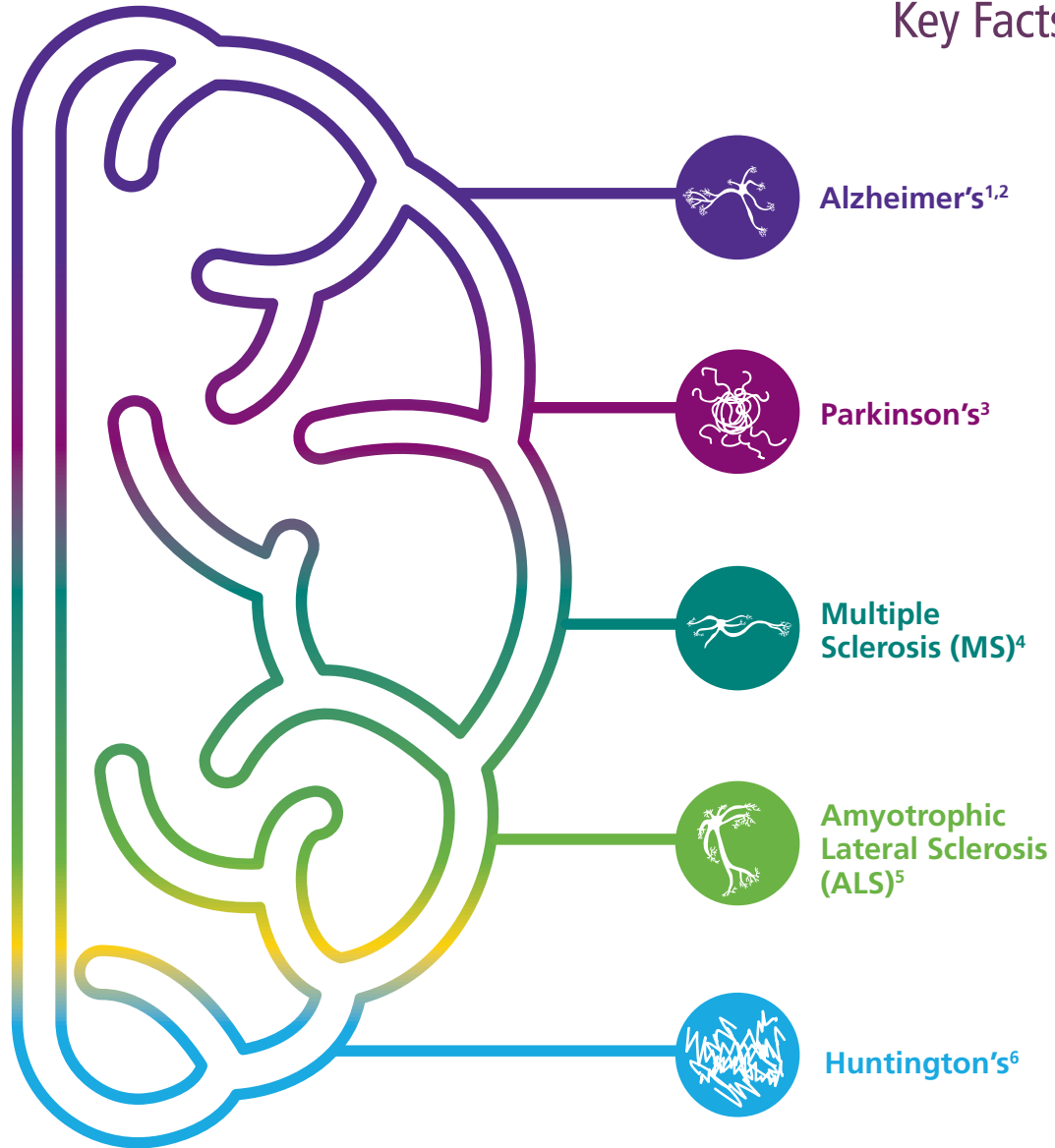
Neurological disorders encompasses large umbrellas of neurodevelopment diseases, psychiatric disorders, and neurodegenerative diseases, which are characterized by cell death and/or loss of function in certain parts of the brain and nerve cells that stop normal organ function. Neurological disorders also include neuromuscular, neuroimmune, and neuro-ophthalmology diseases, among others.

As the world population steadily ages, neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's continue to affect millions of people globally. It's critical to better understand the fundamental processes and microsystems of the neurons and circuits underlying these complex neurodegenerative diseases so that we can improve patient outcomes.

Researchers are using technologies at the forefront of cellular and molecular biology, imaging, and analytics to help elucidate disease development and aid in clinical research for potential therapies for neurological disorders. Our unwavering goal is to help you continue that exploration with a product portfolio that delivers reliable reagents, instruments, and services, accelerating molecular and therapeutic discoveries.

5 NEUROLOGICAL DISEASES

Key Facts and Figures



- Characterized by atrophy of the cerebral cortex, and certain sub-cortical regions
- Affects 50 million people worldwide
- Women are more at risk than men

- Long-term degenerative disorder with motor symptoms caused by dopaminergic neuronal death in the midbrain region
- Affects 7 million to 10 million people worldwide
- Men are more at risk than women

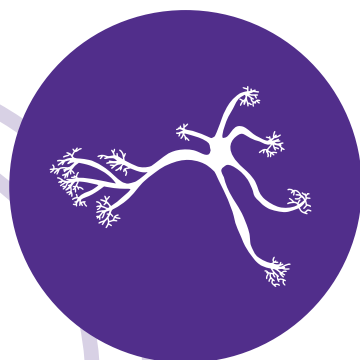
- Brought about by irreversible axonal loss caused by the immune system's attack on myelin sheaths that protect nerve fibers
- The most common disabling neurological condition in young adults
- Women are two to three times more affected than men

- Characterized by loss of voluntary muscle control due to neuron death
- Part of the motor neuron disease (MND) group
- Also known as Lou Gehrig's disease

- A rare, inherited disease caused by a single-gene defect that leads to progressive decline in movement, cognition, and mental/physical capability
- Symptoms often appear in patients in their 30s or 40s
- An autosomal dominant transmission with one defective copy

1. www.alz.org/alzheimers-dementia/facts-figures
2. www.cdc.gov/aging/aginginfo/alzheimers.htm
3. www.parkinson.org
4. www.healthline.com/health/multiple-sclerosis/facts-statistics-infographic#5
5. www.als.org
6. hdsa.org

7 Key Facts About Alzheimer's Disease



Did you know...

More than
1 2 3 4 5
MILLION
Americans have
been diagnosed
with Alzheimer's
disease (AD)

The disease kills
more people than
breast cancer and
prostate cancer
combined

IT'S THE **6TH** LEADING
cause of death in
the United States

1 IN 23
SENIORS
dies from AD or
another dementia

Symptoms can first appear
after age 60, and the risk
increases with age



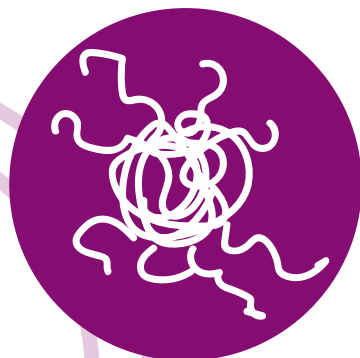
Young people may develop AD, but it is less common

The number of people over age 65 with
Alzheimer's doubles every five years,
and that number is expected to reach
14 million by 2060



<https://www.alz.org/alzheimers-dementia/facts-figures>
<https://www.cdc.gov/aginginfo/alzheimers.htm>

5 Key Facts About Parkinson's Disease



Did you know...

NEARLY



1 MILLION PEOPLE

in the U.S. will be living with Parkinson's disease (PD) by 2020 – more than the combined number of people living with multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)



**APPROXIMATELY
60,000**

Americans are diagnosed with PD each year

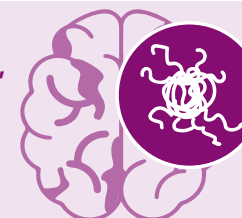
More than
10 MILLION
people worldwide
are living with PD



Men are
1.5 TIMES
more likely to
have Parkinson's
than women

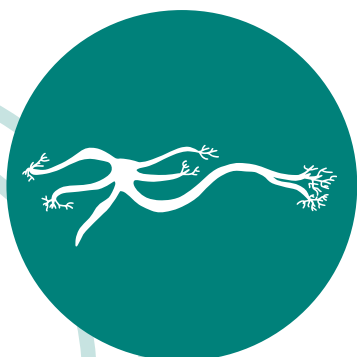


Incidence of PD
increases with age,
but an estimated
4% of people with
PD are diagnosed
before age 50



www.apdaparkinson.org

6 Key Facts About Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Disease



Did you know...



MORE WOMEN HAVE MS

The disease is 2 to 3 times more common in women than men



In southern U.S. states, the rate of MS is between 57 and 78 cases per 100,000 people. The rate is twice as high in northern states at about 110 to 140 cases per 100,000

15%

of patients have one or more family members or relatives who also have MS

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

is NOT considered an inherited disorder, but researchers believe there may be a genetic predisposition to developing the disease



Since the exact cause of MS is still unknown, there's no known prevention or cure, but treatments can help manage symptoms

Multiple sclerosis is the most widespread disabling neurological condition of young adults between the ages of 20 and 50



www.healthline.com/health/multiple-sclerosis/facts-statistics-infographic#Prevalence



6 Key Facts About Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Disease



Did you know...

90% of ALS cases
are sporadic
ALS can affect all races or ethnic
backgrounds, at any age

A LITTLE OVER
5,000 PEOPLE 
in the U.S. are diagnosed with ALS each year

It is estimated that as many as
30,000 Americans
are living with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis

APPROXIMATELY
80% of cases
begin between the ages of 40 to 70

 **5X**

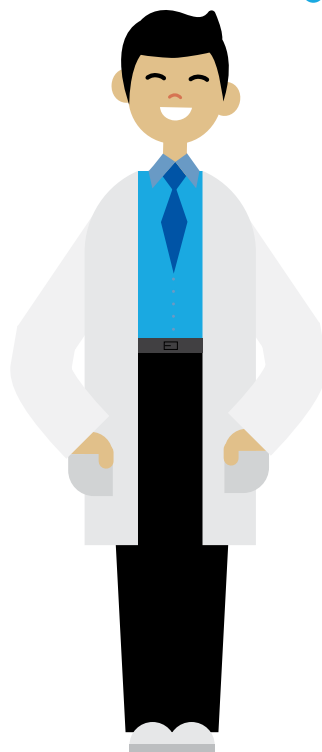
more people die every year
from ALS than Huntington's
disease or multiple sclerosis

The life expectancy of an ALS
patient averages 2 to 5 years
from the time of diagnosis -
20% live longer than 5 years



<http://www.alsfoundation.org/learn/facts.htm>

6 Key Facts About Huntington's Disease



Did you know...

HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE (HD)

causes the progressive
breakdown of nerve cells
in the brain



Today, there are about
41,000 Americans living
with HD and more than
200,000 who are at-risk
of inheriting the disease



SYMPTOMS

usually appear between the ages of
30 to 50 and worsen over 10 to 25 years



THE SYMPTOMS OF HD are described as having ALS, Parkinson's,
and Alzheimer's simultaneously



Every child of a
parent with HD
has a 50/50
chance of
inheriting the
faulty gene

The average length
of survival after
diagnosis is typically
10 to 20 years, but
some people have
lived 30 or 40 years



<https://hdsa.org/#>

PROTEIN AGGREGATION

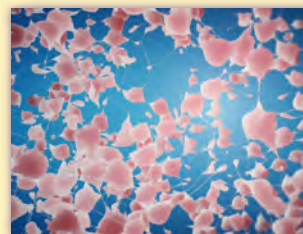
Through extensive research, scientists have discovered that excess or unnatural protein aggregations have been implicated in many neurodegenerative disorders – and their progressions – due to the toxicity of tangles and fibrils in the neurons and within the ecosystem of a properly functioning nervous system.

The progression and symptoms of Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Huntington's, and several others have been linked to aggressively expanding aggregates such as tau, β -amyloids, α -synucleins, and mutated huntingtin.

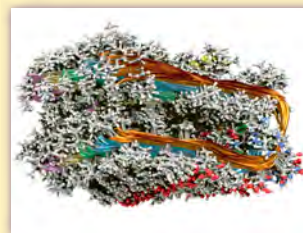
Understanding the biological processes involved in the regulation, formation, dysregulation, and potential remedies for protein aggregation is crucial to treating these diseases.

Labs everywhere are exploring the roles of molecules and biological steps associated with misfolding, mutations, excess seeding, oligomerization, phosphorylation, and clearance of these proteins and polypeptides, while several pharmaceutical and biotech leaders are developing neutralizing antibodies and exploring other therapeutic avenues like proteolysis targeting chimera (**PROTACs**).

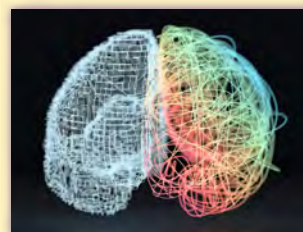
Different methodologies exist for assaying protein aggregates, and they range in sensitivity and throughput. We have the expertise to support your technology and platform of choice for protein aggregate detection for disease staging studies or biomarker determination in cerebrospinal fluid (CSF).



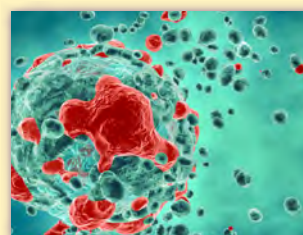
[Read an application note about tau protein aggregation assay relevant to Alzheimer's disease and tauopathies research.](#)



[View our poster to learn about secreted APP and amyloid beta quantification in SH-SY5Y cell media.](#)



[Learn more about the detection of total, phosphor, and aggregated \$\alpha\$ -synucleins in biological samples.](#)



[Read more about innovative therapeutic strategies against Huntington's disease.](#)



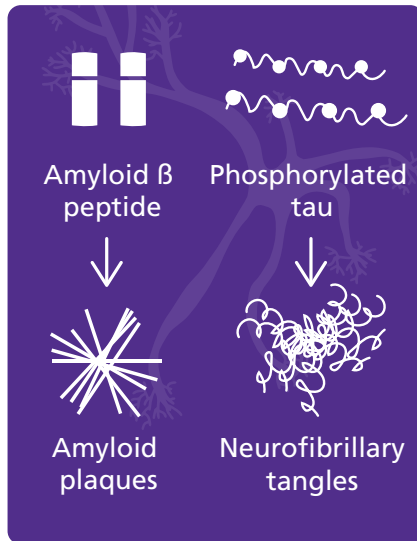
[Read a publication highlight about how infection with mosquito-borne alphavirus induces selective loss of dopaminergic neurons, neuroinflammation, and widespread protein aggregation](#)

Protein Aggregation

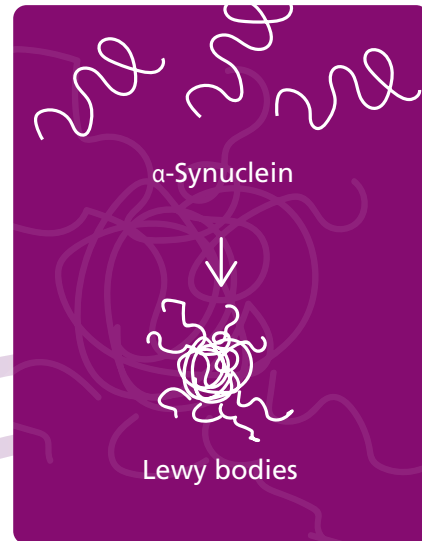
NEUROLOGICAL DISEASES

and Associated Protein Aggregates

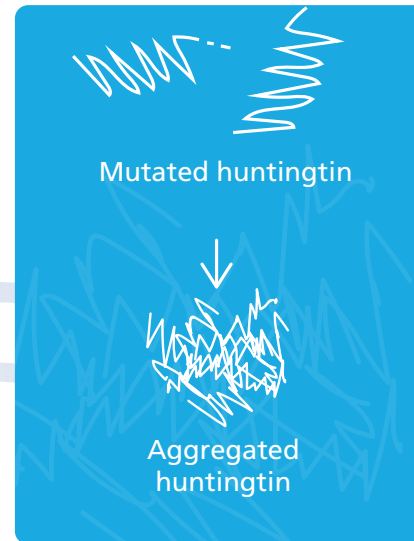
Alzheimer's Disease



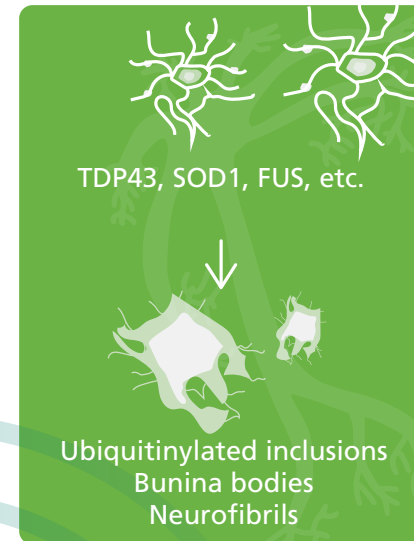
Parkinson's Disease



Huntington's Disease



Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)



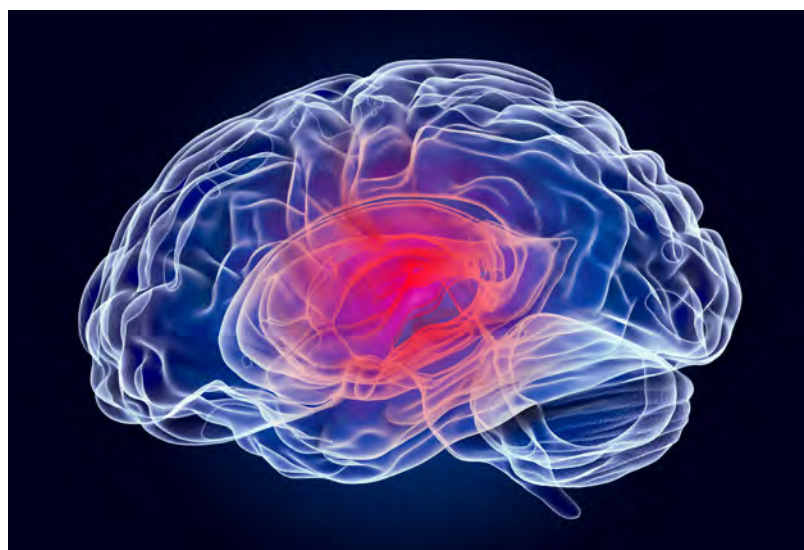
Protein Aggregation

NEUROINFLAMMATION

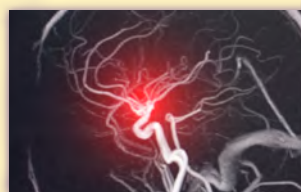
Following various stress cues, the central nervous system (CNS) activates its immune system to elicit a protective neuroinflammatory response. But if neuroinflammation becomes a chronic state, it can cause more harm to the body than good.

Microglial cells, astrocytes, and a variety of other cells collectively maintain homeostasis, safeguard neuronal synapse and blood-brain barrier (BBB) integrity, help clear debris, and protect against neurotoxicity. However, their regulation of the neuroinflammatory response via NF- κ B activation and release of proinflammatory **cytokines** such as TNF- α , IL-1 β , and IL-6 can become skewed if the anti- and pro-inflammatory balance is broken. This creates a neurotoxic environment.

Researchers continue to explore the pathological conditions that lead to neurotoxicity and decrease in neuroprotective agents, which also links to excess and chronic neuroinflammation in various ***in vitro*** and *in vivo* models.



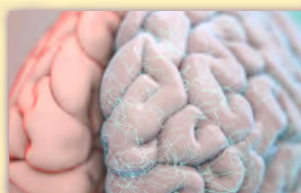
[Read more about how scientists are leveraging immunoassays to move multiple sclerosis drug discovery forward.](#)



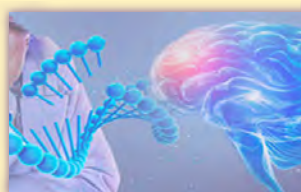
[Read our whitepaper to learn about vaccine research and the impacts of COVID-19 on neurological systems.](#)



[Read an application note to learn more about neuroinflammation on TREM2 and Syk signaling in human iPSC-derived macrophages using HTRF.](#)



[Join an on-demand webinar to learn more about linking neuroinflammation and neurodegeneration.](#)



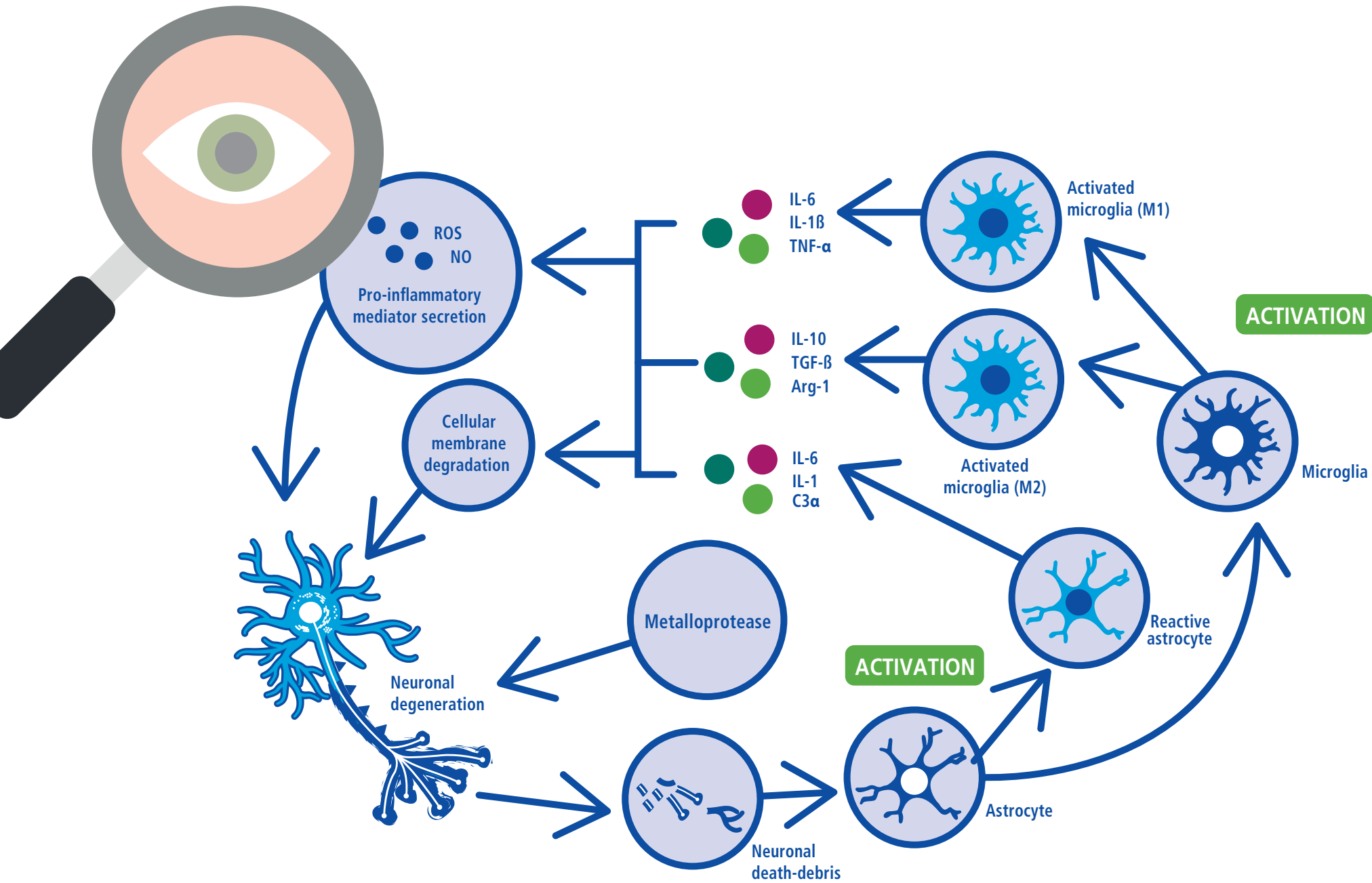
[Attend our webinar to learn more about in vivo molecular imaging applications in gene editing and neuroinflammation.](#)



[Read an application note for more information about neuroinflammation research solutions using HTRF assays.](#)

Neuroinflammation

CELLULAR TYPES INVOLVED



Neuroinflammation

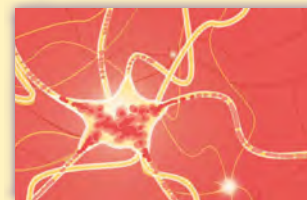
ALTERED CELLULAR PROCESS

In addition to abnormal protein dynamics, other biologically important cellular processes that are critical to proper brain and nerve function can be affected by neurodegenerative diseases. These processes include simple or complex multiregulated pathways and broad processes.

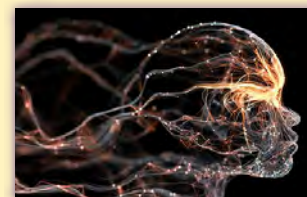
- Disruptions in cell apoptosis
- Necrosis
- Cell cycle regulation or arrest
- Autophagy
- Proteostasis
- Lysosome dysfunction or lipid peroxidation
- Bioenergetics or mitochondrial dysfunction
- Oxidative or ROS stress
- Critical [protein-protein](#) or [GPCR](#) interactions
- Intercellular communication or [kinase/phosphatase](#) function

Along with these mechanistic process alterations, labs also look to specific [epigenetic](#) modifications, especially when age and environmental exposures and trauma impact neuroprotection and neurodegeneration.

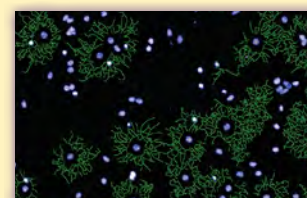
We offer researchers the tools and expertise to explore all the cellular processes involved in maintaining healthy neuronal and brain function and apply it to potential therapeutic targets. From proven instruments to reliable consumables to reagents such as HTRF, ALPHA, radiochemicals, and NGS library prep kits, researchers are empowered to successfully execute complex *in vitro* assays, high-content screening, and *in vivo* preclinical imaging applications.



[Learn more about the pathways involved in neuroinflammation and neurodegeneration.](#)



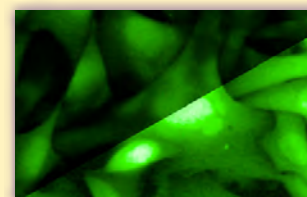
[Read a blog post about potential neuroprotection of A2AR antagonists via modulation of NMDAR activity.](#)



[Read our case study about high-content analysis of drug-induced oligodendrocyte differentiation promoting remyelination in multiple sclerosis.](#)



[Check out our whitepaper on using radioligands for neurochemical research.](#)



[Learn more about our fast kinetic calcium flux high content screening assay.](#)



[View our brochure about 3D multimodality imaging for disease research.](#)

Altered Cellular Processes

RARE DISEASES

Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and other prevalent neurological diseases are typically associated with neurodegeneration. They're multifactorial with complex genetic and environmental associations and a spectrum of symptoms and severities. However, rare diseases also exist within neurological disorders. And thanks to contributions and awareness from advocacy groups and federal incentives, some of these diseases are actively researched for the eventual development of orphan drugs for ALS, Huntington's, Friedreich's ataxia, and spinal muscular atrophy (SMA).

Early research of these rare diseases revolved around understanding the genetic causes. Huntington's, Friedreich's ataxia, and SMA are among those that are caused by mutations to a single gene and typically follow canonical recessive or dominant inheritance patterns and associated risks. Others, like ALS have several genetic mutations associated and are found to be more sporadic in nature.

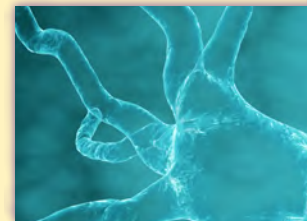
For many years, academic, biotech, and pharmaceutical researchers have collaborated to expand the understanding of these rare diseases through basic and translational research, for the eventual development of novel methods for the accurate detection of mutations or other genetic contributors. As a result, they've developed proven platforms integrating modification technologies like [CRISPR/Cas9](#) and [AAV delivery methods](#), offering promising new therapies.



[Read our publication highlight to learn more about age-dependent SMN expression in disease-related tissue post-mortem from ASO-treated, nontreated, age-matched, and control patients.](#)



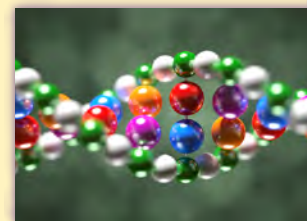
[Learn more about engineered human neural stem cells \(NSCs\) expressing varying Exon 1 HTT fragments are used to study Huntington's disease.](#)



[Check out our poster about comprehensive clinical testing for spinal muscular atrophy.](#)



[Join our webinar on preimplantation genetic testing for monogenic \(PGT-M\) disorders.](#)



[Read about NFFinder, a free web-based bioinformatic research tool for neurofibromatosis \(NF\) and rare disease.](#)

Rare Diseases

BIOMARKER AND DRUG DISCOVERY

In neurodegenerative disorders, proper and early diagnoses can help slow the disease progression and severity of symptoms. Researchers continue to search for accurate biomarkers for disease staging and identify at-risk patients using rapid, high-throughput methods for genetic and molecular markers – all by using biological samples that are less invasive than brain imaging or biopsy.

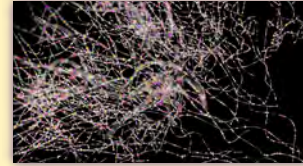
Coupled with biomarker discoveries, therapies and drug developments are necessary to tackle neurological disorders for disease and symptom management. Small-molecule therapeutics and biologics have faced unique hurdles simply because the CNS and PNS are so multifaceted and complex. As a result, there have been minimal strides made in the last few decades. Barriers to consider include the following:

- Creative delivery methods
- Bioavailability to the brain and nervous system
- Aspects of neuroimmunomodulation
- Severity of side effects
- Influence of the gut microbiome
- Stringency of the blood brain barrier (BBB)

Although there is currently no cure, researchers are unyielding. To help stack the odds for a likely therapeutic response, investigators are working diligently and making significant progress as more genetic and molecular pathways are mapped out.

Recently, a branch of research has leveraged the principles of regenerative medicine by exploring stem cells for cell replacement or niche enrichment by the addition and production of neuroprotective factors.

The study of the efficacy and safety of innovative drugs can be accelerated through technologies like HTS automation and multimode plate readers, HCA, and preclinical *in vivo* imaging along with reliable QC/QA tools.



[Read our case study on improving the throughput of a neuroprotection assay using the Opera Phenix high-content screening system.](#)



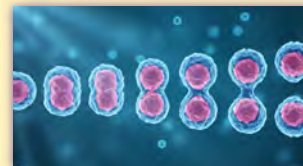
[View our application note to learn more about the role of *in vivo* imaging in drug discovery and development.](#)



[Join a genome webinar about small RNA profiling for drug discovery and CDx.](#)



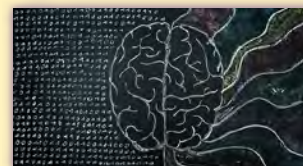
[Learn more about reversing the damages of Multiple Sclerosis.](#)



[Read our application note about stem cells for preclinical imaging.](#)



[View our application note about the culture and QC of human iPSC-derived neuronal cells using an automated HT approach and multimode detection system.](#)



[Read our white paper on biomarker profiling, focusing on small RNAs.](#)

Biomarker and Drug Discovery

GENOMICS: Automation Improves Workflow Efficiency

Genomic insights can help provide better understanding into neurological processes and disease states, especially in rare disease research of genetic origin, microbiome profiling, and biomarker discovery. Some potential therapeutics also relies on exploring genetic, transcriptomic, and epigenetic information surrounding nervous system disorders.



HIGH-THROUGHPUT
NUCLEIC ACID ISOLATION



MICROFLUIDIC DEVICES



AUTOMATED LIQUID HANDLING



NGS LIBRARY PREP KITS

DETECTION: Innovative, Integrated Solutions That Accelerate Your Workflow

Molecular assays that are robust, sensitive, easy-to-use, and high-throughput help neuroscience researchers identify faulty cellular pathways and explore disease- or symptom-causing culprits such as peptide aggregates, neuroinflammation, overactive proteins or enzymes, inappropriate interactions, and altered post-translational modifications.



RADIOCHEMICALS AND
RADIOMETRIC DETECTORS



MULTIMODE
PLATE READERS



MICROPLATES



REAGENTS FOR
DRUG DISCOVERY

Research Technologies

CELLULAR IMAGING: Phenotype Cellular Responses

Researchers can rely on robust cell-based imaging instruments, consumables, reagents, and analytics to decipher molecular and cellular processes critical to understanding neurological pathogenesis and disease progression.



HIGH-CONTENT IMAGING



LIVE-CELL IMAGING

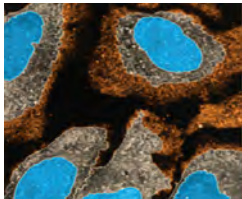


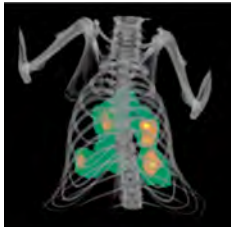
IMAGE ANALYSIS
AND DATA SHARING



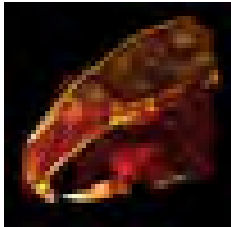
MICROPLATES FOR
CELL IMAGING

IN VIVO IMAGING: The Power of Preclinical Imaging

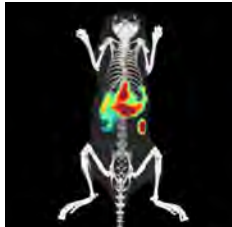
Preclinical information captured via small animal in vivo imaging can help elucidate systemic- and organ-level effects that can help provide a more comprehensive view of neurological disorders and the complexity involved in drug discovery and development, not limited to systemic or neuroinflammation, efficacy of delivery methods/therapies, bioavailability of compound or imaging module, stringency of BBB, potential off-target effects, and toxicology profiles.



OPTICAL IMAGING



MICRO-CT IMAGING



IN VIVO IMAGING REAGENTS

Research Technologies

For more information visit www.perkinelmer.com/category/neuroscience-research

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