PET data analysis - human studies with [11C](R)-PK11195 and beyond

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07th October 2014

Århus PET-Center

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- Acknowledgements

Introduction

Translocator Protein 18kDa (TSPO)

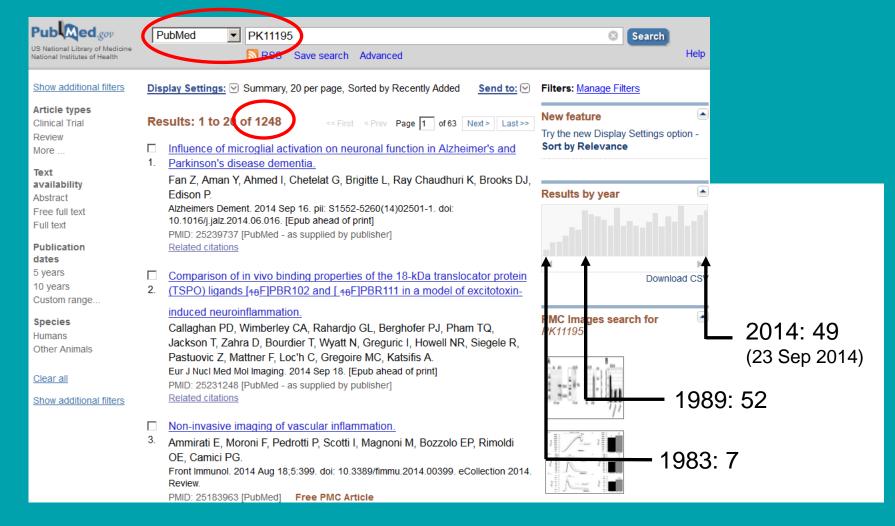
- is a nuclear encoded mitochondrial protein.
- is abundant in peripheral organs (particularly adrenal glands and kidney) and haematogenous cells.
- its function still needs full elucidation but it plays an important role in steroid synthesis and in the regulation of immunological responses in mononuclear phagocytes.

TSPO in diseases of the Central Nervous System (CNS)

- High levels have been observed in infiltrating blood-borne cells and activated microglia.
- Significant microglial activation occurs after mild to severe neuronal damage resulting from traumatic, inflammatory, degenerative and neoplastic disease.
- Microglia are activated in the surroundings of focal lesions but also in the distant, anterograde and retrograde projection areas of the lesioned neural pathway.

[11C](R)- PK11195 as an imaging marker

 PK11195 is a selective ligand for TSPO and the reference compound for TSPO binding assays



[11C](R)- PK11195 as an imaging marker

Peripheral-type benzodiazepine receptors in the living heart characterized by positron emission tomography Circulation 73, No. 3, 476-483, 1986. µg/kg body weight) 30 min after

PIERRE CHARBONNEAU, M.D., ANDRÉ SYROTA, M.D., PH.D., CHRISTIAN CROUZEL, PH.D., JEAN-MARIE VALOIS, B.S., CHRISTIAN PRENANT, B.S., AND MONIQUE CROUZEL

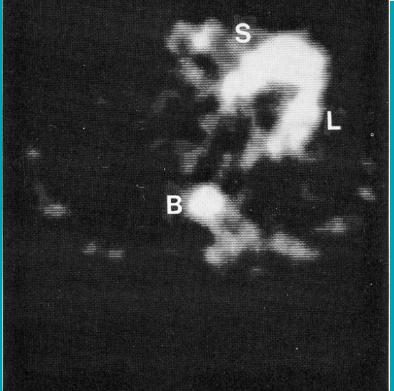


FIGURE 5. PET image of a human heart after intravenous injection of ¹¹C-PK 11195. The PET scan was obtained 15 min after injection of 11 C-PK 11195 (12.3 mCi, specific activity 484 mCi/ μ mol). At this time the septum (S) and of the lateral wall of the left ventricle (L) were clearly visualized. Radioactivity in the lung was low. B = bone marrow.

The injection of various amounts of PK 11195 (100, 200, or 500 injection of the labeled ligand led to a rapid fall in radioactivity in the heart.

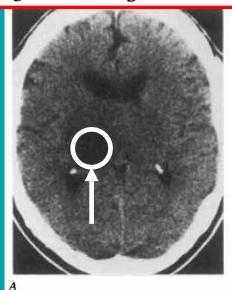
TABLE 2 Myocardial uptake and binding inhibition of bound 11C-PK 11195 by excess unlabeled PK 11195 in four human volunteers

	Amount of 11C-11195 injected (nmol/kg)	Myocardial uptake (% × 10 ⁻³)	Amount of unlabeled PK 11195 (μg/kg)	¹¹ C–PK 11195 binding inhibition (%)
PKH 004	2.47	10	100	25
PKH 002	0.40	8	200	34
PKH 003	0.90	8	200	34
PKH 006	0.94	7.5	500	48

A linear correlation was demonstrated between the concentration of PK11195 in the heart (expressed as pmol/cm³) and the amount of PK 11195 injected for doses below 3 nmol/kg (r = .991).

[11C](R)- PK11195 as an imaging marker

Junck L, Olson JMM, Ciliax BJ, Koeppe RA, Watkins GL, Jewett DM, McKeever PE, Wieland DM, Kilbourn MR, Starosta-Rubinstein S, Mancini WR, Kuhl DE, Greenberg HS, Young AB. PET imaging of human gliomas with ligands for the peripheral benzodiazepine binding site. Ann Neurol 1989;26:752–758



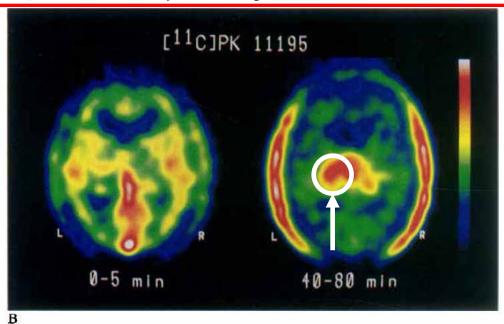


Fig 3. Patient with astrocytoma of indeterminate grade, as proved by examination of biopsy specimen. (A) Computed tomographic scan after infusion of contrast medium. The tumor in the left thalamus does not manifest contrast enhancement. A slight decrease in attenuation extends into the right thalamus.

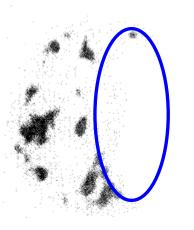
(B) Positron emission tomographic scans performed 0 to 5 and 40 to 80 minutes after injection of $\{^{11}C\}PK$ 11195. Radioactivity in the later images is highest in tumor (1.88 times that in remote gray matter) and in scalp. Increased radioactivity extends into the right thalamus.

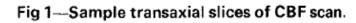
Table 4. Transfer Constant (K_I) , Blood Flow, and Unidirectional Extraction from $\{^{11}C\}PK$ 11195 Positron Emission Tomographic Studies $(n = 4)^a$

	K₁ (ml/gm · min)	Blood Flow (ml/gm·min)	Extraction (%)
Tumor	0.027 ± 0.014	0.40 ± 0.17	7.5 ± 4.4
Gray matter	0.028 ± 0.011	0.55 ± 0.06	4.9 ± 1.4
White matter	0.013 ± 0.007	0.28 ± 0.08	4.4 ± 1.7
aValues represen			

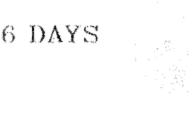
Monitoring by PET of macrophage accumulation in brain after ischaemic stroke







Large area of hypoperfusion in left hemisphere, as indicated by blue area on right



13 DAYS



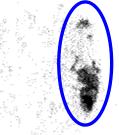






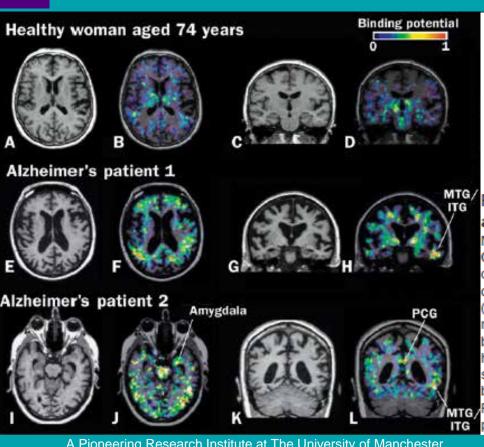
Fig 2—Sample transaxial [11C]-PK 11195 images showing comparable slices for the 3 days.

[11C](*R*)- PK11195 as an imaging marker

In-vivo measurement of activated microglia in dementia

Annachiara Cagnin, David J Brooks, Angus M Kennedy, Roger N Gunn, R Myers, Federico E Turkheimer, Terry Jones, Richard B Banati

THE LANCET • Vol 358 • August 11, 2001



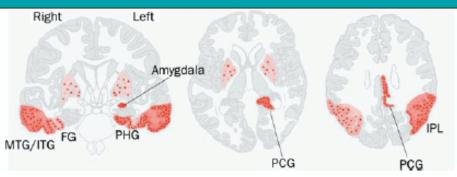
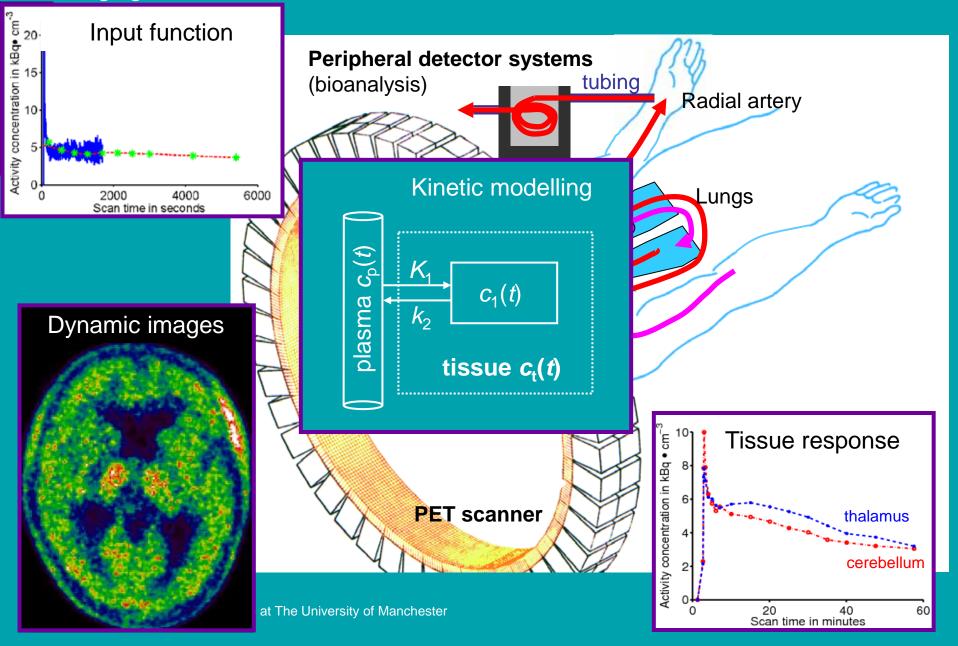


Figure 2: [11C](R)-PK11195 binding in healthy elderly controls and patients with Alzheimer's disease

No significant [11C](R)-PK11195 binding is seen in healthy cortex (A. C [T1-weighted MRI], B, D [MRI-PET fusion image]); however, widespread cortical [11C](R)-PK11195 binding is seen in the patient with severe dementia (E-H), with a prominent signal in the left temporal lobe (MTG/ITG=middle and inferior temporal gyrus). In the patient with moderate dementia (I–L), substantial [11C](R)-PK11195 binding is seen bilaterally in the temporal lobe but more pronounced in the left hemisphere (PCG=posterior cingulate gyrus). Schematic drawing summarises anatomical distribution pattern of peripheral benzodiazepine binding sites (red areas) in Alzheimer's disease (FG=fusiform gyrus, PHG=parahippocampal gyrus, PCG=posterior cingulate gyrus, IPL=inferior parietal lobe).

Plasma input function modelling

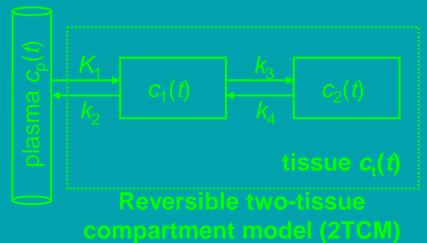


Wolfson Molecular Imaging Centre

Wolfson Molecular K_1 K_2 K_2 K_2 K_2

The University of Manchester

Plasma input function modelling



Development of a tracer kinetic plasma input model for (R)-[11C]PK11195 brain studies Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow & Metabolism (2005) 25, 842-851

Marc A Kropholler¹, Ronald Boellaard¹, Alie Schuitemaker^{1,2}, Bart NM van Berckel^{1,*}, Gert Luurtsema¹, Albert D Windhorst¹ and Adriaan A Lammertsma¹

It was concluded that a two-tissue reversible compartment model with K_1/k_2 fixed to whole cortex value is optimal for analyzing (R)-[11 C]PK11195 PET brain studies.

Kinetic analysis and test-retest variability of the radioligand [11C](R)-PK11195 binding to TSPO in the human brain - a PET study in control subjects

Aurelija Jučaite^{1*}, Zsolt Cselényi¹, Annie Arvidsson¹, Gabrielle Åhlberg¹, Per Julin¹, Katarina Varnäs², Per Stenkrona², Jan Andersson², Christer Halldin² and Lars Farde^{1,3}

[¹¹C](*R*)-PK11195 binding could be described by 2TCM which was the preferred model.

 $C_1(t)$

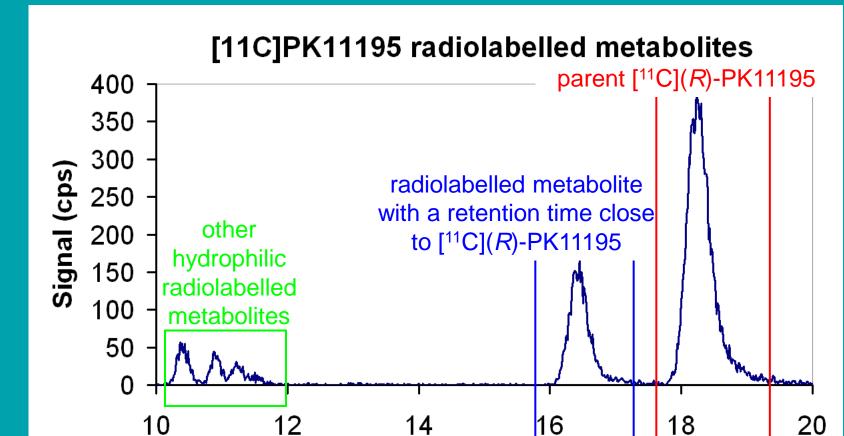
tissue $c_t(t)$

Reversible one-tissue

compartment model (1TCM)

EJNMMI Research 2012, 2:15

Plasma input function modelling



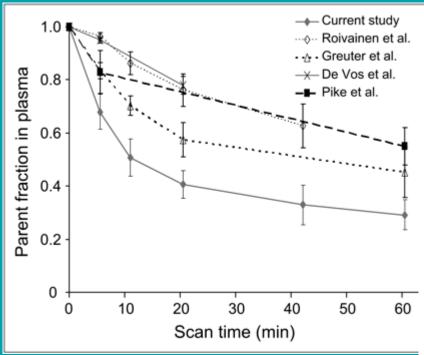
Example radiochromatogram obtained from an essay with hepathic microsomes.

Time (min)

Plasma input function modelling

Detection and Quantification of Large-Vessel Inflammation with \$^{11}C-(R)-PK11195 PET/CT J Nucl Med 2011; 52:33–39

Frederic Lamare¹, Rainer Hinz², Oliver Gaemperli¹, Francesca Pugliese¹, Justin C. Mason³, Terence Spinks⁴, Paolo G. Camici^{1,5}, and Ornella E. Rimoldi^{1,6}



De Vos F, Dumont F, Santens P, Slegers G, Dierckx R, De Reuck J. Highperformance liquid chromatographic determination of [\$^{11}\$C]-1-(2-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-N-(1-methylpropyl)-3-isoquinoline carboxamide in mouse plasma and tissue and in human plasma. *J Chromatogr B Biomed Sci Appl.* 1999; 736:61–66.

Pike VW, Halldin C, Crouzel C, et al. Radioligands for PET studies of central benzodiazepine receptors and PK (peripheral benzodiazepine) binding sites: current status. *Nucl Med Biol.* 1993;20:503–525.

Roivainen A, Nagren K, Hirvonen J, et al. Whole-body distribution and metabolism of [N-methyl-11C](R)-1-(2-chlorophenyl)-N-(1-methylpropyl)-3-isoquinolinecarboxamide in humans: an imaging agent for in vivo assessment of peripheral benzodiazepine receptor activity with positron emission tomography. Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging. 2009;36:671–682.

Greuter HNJM, van Ophemert PLB, Luurtsema G, et al. Optimizing an online SPE-HPLC method for analysis of (R)-[11C]1-(2-chlorophenyl)-N-methyl-N-(1-methylpropyl)-3-isoquinolinecarboxamide [(R)-[11C]PK11195] and its metabolites in humans. *Nucl Med Biol.* 2005;32:307–312.

CBE

 $C_t(t)$

 $C_r(t)$

104 ±

 k_2

Simplified reference

tissue model (SRTM)

olasma

Evaluation of reference tissue models for the analysis of [11C](R)-PK11195 studies

Marc A Kropholler¹, Ronald Boellaard¹, Alie Schuitemaker^{1,2}, Hedy Folkersma³, Bart NM van Berckel¹ and Adriaan A Lammertsma¹

Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow & Metabolism (2006) 26, 1431-1441

Simplified reference tissue model is the best alternative when no plasma input is available.

Labelling of Peripheral-Type Benzodiazepine Binding Sites in Human Brain With [3H]PK 11195: Anatomical and Subcellular Distribution

A. DOBLE, C. MALGOURIS, M. DANIEL, N. DANIEL, F. IMBAULT, A. BASBAUM,* A. UZAN, C. GUÉRÉMY AND G. LE FUR

Binding Densities Brain Research Bulletin, Vol. 18, pp. 49-61, 1987. (fmol/mg Abbreviations protein) Structures Cerebellum Granular cell layer Molecular cell layer Cerebellar cortex CB White matter 32 CBL Dentate nucleus 74 **CBM** Deep cerebellar nuclei Fastigial nucleus

Interpositus nucleus

Reference tissue input function extraction

A Cluster Analysis Approach for the Characterization of Dynamic PET Data

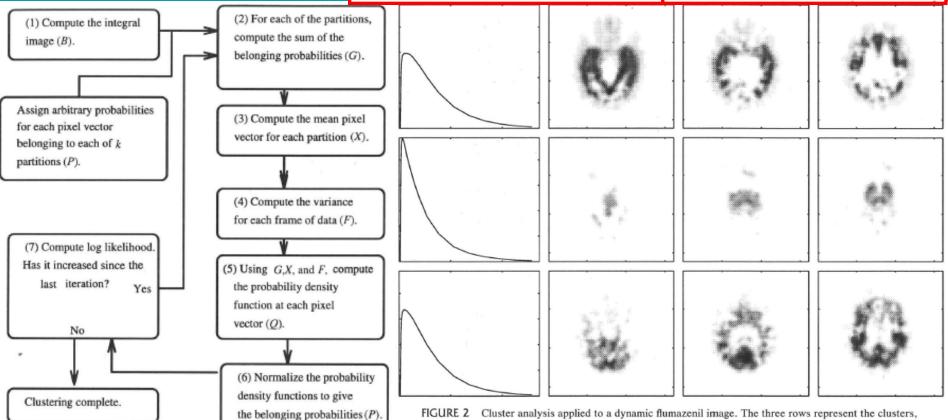
Adaptation of the mixture model algorithm by Hartigan (1975).

JOHN ASHBURNER, 1 JANE HASLAM, 2 CHRIS TAYLOR, 2 VINCENT J. CUNNINGHAM, 1 and TERRY JONES 1

¹Cyclotron Unit, Hammersmith Hospital, London W12 0NN, United Kingdom
²Medical Biophysics, Medical School, Manchester, United Kingdom

QUANTIFICATION OF BRAIN FUNCTION USING PET Copyright © 1996 by Academic Press, Inc.

and the columns are selected planes from the volume. The images are the likelihoods of belonging to each of the clusters, multiplied by the integral image. They have been smoothed slightly to improve visualization.

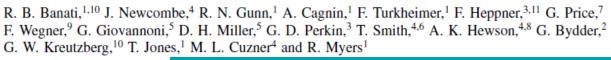


The plot on the left is the cluster mean.

FIGURE 1 Flow diagram for clustering.

The peripheral benzodiazepine binding site in the brain in multiple sclerosis

Quantitative *in vivo* imaging of microglia as a measure of disease activity



Limitation of the study and outlook

Binding of [11C](R)-PK11195 was measured with a simplified reference region approach and cluster analysis that permitted the robust extraction of a normal reference kinetic without prior anatomical definition of a normal reference region. However, one patient with SP multiple sclerosis had to be excluded from this study since no appropriate concentration time–activity curve could be extracted to serve as an input function. This may indicate

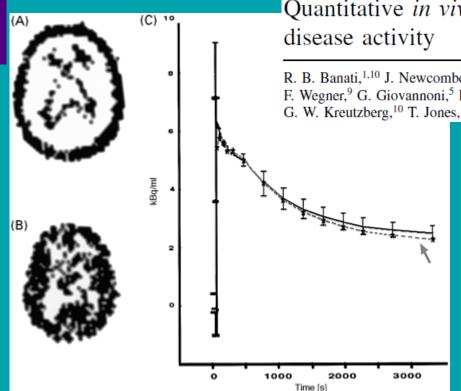


Fig. 1 The majority of the time—activity curves extracted by cluster analysis from the dynamic [\frac{11}{C}](R)-PK11195 PET data of a normal brain fell into two clusters, one localizing to extracerebal structures (A) and the other to healthy brain tissue (B). The latter represents the normal reference kinetic that would have been obtained from an anatomically defined mask similar to that seen in B. The population input kinetic (solid line, with standard deviations) was used to decide whether an individual dynamic data set (here from Patient 9) contained a time—activity curve suitable to serve as the individual's reference input function (dotted line and arrow).

Reference tissue input function extraction

Reference and Target Region Modeling of [11C]-(*R*)-PK11195 Brain Studies

J Nucl Med 2007; 48:158-167

Federico E. Turkheimer¹⁻³, Paul Edison^{1,3}, Nicola Pavese³, Federico Roncaroli⁴, Alexander N. Anderson¹, Alexander Hammers^{1,5}, Alexander Gerhard^{3,6}, Rainer Hinz², Yan F. Tai^{1,3}, and David J. Brooks¹⁻³

Normalise each frame of the dynamic image by subtracting its mean and dividing it by its standard deviation to create a unit input.

Database of six kinetic classes extracted from reference scans

- 1. Normal grey matter
- 2. White matter
- 3. Blood pool
- 4. Muscle
- 5. Scull / bone
- 6. High density TSPO binding

Describe every pixel $P_i(t)$ as a weighted linear combination of the kinetic classes as:

$$P_i^n(t) = \sum_{j=1}^6 w_{ij} K_j^n(t), \quad \text{with } w_{ij} \ge 0$$

P_iⁿ(t) ... normalised kinetic at voxel i

 $K_i^{n}(t)$... normalised kinetic class j (j= 1, ..., 6)

Non-negative least squares (NNLS) algorithm to determine the set of weights w_{ij} per pixel. Use the map w_{i1} of the normal grey matter kinetics to calculate the reference tissue kinetics.

Supervised Cluster Analysis with 6 classes (SVCA6)

Evaluation of reference regions for (R)-[11C]PK11195 studies in Alzheimer's disease and Mild Cognitive Impairment

Marc A Kropholler¹, Ronald Boellaard¹, Bart NM van Berckel¹, Alie Schuitemaker², Reina W Kloet¹, Mark J Lubberink¹, Cees Jonker³, Philip Scheltens⁴ and Adriaan A Lammertsma¹

Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow & Metabolism (2007) 27, 1965-1974

Gray matter, white matter, total cerebellum and cerebrum, and cluster analysis were evaluated as reference regions. [...] For cerebellum white matter, cerebrum white matter, and total cerebrum a considerable number of unrealistic *BP*^{SRTM} values were observed. Cluster analysis did not extract a valid reference region in 10% of the scans. [...] Most anatomic regions outperformed cluster analysis in terms of absence of both scan rejection and bias. Total cerebellum is the optimal reference region in this patient category.

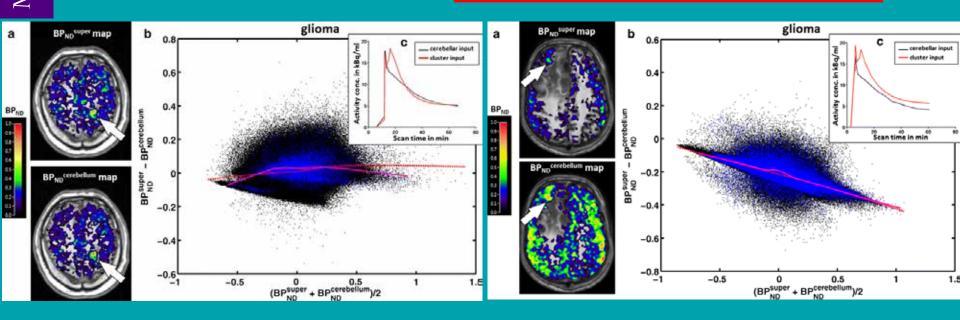
Reference tissue input function extraction

[11C]-(R)PK11195 tracer kinetics in the brain of glioma patients and a comparison of two referencing approaches

Zhangjie Su · Karl Herholz · Alexander Gerhard ·

Federico Roncaroli · Daniel Du Plessis · Alan Jackson ·

Federico Turkheimer • Rainer Hinz Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging (2013) 40:1406–1419



Supervised cluster and cerebellar input functions produced consistent BP_{ND} estimates in approximately half of the gliomas investigated, but had a systematic difference in the remainder. The cerebellar input is preferred based on theoretical and practical considerations.

Reference tissue input function extraction

Apply a brain mask to the dynamic data before normalisation.

Optimization of supervised cluster analysis for extracting reference tissue input curves in (*R*)-[11C]PK11195 brain PET studies

Maqsood Yaqub¹, Bart NM van Berckel¹, Alie Schuitemaker², Rainer Hinz³, Federico E Turkheimer⁴, Giampaolo Tomasi⁵, Adriaan A Lammertsma¹ and Ronald Boellaard¹

Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow & Metabolism (2012) 32, 1600-1608

Only four kinetic classes:

- 1. Normal grey matter Supervised Cluster Analysis with Brain Mask (SVCA4)
 - 2. White matter
 - 3. Blood pool
 - 4. High density TSPO binding

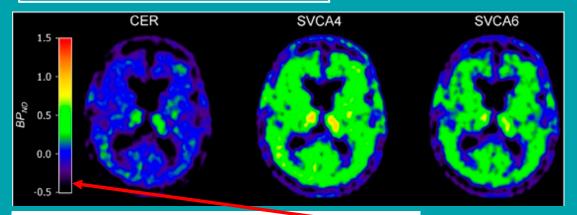


Figure 5 Parametric binding potential (BP_{ND}) images generated using reference tissue model Reference tissue inputs were taken from cerebellum (CER), SVCA4, and SVCA6.

Data were taken from an AD subject.

Negative BP_{ND}

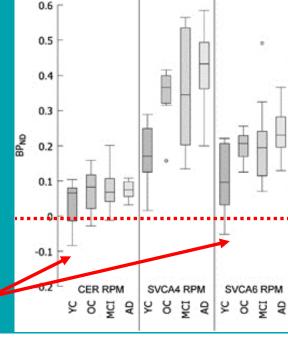
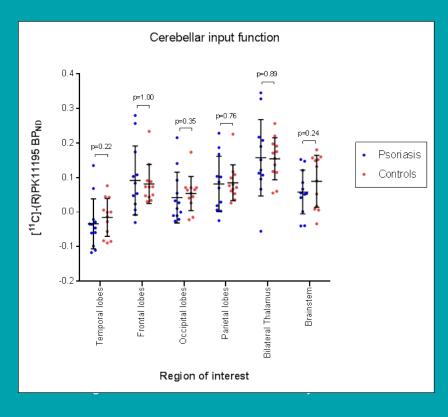


Figure 6 Comparison of thalamus-specific binding (BP_{ND}) using box and whisker plots.

Ongoing clinical research studies: psoriasis

- Psoriasis is a chronic inflammatory, immune-mediated skin condition.
- It is associated with multiple co-morbidities and is widely regarded as a systemic inflammatory condition.
- Human (Drake C et al. Brain Behav Immun 2011; 25: 1113-22) and animal (Hannestad J et al. Neuroimage 2012; 63: 232-9) studies have demonstrated that peripheral inflammatory insults can induce brain neuroinflammation.



- Case-controlled cohort study (12 psoriasis patients and 12 controls)
- Bars show mean and standard deviation BP_{ND}, p values derived from Mann-Whitney U test.
- No significant difference for either input function (cerebellum, SVCA6).

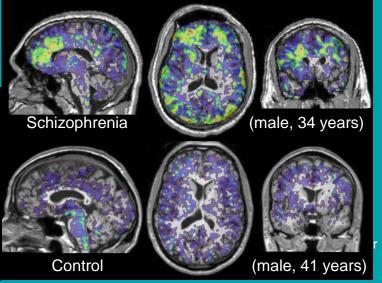
Hunter H *et al.* Is psoriasis associated with neuroinflammation? NRM'2014, Egmond aan Zee, 21 - 24 May, 2014.

0.8 - 0.7 - 0.6 - 0.5 - 0.4 - 0.3 - 0.2 -

Ongoing clinical research studies: depression and schizophrenia

- Both major depressive disorder (MDD) and schizophrenia are thought to be associated with neuroinflammation.
- A recent PET study found no evidence for neuroinflammation in mild-to-moderate MDD (Hannestad J et al. Brain Behav Immun 2013; 33: 131-8).
- Two PET studies in schizophrenia have shown evidence for neuroinflammation (Van Berckel BN *et al.* Biol Psychiatry 2008; **64**: 820-2 and Doorduin J *et al.* J Nucl Med 2009; **50**: 1801-7).
- These initial studies might be confounded by mild severity, antidepressant/ antipsychotic medication and low numbers.

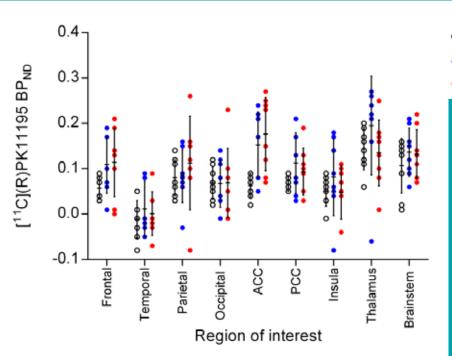
 We present an interim analysis of a study investigating neuroinflammation in mostly medication-free, moderate-to-severe MDD and schizophrenia.



Grey matter cerebellum input function was used to generate parametric maps of BP_{ND} using the Simplified Reference Tissue Model.

Ongoing clinical research studies: depression and schizophrenia

- 8 patients with a diagnosis of DSM-IV MDD, 8 with schizophrenia and 8 age and gender matched healthy controls.
- All MDD patients were antidepressant-free and 6 of the 8 schizophrenia patients were antipsychotic-free for at least 3 months prior to scanning. All patients had moderate-to-severe symptom severity.



- Controls
- Depression
- Schizophrenia
 - higher in depression (0.12 ± 0.06) and in schizophrenia (0.10 ± 0.05) compared to controls (0.07 ± 0.04).
 - Anterior Cingulate Cortex (ACC): highly significant increases (*p* < 0.003) in both depression and schizophrenia relative to controls.

Holmes S *et al.* Evidence for neuroinflammation in major depressive disorder and schizophrenia: A PET study using [¹¹C]-(R)-PK11195. BAP Summer Meeting, Cambridge, 20 - 23 July, 2014.

Developments in pre-clinical data analysis

For rodent scans, measurement of plasma input functions is challenging.

Aim: Adaptation of the clinical SVCA to rat brain scans with $[^{11}C](R)$ -PK11195.

Six male Wistar rats

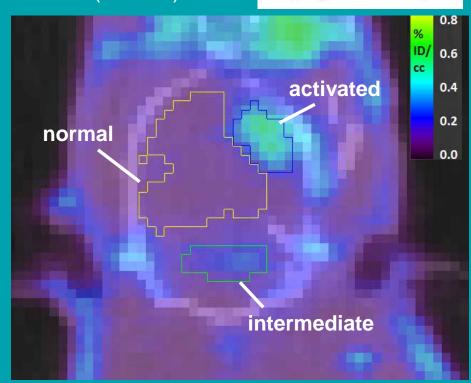
Siemens Inveon small animal PET-CT





Stroke model: middle cerebral artery occlusion (MCAO)

- Core of infarct = activated tissue
- 2. Contralateral region = normal tissue
- 3. Cerebellar region = intermediate binding



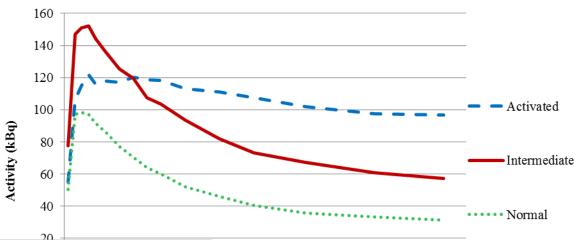
Developments in pre-clinical data analysis

1500

Time (s)

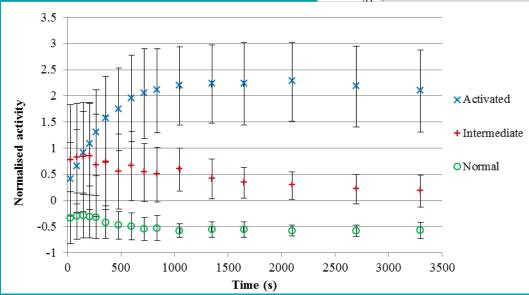
Time-activity curves (TACs) for the three regions identified in the brain of sample animal.

Data normalised, sampled and averaged across animals.



2000

2500



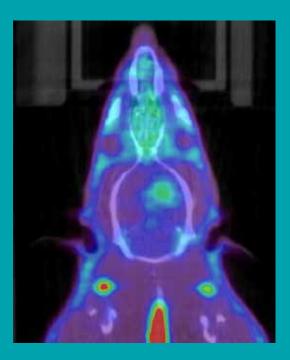
Corresponding normalised TACs forming population database with three classes, averaged across animals, with standard deviations.

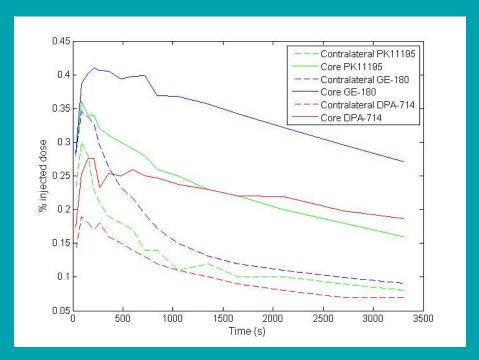
3000

3500

Sridharan S *et al.* A data-driven method for automatic extraction of a reference tissue kinetic from [11C]-(R)-PK11195 rodent brain scans. XIII Turku PET Symposium, 24 - 27 May, 2014.

Lipopolysaccharide (LPS, bacterial endotoxin)- induced microglial activation to preserve integrity of the blood-brain barrier, doses of 1, 5 and 10 µg

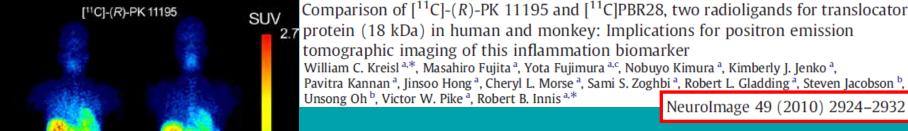




BP _{ND} with SRTM (mean±SD)	10 μg	5 μg	1 μg
[¹¹ C](<i>R</i>)-PK11195	2.25 (n=1)	3.20 ± 0.30 (n=2)	2.14 ± 0.42 (n=3)
[¹⁸ F]GE-180	4.04 (n=1)	2.96 ± 0.07 (n=2)	2.49 ± 0.76 (n=6)
[¹⁸ F]DPA-714	2.53 (n=1)	4.21 ± 0.02 (n=2)	2.95 ± 0.44 (n=5)

[11C]PBR28

Outlook



An 18-kDa Translocator Protein (TSPO) polymorphism explains differences in binding affinity of the PET radioligand PBR28

David R Owen^{1,2,6}, Astrid J Yeo^{3,6}, Roger N Gunn^{2,4,5}, Kijoung Song³, Graham Wadsworth², Andrew Lewis¹, Chris Rhodes¹, David J Pulford³, Idriss Bennacef², Christine A Parker^{2,4}, Pamela L StJean³, Lon R Cardon³, Vincent E Mooser³, Paul M Matthews^{2,4}, Eugenii A Rabiner^{2,4} and Justin P Rubio³

Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow & Metabolism (2012) 32, 1-5

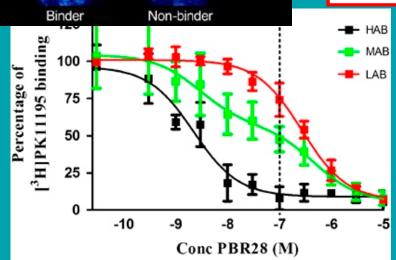


Figure 1 (**A**) Competition binding assay using unlabelled PBR28 to displace [3 H]PK11195 in human platelets isolated from whole blood (n = 41).

Table 1 Distribution of rs6971 genotypes against ligand binding classification

TSPO genoty	Binding phenotype (subject, n)			
DNA (polymorphism rs6971)	Protein (position 147)	HAB	MAB	LAB
C/C C/T T/T	Ala/Ala Ala/Thr Thr/Thr	27	12	2

Ala = alanine, Thr = threonine, HAB = high affinity binder, MAB = mixed affinity binder, LAB = low affinity binder.

Genotypes correspond to carriage of the 147 amino acid as follows: CC = Ala147/Ala147: CT = Ala147/Thr147: TT = Thr147/Thr147.

Wolfson Molecular
Imaging Centre
Determination of [11C]PBR28 binding potential in vivo: a first

human TSPO blocking study Journal of Cerebral Blood Flow & Metabolism (2014) 34, 989–994



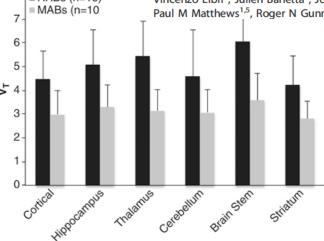


Figure 1. Effect of genotype on ¹¹C-PBR28 total volume of distribution in high-affinity binders (HABs) (n = 16) and mixed affinity binders (MABs) (n = 10).

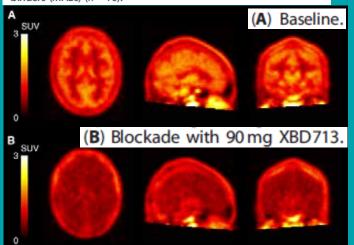
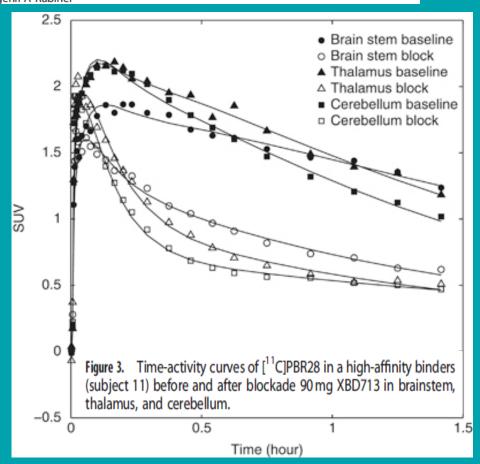


Figure 2. Integral images (0 to 90 minutes) of [11C]PBR28 in a hester high-affinity binders (subject 11) before and after blockade.



Reference region?

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