### Aging and Dementia/Delirium

Mark Lachmann Geriatric Psychiatry Nov. 2021 mark.Lachmann@sinaihealth.ca



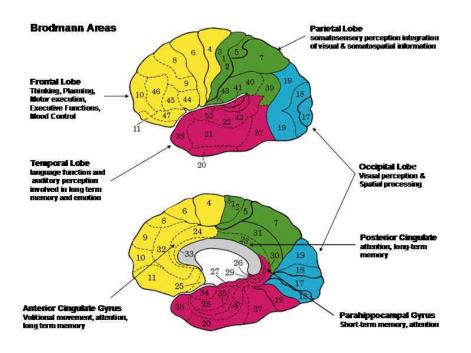




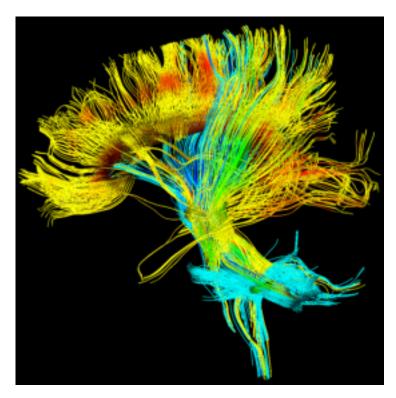




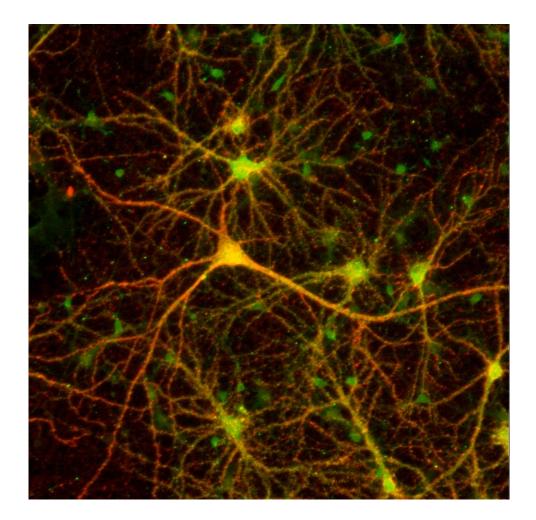
#### structure



#### connectivity



## connectivity



## Back to Fort Albany

- Concern re: memory raised by nursing staff
- No concern by patient or family
- Social preservation
- Community stable
- Aging context
- What is valued ?
- What is seen ?

## So what ?

- What categories the brain ?
- How prioritize ?
- What, exactly, are we mapping where, and does this even make sense ?
- How does all this help us support and understand suffering ?

Major Neurocognitive Disorder introduces idea of cognitive domains complex attention, executive function, learning and memory, language, perception, motor, social cognition

Major Neurocognitive Disorder

a. significant decline in one or more cognitive domains

- b. interfere with ADLs
- c. not delirium
- d. Not something else

Specifies types:

AD, FTD, Lewy Body, Vascular, TBI, substance/medication induced, HIV, Prion, Parkinson's, Huntington, due to another condition, due to multiple etiologies

With or without behavioral disturbance

Major neurocognitive disorder:

Mild: difficulty with instrumental ADL Moderate: difficulty with basic ADL Severe: fully dependent

(ADL: activities of daily living)

#### Dementia

65-74: 2.4%

75-84: 11.1%

85+: 35%

#### (overall about 8% of > 65)

Behavioural and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia (BPSD) 90%

Expected

Variable

NOT connected to "severity"

# ?screen/testing MMSE/MOCA/RUDAS

Rowland Universal Dementia Assessment

Originally developed in Australia, only cognitive assessment tool specifically developed for use in complex cross cultural context, accounting for variability in education/literacy

### Treatment (in AD)

Well.....

#### MMSE 1.5 point change for some

**Behaviours** 

Safety

(pessismistic, except for alcohol related dementia – more later....)

#### Prevention

• Treat illness

"motherhood issues"

• Exercise

• A note on alcohol

## Delirium

COMMON Key concept

Sudden onset of confusion Impaired attention, fluctuating level of consciousness

Underlying medical problem One year mortality – around 25 %

#### Inter-relatedness

- Vulnerable brain
- Life time of insults

• Cognitive reserve

#### **Cognitive reserve**

#### holistic model of change over life span

#### discussion



### Elder place within family

General vs specific

Variability

Isolation

Learning emotion/self/other

### "we age the way we live"

Positive self concept

Negative self concept

**Positive other concept** 

Secure

**Pre-occupied** 

Negative other concept

Dismissive

Fearful/avoidant



# Alcohol and Aging

• Alcohol abuse/dependence 65+ : 2-4 %,

- But really depends on local populations and how counted:
  - In primary care 8-15%
  - In LTC 8-50%

# Uh oh

#### 1 drink at age 20 ====== 3 drinks at age 80

# Changes with aging

- Increase fat
- Decrease muscle
- Decrease renal function
- Decrease liver function
- Increased brain vulnerability
- Fall risk

# At risk drinking

• In greater than 65,

More than 7 drinks a week, or more than 3 drinks at one sitting

### CAGE

- Cut down
- Annoyed when questioned
- Guilt
- Eye opener

• Positive if 1/4

#### MOCA

#### 13/30 to 26/30

after 18 mo

• Alcohol related:

- Delirium tremens
- Intoxication
- dementia

