

MSA research symposium

20 January 2023

33 Queen Square Lecture Theatre, Queen Square, WC1N 3BG

8.30-9.00 Registration and coffee

9.00-9.10 Opening remarks. Sir John Hardy.

9:10 – 10:00 Alpha-synuclein structures in human brain and MSA. Chair Sir John Hardy

- *Cryo-EM structures of alpha-synuclein filaments from human brains.* Dr Michel Goedert, Medical Research Council Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge.
- *Brain region specific structures of alpha-synuclein in disease.* Dr Tim Bartels, UK Dementia Research Institute, UCL

10.00-11.15 MSA genetics research. Chair: Prof Henry Houlden.

- *Somatic genomic structural variants in MSA brain.* Prof Christos Proukakis. Clinical and Movement Neurosciences, UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology.
- *MSA: from abnormal brain DNA methylation to new α -synuclein 'partners in crime'.* Dr Conceicao Bettencourt, UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology, Queen Square Brain Bank.
- *Dissecting the SNCA locus with long-read RNA-sequencing to understand synuclein disorders.* Prof Mina Ryten, UCL Great Ormond Street Institute of Child Health

11.15- 11.30 Refreshments Break

11.30-12.45 Biomarkers in MSA. Chair: Dr Anette Schrag

- *The UK MSA biobank as a tool for enabling research into validation of MSA biomarkers: NfL blood predicts neurodegeneration and progression in MSA.* Dr Viorica Chelban, UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology
- *Development of an early diagnostic test for MSA using multiple blood-based biomarkers.* Farid Khan, CEO Pharmakure
- *Advanced Anatomical MRI for Parkinsonian Disorders.* Dr Christian Lambert, Wellcome Centre for Human Neuroimaging, UCL

12.45-14.30 Lunch break

14.30- 15.15 Towards improving Diagnosis and Prognosis of MSA. Chair: Dr Valeria Iodice

- *Diagnosis of MSA in the early stages: implications of the new diagnostic criteria.* Prof Jalesh Panicker, UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology.
- *Autonomic biomarkers and early diagnosis in MSA.* Dr Valeria Iodice, UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology.
- *PROSPECT-M Study. Progression and prognostic factors in MSA.* Dr Yen Goh, UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology.
- *Gastrostomy insertion and outcomes in MSA and other atypical parkinsonian syndromes.* Dr Christopher Kobylecki, Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust

15.45- 16.00 Refreshments Break

16.00-17.15 New horizons in MSA drug trials. Chair: Prof Nicholas Wood.

- *Targeting the primary pathology in MSA.* Prof Huw Morris, Clinical and Movement Neurosciences, UCL Queen Square
- *A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of ATH434 in MSA.* Dr David Stamler, CEO Alteryx Therapeutics.
- *A trial of Exenatide as a potential disease modifying treatment in MSA.* Prof Thomas Foltynie, Clinical and Movement Neurosciences, UCL Queen Square
- *Phase 3 Ampreloxadine trial.* Dr Valeria Iodice, UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology.

17.15- 17.30 Closing remarks. Hugh Matheson. MSA Trust