



SREF

# SYNGAP RESEARCH FUND

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*cureSYNGAP1.org*

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# Mike Graglia - Tony's Dad & SRF's Founder

Left my career a few years ago to lead SRF. In addition to working with the team of SynGAP families and partners, I serve on Executive Board of COMBINEDBrain, AES Epilepsy Research Benchmarks Stewards Committee and a member of the Milken FasterCures LeadersLink program & as well as the Personalized Medicine Coalition.



Professional background in global development, healthcare strategy, finance and planning at top-tier institutions.



Educational background in Mathematics (BS), International Economics (MA) and Finance (MBA).



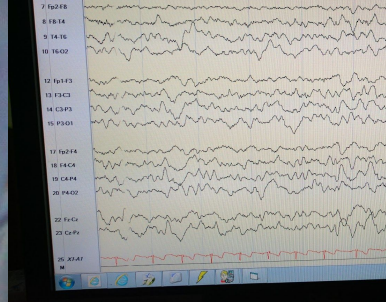
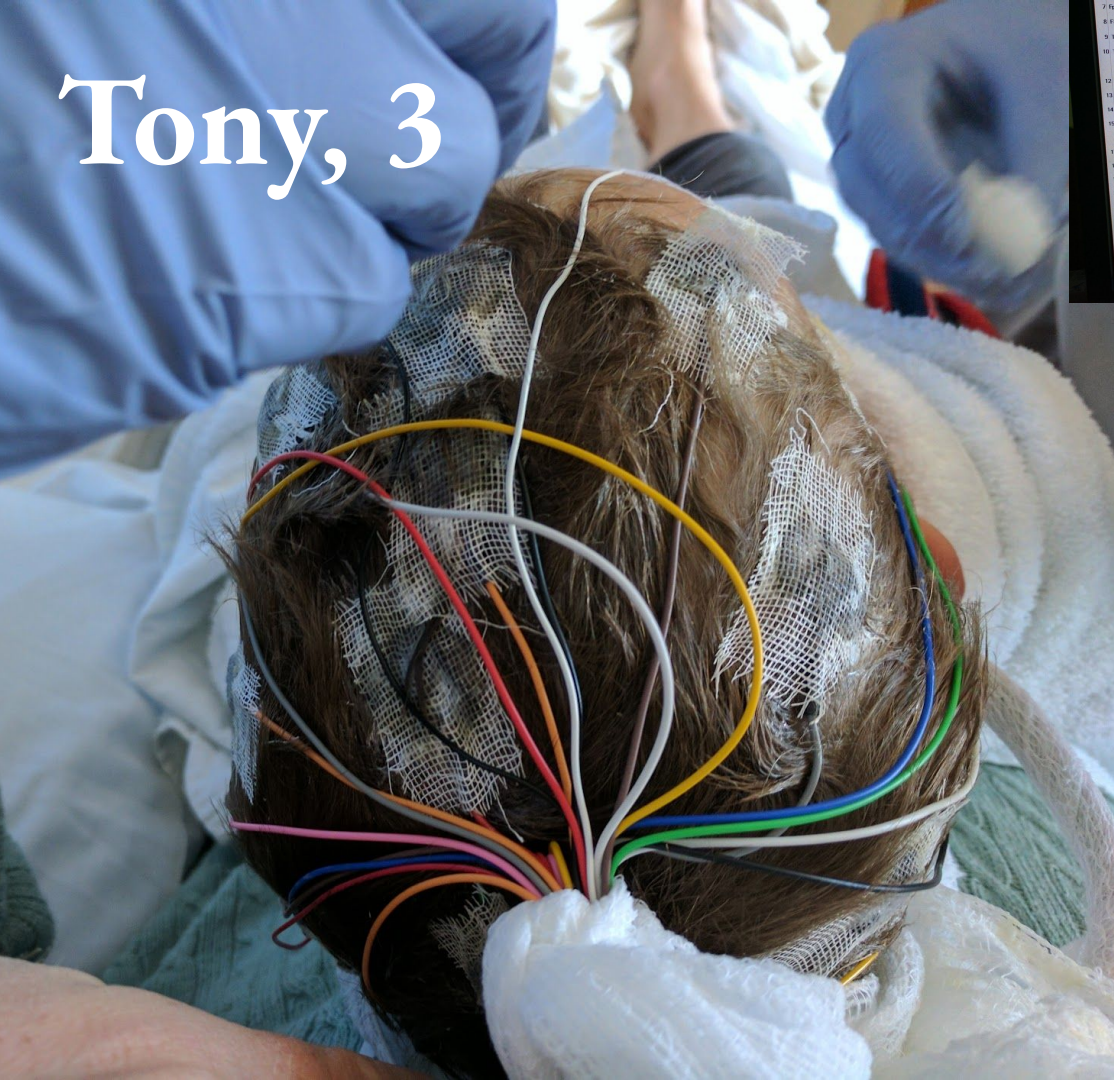
# Tony, 1



# Tony, 2



# Tony, 3

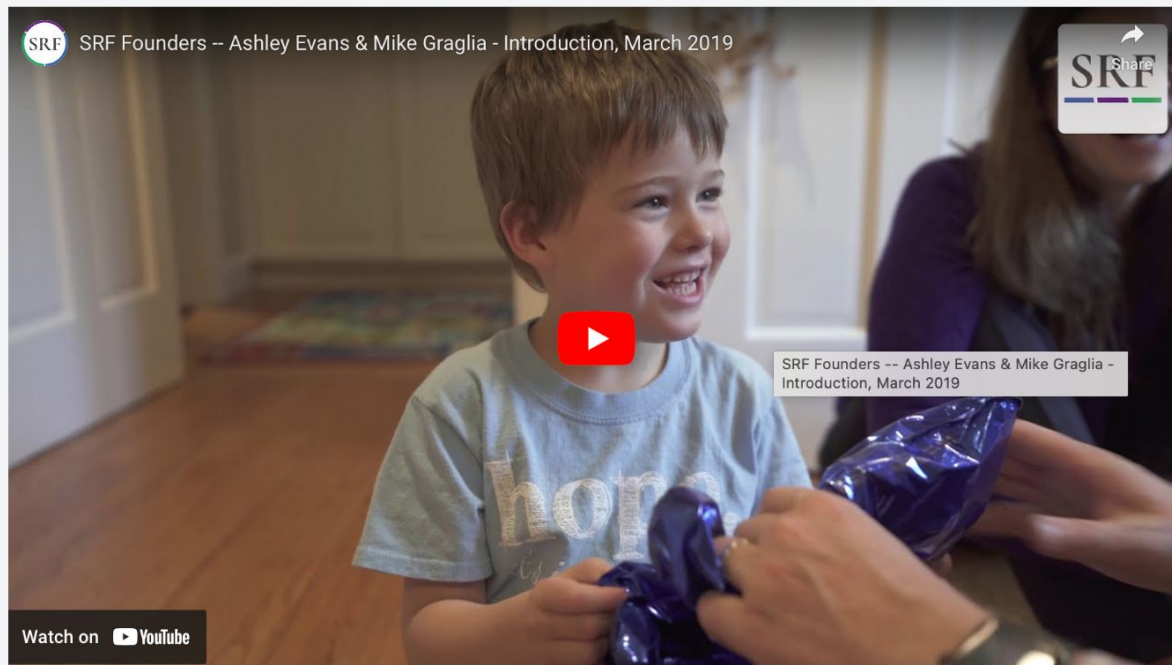




# Tony, 4



## Intro w/ Tony



Read more about Tony on [his Warrior Story](#).

# SynGAP Research Fund - a family-led, volunteer-driven 503 (c)(3) public charity

**Mission** To improve the lives of patients and families suffering from SynGAP1- RD

**Vision** An expeditious development of SynGAP1-RD treatments and cures accelerated by funding of high impact research, partnering with passionate industry leaders and supporting our driven and mobilized DEE community.

**Mantra** Collaboration, Transparency & Urgency

**Strategic  
Areas**

Provide Education and  
Support to the SynGAP1  
Community

Expand Scientific  
Awareness & Stakeholders  
of SynGAP1-RD

Support and Initiate  
Scientific Research to  
Advance SynGAP1-RD  
Treatments and Cures

**Volunteer  
Teams**

Community Activation  
Advocacy  
SRF Patient Conference

Communications and Marketing  
Effective Partnerships  
SRF Scientific Conference

Medical/Science Initiatives  
Resource Management  
Fundraising

# Overview: SRF in numbers

## Provide Education and Support to the SynGAP1 Community

1,497

Patients  
Counted

250

Patients in  
citizen health

209

Patients  
profiled

23

Families  
were/are  
Trustees

4

Geographies  


## Expand Awareness of SynGAP1-RD

~90

Webinar  
available

3

Podcasts in 2  
languages

2

ICD codes  
(10 & 11)

## Support and Initiate Scientific Research

26

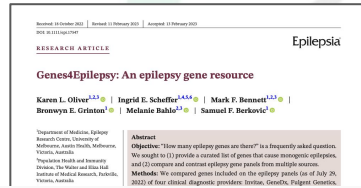
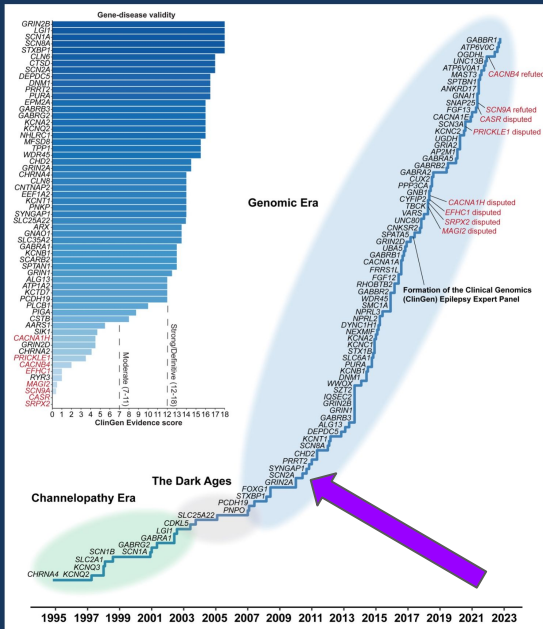
Institutions  
supported

\$5.75M

Committed  
to grants

# SYNGAP1: one of 998 epilepsy related genes, but identified early

## The history of gene discovery in the epilepsies (Xian and Helbig, 2023)



### Key points

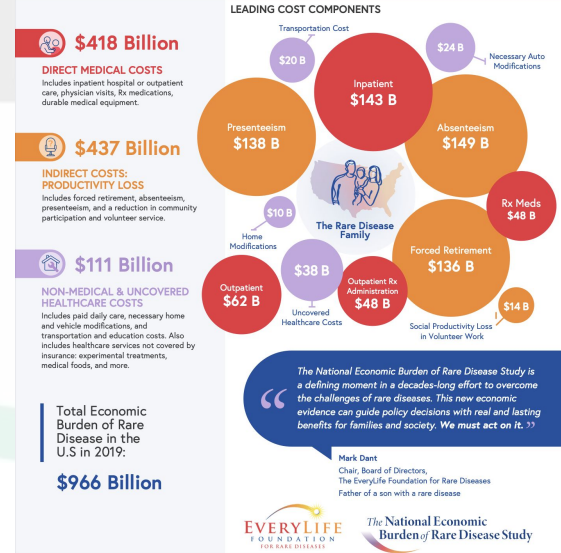
- The number of monogenic genes associated with epilepsy has risen exponentially in the last decade;
- There remains great disparity in genes included on different clinical and/or research gene panels;
- We identify >900 monogenic “epilepsy genes,” with ~90% associated with developmental and epileptic encephalopathies;
- Inheritance patterns vary for different epilepsy phenotypes;
- Our curated list of monogenic epilepsy genes is publicly available from: [github.com/baholab/genes4epilepsy](https://github.com/baholab/genes4epilepsy) and will be updated half yearly.

Preview	Code	Blame	Raw	Download	Edit		
996	HGNC:29415	ZNF526	ENSG00000167625	116115	614387	AR	DEE
997	HGNC:12309	ZNHIT3	ENSG00000273611	9326	6046500	AR	DEE
998	HGNC:29316	ZSWIM6	ENSG00000130449	57688	615951	AD	DEE

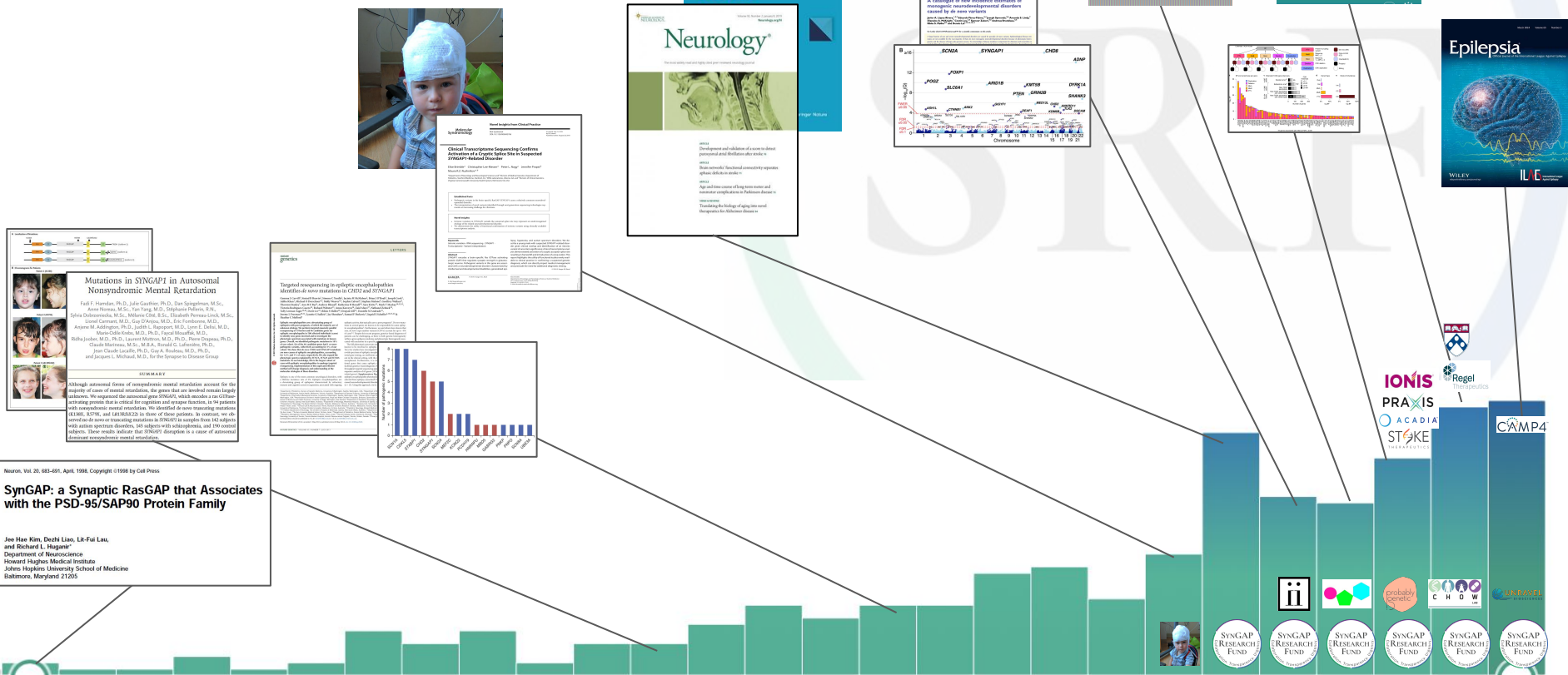
## Economic burden of rare disease reached nearly \$1 trillion in the U.S. in 2019

### ABOUT THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC BURDEN OF RARE DISEASE STUDY

This study, conducted by the Levin Group on behalf of the EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases, is the first of its kind, providing the most comprehensive assessment of the total economic burden of 379 rare diseases in a single year. This study identified direct medical costs, via an analysis of claims data, and indirect and non-medical and uncovered healthcare costs, via a survey of 1,399 members of the rare disease community.



# SYNGAP1 Timeline



**Mutations in SYNGAP1 in Autosomal Nonsyndromic Mental Retardation**

Fall F. Haudan, Ph.D., Julie Guethrie, Ph.D., Dan Spigleman, M.Sc., Anne Hanna, M.Sc., Tim Yang, M.D., Deborah Peters, B.Sc., Sofia D'Elia, M.Sc., Melissa Cole, B.Sc., Elizabeth Perera-Look, M.Sc., Louise Cameron, M.Sc., Gop Prasad, M.D., Eric Fontana, M.D., Anne M. Addington, Ph.D., Justin J. Reppert, M.D., Jane L. Dalen, M.D., Robert M. Berry, Ph.D., Ph.D., Barry Bearman, M.D., Bill Jordan, Ph.D., Laurel Haddad, M.D., Ph.D., Anna Chikina, Ph.D., Claude Morneau, M.Sc., M.B.A., Ronald C. Lachy, Ph.D., Jean-Guillaume Lévesque, Ph.D., Guy A. Rouleau, M.D., Ph.D., and Jacques L. Michaud, M.D., for the SynGene in Disease Group

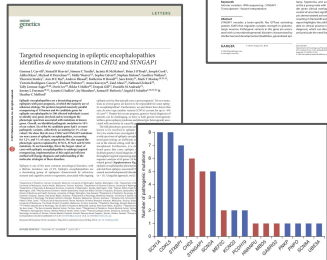
**SUMMARY**

Although autosomal forms of nonspecific mental retardation account for the majority of cases of mental retardation, the genes that are involved remain largely unknown. We sequenced the autosomal gene SYNGAP1, which encodes a rat GTP-binding protein that is critical for synaptic and synaptic function, in 14 patients with nonspecific mental retardation. We identified de novo missense mutations (K126N, K276N, and L283E/D283) in three of these patients. We observed no de novo or inherited mutations in SYNGAP1 in samples from 141 subjects with nonspecific mental retardation, 101 subjects with intellectual disability, and 100 control subjects. These results indicate that SYNGAP1 dysfunction is a cause of autosomal nonspecific mental retardation.

**SynGAP: a Synaptic RasGAP that Associates with the PSD-95/SAP90 Protein Family**

Jee Hae Kim, Dechi Liao, Li-Fai Lau, and Richard L. Huganir\*

Department of Neuroscience  
Howard Hughes Medical Institute  
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine  
Baltimore, Maryland 21205



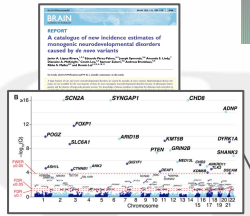
296 PubMed.gov results for SYNGAP1 from 1998 to 18 September 2024

1998

2024: 42

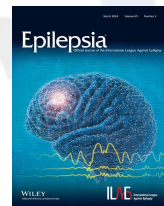
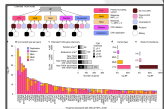
**BMC**  
Journal of  
Neurodevelopmental  
Disorders

**Neurology**  
A catalog of new incidence estimates of neurodegenerative disorders caused by de novo variants.



ICD-10 CODE for SYNGAP1 is  
**F78.A1**  
SYNGAP1-related intellectual disability  
syngap1researchfund.org

**LD90.Y**  
cureSYNGAP1.org/ICD-11



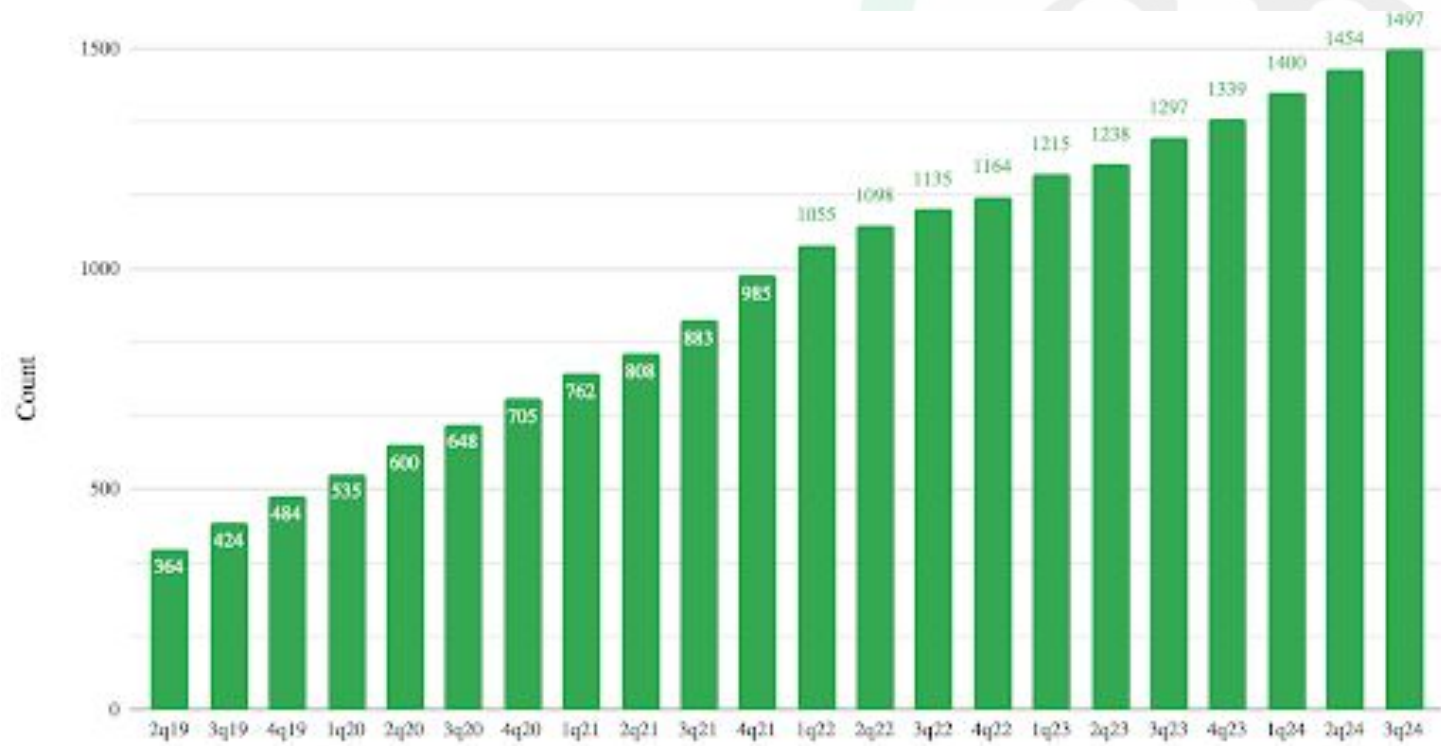
**IONIS**  
**PRAXIS**  
**ACADIA**  
**STROKE**  
**CAMP4**

**Regel**  
**probably Genes**  
**CHOW**  
**Genes**

**SYNGAP1 RESEARCH FUND**

# #SyngapCensus - Patients known to SRF 4x in 4 years

How many people have SYNGAP1?  
 3Q24 #SYNGAPcensus = 1,497  
 Details: [Syngap.Fund/Census](https://syngap.fund/census)



- 🇺🇸 425
- 🇬🇧 128
- 🇩🇪 122
- 🇨🇦 110
- 🇫🇷 99
- 🇪🇸 53
- 🇮🇹 52
- 🇳🇱 50
- 🇦🇺 43
- 🇨🇦 42
- 🇩🇪 32
- 🇧🇷 31
- 🇨🇦 21
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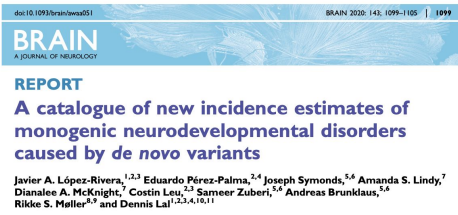
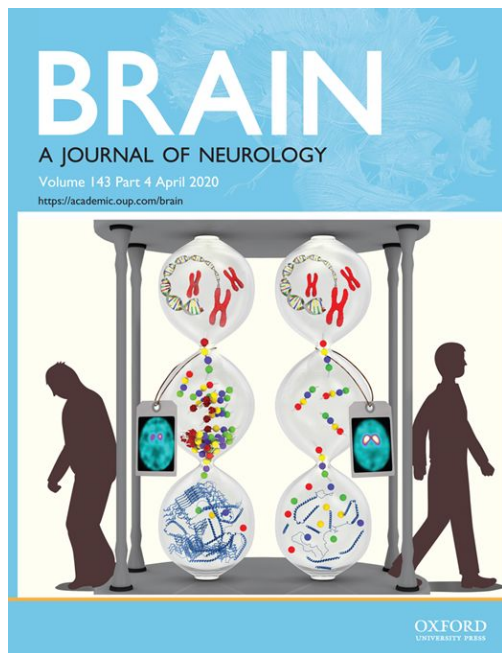
If we missed you, let us know! #SYNGAPC  
 #SYNGAP1



# ID Cohort studies suggest ½ to 1% of patients have SYNGAP

- **2009:** Hamdan noted that **3%** of patients in his study with “non-syndromic mental retardation” had SYNGAP mutations.
- **2013:** Berryer found that 9 of 186 [**~5%**] NSID (non-syndromic intellectual disability) patients had SYNGAP mutations.
- **2014:** Samocha in found that 3 of 151 [**~2%**] patients had SYNGAP mutations.
- **2015:** DDD study of 1,133 patients found 7 with SynGAP mutations [**0.6%**]; this was the fifth most identified gene in the study.
- **2017:** study called SynGAP one of the “six most significantly associated genes”
- **2018:** Wright in also found SYNGAP1 to be the **6th most diagnostic gene** after RID1B, SATB2, SCN2A, ANKRD11, MED13L.
- **2019:** Truty, reviewing 9,413 patients tested with the Invitae panel found that SYNGAP1 was the **10th highest incidence gene**, accounting for 2.5% of positive diagnoses; notably, however in addition to the 39 hits, there were another 79 VUSs (“variants of unknown significance”).
- **2020:** Johannesen et al , sequenced 200 patients with Epilepsy and ID in Denmark. 46 patients [23%] had a genetic cause discovered; one 26 year-old had a SYNGAP1 mutation. 1 in 200 is **0.5%**.

# Recent work refines the estimate but it is still remarkable



See Lemke (doi:10.1093/brain/awaa079) for a scientific commentary on this article.

A large fraction of rare and severe neurodevelopmental disorders are caused by sporadic *de novo* variants. Epidemiological disease estimates are not available for the vast majority of these *de novo* monogenic neurodevelopmental disorders because of phenotypic heterogeneity and the absence of large-scale genomic screens. Yet, knowledge of disease incidence is important for clinicians and researchers to guide health policy planning. Here, we adjusted a statistical method based on genetic data to predict, for the first time, the incidences of 133 known *de novo* variant-associated neurodevelopmental disorders as well as 3106 putative monogenic disorders. Two corroborative analyses supported the validity of the calculated estimates. First, greater predicted gene-disorder incidences positively correlated with larger numbers of pathogenic variants collected from patient variant databases (Kendall's  $\tau = 0.095$ ,  $P$ -value =  $6.9 \times 10^{-7}$ ). Second, for six of seven (86%) *de novo* variant-associated monogenic disorders for which epidemiological estimates were available (SCN1A, SLC2A1, SALL1, TBX5, KCNQ2, and CDKL5), the predicted incidence estimates matched the reported estimates. We conclude that in the absence of epidemiological data, our catalogue of 3207 incidence estimates for disorders caused by *de novo* variants can guide patient advocacy groups, clinicians, researchers, and policymakers in strategic decision-making.

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- 3 Epilepsy Center, Neurological Institute, Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, USA
- 4 Cologne Center for Genomics, University of Cologne, Cologne, NRW, Germany
- 5 The Pediatric Neurosciences Research Group, Royal Hospital for Children, Glasgow, UK
- 6 School of Medicine, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, UK
- 7 GeneDx, Gaithersburg, MD, USA
- 8 Department of Epilepsy Genetics and Personalized Medicine, Danish Epilepsy Centre, Bispebjerg, Denmark
- 9 Department of Regional Health Research, University of Southern Denmark, Odense, Denmark
- 10 Analytic and Translational Genetics Unit, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA, USA
- 11 Stanley Center for Psychiatric Research, Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge, MA, USA

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Cleveland, OH 44119, USA  
E-mail: lald@ccf.org

**Keywords:** epilepsy; autism; neurodevelopmental disorder; incidence  
**Abbreviations:** DNV = *de novo* variant; NDD = neurodevelopmental disorder; PTV = protein truncating variant

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Table 1

Comparison of calculated estimates to reported estimates

Gene	Disease	Incidence per 100 000 births		Significant difference <sup>a</sup>	Source PMID
		Predicted	Reported		
SCN1A	Dravet syndrome (OMIM: 607208)	6.69–7.62	4.78	No	26438699
			4.54	No	25778844
			5.90	No	31302675
			4.10	No	R.S. Møller <sup>b</sup>
SLC2A1	GLUT1 deficiency syndrome (OMIM: 606777)	1.65–2.22	1.20	No	26537434
			2.95	No	31302675
TBX5	Holt-Oram syndrome (OMIM: 142900)	0.39–0.45	0.56	No	25344219
STXBP1	STXBP1 encephalopathy (OMIM: 612164)	3.30–3.81	1.09	Yes	26865513
			0.82	Yes	R.S. Møller <sup>b</sup>
SALL1	Townes-Brooks syndrome (OMIM: 107480)	0.30–0.36	0.42	No	10083645
KCNQ2	KCNQ2 encephalopathy (OMIM: 613720)	2.93–3.59	1.18	No	31302675
			1.23	No	R.S. Møller <sup>b</sup>
CDKL5	CDKL5 deficiency disorder (OMIM: 300672)	1.81–2.49	1.77	No	31302675
			0.96	No	R.S. Møller <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Significant difference is based on Fisher's exact test with a Bonferroni corrected cut-off of  $P \leq 0.004$ . See

Supplementary Table 2 for specific  $P$ -values.

<sup>b</sup>Personal communication.

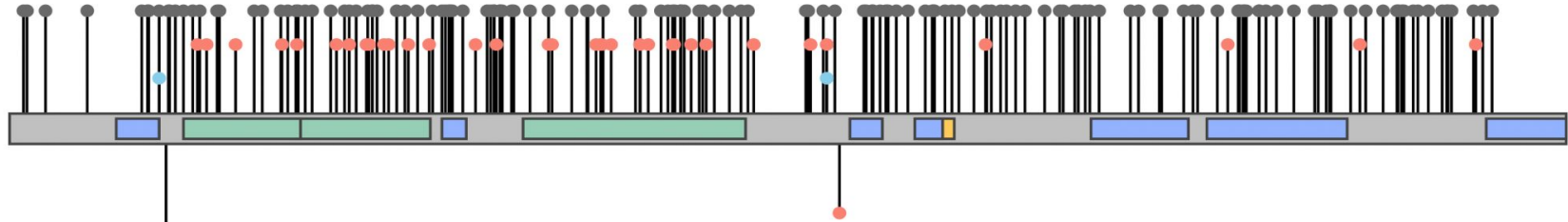
# SYNGAP1 predicted incidence is higher than most genes

gene	chr	bp	incid_ptv	incid_mv	incidence
SCN2A	2	6018	1.941	6.049	7.991
SCN8A	12	5943	1.104	7.366	7.366
SCN1A	2	6030	2.181	5.025	7.206
SYNGAP1	6	4032	0.787	5.320	6.107
GRIN2B	12	4455	0.555	5.355	5.911
KIF1A	2	5376	3.761	5.216	5.216
STXBP1	9	1812	1.006	2.609	3.615
KCNQ2	20	2619	0.601	3.275	3.275
FOXG1	14	1470	0.091	3.113	3.204
SLC6A1	3	1800	0.300	2.350	2.650
CDKL5	X	3093	0.407	1.763	2.169
ADNP	20	3309	0.430	1.432	1.862
PTEN	10	1212	0.366	1.326	1.692

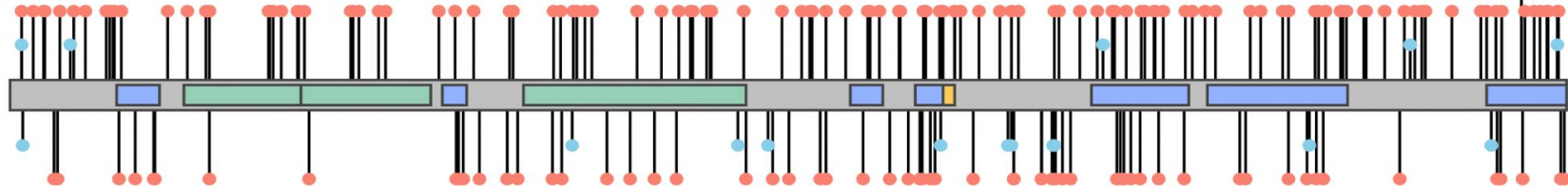
- The predicted incidence of 6.107 is about ½ of the 0.5% of all people with Intellectual Disability but it is still over 20,000 for a populations of 330M.
- When you double-click and get predicted PTV and Missense incidence, here things get more interesting
- The ratio of PTV to Missense for SYNGAP is ~1:7 which is the opposite of what we see in Clinvar, Vlaskamp & Ciitizen.

# $\frac{2}{3}$ of SYNGAP1 Missense Variants are VUS

39 of 221 **Pathogenic or Likely Pathogenic (PLP)** are missense



182 of 218 **Variants of Uncertain Significance (VUS)** are missense



- Synonymous
- Missense
- PTV

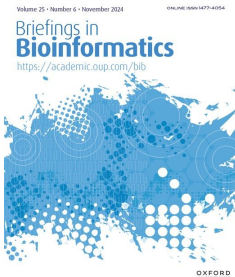
JOURNAL ARTICLE

## Atomistic simulations reveal impacts of missense mutations on the structure and function of SynGAP1

Aliaa E Ali, Li-Li Li, Michael J Courtney, Olli T Pentikäinen, Pekka A Postila ✉

*Briefings in Bioinformatics*, Volume 25, Issue 6, November 2024, bbae458, <https://doi.org/10.1093/bib/bbae458>

Published: 23 September 2024 **Article history** ▼



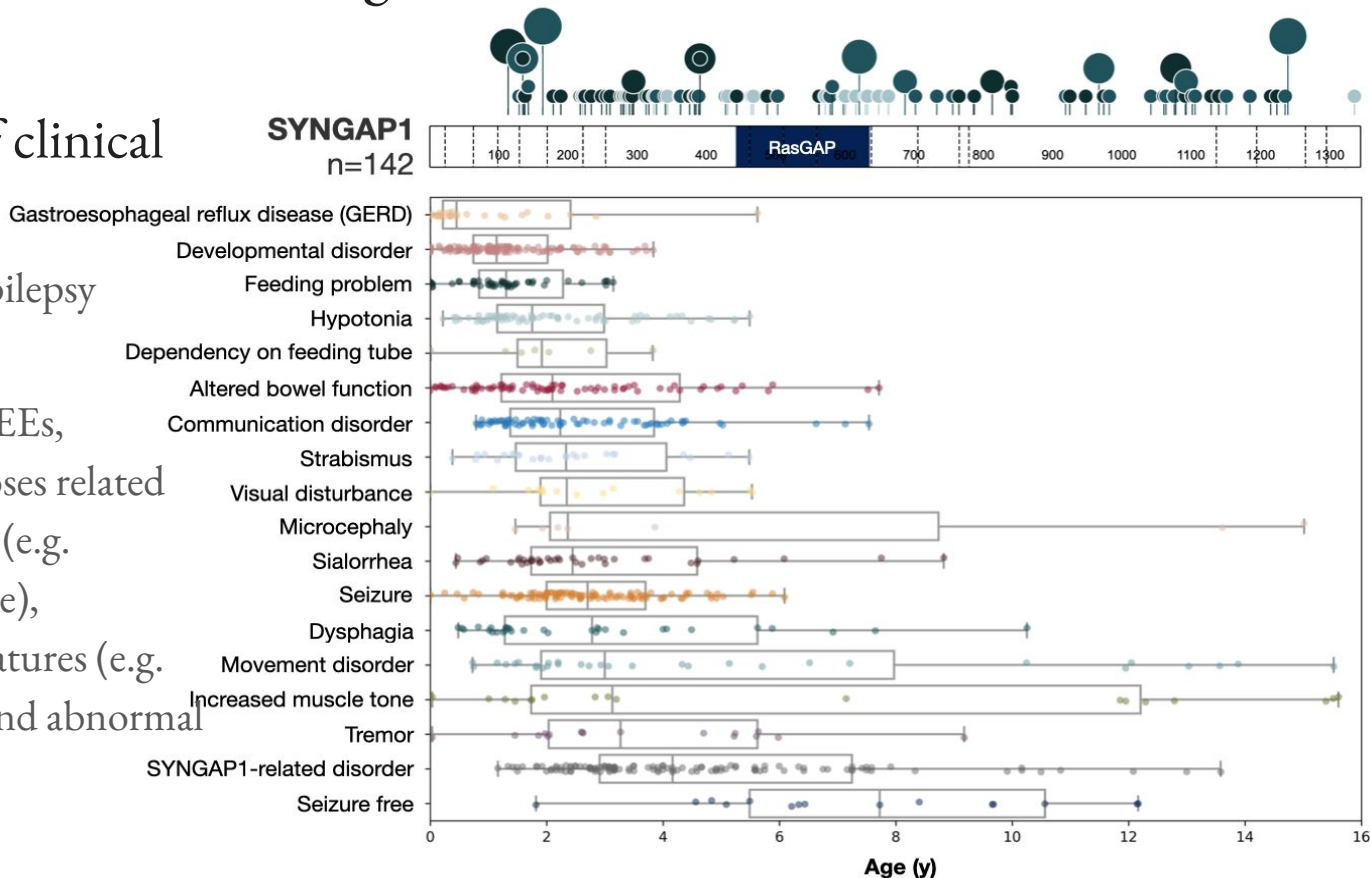
# Features and Challenges of SynGAP1-RD

Core Features	<b>Epilepsy</b> Multiple, evolving types Prevalent absence seizures Refractory epilepsy	<b>ID</b> Global developmental delays (fine/gross motor, speech) Limited range of capabilities	<b>ASD</b> High incidence of severe autism Narrow interest range Limited self care Difficult to diagnose	<b>Maladaptive Behaviors</b> Aggressive and self-injurious Limits community participation
Common	<b>Sleep Problems</b> Difficulty falling & staying asleep with worse behaviors at night	<b>Speech Problems</b> Delayed development Range of capabilities from nonverbal to short sentences	<b>Eating Problems</b> Food aversions Poor oral intake/Packing Healthy weight issues If severe, GI tube needed	<b>GI issues</b> Severe constipation Gastroesophageal reflux disease Decreased motility
Under studied	<b>Psychiatry</b> Anxiety OCD, ADHD and ADD Associated with behaviors	<b>Gait Problems</b> Mobility challenges May need assistive devices	<b>Hypotonia</b> Scoliosis/Imbalance Overpronation/Flat feet Delayed motor skill development	<b>Sensory Processing Issues</b> High Pain Tolerance Limited self preservation skills Range of type and severity

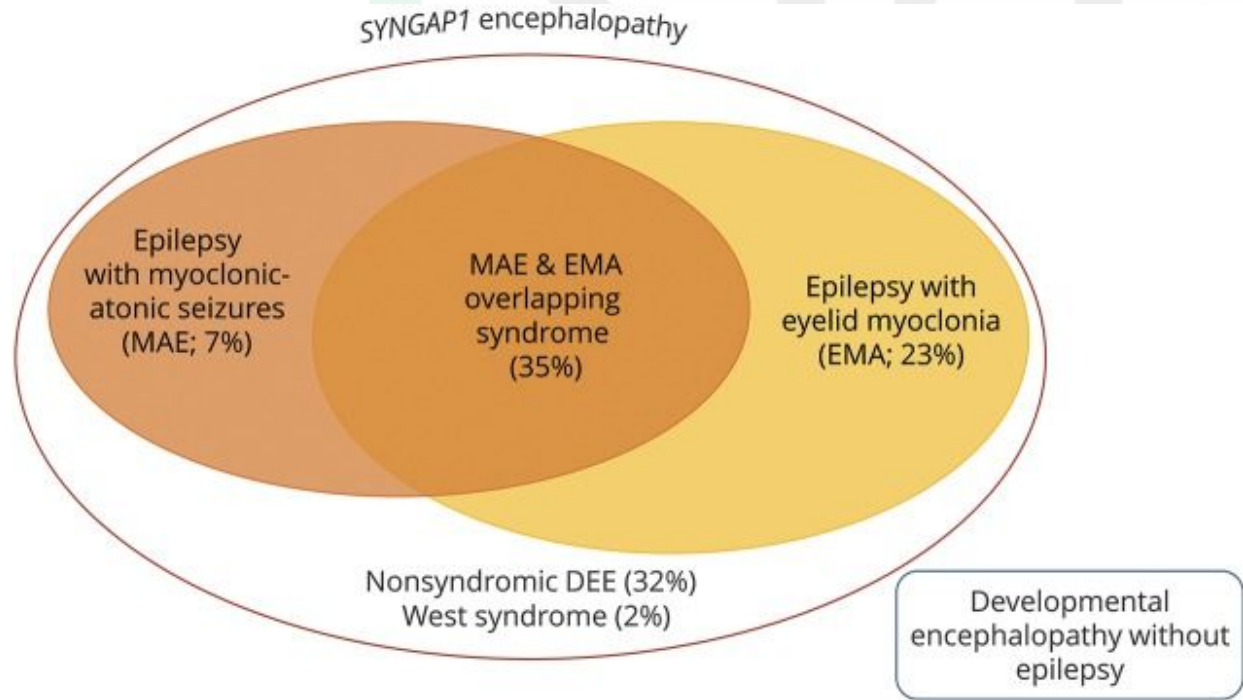
# Citizen Health Data shows the gradual onset of disease

## Sequencing onset of clinical phenotypes

- Childhood onset of epilepsy (median age 2.7 years)
- Compared to other DEEs, enrichment for diagnoses related to generalized seizures (e.g. atypical absence seizure), neuropsychological features (e.g. aggressive behavior), and abnormal gait



# Original Natural History in 2019 – 99% had seizures, many of which are invisible to the untrained eye.





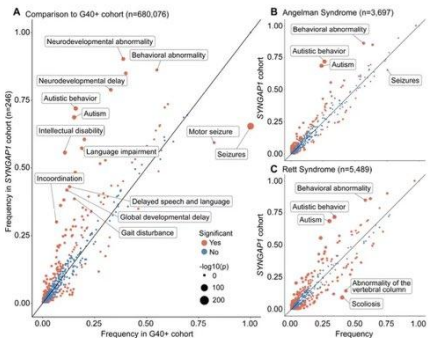
# Reconstructing the longitudinal history of SYNGAP1-related disorders through data integration across healthcare resources

Jillian L. McKee<sup>1,2,4</sup>, Julie Xian<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Stacey Cohen<sup>1,2</sup>, Jonathan Toib<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Chen Chen<sup>5</sup>, Dan Kim<sup>5</sup>, Aakash Rathod<sup>5</sup>, Elise Brimble<sup>6</sup>, Nasha Fitter<sup>6</sup>, Rob Sederman<sup>5</sup>, and Ingo Helbig<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Division of Neurology, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; <sup>2</sup>The Epilepsy NeuroGenetics Initiative (ENGIN), Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; <sup>3</sup>Department of Biomedical and Health Informatics (DBHI), Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; <sup>4</sup>Department of Neurology, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania; <sup>5</sup>Ambit, Inc, <sup>6</sup>Citizen, Invitae

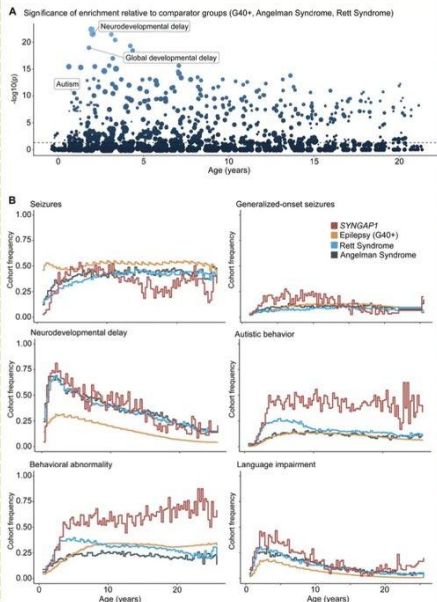
## Introduction

- SYNGAP1-related neurodevelopmental disorder is one of the more common monogenic causes of generalized epilepsy, including myoclonic-astatic epilepsy (MAE, or Doose Syndrome), intellectual disability, and autism spectrum disorder.
- Clinical variation is wide, but poorly understood, and a better understanding of the phenotypic variation over time is needed for clinical trial readiness for the precision therapies currently under development.
- Here, we integrated data from 246 individuals with SYNGAP1-related disorders identified through healthcare claims data, spanning 1,321 cumulative patient-years, with reconstructed medical records from 158 individuals from the Citizen Natural History Registry and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia across 1,253 patient-years.

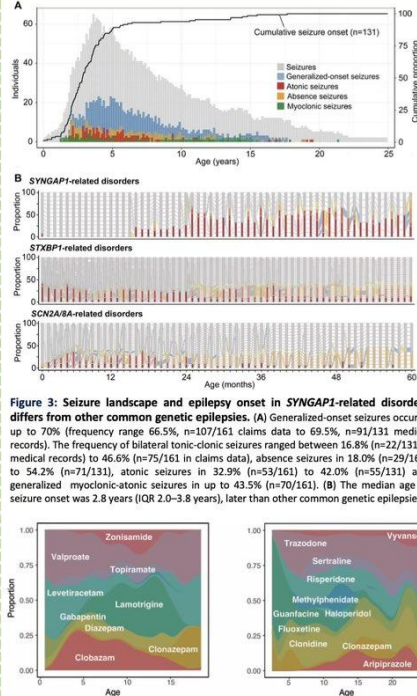


**Figure 1: Clinical phenotypes enriched in individuals with SYNGAP1 in comparison to other epilepsies and neurodevelopmental disorders.** Individuals with SYNGAP1-related disorders were compared to a broader epilepsy cohort of 680,076 individuals with an epilepsy (G40+) diagnosis (A), as well as with syndromic comparator groups that phenotypically resembled SYNGAP1: 3,697 individuals with Angelman Syndrome (B) and 5,489 individuals with Rett Syndrome (C). Compared to a broader population of individuals with epilepsy, clinical characteristics include behavioral abnormalities (Odds ratio (OR) 12.35, 95% CI 9.21 – 16.78), generalized-onset seizures (OR 1.56, 95% CI 1.20 – 2.02), autism (OR 12.23, 95% CI 9.29 – 16.24), and abnormality of higher mental function (including intellectual disability, OR 6.38, 95% CI 4.89 – 8.37) were enriched in individuals with SYNGAP1. When comparing SYNGAP1 with Angelman and Rett syndromes, behavioral features (A) 7.2, 95% CI 5.3 – 9.9, RS OR 5.0, 95% CI 3.7 – 6.8) and autism (AS OR 6.8, 95% CI 5.1 – 9.2; RS OR 4.4, 95% CI 3.3 – 6.8) were more common.

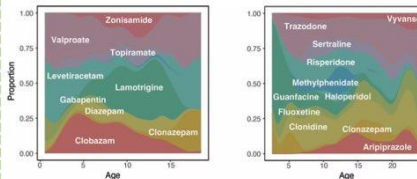
This work was supported by The Hartwell Foundation through an individual Biomedical Research Award (IH), the National Institute for Neurological Disorders and Stroke (10Z NS121620), the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development through the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Research Center (IDRC) at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania (1U4 HD086984), the American Epilepsy Society, Pediatric Epilepsy Research Foundations (PERF) & SYNGAP1 Research Fund through a Research Training Fellowship for Clinicians (JLM), Intramural Funds of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia through the Epilepsy NeuroGenetics Initiative (ENGIN), and by Ambit, Inc.



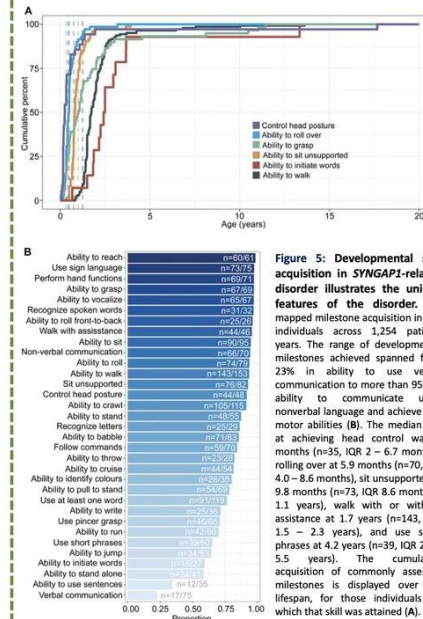
**Figure 2: Age-related clinical features in SYNGAP1 compared to longitudinal histories of other epilepsies and neurodevelopmental disorders.** We assessed clinical features across the age span, demonstrating that the overall clinical presentation of SYNGAP1-related disorder begins to diverge from comparator groups by the second year of life. (A) The significance of enrichment of key features compared to comparator groups (G40+, Angelman Syndrome, Rett Syndrome) is plotted across the lifespan. (B) The frequency of selected features across the lifespan are shown for individuals with SYNGAP1-related disorder (red) compared to all individuals with a G40+ diagnosis (orange), and those with Angelman Syndrome (dark blue) and Rett Syndrome (light blue). When compared to the general epilepsy cohort, we found that individuals with SYNGAP1 were more likely to have behavioral abnormalities, first significant between 27 and 30 months (OR 3.00, 95% CI 1.50 – 5.68) and persisting throughout the lifespan. Autistic behavior also became prominent between 27 and 30 months (OR 5.71, 95% CI 2.44 – 11.9). Generalized-onset seizures became significantly enriched (OR 4.05, 95% CI 2.02 – 7.59) after 3 years of age.



**Figure 3: Seizure landscape and epilepsy onset in SYNGAP1-related disorders differs from other common genetic epilepsies.** (A) Generalized-onset seizures occur in up to 70% (frequency range 66.5%, n=107/161 claims data to 69.5%, n=91/131 medical records). The frequency of bilateral tonic-clonic seizures ranged from 16.8% (n=22/131 in medical records) to 46.6% (n=75/161 in claims data), absence seizures in 18.0% (n=29/161) to 54.2% (n=71/131), atonic seizures in 32.9% (n=53/161) to 42.0% (n=55/131) and generalized myoclonic-astatic seizures in up to 43.5% (n=70/161). (B) The median age of seizure onset was 2.8 years (IQR 2.0–3.8 years), later than other common genetic epilepsies.



**Figure 4: Anti-seizure and behavioral medication landscape in SYNGAP1-related disorders demonstrates varied treatment strategies across the lifespan.** Longitudinal reconstruction of medications for epilepsy management (left) and behavioral features (right), including sleep disturbance and attention-related concerns, demonstrates age-related treatment strategies in individuals with SYNGAP1 with predominance of valproic acid (OR 2.26, 95% CI 1.29 – 3.70) and clobazam (OR 2.58, 95% CI 1.55 – 4.09) for epilepsy and risperidone (OR 5.43, 95% CI 3.47 – 8.18), aripiprazole (OR 3.52, 95% CI 2.09 – 5.69) and guanfacine (OR 2.97, 95% CI 1.76 – 4.75) for behavior, which contrasted from treatment strategies frequently used in the broader epilepsy population.



**Figure 5: Developmental skill acquisition in SYNGAP1-related disorder illustrates the unique features of the disorder.** We mapped milestone acquisition in 158 individuals across 1,254 patient-years. The range of developmental milestones achieved spanned from 23% in ability to use verbal communication to more than 95% in ability to communicate using nonverbal language and achieve fine motor abilities (B). The median age at achieving head control was 3 months (n=35, IQR 2 – 6.7 months), rolling over at 5.3 months (n=70, IQR 4.0 – 8.6 months), sit unsupported at 9.8 months (n=73, IQR 8.6 months – 11 years), walk with or without assistance at 1.7 years (n=143, IQR 1.5 – 2.3 years), and use short phrases at 4.2 years (n=39, IQR 2.9 – 5.5 years). The cumulative acquisition of commonly assessed milestones is displayed over the lifespan, for those individuals for which that skill was attained (A).

## Discussion

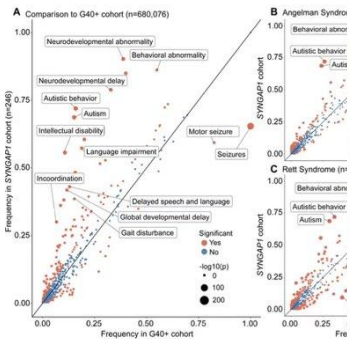
- We characterized the landscape of SYNGAP1-related disorders across >2500 patient-years, leveraging data from healthcare resources with varying scopes of clinical documentation and identified clinical signatures specific to SYNGAP1.
- Clear delineation of epilepsy and developmental trajectories will improve the prognosis and clinical care of individuals with SYNGAP1-related disorders and facilitate clinical trial readiness for future precision medicine approaches.

Jillian L. McKee<sup>1,2,4</sup>, Julie Xian<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Stacey

<sup>1</sup>Division of Neurology, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; <sup>4</sup>Department of Neurology, Perle

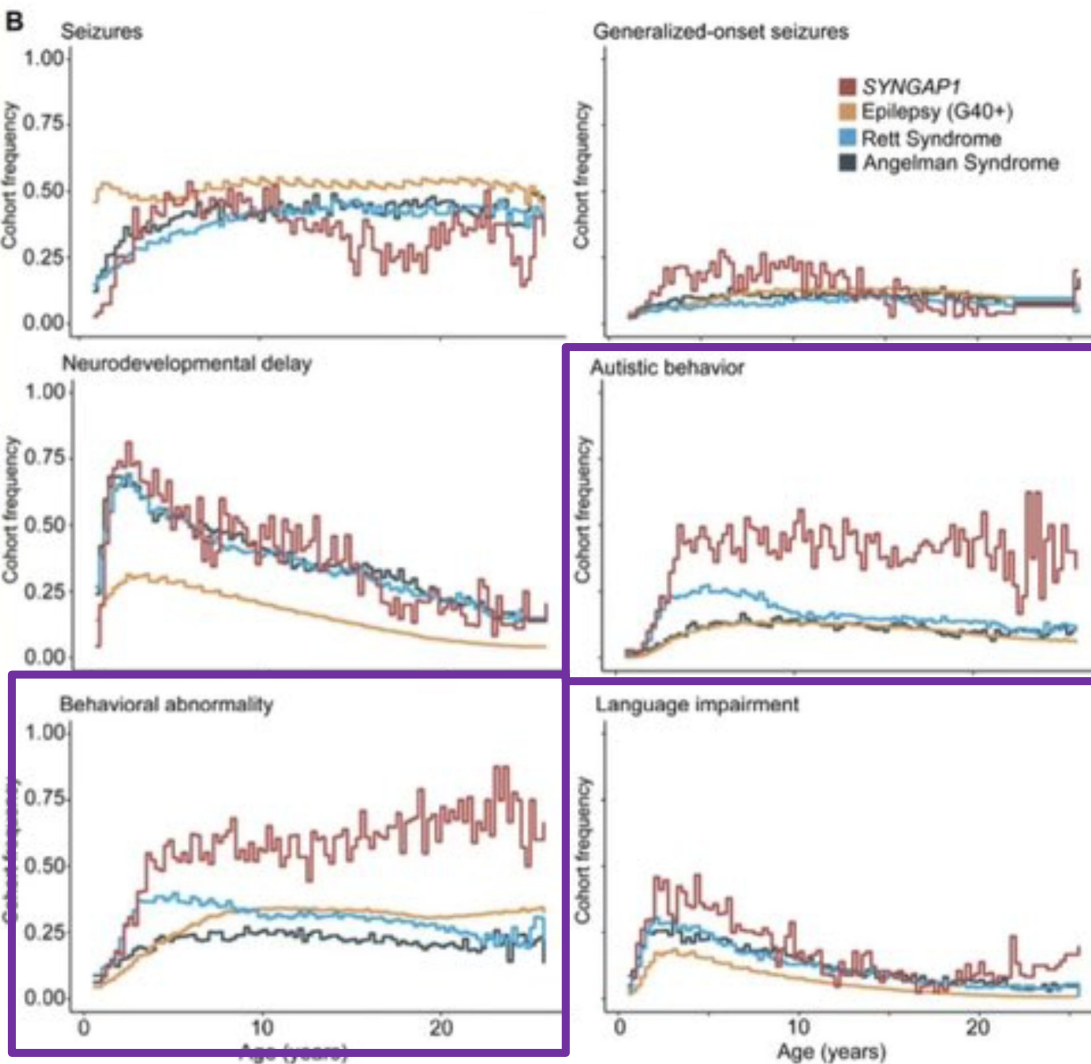
Introduction

- o SYNGAP1-related neurodevelopmental disorder is one of the monogenic causes of generalized epilepsy, including myoclonic (MAE, or Doose Syndrome), intellectual disability, and autism sp
- o Clinical variation is wide, but poorly understood, and a better the phenotypic variation over time is needed for clinical trial precision therapies currently under development.
- o Here, we integrated data from 246 individuals with SYNGAP1-identified through healthcare claims data, spanning 1,321 cu years, with reconstructed medical records from 158 individuals Natural History Registry and Children's Hospital of Philadel patients-years.

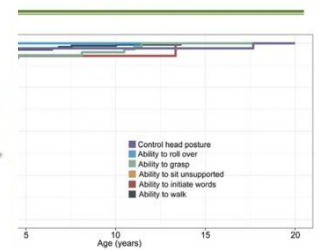


**Figure 1: Clinical phenotypes enriched in individuals with SYNGAP1 to other epilepsies and neurodevelopmental disorders.** Individual related disorders were compared to a broader epilepsy cohort of 680,076 epilepsy (G40+) diagnosis (A), as well as with syndromic compa phenotypically resembled SYNGAP1: 3,697 individuals with Angelman 5,489 individuals with Rett Syndrome (C). Compared to a broader popu with epilepsy, clinical characteristics including behavioral abnormalities: 12.35, 95% CI 9.21 – 16.78), generalized-onset seizures (OR 1.56, 95% CI 1 (OR 12.23, 95% CI 9.29 – 16.24), and abnormality of higher mental intellectual disability, OR 6.38, 95% CI 4.89 – 8.37) were enriched in indivi When comparing SYNGAP1 with Angelman and Rett syndromes, behavio 7.2, 95% CI 5.3 – 9.9, RS OR 5.0, 95% CI 3.7 – 6.8.) and autism (AS OR 6.8, I OR 4.4, 95% CI 3.3 – 6.8) were more common.

This work was supported by The Hartwell Foundation through an individual Biomedical the National Institute for Neurological Disorders and Stroke (R02 NS12600), the E National Institute of Child Health and Human Development through the Intellectual Disabilities Research Center (IDDRC) at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the Uni (U54 HD086984), the American Epilepsy Society Pediatric Epilepsy Research Foundatio Research Fund through a Research Training Fellowship for Clinicians (IJM), Intramural Hospital of Philadelphia through the Epilepsy NeuroGenetics Initiative (ENGIN), and by



Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
Epilepsy Neurogenetics Initiative



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**Figure 5: Developmental skill acquisition in SYNGAP1-related disorder illustrates the unique features of the disorder.** We mapped milestone acquisition in 158 individuals across 1,254 patient-years. The range of developmental milestones achieved spanned from 23% in ability to use verbal communication to more than 95% in ability to communicate using nonverbal language and achieve fine motor abilities (B). The median age at achieving head control was 3 months (n=35, IQR 2 – 6.7 months), rolling over at 5.9 months (n=70, IQR 4.0 – 8.6 months), sit unsupported at 9.8 months (n=73, IQR 8.6 months – 11 years), walk with or without assistance at 1.7 years (n=143, IQR 1.5 – 2.3 years), and use short phrases at 4.2 years (n=39, IQR 2.9 – 5.5 years). The cumulative acquisition of commonly assessed milestones is displayed over the lifespan, for those individuals for which that skill was attained (A).

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# Life with Tony is not easy and getting harder

Spontaneous aggression (seizures maybe?) leads to bruises and scary moments for family member, makes it very challenging to find childcare or ABA and requires transferring to a special school this year.

Tony is getting stronger and the future is scary.



[Syngap.Fund/NW](https://www.syngap.org/fund/nw)

---

# SYNGAP1 patients live a long time

ILAE IBE epilepsy congress

35th International Epilepsy Congress  
2-6 September 2023  
Dublin, Ireland

## WHAT CAN WE TAKE HOME?

- 71% of SYNGAP1-DEE adults still have drug refractory seizures in adulthood
- 100% of SYNGAP1-DEE adults have some degree of pain insensitivity
- We know more about comorbidities in SYNGAP1-DEE adults
- Test or re-test adults
- Larger studies may help expand the phenotype

UT NEUROLOGY IEC2023 ilae.org/iec2023 AGE ADULT GENETIC EPILEPTIC PROGRAM

<https://twitter.com/AleRossiNeuro/status/1699993470151151621>

Celebrating Caren

A rare disease diagnosis  
64 years in the making.

DIRECTED BY DANIEL DeFABIO EDITED BY ANN MARIE LUZZI & DANIEL DeFABIO  
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JON DORFLINGER SECOND CAMERA JUAN LUIS LOPEZ FONZ  
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER SYNGAP RESEARCH FUND and ILLUMINA  
PRODUCED BY DANIEL DeFABIO RO BIGELOW NANCY KESSLER HARRING FAMILY GRAGLIA FAMILY  
CO PRODUCERS MARTA DANUTA BOTTE FAMILY FROMMELT FAMILY LAUREN KESSLER BRIAN KESSLER

SYNGAP RESEARCH FUND  
Collaboration. Transparency. Integrity.

illumina

SyngapResearchFund.org/Caren

<https://syngap.fund/caren>

# Adults have severe complications of lifelong treatment

Refractory drop seizures + with weak bones from decades of ASMs = Severe Fractures





# SYNGAP1 THERAPEUTIC PIPELINE | 2024

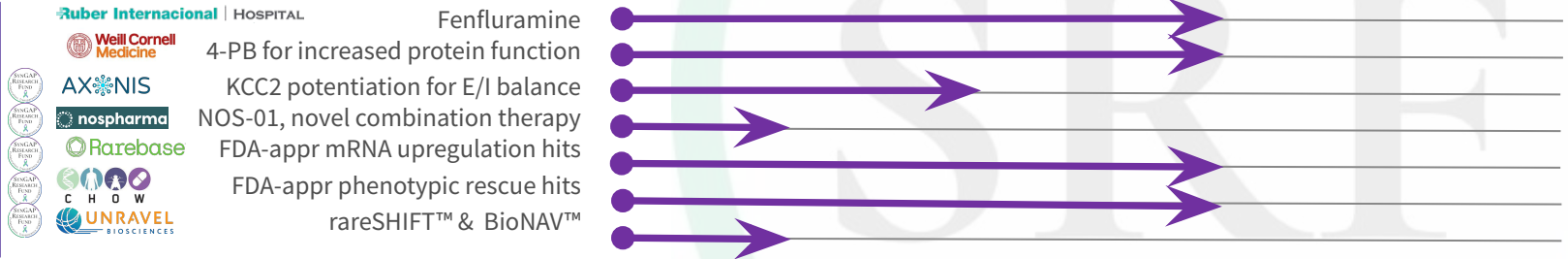
DISCOVERY

PRECLINICAL

IN HUMAN

FDA REVIEW & APPROVAL

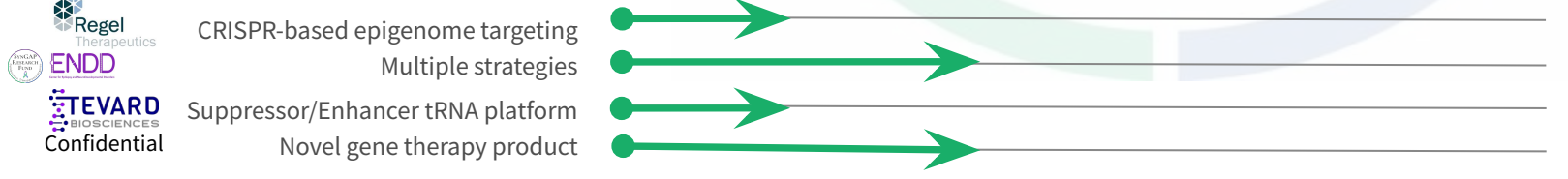
Small Molecule



ASO



AAV based



Cell



# We believe that SYNGAP1 is rescueable... (and have shown this in adults mice<sup>1</sup>)

“Neurons want their SYNGAP back”

- Researcher, SRF Conference 2022

“We had no idea how plastic the brain was.”

- Clinician re Stoke ASO results in Dravet

“The change in my child was amazing the day after the drug, I never thoguht I would see them do...”

- SRF Parent re small molecule trial

1. Thomas K Creson, Camilo Rojas, Ernie Hwaun, Thomas Vaissiere, Murat Kilinc, Andres Jimenez-Gomez, Jimmy Lloyd Holder Jr, Jianrong Tang, Laura L Colgin, Courtney A Miller, Gavin Rumbaugh (2019) **Re-expression of SynGAP protein in adulthood improves translatable measures of brain function and behavior**

## ...but what will we measure when seizures are not obvious?

- CHOP/CHOC/Stanford NHS are testing multiple validated scales
- Eye Tracking and ORCA (FDA) are being developed and validated for S1
- SRF & CB are looking for biomarkers via separate proteomic studies
- Number of ASMs that can be removed could be a good endpoint
- “Improved sleep is a viable endpoint for future clinical trials for these neurodevelopmental disorders (SYNGAP1 & SHANK3)”<sup>1, 2, 3</sup> GI too!
- EEG biomarkers are being identified, but we need an easier way to test frequently.<sup>4,5</sup>

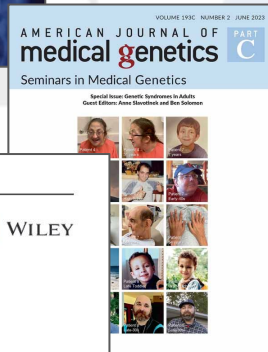
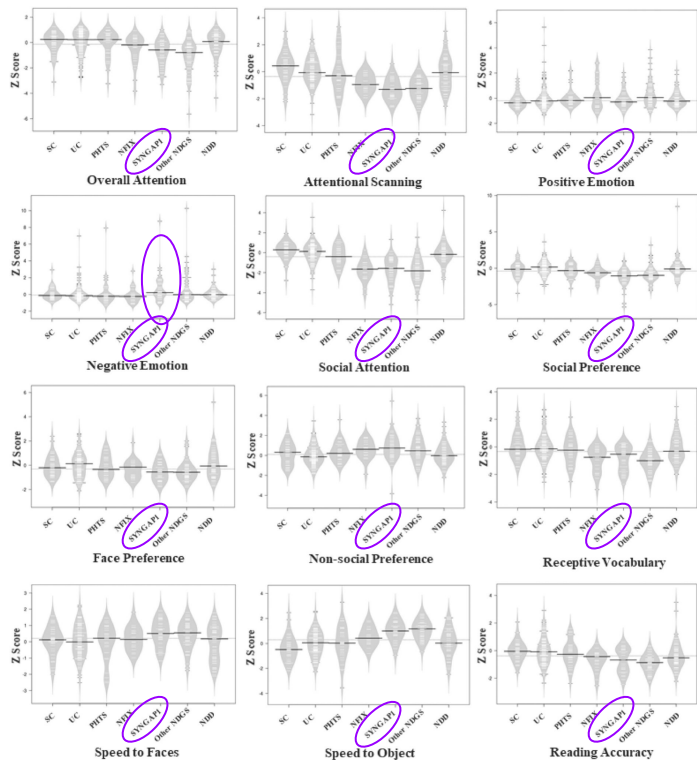
1. Smith-Hicks, Constance et al. “Sleep Abnormalities in the Synaptopathies-SYNGAP1-Related Intellectual Disability and Phelan-McDermid Syndrome.” *Brain sciences* vol. 11,9 1229. 17 Sep. 2021
2. Mosini, Amanda et al. “Subjective sleep assessment in individuals with SYNGAP1-associated syndrome” *Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine*, online. 3 Jul. 2024
3. Paasch, Valerie et al. “An exploratory study of sleep quality and quantity in children with causal variants in SYNGAP1, an autism risk gene” *Sleep Medicine*, vol. 107, 2023
4. Gonzales-Sulser, Alfredo. “Learning EEG Biomarkers in SYNGAP1 Rodent Models and Patients” *SYNGAP1 Conference 2023*.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NfMpgF19crI>
5. Levin, April. “Using EEG to understand ‘how the brain works’ in SYNGAP1” *SYNGAP1 Conference 2023*. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WdcURdASE2s>

# Scales being used at CHOP for *SYNGAP1* NHS

S R E F

- Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (MCHAT), participants 16-30 months
  - Computerized Pediatric Evaluation of Disability Inventory (PEDI-CAT)
  - Observer-Reported Communication Ability (ORCA)
  - Sensory profile 2
  - Quality of Life Inventory-Disability (QI Disability)
  - Developmental Disability-Clinical Severity Assessment (DD-CSA)
  - Vineland Adaptive Behavior Scales (VABS-III)
  - Aberrant Behavior Checklist (ABC-2)
  - Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL), participants  $\geq 18$  months
  - Children's Sleep Habit Questionnaire (CSHQ), participants  $> 2$  years
  - Vanderbilt ADHD Diagnostic Parent Rating Scale (VADPRS)
  - Vanderbilt ADHD Diagnostic Teacher Rating Scale (VADTRS)
  - Emotional Dysregulation Inventory (EDI) - PROMIS
  - Anxiety Scale – PROMIS
  - Repetitive Behaviors Scale (RBS-R)
  - Social Responsiveness Scale (SRS-2)
  - CDD Clinical Severity Assessment (CCSA-Caregiver)
-

# Eye tracking tool just published by SRF grantee



Received: 30 January 2023 | Revised: 6 March 2023 | Accepted: 18 March 2023  
DOI: 10.1002/ajmg.a.63195

**ORIGINAL ARTICLE**

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF **medical genetics** WILEY

## Development of informant-report neurobehavioral survey scales for PTEN hamartoma tumor syndrome and related neurodevelopmental genetic syndromes

Thomas W. Frazier<sup>1,2</sup> | Robyn M. Busch<sup>3,4</sup> | Patricia Klaas<sup>3</sup> | Katherine Lachlan<sup>5</sup> | Shafali Jeste<sup>6</sup> | Alexander Kolevzon<sup>7</sup> | Eva Loth<sup>8</sup> | Jacqueline Harris<sup>9</sup> | Leslie Speer<sup>10</sup> | Tom Pepper<sup>11</sup> | Kristin Anthony<sup>12</sup> | J. Michael Graglia<sup>13</sup> | Christal G. Delagrammatikas<sup>14</sup> | Sandra Bedrosian-Sermone<sup>15</sup> | Constance Smith-Hicks<sup>9</sup> | Katie Huba<sup>1</sup> | Robert Longyear<sup>16</sup> | LeeAnne Green-Snyder<sup>17</sup> | Frederick Shic<sup>18</sup> | Mustafa Sahin<sup>19</sup> | Charis Eng<sup>4</sup> | Antonio Y. Hardan<sup>20</sup> | Mirko Uljarevic<sup>20,21</sup>

Received: 22 June 2023 | Accepted: 19 July 2023  
DOI: 10.1002/ajmg.c.32058

**RESEARCH ARTICLE**

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF **medical genetics** WILEY

## Development of webcam-collected and artificial-intelligence-derived social and cognitive performance measures for neurodevelopmental genetic syndromes

Thomas W. Frazier<sup>1,2</sup> | Robyn M. Busch<sup>3,4</sup> | Patricia Klaas<sup>3</sup> | Katherine Lachlan<sup>5</sup> | Shafali Jeste<sup>6</sup> | Alexander Kolevzon<sup>7</sup> | Eva Loth<sup>8</sup> | Jacqueline Harris<sup>9</sup> | Leslie Speer<sup>10</sup> | Tom Pepper<sup>11</sup> | Kristin Anthony<sup>12</sup> | J. Michael Graglia<sup>13</sup> | Christal G. Delagrammatikas<sup>14</sup> | Sandra Bedrosian-Sermone<sup>15</sup> | Constance Smith-Hicks<sup>9</sup> | Katie Huba<sup>1</sup> | Robert Longyear<sup>16</sup> | LeeAnne Green-Snyder<sup>17</sup> | Frederick Shic<sup>18</sup> | Mustafa Sahin<sup>19</sup> | Charis Eng<sup>4</sup> | Antonio Y. Hardan<sup>20</sup> | Mirko Uljarevic<sup>20,21</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Departments of Pediatrics and Psychiatry, SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, New York, USA  
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<sup>6</sup>Division of Neurology, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, USA  
<sup>7</sup>Departments of Psychiatry and Pediatrics, Seaver Autism Center for Research and Treatment, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, New York, USA  
<sup>8</sup>Department of Forensic and Neurodevelopmental Science, Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience, Kings College London, London, UK

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Thomas W. Frazier, Department of Psychology, John Carroll University, University Heights, OH 44118, USA.  
Email: tfrazier@jcu.edu

# Duke & FDA expanding ORCA from Angelman to SYNGAP1 & other DEES

## THE ORCA MEASURE'S THREE TYPES OF COMMUNICATION



### 1. EXPRESSIVE

- Use of symbols and words
- Seek attention
- Direct attention
- Refuse object
- Request object
- Request object out of view
- Request more
- Ask questions
- Understanding information
- Communicate with people



### 2. RECEPTIVE

- Turns in conversation
- Make choices
- Responding to name
- Respond to familiar directions
- Respond to new directions
- Understanding mood
- Understanding isolated words
- Respond to questions



### 3. PRAGMATIC

- Greeting
- Use names
- Playing games
- Comfort others



Observer-Reported Communication Ability Measure



Department of Population  
Health Sciences

Duke University School of Medicine



Tony, 7



Tony, 10





SRF

*thank you*

[mike@cureSYNGAP1.org](mailto:mike@cureSYNGAP1.org)

SYNGAP 1 

*10 minute updates with mike graglia*

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