

# AI is listening – and it say's you have Alzheimer's

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## Nicklas Linz

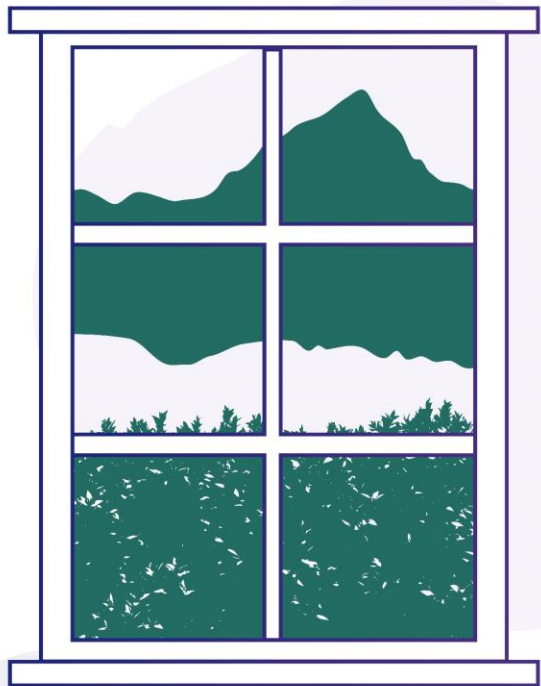
Chief Executive Officer, ki:elements



## Stephen Ruhmel

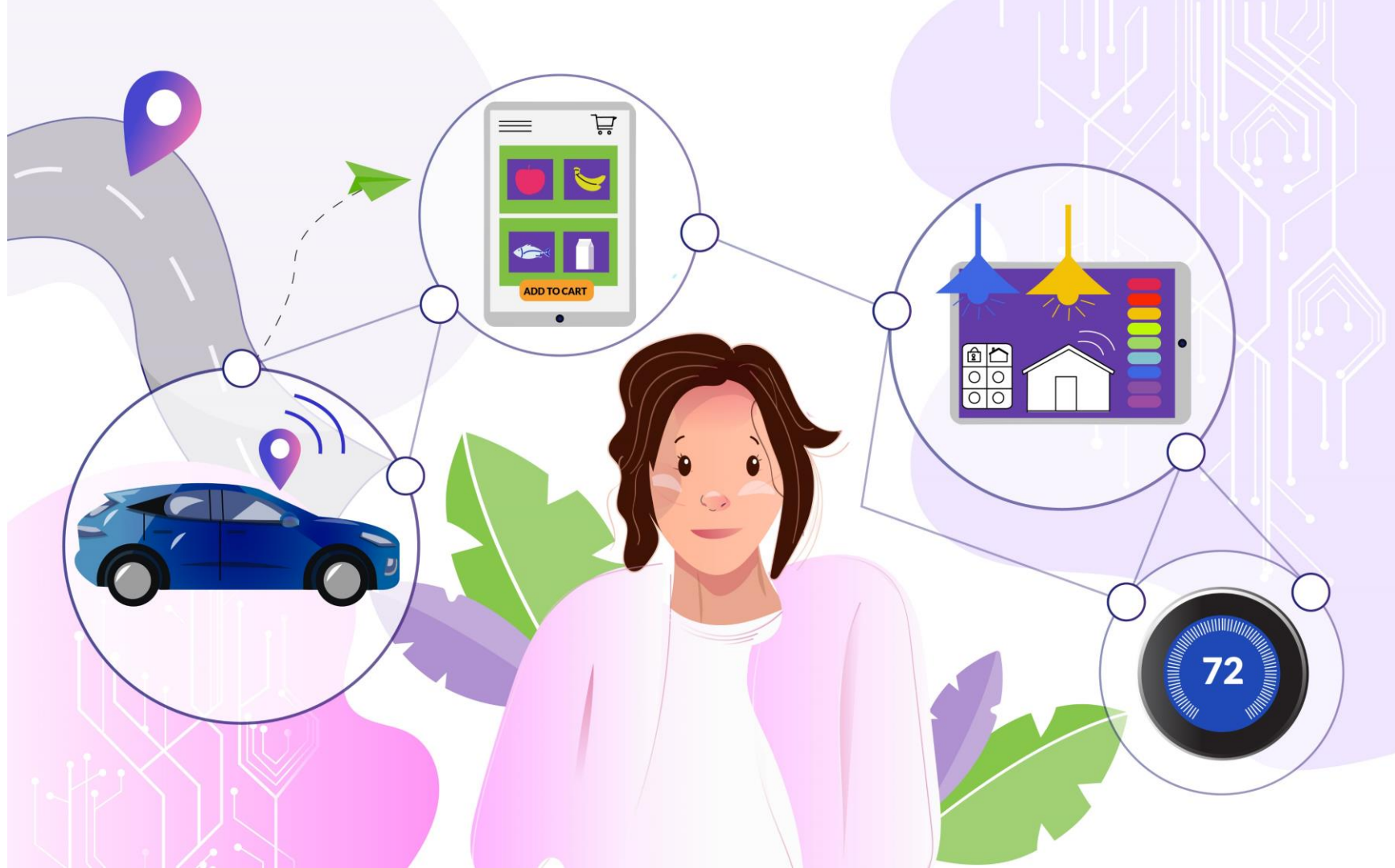
Associate Director, Janssen Clinical Innovation



















# The Alzheimer's pandemic



Between 2000 and 2019, deaths from heart disease decreased 7.3% while deaths from AD have **increased 145%**



In 2020, caregivers provided an estimated **15.3 billion hours** of care valued at nearly \$257 billion



In the United States, AD and dementia deaths have **increased 16%** during the COVID-19 pandemic



Neurodegenerative processes occur **20 years before** a patient's first visit to the doctor.

# Challenges to clinical trials in AD



Clinical trial recruitment poses significant challenges to drug development



80%

of trials fail to meet  
enrollment timelines



30%

of clinical trials' timeline  
is spent on patient  
recruitment



\$5.9B

spent annually on clinical  
trial recruitment



5%

or less of potential  
candidates enrolled in  
clinical trials

*Reference: Johnson, Tesheila, et al. Using research metrics to improve timelines: proceedings from the 2nd Annual CTSA Clinical Research Management Workshop. Clinical and translational science 3.6 (2010): 305-308.*

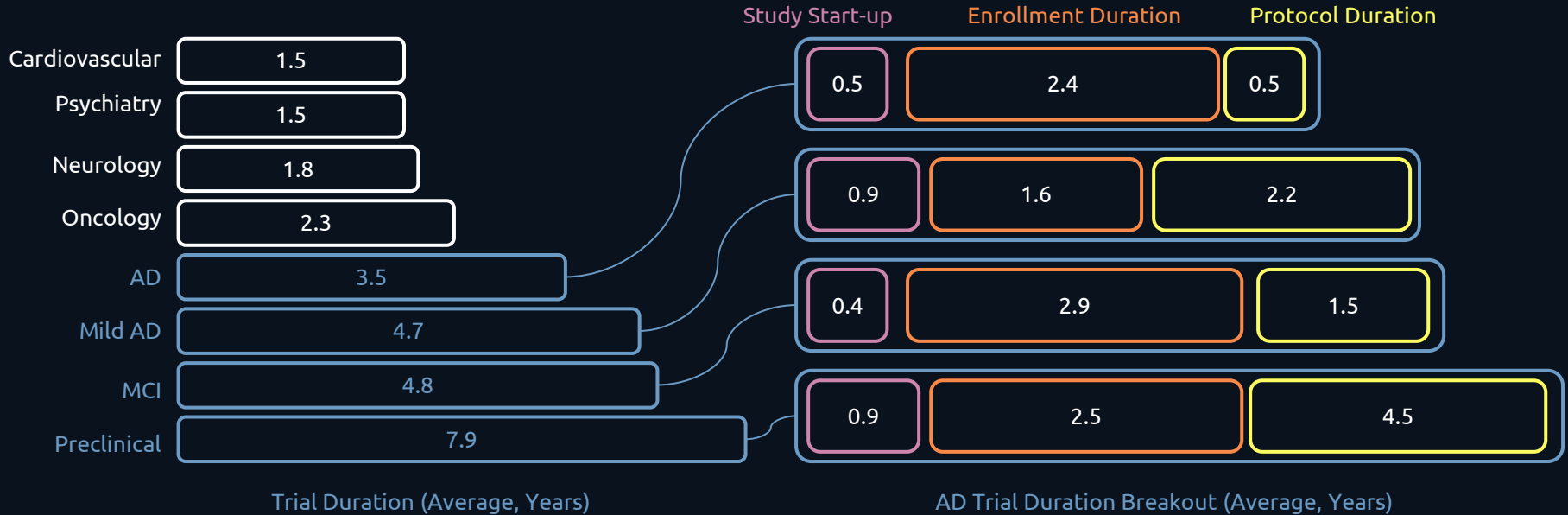
*Ali, Z., Zibert, J. R., & Thomsen, S. F. (2020). Virtual clinical trials, Dermatology, 236(4), 375-382.*

*Bielski, R. J., & Lydiard, R. B. (1997). Therapeutic trial participants: where do we find them and what does it cost?. Psychopharmacology bulletin, 33(1), 75.*

# Enrollment duration as key barrier



AD trials take longer time than trials of other disease areas



# Enrollment tool as key barrier



It is difficult to find patients at pre-clinical stage of the disease



Trend of AD trials moving towards earlier stage of the disease, while no clinical manifestation could be detected and cheap, non-invasive tools are lacking to correctly target these candidates with high risks



# Identification of pain points

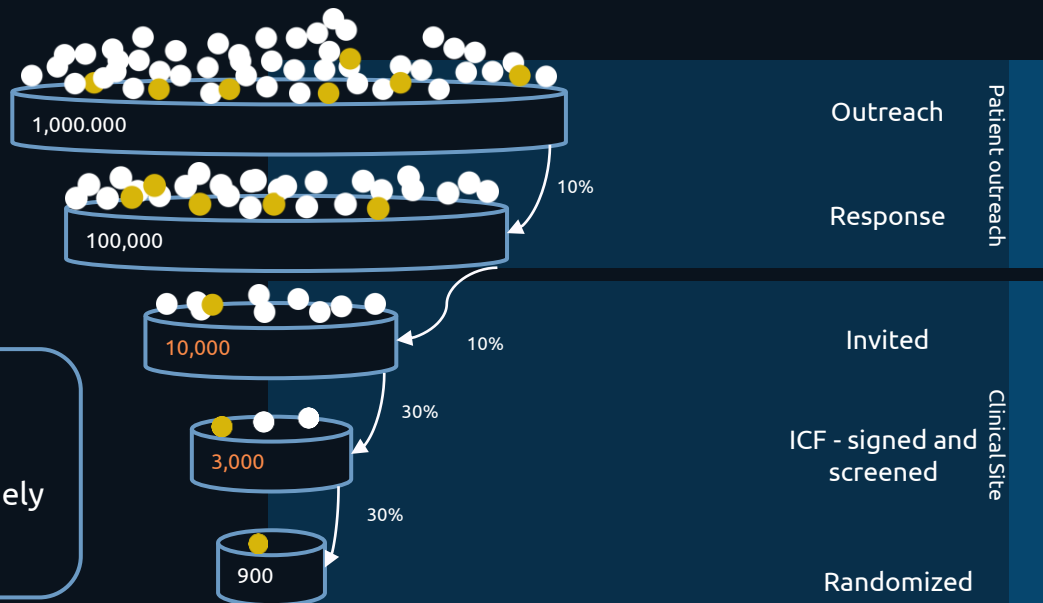


Time and cost consuming pre-screening procedures with low screen-in rate are the major pain points

**Low successful screen-in rate**  
of patients

**Time and cost consuming**  
pre-screening procedures

**Lack of** professional CROs having **in-depth understanding** of the therapeutic areas and keeping the communication transparent in a timely manner



# Technical Framework



The ki:e SB-C harnessing AI and automatic speech analysis



## Speech assessment protocol:

- Semantic Verbal Fluency
- Rey Auditory Verbal Learning



Speech collection front-end e.g. telephone or mobile app



Sensor collecting raw input: microphone



Automatically cut and prepared speech audio file



Transcription and feature extraction (e.g. semantic coherence)



Biomarker score calculation



## Ready-to-use speech biomarker:

- + cut-off informing diagnostic decisions
- + ML logic screening for MCI
- ...

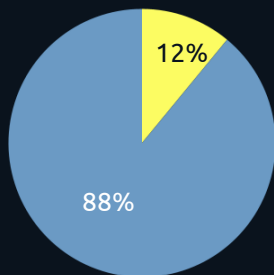
# H70 retrospective performance evaluation



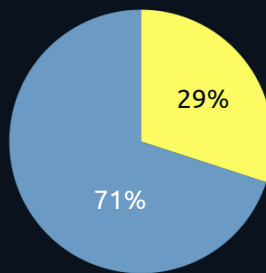
Using ki:e Biomarker for screening can greatly enrich the MCI prevalence

## Key messages

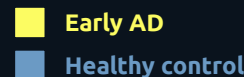
- ✓ Using ki:e SB-C, we are able to **improve MCI prevalence** from 11% (48/452) to 30% (37/123), thus greatly enriched the population by almost three-fold, reducing the full screening cost
- ✓ Using ki:e SB-C, out of all the excluded candidates, we are able to **correctly detect 97%** of them as true healthy population, reducing the invitation to site cost



**without** ki:e



**with** ki:e

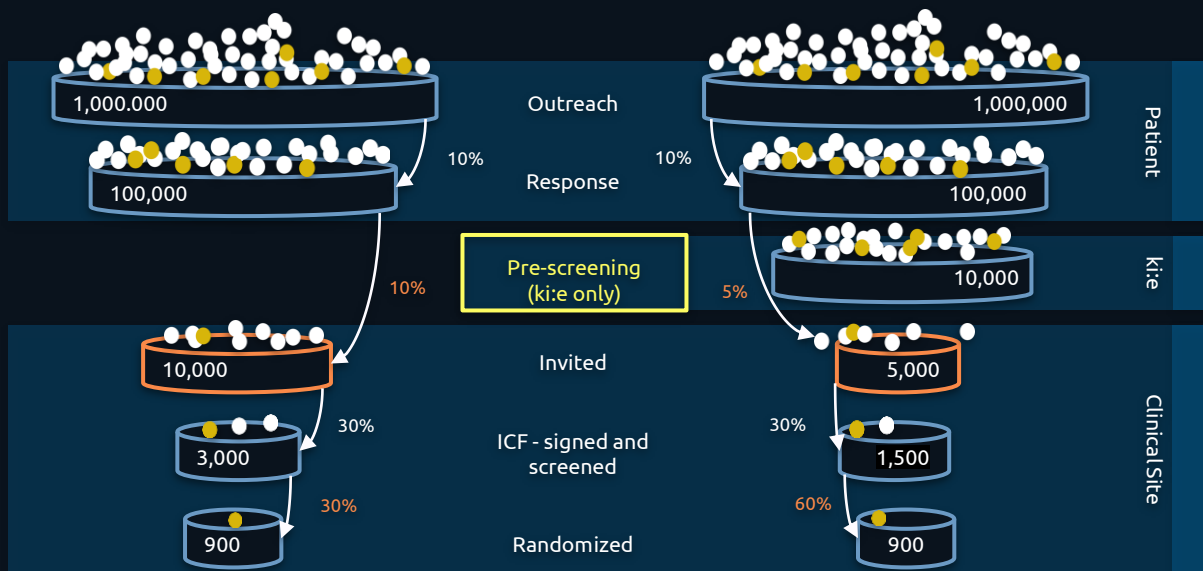


*Proportion of patients who are suitable for MCI trials with/without using ki:e biomarker as a pre-screening tool (total=452 patients)*

# Our solution: Reducing recruitment cost



Use case in phase 2 trial – ki:e Biomarker could reduce the number of candidates invited to sites for screening by at least **50%**



# Implementation in Autonomy





# PET Scan to measure Tau

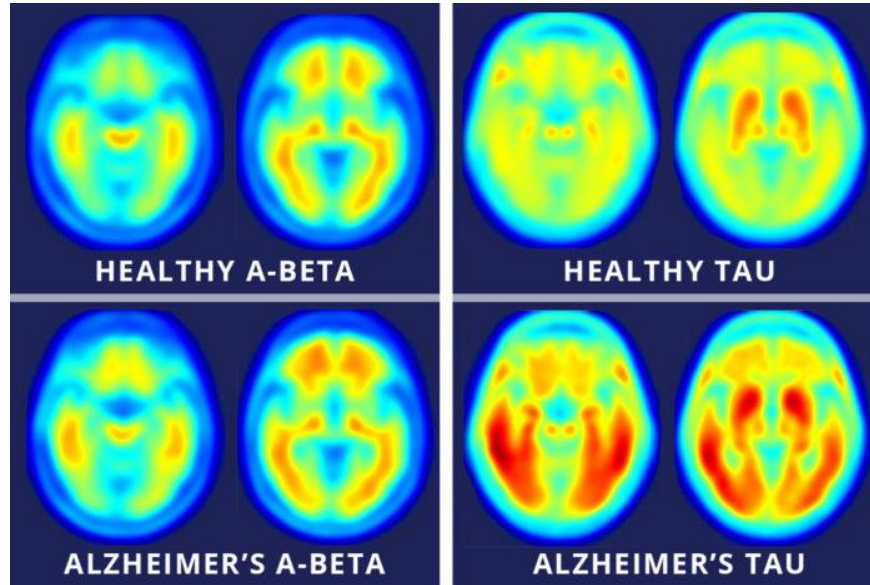


Image: <https://medicine.wustl.edu/news/brain-imaging-links-alzheimers-decline-to-tau-protein/>

# Autonomy Study Pilot

## Phone-based speech assessment

Integrated into recruitment funnel

Fully automated



## Pilot sites

20 pilot sites  
2,000 participants to take assessment  
Sites are blinded to results



## Recommendation to recruit

Automated "yes/no" recommendation to recruit into the study  
Considers dementia (CDR) and cognitive impairment (MCI) in relation to Tau positivity

# Measuring Success

01	Specificity	Number of successfully recommended participants who screened in
02	Sensitivity	Number of successfully <i>not</i> recommended participants who screen failed
03	Participant Acceptance	Proportion of eligible participants who consented to <i>and</i> completed the speech biomarker phone assessment
04	IRB Approval	IRB/Ethics approval of speech biomarker for pre-screening and recruitment
05	Cost & Time Savings	Cost/time to be avoided through lower proportion of screen fails

# In the future...

- Potential use as a novel endpoint to measure efficacy

- Lower friction options (shorter instruments, existing voice interactions)

- Case finding for therapies in market

- Beyond research; as part of our day-to-day lives





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