Increased prevalence of autoimmune disease within C9 and FTD/MND cohorts
Completing the picture

ABSTRACT

Objective: To determine the prevalence of autoimmune disease in symptomatic C9orf72 (C9) mutation carriers and frontotemporal dementia with motor neuron disease (FTD/MND) cohorts.

Methods: In this case-control study, we reviewed the clinical histories of 66 patients with FTD/MND and 57 symptomatic C9 carriers (24 overlapping cases), a total of 99 charts, for history of autoimmune disease. The prevalence of autoimmune disease in C9 and FTD/MND cohorts was determined by χ² and Fisher exact comparisons between the combined C9 and FTD/MND group with normal control, Alzheimer disease, and progressive supranuclear palsy cohorts, as well as comparisons within C9 and FTD/MND cohorts.

Results: Our combined C9 and FTD/MND cohort has a 12% prevalence of nonthyroid autoimmune disease. The prevalence of nonthyroid autoimmune disease in C9 and FTD/MND is similar to the rates in previously detailed progranulin and semantic variant primary progressive aphasia cohorts and elevated in comparison to previously collected normal control and typical Alzheimer disease cohorts, as well as a newly screened progressive supranuclear palsy cohort. Furthermore, the types of autoimmune disease in this combined C9 and FTD/MND cohort cluster within the same 3 categories previously described in progranulin and semantic variant primary progressive aphasia: inflammatory arthritides, cutaneous conditions, and gastrointestinal disorders.

Conclusions: The association between selective autoimmune disease and neurodegenerative disorders unified by the underlying pathology frontotemporal lobar degeneration with TDP-43-positive inclusions (FTLD-TDP) extends to C9 and FTD/MND cohorts, providing further evidence that select autoimmune inflammation may be intrinsically linked to FTLD-TDP pathophysiology.

GLOSSARY

AD = Alzheimer disease; ALS = amyotrophic lateral sclerosis; bvFTD = behavioral variant frontotemporal dementia; C9 = C9orf72; FTD = frontotemporal dementia; FTLD = frontotemporal lobar degeneration; MMSE = Mini-Mental State Examination; MND = motor neuron disease; NC = normal control; PGRN = progranulin; PSP = progressive supranuclear palsy; svPPA = semantic variant primary progressive aphasia; TDP-43 = TAR DNA-binding protein 43; TNF = tumor necrosis factor.

Previously, we reported a relationship between systemic autoimmune inflammation in frontotemporal dementia (FTD) progranulin (PGRN) mutation carriers and patients with semantic variant primary progressive aphasia (svPPA).1 Pathologically, PGRN and svPPA typically display frontotemporal lobar degeneration (FTLD) with abnormal TAR DNA-binding protein 43 (TDP-43)-positive aggregates (FTLD-TDP).2 FTLD-TDP pathology is also the pathology present in a majority of patients with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS),2 in nearly 100% of behavioral variant FTD (bvFTD) cases with features of motor neuron disease (FTD/MND),3

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and in patients with chromosome 9 open reading frame 72 (C9orf72 or C9) mutations. C9 represents the single greatest genetic contribution to both ALS and bvFTD (with or without MND). While strong associations between autoimmune disease and ALS have been appreciated for decades, the co-occurrence and prevalence of autoimmune disease in C9 and FTD/MND are unknown. Therefore, we screened our cohorts of C9 and FTD/MND to determine whether a similar pattern of autoimmune disorders, as observed in our other FTLD-TDP populations, was present.

**METHODS** Standard protocol approvals, registrations, and patient consents. All participants underwent informed consent to share their clinical data for research purposes. The study of patient clinical data was approved by the human research committee at the University of California, San Francisco and Jacksonville Mayo Clinic. All participants were enrolled in these academic center’s research studies of FTD and related disorders between March 1999 and October 2013.

Participants. We retrospectively identified 2 substantially overlapping cohorts, a clinically defined FTD/MND group, and a symptomatic C9 FTD group. Seventy-one patients had clinical features that conformed to bvFTD consensus criteria and displayed features of MND. Five patients were excluded because of limited charting that did not include full medical histories, leaving a total of 66 patients in our FTD/MND group. C9 testing was positive in 24 of these individuals, whereas 42 were either negative or without available results (30 negative, 11 without testable samples, and one with results pending). Separately, we identified 67 symptomatic individuals who were positive for C9 mutations and one individual with FTD/MND whose nephew was positive for C9. We excluded 8 individuals whose records did not include full medical histories and 3 who had no evidence for FTD, for a total of 57 C9-positive individuals: 33 with bvFTD only and 24 with FTD/MND.

For comparison, in our previous study, we identified 186 normal controls (NCs) and 158 individuals with typical Alzheimer disease (AD). For an FTLD-tau disease control group, we screened a group of 107 patients who met criteria for progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP), as patients with PSP demonstrate high clinicopathologic correlations with underlying FTLD-tau pathology.

**Identification and classification of autoimmune conditions.** We screened patients’ charts for evidence of autoimmune disease using a similar autoimmune disease collection previously employed (table 1). As done previously, autoimmune diseases were categorized into thyroid and nonthyroid disorders. The rationale for splitting autoimmune disorders into different categories is manifold, as autoimmune diseases are not unitary conditions (specific patterns of autoimmune disease are well known to aggregate or cluster together within families or within individuals); some patients present with features that would qualify for the diagnosis of a spectrum of autoimmune disease (e.g., lupus—rheumatoid arthritis and lupus), and in some cases, genetics of autoimmune risk reveal anticorrelations between conditions (such as a polymorphism where one allele variant increases risk of rheumatoid arthritis while the other variant affects likelihood of developing thyroid disease). Furthermore, as we had shown previously, rates of thyroid disease did not discriminate svPPA and PGRN FTLD-TDP disease groups from our disease and healthy control cohorts.

**Statistical analysis.** We compared differences between the combined C9 and FTD/MND cohort and our previously collected NC and AD control cohorts and a newly collected PSP cohort. We also compared the following groups within the C9 and FTD/MND cohort: C9-positive individuals with FTD and without MND (C9 FTD only) vs C9-positive with FTD/MND (C9 FTD/MND) vs unknown or negative C9 status and FTD/MND diagnoses (FTD/MND without C9). Analysis of variance was used to test for significance for continuous variables such as age, education, and Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) score across diagnostic groups. For categorical variables such as sex and ethnicity, \( \chi^2 \) tests were performed. Prevalence and comparison of autoimmune disease among the diagnostic groups were assessed for statistical significance using \( \chi^2 \) tests and Fisher exact test when frequencies were less than 5 in select groups.

**RESULTS** C9 and FTD/MND combined cohort vs control groups. The combined C9 and FTD/MND group was younger and comprised a greater percentage of men than the NC, AD, and PSP populations \((p < 0.001; p = 0.003)\). As expected, all disease groups performed worse than the NC cohort on the MMSE. Comparisons of the combined C9 and FTD/MND cohort with NC, AD, and PSP groups showed a statistically significant elevation of nonthyroid autoimmune disease in the C9 and FTD/MND group \((p = 0.02)\) but not in thyroid only or total autoimmune disease rates (figure and table 2).

**C9 FTD only vs C9 FTD/MND vs FTD/MND without C9.** There were no differences in race, education, or MMSE score; however, both MND cohorts had

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**Table 1** Screen of autoimmune conditions

| Condition                          | Guillain-Barré Syndrome | Primary Biliary Cirrhosis |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Addison disease                   |                         |                          |
| Ankylosing spondylitis            | Hashimoto thyroiditis   | Psoriasis                |
| Autoimmune hemolytic anemia       | Inclusion body myositis | Reactive arthritis       |
| Behçet disease                    | Immune thrombocytopenic purpura | Rheumatoid arthritis |
| Celiac disease                    | Localized scleroderma   | Sarcoïdosis              |
| Chorea minor                      | Lichen sclerosus        | Sjögren syndrome        |
| Chronic lymphocytic colitis       | Lupoid hepatitis        | Systemic lupus erythematosus |
| Chronic rheumatic heart disease or rheumatic fever | Multiple sclerosis | Systemic sclerosis |
| Crohn disease                     | Myasthenia gravis       | Thyroid disease          |
| Dermatomysitis                    | Pernicious anemia       | Transverse myelitis      |
| Discoid lupus                     | Polyarteritis nodosa    | Type 1 diabetes mellitus |
| Granulomatosis with polyangitis   | Polymyalgia rheumatic   | Ulcerative colitis       |
| Grave disease                     | Polymyositis            | Vitiigo                  |
significantly more men than the C9 FTD–only cohort ($p = 0.03$). There were no differences in any of the autoimmune prevalence rates (thyroid, nonthyroid, and total) between C9 and FTD/MND cohorts (C9 FTD only vs C9 FTD/MND vs FTD/MND without C9 groups) (figure 3).

**Combined FTLD-TDP cohort.** Combining the results of our C9 and FTD/MND screening with the results of our prior PGRN and svPPA study, observed elevated rates of select nonthyroid autoimmune disorders within symptomatic C9 and FTD/MND cohorts compared to NCs, typical AD, and new to this study, an FTLD-tau control group, PSP. The specific types of autoimmune diseases in the C9 and FTD/MND group cluster within the same 3 general autoimmune groups as previously described: inflammatory arthritides, cutaneous conditions, and gastrointestinal disorders. The design of this collection, with one genetic cohort (C9) and the other presumed idiopathic in underlying etiology (FTD/MND) was structured to be analogous to our prior study. The fact that the prevalence and type of

**DISCUSSION** An increasing number of reports have shown that C9 loss of function in murine models recapitulates human autoimmune disease. In this study, we formally investigated autoimmune disease prevalence within C9 and FTD/MND cohorts and, consistent with our prior PGRN and svPPA study, observed elevated rates of select nonthyroid autoimmune disorders within symptomatic C9 and FTD/MND cohorts compared to NCs, typical AD, and new to this study, an FTLD-tau control group, PSP. The specific types of autoimmune diseases in the C9 and FTD/MND group cluster within the same 3 general autoimmune groups as previously described: inflammatory arthritides, cutaneous conditions, and gastrointestinal disorders.

Retrospective chart review of autoimmune conditions in AD, C9, FTD/MND, NC, and PSP cohorts. Above, prevalence of autoimmune diseases across neurodegenerative cohorts (AD vs total C9 and FTD/MND vs NCs vs PSP), and below, between C9 and FTD/MND groups (FTD/MND without C9 vs C9 FTD/MND vs C9 FTD only). Nothing mentioned refers to individuals for whom there is no mention of any condition found within the screening collection instrument. When individuals possess both a thyroid disorder and another autoimmune disease, they are assigned to the nonthyroid autoimmune category, so as to avoid being counted twice. Thyroid only refers to those who only have thyroid spectrum disorders. AD = Alzheimer disease; C9 = C9ORF72 mutation carrier; FTD = frontotemporal dementia; MND = motor neuron disease; NC = normal control; PSP = progressive supranuclear palsy.
autoimmune disease within and without genetic and idiopathic groups aligns so strongly across both this and our prior study\(^1\) presupposes that the co-occurrence of autoimmune disease reflects some fundamental characteristic of FTLD-TDP pathophysiology.

Despite the limitations of this study, we believe our retrospective chart collection more likely underestimates rather than overestimates the co-occurrence of autoimmune disease. While overall numbers are small, this collection represents a substantial reporting of C9 and FTD/MND. Combining all our high-likelihood FTLD-TDP cohorts together produces an even more substantial group to investigate our claims, and in this combined cohort, we continue to see an overrepresentation of select diseases clustering in the same general autoimmune categories (table 3). Separation of the C9 cohort into individuals with and without motor neuron symptoms was done to facilitate direct comparison of C9 FTD/MND to FTD/MND without C9. Dividing the C9 cohort into groups with and without motor neuron symptoms also provides a window to explore characteristics that may pertain to phenotypic vulnerability, as the reason why some individuals develop an isolated behavioral syndrome while others a predominant motor neuron condition might inform us about disease pathophysiology. The combined C9 cohort has 11% autoimmune disease, all of which arise from the C9 FTD/MND cohort except for one autoimmune disease case in the C9 FTD-only cohort. Despite this, there were no significant differences in the prevalence of autoimmune disease between the C9 FTD-only vs C9 FTD/MND group. Larger collections are needed to identify whether presence of autoimmune disease influences the targeting of C9-mediated neurodegenerative disease.

The association of autoimmunity with C9 and FTD/MND has grounding in biological and epidemiologic observations made independently in ALS.

### Table 2

C9 and FTD/MND vs control cohort

| Diagnostic group | Comparisons across neurodegenerative cohorts |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------|
|                  | NC  | AD   | Total C9 and FTD/MND | PSP | p       |
| **Age at first visit, y, mean ± SD (n)** | 65.6 ± 9.9 (186) | 65.7 ± 9.8 (158) | 59.5 ± 9.4 (99) | 66.6 ± 7.6 (107) | <0.001* |
| **Sex, % female (n)** | 54 (100/186) | 49 (77/158) | 32 (31/99) | 43 (46/107) | 0.003* |
| **Race, % Caucasian (n)** | 92.4 (171/185) | 89.4 (135/151) | 92.3 (84/91) | 82.9 (87/105) | NS |
| **Education, y, mean ± SD (n)** | 16.2 ± 2.4 (168) | 15.7 ± 3.7 (134) | 15.5 ± 3.0 (79) | 15.3 ± 3.5 (104) | NS |
| **MMSE at first visit, mean ± SD (n)** | 29.2 ± 1.5 (162) | 20 ± 6.3 (121) | 24 ± 6.1 (74) | 26 ± 4.6 (81) | <0.001* |
| **Autoimmune disease, % total (n)** | 16 (30/186) | 17 (27/158) | 25 (25/99) | 17 (18/107) | NS |
| **Autoimmune disease, % nonthyroid (n)** | 4 (8/186) | 4 (6/158) | 12 (12/99) | 4 (4/107) | 0.02* |
| **Autoimmune disease, % thyroid total (n)** | 12 (22/186) | 13 (21/158) | 14 (14/99) | 13 (14/107) | NS |

**Abbreviations:** AD = Alzheimer disease; C9 = C9ORF72; FTD = frontotemporal dementia; MMSE = Mini-Mental State Examination; MND = motor neuron disease; NC = normal control; NS = not significant; PSP = progressive supranuclear palsy.

*Significant value.

### Table 3

C9 FTD only vs C9 FTD/MND vs FTD/MND without C9

| Diagnostic group | Comparisons between C9 and FTD/MND cohorts |
|------------------|--------------------------------------------|
|                  | FTD/MND without C9 | C9 FTD/MND | C9 FTD only | p       |
| **Age at first visit, y, mean ± SD (n)** | 61.7 ± 9.4 (42) | 57 ± 9.2 (24) | 58.6 ± 9.2 (33) | NS |
| **Sex, % female (n)** | 29 (12/42) | 17 (4/24) | 48 (16/33) | 0.03* |
| **Race, % Caucasian (n)** | 85 (40) | 100 (22) | 97 (29) | NS |
| **Education, y, mean ± SD (n)** | 16.4 ± 2.6 (36) | 14.8 ± 2.8 (24) | 14.7 ± 3.8 (19) | NS |
| **MMSE at first visit, mean ± SD (n)** | 22.6 ± 7.4 (34) | 26.3 ± 3.6 (24) | 23.1 ± 5.2 (16) | NS |
| **Autoimmune disease, % total (n)** | 26 (11/42) | 33 (8/24) | 18 (6/33) | NS |
| **Autoimmune disease, % nonthyroid (n)** | 14 (6/42) | 21 (5/24) | 3 (1/33) | NS |
| **Autoimmune disease, % thyroid total (n)** | 14 (6/42) | 13 (3/24) | 15 (5/33) | NS |

**Abbreviations:** C9 = C9ORF72; FTD = frontotemporal dementia; MMSE = Mini-Mental State Examination; MND = motor neuron disease; NS = not significant.

*Significant value.
and more recently in FTD. Speculations of a primary role for systemic inflammation in the pathogenesis of MND have been made following observations of elevated systemic inflammatory markers in serum and CSF, and proliferation of activated microglia, astrocytes, monocytes, and T cells in spinal cord and brain tissue. There is considerable precedence of association between systemic autoimmune inflammation and MND, including a recent, large epidemiologic study investigating the prevalence of autoimmune diseases preceding ALS, which reflected on the substantial overlap between their findings and those in our initial FTD and autoimmune disease report. Regarding the connections between systemic inflammation and FTLD-TDP disease, although the mechanism of action for C9 remains unclear, C9 was identified as 1 of 3 loci that modified the efficacy of tumor necrosis factor blocking agents in rheumatoid arthritics, implicating an immune function years before neurologic significance was appreciated. In support of this, 4 recent studies demonstrate profound disruptions of immune homeostasis exemplified by human systemic autoimmune disease in C9 knockout mice. Specifically, lysosomal trafficking defects, cytokine elevations, widespread myeloid expansion, and T cell activation have been observed, as well as upregulation of autoantibody production (anti-nuclear antibody, anti-cardiolipin, anti-double stranded DNA, anti-Smith, and anti-rheumatoid factor antibodies) in a manner highly evocative of human systemic lupus erythematosus. Further evidence linking immune system dysfunction in FTD and ALS stems from genetic studies, including identification of the HLA-DRA/DRB5 and RAB38/CTSC regions in FTD and TBK1 mutations in ALS, FTD, and FTD/MND. The HLA-DRA/DRB5 region encodes several major histocompatibility complex class II proteins responsible for adaptive immunity and is specifically implicated in the pathogenesis of autoimmunity. Both RAB38 and CTSC function in autophagy and lysosomal pathways. RAB38, in particular, is a member of the Rab family of proteins and encodes an endosomal trafficking protein expressed in neurons and melanocytes. Patients with vitiligo frequently

| Table 4 | Autoimmune diseases in high-likelihood FTLD-TDP cohorts |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Nonthyroid autoimmune disease |                        |
| Vitiligo | 2 3 5 1.9 0.41 4.8 |
| Psoriasis| 1 3 4 1.5 0.11 15  |
| Rheumatoid arthritis | 1 3 4 1.5 0.91 1.7  |
| Sarcoidosis | 1 3 4 1.5 0.001-0.04 37.5-1.500 |
| Sjögren syndrome | — 3 3 1.1 0.01-0.3 3.7-110 |
| Ankylosing spondylitis | 2 — 2 0.8 0.03-0.9 0.9-26.7 |
| Celiac disease | 1 1 2 0.8 0.03-0.8 1-26.7 |
| Crohn disease | 2 — 2 0.8 0.238 4 |
| Lichen sclerosus | 1 1 2 0.8 Unknown 1 NA |
| Systemic lupus erythematosus | — 2 2 0.8 0.02 40 |
| Chronic lymphocytic colitis | — 1 1 0.4 0.06 6.7 |
| Discoid lupus | — 1 1 0.4 0.4-0.8 0.5-1 |
| Transverse myelitis | 1 — 1 0.4 Unknown NA |
| Type 1 diabetes mellitus | — 1 1 0.4 0.2 2 |
| Ulcerative colitis | 1 — 1 0.4 0.238 2 |

Autoimmune clusters

| Inflammatory arthritides | 4 12 16 |
| Cutaneous conditions | 4 8 12 |
| Gastrointestinal disorders | 4 2 6 |

Abbreviations: C9 = C9orf72; FTD = frontotemporal dementia; FTLD = frontotemporal lobar degeneration; MND = motor neuron disease; PGRN = progranulin; svPPA = semantic variant primary progressive aphasia; TDP = TAR DNA-binding protein.

a,b,c Overlapping individuals.
develop autoantibodies to Rab38,37 and vitiligo is the most prevalent autoimmune disease observed in our combined FTLD-TDP population (table 3). C9 functions as an activator of several Rab proteins,28 possibly accounting for the observed lysosomal trafficking disruptions in knockout models.14 TBK1 is a master regulator of innate immune system signaling (TNF-mediated nuclear factor κB activation) having prominent roles in autophagy and inflammation.53 All told, recent genetics emphasize dysregulation along the spectrum of endocytic and endosomal trafficking pathways to major histocompatibility complex class II antigen presentation39 in FTD and ALS.

While not a primary outcome of this study, we observed a disproportionate number of men in the total C9 cohort (65% male; 37/57), driven by the C9 FTD/MND subgroup (83% male; 20/24). C9 is an autosomal gene and as such should not show any sex preference. As FTD may be more likely misdiagnosed in women,30 one potential explanation for this sex discrepancy is that we observed a relative lack of women in the combined C9 cohort from a possible referral bias. In general, bvFTD tends to be more male than female,31 and given that our C9 FTD–only cohort has a near equal male/female ratio (52% male; 17/33), it would seem unlikely that a referral bias is affecting our bvFTD collection. Another possibility is that there is an overabundance of men in our FTD/MND cohort. If this were the case, it would presume that male sex confers selective vulnerability to MND within C9 carriers. Increased male prevalence in ALS is a well-known epidemiologic occurrence,6 and increased penetrance as well as earlier age at ALS onset has been shown in male C9 carriers.32 Before the discovery of C9, the same sex differences, of equal sex ratios in bvFTD and male predominance in FTD/MND cohorts, had been reported.33 Finally, the fact that this observed increased male sex ratio in our C9 FTD/MND cohort was also reflected in our FTD/MND without C9 cohort, serves as an internal validation of our observations in the C9 FTD/MND group. Together, these results strongly support an interaction between sex and C9 phenotypic expression that warrants further investigation.

Another observed sex difference is that, of the 12 patients with C9 and FTD/MND who had autoimmune disease, 75% (9/12) were men. While some autoimmune diseases are more likely to occur in men, most autoimmune diseases are more likely to occur in women.34 Typically, anywhere between 60% and 80% of persons with autoimmune disease are female.34,35 In keeping with this, 60% (12/20) of individuals with autoimmune disease in our prior svPPA and PGRN study were female.3 While this sex difference in autoimmune rates in our C9 and FTD/MND group might simply reflect the increased male demographics of the entire cohort, it is noteworthy that a greater proportion of the autoimmune diseases in this group are of the male-predominant type. Specifically, one-third (4/12) of those with autoimmune disease within the C9 and FTD/MND cohort possessed a male-predominant autoimmune disease such as ankylosing spondylitis, ulcerative colitis, and sarcoidosis,34 whereas only 15% (3/20) of the svPPA and PGRN autoimmune disease cohort possessed one of these male-predominant autoimmune diseases. It has been suggested that male-predominant autoimmune diseases produce greater innate immune system activation and autoantibody production than female-predominant diseases35—conspicuous features of C9 mouse ablation models.15–16 Given this, it may be possible that FTLD-TDP disorders will provide a model for disentangling sex differences within autoimmune diseases. As is the case with our other findings, much larger collections will be needed to determine whether these patterns persist.

The increased prevalence of select autoimmune diseases within FTD and ALS reported here and elsewhere3,8 along with observations of widespread immunologic disruptions reminiscent of human autoimmune disease in PGRN36 and C9 knockout mice13–16 illustrate how immunodysregulation may be intrinsically linked to FTLD-TDP pathophysiology. While we show some initial results supporting a role for autoimmunity in distinguishing FTLD-TDP from FTLD-tau pathologies, direct comparisons of larger groups of high-likelihood TDP and tau cohorts are needed to determine the role of autoimmunity for its potential predictive value. To date, all the reported autoimmune conditions here, and in our prior study,1 preceded enrollment in our research programs. While this might imply that immunodysregulation occurs before neurodegeneration, the directionality of this association remains unclear. The observation that ablation of C9 produces immunologic but not neurologic disease suggests that these effects of C9 dysfunction may be dissociable.13–16 We suspect that the co-occurrence of immunologic disorders within neurologic diseases reflects a shared vulnerability to each, and as such, deciphering the exact mechanisms underlying this connection will likely have near term implications for understanding, treating, and preventing autoimmune and neurodegenerative diseases alike.

**AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

Dr. Zachary Miller: conceptualization and design of the study, collection, analysis, and interpretation of the data, drafting and revising the manuscript. Dr. Sturm: analysis and interpretation of the data and revising the manuscript. Dr. Gamze Balci Camsari: analysis and interpretation of the data and revising the manuscript. Ms. Karydas: collection of data and revising the manuscript. Dr. Yokoyama: interpretation of the data and revising the manuscript. Dr. Grinberg: interpretation of the data and revising the manuscript. Dr. Boxt: analysis and interpretation of the
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Geschwind served on the scientific advisory board for Ovid Therapeutics Inc., SynapDx Corp, Roche, received travel funding from Roche, Novartis, served on the editorial board for Cell, Molecular Autism, Molecular Neuropsychiatry, Science, Translational Psychiatry, holds patents for Peripheral Gene Expression Biomarkers for Autism, Genetic Risk Factor for Neurodegenerative Disease, Compositions and Methods for Diagnosing and Treating Brain Cancer and Identifying Neural Stem Cells, Genetic Variants Underlying Human Cognition: Novel Diagnostic and Therapeutic Targets, Peripheral Gene Expression Biomarkers for Autism, Brain Gene Expression Changes Associated with Autism Spectrum Disorders, Full Biomarkers in Friedreich’s Ataxia ( provisional patent application), Signaling Networks Causing Neurodevelopmental Disorders in Human Neurons, Genes Dysregulated in Autism, Potential Biomarkers and Therapeutic Pathways, Peripheral Gene Expression Biomarkers for Autism, A Genetic Target for Treatment of Individuals with Neurocognitive Spectrum Disorders, Neuronal Regeneration, Fratxin Knock-Down Mouse, Jakmip1 Knockout Mouse, Cyfip1 Transgenic Mouse, received publishing royalties from Oxford University Press, consulted for OVID Therapeutics Ltd., SynapDx, Roche Group, received research support from Takeda Pharmaceutical Company, NIH/NIH, NIH/NICHD, CIRM TR2-01814, NIH/NINDS, NIH/NIA, the Simons Foundation, Adelson Medical Research Foundation, Fidelity Foundation, Ovid Therapeutics. 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Graft-Radford served on the scientific advisory board for Cytox Consultation, served on the editorial board for Alzheimer Disease and Therapy, received publishing royalties from UpToDate, received research support from TauRx, Lille, Biogen, Axovant, NIA. B.L. Miller served on the scientific advisory board for Tau Consortium, the John Douglas French Foundation, the Larry Hillblom Foundation, SAB National Institute for Health Research in Dementia, Stanford University, served as editor for NeuroCare, served on the editorial board for Cambridge University Press, Guilford Publications, Inc., receives publishing royalties from Cambridge, Elsevier, Guilford, received research support from NIA, CMS. Go to Neurology.org/nn for full disclosure forms.

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Increased prevalence of autoimmune disease within C9 and FTD/MND cohorts: Completing the picture
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