

Harnessing the Power of Multi-Omics to Advance Understanding of Biological Aging and Healthspan in Older Women

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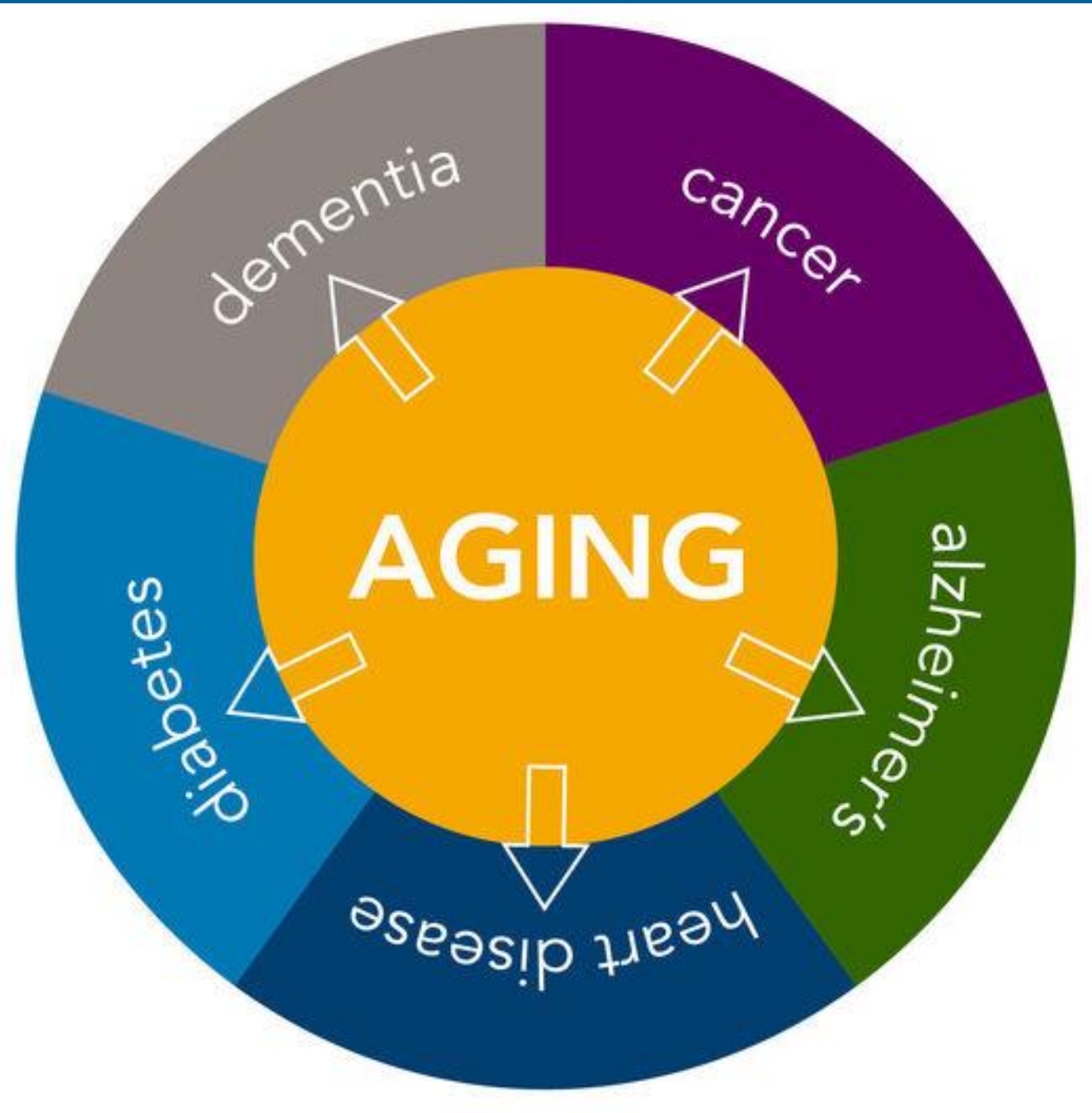
Department of Medicine

UC San Diego

May 1, 2025

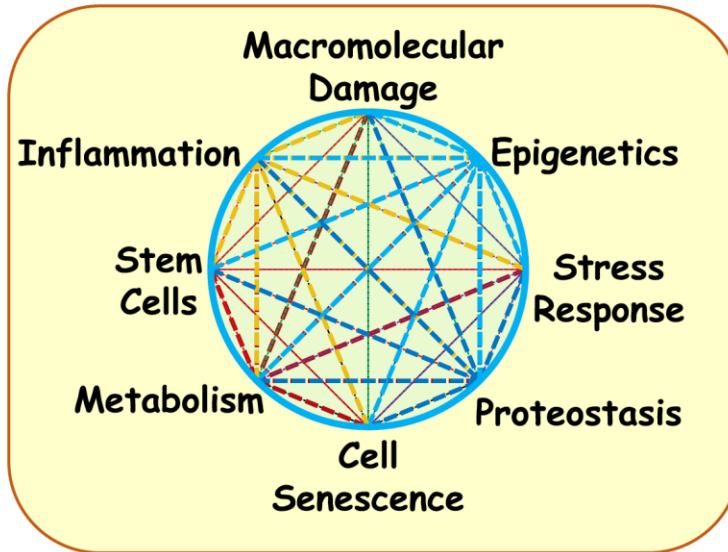
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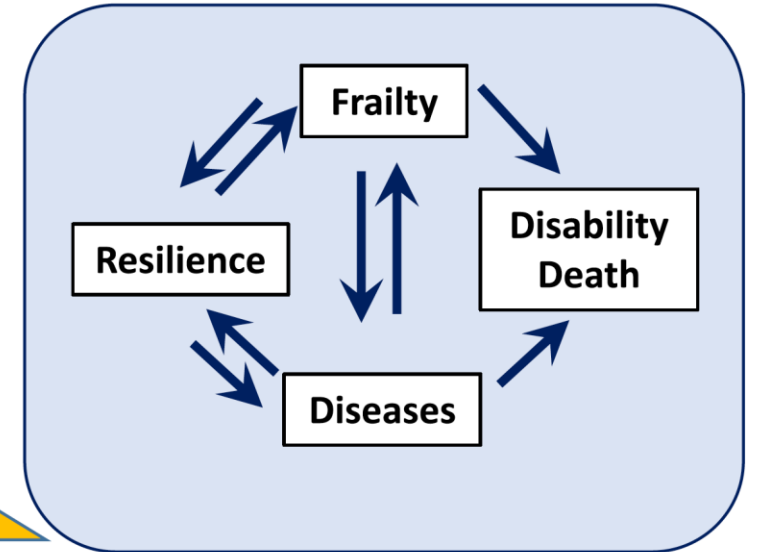


Biological Aging (Geroscience)

Biological drivers of aging



**Geroscience:
Targeting
Biological Drivers
of Frailty and
Multiple Chronic
Diseases**



Sierra et al. *JAGS* 2021;69:2455-63.

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Epigenetic Aging Biomarkers of MCI, ADRD, and Brain Aging

R01 (2021-2026)

Role: Principal Investigator

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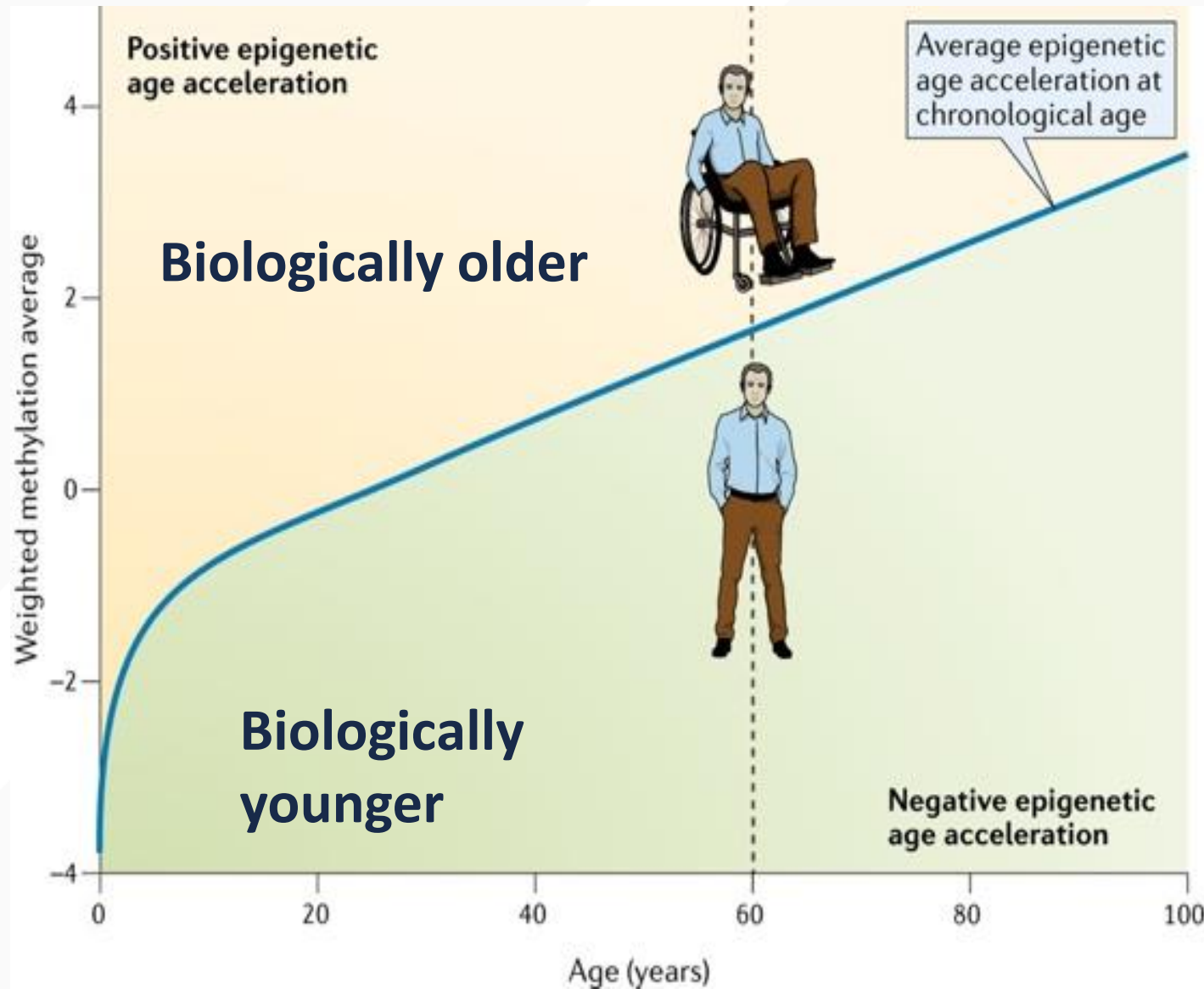
Epigenetic Data Resource

- Epigenetic profiling (>900K CpGs) among 6,400 WHIMS women (2,000 longitudinal measures)
- Among the largest cohorts with epigenomic data (EPIC v2)
- **Data resource to study epigenetics of diverse phenotypes (CVD, cancer, geriatric syndromes, functional decline, etc.)**

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Epigenetic Clocks



Nat Rev Genet 2018;19:371-84.

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Plasma Proteomic Signatures for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias

R01 (2022-2027)

Role: Multiple and Contact PI

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Proteomic Data Resource

- Proteomic profiling (11k proteins) among 2,836 WHIMS women (1000 longitudinal measures at baseline and LLS)
- Plasma AD biomarkers at baseline and LLS (ptau-217, ptau-181, GFAP, NfL, Ab42/40)
- Among the few cohorts with 11k Somascan
- **Data resource to study proteomics of diverse phenotypes (CVD, cancer, geriatric syndromes, functional decline, etc.)**

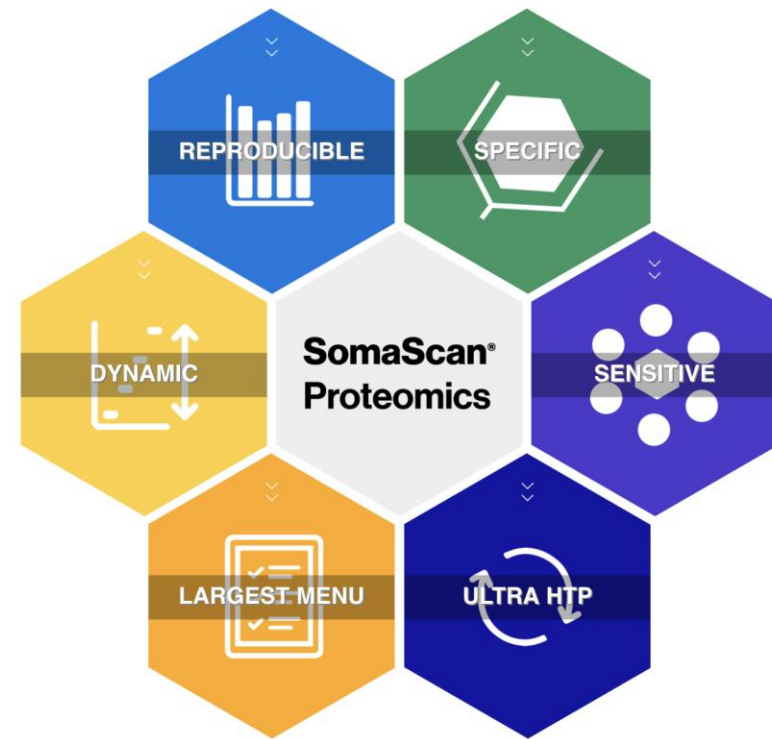
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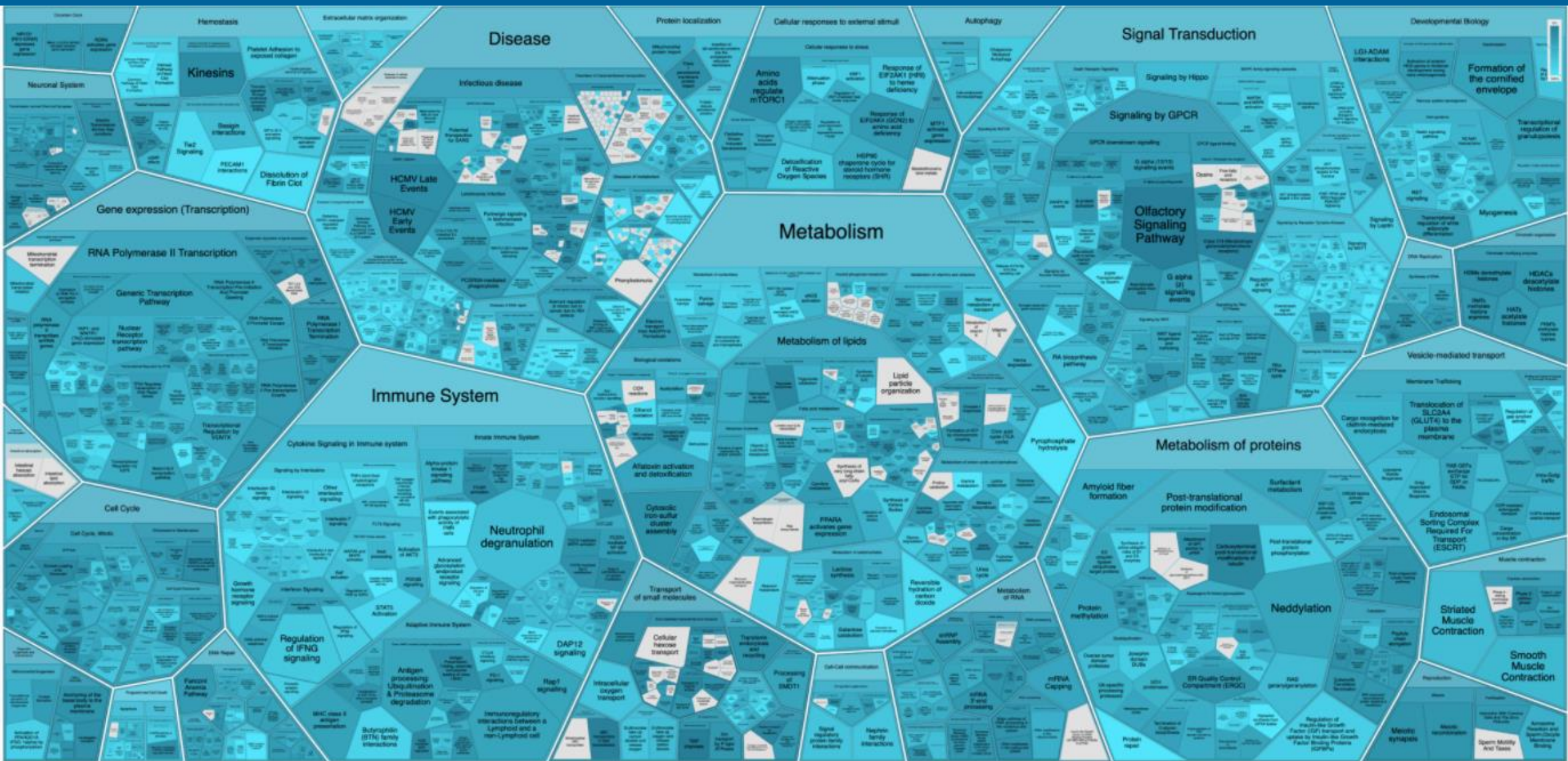
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SomaScan: Biomarker Discovery

- Next generation proteomics tool
- >11,000 proteins
- 35 ul plasma
- Discovered and validated proteins for diverse phenotypes (e.g., cancer, CVD, diabetes, etc)

**THE SOMASCAN[®] PLATFORM IS
FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT**





Plasma proteomic biomarker signature of age predicts health and life span

Toshiko Tanaka^{1*}, Nathan Basisty², Giovanna Fantoni³, Julián Candia⁴, Ann Z Moore¹, Angelique Biancotto⁵, Birgit Schilling², Stefania Bandinelli⁶, Luigi Ferrucci¹

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Abstract Older age is a strong shared risk factor for many chronic diseases, and there is increasing interest in identifying aging biomarkers. Here, a proteomic analysis of 1301 plasma proteins was conducted in 997 individuals between 21 and 102 years of age. We identified 64 proteins associated with age (506 over-represented, 145 underrepresented with age). Media analysis suggested a role for partial *cis*-epigenetic control of protein expression with age. Of age-associated proteins, 33.5% and 45.3% were associated with mortality and multimorbidity respectively. There was enrichment of proteins associated with inflammation and extracellular matrix as well as senescence-associated secretory proteins. A 76-protein proteomic age signature predicted accumulation of chronic diseases and all-cause mortality. These data support the use of proteomic biomarkers to monitor aging trajectories and to identify individuals at higher risk of disease to be targeted for in depth diagnostic procedures and early interventions.

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LETTERS

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-019-0673-2>

Undulating changes in human plasma proteome profiles across the lifespan

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DOI: 10.1111/ace.13256

Benoit Lehallier^{1,2,3*}, David Gate^{1,2,3,4}, Nicholas Schaum⁵, Tibor Hanadie Yousef^{1,2,3,4}, Patricia Moran Losada^{1,2,3}, Daniela Berdnik Joe Verghese^{8,9}, Sanish Sathyan^{8,9}, Claudio Franceschi^{10,11}, Sofiya and Tony Wyss-Coray^{1,2,3,4*}

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Aging Cell WILEY

Data mining of human plasma proteins generates a multitude of highly predictive aging clocks that reflect different aspects of aging

Benoit Lehallier^{1,2,3} | Maxim N. Shokhirev⁴ | Tony Wyss-Coray^{1,2,3,5} | Adiv A. Johnson⁶

Aging is a predominant risk factor for several chronic diseases that limit healthspan¹. Mechanisms of aging are thus increasingly recognized as potential therapeutic targets. Blood from young mice reverses aspects of aging and disease across multiple tissues²⁻¹⁰, which supports a hypothesis that age-related molecular changes in blood could provide new insights into age-related disease biology. We measured 2,925 plasma proteins from 4,263 young adults to nonagenarians (18–95 years old) and developed a new bioinformatics approach that uncovered marked non-linear alterations in the human plasma proteome with age. Waves of changes in the proteome in the fourth, seventh and eighth decades of life reflected distinct biological pathways and revealed differential associations with the genome and proteome of age-related diseases and phenotypic traits. This new approach to the study of aging led to the identification of unexpected signatures and pathways that might offer potential targets for age-related diseases.

Aging underlies declining organ function and is the primary risk factor for several diseases¹. Thus, a deeper understanding of aging is likely to provide insights into mechanisms of disease and to facilitate the development of new antiaging therapeutics. A growing number of investigators have applied genomic, transcriptomic and proteomic assays (collectively referred to as 'omics') to studies of aging¹¹. Human genetic studies have uncovered relatively few modifiers of aging, yet other omics modalities, which measure more dynamic gene modifications or products, have provided valuable insights. For example, the transcriptome varies greatly during aging across tissues and organisms¹², pointing to evolutionarily conserved, fundamental roles of developmental and inflammatory pathways¹³. The protein composition of cells, bodily fluids and tissues changes similarly with age and provides insights into complex biological processes, as proteins are often direct regulators of cellular pathways. In particular, blood, which contains proteins from nearly every cell and tissue, has been analyzed to discover biomarkers and gain insights into disease biology. Accordingly, organismal aging results in proteomic changes in blood that reflect aspects of aging of different cell types and tissues.

Perhaps the aging comes from systems of you tissues, including brain, can be of blood) from infusion into y of brain aging the plasma proteome such protein s of organismal have not been insights into t deep proteomi narians. Using expression ac pathways and c

Results
Linear model and identifies
isolated from 1 4,263 healthy i and LonGenit Currently, one plasma proteo aptamers^{12,18}, w ity. To generate the SomaScan thousands of p precision with INTERVAL an gated with an yapps.io/aging Because fer we assessed w

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ABSTRACT

We previously identified 529 proteins that had been reported by multiple different studies to change their expression level with age in human plasma. In the present study, we measured the q-value and age coefficient of these proteins in a plasma proteomic dataset derived from 4263 individuals. A bioinformatics enrichment analysis of proteins that significantly trend toward increased expression with age strongly implicated diverse inflammatory processes. A literature search revealed that at least 64 of these 529 proteins are capable of regulating life span in an animal model. Nine of these proteins (AKT2, GDF11, GDF15, GHR, NAMPT, PAPP, PLAU, PTEN, and SHC1) significantly extend life span when manipulated in mice or fish. By performing machine-learning modeling in a plasma proteomic dataset derived from 3301 individuals, we discover an ultra-predictive aging clock comprised of 491 protein entries. The Pearson correlation for this clock was 0.98 in the learning set and 0.96 in the test set while the median absolute error was 1.84 years in the learning set and 2.44 years in the test set. Using this clock, we demonstrate that aerobic-exercised trained individuals have a younger predicted age than physically sedentary subjects. By testing clocks associated with 1565 different Reactome pathways, we also show that proteins associated with signal transduction or the immune system are especially capable of predicting human age. We additionally generate a multitude of age predictors that reflect different aspects of aging. For example, a clock comprised of proteins that regulate life span in animal models accurately predicts age.

KEYWORDS

age-related disease, aging, aging clock, health span, life span, longevity

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