# 123I-MIBG Scintigraphy Utility as a biomarker for Prodromal DEmentia with Lewy Bodies (SUPErB)

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#### **Principal Investigators**

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# Contact information of lead PI Country

**United Kingdom** 

## Title of project or programme

123I-MIBG Scintigraphy Utility as a biomarker for Prodromal DEmentia with Lewy Bodies (SUPErB)

#### Source of funding information

Alzheimer's Research UK

#### Total sum awarded (Euro)

€ 667,424

#### Start date of award

02/11/2015

#### Total duration of award in years

5.0

#### The project/programme is most relevant to:

Alzheimer's disease & other dementias

# Keywords

#### **Research Abstract**

Early and accurate identification of dementia is a major priority and will require diagnosis during the mild cognitive impairment (MCI) stage preceding dementia, also known as the prodromal

phase. Biological markers of disease (biomarkers) will be needed to make these early diagnoses accurately but, unlike Alzheimer's disease, we know little about the prodromal stage of dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB). DLB, like Alzheimer's disease, has excellent biomarkers but they have not been investigated in the prodromal stage. Our pilot study has however demonstrated the feasibility of identifying people with pDLB. We have found that people with prodromal DLB have abnormal dopaminergic imaging consistent with underlying Lewy body pathology. However, pathological studies have shown that an early change in DLB is outside the brain, involving loss of nerve projections to the heart at very early stages. Myocardial tracer (123I-MIBG) imaging assesses these nerve projections and so there is good reason to believe that it may be a better early biomarker of pDLB than dopaminergic brain imaging. This proposal is for a five year study examining the utility of MIBG imaging as a biomarker predictor of cognitive decline and conversion to dementia in people with MCI due to prodromal DLB.

Lay Summary Further information available at:

**Types:** Investments > €500k

Member States: United Kingdom

**Diseases:** Alzheimer's disease & other dementias

**Years:** 2016

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