



Aging, Mobility and the Health Care Team

June 2018
Maine Geriatrics Society
Stephanie Studenski MD MPH

Agenda

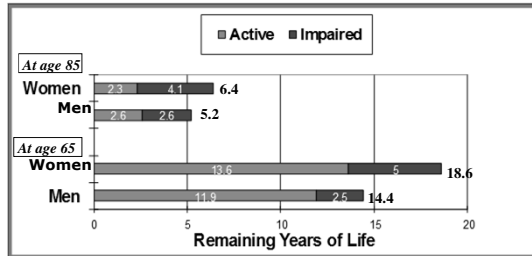
- Why is mobility important for clinicians?
- Aging and speed of movement
- Gait Speed: Clinical applications
- Assessment and management
- New developments

Mobility

- Mobility is fundamental to virtually all animal species and is intimately linked to health, function and survival
- Despite extensive evidence, mobility status is not yet routinely incorporated into clinical care

Active Life Expectancy

The ability to get around is key to functional independence
a goal of aging research and care is "More good time"

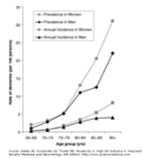


Population Impact

The ability to think and to move are essential for independent living.
Loss of either or both lead to disability and dependence.
Disorders of cognition and movement are common and often coexist
in older people

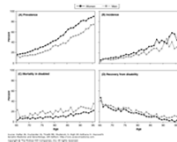
Cognitive Impairment

- Prevalence age 75: 5% M and F
- Prevalence age 85: 12% M 20% F
- Major contributor to disability, need for caregiver, long term care



Mobility Impairment

- Prevalence age 75 20% M 30% F
- Prevalence age 85 40% M 60% F
- Major contributor to disability, need for caregiver, long term care



Guralnik and Ferrucci Epidemiology of Aging in Hazzard text 6th Ed



An Unrecognized Clinical Reality

An 86 year old man is brought to clinic by his son for a several year history of decline. He has withdrawn from life and spends all his time sitting in a chair dozing. He has had several recent falls.

PMH diabetes on oral agent, HBP
Meds HCTZ, glipizide

Exam shows deficits in cognition specifically construction, sequencing, recall and language. He has a slow shuffling gait and increased tone. His affect is flat and he states that life is not worth living.

He is diagnosed with dementia and depression and given a cane.

Brain-related gait abnormalities in older people are often ignored or attributed to "normal aging".

"senile gait"

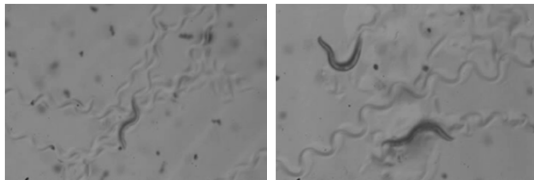
If you saw this person clinically, what would you think about her gait?



Aging doesn't have to mean slow walking

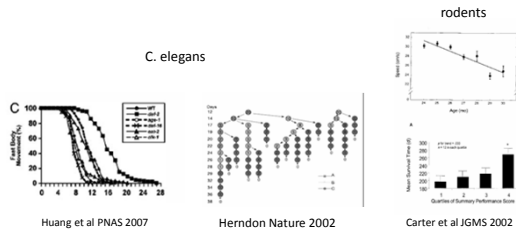


Movement slows with age



Speed of Movement and Survival

Speed of movement declines with age in all species
 Among similar aged animals, slower die sooner
 Even among genetically identical, same age organisms
 in a supportive environment, slower die sooner



Why does mobility slow with aging?

- Movement requires integration of multiple systems: energy sources, timing/coordination, force production
- Optimal movement speed requires all systems to be operating together efficiently
- Aging increases likelihood of damage and degeneration of systems
- **Movement is a sensitive final common pathway that reflects damage and loss of integration across systems**
- Slow movement is sensitive to system deficits but not specific to causes

Walking is Fundamental



How to Measure Gait Speed?

Distance

Standing start vs constant velocity

Instructions

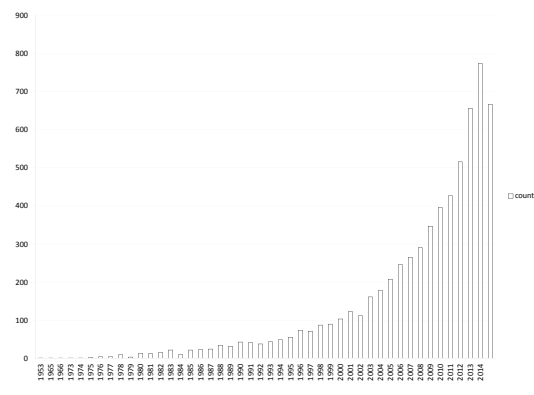
Timing



Figure 1 – Gait speed measurement setup.

For clinical use, consider 4 meter standing start, usual pace, recorded to the closest 0.1 sec

Articles about Gait Speed by Year



What do the numbers mean? Gait velocity reflects function and fitness

		Walking speed		METS	function
		m/sec (standing start)	mph		
>1.0 m/sec	2	.67	1.5	< 2	self care
>1.0 m/sec	3	.89	2.0	2.5	household activities
		1.11	2.5	3.0	Carry groceries, light yard work
		1.33	3.0	3.5	Climb several flights of stairs

LR=0.096

People who walk > 1.0 m /sec are rarely dependent in self care: likely to be **healthy**

	Independent in all functions	Not independent in all functions
>1.0 m/sec	0	85
<1.0 m/sec	127	902

LR<0.1

People who walk <0.6 m/sec are virtually never independent in all functions: they have **disability**

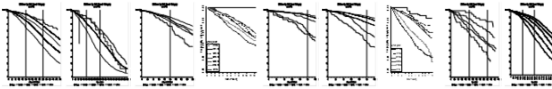
Baseline data on 492 elders Studenski et al JAGS 2003

What do the numbers mean?

Gait Speed and Survival:

Consortium analysis of over 34,000 older adults
followed for up to 21 years

	CHS	EPESI	Health ABC	HEPESE	In Chianti	MIOS	NHANES	PEP	SOF
n	5801	2128	3048	1905	972	5833	3958	491	10350
Yrs	16	21	10	12	8	8	12	12	21



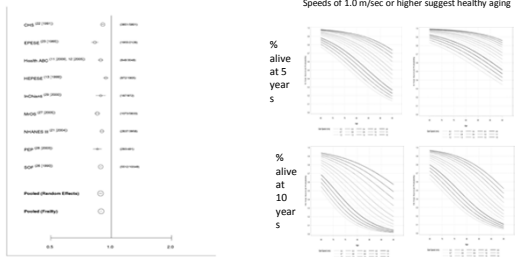
JAMA Jan 5, 2011

Gait Speed and Survival: Forest Plot and Pooled Survival Nomograms

Median survival for age and gender at about 0.8 m/sec

Consortium analysis
of over 34,000 older
adults followed for up
to 21 years

men women



JAMA Jan 5, 2011

ROC Curve analysis

accuracy comparable to more complex models
that include common diseases and function

Outcome and Predictors	C statistic
Five year survival	
Age, Gender	0.690
Age, Gender, Diseases	0.698
Age, Gender, Diseases, smoking, BMI, Systolic BP, Prior Hospitalization	0.719*
Age, Gender, Functional Status, mobility aids (4 studies)	(0.751)
Age, Gender, Gait Speed	0.717* (0.741)†
Ten Year Survival	
Age, Gender	0.712
Age, Gender, Diseases	0.724
Age, Gender, Diseases, smoking, BMI, Systolic BP, Prior Hospitalization	0.739*
Age, Gender, Functional Status, Mobility aids (3 studies)	(0.733)
Age, Gender, Gait Speed	0.737* (0.734)†

JAMA Jan 5, 2011

Diseases: heart, diabetes, cancer, arthritis

What is the potential role of slowed mobility in clinical care and research?

- Predictor of health, function, survival and utilization
- Marker of disease severity
- Summary indicator of co-morbid burden of illness
- Detect change
- Presenting problem for diagnosis and management
- Framework for inquiry into novel problems of aging



JAGS 2003

Physical Performance Measures in the Clinical Setting

Stephanie Studenski, MD, MPH,^{1,2} Subashan Perera, PhD,^{3,4} Dennis Wallace, PhD,^{1,2}
Julie M. Chandler, PhD, PT,³ Pamela W. Duncan, PhD, PT,^{3,4} Earl Rooney, MD, MHA,^{1,11}
Michael Fox, ScD,^{5,6} and Jack M. Guralnik, MD, PhD^{7,8}

Outpatient clinics in Kansas City Missouri
n=487
gait speed predicts probability of one year
hospitalization
decline in function
decline in self-reported health

Gait Speed in Hospitalized Older People

Inability to walk or slow walking on hospital admission predicts increased LOS and decreased probability of discharge to home. These effects are independent of functional status.

Table 2. Length of Stay and Home Discharge by Gait Speed Category

Gait Speed	No. of Patients	Length of Stay, Mean (SD), d	Home Discharge, %
Unable to complete gait speed test	110	4.9 (4.7)	65.4
Gait speed, m/s			
<0.40	69	4.1 (3.9)	82.6
0.40-0.59	65	3.8 (3.2)	92.3
≥0.60	72	3.1 (2.8)	98.6
Overall	322	4.1 (3.9)	82.5

Ostir et al Arch Int Med 2012

Table 4. Multivariable Logistic Regression Models Predicting Home Discharge by Gait Speed and ADL Disability

Predictor	Gait Speed Model	ADL Disability Model	Combined Gait Speed and ADL Disability Model
Adjusted for Age and Sex			
Gait speed ^a			
Unable to complete gait speed test	0.02 (0.04-0.22)	---	0.08 (0.01-0.95)
<0.40 m/s	0.08 (0.04-0.20)	---	0.10 (0.01-0.76)
0.40-0.59 m/s	0.19 (0.07-0.50)	---	0.20 (0.01-0.76)
ADL disability ^b			
1-2	---	0.61 (0.14-1.86)	1.02 (0.24-5.26)
3-4	---	0.26 (0.11-0.60)	0.02 (0.01-0.39)
≥5	---	0.10 (0.04-0.21)	0.02 (0.01-0.34)
Additional Adjusted ^c			
Gait speed ^a			
Unable to complete gait speed test	0.02 (0.02-0.21)	---	0.09 (0.01-0.46)
<0.40 m/s	0.07 (0.03-0.20)	---	0.10 (0.01-0.86)
0.40-0.59 m/s	0.24 (0.09-0.59)	---	0.20 (0.01-0.76)
ADL disability ^b			
1-2	---	0.64 (0.14-1.81)	0.88 (0.21-5.26)
3-4	---	0.25 (0.09-0.60)	0.02 (0.01-0.39)
≥5	---	0.10 (0.04-0.24)	0.02 (0.01-0.42)

Abbreviations: ADL, activities of daily living; adjust, not applicable.

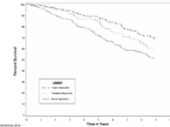
^aCompared with those having gait speed of at least 0.60 m/s.^bCompared with those having no ADL disability.^cAge, sex, comorbidity, medical status, education, Charlson Comorbidity Index, and body mass index.

The meaning of change

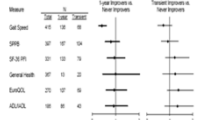
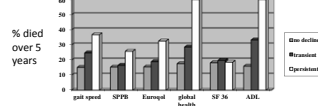
Magnitude of change	Effect Size	SEM	Anchor-Based Estimate	Recommended Criterion
Gait Speed (m/sec)				
small	0.04-0.06	0.04-0.06	0.02-0.04	0.05
substantial	0.10-0.17	-----	0.05-0.09	0.10
6MWD (m)				
small	16-21	-----	-----	20
substantial	39-64	21-35	39-64	40
SPPB score (points)				
small	0.54	-----	0.27-0.55	1/2
substantial	1.34-1.61	1.42	0.60-1.88	1

Hardy, Perera, Studenski 2008,2009

Meaningful improvement



Meaningful decline



Mobility measures in routine primary care

- 14 Primary care offices: space available, staff can perform during routine care
- Gait speed measure takes < 2 minutes during intake as part of "vital signs".
- Reliability comparable to slightly worse than BP coefficient of variation

interobserver test-retest
4.5% gait 3.0% DBP 15% gait, 10% DBP

AHRQ R03 Woolley

507 70+ in 14 primary care offices in Kansas

Woolley, D. C. 1; Studenski, S. 2; Perera, S. 2; Rogers, R. 1 **FEASIBILITY AND REPRODUCIBILITY OF WALKING SPEED AS A GERIATRIC VITAL SIGN IN COMMUNITY PRACTICE**. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*. 52 Supplement 1:S195, April 2004.

Diagnosis of dismobility for gait speed < 0.6

VIEWPOINT A Diagnosis of Dismobility—Giving Mobility Clinical Visibility
A Mobility Working Group Recommendation

Cummings Studenski Ferrucci JAMA 2014

Increase clinical awareness
Begin to allow for coding in inpatient and outpatient records
Allow for evaluation of utility in care planning
Evaluate intervention effects

Differential Diagnosis of Abnormal Walking Speed

Three main systems:

- Cardiopulmonary
- Neurologic
- Musculoskeletal



Studenski "Mobility" in Hazzard Textbook of Geriatrics and Gerontology 7th ed 2017
Ferrucci Subsystems of the ability to walk J Am Ger Soc 2000

Differential Diagnosis of Abnormal Walking Speed:

Symptoms

System	Symptoms limiting walking
cardiopulmonary	Dyspnea, fatigue
neurological	Unsteady, hesitant
musculoskeletal	Pain, stiffness

Many older adults have multiple contributing factors

Differential Diagnosis of Abnormal Walking Speed:

key clinical findings

System	Clinical Findings
Cardiopulmonary: lung, heart, blood	FEV ₁ , O ₂ sat with activity, Hg, EF, ?rate-pressure product?
Neurologic: frontal, primary motor, extrapyramidal, peripheral	tone, timed tapping, executive cognitive function, peripheral sensation
Musculoskeletal: Weight bearing structures, muscle	Knee, hip, low back range of motion, pain Manual muscle tests, chair rise

Many older adults have multiple contributing factors

Nursing

- Current and recent change in mobility function: bed mobility, transfers, walking, wheelchair mobility, stairs, community mobility
- Symptoms
- Assessment of bed mobility, transfers, walking, stairs
- Depends on setting: nursing home, home, hospital

Physical Therapy

- Current and recent history
- Strength, ROM, balance, endurance, coordination, cognition
- Specific gait abnormalities
- Use of aids

Pharmacist

- Current and recent change
- Review medication list for agents that affect attention (especially CNS active drugs), endurance, orthostasis, muscle problems (steroids, lipid lowering agents)

Interventions for slow gait speed

- Medical care: CHF, COPD, anemia, arthritis, pain, extrapyramidal conditions...
- Medication adjustments for side effects (dizzy, slow, stiff...)
- Vision services
- Exercise: rehab referral if very slow, community programs if mild
- Many novel interventions in development

Therapeutic exercise to improve gait efficiency

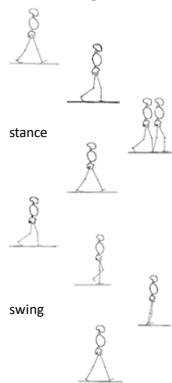
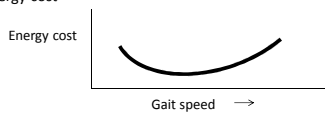
Jessie VanSwearingen, PhD, PT
Subashan Perera, PhD
Jennifer Brach, PhD PT
Rakie Cham PhD
Caterina Rosano, MD, MPH
Stephanie Studenski, MD MPH

Departments of Physical Therapy, Division of Geriatric Medicine, Bioengineering, and Epidemiology, University of Pittsburgh;
Pittsburgh Pepper Center NIA P30 AG024827;
J G MS 2009

JGMS 2009

Gait Efficiency and the Energy Cost of Walking (Wert, VanSwearingen)

- Efficiency depends on optimal use of momentum and stored energy from the passive elements (pendulum effects) of movement cycles: pendulum base is foot during stance and hip during swing
- Changes in pace and stride length decrease energy efficiency
- There is a U shaped curve relating gait speed to energy use with an optimal nadir for gait efficiency. Slowing beyond optimal pace increases energy cost



Age, Gait Disorders and Gait Efficiency

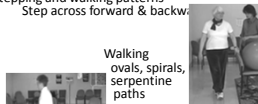
- Age and gait disorders decrease gait efficiency
- With Age, energy cost is higher at any gait speed
- Nadir for optimal efficiency moves to the left
- Can examine effect of biomechanical and physiological abnormalities on energy cost and efficiency
- Variability and loss of smoothness of movement are contributors to loss of efficiency



Therapeutic exercise to improve gait efficiency

TC: timing & coordination in walking

Stepping and walking patterns
Step across forward & backward



Adapting to conditions:
Speed, direction & amplitude



VanSwearingen et al J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci 2009; 64A: 1190-1198

WEBS: walking endurance, balance & strength

Lower limb strengthening
Lower limb flexibility

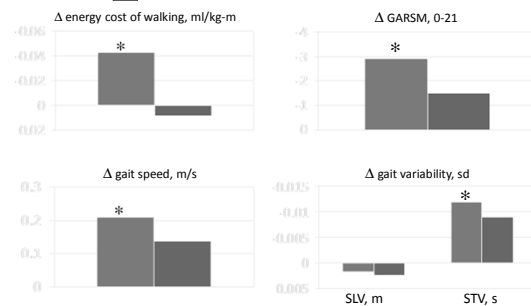


Endurance exercise



TC improves efficiency, variability, gait speed and clinical gait alterations

TC n=23 WEBS, n=24; *TC better than WEBS, $p < .05$



VanSwearingen et al J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci 2009; 64A: 1190-1198

Nervous System Aging and Movement

"My legs don't move when my brain tells them to. It's very frustrating"
GHW Bush



Thinking and Moving must be studied together

- Extensive epidemiological evidence supports interrelationships between cognition and movement
- Brain networks for movement overlap with networks for cognition
- Thinking and Moving share behavioral and etiological factors that can drive new insights into prevention and treatment

PSYCHOMOTOR SLOWING



Acta Psychologica 88 (1994) 199–225



Processing speed as a mental capacity

Robert Kail ^{a,*}, Timothy A. Salthouse ^b

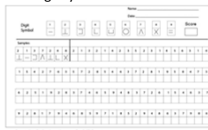
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Abstract

Throughout the lifespan, there are pronounced age differences in speed of processing, differences that are consistently related to performance on measures of higher-order cognition. In this article, we examine domain-specific and global explanations of these age differences in processing speed; we conclude that although experience can play a role in age differences in speed, there is also evidence that a general mechanism limits speeded performance. We also review research that shows the influence of processing speed on the quality of performance on non-speeded tasks such as reasoning and memory. We suggest that speed of processing should be viewed as a fundamental part of the architecture of the cognitive system as it develops across the entire lifespan.

- Controversial concept
- Is processing speed an indicator of fundamental brain function?
- What is actually being measured: perception, retrieval, movement initiation....?

Digit symbol substitution test



Psychomotor slowing and incident overt and subclinical problems with cognition, movement and mood

Table XXXX Longitudinal associations between year 5 DSSST and year 6-11 cumulative incident thinking, moving and feeling outcomes: odds ratio or regression coefficient and significance

Name of Analysis, Outcome Type and Year 5 DSSST	Thinking Outcome IMSE			Moving Outcome Gait Speed (m/s)			Feeling Outcome CES-D		
	Continuous	Full Symptom (0-85)	Uchida	Continuous	Full Symptom (0-6-1.0)	Uchida	Continuous	Full Symptom (5-10)	Uchida
Unadjusted Year 6-11 DSSST (raw)	NA	0.88***	0.91***	0.96***	NA	0.94***	0.96***	0.94***	0.96***
DSSST ≤29	NA	40.8***	29.0***	6.07***	NA	23.1***	10.1***	25.5***	NA
30-39	NA	5.97***	6.91***	2.33***	NA	2.54***	1.98**	2.36***	NA
40-48	NA	1.97***	1.22***	1.61***	NA	1.50	1.53*	2.36***	NA
≥48	NA	1.0 (ref)	1.0 (ref)	1.0 (ref)	NA	1.0 (ref)	1.0 (ref)	1.0 (ref)	NA
Adjusted for Covariate Set 1, Year 6-11 DSSST (raw)	NA	0.92***	0.94***	0.97***	NA	0.95***	0.97***	0.94***	NA
DSSST ≤29	NA	13.5***	9.48***	4.27***	NA	15.5**	7.91**	19.8***	NA
30-39	NA	3.15***	3.46***	1.87***	NA	2.38**	1.89*	2.87**	NA
40-48	NA	1.40	2.01***	1.45***	NA	1.47	1.52	2.03**	NA
≥48	NA	1.0 (ref)	1.0 (ref)	1.0 (ref)	NA	1.0 (ref)	1.0 (ref)	1.0 (ref)	NA
Adjusted for Covariate Set 1+2, Year 6-11 DSSST (raw)	NA	0.93***	0.95***	0.97***	NA	0.96**	0.97**	0.94***	NA
DSSST ≤29	NA	8.95***	6.69***	3.58***	NA	9.69**	7.55*	18.1**	NA
30-39	NA	2.43***	2.65***	1.69***	NA	2.75	1.83	2.69**	NA
40-48	NA	1.29	1.81***	1.35***	NA	1.32	1.67*	2.17**	NA
≥48	NA	1.0 (ref)	1.0 (ref)	1.0 (ref)	NA	1.0 (ref)	1.0 (ref)	1.0 (ref)	NA

Covariate set 1=IMSE, gait speed (m/s), CES-D, age, gender, race, education, IQ, and education; *p<0.05, **p<0.01, ***p<0.001

Age and Aging 2016



Motor Skill
a link between
gait and cognition

What is Motor Skill? Smooth efficient learned movement created through motor maps

Characteristics of Novice and Skilled Motor Actions	
Novice movement	Skilled movement
Behavioral and Peripheral factors	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> guided, discontinuous movement, irregular velocity profile task-oriented practice necessary for acquisition of motor sequence learning multiple muscles often activated in a cocontraction pattern movement sequence variable submovements, with stops and starts redirecting path to movement target 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> non-guided, continuous movement, smooth velocity profile practice necessary to achieve and maintain motor expertise (automatically) multiple muscles activated sequentially in brief bursts preplanned motor sequence movement acceleration and deceleration programmed together
Central factors	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> brain activity in fronto-parietal [cortico-cortical] pattern of connections sustained, generalized pattern of brain activity cingulate motor area activity high 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> brain activity in cortico-basal ganglia, cortico-cerebellar circuits brief, specific 'efficient' pattern of brain activity reduced cingulate motor area activity

Vanswearingen and Studenski JGMS 2014

Signs of Loss of Motor Skill

OVERT

- **Generalized Slowing**
 - motor function
 - psychomotor function

SUBCLINICAL

- **Inefficient**
 - Increased energy cost
 - Variable
- **Reduced reserve**
 - Dual task cost
- **Reduced plasticity**
 - Slow and incomplete motor learning

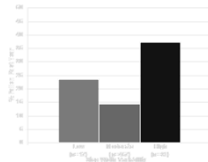
Aspects of Gait Variability and Aging Brach et al

Stance Time Variability Predicts Decline in Mobility

Model	HR (CI)	P
1	1.26 (1.15, 1.37)	<.0001
2	1.15 (1.04, 1.27)	.007
3	1.13 (1.02, 1.25)	.02
4	1.13 (1.01, 1.27)	.03

Model 1: Stance time variability
 Model 2: Model 1 + gait speed Brach et al, 2007
 Model 3: Model 2 + age, gender, and race
 Model 4: Model 3 + chronic conditions, medications, health status, physical activity

Step Width Variability and Fall History



Contributors to Variable Gait (linear regressions adjusted for age, gender, and race)

	Stance Time Variability	Step Length Variability	Step Width Variability
CNS			
JMS			
Finger Tap			
Trails A			
Trails B			
DSST			
Sensory			
Vibration			
Vision			
Strength			
Grip			
Chair stand			
LE pain			
Depression			

BLSA: Does amyloid burden affect age-related slowing independent of cognitive change?

- Slowing precedes cognitive decline and dementia often by a decade or more
- Amyloid buildup in the brain also precedes dementia by a decade or more
- Early amyloid deposition areas are often not related to memory areas (hippocampus) but rather to associative and planning areas.

Q. Tian



S Resnick



Tian et al JGMS 2017

Greater β -amyloid burden is associated with steeper subsequent decline in mobility

Associations of mean cortical DVR ^a with longitudinal change in lower extremity motor function (n=59)								
Covariates	Usual gait speed, m/sec		400-m walk time, sec		HABCPPB score		Total standing balance time, sec	
	Cross-sectional	Longitudinal	Cross-sectional	Longitudinal	Cross-sectional	Longitudinal	Cross-sectional	Longitudinal
Model 1: unadjusted	β	-0.004	-0.699	2.851	3.638	-0.094	-0.028	-4.705
	(SE)	(0.018)	(0.003)	(6.607)	(1.011)	(0.045)	(0.012)	(1.630)
	p-value	0.84	0.006	0.67	0.001	0.04	0.03	0.006
Model 2: age, sex, BMI	β	0.024	-0.699	-5.586	3.566	-0.024	-0.028	-2.434
	(SE)	(0.017)	(0.003)	(5.587)	(0.997)	(0.042)	(0.012)	(1.564)
	p-value	0.15	0.004	0.32	0.001	0.56	0.03	0.13
Model 3: model 2 + cardiovascular risk score	β	0.023	-0.609	-4.640	3.176	-0.031	-0.023	-3.138
	(SE)	(0.017)	(0.004)	(5.724)	(1.054)	(0.043)	(0.013)	(1.544)
	p-value	0.17	0.02	0.42	0.003	0.47	0.05	0.37
Model 4: model 2 + ApoE4 status (n=53)	β	0.031	-0.610	-5.380	4.100	-0.055	-0.030	-2.689
	(SE)	(0.019)	(0.004)	(6.935)	(1.034)	(0.060)	(0.011)	(1.968)
	p-value	0.11	0.005	0.44	0.001	0.37	0.009	0.18
Model 5: model 2 + change in CVLT	β	0.018	-0.611	-4.713	3.212	0.003	-0.034	-1.103
	(SE)	(0.017)	(0.004)	(5.995)	(1.072)	(0.045)	(0.012)	(1.510)
	p-value	0.28	0.003	0.40	0.003	0.95	0.038	0.03
Model 6: model 3 excluding CDR of 0.5 at baseline (n=54)	β	0.035	-0.608	-6.569	3.392	-0.010	-0.012	-2.660
	(SE)	(0.017)	(0.004)	(6.715)	(1.222)	(0.046)	(0.015)	(1.673)
	p-value	0.05	0.04	0.33	0.007	0.83	0.41	0.12

Note: DVR=distribution volume ratio; HABCPPB=Health ABC Physical Performance Battery; CDR=Clinical Dementia Rating; CVLT=California Verbal Learning Test. Mean cortical DVR^a was first centered to the mean and multiplied by 10 for interpretation purposes. Baseline age was centered to the mean age. Bold numbers reflect statistically significant associations.

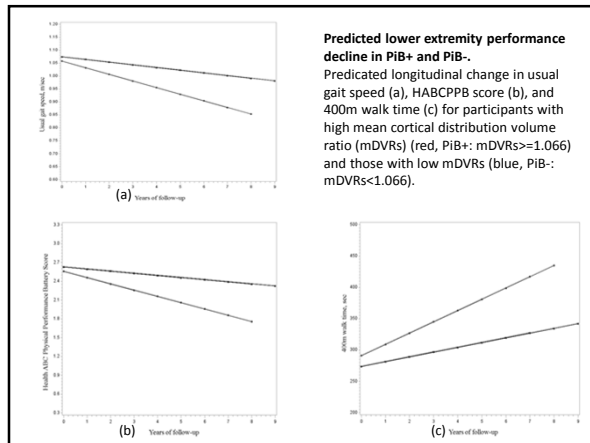
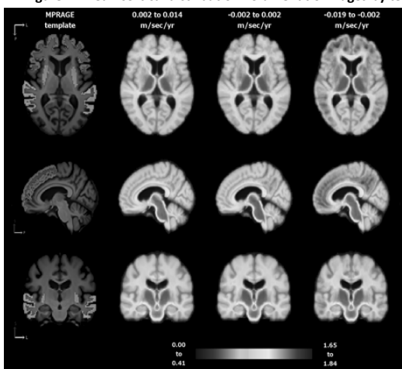


Figure 2. Mean cortical distribution volume ratio images by tertile of gait decline.





Summary

Measures of mobility are useful in clinical settings
The CNS is a major contributor to abnormal gait

- Gait speed is a generic indicator of function, health status, prognosis, utilization.
 - Change in gait speed is clinically meaningful and affects future status.
 - Gait speed may help busy clinicians attend to mobility assessment. It is quick and easy to measure in clinical settings.
 - Slow walking could be a billable diagnosis “**bradypedia**” , “**dismobility**”
 - Cognition and gait are both affected by age-related changes in the nervous system
- **For optimal and efficient care, objective measures of function like gait speed should be incorporated into clinical care and medical record systems**
