BIOREPOSITORY FOR BIOMARKER HARMONIZATION

Bharat Thyagarajan
Professor
Program Director, Advanced Research and Diagnostics Laboratory
Director, Division of Molecular Pathology and Genomics
University of Minnesota

RATIONALE

 There is widespread interest in measuring biomarkers of neuropathology in population studies

- However, there is considerable heterogeneity among studies
 - Biospecimen processing
 - Biomarker measurement

 These differences make it difficult to compare results across studies

PROPOSAL

- Aim 1: Establish a sample set of ~100 individuals where blood is processed under ideal conditions (processed and frozen immediately after collection) that can be used to compare results from multiple assay platforms
 - Quanterix
 - Mesoscale Discovery
 - Immunoprecipitation-Mass spectrometry (Abeta 40/42 only)
 - Roche Diagnostics (ptau181, ApoE)
- Aim 2: Establish a long-term biorepository of samples processed at different timepoints to simulate field conditions in different studies
 - Will be useful for harmonization of biomarkers across a variety of biological processes.

PRINCIPLES FOR ESTABLISHING A BIOREPOSITORY

- Collect samples that reflect a wide range of biomarker values for the commonly measured biomarkers of neuropathology
 - Abeta 40, 42, NfL, GFAP and ptau181
- Collect samples and process them immediately (within 4 hours of collection) AND after a delay of 24, 48 and 72 hours after sample collection
 - Will store both plasma and serum vials
 - Will also include a condition that incorporates sample shipment to a central laboratory
- Will also supplement this sample set with samples from patients with dementia (n~20)
- Anticipate collecting ~150 ml of blood from each volunteer
 - Will have a reasonable racial distribution
 - Will store at least 20-30 aliquots/condition (250 ul/aliquot)

POTENTIAL USES FOR THE BIOREPOSITORY

- Evaluate assay performance to biospecimen collection procedures used in a particular study
 - Plasma vs. serum, effect of delayed processing/shipment etc.
 - Can use subsets of the biorepository.
 - Individual studies will need to pay for sample pulls and shipment

- Evaluate assay performance compared to other assays evaluated using the same sample set
 - Will require that all assay results be shared with the Biomarker Network to facilitate assay comparisons.