

## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

### ***Combining skin and olfactory $\alpha$ -synuclein seed amplification assays (SAA) - towards biomarker-driven phenotyping in synucleinopathies***

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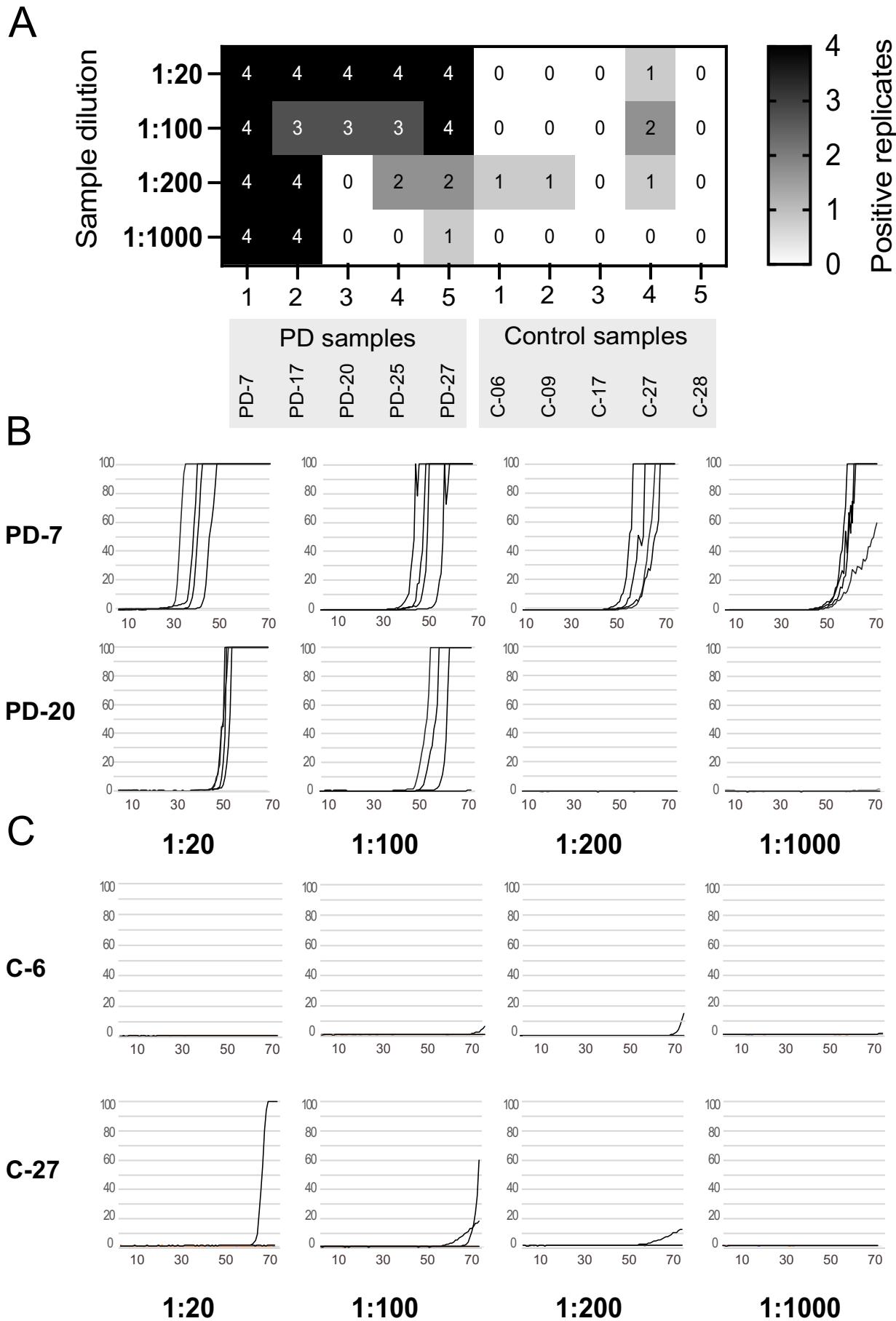
**Supplementary Figure 5** Technical controls

**Supplementary Table 1** Characteristics of patients with a negative skin biopsy compared to the rest of the PD cohort.

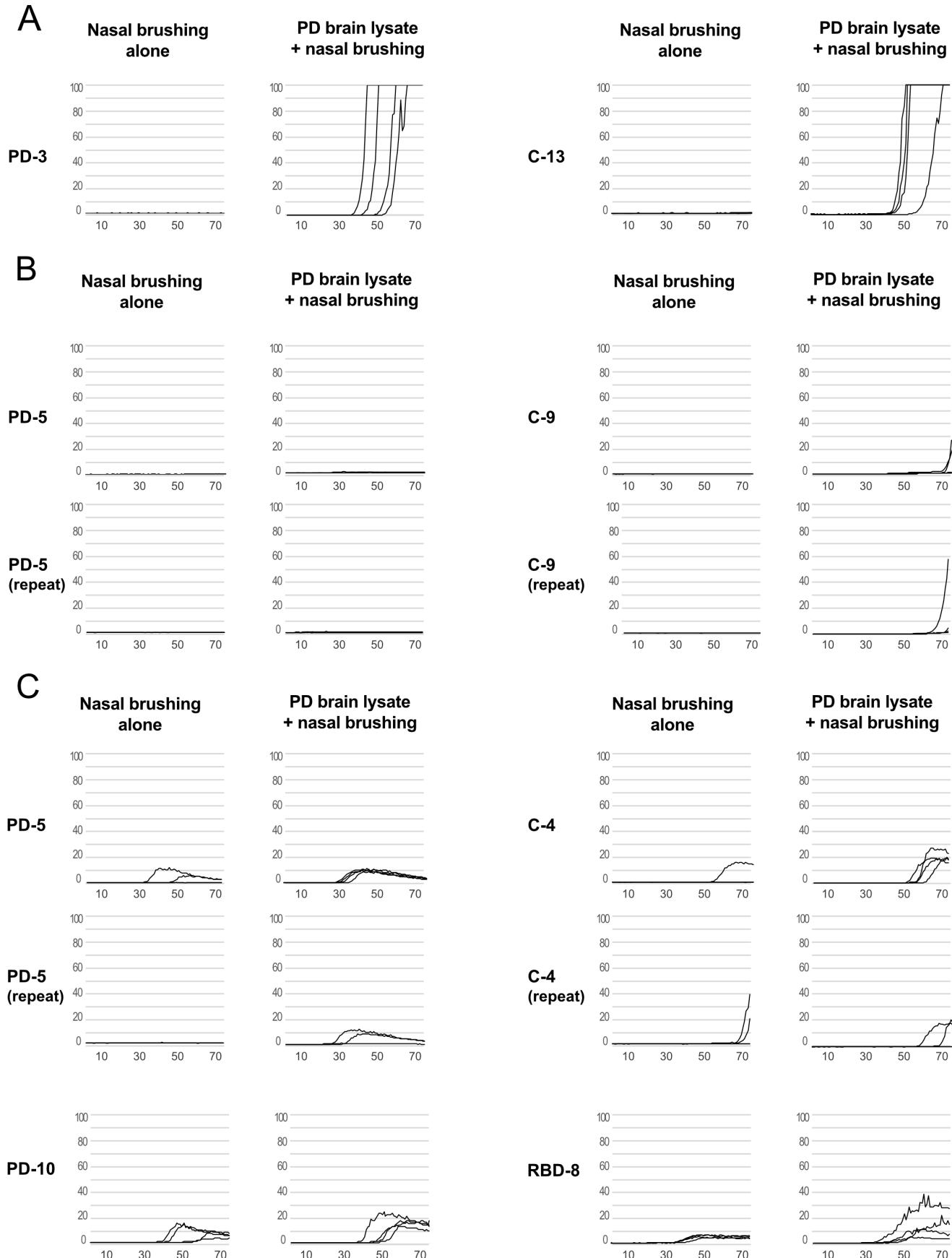
**Supplementary Figure 6** All SAA graphs of the dataset

**Supplementary Dataset:** All raw SAA data – see separate excel file.

**Supplementary Figure 1:** Serial dilutions of PD and control samples. **A)** Distribution of the number of positive replicates (0-4) at different sample dilutions (1:20 – 1:1000) in the control (n=5) and PD (n=5) samples. **B)** SAA curves of PD samples with different seeding capacities. **C)** SAA curves of two of the control samples.

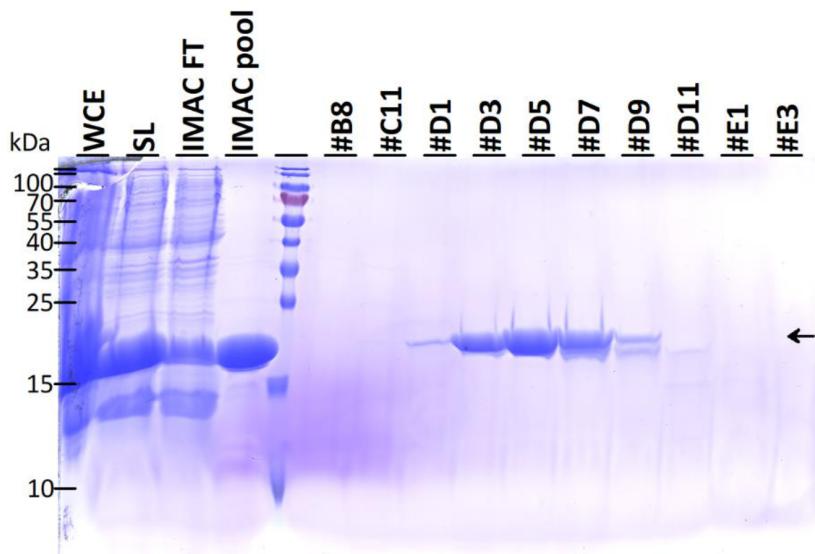


**Supplementary Figure 2:** Additional examples of pronounced interference of nasal brushing matrix with the a-syn aggregation tested by the addition of a known seed (PD brain lysate) **A)** The majority of the tested negative samples (n=38, 76%) showed a prolongation of the lag phase to varying degrees, two examples are shown here. **B)** Some samples, n=12 (24%), could inhibit a-syn aggregation to the extent that the outcome was deemed negative. Two such examples (both replicated twice) are shown. The proportion of samples inhibiting the SAA was similar in different disease groups (6 out of 27 (22%) for controls, 3 of 14 (21%) for PD, and 3 out of 9 (33%) for iRBD). **C)** Examples of the other four samples (5 in total, or 10% of tested negative samples) that changed the ThT curve morphology of the PD brain lysate.

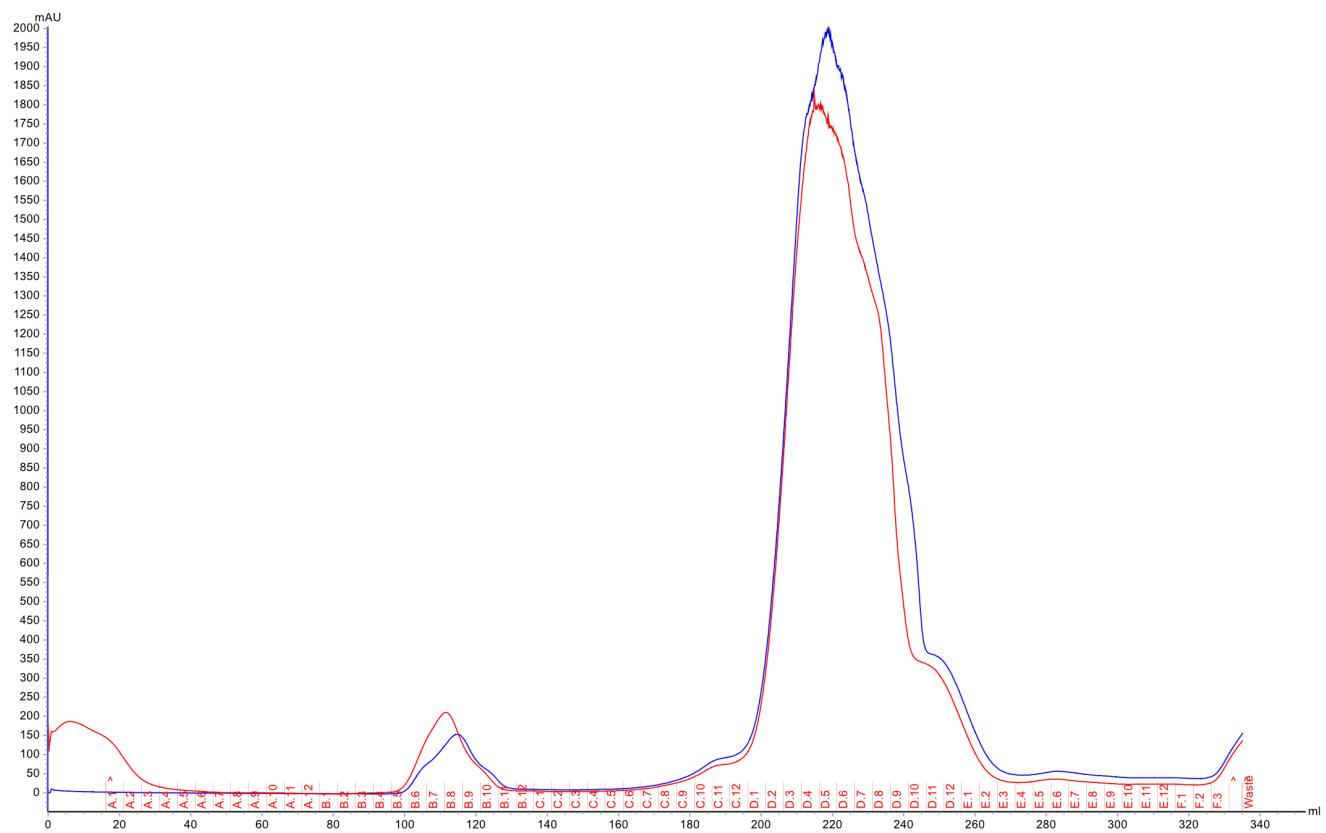


**Supplementary Figure 3** Purification of recombinant  $\alpha$ -synuclein (SAA substrate). E. coli strain BL21 (DE3) was transformed with plasmid pET21-b- $\alpha$ -syn (Y136TAT). **A)** Coomassie stain of an SDS-PAGE of different purification steps. WCE: whole cell lysate. SL: soluble lysate. FT: flow-through. # size exclusion chromatography (SEC) eluates. **B)** Merged SEC chromatograms (IMAC pool was loaded on the column in two consecutive runs). Eluates #D2-D8 were pooled.

**A**

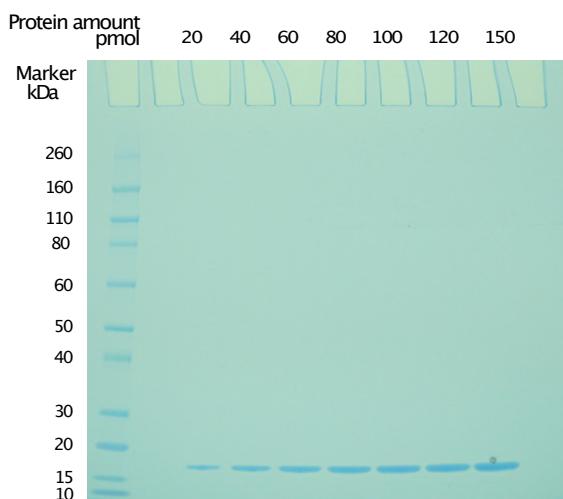


**B**



**Supplementary Figure 4** Mass spectrometry analysis of the substrate **A)** SDS-PAGE with Coomassie staining of the analyte prior to trypsin digestion. **B)** Custom database (AGMS) search using the complete protein sequence including the C-terminal 6xhistidine-tag showed 100% sequence coverage. **C)** SwissProt database search: matches with  $\alpha$ -synuclein and exponentially modified protein abundance indexes (emPAI) are shaded green.

**A**



**B**

### Protein View: agms:531\_alpha-syn\_TAT\_hispro

#### alpha-syn\_TAT\_his.pro

Database: agms  
Score: 7901  
Nominal mass ( $M_r$ ): 15274  
Calculated pI: 5.22

Sequence similarity is available as [an NCBI BLAST search of agms:531\\_alpha-syn\\_TAT\\_hispro against](#)

#### Search parameters

Enzyme: Trypsin: cuts C-term side of KR unless next residue is P.  
Fixed modifications: Carbamidomethyl (C)  
Variable modifications: Acetyl (Protein N-term), Gln->pyro-Glu (N-term Q), Oxidation (M)

#### Protein sequence coverage: 100%

Matched peptides shown in **bold red**.

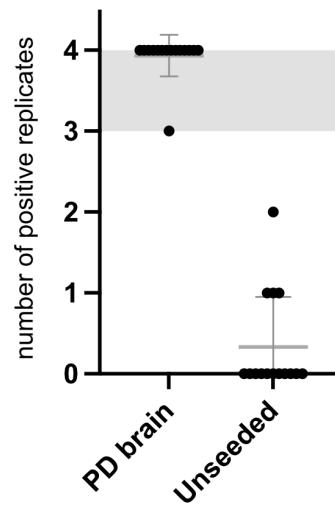
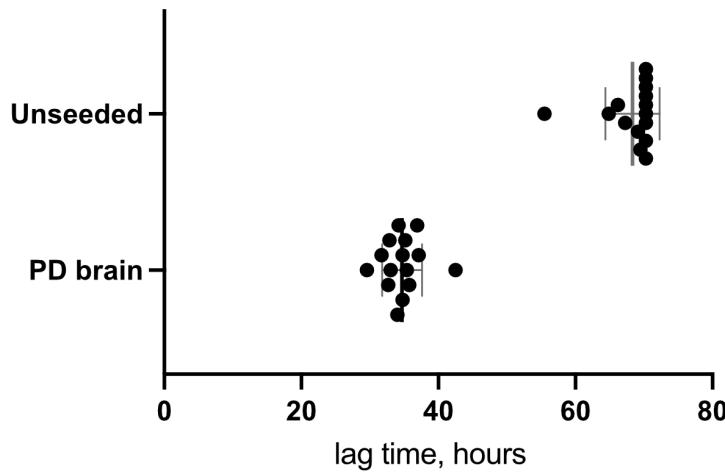
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**C**

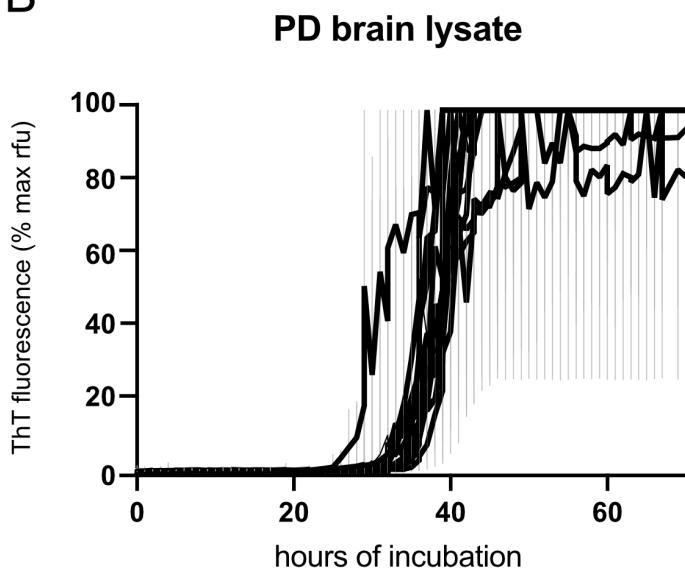
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1	2	sp P61142 SYUA_MACFAC	3865	14464	151	126	27	27	4435.21	Alpha-synuclein OS=Macaca fascicularis OX=9541 GN=SNCAPE=3 SV=1
1	3	sp O55042-2 SYUA_MOUSE	3087	12395	117	105	23	23	6718.85	Isoform 2 of Alpha-synuclein OS=Mus musculus OX=10090 GN=Snca
1	4	sp Q3T0G8 SYUA_BOVIN	1905	14499	90	78	16	16	258.07	Alpha-synuclein OS=Bos taurus OX=9913 GN=SNCAPE=2 SV=1
1	5	sp Q91448 SYUA_SERCAB	1431	14864	88	76	16	16	293.1	Alpha-synuclein OS=Serinus canaria OX=9135 GN=SNCAPE=2 SV=1
2	1	sp COPZP0 R13_SALPC	1884	16009	43	43	18	18	251.61	50S ribosomal protein L13 OS=Salmonella paratyphi C(strain RKS4594) OX=476213 GN=rplM PE=3 SV=1
3	1	sp P0A9A9 FUR_ECOLI	1172	17012	23	23	13	13	31.37	Ferric uptake regulation protein OS=Escherichia coli (strain K12) OX=83333 GN=fur PE=1 SV=1
4	1	sp P0A7W1 RS5_ECOLI	336	17592	8	7	7	6	2.54	30S ribosomal protein S5 OS=Escherichia coli (strain K12) OX=83333 GN=rpsEPE=1 SV=2
5	1	sp P00761 TRY_PIG	327	25078	8	8	5	5	1.44	Trypsin OS=Sus scrofa OX=9823 PE=1 SV=1
6	1	sp C0Q0C4 R12_SALPC	188	13957	9	7	9	7	5.27	30S ribosomal protein S12 OS=Salmonella paratyphi C(strain RKS4594) OX=476213 GN=rpsLPE=3 SV=1
8	1	sp P0AFX4 RSD_ECOLI	128	18288	3	3	3	3	0.83	Regulator of sigmaD OS=Escherichia coli (strain K12) OX=83333 GN=rsd PE=1 SV=1
10	1	sp P0A7M2 RL28_ECOLI	89	9058	3	3	3	3	2.28	50S ribosomal protein L28 OS=Escherichia coli (strain K12) OX=83333 GN=rpmB PE=1 SV=2

**Supplementary Figure 5** Technical controls. Raw data of the positive control (lysate of the midbrain of a Braak stage 3 PD) and negative control (unseeded substrate in SAA buffer, i.e. recombinant protein alone). **A)** Left: Lag times of 15 separate experiments (from all plates on which the samples included in the current study were run) of the positive and negative controls. Mean  $\pm$ SD are shown in gray lines. Right: number of positive replicates (crossing 10% rfu within 70 hours) in the same n=15 runs. **B)** ThT curves of the experiments. Individual means and S.E.M. are plotted. **C)** Mean values of all tests  $\pm$ S.E.M. for the positive and negative control are plotted. **D)** Individual plots of all negative controls used in the study (n=15) **E)** Individual plots of the corresponding positive controls (n=15).

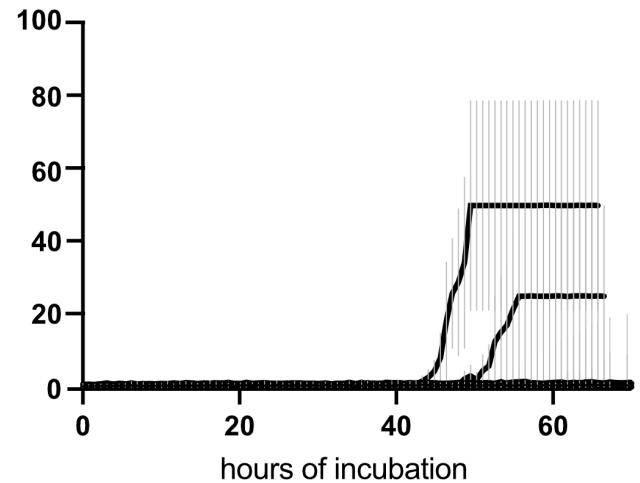
**A**



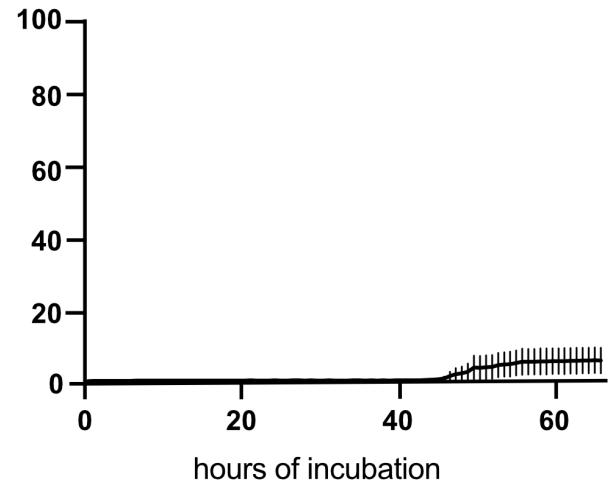
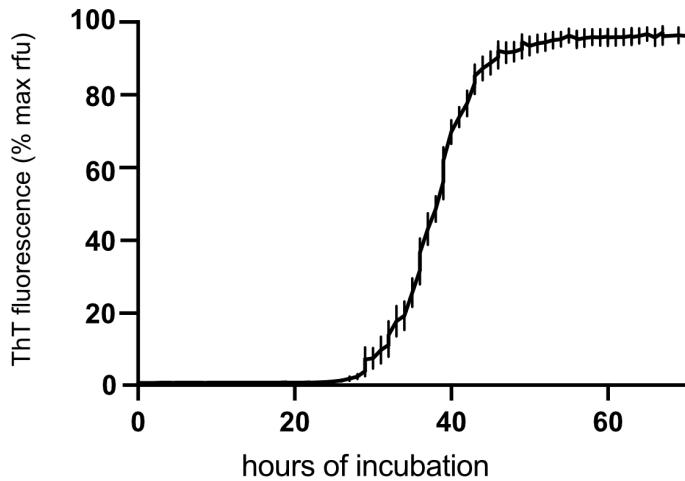
**B**

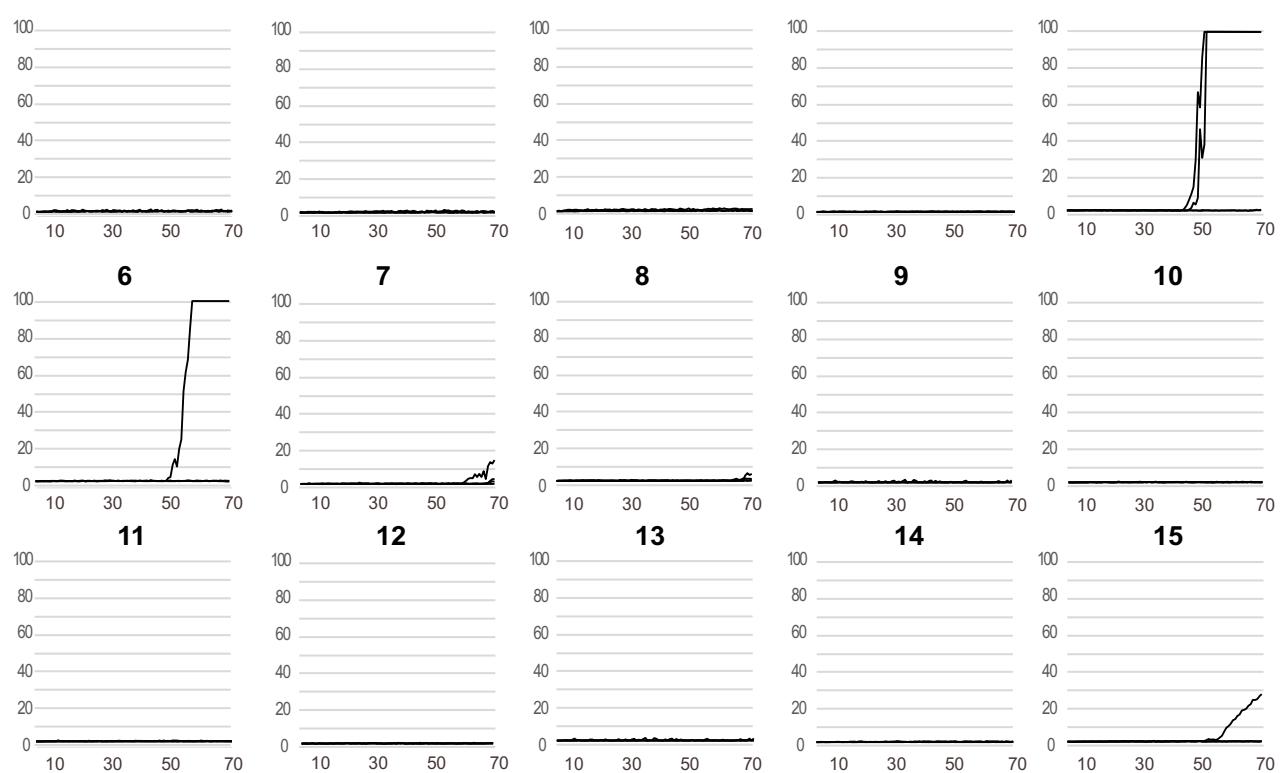
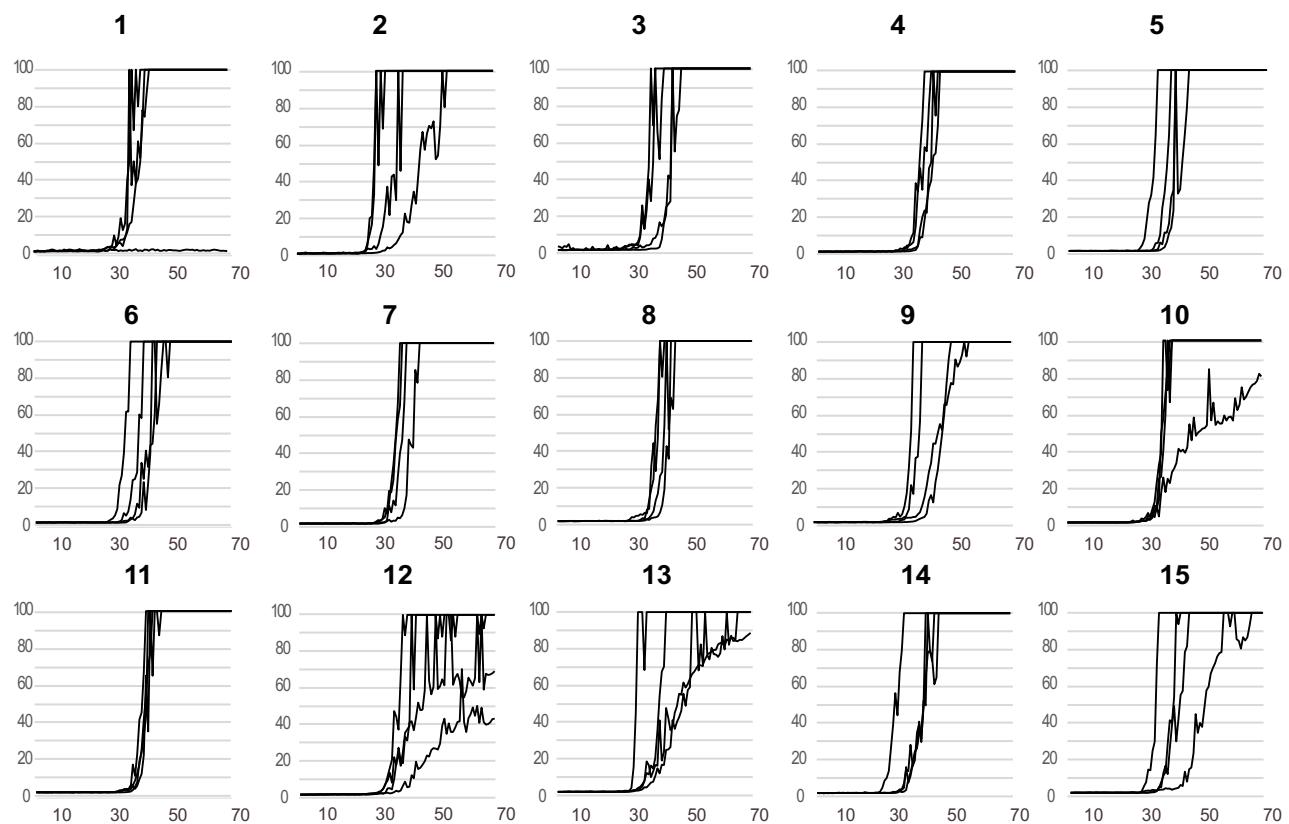


**Unseeded SAA  
(recombinant protein alone)**



**C**



**D****E**

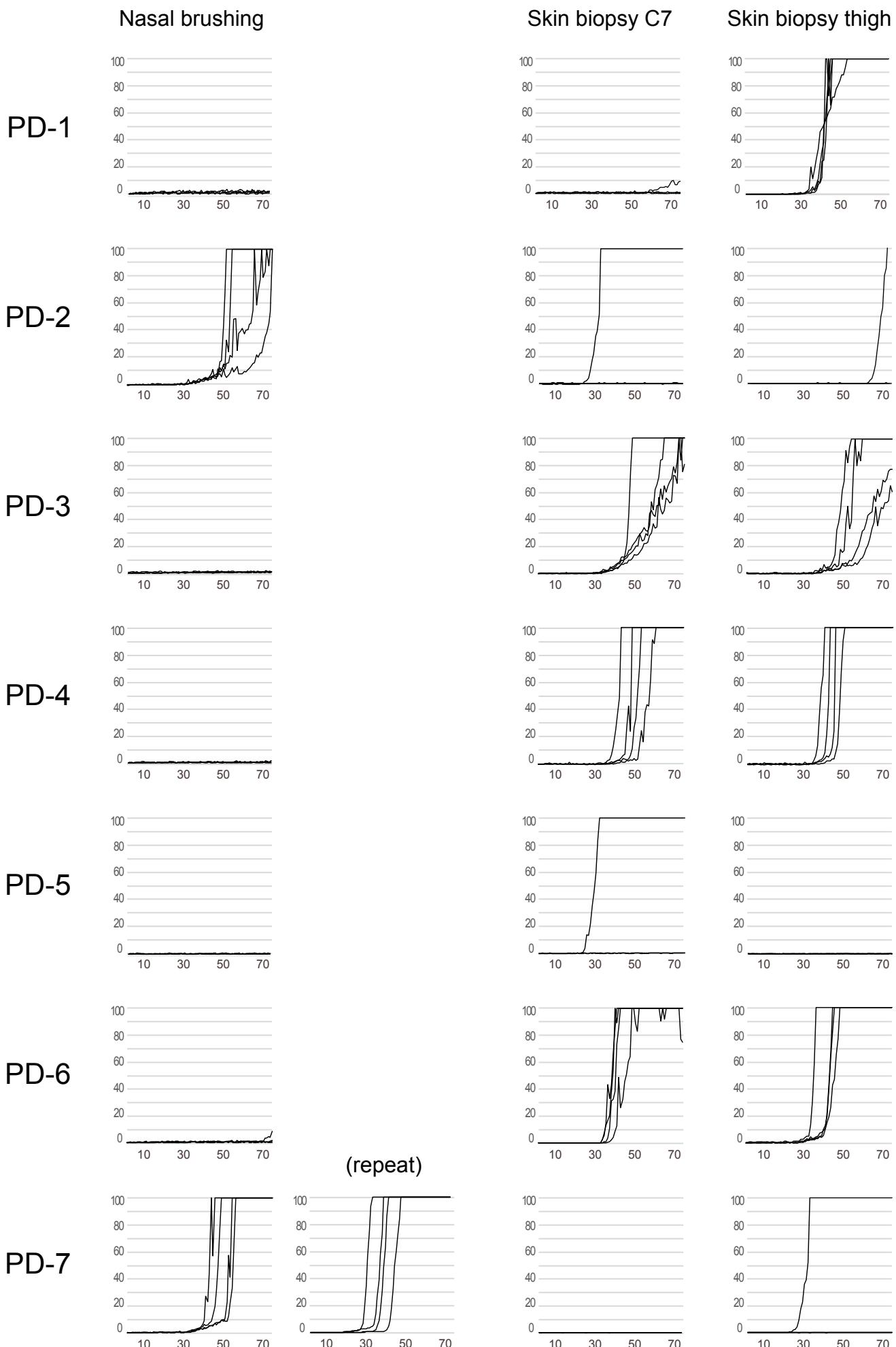
**Supplementary Table 1:** Characteristics of patients with a negative skin biopsy compared to the rest of the PD cohort.

	<b>PD patients with a negative skin SAA (presumed brain-first), N=4*</b>	<b>The rest of the PD cohort (who received both tests), N=15</b>	<b>p-value</b>
female:male ratio	1:3	5:10	1
MoCA, average (SD)	27.8 (1.71)	27.5 (2.00)	0.836
MCI, n (%)	0 (0.00%)	2 (13.3%)	1
Motor subtype:			0.361
akinetico-rigid, n (%)	1 (25.0%)	10 (66.7%)	
mixed, n (%)	2 (50.0%)	4 (26.7%)	
tremor-dominant, n (%)	1 (25.0%)	1 (6.67%)	
Sniffin' sticks, sum (SD)	21.6 (8.92)	18.6 (5.58)	0.574
H&Y stage, average (SD)	2.00 (0.00)	2.47 (0.52)	0.004
Disease duration, average (SD), <i>excluding a single patient with 1-year duration</i>	7.00 (4.97), 9 (3.6)	13.9 (4.39)	0.061
Age at diagnosis, average (SD)	56.8 (14.1)	49.7 (10.3)	0.406
Familial PD history, n (%)	0 (0.00%)	5 (33.3%)	0.53
DBS surgery, n (%)	3 (75.0%)	10 (66.7%)	1
positive RBD screening, n (%)	0 (0.00%)	9 (60.0%)	0.087
NMSQ sum, average (SD)	6.00 (1.41)	9.93 (4.53)	0.011
<b>Responses in NMSQ with most striking differences</b>			
NMSQ questionnaire (Number of patients who reported the symptom)	5. Constipation (less than 3 bowel movements a week) or having to strain to pass a stool (faeces)	0 (0.00%)	6 (40.0%)
	11. Unexplained change in weight (not due to change in diet)	0 (0.00%)	5 (33.3%)
	12. Problems remembering things that have happened recently or forgetting to do things	0 (0.00%)	7 (46.7%)
	14. Seeing or hearing things that you know or are told are not there	0 (0.00%)	5 (33.3%)
	20. Feeling lightheaded, dizzy or weak standing from sitting or lying	0 (0.00%)	4 (26.7%)
	21. Falling	0 (0.00%)	3 (20.0%)
	22. Finding it difficult to stay awake during activities such as working, driving or eating	0 (0.00%)	5 (33.3%)
	24. Intense, vivid dreams or frightening dreams	0 (0.00%)	8 (53.3%)

	25. Talking or moving about in your sleep as if you are 'acting' out a dream	0 (0.00%)	8 (53.3%)	
	29. Double vision	0 (0.00%)	4 (26.7%)	
	UPDRS part 1, sum (SD)	3.75 (2.63)	6.67 (5.02)	0.146
	UPDRS part 2, sum (SD)	8.50 (6.76)	14.5 (4.76)	0.172
	UPDRS part 4, sum (SD)	2.25 (4.50)	5.60 (5.05)	0.252
<b>Responses in MDS-UPDRS with most striking differences</b>				
<b>MDS-UPDRS scale. Average response for the group. Each symptom's intensity/frequency was rated from 0 to 4</b>	1.11 Over the past week have you had constipation troubles that cause you difficulty moving your bowels?	0.00 (0.00)	1.13 (1.06)	0.001
	1.12 Over the past week, have you felt faint, dizzy, or foggy when you stand up after sitting or lying down?	0.00 (0.00)	0.60 (0.99)	0.033
	2.8 Over the past week, have you usually had trouble doing your hobbies or other things that you like to do?	0.25 (0.50)	1.47 (1.30)	0.012
	2.12 Over the past week, have you usually had problems with balance and walking?	0.25 (0.50)	1.60 (1.12)	0.004
	2.13 Over the past week, on your usual day when walking, do you suddenly stop or freeze as if your feet are stuck to the floor?	0.00 (0.00)	0.80 (1.08)	0.013
	4.1 Time spent with dyskinesias	0.00 (0.00)	0.60 (0.83)	0.014
	4.2 Functional impact of dyskinesias	0.00 (0.00)	0.87 (1.51)	0.043

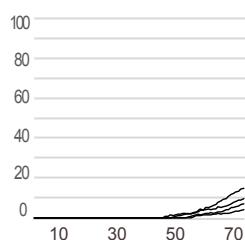
\* Nasal brushing SAA was positive in 3 of these patients; in the remaining patient (PD-5), nasal brushing was negative and also found to inhibit aggregation of the positive control (i.e. false-negative is possible).

# Parkinson's disease

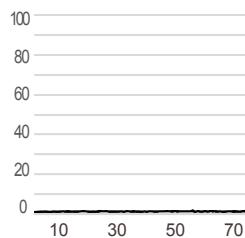


## Nasal brushing

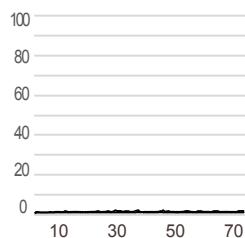
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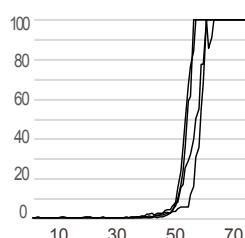
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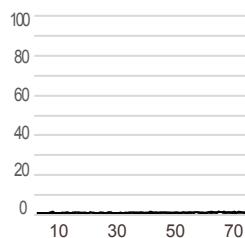
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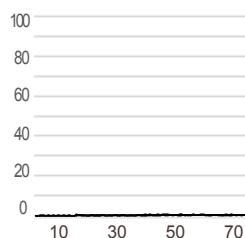
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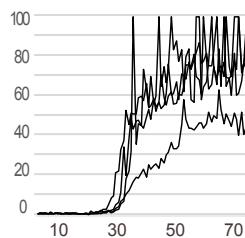
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PD-13

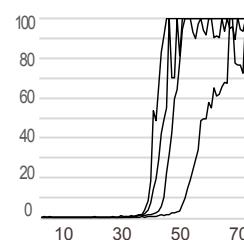


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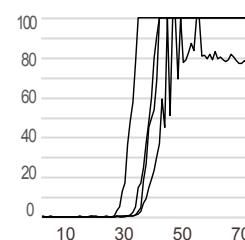


## Skin biopsy

### Neck C7

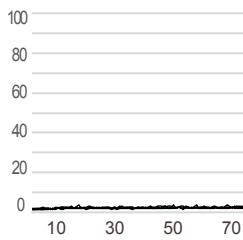


### Thigh

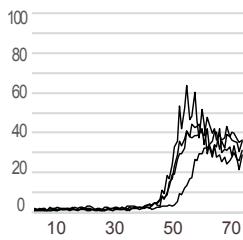


## Nasal brushing

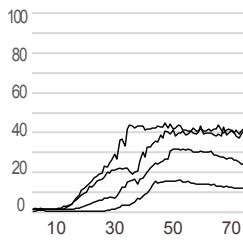
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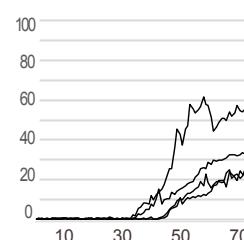
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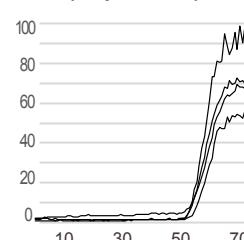
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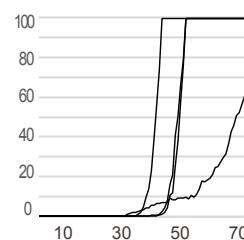
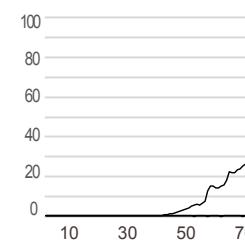
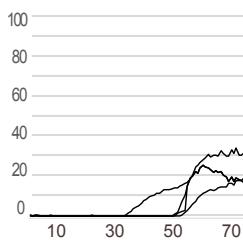
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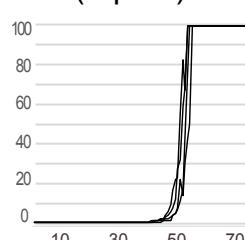
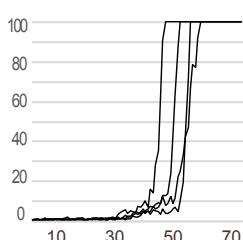
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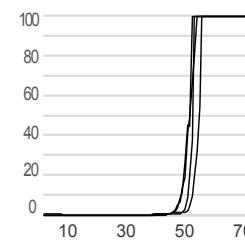
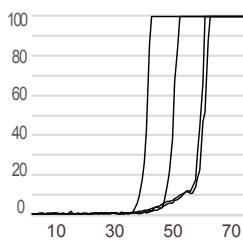


PD-19



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PD-20



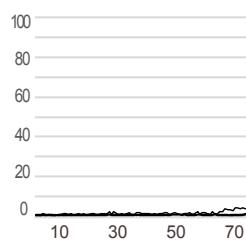
## Skin biopsy

Neck C7

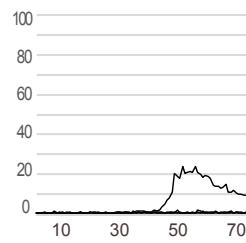
Thigh

## Nasal brushing

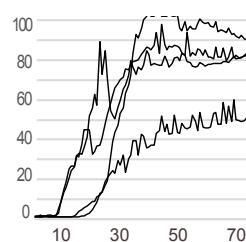
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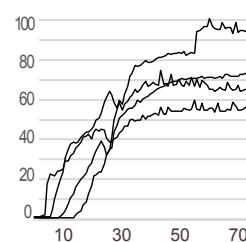
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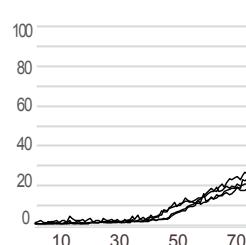
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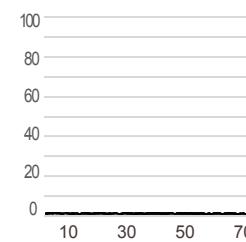
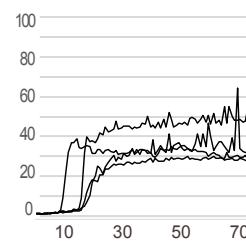
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PD-24

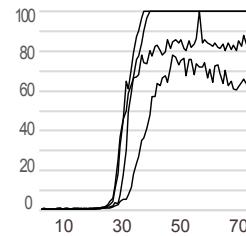


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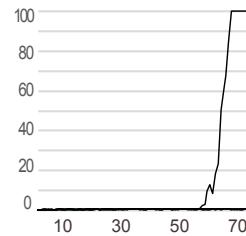


## Skin biopsy

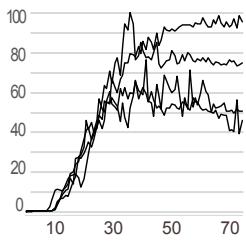
Neck C7



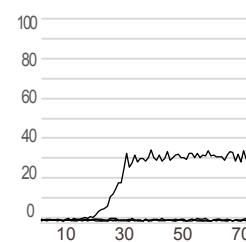
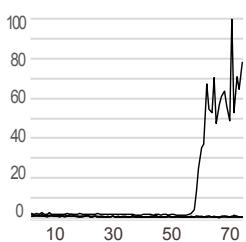
Thigh



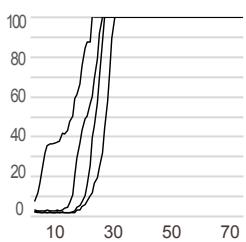
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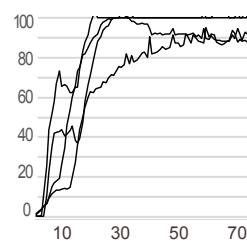
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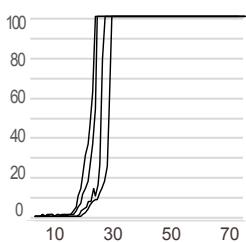
PD-27



(repeat)



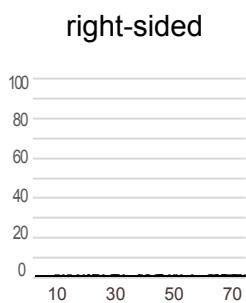
(repeat 2)



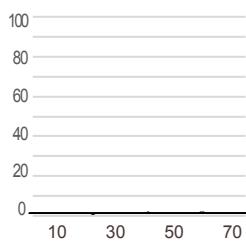
# REM sleep behavior disorder

## Nasal brushing

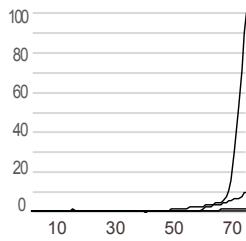
RBD-1



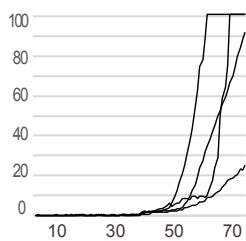
RBD-2



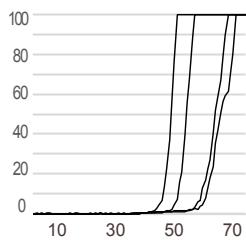
RBD-3



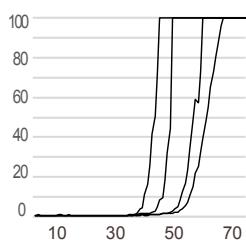
RBD-4



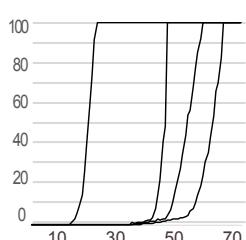
RBD-5



RBD-6

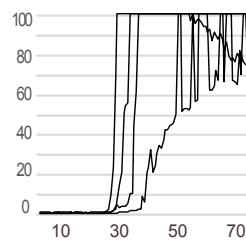


RBD-7

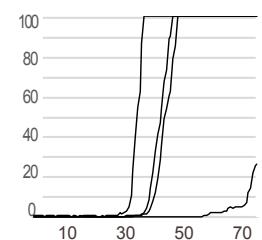
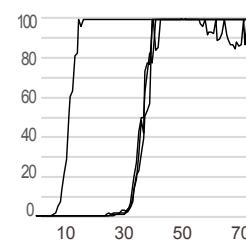
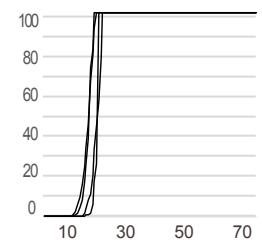
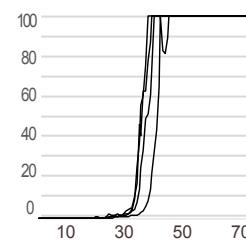
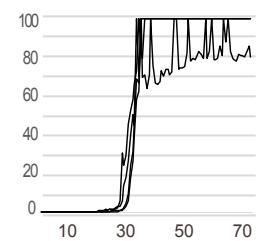
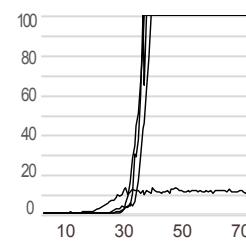
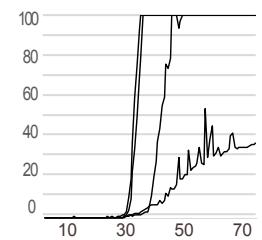
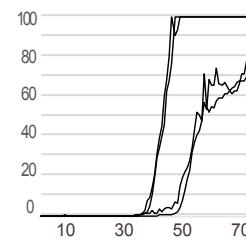
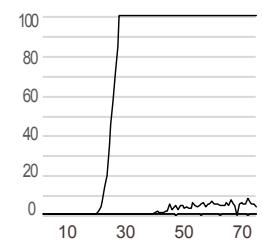
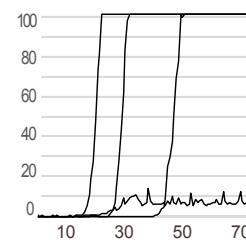
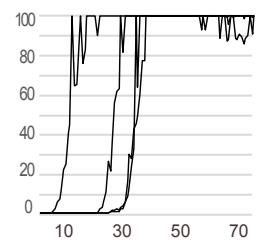


## Skin biopsy

### Neck C7



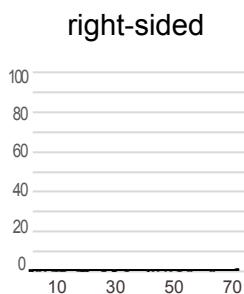
### Thigh



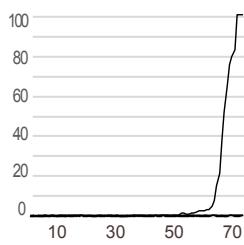
# REM sleep behavior disorder

## Nasal brushing

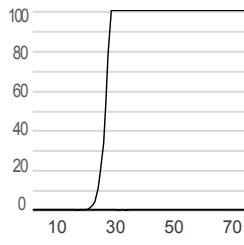
RBD-8



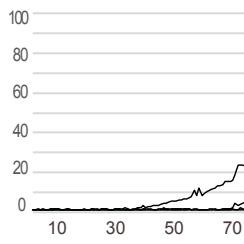
RBD-9



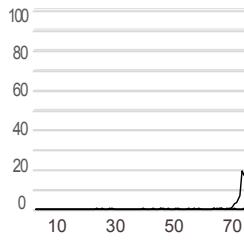
RBD-10



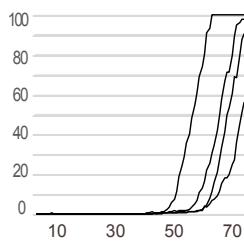
RBD-11



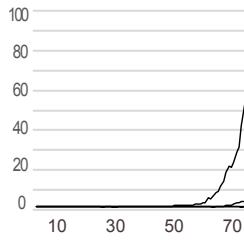
RBD-12



RBD-13

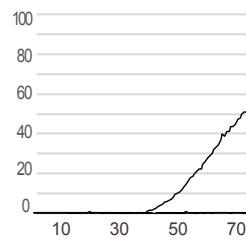


RBD-14

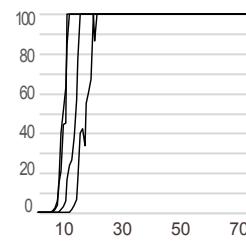


## Skin biopsy

### Neck C7

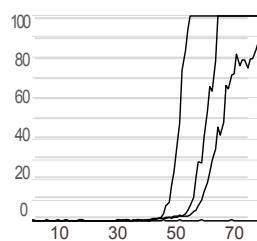


### Thigh



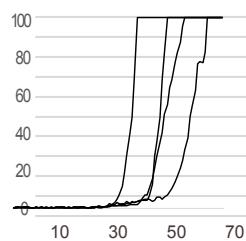
## Nasal brushing

right-sided

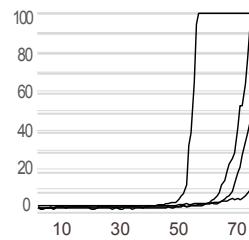


RBD-15

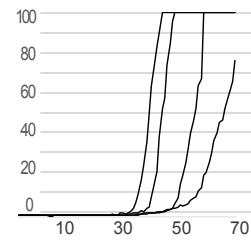
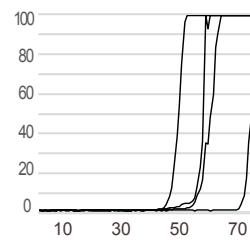
left-sided



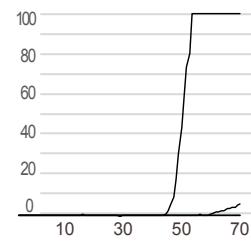
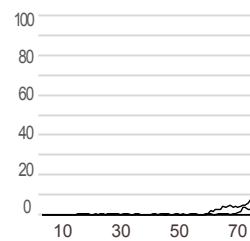
(repeat)



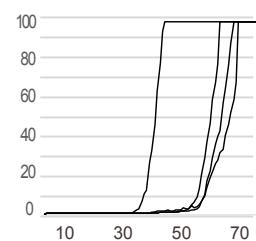
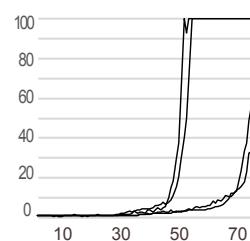
RBD-16



RBD-17

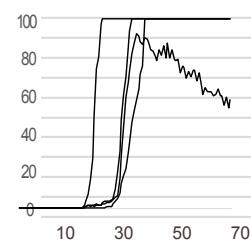


RBD-18

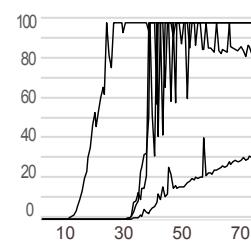


## Skin biopsy

Neck C7



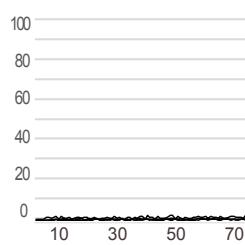
Thigh



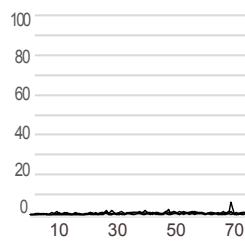
# Control group

## Nasal brushing

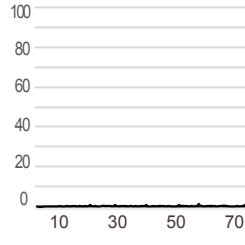
C-1



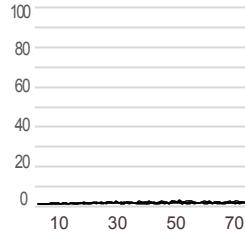
C-2



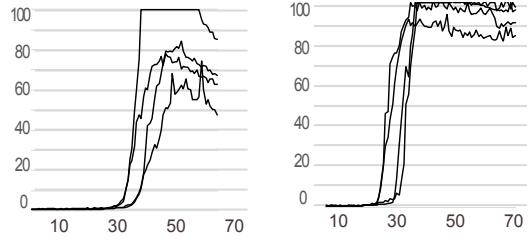
C-3



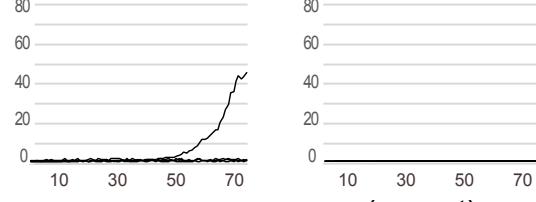
C-4



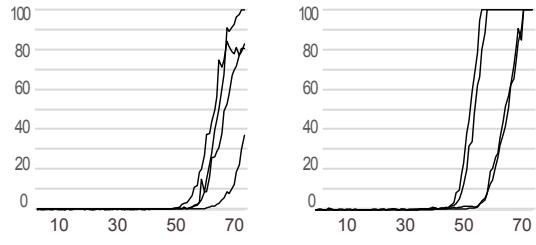
C-5



C-6

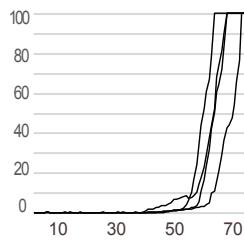


C-7

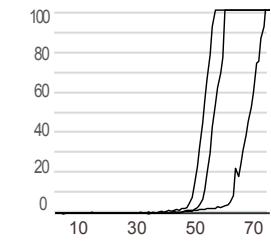


## Nasal brushing

C-8

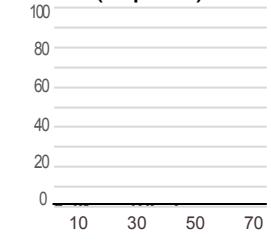
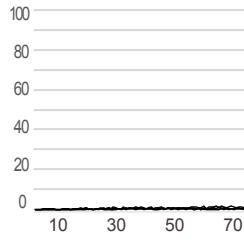


(repeat)

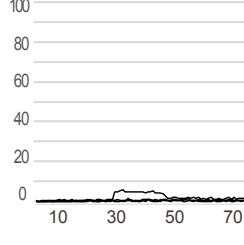


(repeat)

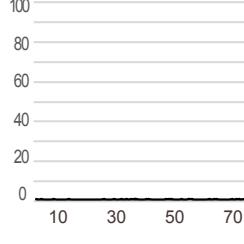
C-9



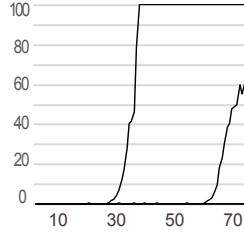
C-10



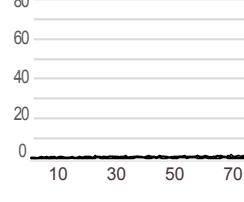
C-11



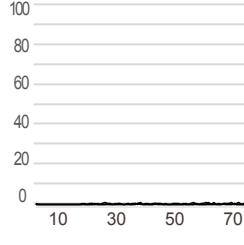
C-12



C-13

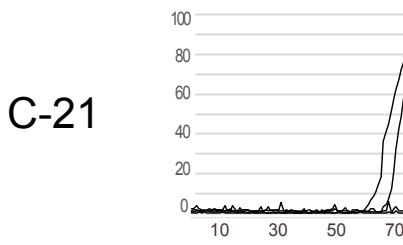
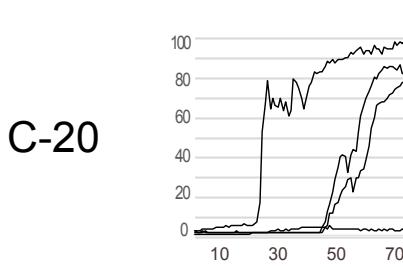
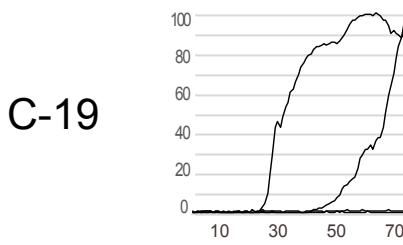
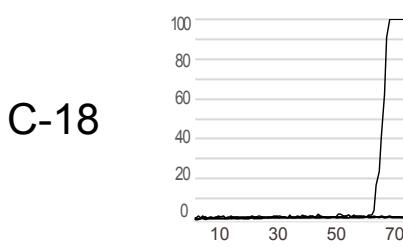
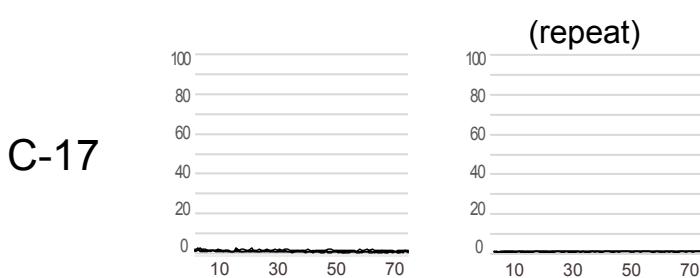
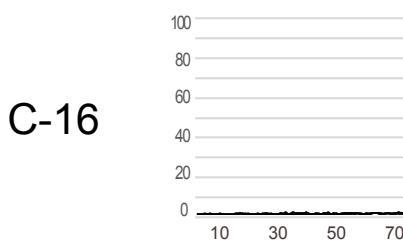
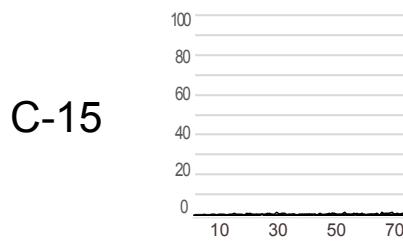


C-14

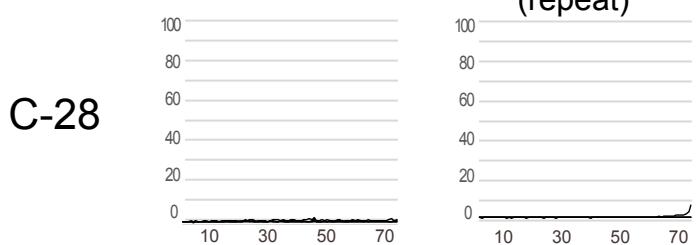
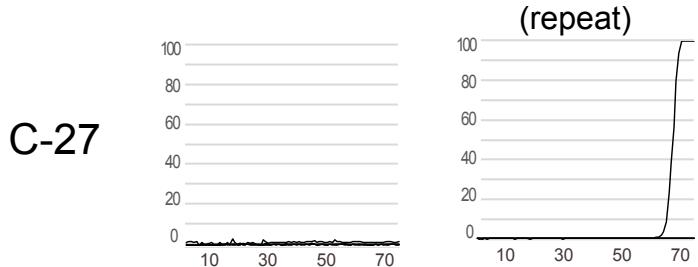
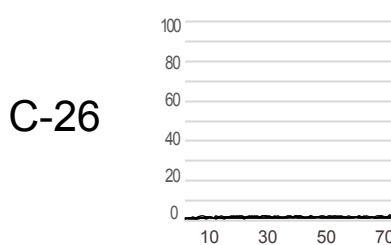
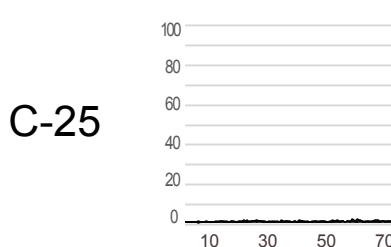
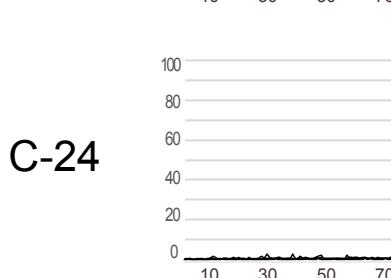
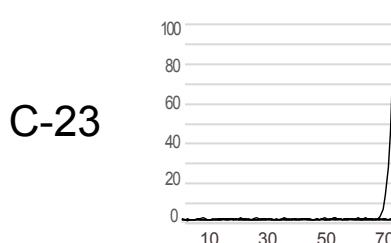
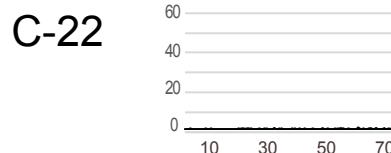


# Control group

## Nasal brushing



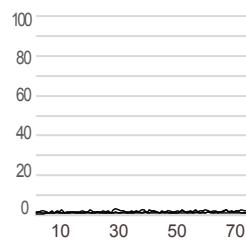
## Nasal brushing



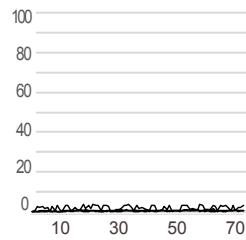
# Control group

## Nasal brushing

C-29



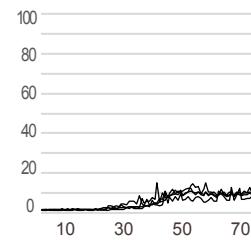
C-30



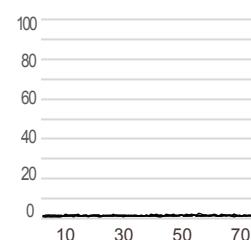
# MSA

## Nasal brushing

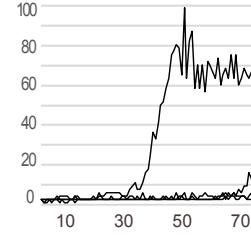
MSA-1  
(MSA-P)



MSA-2  
(MSA-C)



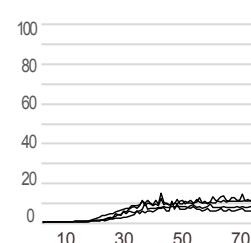
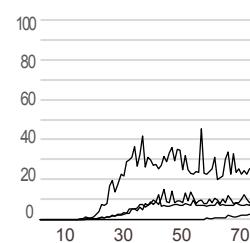
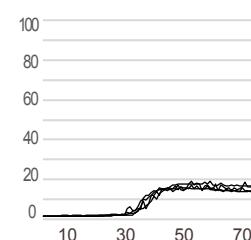
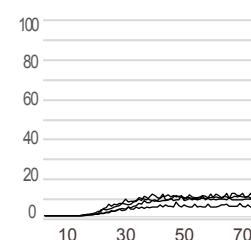
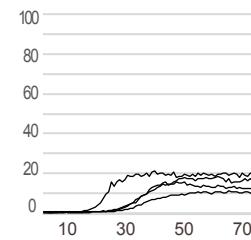
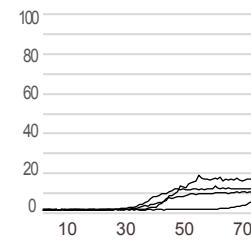
MSA-3  
(MSA-P)



## Skin biopsy

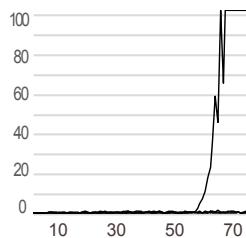
Neck C7

Thigh

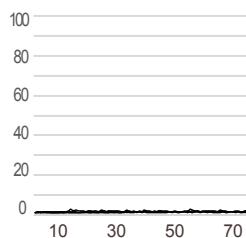


PSP-1

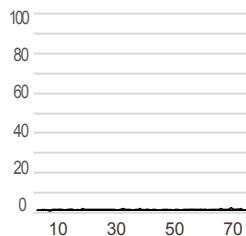
## Nasal brushing



PSP-2

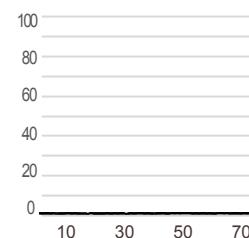


PSP-3



## Skin biopsy

Neck C7



Thigh

