## **Supplementary Information**

## **TDP-43 assessment and individual staging**

Assessment of TDP-43 pathology employed immunohistochemistry using a phospho-TDP-43 antibody (Cosmo Bio USA)[1], and followed a standardized regional evaluation of TDP-43-immunoreactive inclusions in the spinal cord, amygdala, hippocampus, entorhinal cortex/inferior temporal gyrus, and the frontal neocortex, as described by Katsumata et al. [2]. In the present study, presence of LATE-NC was defined based on TDP-43-immunoreactive inclusions in the amygdala, hippocampus, and/or entorhinal cortex/inferior temporal gyrus. These data were then used together with frontal neocortex TDP-43 assessments for estimating the stages reported in Table 1 as follows:  $1 - TDP-43$  in amygdala only;  $2 - TDP-43$  in hippocampus or entorhinal cortex, but not frontal neocortex;  $3 - TDP-43$  in frontal neocortex and any of the other regions. Note that this staging system is a slightly adapted version of the simplified staging system proposed by Nelson et al. [3]. We chose this adaptation because some autopsy cases would not have been stageable according to the originally proposed criteria. Thus, 2 cases (1 LATE-NC and 1 AD+LATE-NC) had TDP-43 in the hippocampus but not in the amygdala (1 additional LATE-NC case had missing data for the amygdala). Another 4 cases (1 LATE-NC and 3 AD+LATE-NC) had TDP-43 in the entorhinal cortex/inferior temporal gyrus and the amygdala but not in the hippocampus, and 2 cases (both AD+LATE-NC) had TDP-43 in the entorhinal cortex/inferior temporal gyrus but not in the amygdala or the hippocampus. The described adaptation of the staging system allowed staging all these cases as stage 2. Of note, all 7 cases with frontal neocortex TDP-43 also had TDP-43 in the other regions (although 2 had a negative scoring in the hippocampus), and these were thus classified as stage 3.

## **ADNI memory and executive function composite scores**

The ADNI memory and executive function composite scores include a variety of individual tests that were selected from the extensive ADNI neuropsychological battery using initial expert ratings followed by iterative confirmatory factor analysis. The individual tests and their integration into composite scores are described in detail in the ADNI documentation and have also been published previously [4, 5]. In brief, the ADNI memory composite score included individual test items from the Rey Auditory Verbal Learning Test (RAVLT), the Logical Memory Test, as well as the memory items from the ADAS-cog and MMSE assessments. The ADNI executive function composite score included Category Fluency—animals, Category Fluency—vegetables, Trails A and B, as well as Digit span backwards, WAIS-R Digit Symbol Substitution, and 5 Clock Drawing items (circle, symbol, numbers, hands, time).

## **Possible neuropathologic correlates of a LATE-NC-like FDG-PET pattern**

The distinct biomarker, clinical, and genetic features characterizing the amnestic dementia patients with a LATE-NC-like FDG-PET pattern in our study are consistent with an underlying LATE neuropathology and argue against typical AD pathology as the primary pathologic substrate in these patients. However, one cannot exclude that other age-related pathologies that preferentially target the medial temporal lobe, such as primary age-related tauopathy (PART), argyrophilic grain disease (AGD), or a limbicpredominant AD subtype, may also be present in subsets of these patients, particularly because these could be assumed to associate with similar topographic FDG-PET features as the LATE-NC-typical pattern used for patient classification in our study (i.e., disproportionate medial temporal lobe hypometabolism) [6, 7]. Furthermore, these pathologies are often comorbid with LATE-NC and may interactively influence the neurodegenerative and clinical phenotype [8-10].

For example, medial temporal tau pathology required for a pathologic diagnosis of PART is nearly ubiquitous in advanced age, and additional LATE-NC associates with more pronounced medial temporal lobe atrophy in cases with PART [10, 11]. Accordingly, all the pattern-defining LATE-NC cases in our autopsy sample also exhibited some degree of medial temporal tau pathology (Braak stages I-IV) but no or only low neuritic plaques (see Table 1), thus also meeting pathologic criteria for PART [11].

In order to further explore the specificity of the FDG-PET signature to LATE-NC compared to PART, we performed an additional analysis by classifying all cases in the autopsy cohort with a B score  $> 0$  and an A score  $\leq 1$  as (possible) PART. Given that this was only the case for 8 subjects, we also included cases with an A score of 2 (Thal phase 3), as long as their C score was  $\leq 1$  [11]. A total of 15 cases met this operational definition of PART, including the 7 cases in the LATE-NC group. Compared to healthy controls, the PART cases without LATE-NC (N=8) showed some mild hypometabolism in subcortical areas, the midcingulate, and diffuse neocortical areas, but hardly any hypometabolism in the medial temporal lobe (see supplementary Fig. S12-C below). The striking difference in medial temporal hypometabolism between PART cases with and without LATE-NC was further confirmed in a direct comparison between these two groups (Fig. S12-D), and also remained when restricting the PART cases without LATE-NC to those with cognitive impairment at last clinical evaluation (N=4; data not separately shown; no PART + LATE-NC cases were cognitively normal at last clinical evaluation). The IMT ratio was also considerably smaller in the PART cases without LATE-NC (IMT =  $1.32\pm0.10$ ) compared to those with LATE-NC (IMT =  $1.47\pm0.20$ ; d = -0.94), although this difference did not reach statistical significance in this small sample  $(p=0.09)$ .

Another possible pathologic cofounder is AGD, which is also common in advanced age, often comorbid with LATE-NC, and has a similar predilection for the medial temporal lobe [12, 13]. Indeed, in our study sample, comorbid AGD was significantly more common in the LATE-NC group (5/7, 71%) compared to the AD (0%) and AD+LATE-NC (20%) groups (see Table 1 of the main manuscript). In order to explore a possible influence of this highly comorbid pathology in our LATE-NC group, we conducted a similar sensitivity analysis as described for the PART cases above. Thus, we identified a total of 10 autopsy cases in the cohort who had AGD without high ADNC, including the 5 cases in the LATE-NC group. Compared to healthy controls, the AGD cases without LATE-NC  $(N=5)$  showed a posterior cortical pattern of hypometabolism that also involved the occipital lobe, with relatively spared metabolism in the medial temporal lobe (Fig. S12-E). A direct group comparison further confirmed the striking difference in medial temporal hypometabolism between AGD cases with and without LATE-NC (Fig. S12-F). The IMT ratio was also considerably smaller in the AGD cases without LATE-NC (IMT =  $1.29\pm0.14$ ) compared to those with LATE-NC (IMT =  $1.46\pm0.24$ ; d = -0.86), although this difference did not reach statistical significance in this small sample  $(p=0.21)$ . Although sample sizes are small, this data corroborates that the distinct temporo-limbic hypometabolic pattern characterizing the LATE-NC group is indeed driven by LATE-NC rather than by comorbid PART or AGD.

On the other hand, some of the clinical features characterizing the classified LATE-NClike patients in our study, such as older age, a memory-predominant cognitive profile, and a relatively slower disease progression, are also characteristic features of the "limbic-predominant" pathologic subtype of AD. Limbic-predominant AD is the AD subtype that is most often comorbid with LATE-NC [9, 14, 15] and it may also share some topographic features with the autopsy-derived LATE-NC-typical pattern derived here (i.e. disproportionate medial temporal lobe hypometabolism)[6, 7, 16]. However, in contrast to the classified LATE-NC-like cases in our study, the limbic-predominant AD subtype is not associated with lower levels of amyloid or tau pathology [6, 15]. Moreover, in contrast to LATE-NC, the limbic-predominant AD subtype is not associated with the *TMEM106B* risk allele, and it is actually associated with the highest *APOE4* frequency across AD subtypes [8, 15]. Hence, these data argue against the possibility that the dementia patients classified as LATE-NC-like in our study may merely reflect a limbic-predominant AD subtype. However, more research is necessary to better understand interactions between LATE-NC and the limbic-predominant presentation of AD, and how neuroimaging or other biomarkers may be used to optimally differentiate between these underlying pathologies.

## **Supplementary Figure S1. Flow chart of inclusion/exclusion criteria for the studied autopsy sample**



#### **Supplementary Figure S2. Classification of individual FDG-PET scans based on spatial correlation with pathology-specific patterns**

**Individual FDG-PET Patterns** 



Schematic illustration of the pattern matching approach for classifying individual FDG-PET patterns according to the pathology-specific patterns. Individual hypometabolic patterns (FDG-PET SUVR Z-score maps, top) were assessed for their correspondence with the autopsy-based patterns of AD- and LATE-NC-typical hypometabolism (bottom) using spatial correlation. In the respective scatterplots (middle) each point corresponds to one of 52 cortical and subcorical brain regions defined in the Harvard-Oxford structural atlas. Patients showing a significant correspondence (i.e. r>0.28, corresponding to  $p<0.05$ ) to any of the two patterns were then ordered along a continuum from most AD-like to most LATE-NC-like hypometabolism, which was quantified using the delta score between the respective spatial correlation coefficients  $(\Delta r = r(AD) - r(LATE-NC))$ . Patients were classified as "LATE-NC-like" or "AD-like" by applying a cutoff of  $|\Delta r| > 0.28$  to the upper and lower parts of this distribution.



**Supplementary Figure S3. Illustration of an alternative stratification approach based on a Gaussian Mixture Model analysis of the ∆r distribution**

Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM) analysis of the ∆r distribution revealed a bimodal distribution with an intersection close to  $\Delta r=0$ , though with a slight shift towards positive values. Classifying the negative and positive sides from the peaks of the respective distributions as (clearly) LATE-NC- and AD-like, respectively, resulted in a classification of 15 more patients as LATE-NC-like ( $\Delta r$  < -0.18 instead of -0.28) and 23 less patients as AD-like ( $\Delta r > 0.37$  instead of 0.28). Characteristics of these patient groups are summarized in supplementary Table S2 below.

#### **Supplementary Figure S4. Individual FDG-PET profiles of the two cases with hippocampal sclerosis in the comorbid AD+LATE-NC group**



Figure shows individual Z-score maps of the two index cases with hippocampal sclerosis (HS) in the pathologic group with comorbid AD and LATE-NC. Color bars are scaled to the individual's peak Z-score. The visual resemblance with the LATE-NCtypical FDG-PET pattern is confirmed in both cases by a high spatial correlation coefficient ( $r(LATE-NC) = 0.88$  and 0.58, for #1 and #2 respectively). Spatial correlation with the AD-typical pattern was lower at  $r(AD) = 0.59$  and 0.31, respectively, resulting in automated classifications as LATE-NC-like patterns (∆r  $= -0.30$  for #1 and  $-0.28$  for #2).

#### **Supplementary Figure S5. FDG-PET patterns of the stratified atypical and nonhypometabolic patient groups in the in-vivo cohort**



Figure shows average Z-score maps of clinically diagnosed AD dementia patients from the in-vivo cohort that exhibited atypical regional features (A) or lacked evidence of hypometabolism in any of the relevant areas (B). Note that average Z-scores are equivalent to Glass' ∆ effect size.



**Supplementary Figure S6. Group-specific trajectories of longitudinal cognitive decline**

Cognitive trajectories of clinically diagnosed AD dementia patients with a LATE-NClike (blue) or AD-like (red) hypometabolic pattern on FDG-PET. Cognitive assessments included MMSE scores for global cognitive functioning as well as domain-specific composite scores for memory (ADNI-MEM) and executive function (ADNI-EF). Differences in slopes ( $\Delta$ Slope) represent the difference in annual rates of cognitive change of LATE-NC-like patients compared to AD-like patients; reported p-values correspond to the group x time interaction term of the linear mixed models.

**Supplementary Figure S7. Associations with LATE-NC- vs AD-like FDG-PET pattern expression on a continuous scale**



Associations of age (A), clinical features  $(B+C)$ , and molecular biomarkers  $(D+E)$  with the hypometabolic pattern expression as a continuous variable  $(\Delta r)$ . Reported r values represent Pearson correlation coefficients, together with the respective p-values. Solid black lines represent univariate regression lines and dotted lines represent 95% confidence bounds. Subject-specific annual rates of change in MMSE were estimated using both random and fixed effects from a linear mixed model.

## **Supplementary Figure S8. Individual hypometabolic profiles of LATE-NC cases**



Th=Thal phase, Br=Braak stage, TDP=TDP-43 stage, HS=Hippocampal sclerosis, LB=Lewy body stage



#### **Supplementary Figure S9. IMT ratio in relation to age**

In order to examine whether a high inferior-to-medial temporal FDG-PET ratio may be associated with advanced age rather than LATE-NC, we plotted this ratio against age separately in the AD and LATE-NC groups. The AD group indeed showed a moderate positive association between age and the IMT ratio, though this did not reach statistical significance in this relatively small sample  $(r=0.32; p=0.14)$ . However, the IMT ratio was still markedly higher in the LATE-NC cases compared to the AD cases in this elevated age range, and there was no relation between age and the IMT ratio in the LATE-NC group  $(r=0.08)$ , indicating the relative specificity of this ratio for LATE-NC as compared to elevated age itself.

# A. AD (age-matched to LATE-NC) < Controls  $(R)=0.05$ B. LATE-NC vs AD (age-matched)

#### **Supplementary Figure S10. FDG-PET pattern of age-matched AD group**

Illustration of the hypometabolic pattern of the subset of pathology-confirmed AD cases that were in the same age range as the LATE-NC cases  $(N=10; 80-96 \text{ years})$ . A) Comparison to the cognitively normal control group  $(N=179)$ . B) Direct comparison to

the LATE-NC group. Here, the blue-green color scale indicates more pronounced hypometabolism in AD and the red-yellow color scale indicates more pronounced hypometabolism in LATE-NC. Note how limiting the AD group to just the 10 cases in the same age range as the LATE-NC cases yielded a very similar "AD-typical" temporo-parietal FDG-PET pattern (with slightly more frontal involvement) compared to the whole AD group (displayed in Fig. 1 of the main manuscript; spatial correlation between these patterns:  $r = 0.88$ ). Moreover, the effect size map for the direct contrast between LATE-NC and this age-matched AD group also showed very similar regional features as in the original comparison, including more pronounced medial temporal hypometabolism in LATE-NC and more pronounced inferior/lateral temporal hypometabolism in AD.

#### **Supplementary Figure S11. LATE-NC-typical pattern using an age-matched control group**



A) Illustration of the hypometabolic pattern of the LATE-NC group using an agematched control group ( $\geq 80$  years of age, N=38, range: 80-90 years, average:  $83.3 \pm 2.3$ years). This analysis yielded a largely identical LATE-NC pattern (with slightly reduced effect sizes) as for the initial analysis (reproduced in (B)), with a spatial correlation between the two patterns of  $r = 0.97$ .

## **Supplementary Figure S12. FDG-PET patterns of pathologic groups without LATE-NC/AD and other pathologies**



Hypometabolic patterns of different cognitively impaired non-AD pathologic groups compared to healthy controls and highest effect sizes compared to LATE-NC. (A, B) A mixed pathologic group defined by the absence of both LATE-NC and AD (ADNC≤1). (C, D) A group with primary age-related tauopathy (PART), defined as B score  $> 0$ , A score  $\leq 2$  and C score  $\leq 1$  [11], and no LATE-NC. (E, F) A group with argyrophilic grain disease (AGD) but no AD (ADNC≤1) or LATE-NC. AGD cases without LATE-NC are compared to AGD cases with LATE-NC.

## **Supplementary Table S1. Harvard-Oxford atlas ROIs used for screening for relevant hypometabolism**







Significant differences (at  $p<0.05$ ) between LATE-NC-like and AD-like groups, as classified according to a Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM) analysis (illustrated in suppl. Fig. S3), are printed in bold; differences with trend-level statistical significance  $(p<0.1)$ are printed in italics.

 $N =$  Sample size,  $M =$  Male,  $F =$  Female,  $MEM =$  memory composite score, EXEC = executive function composite score

	LATE-NC-like	LATE-NC-like	AD-like	AD-like
	(above cutoff)	(upper extreme)	(below cutoff)	(lower extreme)
	$(N = 48)$	$(N=25)$	$(N = 166)$	$(N=77)$
Age (years)	$80.0 \pm 5.8$	$80.3 \pm 5.9$	$73.9 \pm 8.0$	$71.6 \pm 8.3$
Sex (M/F)	31/17	18/7	98/68	41/36
Education (years)	$15.6 \pm 2.8$	$15.0 \pm 3.3$	$15.2 \pm 2.9$	$15.7 \pm 2.4$
<b>MMSE</b>	$23.1 \pm 2.0$	$22.6 \pm 2.1$	$23.1 \pm 2.1$	$23.0 \pm 2.1$
<b>MEM</b>	$-0.88 \pm 0.48$	$-0.93 \pm 0.49$	$-0.96 \pm 0.52$	$-1.06 \pm 0.58$
<b>EXEC</b>	$-0.80 \pm 0.83$	$-0.82 \pm 0.93$	$-1.07 \pm 0.89$	$-1.30 \pm 0.94$
$\Delta$ (MEM-EXEC)	$-0.08 \pm 0.80$	$-0.12 \pm 0.84$	$0.10 \pm 0.77$	$0.23 \pm 0.80$
CSF $\mathbf{A}\beta_{42}$ (pg/ml)	$957 \pm 688$	$968 \pm 703$	$619 \pm 268$	$631 \pm 290$
$CSF$ p-tau181 (pg/ml)	$33.5 \pm 15.1$	$32.5 \pm 14.1$	$37.6 \pm 15.0$	$37.8 \pm 16.2$
$APOE$ , $0/1/2$ $\varepsilon$ 4 alleles, % pos	18/24/6, 63%	10/13/2, 60%	55/78/33, 67%	33/32/12, 57%
TMEM106B, 0/1/2 T alleles, % pos	$4/20/16$ , 90%	2/10/11, 91%	27/80/43, 82%	12/41/14, 82%
GRN, 0/1/2 T alleles, $%$ pos	19/13/8, 53%	8/10/5, 65%	74/61/15, 51%	28/30/9, 58%

**Supplementary Table S3. Characteristics of patients stratified according to the inferior-to-medial temporal metabolism ratio**

Patients were stratified using the inferior-to-medial temporal metabolism ratio in two different ways. First, all patients above the autopsy-derived inferior-to-medial temporal ratio cutoff (1.38) were classified as LATE-NC-like, all patients below that cut-off as AD-like. In a complementary stratification, only patients at the upper and lower parts of the inferior-to-medial temporal ratio distribution were classified as LATE-NC- and ADlike, respectively, and numbers in each group were matched to the pattern-matched LATE-NC- and AD-like groups (i.e., the 25 patients with the highest inferior-to-medial temporal ratio were classified as LATE-NC-like, and the 77 patients with the lowest ratio as AD-like).

Significant differences (at  $p<0.05$ ) between LATE-NC-like and the respective AD-like comparison group are printed in bold, differences with trend-level statistical significance  $(p<0.1)$  are printed in italics.

 $N =$  Sample size,  $M =$  Male,  $F =$  Female, MEM = memory composite score, EXEC = executive function composite score



**Supplementary Table S4. Contingency table of group assignments based on pattern matching compared to the inferior-to-medial temporal ratio**

Twenty-three of the 25 patients that had been classified as LATE-NC-like by the pattern matching approach also fell above the Inferior-to-medial temporal (IMT) cutoff indicative of LATE-NC  $(>1.38)$ , and one additional pattern-matched LATE-NC-like case lay just below this cutoff (1.37). Of the remaining 25 subjects with IMT ratio values above the cutoff, 21 had been classified as a mixed profile by the pattern matching approach and 4 as not matching any of the two pathology-specific patterns. None of the patients above the IMT cutoff had been classified as AD-like by the pattern matching approach. When considering the number-matched upper and lower parts of the IMT ratio, 18 of the 25 patients with highest IMT ratios had also been classified as LATE-NC-like by the pattern matching approach (72%), and the other 7 patients (28%) had been classified as a mixed profile. Similarly, 55 of the 77 patients with lowest IMT ratios had also been classified as AD-like by the pattern matching approach (71%), whereas 15 (19%) had been classified as atypical and only 7 (9%) as showing a mixed profile.

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