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# Schizophrenia: Distinguishing the Impact of Biomarkers on Patients and Populations

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## Disclosures



- **Research/Grants:** Astellas Research Institute of America LLC
- **Consultant:** Zynerba Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

# Learning Objective 1

Analyze mismatch negativity as a biomarker for reduced functional outcomes in schizophrenia.



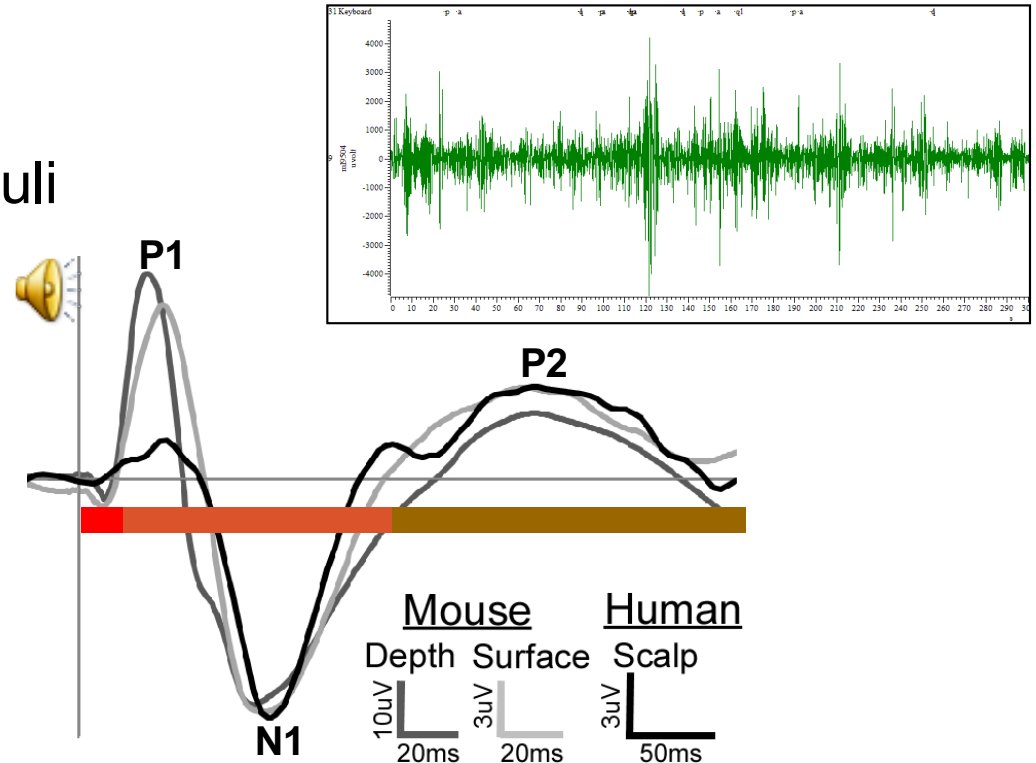
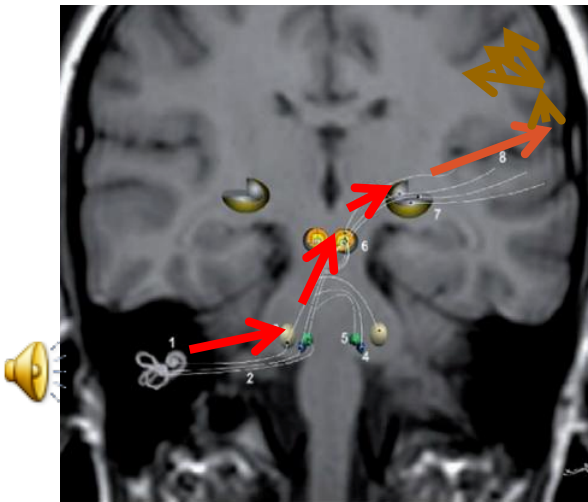
# Neurophysiological Deficits in Schizophrenia



- Patients with schizophrenia exhibit widespread deficits in many domains, including abnormalities in preattentive sensory processing
- Mismatch negativity (MMN) is an event-related potential (ERP) measure that occurs in the absence of directed attention
  - Patients with schizophrenia show a reduction in MMN that is positively associated with impaired cognition and poor functional outcomes

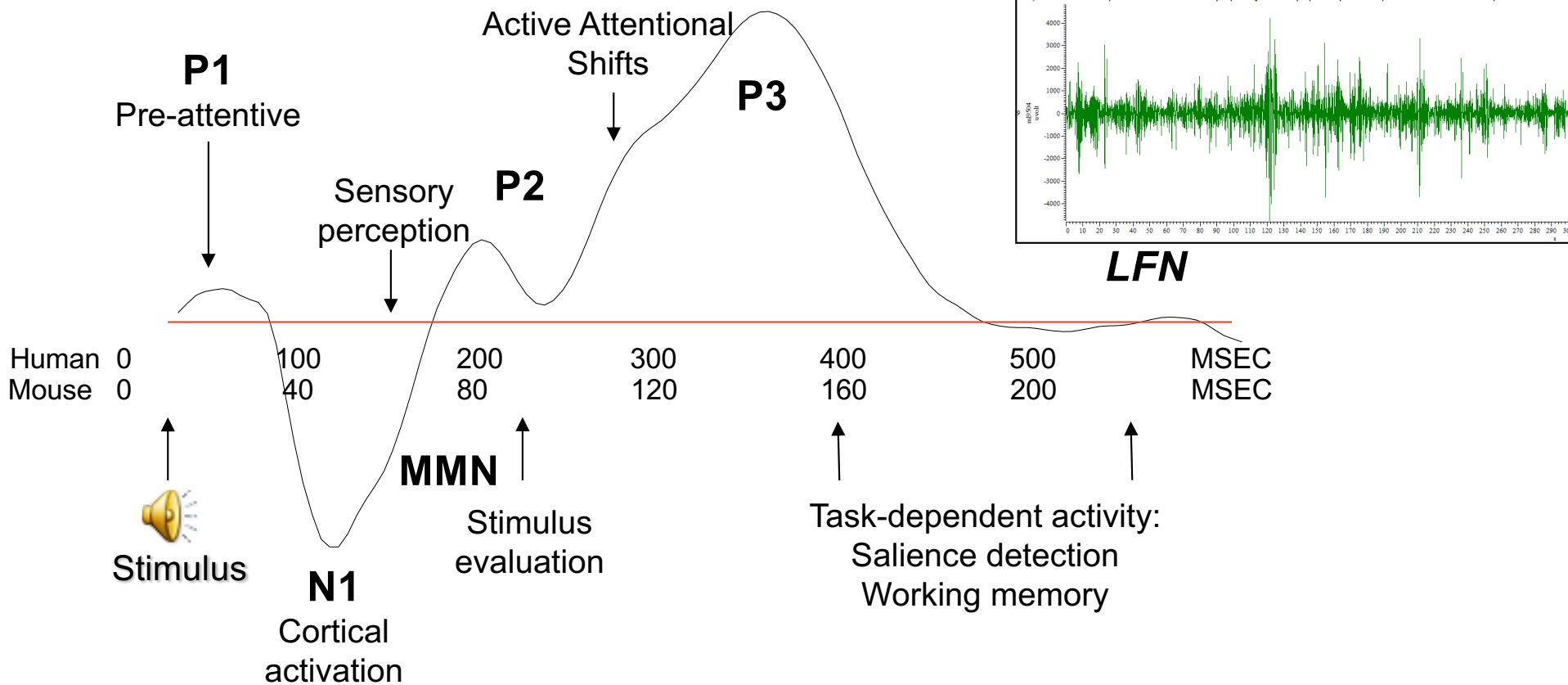
# Auditory ERPs

- Neural response to external stimuli
- Integrity of sensory processing
  - Amplitude (coherence)
  - Latency (efficiency)



**Auditory brainstem responses (ABRs) – subcortical**  
**Midlatency (P1/N1) – 1° auditory cortex**  
**Long latency (P2/P3) – association cortices**

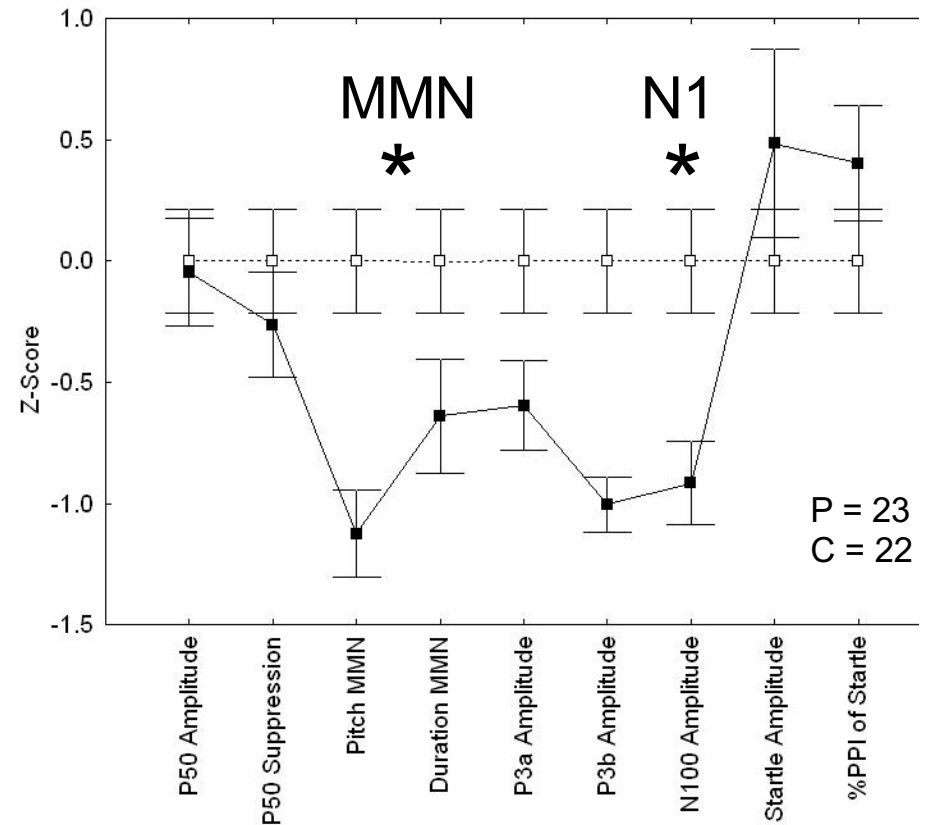
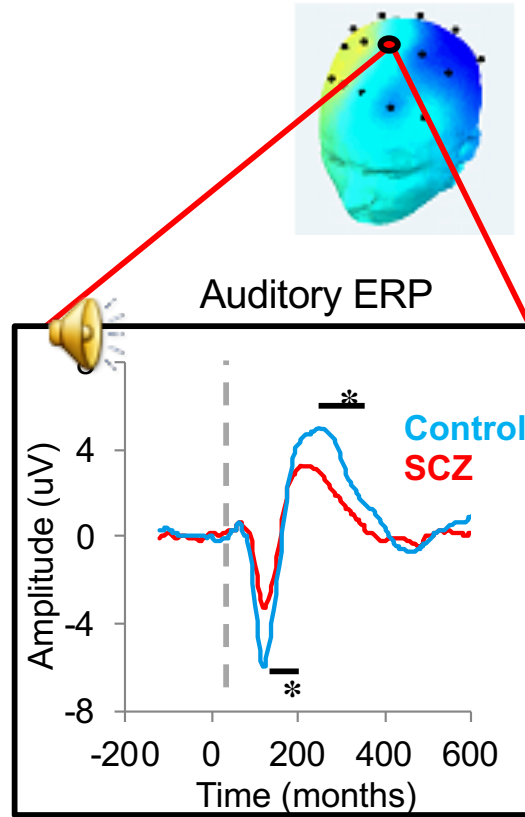
# ERPs Assess Integrity of the Sensory Nervous System



MMN = mismatch negativity; LFN = late frontal negativity; N1 = negative peak in the ERP; P1 = positive peak; P2 = second positive peak; P3 = third positive peak

# Sensory EEG Profile in Schizophrenia

- **N1 and MMN**  
Deficits associated with negative symptoms and thought disorder
- UCSD findings – MMN associated with global assessment of function in patients and controls

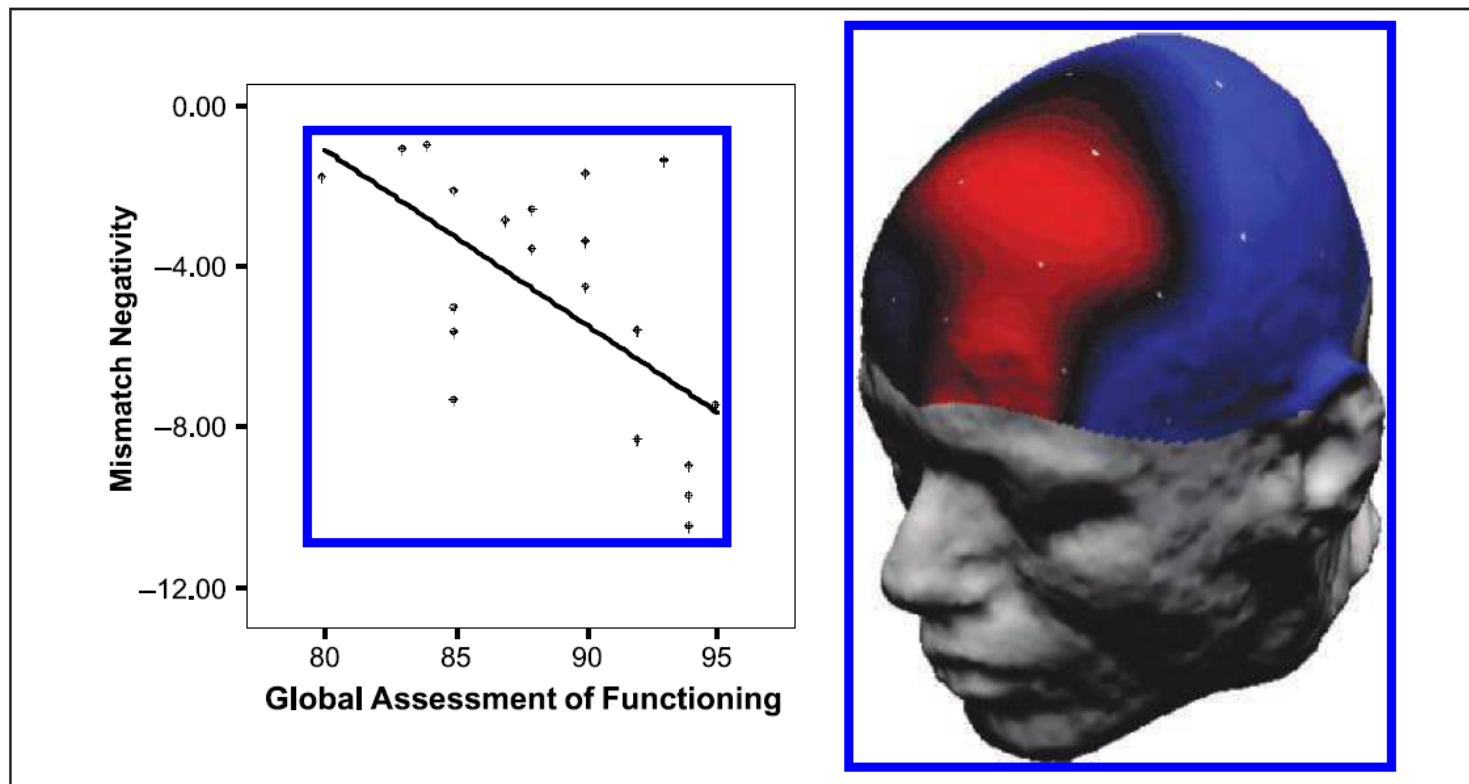


EEG = electroencephalogram; SCZ = schizophrenia; UCSD = University of California San Diego.  
Turetsky BI, et al. *Psychiatry Res.* 2009;165(1-2):27-37; Light GA, et al. *Arch Gen Psychiatry.* 2005;62(2):127-136; Light GA, et al. *J Cogn Neurosci.* 2007;19(10):1624-1632.



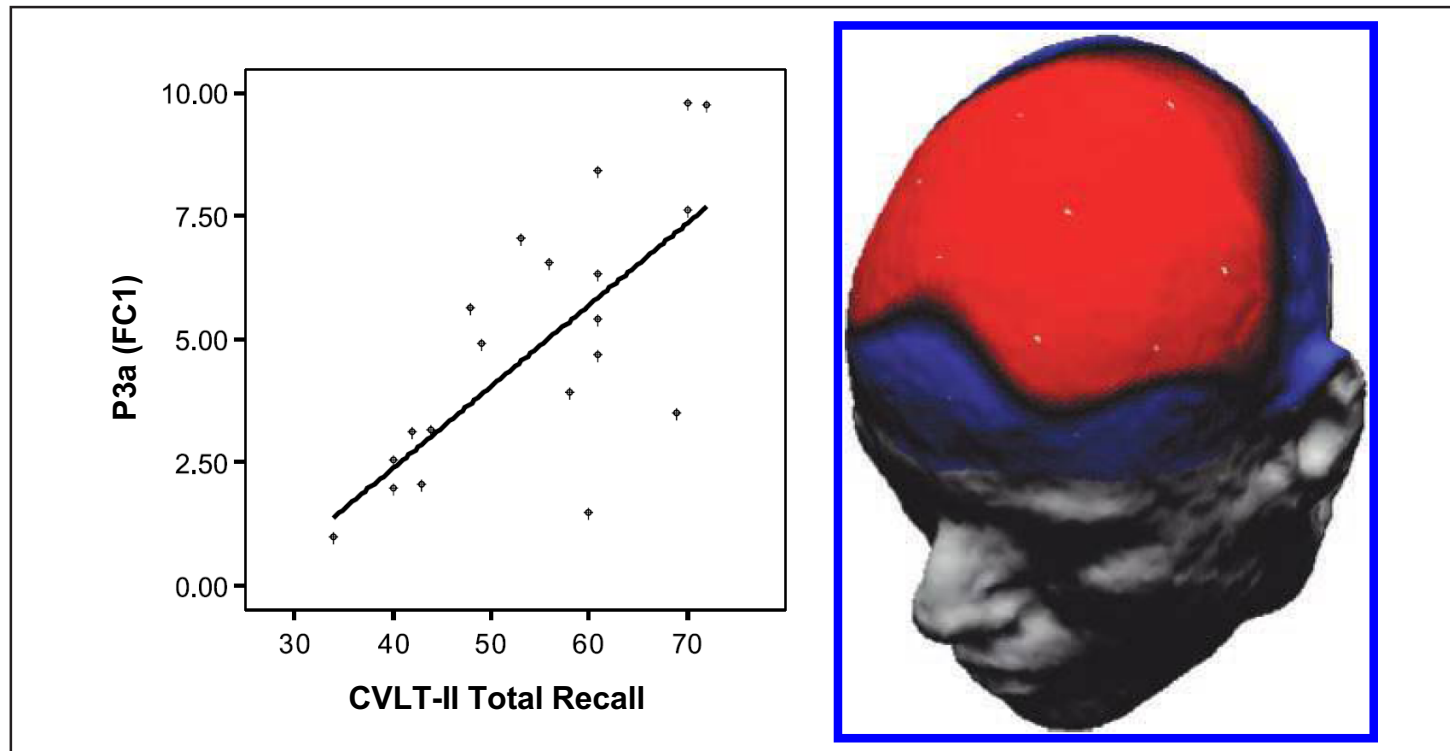
# MMN Associated with Function

Opioic Use Disorder Eating  
Multiple Sclerosis Neu  
Pain Artificial



Light GA, et al. *J Cogn Neurosci.* 2007;19(10):1624-1632.

# P3a Associated with Cognitive Function



Light GA, et al. *J Cogn Neurosci.* 2007;19(10):1624-1632.

# Conclusions



- Neurophysiological measures probe the earliest stages of cognition, such as basic sensory registration, discrimination, and inhibition
- Deficits in these sensory processes may underlie clinical symptoms and downstream deficits in more complex cognitive operations and real-life functioning
- Research indicates that MMN deficits are highly associated with reduced functional status in patients with schizophrenia

# SMART Goals

Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, Timely



- Consider the role of neurophysiological measures such as MMN as potential biomarkers for functional outcomes in patients with schizophrenia.

# Questions & Answers

Don't forget to fill out your evaluations to collect your credit.

