

ADNI Conference Call, 6 November 2007

On the call: Danielle, Laurel, Qian, Brandon, John.

Report on the meeting 2 November in La Jolla:

Our talks (Laurel, John K) were very well received. At the end of the day, there was a lively discussion on what kind of global summaries each group ought to provide for comparisons. One goal, for example, would be to give the annualized change in the measure, the SD, and the number of people per group that you would need to detect a 20% reduction in clinical decline. It is also important to give an idea of the number or proportion of usable scans.

John gave a very nice presentation on challenges in voxel-based analyses. One, for example, is multiple comparisons and how to take into account the fact that different labs may use different numbers of measurements summaries. Another issue is the choice of template – a common template might bias in favor of some labs or against. The group decided that labs should use their own templates, but that we would encourage people to illustrate end results on a common template. To make this easier, people will try to post not only the half dozen or so widely used templates, but also ways to map across templates. This would enable people to map their final visuals to the same template for comparative illustration if not actual analysis. No solution was obvious for the multiple comparison issue.

We will be trying to compile a summary of simple recommendations for the comparisons across labs, along with SAS examples.

We have also been asked to post something on cross-validation. Anthony says that has been under discussion; they have generated assignments for the 60-40 split and the 10 groups for 10-fold cross-validation. But it's not obvious how to add this documentation to the images. Once this goes up, we will add documentation on how to use it.

We have been asked to provide a few selected slides to Mike for keeping ISAB up to date.

All the 1-year data should be in by next September, and Mike wants to have all the one-year analyses ready by late 2008 or very early 2009. He asked labs to process steadily and keep things flowing so doing the last few images will be very fast.

All labs keep modifying so there will be versions of data. People should be very mindful of versioning. Probably the easiest thing to track is the date of download.

Imaging summaries are not yet posted except hippocampal volume; PET should be up very soon. There are dummy tables in the LONI clinical dataset for PET and Anders Dale's data and BSI data, but they are not populated yet so far as we know (still working on links). Danielle will send an email as soon as more data get uploaded. Corrections are still being made to clinical data. In the early version, we couldn't tell 1.5T from 3T because labs only included LONI ID, not image type, but that is being fixed. Apo-e is up but biomarker data not yet; they were waiting for all baselines but analysis is underway.

Next call is 20 November at 10 AM Pacific time.