Brain matters in relapsing multiple sclerosis (RMS)

Brain shrinkage is associated with the loss of physical (e.g. walking) and cognitive (e.g. memory) function and can predict a patient’s disability over time.

Increasingly, research in RMS is focusing on understanding the relevance of brain shrinkage and the importance of preserving brain early in the disease.

Brain shrinkage occurs 3-5x faster in people with RMS compared to those without.

In RMS myelin is destroyed and signal conduction is affected.

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In healthy individuals, brain shrinkage (brain volume loss) occurs as you age.

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Axons are often surrounded by an insulating material called myelin. This helps information to be transmitted efficiently.

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References