

# **Title: Repository of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (ADRD) Rare Variants and Application to Diverse Populations**

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## **Summary**

Alzheimer's disease (AD) and related dementias (ADRD) present significant public health challenges, and understanding their genetic underpinnings is crucial for developing effective interventions and risk prediction strategies. We introduce the Repository of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Variants (RADR), a curated database of 3530 rare genetic variants associated with AD and related dementia (ADRD). The database integrates data from various sources, including Alzforum, ClinVar, the Dominantly Inherited Alzheimer Network (DIAN) and DNA-seq studies. We present the challenges of fragmentation in existing genetic resources. Additionally, we explore the distribution and pathogenicity of genetic variants within RADR with a focus on pathogenic, likely pathogenic and risk factor/modifiers. We demonstrate the application of RADR to two large-scale biobanks, BioMe (n = 30813) and the UK Biobank (n = 201,136), for carrier and allele frequency analysis of pathogenic, likely pathogenic, and risk factor/modifier variants. The findings highlight incomplete penetrance, enrichment of certain variants, and potential population-specific differences. Overall, RADR provides a comprehensive and unified resource for researchers and clinicians studying AD and related dementias, facilitating genetic variant analysis and potential to aid in the development of personalized approaches for diagnosis, prevention, and treatment.

## **Introduction**

Alzheimer's disease (AD) represents a significant public health challenge due to its increasing prevalence in society. As of 2023, the prevalence of the disease is approximated at 6.7 million within the United States alone.<sup>1</sup> AD is a highly heritable neurodegenerative disorder that is characterized by the aggregation and deposition of amyloid-B peptides and hyperphosphorylated tau into neurofibrillary tangles, followed by neuronal loss which results in cognitive and functional decline, leading to severe impairment in daily life activities.<sup>2</sup> Understanding the genetic underpinnings of AD holds strong potential for identifying novel therapeutic targets and improving risk prediction.

This paper seeks to contribute to assist in mapping the genetic architecture knowledge by developing a repository that focuses on both rare and common variants associated with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia. Decades of research have established the genetic basis of Alzheimer's disease, yet this complex landscape remains far from fully mapped. Known common genetic risk variants, such as the Apolipoprotein E (APOE)  $\epsilon 4$  allele, have a substantial effect on AD risk but cannot account for all genetic predisposition to the disease.<sup>3,4,5</sup> Meanwhile,

rare variants—mutations with minor allele frequencies (MAF) typically less than 1% in a population—have the potential to substantially contribute to disease risk, but their role in AD remains largely unexplored due to the challenges in detecting and interpreting their effects.

Despite the advancement in genome-wide association studies (GWAS), AD genetics research has largely been centered on common variants—mutations with MAF greater than 5% in a population—with less attention given to the rare variants due to their low frequency and the challenges associated with studying them. AD GWAS studies combined have resulted in the identification of 101 independent variants across 81 loci that are associated with AD/dementia, however, most of these variants are common. These common variants account for a limited percentage of the heritability of AD.<sup>6,7</sup> Heritability estimates the fraction of phenotypic variation due to genetic effects. Twin studies estimate that the heritability of AD is between 60-80%. However, summary statistics used by Wightman et al. (2022) indicate that the SNP-heritability of AD is 3.1%. The gap in the heritability between twin studies and those by GWAS studies is referred to as “missing heritability” and can be attributed to several factors. A potential source of this missing heritability is rare variants, which is actively being discovered by ongoing DNA-Sequencing studies including the Alzheimer’s Disease Sequencing Project (ADSP) and the Alzheimer Disease European Sequencing consortium (ADES). For example, a recent collaborative study of ADSP and ADES included 16k AD cases and 16k controls, identifying *ATP8B4*, *ABCA1*, and *ADAM10* (suggestive) in addition to known rare variants in *TREM2*, *MAPT*, *ABI3*, *PLCG2*, *SORL1*, *ABCA7*, *AKAP9*, *PLXNA4*, and *UNC5C*<sup>13,74–82</sup>.

Compared to hundreds of common variants with small effect sizes revealed by GWAS, pathogenic variants—which are often rare and high-penetrance—could directly serve as clinical biomarkers. These variants are hypothesized to be under intense selective pressure and thus remain at low frequency in a population. Early familial linkage studies and recent large DNA-sequencing (DNA-Seq) datasets are quickly expanding the numbers of ADRD-associated variants.<sup>8-17</sup> However, they are scattered across multiple studies and databases, impeding research and clinical use. To develop clinical genetic tests for Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Dementia’s (ADRD) and borrowing experience of other diseases with genetic tests (ex. hereditary cancer, cystic fibrosis), a unified repository is required.

To address the fragmentation of current ADRD genetic resources, we developed RADR, a systematically curated database of common and rare variants (prototyped). RADR integrates data from DIAN, Alzforum, ClinVar, DNA-Seq studies, and annotations from our genomic pipeline, adding pathogenicity classification distinct from commonly used functional scores (ex. CADD, SIFT).

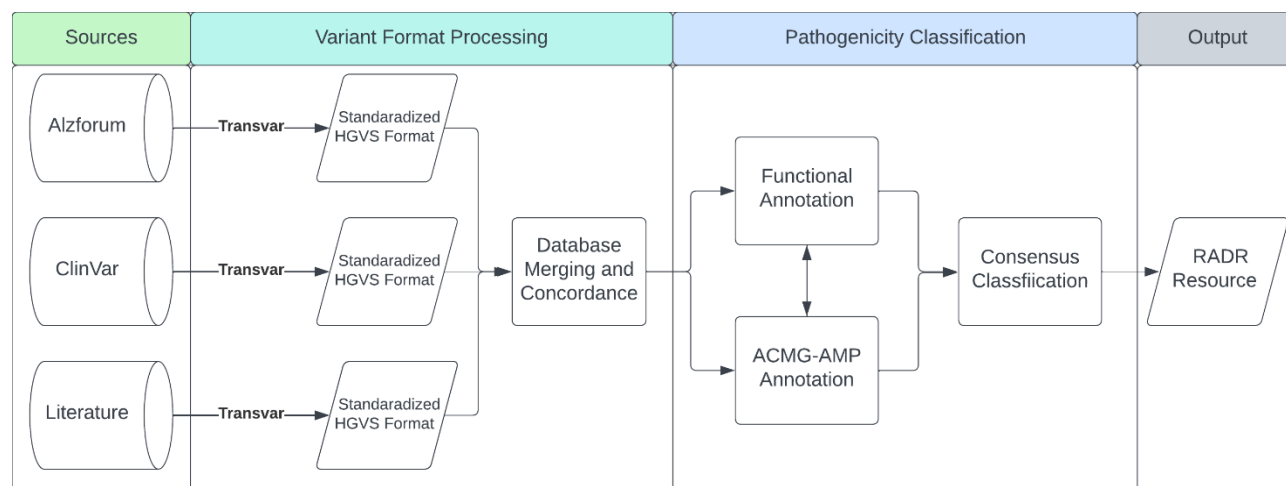


Figure 1a. RADR Resource Pipeline

## Methods

### Database sources

We commenced our database curation with Alzforum, a repository for expert-curated variants associated with Alzheimer's disease (AD) in known AD genes. This repository lists variants in six essential genes associated with AD, namely: Amyloid Precursor Protein (APP), Presenilin 1 (PSEN1), Presenilin 2 (PSEN2), Microtubule-Associated Protein Tau (MAPT), and Triggering Receptor Expressed on Myeloid cells 2 (TREM2), and APOE. To focus on the rare variants, our analysis at the point of curation included only the first five genes. Alzforum provides a list of reported variants in the literature, briefly describing associated clinical, and neuropathological features and functional impacts.<sup>18</sup> It also classifies the pathogenicity of variants of APP, PSEN1, and PSEN2 based on the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics and Association of Molecular Pathology (ACMG-AMP) for the classification of genes that cause Mendelian disorders.<sup>19</sup> We extracted the variants and standardized them into HGVS format in both GrCH37 and GrCH38 builds using TransVar, a multi-way annotator for genetic elements and genetic variations.<sup>20</sup>

Next, we included variants in ClinVar, an open-access repository of relationships between human genetic variation and phenotypes, supported by evidential data. Despite its liberal classification of variants, ClinVar serves as the largest variant database. ClinVar accepts variants in any part of the genome and is interpreted for any type of condition.<sup>21</sup> Using keyword search with the terms "dementia" and "Alzheimer," we extracted relevant variants related to ADRD phenotypes, which we then converted to the standardized HGVS format via TransVar.

We additionally incorporated data from the Dominantly Inherited Alzheimer Network (DIAN) Observational Study, a valuable source of information on dominantly inherited Alzheimer's disease (DIAD) developed at Washington University at St. Louis. This study offers a catalog of pathogenic variants of the genes PSEN1, PSEN2, and APP, along with clinical risk factors as observed through clinical trials.

We conducted a literature review of variants associated with Alzheimer’s Disease and Related dementia and added the variants along with the odds ratios associated with the study to RADR. We standardized the variants into HGVS format using our TransVar pipeline.

**Functional and Clinical Interpretation Annotations**

To make RADR a more comprehensive repository, we employed the ANNOVAR software to functionally annotate the variants. ANNOVAR is an annotation tool that is used to annotate variant exonic functions, identify variants in specific regions of the genome, as well as identify variants that are documented in specific databases.<sup>22</sup> Additionally, we extracted clinvar pathogenicity from ANNOVAR for consensus classification.

For clinical interpretation of genetic variants, we utilized InterVar, a bioinformatics software guided by the ACMG/AMP 2015 criteria. The tool takes in variants and interprets variants as “Pathogenic”, “Likely Pathogenic”, “Uncertain Significance”, “Benign”, and “Likely Benign” based on the guidelines.<sup>23</sup> The results from InterVar, along with the classifications from ClinVar’s ClinSig, were used for additional data-driven and evidence-based variant consensus classification shown in Figure 1b.

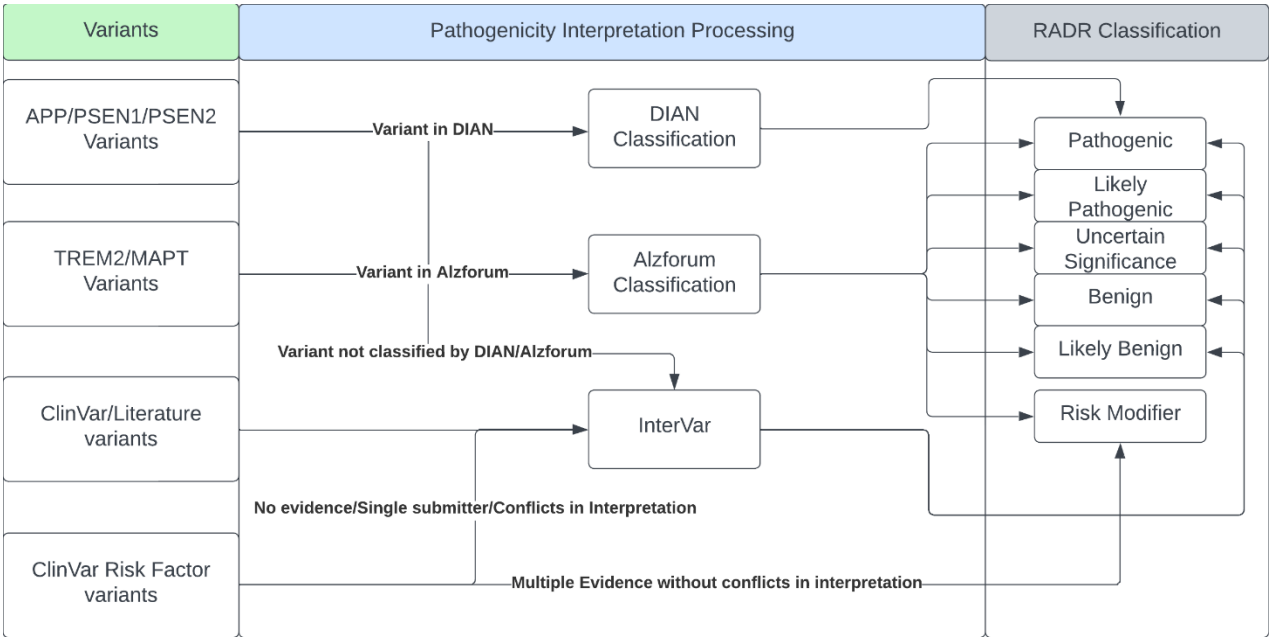


Figure 1b. Variant consensus classification flowchart

**WES Variant Frequency Analysis**

We utilized Mount Sinai Health System’s BioMe Cohort for our whole exome sequencing (WES) data. BioMe is a collection of 31,250 individual’s de-identified DNA, plasma, clinical medical record and questionnaire data, and large-scale genome-wide genotype and exome-chip data. Quality control of genetic data was performed prior to analysis by the Institute of Personalized

Medicine (IPM) at Mount Sinai. The case-control derivation in BioMe used a curated list of patient visits, complete with International Classification of Diseases (ICD) codes and descriptions. Despite potential inaccuracies in the ICD codes, we augmented our precision by considering visit descriptions, medical history, and prescribed medications. We used a derivation of an internally validated dementia case-control algorithm to extract individuals in BioMe with ADRD phenotypes, including unspecified AD, late-onset AD (LOAD), early-onset AD (EOAD), frontotemporal dementia, vascular dementia, Lewy-body dementia, HIV dementia, and a family history of dementia. Additionally, we split unspecified dementia into AD Drugs + Unspecified dementia, and added another category “Dementia Drugs Taken” that applied to controls that take dementia drugs. The drugs we included as part of the case control process include: donepezil, galantamine, rivastigmine, memantine. The internally validated case-control algorithm utilizes ICD codes, description of visit, prescriptions and medical history to determine a patient’s phenotype classification.

As an additional WES dataset, we utilized the United Kingdom Biobank (UKB). UKB is a large-scale biomedical database and research resource, containing in-depth genetic and health information from half a million UK participants.<sup>24</sup> For our study, we analyzed genetic and phenotypic data of 201,136 individuals and case-control derivation was conducted to extract Alzheimer’s Disease (AD), Vascular dementia (V), Frontotemporal dementia (FTD), Lewy-body dementia (DLB), other dementia subtypes (O) and no dementia subtype specified (N). We determined these phenotypes by utilizing ICD Code, hospital records, death records and primary general practitioner visit descripts with the process outlined by Wilkinson et al.<sup>25</sup>

After determining case-control status of patients, we extracted the carriers and non-carriers frequencies stratified by variant as well as phenotype. We conducted a Fisher’s Exact Test on the carrier and non-carrier frequencies of ADRD phenotypes and Control. Additionally we extracted the allele frequencies of pathogenic, likely pathogenic and risk factor/modifier variants within BioMe and UKB and compared it to Gnomad 3.12v allele frequencies. Multiple linear regression, and Cox regression were also conducted using the stats package and survival package on R.

Ancestry of each sample was derived from a self-report questionnaire and was also determined genetically using a combination of the 1000g reference panel with the BioMe GSA\_GDA genotype dataset. The intersected data was mixed with ADMIXTURE and GrafPOP as evaluation and decision tool. (Cite Michael Preuss and BioMe team). We utilized BCFtools for manipulating whole-exome sequencing (WES) data from BioMe and UKB.<sup>26</sup> The vcfR package developed by Knuas et al. (2017) in R was applied to analyze WES data via VCF files.<sup>27</sup> All analyses were performed on the Minerva High-Performance Computing platform at Mount Sinai.

## **Results**

### ***Developing the RADR Database for ADRD Rare Variants***

The juxtaposition of data from Alzforum, ClinVar, and DIAN underscores the critical challenge of fragmentation in Alzheimer’s disease-related dementias (ADRD) genetic resources. As depicted

in Figure 2, a comparative analysis was performed between the APP, PSEN1, and PSEN2 variants in Alzforum and those in DIAN and ClinVar, respectively. A significant overlap between Alzforum and DIAN is evident (n=121) across the APP, PSEN1, and PSEN2 genes. However, DIAN encompasses certain variants absent in Alzforum. This pattern intensifies when comparing the genetic variants in Alzforum with those in ClinVar. Notwithstanding the larger overlap (n=80) across APP, PSEN1, PSEN2, ClinVar encompasses a substantial number of additional variants (n=597) absent in Alzforum and DIAN.

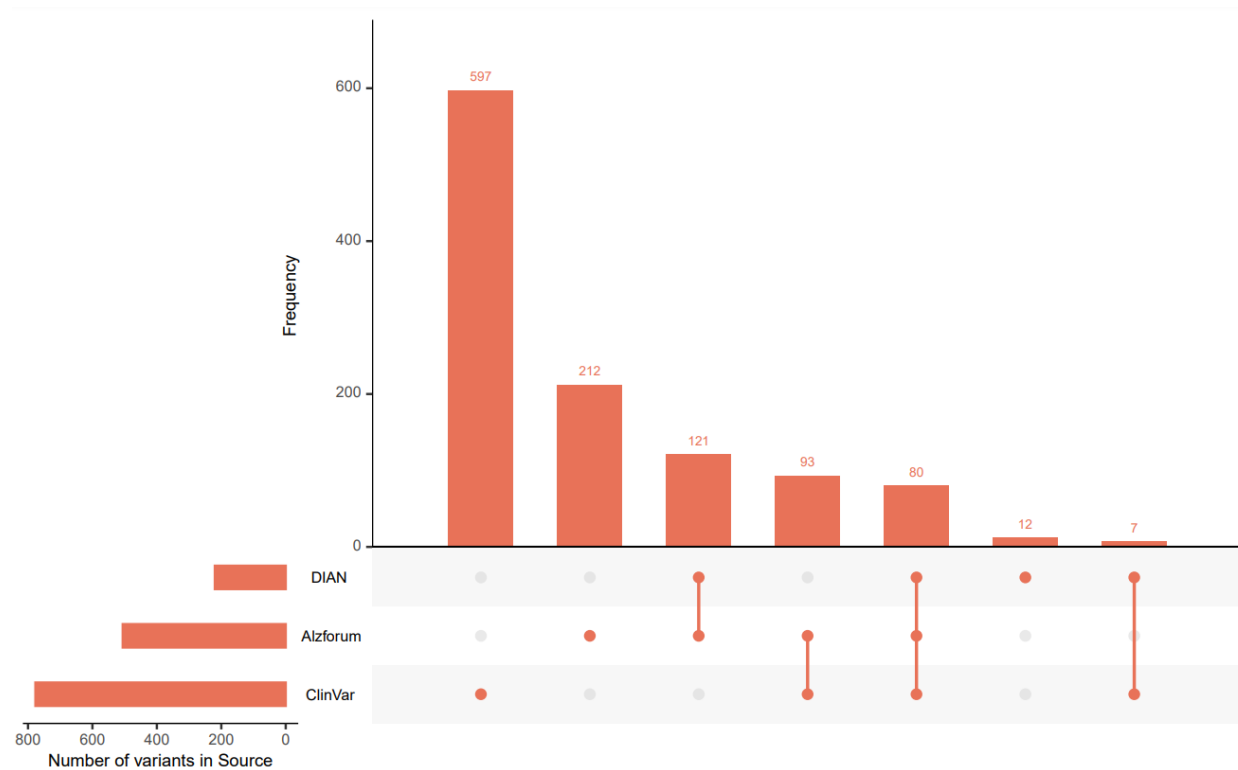


Figure 2. Comparative analysis of APP/PSEN1/PSEN2 variants in ClinVar, Alzforum, and DIAN.

Following the integration of variant data into the RADR database, we examined the distribution of genetic variants stratified by pathogenicity, as determined by our consensus classification algorithm. Figure 3a portrays the genes within RADR that possess over ten pathogenic, likely pathogenic, and risk factor/modifier genetic variants. PSEN1 and SQSTM1 genes are associated with a higher number of ADRD phenotype variants. Notably, the majority of PSEN1 mutations fall under the categories of pathogenic and likely pathogenic. As anticipated, many of the variants across the genes with pathogenic, likely pathogenic, and risk factor/modifier variants are deemed variants of uncertain significance.

For a detailed gene distribution analysis stratified by pathogenicity, please refer to Supplemental Figure 1.

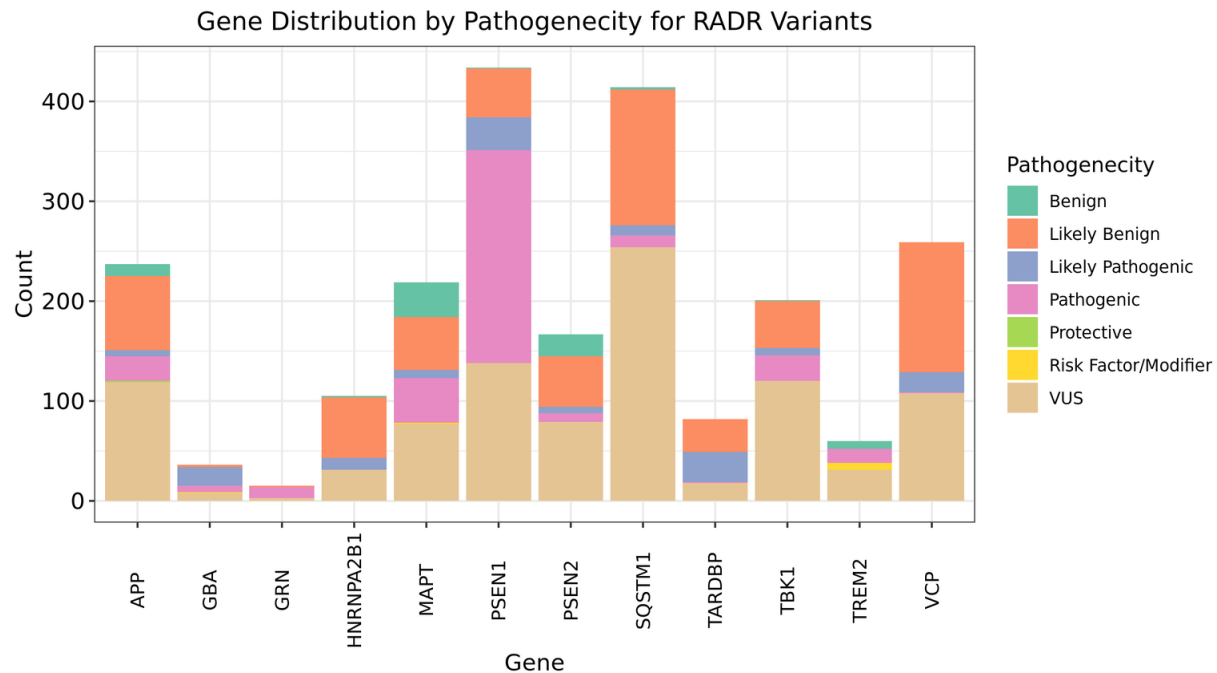


Figure 3a. Gene Distribution of Pathogenicity for pathogenic, likely pathogenic, and risk factor/modifier RADR variants.

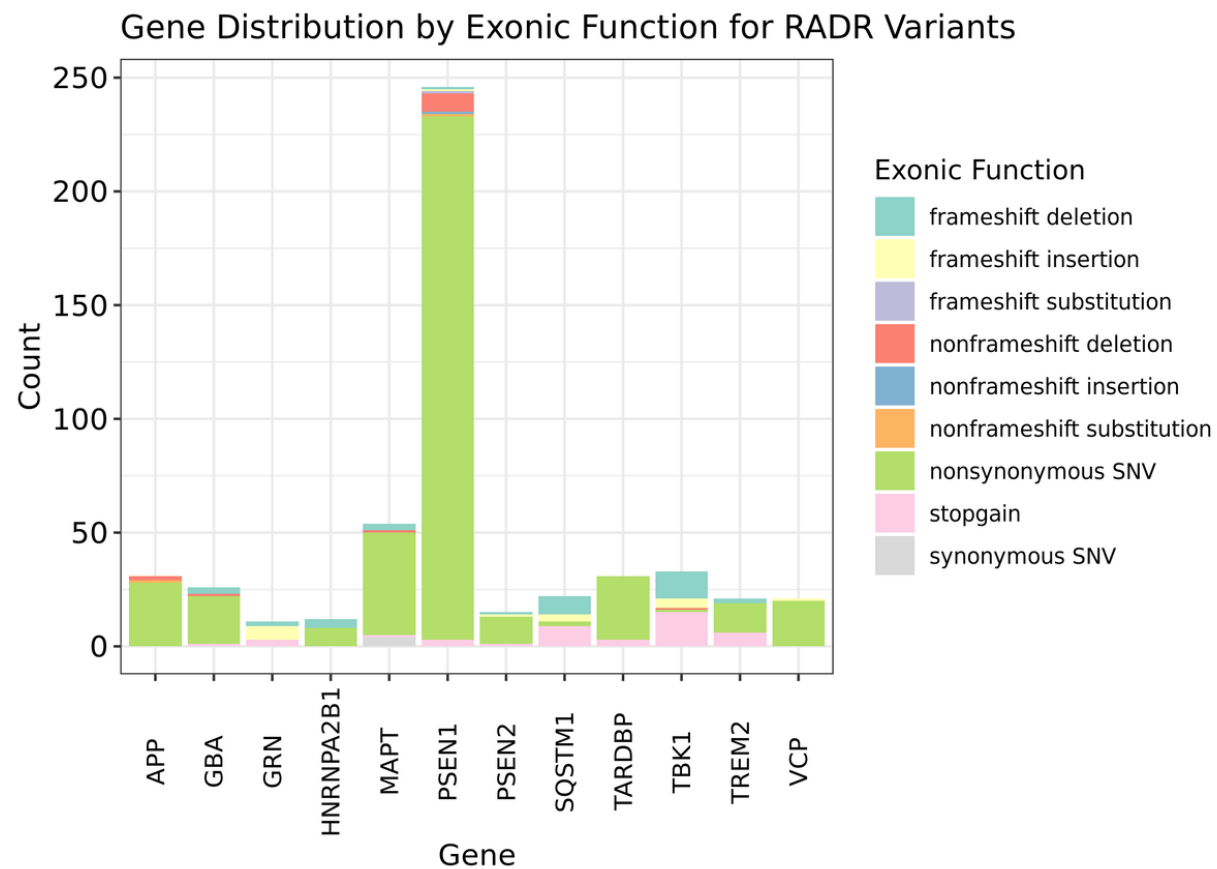


Figure 3b. Gene distribution of genes with pathogenic, likely pathogenic, and risk factor/modifier variants stratified by exonic function.

Next, we investigated the genetic distribution of pathogenic, likely pathogenic, and risk factor/modifier variants, stratified by exonic function. The majority of these variants display a form of nonsynonymous variation. Interestingly, almost all curated genes, excluding those of GRN, SQSTM1, and TBK1 genes, have the majority of their pathogenic, likely pathogenic, and risk factor/modifier variants classified as nonsynonymous single nucleotide variants (SNVs). For a comprehensive breakdown of the genetic distribution of variants stratified by exonic function, please refer to Supplemental Figure 2.

### ***Application of RADR to Mount Sinai's BioMe Biobank***

Leveraging the RADR database, we conducted an analysis of carrier rates for rare pathogenic, likely pathogenic, and risk factor/modifier variants within the BioMe Biobank. Variants classified under these categories are presumed to significantly influence phenotype and are consequently subject to intense selective pressure, hence their rarity. Figure 4a and Figure 4b illustrate the phenotype-specific carrier frequency of pathogenic, likely pathogenic, and risk factor/modifier variants respectively. Evidently, these variants within the BioMe Biobank occur in both distinct cases and controls, suggesting incomplete penetrance.

Interestingly, the HFE:p.Cys287Tyr variant is observed in multiple instances of both individuals with ADRD phenotypes and control cases. This variant has been reported in ClinVar by multiple submitters to be either pathogenic or a risk factor. The HFE gene produces a protein that detects iron levels in the body and defects in this gene are mainly associated with Hemochromatosis, but also linked to AD.<sup>30</sup> Additionally, the PSEN1:p.Gly206Ala variant warrants attention as it has been identified as a founder variant in the Caribbean Hispanic population.

The GBA:p.Asn409Ser variant is also seen in the biobank population, and is recognized in literature as pathogenic for Parkinson's disease and Lewy Body Dementia, with a prevalence in the Ashkenazi Jewish population.<sup>31</sup> Despite the limited number of patients in BioMe (n=4), further ancestry analysis is required to confirm this population-specificity.

Among risk factor variants, TREM2:p.Leu211Pro showed the highest carrier frequency in BioMe. This variant, categorized as benign or likely benign, is not linked to any ADRD phenotypes in ClinVar. However, Alzforum cites it as a potential risk factor/modifier for AD and FTD, due to its possible correlation with AD in African Americans.<sup>32</sup> Furthermore, TREM2:p.Arg47His was observed in patients with AD, unspecified dementia, and a family history of dementia. Two independent 2013 studies associated this missense variant with late-onset Alzheimer's disease.<sup>33</sup>



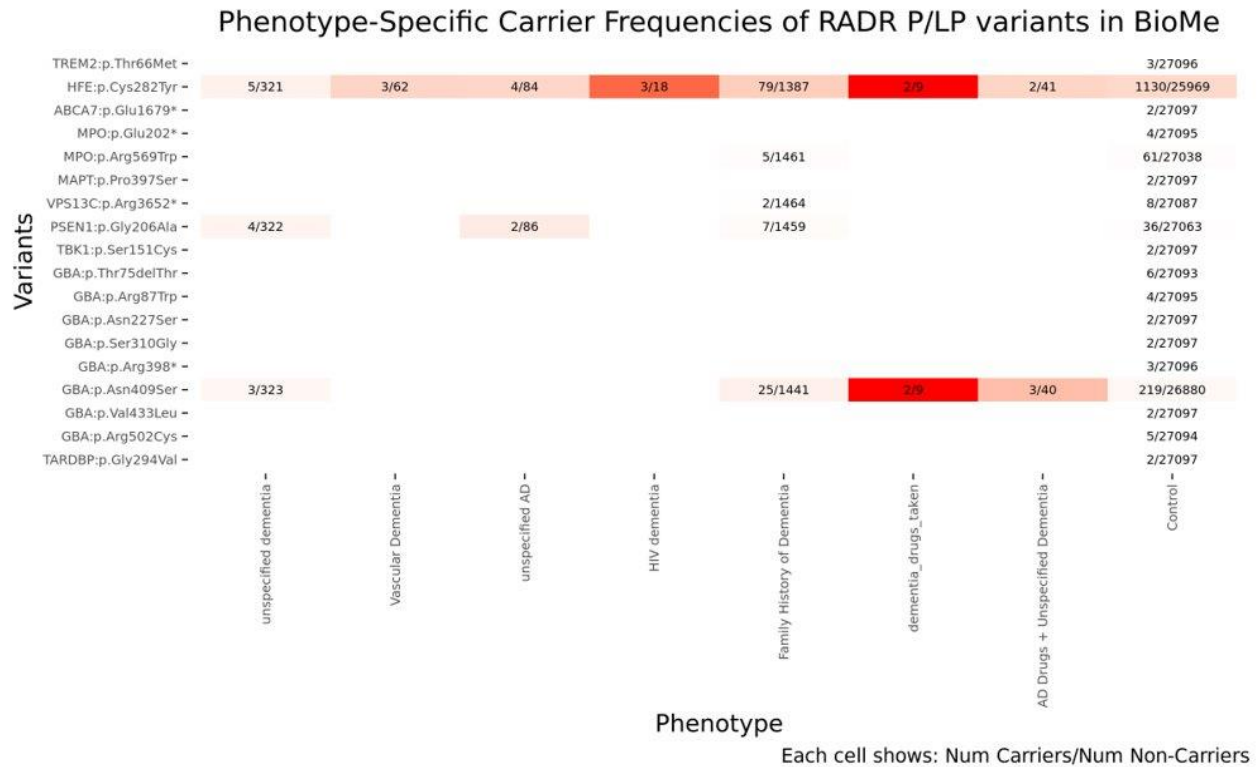


Figure 4a. Heatmap showing phenotype specific carrier frequency of RADR pathogenic and likely pathogenic variants found in the BioMe Biobank. This figure is a subset of all pathogenic and likely pathogenic variants found in BioMe. A complete heatmap is found in Supplemental Figure 3.

Phenotype	Carriers	Non-Carriers	Fisher Test FDR	Odds Ratio
AD Drugs + Unspecified Dementia	3	17	0.03*	0.79
Control	489	5610	0.00	0.00
Dementia Drugs Taken	2	7	0.05>*	0.83
Early Onset Alzheimer's Disease	1	7	0.08	0.91
Family History of Dementia	19	347	0.00*	0.52
Frontotemporal Dementia	0	0	0.00	0.00
HIV Dementia	0	8	0.11	0.87
Huntington's Disease Dementia	0	0	0.05	N/A
Lewy Body Dementia	0	0	0.33	0.87
Late Onset Alzheimer's Disease	0	9	0.27	0.00
Parkinson Dementia	0	0	0.43	0.91
Senile Dementia	0	4	0.00	0.51
Unspecified AD	7	11	0.34	0.49
Unspecified Dementia	3	13	0.27	0.71
Vascular Dementia	0	2	0.00	0.83

Table 1a. Fisher Test and Odds Ratio of phenotypes with carriers of pathogenic and likely pathogenic variants in BioMe. \* indicates statistically significant p-values at an  $\alpha = 0.05$ .

Phenotype ~ genotype + covariates (group all ADRD phenotypes for now)

## Phenotype-Specific Carrier Frequencies of RADR Risk Factor variants in BioMe

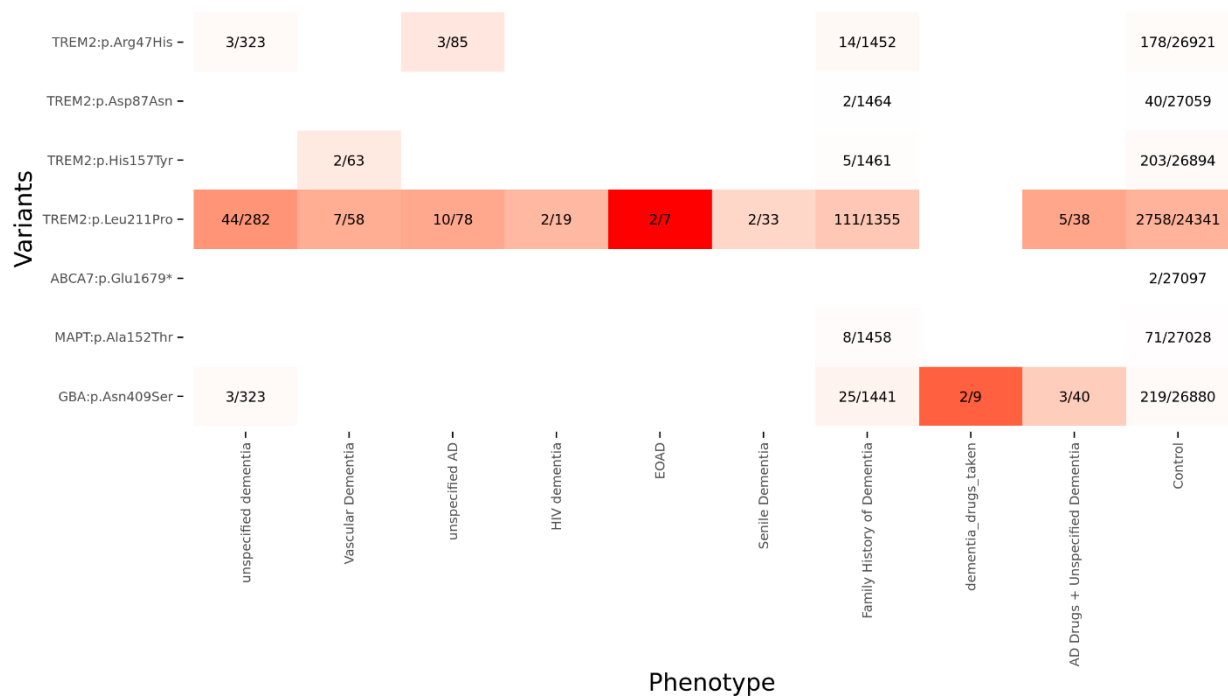


Figure 4b. Heatmap showing phenotype specific carrier frequency of RADR risk factor/modifier variants found in the BioMe Biobank.

Phenotypes	Carriers	Non-Carriers	Fisher Test P-Value	Odds Ratio
AD Drugs + Unspecified Dementia	9	34	0.11	1.82
Control	3441	23658	1.00	1.00
Dementia Drugs Taken	2	9	0.64	1.53
Early Onset Alzheimer's Disease	3	6	0.10	3.44
Family History of Dementia	164	1302	0.09	0.87
Frontotemporal Dementia	0	4	1.00	0.00
HIV Dementia	2	19	1.00	0.72
Huntington's Disease Dementia	0	1	1.00	0.00
Lewy Body Dementia	2	5	0.22	2.75
Late Onset Alzheimer's Disease	3	36	0.47	0.57
Parkinson Dementia	1	9	1.00	0.76
Senile Dementia	3	32	0.62	0.64
Unspecified AD	15	73	0.26	1.41
Unspecified Dementia	50	276	0.16	1.25
Vascular Dementia	9	56	0.71	1.10

Table 1b. Fisher Test and Odds Ratio of phenotypes with carriers of risk factor/modifier variants in BioMe.

Following the initial carrier frequency analysis, we applied a Fisher's Exact Test to compare the number of carriers and non-carriers of pathogenic and likely pathogenic variants in RADR for ADRD phenotypes and controls, as presented in Table 1a. The phenotypes that resulted in a statistically significant p-value at an  $\alpha$  of 0.05 were patients classified as Dementia Drugs Taken, patients with a family history of dementia, and patients classified as AD Drugs + unspecified dementia. Further downstream analysis needs to be conducted to elucidate a possible reason for this result. A similar test was performed on the risk factor/modifier variants in BioMe, which failed to yield any significant results for any phenotypes when compared to control. One major factor limiting this analysis is the lack statistical power, which can be remediated by finding more pathogenic variants or analyzing more genomes of patients with ADRD phenotypes.

### ***Validation of RADR resource in UKB***

Our next step was to validate the RADR resource through its application to the UK Biobank (UKB). Mirroring our methodology used in the BioMe variant analysis, we conducted a preliminary evaluation of the occurrence frequencies of rare pathogenic, likely pathogenic, and risk factors/modifiers curated in RADR. Figure 5a and Figure 5b graphically represent the phenotype-specific carrier frequency of these categories of variants. Variants such as HFE:chr6:g.26093233G>A and SNCA:p.Gly735Ter are observed in both specific cases and controls, implying incomplete penetrance.

HFE:chr6:g.26093233G>A is notably enriched in AD, No dementia subtype specified, and control cases and is characterized as pathogenic in AD according to ClinVar. This variant resides in an intronic spliced donor site, and it is anticipated to impact mRNA splicing, potentially resulting in a substantially modified protein.<sup>34</sup>

Additionally, SNCA:p.Gly73Ser demonstrates enrichment in Vascular Dementia, Alzheimer's Disease, No dementia subtype specified, and control cases. The synuclein gene (SNCA) is responsible for producing alpha-synuclein, a protein considered to play a role in presynaptic signaling and implicated in Parkinson's disease pathogenesis. Despite this, SNCA peptides constitute a major component of amyloid plaques observed in AD. This particular variant is linked to Lewy Body Dementia in ClinVar.<sup>35</sup>

For risk factors of RADR, TREM2:p.Asp87Asn was the most enriched in UKB. While this variant is not associated with any ADRD phenotypes according to ClinVar, Alzforum classifies it as a potential risk factor/modifier, attributing to two studies correlating the variant with AD.<sup>33</sup> Nonetheless, it's crucial to note that subsequent replication studies have not confirmed this association, thus necessitating further analysis to definitively establish ADRD association.

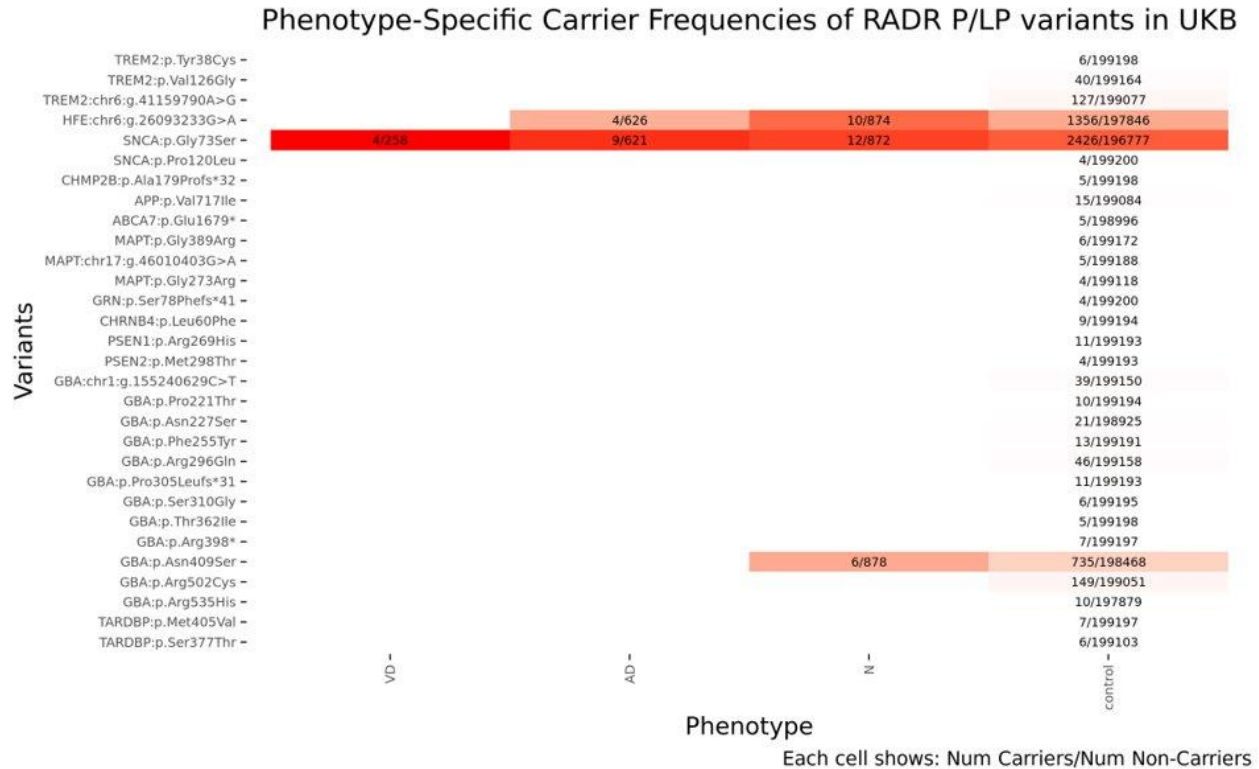


Figure 5a. Heatmap showing phenotype-specific carrier frequency of RADR pathogenic and likely pathogenic variants with more than 2 carriers found in UKB. This figure is a subset of all pathogenic and likely pathogenic variants found in UKB. A complete heatmap is found in Supplemental Figure 4.

Phenotype	Carriers	Non-Carriers	Fisher Test P-Value	Odds Ratio
Alzheimer's Disease	21	609	0.26	1.29
Control	5170	194033	1.00	1.00
Frontotemporal Dementia	5	257	0.69	0.73
Lewy Body Dementia	1	2	0.08	18.77
No dementia subtype specified	1	49	1.00	0.77
Another dementia subtype	33	851	0.14	1.46
Vascular Dementia	3	100	0.75	1.13

Table 2a. Fisher Test and Odds Ratio of phenotypes with carriers of pathogenic and likely pathogenic variants in UKB.

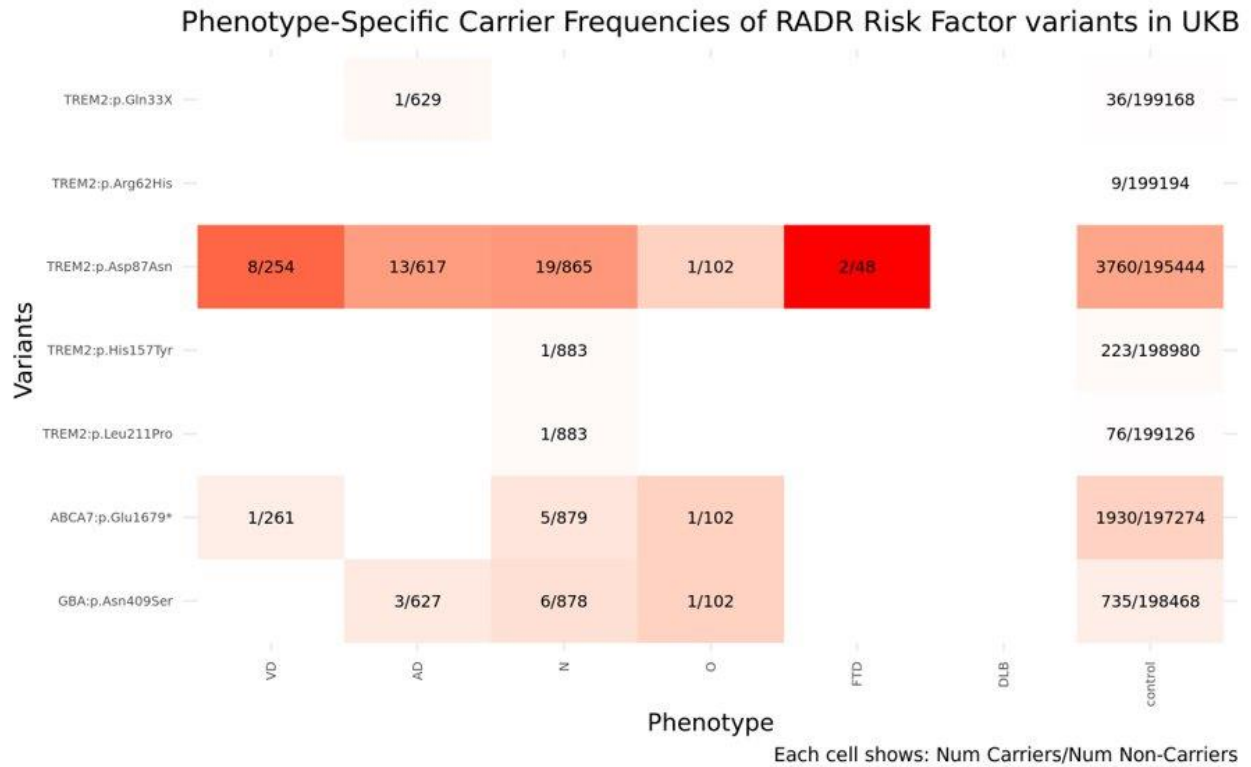


Figure 5b. Heatmap showing phenotype specific carrier frequency of RADR risk factor/modifier variants in UKB. This figure is a subset of all pathogenic and likely pathogenic variants found in UKB.

Phenotypes	Carriers	Non-Carriers	Fisher Test P-Value	Odds Ratio
Alzheimer's Disease	17	613	0.44	0.79
Control	6748	192456	1.00	1.00
Frontotemporal Dementia	9	253	0.86	1.01
Lewy Body Dementia	0	3	1.00	0.00
No dementia subtype specified	2	48	0.69	1.19
Other dementia subtype	32	852	0.71	1.07
Vascular Dementia	3	100	1.00	0.86

Table 2b. Fisher Test and Odds Ratio of phenotypes with carriers of risk factor/modifier variants in UKB.

In parallel with the Fisher's Exact Test conducted for ADRD phenotypes in BioMe, we applied a similar analysis to the carriers of rare pathogenic, likely pathogenic, and risk factor/modifier RADR variants, as depicted in Tables 2a and 2b. Despite the increased number of ADRD phenotype cases in comparison to BioMe, we found no significant associations for carriers of pathogenic, likely pathogenic, and risk factor/modifier variants.

### ***Evaluation of P/LP/Risk Factor Frequencies in BioMe and UKB***

Building on our analysis of the carrier frequencies for pathogenic, likely pathogenic, and risk factor variants within BioMe and UKB, we subsequently examined the allele frequencies of these variants, as visualized in Figure 6 and documented in Table 3. Owing to the selective pressure exerted on pathogenic and likely pathogenic variants, we anticipated lower frequencies for these

variants compared to risk factors. Our data from both BioMe and UKB, presented in Figure 6, supports this expectation. Most pathogenic and likely pathogenic variants present a minor allele frequency (MAF) in the range of 0-0.1%, although certain variants display greater enrichment.

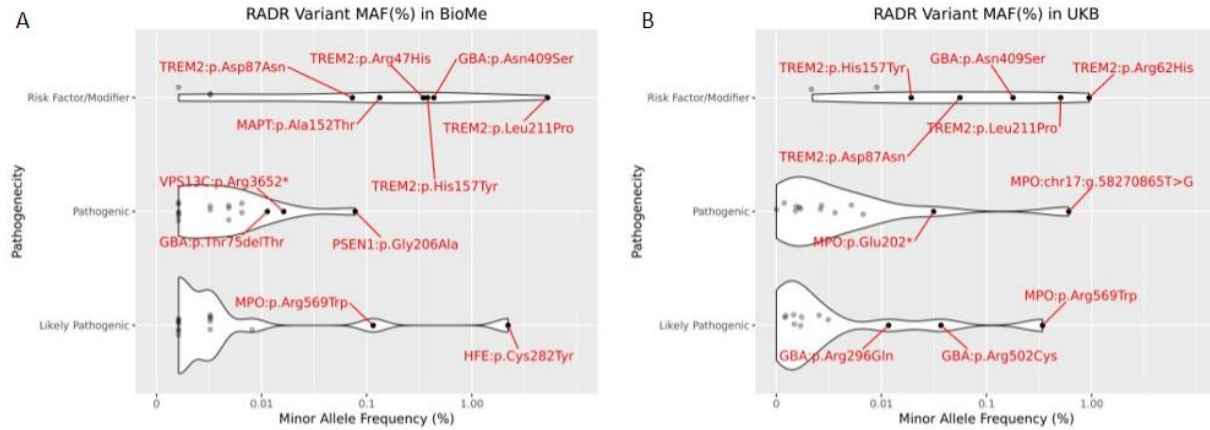


Figure 6. Minor Allele Frequencies of RADR P/LP/Risk Factor/Modifiers variants in BioMe and UKB. Panel A is a violin plot of MAF in BioMe. Panel B is a violin plot of MAF in UKB. Variants are highlighted that have a MAF > 0.01%.

Variant	Pathogenicity	BioMe AF	UKB AF	Gnomad 3.12 Allele Frequency
ABCA7:p.Arg1561*	Pathogenic	1.62269e-05	1.5e-05	1.971e-05
ABCA7:p.Glu1679*	Risk Factor/Modifier	3.24538e-05	9.2e-05	3.945e-05
GBA:p.Arg398*	Pathogenic	4.86808e-05	1.7e-05	.
GBA:p.Arg502Cys	Likely Pathogenic	8.11346e-05	0.000369	7.28e-05
GBA:p.Arg87Trp	Pathogenic	6.49077e-05	7e-06	1.972e-05
GBA:p.Asn227Ser	Pathogenic	4.86808e-05	5.2e-05	9.861e-05
GBA:p.Asn409Ser	Risk Factor/Modifier	0.00436504	0.001789	0.0018
GBA:p.Leu199Aspfs*62	Pathogenic	1.62269e-05	2e-06	.
GBA:p.Phe252Ile	Likely Pathogenic	1.62269e-05	5e-06	6.572e-06
GBA:p.Ser235Pro	Likely Pathogenic	1.62269e-05	2e-06	6.596e-06
GBA:p.Ser310Gly	Likely Pathogenic	3.24538e-05	1.5e-05	3.942e-05
GBA:p.Val433Leu	Likely Pathogenic	3.24538e-05	5e-06	6.569e-06
MPO:p.Arg569Trp	Likely Pathogenic	0.00115211	0.003414	0.0017
MPO:p.Glu202*	Pathogenic	6.49077e-05	0.000314	0.0001
PSEN1:p.Ala79Val	Pathogenic	1.62269e-05	5e-06	3.286e-05
PSEN1:p.Val412Ile	Pathogenic	3.24538e-05	5e-06	1.972e-05
TBK1:p.Glu643delGlu	Likely Pathogenic	1.62311e-05	1.2e-05	.
TREM2:p.Asp87Asn	Risk Factor/Modifier	0.000730211	0.000558	0.0014
TREM2:p.Gln33X	Risk Factor/Modifier	3.24538e-05	2.2e-05	1.971e-05
TREM2:p.His157Tyr	Risk Factor/Modifier	0.00379735	0.000192	0.0019
TREM2:p.Leu211Pro	Risk Factor/Modifier	0.0526888	0.005076	0.0386

TREM2:p.Thr66Met	Pathogenic	4.86808e-05	2.7e-05	5.912e-05
TREM2:p.Tyr38Cys	Pathogenic	1.62269e-05	2e-06	.
VCP:p.Pro137Ser	Likely Pathogenic	1.62269e-05	2e-06	.

Table 3. Allele Frequencies of P/LP/Risk Factors present in both UKB and BioMe compared to gnomAD. Variants with “.” in Gnomad 3.12 Allele Frequency column have not been recorded in Gnomad.

Table 3 shows the allele frequencies of the RADR variants identified in both BioMe and UKB in conjunction with those reported in gnomAD. Although most variants display consistent frequencies across both BioMe and UKB, specific variants, such as GBA:p.Asn409Ser and TREM2:p.His157Tyr, show higher frequencies in BioMe and UKB. This discrepancy can potentially be attributed to several factors.

The differing population structures of the three databases could account for the observed variation. BioMe boasts a more diverse biobank compared to the predominantly white-Caucasian population represented in UKB. Consequently, certain variants that are particularly enriched in specific populations may be more prevalent in BioMe. To reconcile these disparities in frequency, further ancestral analysis is warranted.

A comprehensive list of all pathogenic, likely pathogenic, and risk factor/modifier variants for BioMe and UKB can be accessed in Supplemental Tables 1 and 2, respectively.

### **Ancestry-Specific Variants that Contribute to ADRD**

Our analysis of each variant within BioMe also yielded variants that were enriched within certain ancestries. Of note, MAPT:Ala152Thr, a risk modifier variant, was enriched in hispanic population. PSEN1:Gly206Ala, a pathogenic variant, was enriched in the hispanic population as well in BioMe. This follows previous analysis of this variant, which has been linked to Alzheimer’s disease in over 70 families of Caribbean- Hispanic descent. (Lee et al. 2014). TREM2:Arg47His is another risk modifier variant which has been shown to increase risk for late-onset Alzheimer’s Disease. While this variant was enriched in Population-specific frequency (BioMe & gnomAD)

### ***Variant Penetrance***

Familial cases (maybe a paragraph)

## **Discussion**

This study highlights the importance of a comprehensive and unifying resource for understanding the genetic underpinnings of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD). By developing RADR, we have made significant strides in harmonizing and standardizing the scattered variants associated with ADRD from multiple databases, including ClinVar, Alzforum, and DIAN.

One striking observation from our findings was the difference in variant classification between ClinVar, Alzforum, and the literature of ADRD WES studies, which underscores the necessity for a standardization pipeline and cohesive database. This discrepancy is indicative of the substantial fragmentation and incongruity within the field, reinforcing the need for a unified platform such as RADR, which aims to rectify these discrepancies and streamline data interpretation.

Looking ahead, there are several promising avenues for future research. One key direction involves analyzing the ancestry breakdown of variant frequencies in the BioMe cohort. As our results have suggested, population structure and ancestry play a crucial role in variant frequencies. More comprehensive and detailed analysis will help account for these variations, adding to the precision and reliability of our database.

Another compelling direction involves identifying familial cases from population cohorts. With the advent of large-scale biobanks and genomic databases, we have an unprecedented opportunity to detect familial aggregation of ADRD, which could provide valuable insights into both the heritable and sporadic forms of the disease. Furthermore, it can also help us determine the penetrance of variants and provide more clarity.

Validation of RADR in other large-scale sequencing datasets, such as the "All of Us" Research Program, will also be crucial for expanding the generalizability and robustness of the database. The "All of US" research program initiated by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to gather health data from one million or more people in the United States.<sup>36</sup> The genetic and health data will be invaluable to identifying new variants as well as validating the association of established variants. This approach will enable us to cross-validate our findings and ensure the reliability of RADR across different populations and cohorts.

Given the growing evidence for the role of rare variants in ADRD, the development of a rare variant Polygenic Risk Score (PRS) could prove instrumental in deciphering the genetic complexity of the disease. In addition, a combined PRS approach, encompassing both common and rare variants, could potentially fill the 'missing heritability' gap of ADRD and significantly enhance our predictive and diagnostic capabilities. Attempts have been made to combine Common and Rare PRS in the context of diabetes and prostate cancer, however, a standardized methodology for ADRD remains elusive.<sup>37,38</sup>

Finally, it's important to highlight that the development of RADR is an ongoing endeavor. As our understanding of the genetic architecture of ADRD continues to evolve, so will RADR. We envision RADR as a dynamic and continually updated repository, growing in tandem with the evolving nature of ADRD genetics research. As new genetic insights emerge and novel variants are identified, these will be incorporated into RADR, thus maintaining its relevance and value as a critical resource for researchers and clinicians alike. The newly announced Mount Sinai Million Health Discoveries program, an extension to the BioMe biobank as well as the "All of Us" research program are crucial to maintaining and applying RADR.<sup>39</sup>



Our work with RADR has only just begun, but the promise it holds is considerable. By providing a comprehensive, harmonized, and continuously updated resource, we hope to accelerate advances in our understanding of ADRD genetics and ultimately contribute to the development of targeted interventions and treatments for ADRD diseases.

## **Acknowledgements**

The authors wish to acknowledge the BioMe and UKB biobanks and their participating patients and families that generously contributed the data. The authors would also wish to acknowledge all genetics research groups that have aided in mapping of ADRD genetics thus far. This work was supported by NIGMS R35GM138113 and ISMMS funds to KH. Large language models (LLM), including those provided through GPT models, is used in the initial drafts of coding, literature review, writing of this work. All final codes and texts have been extensively edited and verified by the authors.

I would like to thank my PI Dr. Kuan-lin Huang for his invaluable assistance and guidance with the development of RADR. I would also like to thank the members of the Computationalomics Laboratory and the Department of Genomics and Genetics at Mount Sinai.

## **COMPETING FINANCIAL INTERESTS**

The authors declare no competing interests.

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## Supplemental Information

Variant	Pathogenicity	Allele Frequency	gnomad 3.12 Allele Frequency
ARDBP:p.Ala315Thr	likely Pathogenic	1e-06	
ARDBP:p.Ala326Thr	likely Pathogenic	1e-06	
ARDBP:p.Ser377Thr	likely Pathogenic	1.7e-05	
ARDBP:p.Ala382Thr	likely Pathogenic	1e-06	
ARDBP:p.Ile383Val	likely Pathogenic	1e-06	1.572e-06
ARDBP:p.Gly386Glu	likely Pathogenic	1e-06	
ARDBP:p.Met405Val	likely Pathogenic	1.7e-05	1.571e-06
iBA:p.Arg535His	likely Pathogenic	1.5e-05	1.528e-05
iBA:p.Arg502Cys	likely Pathogenic	0.000369	1.28e-05
iBA:p.Val433Leu	likely Pathogenic	1e-06	1.569e-06
iBA:p.Asn409Ser	Risk Factor/Modifier	0.001789	0.0018
iBA:p.Arg398*	Pathogenic	1.7e-05	
iBA:p.Thr362Ile	likely Pathogenic	1.2e-05	
iBA:p.Ser310Gly	likely Pathogenic	1.5e-05	1.942e-05
iBA:p.Pro305Leufs*31	Pathogenic	1.7e-05	
iBA:p.Ile299Thr	likely Pathogenic	1e-06	
iBA:p.Arg296Gln	likely Pathogenic	0.000117	1.943e-05
iBA:p.Phe255Tyr	likely Pathogenic	1.2e-05	1.314e-05
iBA:p.Phe252Ile	likely Pathogenic	1e-06	1.572e-06
iBA:p.Ser235Pro	likely Pathogenic	1e-06	1.596e-06
iBA:p.Asn227Ser	Pathogenic	1.2e-05	1.861e-05
iBA:p.Pro221Thr	likely Pathogenic	1.5e-05	
iBA:p.Leu199Aspfs*62	Pathogenic	1e-06	

iBA:p.Arg87Trp	Pathogenic	1e-06	1.972e-05
iBA:chr1:g.155240629C>T	Pathogenic	1.7e-05	1.885e-05
iSEN2:p.Lys82Ilefs*44	Probably Pathogenic	1e-06	
iSEN2:p.Met298Thr	Probably Pathogenic	1e-05	1.579e-06
iSEN2:chr1:g.226895650C>A	Probably Pathogenic	1e-06	1.943e-05
BK1:p.Arg117*	Pathogenic	1e-06	
BK1:chr12:g.64482022G>A	Pathogenic	1e-05	
BK1:p.Glu643delGlu	Probably Pathogenic	1.2e-05	
iSEN1:p.Ala79Val	Pathogenic	1e-06	1.286e-05
iSEN1:p.Ala137Thr	Probably Pathogenic	1e-06	
iSEN1:p.Ile143Phe	Pathogenic	1e-06	
iSEN1:p.Ala246Glu	Pathogenic	1e-06	
iSEN1:p.Pro267Leu	Pathogenic	1e-06	
iSEN1:p.Arg269His	Pathogenic	1.7e-05	1.579e-06
iSEN1:p.Val412Ile	Pathogenic	1e-06	1.972e-05
iHRNB4:p.Leu60Phe	Probably Pathogenic	1e-06	
iRN:p.Ser78Phefs*41	Pathogenic	1e-06	
iRN:chr17:g.44349552G>A	Pathogenic	1e-06	
iRN:p.Leu187Argfs*69	Pathogenic	1e-06	
iRN:p.Cys253*fs*1	Pathogenic	1e-06	
iAAPT:p.Gly55Arg	Pathogenic	1e-06	1.314e-05
iAAPT:p.Gly273Arg	Pathogenic	1e-06	1.571e-06
iAAPT:chr17:g.46010403G>A	Pathogenic	1e-06	
iAAPT:chr17:g.46010418C>T	Pathogenic	1.2e-05	
iAAPT:chr17:g.46010421C>G	Pathogenic	1.7e-05	1.314e-05
iAAPT:p.Gln336Arg	Pathogenic	1e-06	
iAAPT:p.Ser352Leu	Pathogenic	1e-06	1.574e-06
iAAPT:p.Gly366Arg	Pathogenic	1e-06	
iAAPT:p.Gly389Arg	Pathogenic	1e-06	
iAAPT:p.Arg406Trp	Pathogenic	1.5e-05	
iAAPT:p.Asn410His	Pathogenic	1e-06	
iAAPT:p.Thr427Met	Pathogenic	1e-05	1.314e-05
iAPO:chr17:g.58270865T>G	Pathogenic	1.006065	1.0046
iAPO:p.Arg569Trp	Probably Pathogenic	1.003414	1.0017
iAPO:p.Glu202*	Pathogenic	1.000314	1.0001
iAPO:chr17:g.58280016T>C	Pathogenic	1.0001	1.0001
iBCA7:p.R1118*	Probably Pathogenic	1e-06	1.971e-05
iBCA7:p.Arg1561*	Pathogenic	1.5e-05	1.971e-05
iBCA7:p.Glu1679*	Risk Factor/Modifier	1.2e-05	1.945e-05
iPP:p.Val717Ile	Pathogenic	1e-06	
iPP:p.Glu693Gln	Pathogenic	1e-06	

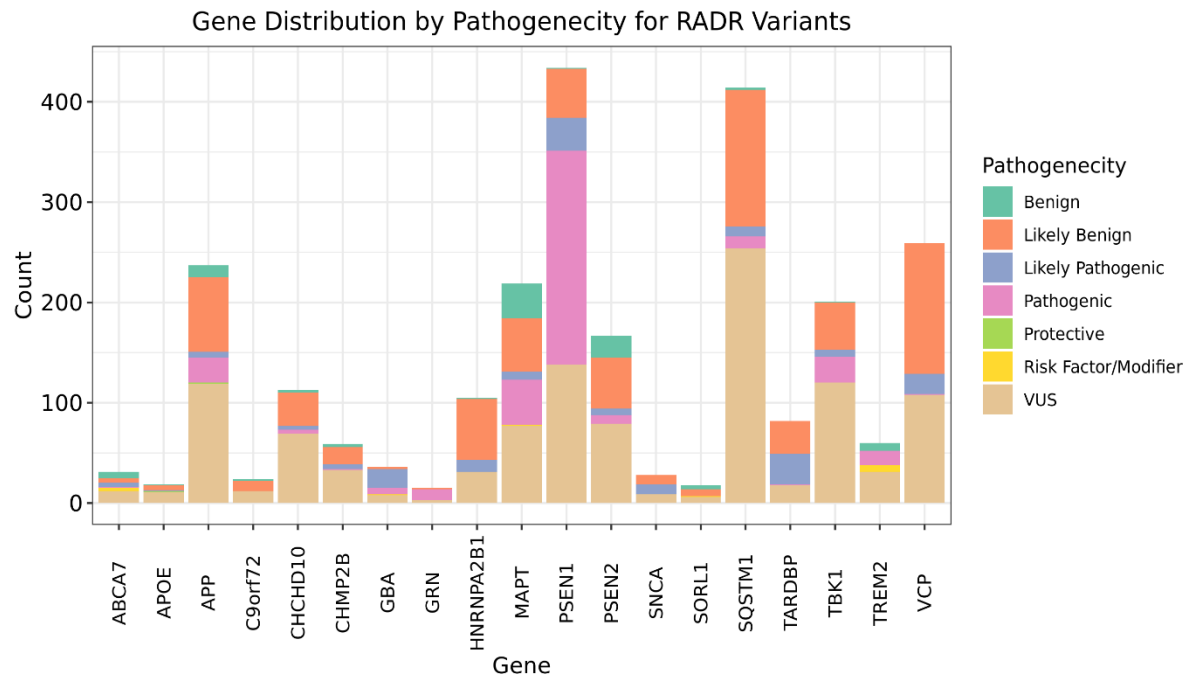
HC10:p.Gln82*	Pathogenic	1e-06	
HC10:p.Ser59Leu	Likely Pathogenic	1e-06	
HMP2B:p.Thr89Lysfs*2	Likely Pathogenic	1e-06	
HMP2B:p.Ala179Profs*32	Likely Pathogenic	1e-06	
HMP2B:p.Arg186*	Likely Pathogenic	1e-06	1.587e-06
NCA:p.Pro120Leu	Likely Pathogenic	1e-06	1.576e-06
NCA:p.Gly73Ser	Likely Pathogenic	1e-06	
IFE:chr6:g.26093233G>A	Pathogenic	1e-06	1.915e-05
REM2:p.Leu211Pro	Risk Factor/Modifier	0.005076	0.0386
REM2:chr6:g.41159790A>G	Pathogenic	1e-06	
REM2:p.His157Tyr	Risk Factor/Modifier	0.000192	0.0019
REM2:p.Val126Gly	Pathogenic	1e-06	
REM2:p.Asp87Asn	Risk Factor/Modifier	0.000558	0.0014
REM2:p.Thr66Met	Pathogenic	1.7e-05	1.912e-05
REM2:p.Arg62His	Risk Factor/Modifier	0.009494	0.0071
REM2:p.Tyr38Cys	Pathogenic	1e-06	
REM2:p.Gln33X	Risk Factor/Modifier	1.2e-05	1.971e-05
INRNPA2B1:p.Tyr278Cys	Likely Pathogenic	1e-05	
CP:p.Arg159Cys	Likely Pathogenic	1e-06	
CP:p.Pro137Ser	Likely Pathogenic	1e-06	
CP:p.Arg93Cys	Likely Pathogenic	1e-06	

Supplemental Table 1. BioMe Pathogenic/Likely Pathogenic/Risk Factor allele frequencies

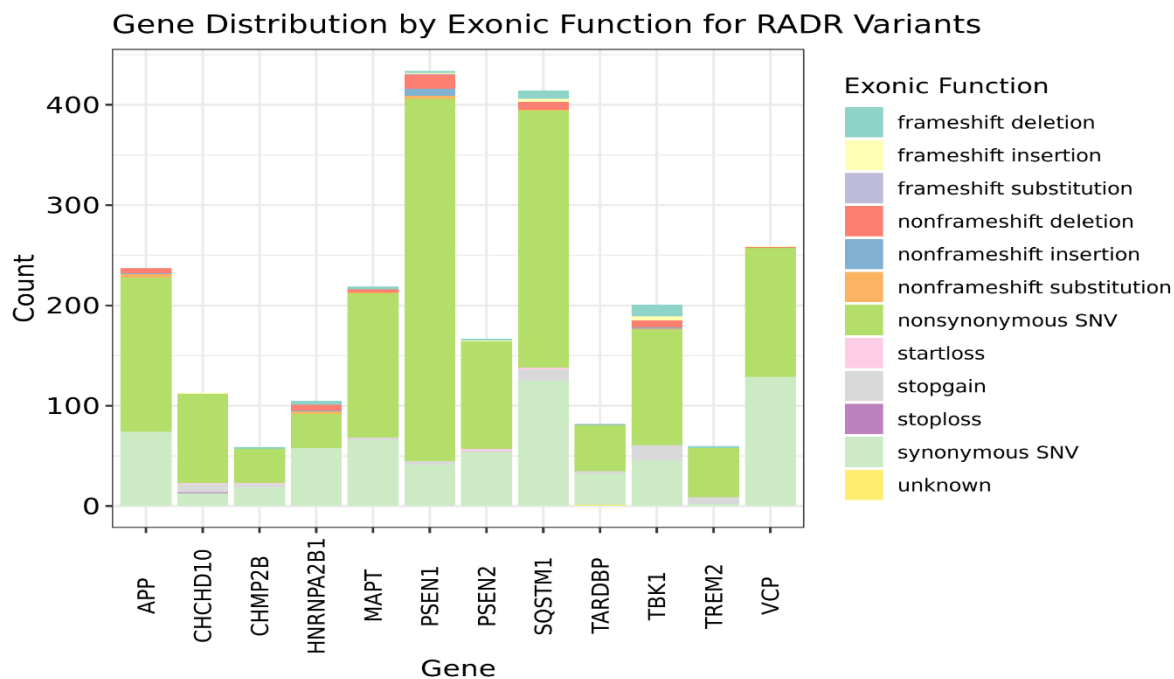
Variant	Pathogenicity	Allele Frequency	gnomad 3.12 Allele Frequency
ARDBP:p.Gly294Val	Likely Pathogenic	1.24538e-05	1.314e-05
ARDBP:p.Gly351Ser	Likely Pathogenic	1.62269e-05	
iBA:p.Arg502Cys	Likely Pathogenic	1.11346e-05	1.28e-05
iBA:p.Val433Leu	Likely Pathogenic	1.24538e-05	1.569e-06
iBA:p.Asn409Ser	Risk Factor/Modifier	0.00436504	0.0018
iBA:p.Arg398*	Pathogenic	1.86808e-05	
iBA:p.Ala348Gly	Likely Pathogenic	1.24538e-05	1.571e-06
iBA:p.Ser310Gly	Likely Pathogenic	1.24538e-05	1.942e-05
iBA:p.Phe252Ile	Likely Pathogenic	1.62269e-05	1.572e-06
iBA:p.Ser235Pro	Likely Pathogenic	1.62269e-05	1.596e-06
iBA:p.Asn227Ser	Pathogenic	1.86808e-05	1.861e-05
iBA:p.Leu199Aspfs*62	Pathogenic	1.62269e-05	
iBA:p.Arg87Trp	Pathogenic	1.49077e-05	1.972e-05
iBA:p.Thr75delThr	Pathogenic	0.000113588	0.0001
BK1:p.Ile141Asnfs*22	Pathogenic	1.62274e-05	1.574e-06
BK1:p.Ser151Cys	Likely Pathogenic	1.24538e-05	1.315e-05
BK1:p.Glu643delGlu	Likely Pathogenic	1.62311e-05	

'SEN1:p.Ala79Val	'athogenic	..62269e-05	..286e-05
'SEN1:p.Gly206Ala	'athogenic	..000778892	..0001
'SEN1:p.Val412Ile	'athogenic	..24538e-05	..972e-05
'PS13C:p.Arg3652*	'athogenic	..00016229	..0002
'AAPT:p.Ala152Thr	'risk Factor/Modifier	..00133061	..0018
'AAPT:p.Pro397Ser	'athogenic	..24538e-05	..571e-06
'APO:p.Arg569Trp	'ikely Pathogenic	..00115211	..0017
'APO:p.Glu202*	'athogenic	..49077e-05	..0001
'BCA7:p.Pro1261Leufs*112	'risk Factor/Modifier	..62269e-05	
'BCA7:p.Arg1561*	'athogenic	..62269e-05	..971e-05
'BCA7:p.Glu1679*	'risk Factor/Modifier	..24538e-05	..945e-05
'NCA:p.Glu123Lys	'ikely Pathogenic	..62269e-05	..574e-06
'QSTM1:p.Gln354Valfs*37	'ikely Pathogenic	..62269e-05	
'IFE:p.Cys282Tyr	'ikely Pathogenic	..0221822	..0373
'REM2:p.Leu211Pro	'risk Factor/Modifier	..0526888	..0386
'REM2:p.His157Tyr	'risk Factor/Modifier	..00379735	..0019
'REM2:p.Asp87Asn	'risk Factor/Modifier	..000730211	..0014
'REM2:p.Thr66Met	'athogenic	..86808e-05	..912e-05
'REM2:p.Arg47His	'risk Factor/Modifier	..00345633	..0020
'REM2:p.Arg47Cys	'athogenic	..62269e-05	..57e-06
'REM2:p.Tyr38Cys	'athogenic	..62269e-05	
'REM2:p.Gln33X	'risk Factor/Modifier	..24538e-05	..971e-05
'CP:p.Pro137Ser	'ikely Pathogenic	..62269e-05	

Supplemental Table 2. UKB Pathogenic/Likely Pathogenic/Risk Factor Allele Frequencies



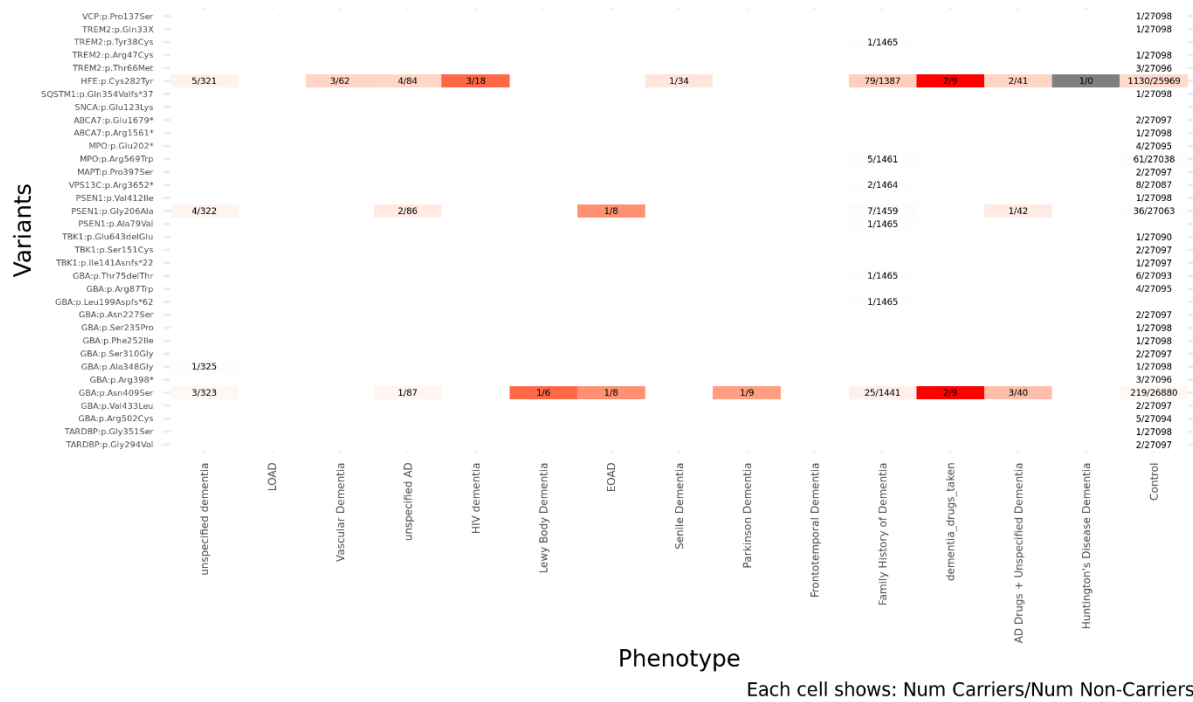
Supplemental Figure 1. Distribution of RADR Genes stratified by exonic function



Supplemental Figure 2. Distribution of RADR Genes stratified by pathogenicity.

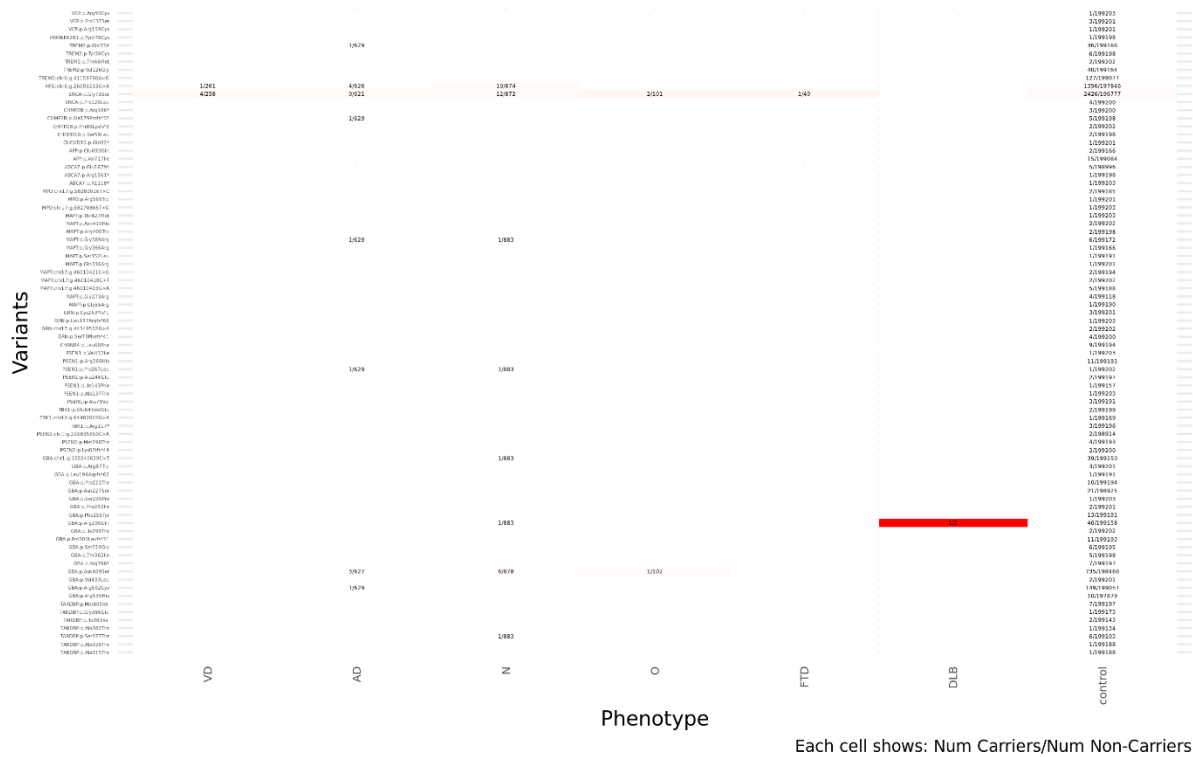


Phenotype-Specific Carrier Frequencies of P/LP RADR Variants



Supplemental Figure 3. Heatmap of all phenotype-specific carrier and non carrier rates of RADR pathogenic and likely pathogenic variants found in BioMe

Phenotype-Specific Carrier Frequencies of RADR P/LP variants in UKB



Supplemental Figure 4. Heatmap of all phenotype-specific carrier and non carrier rates of RADR pathogenic and likely pathogenic variants found in UKB.