

Behavioral Therapy - Melodic Intonation Therapy (MIT)

- The target is the right hemisphere, which is associated with the melody.
- Diffusion Tensor Imaging (DTI) was used to explain changes in the volume and number of fibers that interconnect brain areas involved in language
- Intense, long-term MIT leads to remodeling of the right Arcuate Fasciculus and may provide an explanation for the sustained therapy effects.

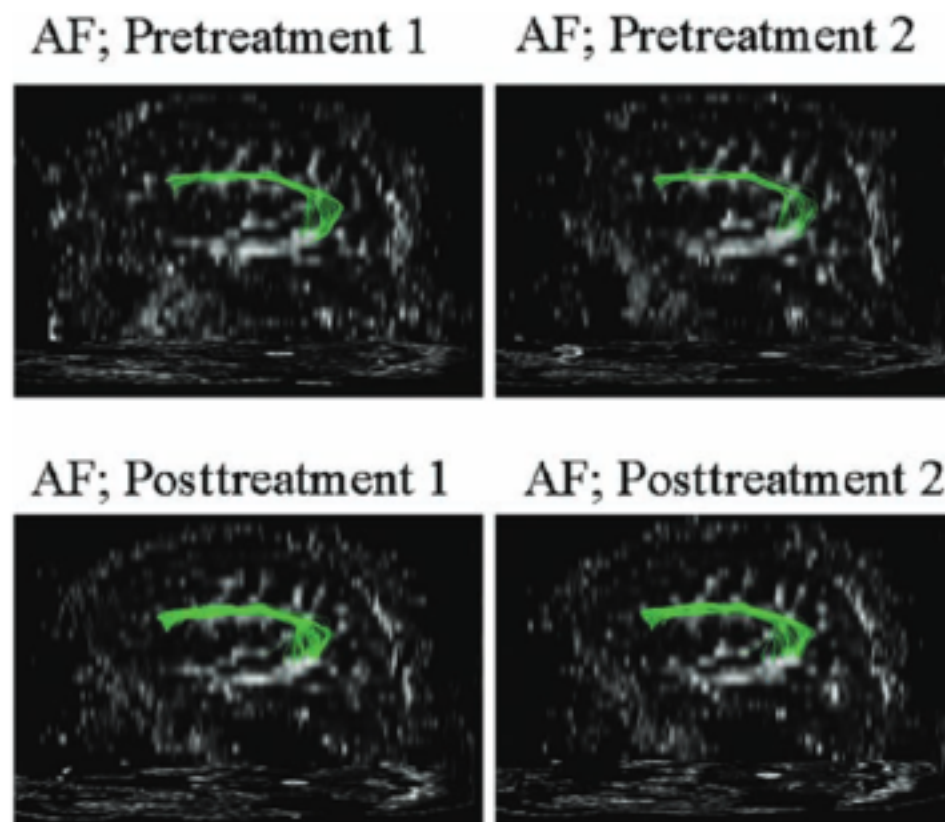


Figure 2. Right AF in one patient with two scans before therapy and two scans after 75 sessions of melodic intonation therapy. The scan-to-scan variability is minimal before therapy and a clear difference in the number of fibers and fiber volume can be seen in comparing the AF before and after therapy. (In color in *Annals* online.)



Neurodegeneration: True Remediation/Compensation

- In neurodegenerative conditions, there is no return to the premorbid condition (at least with the current state of research, that is no true remediation).
- The aim of language therapy is twofold:
 - Inhibit the progression of the condition
 - Enable the patient to cope with the condition – compensate
- We treat patients with Mild Cognitive Impairment, Primary Progressive Aphasia, and Alzheimer's Disease