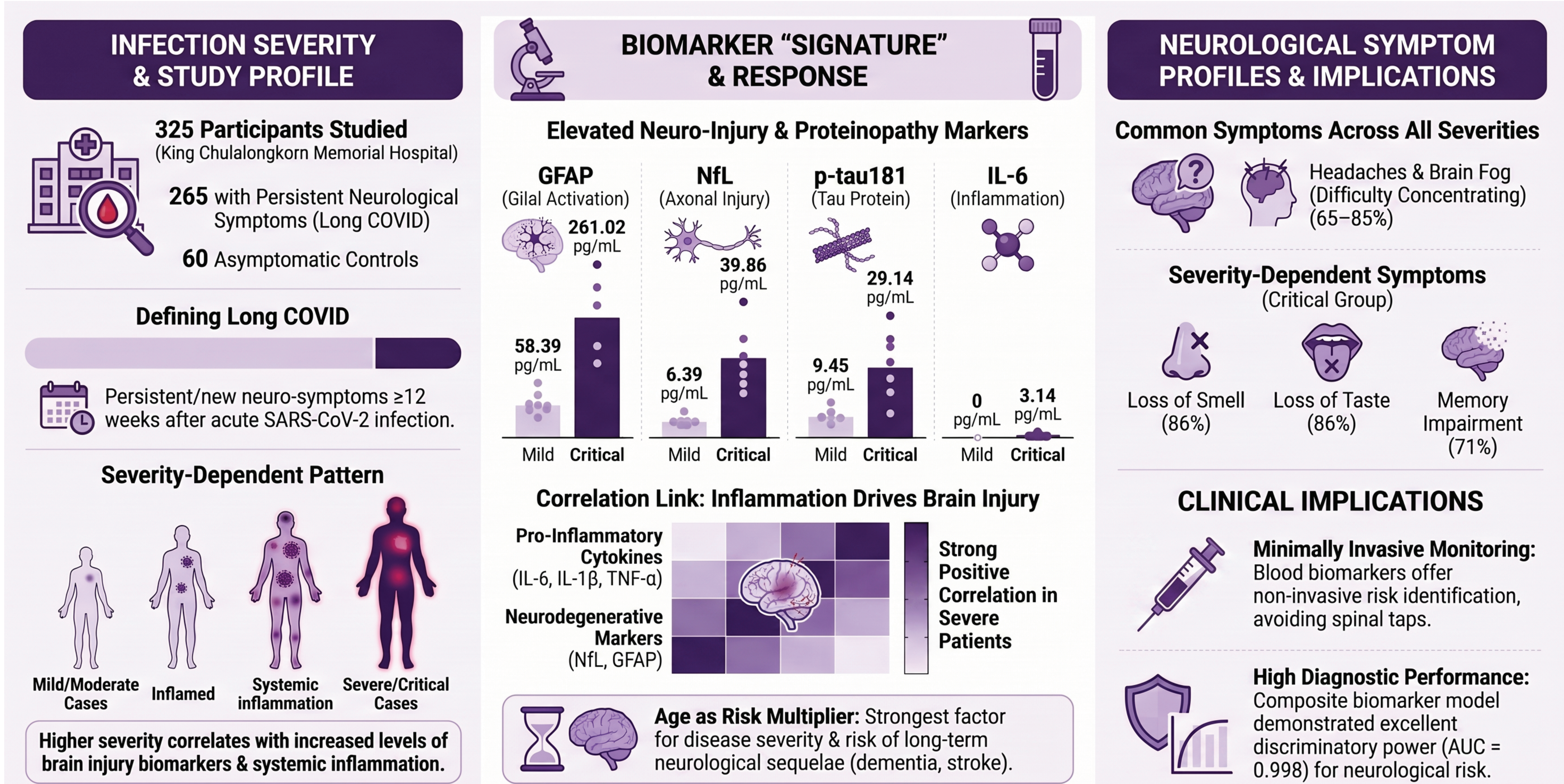


Neuroinflammatory blood biomarkers associated with persistent brain symptoms in long COVID patients

Chanida Ruchisrisarod 1,2*, Thongchai Kaewpom 1, Phanni Wanthong 1, Watayuth Luechaipanit 1, Saowalak Bunprakob 1, Weenassarin Ampoot 1, Siriporn Yomrat 1, Pasin Hemachudha 3, Thirawat Supharatpariyakorn 1, Poosanu Thanapornsangsuth 1, Rachaneekorn Tammachote 3, Abhinbhen W. Saraya 1,3

Background
Research from King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital analyzed 325 participants to identify blood-based indicators of neuroinflammation and neuronal injury. The study highlights how systemic inflammation during acute COVID-19 leads to persistent brain symptoms, using non-invasive biomarkers to identify patients at risk of long-term neurological complications.



Conclusions and Clinical Implications
This study shows a clear link between inflammation and neurological problems in patients with COVID-19. Individuals with severe or critical illness exhibited elevated concentrations of neurological biomarkers and inflammatory cytokines, demonstrating a significant correlation between these factors. Additionally, advanced age was associated with an increased risk for serious neurological and psychiatric disorders, including stroke, dementia, depression, and anxiety. These results indicate that assessing neuroinflammatory biomarkers may facilitate the identification of individuals at risk for both short- and long-term neurological complications after SARS-CoV-2 infection, thereby enabling timely intervention and may improve patient management.