

- 1 **Title:** Restructuring of amygdala subregion apportion across adolescence
- 2 **Abbreviated Title:** Amygdala subnuclei development across adolescence
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30 **Abstract**

31 Total amygdala volumes continue to increase from childhood to young adulthood.

32 Interestingly, postmortem studies have found postnatal neuron numbers increase in a nuclei

33 specific fashion across development, suggesting amygdala maturation may involve changes to

34 its composition. Thus, the goal of this study was to examine amygdala subregion apportionment

35 *in vivo* and examine if these patterns were associated with age, sex, body mass index (BMI), and

36 pubertal status in a large sample of typically developing adolescents (N=421, 44% female, ages

37 10-17 years). We utilized the CIT168 atlas to examine the relative volume fraction (RVF) of 9

38 subregions within each hemisphere of the amygdala. Generalized Additive Mixed Models

39 (GAMM) were used to assess how demographic variables (e.g. age, sex) and physical

40 development (e.g. BMI and pubertal status) were associated with amygdala RVFs. Results

41 showed that age associations varied significantly by sex for the RVFs of the lateral (LA),

42 basolateral ventral and paralaminar subdivision (BLVPL), central nucleus (CEN), and amygdala

43 transition areas (ATA). While pubertal development was found to be associated with RVFs in the

44 BLVPL, CEN, and ATA in males, best-fit model comparisons revealed that age was the best

45 predictor of relative volumes of these subregions. These results suggest that the relative

46 apportionment of the amygdala further develops with age in males across adolescence. These

47 findings may help elucidate how sex differences could impact the prevalence of mental health

48 disorders that arise during this adolescent period of development.

49 **Significance Statement:** Given the heterogeneity of cytoarchitecture, connectivity, and function
50 between amygdala subregions, naturally more research is needed to understand amygdala
51 composition across human adolescence. Our findings show that males, but not females,
52 demonstrate amygdala composition development across the adolescent years of 10 to 17. In
53 males, there is a relative expansion of the lateral and central subregions, but a contraction of the
54 basolateral ventral and paralaminar subdivision and amygdala transition areas within the
55 amygdala. Distinct maturation patterns of the amygdaloid complex across adolescence may be
56 an important mechanism contributing to sex differences in emotional processing as well as the
57 onset, prevalence, and symptomatology for affective disorders that typically emerge during this
58 developmental period.

59 **Introduction**

60 The amygdala is a collection of nuclei located in the temporal lobe, with extensive
61 connections to the cerebral cortex (Amaral and Price, 1984; Barbas and De Olmos, 1990;
62 Ghashghaei and Barbas, 2002). The heterogeneous structure and function of the amygdala nuclei
63 play a vital role in mediating a number of cognitive, affective, and motivational processes (Baxter
64 and Murray, 2002; Hariri et al., 2002; Meyer-Lindenberg et al., 2005; Raznahan et al., 2011; Bzdok
65 et al., 2013; Tottenham and Gabard-Durnam, 2017). Cytoarchitecture and lesion studies have
66 helped determine how these diverse groupings of amygdala neurons mediate specific processes
67 (Krettek and Price, 1978; Amaral and Price, 1984; Ghashghaei and Barbas, 2002; Amunts et al.,
68 2005; Solano-Castiella et al., 2011). Previous studies have shown the basal and lateral nuclei
69 process high-level sensory input and emotional regulation (Sananes and Davis, 1992; Wan and
70 Swerdlow, 1997; Schoenbaum et al., 1999), while the central and basolateral nuclei are involved
71 in reward learning and food intake (Killcross et al., 1997; Rollins and King, 2000; Baxter and
72 Murray, 2002; Ambroggi et al., 2008). Moreover, the region closest to the ventral horn, known as
73 the paralaminar nucleus contains neurons that continue to mature and migrate into adulthood
74 (Amaral and Price, 1984; Bernier et al., 2002; Tosevski et al., 2002; deCampo and Fudge, 2012);
75 this region's potential for regional neural plasticity (deCampo and Fudge, 2012) may be important
76 for modulating amygdala apportionment.

77 When treating the amygdala as a singular unit, total amygdala volumes continue to
78 increase from childhood to young adulthood, with distinct developmental patterns seen based on
79 sex and pubertal stage (Giedd et al., 1996; Bramen et al., 2011; Herting et al., 2014; Wierenga et
80 al., 2014; Herting et al., 2018; Wierenga et al., 2018). However, a recent postmortem study (N=24
81 neurotypical brains, ages 2-48 years) found that neuron numbers increase in the amygdala, but
82 do so in a nucleus specific manner (Avino et al., 2018). These findings suggest that neuronal
83 increase in specific nuclei may prompt relative changes in amygdala nuclei apportionment with

84 development. Accordingly, our study aimed to test the hypothesis that the relative ratio of
85 individual nuclei to the total amygdala volume, or the *relative volume fraction (RVF)*, develops
86 across human adolescence. While previous atlases utilized *ex vivo* brain tissue to delineate the
87 amygdala into smaller regions of interests (ROIs) (Amunts et al., 2005; Saygin et al., 2017), we
88 implemented a novel high-resolution probabilistic atlas, known as the CIT168, based on *in vivo*
89 MRI data (Tyszka and Pauli, 2016; Pauli et al., 2018). Using this approach, we segmented the
90 amygdala into 9 distinct bilateral ROIs for 421 adolescents (n=186 females, ages 10-17 years),
91 including the lateral nucleus (LA), basolateral dorsal and intermediate subdivision (BLDI),
92 basolateral ventral and paralaminar subdivision (BLVPL), basomedial nucleus (BM), cortical and
93 medial nuclei (CMN), central nucleus (CEN), anterior amygdala area (AAA), amygdala transition
94 areas (ATA), and amygdalostriatal transition area (ASTA) (**Table 1**).

95 Choosing predictors based on previous research (Rollins and King, 2000; Baxter and
96 Murray, 2002; Herting et al., 2014; Wierenga et al., 2014; Janak and Tye, 2015; Tyszka and Pauli,
97 2016; Herting et al., 2018; Wierenga et al., 2018), we explored how age, sex, body mass index
98 (BMI), and pubertal status were associated with amygdala composition in adolescents. Given that
99 the basolateral nucleus increases innervation with the prefrontal cortex during adolescent
100 neurodevelopment (Cunningham et al., 2002) and the paralaminar's potential for postnatal
101 neuroplasticity (deCampo and Fudge, 2012), we hypothesized that lateral, basal, and paralaminar
102 subregions would be larger with age across adolescence. We also hypothesized that a higher
103 BMI would correlate with the central and basal subregions, given their involvement in reward
104 learning (Killcross et al., 1997; Rollins and King, 2000; Baxter and Murray, 2002; Ambroggi et al.,
105 2008). Ultimately, understanding how the human amygdala develops throughout adolescence
106 may help discern developmental changes seen in social-emotional and reward-related behavior,
107 as well as identify risk factors for mental health disorders.

108 **Materials and Methods**

109 Participants and Measures

110 This study incorporated cross-sectional data from 421 adolescents (n=186 females), ages
111 10 to 17 years, from ongoing research studies at Oregon Health & Science University. A
112 comprehensive telephone interview was conducted to determine eligibility for all participants, and
113 written consent and assent were obtained from each participating adolescent and at least one of
114 their biological parents. All participants were right-handed and free of neurological,
115 neurodevelopmental, and/or psychological diagnoses. Detailed exclusionary criteria can be found
116 elsewhere (Alarcon et al., 2015; Scheuer et al., 2017; Morales et al., 2018).

117 Based on prior research (Rollins and King, 2000; Baxter and Murray, 2002; Herting et al.,
118 2014; Wierenga et al., 2014; Janak and Tye, 2015; Tyszka and Pauli, 2016; Herting et al., 2018;
119 Wierenga et al., 2018), we considered four primary biological and physical factors for each
120 participant: age, sex, pubertal status, and BMI. Pubertal status was determined by self-report
121 using the Pubertal Development Scale (PDS) (Petersen et al., 1988), with scores for each of the
122 5 questions ranging from 1 (not started) to 4 (development seems complete). Scores across the
123 items were averaged to a single comprehensive score. Weight and height were also obtained on-
124 site within 1-week of the scan session. BMI was calculated using the Centers for Disease Control
125 and Prevention's BMI Percentile Calculator for Child and Teen English Version
126 (<http://nccd.cdc.gov/dnpabmi/Calculator.aspx>) by providing participant birth date, date of
127 measurement, sex, height (to nearest 0.1 cm) and weight (to nearest 0.1 kg). BMI z-scores (BMIZ),
128 which correspond to growth chart percentiles, were then calculated to reflect the relative weight
129 of the individual using the appropriate reference standard based on the individual's age and sex
130 (Must and Anderson, 2006).

131 MRI Data Collection and Preprocessing

132 A whole-brain T1-weighted MRI scan was acquired for each participant on the same 3
133 Tesla MRI system (Magnetom Tim Trio, Siemens Medical Solutions, Erlangen, Germany) using
134 a 12-channel head coil at the Oregon Health & Science University's Advanced Imaging Research
135 Center (TR = 2300ms, TE = 3.58ms, TI = 900ms, flip angle = 10°, 256x240 matrix, voxel size = 1
136 mm x 1 mm x 1.1 mm). Raw images were quality checked for motion and given a rating of 1
137 (pass), 2 (review), or 3 (fail) (Backhausen et al., 2016). Using the Functional Magnetic Resonance
138 Imaging of the Brain Software Library (FSL) version 5.0 (Smith et al., 2004; Woolrich et al., 2009;
139 Jenkinson et al., 2012), each brain image was first reoriented to standard orientation using FSL's
140 *fslreorient2std* function. Images were then automatically cropped to reduce lower head and neck
141 using FSL's *robustfov* tool and rigid-body AC-PC aligned. Using the *antsBrainExtraction* function
142 from the Advanced Normalization Tools (ANTs, Version 2.1.0.post691-g9bc18)(Avants et al.,
143 2011), each image was skull-stripped to allow for an N4 Bias Field Correction (Tustison et al.,
144 2010) on the whole-brain image.

145 Amygdala Segmentation

146 Details of the *in vivo* amygdala probabilistic atlas construction, validation, estimates of
147 individual differences, and comparison with previous atlas' have been previously published
148 (Tyszka and Pauli, 2016; Pauli et al., 2018). Each participant's image was registered to the
149 CIT168 atlas using a B-spline bivariate symmetric normalization (SyN) diffeomorphic registration
150 algorithm from ANTs (Avants et al., 2007). Implementation of the inverse diffeomorphism resulted
151 in a probabilistic segmentation of each participant's left and right total amygdala estimates, as
152 well as the following 9 bilateral regions of interest (ROI): lateral nucleus (LA); dorsal and
153 intermediate divisions of the basolateral nucleus (BLDI); ventral division of the basolateral nucleus
154 and paralaminar nucleus (BLVPL); basomedial nucleus (BM); central nucleus (CEN); cortical and
155 medial nuclei (CMN); amygdala transition areas (ATA); amygdalostriatal transition area (ASTA);
156 and anterior amygdala area (AAA). A 2-Dimensional visual representation of the amygdala

157 subregion segmentation on a representative subject can be seen in **Figure 1**. To fully
158 demonstrate the CIT168 segmentation, overlay images of coronal slices through the entire rostral-
159 caudal extent of the amygdala for four subjects are presented in **Figure 2**, with boundary outlines
160 (without an overlay) presented in **Figure 2-1**. The subjects were randomly chosen to cover the
161 distributions of our age range, including 1 male and 1 female from both the early and older
162 adolescent periods. Descriptions of each subregion can be found in **Table 1**. A relative volume
163 fraction (i.e. a proportion estimate) was computed for each ROI by normalizing it to the respective
164 total amygdala volume in each hemisphere (*Relative Volume Fraction =*
165 *ROI probabilistic volume/total amygdala probabilistic volume*). The quality of all amygdala
166 segmentations was confirmed visually (A.F.M.).

167 Contrast-to-Noise Ratio (CNR) Calculations for Segmentation Accuracy

168 In the creation and validation of the CIT168 atlas, Tyszka and Pauli (2016) establish that
169 a CNR >1 provides a robust volume estimation of the ground truth volumes of an estimate.
170 Thus, the intensity contrast within each hemisphere of the amygdala was estimated from the
171 interquartile range of intensities within the entire amygdala from each subject's T1-weighted
172 image. The standard deviation (SD) of the noise was estimated from the residual signal
173 obtained from the subtracted T1-weighted atlas template image from each subject's T1-
174 weighted image. The interquartile range (IQR) was then divided by the mean residual noise SD
175 to generate the CNR for each individual.

176 Statistical Analysis

177 Data were analyzed in R (version 3.5.1). Linear regressions (M1) were utilized to examine
178 the associations between age and intracranial volume (ICV), ICV and BMIz, BMIz and age, BMIz
179 and PDS, PDS and ICV. These associations were assessed across all participants and between
180 males and females to see if the associations were significantly different by sex:

181 $M1: Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 Male + \beta_3 X_1 \times Male + \varepsilon$

182 To examine if total amygdala and amygdala nuclei volume composition (i.e. RVFs) related
183 to age, sex, BMIz, and pubertal status, we employed a Generalized Additive Mixed Model
184 (GAMM) implemented by the *mgcv* package (version 1.8-24 in R version 3.5.1, R Core Team,
185 2018). Given that this developmental period shows non-linear subcortical brain volume growth
186 patterns (Wierenga et al., 2014; Herting et al., 2018), a GAMM approach was chosen as it allows
187 for data-driven estimation of non-linear associations (with linearity as a special case), using
188 ‘smooth’ functions, *s()*, in place of linear terms. To examine the association between age and
189 amygdala nuclei composition, as well as determine if these associations vary by sex, RVF of each
190 amygdala subregion was modeled independently using a GAMM (M2) with fixed effects including
191 smooth terms for age and age-by-sex (s_1 and s_2 , respectively), as well as a linear term for sex,
192 hemisphere, BMIz, ICV, and a random intercept (U_i) for participant i .

193 $M2: RVF_{ij} = \beta_0 + s_1(Age_i) + \beta_1 Male_i + s_2(Age_i) \times Male_i + \beta_2 Hemisphere_{ij} + \beta_3 BMIz_i + \beta_4 ICV_i$
 194 $+ U_i + \varepsilon_{ij}$

195 where RVF_{ij} is the relative volume fraction (RVF) defined for each subject, i , in either the left or
196 right hemisphere, j . Each smooth term is a shrinkage version of a cubic regression spline with
197 four equally spaced knots.

Given that markers of pubertal development have been shown to relate to total amygdala volumes across adolescence (Goddings et al., 2014; Herting et al., 2014; Wierenga et al., 2018), we then utilized a model building strategy to determine if age, pubertal development, or their combination best predicted amygdala subregion RVFs across adolescence. Given that pubertal development follows a different age-related trajectory in males versus females and physical changes are distinct in males (e.g. facial hair, testes development) and females (e.g. breast development, menstruation) (Berenbaum et al., 2015), these analyses were performed in each

205 sex separately. First, in each sex we examined the smooth effect of age (M3). Next, we examined
206 the smooth effect of pubertal stage (M4). Lastly, we examined both the smooth effects of age and
207 pubertal stage as well as the interaction term of age-by-pubertal stage (M5), with smooths
208 implemented by tensor product interactions, allowing for main effects and the interaction. Each
209 model also included the fixed effects of BM1z, hemisphere, ICV, and a random intercept (U_i) for
210 participant i .

211 $M3: RVF_{ij} = \beta_0 + s_1(Age_i) + \beta_2 Hemisphere_{ij} + \beta_3 BM1z_i + \beta_4 ICV_i + U_i + \varepsilon_{ij}$

212 $M4: RVF_{ij} = \beta_0 + s_1(Pubertal\ Stage_i) + \beta_2 Hemisphere_{ij} + \beta_3 BM1z_i + \beta_4 ICV_i + U_i + \varepsilon_{ij}$

213 $M5: RVF_{ij} = \beta_0 + s_1(Age_i) + s_2(Pubertal\ Stage_i) + s_3(Age_i, Pubertal\ Stage_i) + \beta_2 Hemisphere_{ij}$
214 $+ \beta_3 BM1z_i + \beta_4 ICV_i + U_i + \varepsilon_{ij}$

215 Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) and Likelihood ratio tests ($p < 0.05$) were used to compare
216 model fits. To reduce type I error, each set of models across the 9 ROIs were corrected for
217 multiple comparisons using the Bonferroni correction method (Bonferroni, 1936), with p -values
218 <0.0056 deemed significant.

219 **Results**

220 Males and females did not differ in age, BMI, or pubertal status (PDS), though on average,
221 males had a significantly larger ICV compared to females ($\beta=121231$, $p=<0.0001$) (**Table 2A**). No
222 significant associations were detected between age and ICV, ICV and BM1z, BM1z and age, and
223 PDS and ICV across all participants (**Table 2B**). A larger BM1z score was associated with a
224 smaller ICV in males ($p=0.04$), whereas larger BM1z was associated with higher PDS scores in
225 females ($p=0.002$). The associations between these variables did not significantly differ between
226 the sexes (p 's >0.05) (**Table 2B**). The mean SD of residual signal obtained from the CIT168 mask
227 and the T1-weighted image of the whole amygdala was 24 for the right and left hemispheres. The
228 mean lower and upper quartile intensities within the amygdala were 276 and 309 (IQR=33) for

229 the right hemisphere and 275 and 308 (IQR=33) for the left hemisphere, with the residual noise
230 standard deviations of 0.20 for both hemispheres. Therefore, the average CNR was 1.4 for the
231 amygdala in both hemispheres in our sample, suggesting the current study has sufficient CNR
232 necessary to implement reliable estimates utilizing the diffeomorphic approach (Tyszka and Pauli,
233 2016).

234 Age and sex differences in amygdala composition

235 RVFs of each subregion using the CIT168 are summarized by hemisphere and sex in
236 **Figure 3** and **Table 3**. From largest to smallest, subregion absolute volumes were on average
237 332-391 mm³ for the lateral nucleus (~20-21% of amygdala volume); 198-to 230 mm³ for the BLDI
238 (~12-13% of amygdala volume); 171-195 mm³ for the CMN (~11% of the amygdala volume); 118-
239 141 mm³ for the BLVPL (~7-8% of the amygdala volume); 114 to 131 mm³ for the BM (~7% of the
240 amygdala volume); 93-111 mm³ for the ATA (~5-6% of the amygdala volume); 69-77 mm³ for the
241 ASTA (~4 % of the amygdala volume); 63-71 mm³ for the AAA (~3-4% of the amygdala volume);
242 47-53 mm³ for the CEN (~3% of the amygdala volume).

243 GAMM model results examining the associations between amygdala subregion RVF and
244 age, sex, hemisphere, BMIz, ICV, and age-by-sex interactions are presented in **Table 4**. A
245 significant age-by-sex interaction was detected for the LA (Adj R²=.06), BLVPL (Adj R²=.13), CEN
246 (Adj R²=.10), and ATA (Adj R²=.12) (**Figure 4**). The LA and CEN show a relative increase of the
247 total amygdala volume (as indexed by larger RVF values) with age in males, whereas females
248 show no changes in the relative volume of these amygdala subregions with age. In contrast, the
249 BLVPL and ATA show a relative decrease in relation to the total amygdala volume (e.g. smaller
250 RVFs) with age in males, whereas again no relationship is seen in females. The relative volumes
251 of the BLDI, BM, CMN, and AAA did not relate to age, sex, or their interaction. In addition, no
252 significant relationships were seen between any of the 9 subregions and BMIz.

253

254 Pubertal development and amygdala composition in males and females

255 GAMM model outputs for age (M3), puberty (M4), and age-by-puberty (M5) for each RVF
256 in each sex separately are presented in **Table 5** for males and **Table 6** for females. For females,
257 no significant age, puberty, or age-by-puberty associations were seen for any of the 9 amygdala
258 subregions. In males, age was again found to be significantly associated with RVFs of the BLVPL,
259 CEN, and ATA (M3: p's ≤ 0.005), and trending for LA (M3: p's ≤ 0.01). In addition, puberty was
260 found to significantly relate to RVFs of the BLVPL, CEN, and ATA (M4: p's ≤ 0.005). There were
261 no age-by-pubertal interactions that were significant for any of the 9 amygdala subregions after
262 correcting for multiple comparisons; though a trend was seen for the BLVPL (age-by-PDS:
263 p=0.05; Adj R²: 0.14). For the BLVPL and ATA, best-fit model comparisons showed that the age
264 and puberty model was significantly better than the model including only puberty (M4 vs. M5:
265 p's>0.05); however, the age and puberty model was not a significantly better model than age
266 alone (M3 vs. M5: p's>0.05).

267 **Discussion**

268 The current cross-sectional study provides the first glimpse at amygdala nuclei volume
269 apportionment in adolescents. While previous studies have examined developmental changes in
270 the total amygdala volume across childhood and adolescence (Herting et al., 2018; Wierenga et
271 al., 2018), the current study highlights the utility of the CIT168 to define 9 amygdala subregions
272 in a large sample of adolescents and suggests that amygdala composition may continue to modify
273 across the adolescent period in relation to sex. Using the newly derived *in vivo* CIT168 atlas,
274 relative changes in the subregion composition of the amygdala were associated with age in males,
275 but not females. In males, findings suggest an expansion in relative volumes of the LA and CEN,
276 but contraction of the BLVPL and ATA subregions, accounting for between 6 to 13% of the
277 variance in the relative composition of these regions within the amygdala.

278 Our findings support the hypothesis that relative volumes occupied by nuclei within the
279 amygdala may undergo structural reformation during the adolescent years, although only in
280 males. While MRI and the CIT168 atlas cannot decipher each of the exact 13 nuclei of the human
281 amygdala, our findings in males are supported by the recent histology study showing that
282 postnatal neuron numbers change in distinct nuclei, including the central, lateral, and basal nuclei,
283 from childhood to adulthood (Avino et al., 2018). In that study, however, a sex-specific effect was
284 not examined, as the wide age range (n=24, 2 to 48 years) neurotypical sample had very few
285 females (n = 5) (Avino et al., 2018). Beyond nucleus-specific changes in neuron number, postnatal
286 immunohistochemistry studies have also found a difference in immature and mature neuron
287 concentrations among amygdala nuclei, including the lateral, central, basal, and paralaminar
288 nucleus (Avino et al., 2018). A higher concentration of immature neurons has been reported in
289 the paralaminar nucleus (part of the BLVPL subregion in the current study) as compared to other
290 amygdala nuclei (Avino et al., 2018). Moreover, the number of immature neurons in the
291 paralaminar nucleus decreases over time, whereas the mature neuron numbers of the
292 surrounding regions continue to increase in childhood and adolescence. These data have led to
293 the hypothesis that gradual maturation and migration of paralaminar immature neurons may
294 contribute to the mature neuron number within the paralaminar, and/or be the source of increases
295 in neuron number seen in other nuclei over development. If this hypothesis proves to be correct,
296 migration and maturation of immature neurons may contribute to the re-configuration and/or
297 refinement of the amygdala subregions and their subsequent connectivity with the cerebral cortex
298 across adolescence. While MRI cannot assess neuron number, more research is needed to
299 determine if decreases in the relative fraction of the BLVPL and ATA but increases in the surround
300 LA and CEN in males may be suggestive of distinct nuclei maturation and migration patterns in
301 amygdala development. Combining postmortem histology and MRI segmentation approaches in

302 developing samples is necessary to further decipher if these age and sex-specific patterns occur
303 across development.

304 Furthermore, cytoarchitectural findings suggest the BLVPL of the amygdala receives
305 afferents from both the lateral nucleus (LA) and the hippocampus (Pitkänen and Amaral, 1998).
306 Efferents of the medial paralaminar nucleus gradually merge with the periamygdaloid cortex, often
307 termed the “corticoamygdaloid transition area”, which further projects to the hippocampus.
308 Moreover, the lateral nucleus (LA) receives sensory information, allowing the basolateral complex
309 to process the information, and then send this information out of the amygdala via the central
310 nucleus (CEN) (McDonald and Jackson, 1987; Sah et al., 2003). The CIT168 ATA region
311 encapsulates the periamygdaloid cortex, as well as these amygdalocortical and
312 amygdolohippocampal transition areas. Hippocampal input to the amygdala is important for
313 contextual fear learning (Phillips and LeDoux, 1992), and given the convergence between sensory
314 input from the LA, as well as bidirectional connectivity with the hippocampus, it has been proposed
315 that the paralaminar and periamygdaloid cortex of the amygdala may be involved in contextual
316 learning (deCampo and Fudge, 2013). It remains to be elucidated how age expansion for the LA,
317 CEN, but contraction for the BLVPL and ATA, in males may map onto function. However,
318 amygdala nuclei composition may be an additional MRI feature to explore in hopes of clarifying
319 our understanding of amygdala structural and functional development. It may also prove useful in
320 studying known sex differences in emotion-related behavior, brain function, and prevalence in
321 mental health disorders that typically emerge during this time. For example, meta-analysis of 166
322 studies found a small, yet consistent, sex difference in positive and negative emotional expression
323 that begins to diverge in the beginning of childhood and into adolescence (Chaplin and Aldao,
324 2013). Similarly, fMRI studies have reported greater brain activity in cortical regions, including
325 visual and parietal regions, in male versus female adolescents during emotional functional MRI
326 tasks (Cservenka et al., 2015). Resting-state fMRI studies implementing *ex vivo* atlases to define

327 basolateral, superficial, and centromedial subregions, have also found age and sex-specific
328 differences in amygdala functional connectivity patterns. Age and region-specific patterns were
329 seen between the amygdala and medial prefrontal cortex, with connectivity becoming apparent
330 at age 10 and continuing to strengthen across adolescence (GabardDurnam et al., 2014). In a
331 separate study, the superficial amygdala resting-state patterns were found to be more mature in
332 female adolescents, but basolateral amygdala connectivity patterns were more mature in male
333 adolescents (Alarcon et al., 2015). Future studies are warranted to determine if the relative
334 expansion of the primary input (LA) and output (CEN) subregions, but contraction of contextual
335 and emotional learning subregions (BLVPL, ATA) in males, may relate to differences in emotional
336 expression, greater cortical activation to emotional stimuli and/or stronger basolateral functional
337 connectivity in males versus females during adolescence. Beyond the possible functional
338 implications of nuclei apportionment, implementation of the CIT168 atlas to construct ROIs for
339 other MRI modalities, including resting-state fMRI, task-based fMRI, and diffusion, may also assist
340 in gaining greater specificity of how different amygdala nuclei functionally and structurally develop.

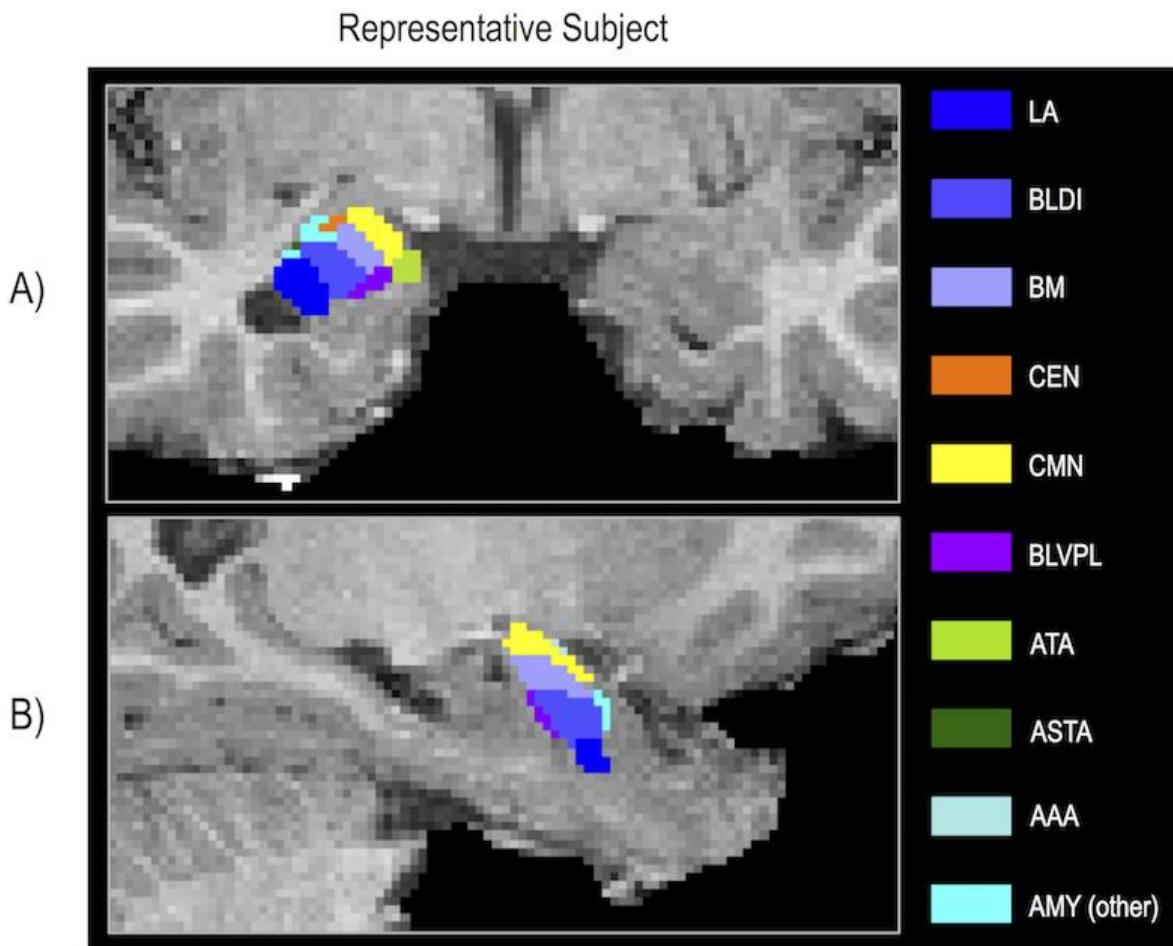
341 While this is the first study to examine amygdala nuclei volume composition in
342 adolescents, the current study has both strengths and limitations. Other amygdala segmentation
343 approaches are derived from post-mortem samples that are largely based on smaller samples of
344 older male brains (Amunts et al., 2005; Saygin et al., 2017), which not only fail to capture possible
345 developmental changes but may also be confounded by factors that influence tissue quality (Stan
346 et al., 2006). The CIT168 atlas mitigates some of these concerns by using the high-resolution
347 (700 micrometer) *in vivo* Human Connectome Project data from young adults (ages 22-35 years).
348 Furthermore, the current study illustrates the ability to apply this newly developed CIT168 atlas to
349 assess 9 distinct amygdala subregions in adolescents, given our similar total probabilistic and
350 relative amygdala volumes based on our adolescent T1-weighted images and the CIT168 T1 and
351 T2-weighted images (Tyszka and Pauli, 2016). Moreover, our hypothesis that physical growth

352 metrics, including body mass and pubertal development would relate to amygdala composition
353 during adolescence was not supported. While physical characteristics of pubertal maturation did
354 relate to BLVPL, CEN, and ATA, our current results suggest that age alone best accounts for
355 individual differences in amygdala nuclei volume composition in males. Moreover, neither age nor
356 pubertal status related to any of the nuclei examined in females. It is possible the lack of
357 associations is due to our study sample. Although pubertal development scores were on average
358 similar between the sexes in our sample (**Table 2**), there were fewer females that fell within the
359 pre-pubertal and early pubertal range as compared to males in this age range of 10 to 17 years.
360 While this is to be expected given the known sex difference in pubertal onset, with girls showing
361 physical signs of maturation ~1-2 years prior to males (Dorn, 2006), more research is needed in
362 younger females in order to assess if similar patterns of amygdala maturation do occur at slightly
363 younger ages in females. Furthermore, it would also be helpful to utilize other markers that may
364 be more accurate for capturing both puberty and obesity in children, such as pubertal hormone
365 levels and measurements of body composition.

366 To summarize, we show the adolescent amygdala can be segmented into 9 subregions
367 using the newly developed CIT168 atlas and that the relative composition of these amygdala
368 subregions may continue to restructure in a sex-specific fashion during the adolescent window of
369 development. By using this approach in conjunction with considering how the amygdala nuclei
370 composition may continue to develop, future studies may be able to further explore how the
371 amygdaloid complex may interact with distinct cortical regions, such as the prefrontal cortex, in
372 order to modulate each other's development and social and emotional behaviors that continue to
373 mature during this critical period in development (Andersen and Teicher, 2008; Tottenham and
374 Gabard-Durnam, 2017). Our approach provides a first step towards a more rigorous exploration
375 of functional and structural connectivity development within the heterogeneous amygdala
376 complex across adolescence.

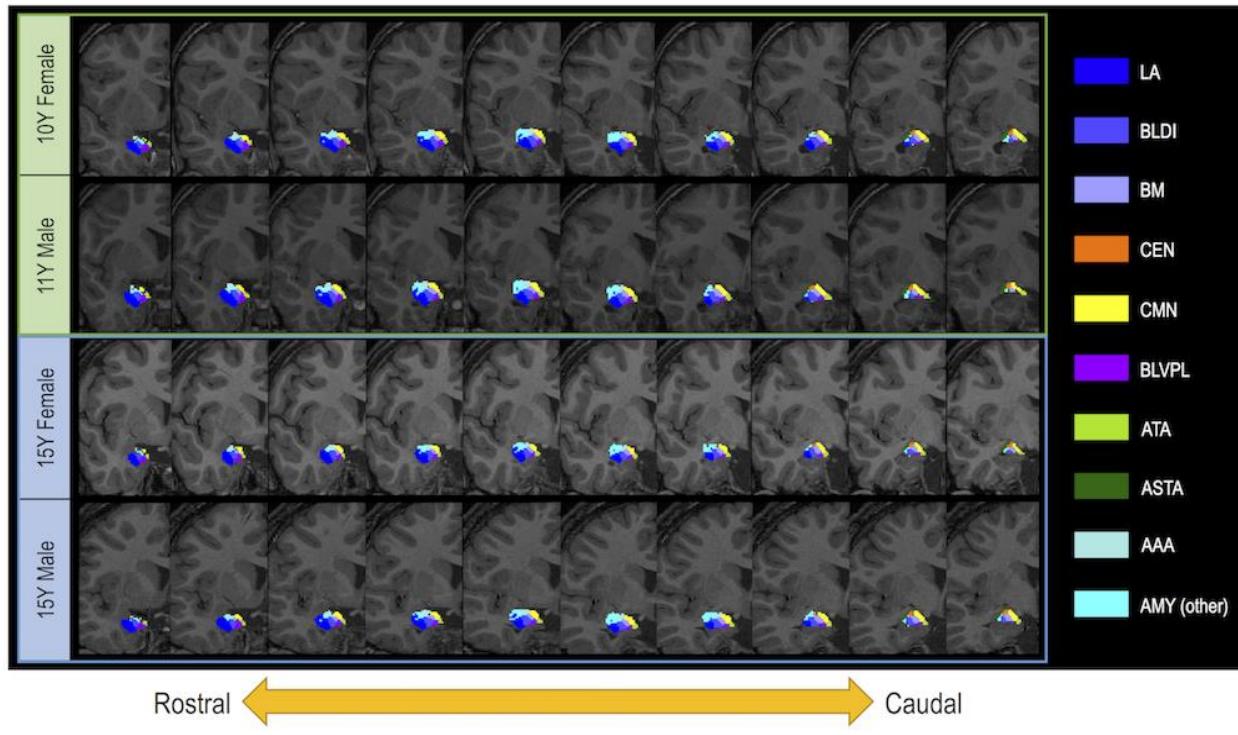
377 **Figure Legends**

378 **Figure 1: Probabilistic segmentation of amygdala subregions in a representative**
379 **adolescent.** Structural MRI and probabilistic estimates of 9 bilateral subregions shown in the A)
380 coronal and B) sagittal view (thresholded at probabilistic value of .3 for visualization purposes).
381 Key: LA, lateral nucleus; BLDI, basolateral dorsal and intermediate subdivision; BLVPL,
382 basolateral ventral and paralaminar subdivision; BM, basomedial nucleus; CMN, cortical and
383 medial nuclei; CEN, central nucleus; AAA, anterior amygdala area; ATA, amygdala transition
384 area; ASTA, amygdalostriatal transition area. Based on CIT168 atlas, regions of the amygdala
385 not assigned to a specific subregion are collected into the whole AMY (other) label.



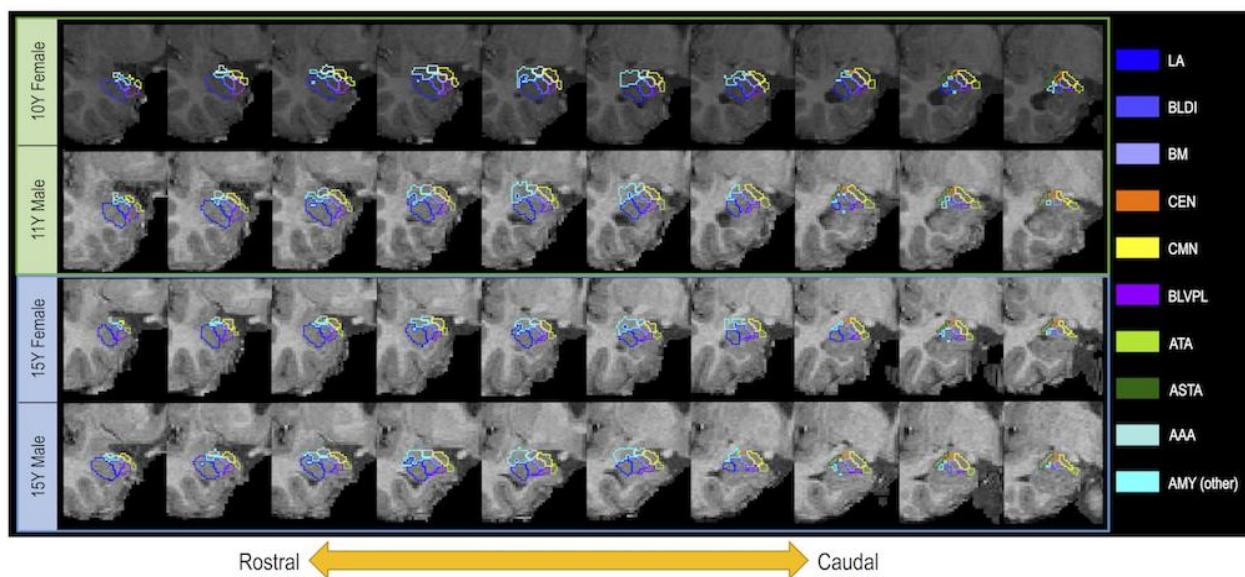
386

387 **Figure 2: Overlay of CIT168 segmentation on coronal slices through entire rostral-caudal**
388 **view of the amygdala in the right hemisphere for four representative subjects.** A maximum
389 likelihood label was created for each subregion of the amygdala by creating a label based on a
390 simple competition between probabilistic labels with a thresholded probabilistic value of .3 for
391 visualization purposes; slices (1mm) are sequential (no gap).



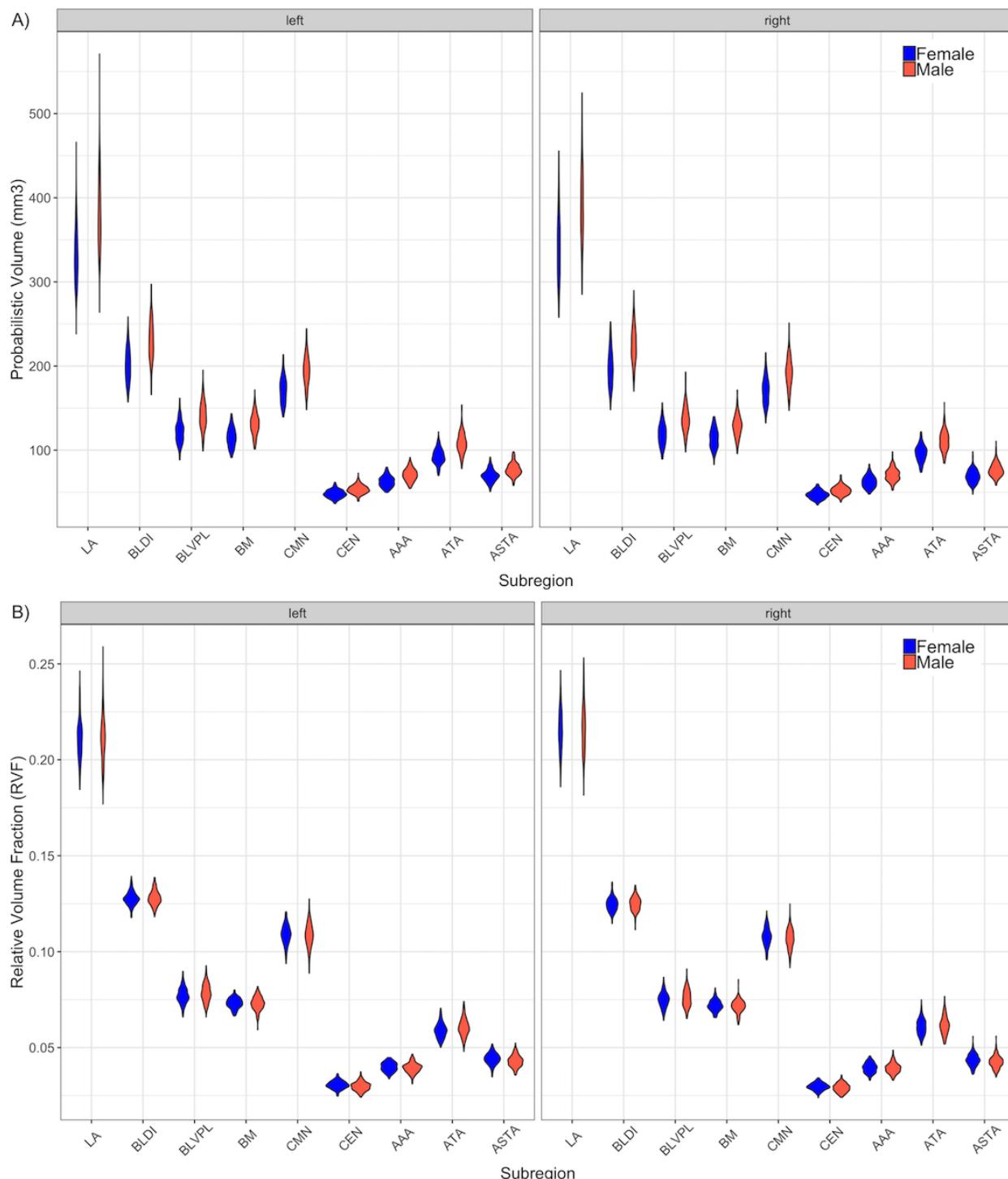
394 **Figure 2-1: Outline of CIT168 segmentation on coronal slices through entire rostral-caudal**
395 **view of the amygdala in the right hemisphere for four representative subjects.** A maximum
396 likelihood label was created for each subregion of the amygdala by creating a label based on a
397 simple competition between probabilistic labels with a thresholded probabilistic value of .3 for
398 visualization purposes; slices (1mm) are sequential (no gap).

399



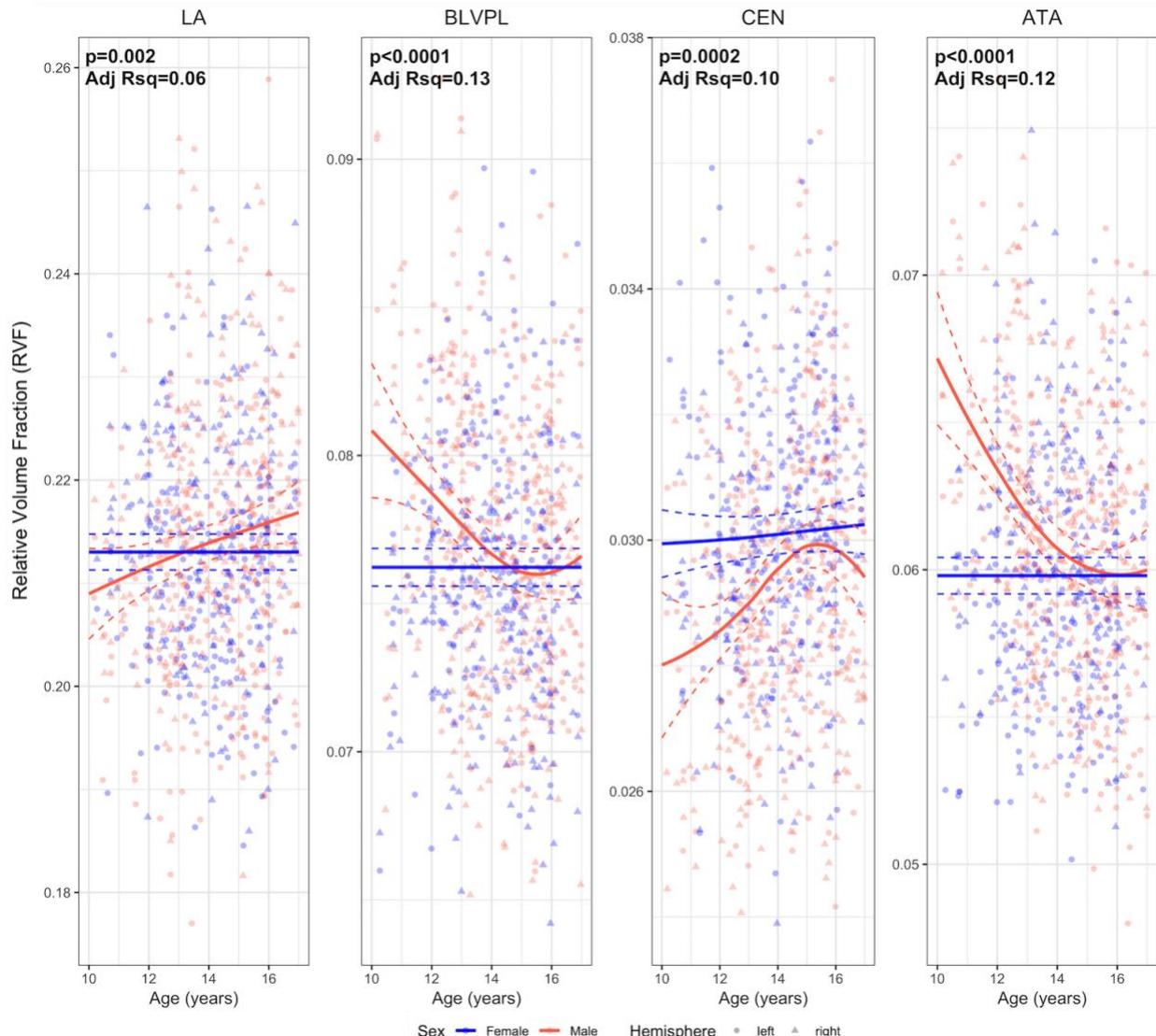
402 **Figure 3: Amygdala subregion volumes and relative volume fractions in adolescent males**
403 **and females. A) Probabilistic volumes (mm³) and B) relative volume fraction (RVF; proportional**
404 **to total amygdala volume) for each of the 9 bilateral amygdala subregion ROIs.**

405



406

407 **Figure 4: Sex differences in age associations with RVF of the amygdala subregions. A)**
408 Lateral nucleus (LA), B) Basolateral ventral and paralaminar subdivision (BLVPL) and C) Central
409 (CEN) and D) Amygdala transition area (ATA). RVF plotted by age and sex (collapsed across
410 hemispheres); solid lines reflect GAMM predicted fit estimates and dashed lines reflect
411 95% confidence intervals.
412



413

Tables

Table 1. Amygdala Subregion ROIs

Subregion name	CIT168 Regions								
	Lateral nucleus	Basolateral dorsal and intermediate subdivision	Basolateral ventral and paralaminar subdivision	Basomedial nucleus	Cortical and medial nuclei	Central nucleus	Anterior amygdala area	Amygdala transition area	Amygdalostriatal transition area
Subregion abbreviation	(LA)	(BLD)	(BLVPL)	(BM)	(CMN)	(CEN)	(AAA)	(ATA)	(ASTA)
Subregion location or other common names	Surrounded ventrally and caudally by lateral ventricle, and laterally by temporal lobe white matter; primary input from neocortex	Subdivision of the basolateral nucleus; the basolateral nucleus lies medially to the lateral nucleus (LA)	Subdivision of the basolateral nucleus; the basolateral nucleus lies medially to the lateral nucleus (LA)	Ventrally bounded by BLV; BM also known as the accessory basal nucleus	Lies along dorsomedial surface of amygdaloid complex	Major output nuclei; lies dorsally and caudally within complex	Lies rostrally and caudally within complex; borders pariamygdaloid claustrum and basolateral complex	Boundary between entorhinal cortex and CMN	Lies medially and ventrally to temporal branch of anterior commissure; borders ventral putamen
Subregion content	LA exclusively	Merger between the basolateral nucleus' 2 out of 3 divisions: dorsal (BLD) and intermediate (BLI)	Merger between the basolateral nucleus' 3rd division, ventral (BLV), and the paralaminar nucleus	BM exclusively	Merger between cortical nucleus (CoA) and corticomedial group (CoMe); CoMe is made up of the internal boundaries between CoA, posterior cortical nucleus (CoP), amygdalohippocampal (AHA), nucleus of the lateral olfactory tract (NLOT), and medial nucleus (Me)	CEN exclusively	AAA exclusively	Merger between amygdalocortical and amygdalohippocampal transition areas, and periamygdaloid cortex	ASTA exclusively

Descriptions based on the CIT168 atlas by Tyszka JM, Pauli WM (2016)

Table 2. Sample characteristics

A) Demographics of study participants

	All			Female			Male			Difference between Male and Female		
	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	N	Mean	SD	df	Coefficient	p-value
Age	421	14.13	1.64	186	14.00	1.60	235	14.22	1.67	417	0.37	0.81
BMIz	421	0.50	0.99	186	0.47	0.92	235	0.52	1.04	417	0.42	0.49
ICV	421	1464124	139299	186	1372108	103182	235	1536954	119808	417	121231	<0.0001
PDS	421	2.78	0.77	186	3.06	0.72	235	2.56	0.74	417	-5.60E-02	0.93

B) Associations between predictors

	All			Female			Male			Difference between Male and Female		
	df	Coefficient	p-value	df	Coefficient	p-value	df	Coefficient	p-value	df	Coefficient	p-value
Age to ICV	417	1.5E-07	0.84	184	2.5E-07	0.83	234	5.4E-08	0.95	417	-1.4E-07	0.90
ICV to BMIz	417	-9115	0.11	184	-2855	0.73	234	-15375	0.04	417	-8853	0.27
BMIz to Age	417	0.03	0.39	184	0.05	0.29	234	0.0066	0.87	417	-0.03	0.52
PDS to ICV	417	1.9E-07	0.57	184	3.4E-07	0.51	234	3.2E-08	0.94	417	-2.2E-07	0.64
BMIz to PDS	417	0.19	0.004	184	0.29	0.002	234	0.09	0.33	417	-0.14	0.13

Notes: P-values with significance level of less than 0.05 are bolded. Abbreviations: SD, standard deviation, BMIz, Body Mass Index z-score; PDS, Pubertal Development Scale; ICV, Intracranial Volume

Table 3. Probabilistic amygdala subregions by sex

A) Absolute probabilistic volume for each subregion (mm³)

Sex	Hemisphere	LA		BLDI		BLVPL		BM		CMN		CEN		AAA		ATA		ASTA	
		Mean	CoV (%)	Mean	CoV	Mean	CoV	Mean	CoV	Mean	CoV	Mean	CoV	Mean	CoV	Mean	CoV	Mean	CoV
Female	Left	332.02	9.99	201.36	9.87	121.69	10.92	115.19	9.85	171.46	9.00	48.07	9.95	62.82	10.34	92.74	9.95	69.58	10.50
	Right	341.98	11.22	198.02	10.77	118.86	11.16	114.10	10.22	170.75	9.33	46.96	10.46	62.59	11.26	96.43	10.18	68.99	11.34
Male	Left	379.68	11.51	230.04	10.22	141.22	11.75	131.21	10.08	194.80	9.38	53.36	9.71	70.71	10.23	108.64	11.23	77.07	9.79
	Right	391.12	10.97	225.56	9.81	136.82	11.44	129.08	10.23	192.52	9.32	52.26	10.47	70.88	10.85	111.04	10.67	76.56	10.46

B) Relative volume fraction for each subregion (to total amygdala volume)

Sex	Hemisphere	LA		BLDI		BLVPL		BM		CMN		CEN		AAA		ATA		ASTA	
		Mean	CoV (%)	Mean	CoV	Mean	CoV	Mean	CoV	Mean	CoV	Mean	CoV	Mean	CoV	Mean	CoV	Mean	CoV
Female	Left	0.21	4.89	0.13	2.75	0.08	5.46	0.07	3.75	0.11	4.63	0.03	6.84	0.04	6.02	0.06	6.58	0.04	6.74
	Right	0.22	5.27	0.12	2.84	0.07	5.32	0.07	4.00	0.11	4.49	0.03	6.32	0.04	6.63	0.06	6.80	0.04	7.23
Male	Left	0.21	5.91	0.13	3.00	0.08	6.03	0.07	4.88	0.11	5.52	0.03	7.84	0.04	6.76	0.06	7.62	0.04	7.11
	Right	0.22	5.80	0.12	2.86	0.08	6.14	0.07	4.76	0.11	4.96	0.03	7.77	0.04	7.03	0.06	7.62	0.04	7.47

Notes: Mean and coefficient of variation (CoV, mean/SD x 100%) for each subregion's probabilistic volume in millimeters cubed (mm³) or Relative Volume Fractions (RVF) in each brain hemisphere (right and left) for both males and females. Abbreviations: See Table 1.

Table 4. GAMM results for amygdala subregion RVF associations with age, sex, and age sex interaction, controlling for hemisphere, BMI, and ICV.

LA					CEN								
s(age) s(age*sex(male))	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	Adj R squared 0.0599	s(age) s(age*sex(male))	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	Adj R squared 0.0964		
	0	3	0	1.00			0.50	3	0.28	0.18			
	1.26	3	2.91	0.002			2.40	3	5.02	0.0002			
Estimate Intercept Sex (male) Hemisphere (right) BMI ICV					Estimate Intercept Sex (male) Hemisphere (right) BMI ICV								
BLDI					AAA								
s(age) s(age*sex(male))	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	Adj R squared 0.1479	s(age) s(age*sex(male))	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	Adj R squared 0.0104		
	0	3	0	0.44			0.17	3	0.07	0.28			
	0	3	0	0.33			0	3	0	0.72			
Estimate Intercept Sex (male) Hemisphere (right) BMI ICV					Estimate Intercept Sex (male) Hemisphere (right) BMI ICV								
BLVPL					ATA								
s(age) s(age*sex(male))	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	Adj R squared 0.1334	s(age) s(age*sex(male))	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	Adj R squared 0.1205		
	0	3	0	0.71			0	3	0	0.68			
	2.20	3	8.71	<0.0001			2.27	3	16.37	<0.0001			
Estimate Intercept Sex (male) Hemisphere (right) BMI ICV					Estimate Intercept Sex (male) Hemisphere (right) BMI ICV								
BM					ASTA								
s(age) s(age*sex(male))	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	Adj R squared 0.0565	s(age) s(age*sex(male))	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	Adj R squared 0.0505		
	0	3	0	0.68			0	3	0	0.50			
	0	3	0	0.42			1.49	3	2.64	0.01			
Estimate Intercept Sex (male) Hemisphere (right) BMI ICV					Estimate Intercept Sex (male) Hemisphere (right) BMI ICV								
CMN													
s(age) s(age*sex(male))	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	Adj R squared 0.0216		edf	Ref.df	F	p-value			
	0	3	0	0.53			0	3	0	0.50			
	0.41	3	0.21	0.21			1.49	3	2.64	0.01			
Estimate Intercept Sex (male) Hemisphere (right) BMI ICV					Estimate Intercept Sex (male) Hemisphere (right) BMI ICV								
0.11 -0.0002 -0.0001 -0.0002 0					0.003 0.0004 0.0003 0.0002 0								
37.88 -0.50 -5.76 0.27 -1.01					<0.0001 0.62 <0.0001 0.79 0.31								

Notes: In each model, for the parametric terms, the estimate, standard error (SE), t-value, and p-value are shown, for the smooth terms, the estimated degree of freedom (edf), reference degree of freedom (Ref.df), F-score, and p-value are shown; the Adjusted R² for each model is also shown. P-values of significance level less than 0.0056 bolded. Abbreviations: See Table 1.

Table 5. GAMM amygdala subregion results for age, pubertal status, and age-by-pubertal status interaction for males

MALES														
LA	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	1.22	3	2.42	0.006	0.0740	7	-2829.15	-2800.14	1421.57	M3 vs. M5	0.10	0.999	
M4	s(pds)	0.92	3	1.45	0.023	0.0651	7	-2827.02	-2798.01	1420.51	M4 vs. M5	2.23	0.694	
M5	ti(age)	0.99	3	2.01	0.009	0.0718	11	-2821.25	-2775.66	1421.62				
	ti(pds)	0.00	3	0.00	0.535									
	ti(age, pds)	1.00	1	0.12	0.734									
BLDI	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	0.05	3	0.02	0.312	0.1359	7	-3946.18	-3917.17	1980.09	M3 vs. M5	1.93	0.748	
M4	s(pds)	0.77	3	0.85	0.063	0.1434	7	-3947.44	-3918.43	1980.72	M4 vs. M5	0.67	0.955	
M5	ti(age)	0.00	3	0.00	1.000	0.1426	11	-3940.11	-3894.53	1981.06				
	ti(pds)	0.61	3	0.52	0.107									
	ti(age, pds)	1.00	1	0.71	0.400									
BLVPL	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	2.14	3	7.52	<0.0001	0.1471	7	-3749.96	-3720.96	1881.98	M3 vs. M5	2.19	0.701	
M4	s(pds)	1.12	3	2.76	0.003	0.1093	7	-3740.20	-3711.19	1877.10	M4 vs. M5	11.95	0.018	
M5	ti(age)	1.18	3	3.72	0.001	0.1427	11	-3744.16	-3698.57	1883.08				
	ti(pds)	0.00	3	0.00	0.713									
	ti(age, pds)	1.00	1	3.75	0.053									
BM	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	0.00	3	0.00	0.459	0.0607	7	-4004.17	-3975.16	2009.09	M3 vs. M5	0.28	0.991	
M4	s(pds)	0.18	3	0.07	0.276	0.0615	7	-4004.19	-3975.18	2009.10	M4 vs. M5	0.26	0.992	
M5	ti(age)	0.00	3	0.00	0.524	0.0640	11	-3996.46	-3950.87	2009.23				
	ti(pds)	0.00	3	0.00	0.311									
	ti(age, pds)	1.77	1.7701	0.52	0.640									
CMN	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	0.23	3	0.10	0.263	0.0204	7	-3563.78	-3534.77	1788.89	M3 vs. M5	0.01	1.000	
M4	s(pds)	0.00	3	0.00	0.712	0.0192	7	-3563.75	-3534.74	1788.87	M4 vs. M5	0.02	1.000	
M5	ti(age)	0.00	3	0.00	0.543	0.0385	11	-3555.77	-3510.18	1788.88				
	ti(pds)	0.00	3	0.00	0.864									
	ti(age, pds)	3.63	3.634	0.53	0.666									
CEN	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	2.31	3	6.98	<0.0001	0.0867	7	-4405.52	-4376.51	2209.76	M3 vs. M5	0.07	0.999	
M4	s(pds)	1.05	3	2.47	0.004	0.0480	7	-4397.59	-4368.58	2205.79	M4 vs. M5	8.00	0.092	
M5	ti(age)	2.22	3	5.90	<0.0001	0.0870	11	-4397.59	-4352.00	2209.79				
	ti(pds)	0.00	3	0.00	0.712									
	ti(age, pds)	1.00	1	0.09	0.762									
AAA	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	0.00	3	0.00	0.641	-0.0006	7	-4203.10	-4174.09	2108.55	M3 vs. M5	2.52	0.640	
M4	s(pds)	0.00	3	0.00	0.832	-0.0006	7	-4203.10	-4174.09	2108.55	M4 vs. M5	2.52	0.640	
M5	ti(age)	0.00	3	0.00	0.692	0.0203	11	-4197.62	-4152.04	2109.81				
	ti(pds)	0.00	3	0.00	0.966									
	ti(age, pds)	3.31	3.3104	1.91	0.153									
ATA	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	2.30	3	15.39	<0.0001	0.1599	7	-3800.48	-3771.47	1907.24	M3 vs. M5	0.00	1.000	
M4	s(pds)	1.32	3	5.62	<0.0001	0.0863	7	-3778.35	-3749.34	1896.17	M4 vs. M5	22.13	0.0002	
M5	ti(age)	2.11	3	10.70	<0.0001	0.1587	11	-3792.48	-3746.89	1907.24				
	ti(pds)	0.00	3	0.00	0.462									
	ti(age, pds)	1.00	1	0.00	0.951									
ASTA	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	1.49	3	2.67	0.006	0.0319	7	-4109.90	-4080.89	2061.95	M3 vs. M5	1.68	0.794	
M4	s(pds)	0.76	3	0.79	0.072	0.0142	7	-4106.50	-4077.50	2060.25	M4 vs. M5	5.08	0.279	
M5	ti(age)	0.70	3	0.70	0.064	0.0332	11	-4103.58	-4058.00	2062.79				
	ti(pds)	0.00	3	0.00	0.728									
	ti(age, pds)	1.79	1.7895	1.12	0.221									

Notes: In each model, the smooth terms, the estimated degree of freedom (edf), reference degree of freedom (Ref.df), F-score, p-value, and Adjusted R² for each model is shown; p-value < 0.0056 bolded (Bonferroni corrected). Between model comparisons include the df, AIC, log-likelihood ratio (L Ratio) and p-values < 0.05 bolded.

Table 6. GAMM amygdala subregion results for age, pubertal status, and age-by-pubertal status interaction for females

FEMALES														
LA	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	0	3	0	0.579	0.0386	7	-2325.71	-2298.32	1169.86	M3 vs. M5	0.56	0.967	
M4	s(pds)	0	3	0	0.649	0.0386	7	-2325.71	-2298.32	1169.86	M4 vs. M5	0.56	0.967	
M5	ti(age)	0	3	0	0.730	0.0381	11	-2318.28	-2275.23	1170.14				
	ti(pds)	0	3	0	0.910									
	ti(age, pds)	1	1	0.56	0.455									
BLDI*	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	0	3	0	1.000	0.1896	7	-3180.56	-3153.16	1597.28	M3 vs. M5	0.00	1.000	
M4	s(pds)	0	3	0	1.000	0.1896	7	-3180.56	-3153.16	1597.28	M4 vs. M5	0.00	1.000	
M5	ti(age)	0	4	0	1.000	0.1896	11	-3172.56	-3129.51	1597.28				
	ti(pds)	0	4	0	0.915									
	ti(age, pds)	1	1	0.002	0.966									
BLVPL	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	1.60	3	1.05	0.139	0.0883	7	-3035.01	-3007.61	1524.50	M3 vs. M5	3.16	0.532	
M4	s(pds)	0	3	0	0.358	0.0766	7	-3035.76	-3008.36	1524.88	M4 vs. M5	2.41	0.662	
M5	ti(age)	0	3	0	0.290	0.0877	11	-3030.17	-2987.12	1526.08				
	ti(pds)	0	3	0	1.000									
	ti(age, pds)	1.73	1.73	1.05	0.220									
BM	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	0	3	0	0.539	0.0423	7	-3302.28	-3274.88	1658.14	M3 vs. M5	1.46	0.833	
M4	s(pds)	0	3	0	0.530	0.0423	7	-3302.28	-3274.88	1658.14	M4 vs. M5	1.46	0.833	
M5	ti(age)	0	3	0	0.789	0.0445	11	-3295.74	-3252.69	1658.87				
	ti(pds)	0	3	0	0.969									
	ti(age, pds)	1	1	1.45	0.229									
CMN	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	0	3	0	1.000	0.0449	7	-2916.17	-2888.77	1465.08	M3 vs. M5	1.98	0.740	
M4	s(pds)	0	3	0	0.681	0.0449	7	-2916.17	-2888.77	1465.08	M4 vs. M5	1.98	0.740	
M5	ti(age)	0	3	0	0.561	0.0599	11	-2910.14	-2867.10	1466.07				
	ti(pds)	0	3	0	1.000									
	ti(age, pds)	2.08	2.08	2.12	0.149									
CEN	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	0.61	3	0.42	0.144	0.0485	7	-3564.77	-3537.38	1789.39	M3 vs. M5	1.89	0.756	
M4	s(pds)	0	3	0	0.476	0.0436	7	-3564.36	-3536.97	1789.18	M4 vs. M5	2.30	0.681	
M5	ti(age)	0.85	3	1.16	0.034	0.0656	11	-3558.66	-3515.61	1790.33				
	ti(pds)	0	3	0	0.678									
	ti(age, pds)	2.08	2.08	2.25	0.132									
AAA	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	0.24	3	0.10	0.268	0.0176	7	-3390.84	-3363.45	1702.42	M3 vs. M5	3.90	0.419	
M4	s(pds)	0.80	3	0.75	0.079	0.0245	7	-3391.81	-3364.42	1702.91	M4 vs. M5	2.93	0.570	
M5	ti(age)	0	3	0	0.620	0.0268	11	-3386.74	-3343.69	1704.37				
	ti(pds)	0	3	0	0.274									
	ti(age, pds)	1	1	3.93	0.048									
ATA	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	0	3	4.9E-08	0.594	0.0631	7	-3057.41	-3030.02	1535.71	M3 vs. M5	3.65	0.456	
M4	s(pds)	0.17	3	0	0.279	0.0640	7	-3057.43	-3030.03	1535.71	M4 vs. M5	3.64	0.458	
M5	ti(age)	0	3	0	0.780	0.0731	11	-3053.06	-3010.01	1537.53				
	ti(pds)	0	3	0	0.889									
	ti(age, pds)	1	1	3.64	0.057									
ASTA	Smooth Terms					Model Fit								
	Terms	edf	Ref.df	F	p-value	R2	df	AIC	BIC	logLik	Test	L.Ratio	p-value	
M3	s(age)	0	3	0	0.619	0.0082	7	-3263.98	-3236.58	1638.99	M3 vs. M5	0.06	1.000	
M4	s(pds)	0	3	0	0.886	0.0082	7	-3263.98	-3236.58	1638.99	M4 vs. M5	0.06	1.000	
M5	ti(age)	0	3	0	0.528	0.0057	11	-3256.04	-3212.99	1639.02				
	ti(pds)	0	3	0	0.699									
	ti(age, pds)	1	1	0.06	0.811									

Notes: In each model, the smooth terms, the estimated degree of freedom (edf), reference degree of freedom (Ref.df), F-score, p-value, and Adjusted R² for each model is shown; p-value < 0.0056 bolded (Bonferroni corrected). Between model comparisons include the df, AIC, log-likelihood ratio (L Ratio) and p-values < 0.05 bolded. *For model to converge, 5 knots were chosen instead of 4.

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