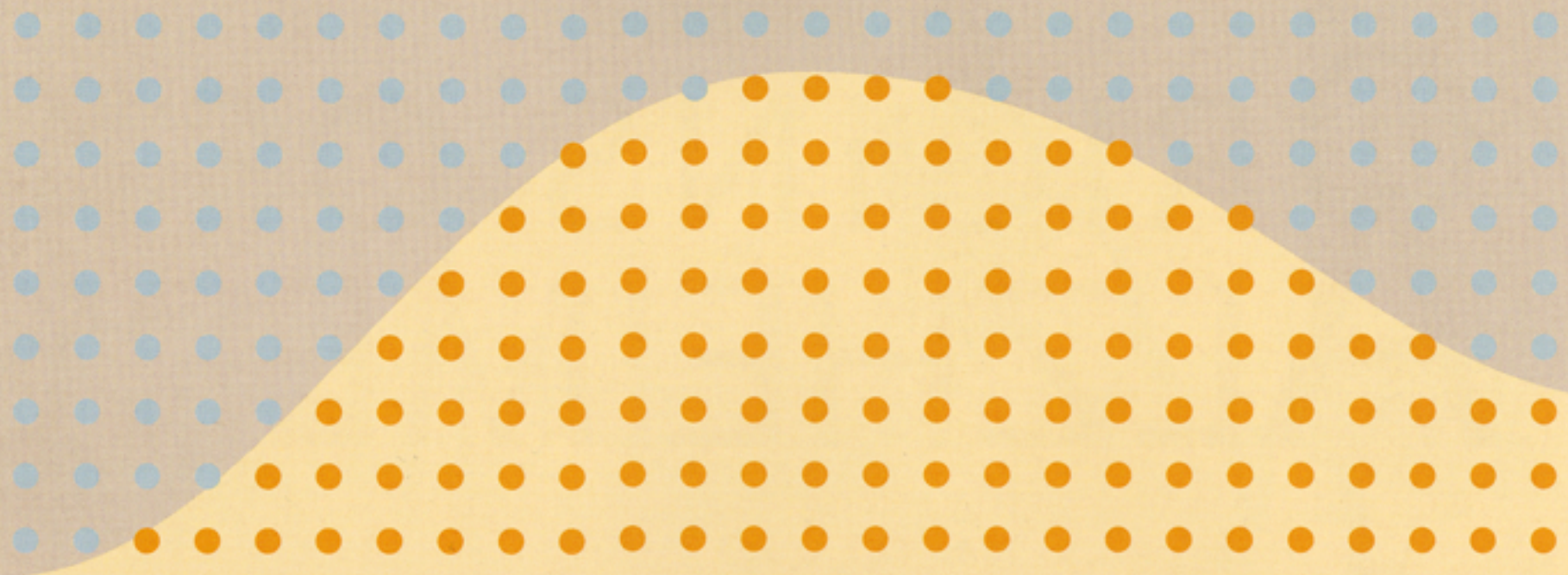


PRODUCTION OF A β OVER TIME

BALANCE OF A β



Intravenous solution labels A β produced in the brain

Production of labeled A β peaks

Labeled A β is discarded

A question of balance

Healthy bodies maintain a balanced rate of production and clearance of A β , a protein fragment that harms the brains of Alzheimer's patients. In Alzheimer's, A β must either be made in greater quantities or removed less efficiently. The test was devised to measure the rate of this process in order to provide

data for better understanding the mechanics of Alzheimer's. The fast rate of change over a few days came as a surprise. To the researchers' knowledge, this experiment represents the first estimate of the synthesis and clearance rate of a protein produced in the human central nervous system.