



# medicine

# Young blood reverses age-related impairments in cognitive function and synaptic plasticity in mice

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#### **Theories of Aging**





#### **Programmed theory**

Programmed Longevity
Endocrine Theory
Immunological Theory
Telomere theory



#### **Damage or Error theory**

Wear and Tear theory
Rate of living theory
Cross- linking theory
Free radicals theory
Somatic DNA damage theory

Modern Biological Theories of Aging

Aging Dis. Oct 2010; 1(2): 72–74.



#### Methods



Animal model: male C57BL/6 mice - young

- young 3 months

- aged 18 months

Gene microarray analysis

Western blot analysis

Immunohistochemistry

Golgi staining

Extracellular electrophysiology

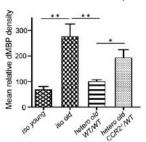


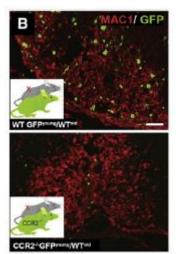
#### Previous work



Rejuvenation of regeneration in the aging central nervous system

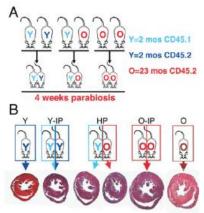
blood-derived monocytes

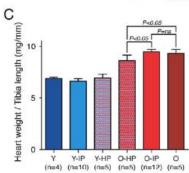




Cell Stem Cell 10, 96-103 (2012)

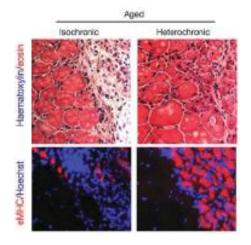
Growth Differentiation Factor 11 is a Circulating Factor that Reverses Age Related Cardiac Hypertrophy

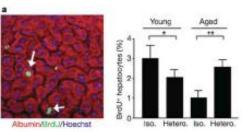




Cell **153**, 828–839 (2013)

Rejuvenation of aged progenitor cells by exposure to a young systemic environment





Nature 433, 760-764 (2005)



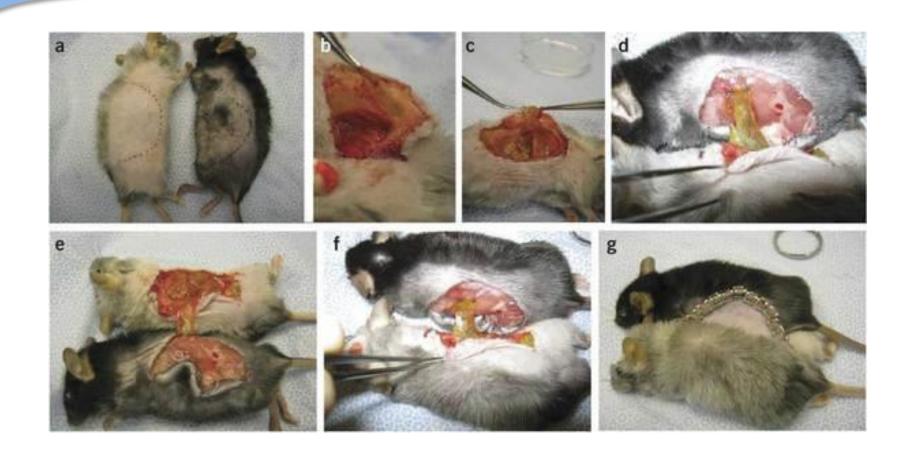


# **Parabiontic Stage**



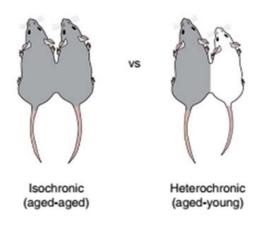








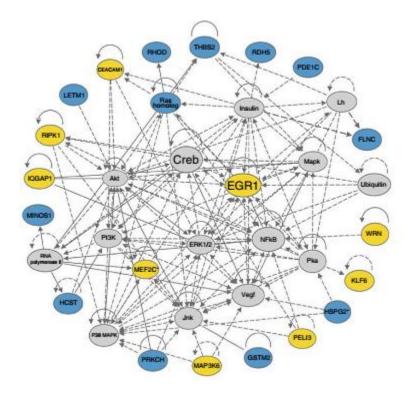


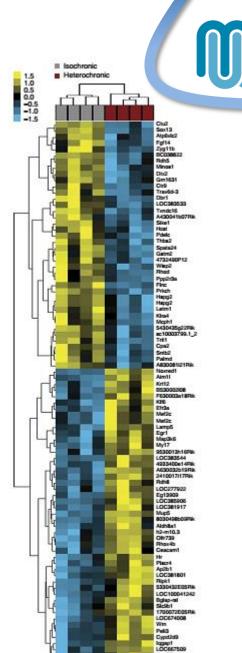


Genome-wide microarray analysis of hippocampi from aged (18 months) isochronic (aged-aged) and aged (18 months) heterochronic (aged-young)









Vps37s Exec5 LOC383185 LOC384022 MEDIZINISCHE UNIVERSITÄT WIEN



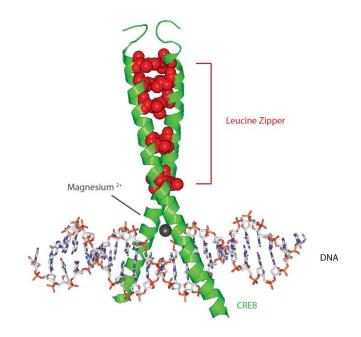
#### Creb



#### Cyclic AMP response element-binding protein

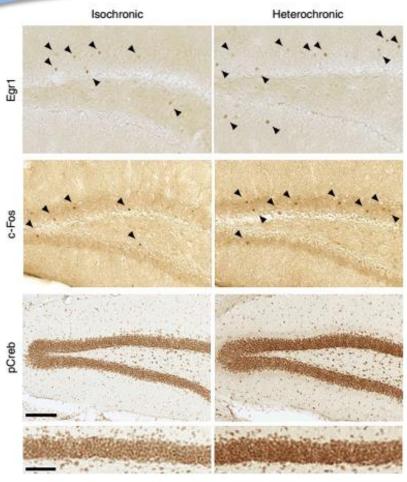
CREB has a well-documented role in neuronal plasticity and long-term memory formation in the brain. CREB has been shown to be integral in the formation of spatial memory.

Chronic downregulation of CREB-mediated transcription results in decrease of CREB content in the hippocampal neurons of patients with Alzheimer's disease which may contribute to exacerbation of disease Progression.

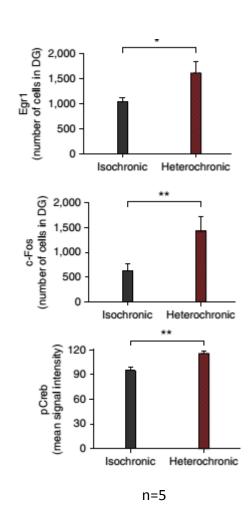








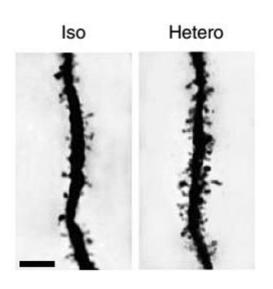
Immunohistochemical staining on the dentate gyrus of hippocampi

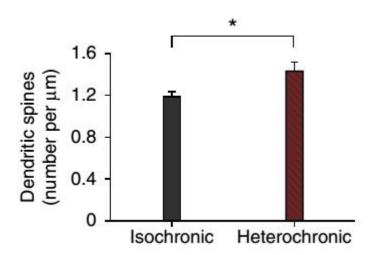






#### Synaptic plasticity

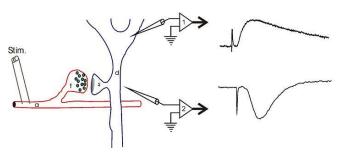




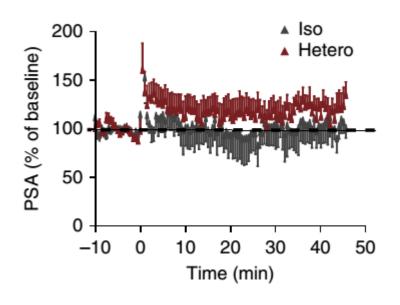




Synaptic plasticity



Long-term potentiation stayed above baseline -> sign for enhanced synaptic plasticity



Extracellular electrophysiology





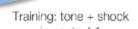
# **Blood Stage**

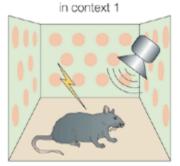






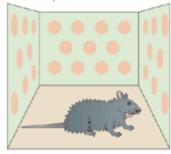






Mouse learns to fear tone and context 1

Test 1: no tone, no shock, re-exposure to context 1



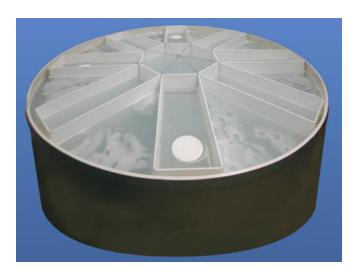
Mouse freezes in response to context 1

Test 2: re-exposure to tone, no shock, in context 2



Mouse freezes in response to tone

#### Radial arm water maze



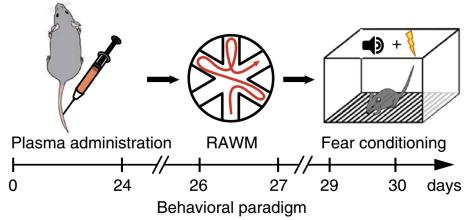


# Setup



intravenously injected 100  $\mu$ l of young (3 months) or aged (18 months) plasma eight times over 3

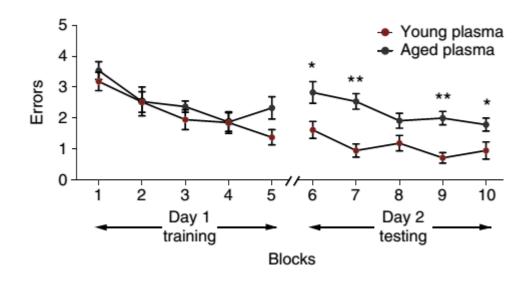
weeks





#### **RAWM - Results**

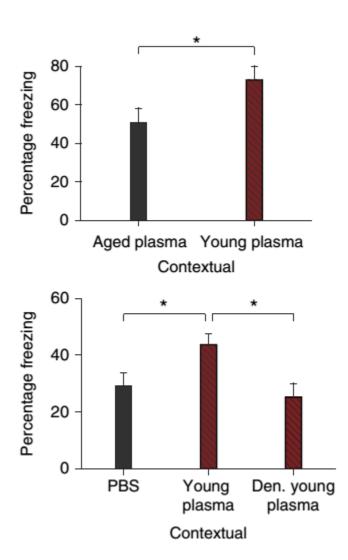






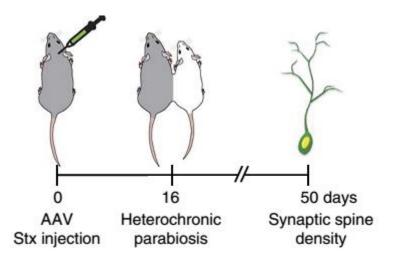
# Fear conditioning - Results



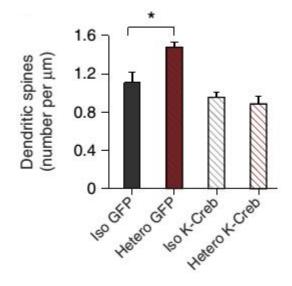








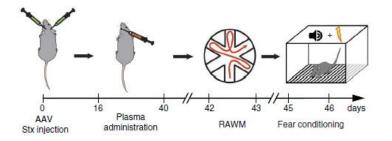


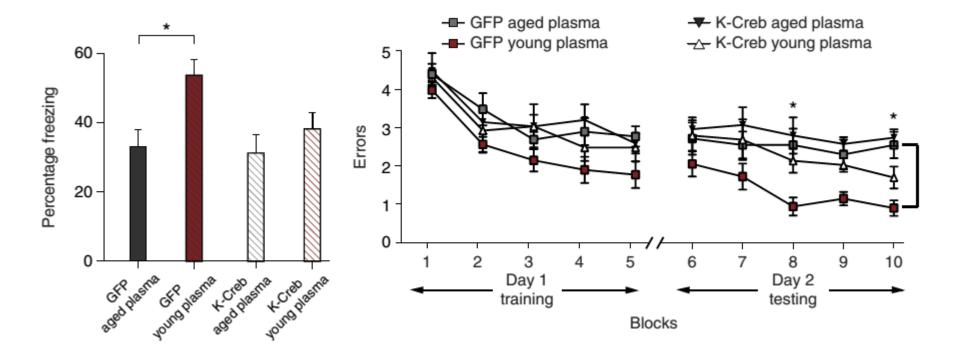


Dominant-negative DNA binding-incompetent form of Creb (K-Creb)











#### Conclusion



Exposure to young blood counteracts aging at the molecular, structural, functional and cognitive levels in the aged hippocampus

Two possible strategies: pro-youthful factors from young blood to

reverse age-related impairments in the

brain

or

remove pro-aging factors from aged blood





# Thank you for your attention