

micturition. Interestingly, remyelination restored healthy bladder function. However, there were no significant changes in the cystometric parameters (brainstem reflex) between the treatment groups. While MS is not classically considered a disease of aging, extending the longevity of these patients has not been reciprocated with improved treatments for their most-bothersome conditions, notably urinary symptoms that persist throughout life. Our data represent a novel compelling connection and strong correlation between CNS-myelination and cortical control of bladder function, which has potential implications in MS, aging, and aging-associated neurological disorders.

#### SENOLYTICS IN A MODEL OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

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The therapeutic effects of senescent cell killing with senolytics in neurodegeneration mouse models poise this strategy as an intervention candidate for Alzheimer's Disease (AD). However, it is unclear whether senolytic therapies for AD are translatable to human cells. To determine whether senolytics could be a viable therapeutic for AD, we have treated long-term mixed human neuron/astrocyte primary cultures with amyloid beta oligomers (ABO), which we have shown to induce a phenotype consistent with senescence in neurons. Fifteen days after ABO treatment, we administered Navitoclax (Nav) and the natural killer cell-line NK92, which are known to selectively kill senescent cells in the periphery. Following treatment, we assessed senescence markers in our cultures as well as senescent cell killing selectivity through cleaved Caspase 3 quantification. Our preliminary data show that Nav (8, 4, and 0.5uM) kills both control and ABO treated cells. NK92 cells (10 to 1 effector to target ratio) also kill some control cells, suggesting there is not a clear cut mechanism by which NK92 cells can distinguish senescent from non-senescent neurons or astrocytes. Although analysis of selective killing is ongoing, off-target killing indicates that we need more refined senolytic strategies to implement their safe human use.

#### SHORT-TERM DIESEL EXHAUST EXPOSURE RESULTS IN NEUROINFLAMMATION AND WHITE MATTER INJURY

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Ambient air pollution (AAP) exposure is associated with white matter injury and cognitive decline in older adults (Chen et al. 2020, Erickson et al. 2020). Neuroinflammation and oxidative stress may contribute to this white matter injury. Diesel exhaust particulate matter (DEP) is a neurotoxic component of AAP. This study characterizes the time course by which neuroinflammation/oxidative stress occurs and results in white matter injury following DE exposure in a murine model. DEP (Sigma) was re-aerosolized for exposure. Mice

were exposed to 100 µg/m<sup>3</sup> DEP or filtered air (FA) for 5 hours (n=8/group), 100 hours (n=6/group), or 200 hours (n=6/group). Immunohistochemical analysis of degraded myelin basic protein (dMBP), a marker of myelin damage, was performed. Neuroinflammation and oxidative stress were assessed by histological analysis of complement C5a, an anaphylatoxin, and 4-Hydroxynonenal (4-HNE), a marker of lipid peroxidation. dMBP integrated density was increased in the corpus callosum of DEP mice at 5 (p<0.01), 100 (p<0.01), and 200 hours (p<0.001) compared to FA mice. C5a integrated density was increased in the corpus callosum of DEP mice at 5 (p<0.01), 100 (p<0.01), and 200 hours (p<0.01) compared to FA mice. 4-HNE integrated density was increased in the corpus callosum of DEP mice at 5 (p<0.001), 100 (p=0.001), and 200 hours (p<0.001) compared to FA mice. Neuroinflammation and oxidative stress are upregulated with associated white matter injury in the corpus callosum after 5 hours of DEP exposure. Short-term DEP exposure activates inflammatory/oxidative stress pathways, which may contribute to the pathogenesis of white matter injury. Erickson et al. 2020, PMID:32182984; Chen et al. 2020, PMID:32669395.

#### SIGNIFICANT ASSOCIATIONS OF THE INTERPLAY BETWEEN STRESS RELATED GENES WITH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

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The lack of efficient medication against Alzheimer's disease (AD) is the most important problem for this health disorder today. One possible reason for this -- the implementing medical interventions "too late in the disease stage" -- has been recently addressed in the initiative that defined the preclinical AD stage by measuring changes in preclinical AD biomarkers. According to this definition, beta amyloid (Aβ) is one of the key preclinical AD biomarkers. Experimental studies showed that Aβ results from proteolytic cleavage of APP by β- and γ-secretases. Production of β-secretase involves BACE1 gene, activated by cellular stress response. This suggests that AD might be initiated by cellular stressors and that multifactorial regulation of AD is likely to be driven by genes involved in cellular stress response. In this paper we investigate whether interplay between SNPs from the EIF2AK4 gene involved in sensing cellular stress signals and the APP gene dealing with Aβ production may be associated with AD in human data. For this, we evaluated association of the interactions of the pairs of SNPs from these genes with AD in the analysis of HRS data. We found that interactions between several SNPs have statistically significant associations with AD. The results of this analysis confirm that the interplay between gene served as a sensor of cellular stress and gene involved in production of preclinical AD biomarker in response to stress may influence human AD. This analysis illustrates an important step towards translation of the results of experimental AD studies to human applications.