

Repurposing – fresh perspectives on known components

Technical Journal Club
Johanna Schaffenrath
15.05.2018

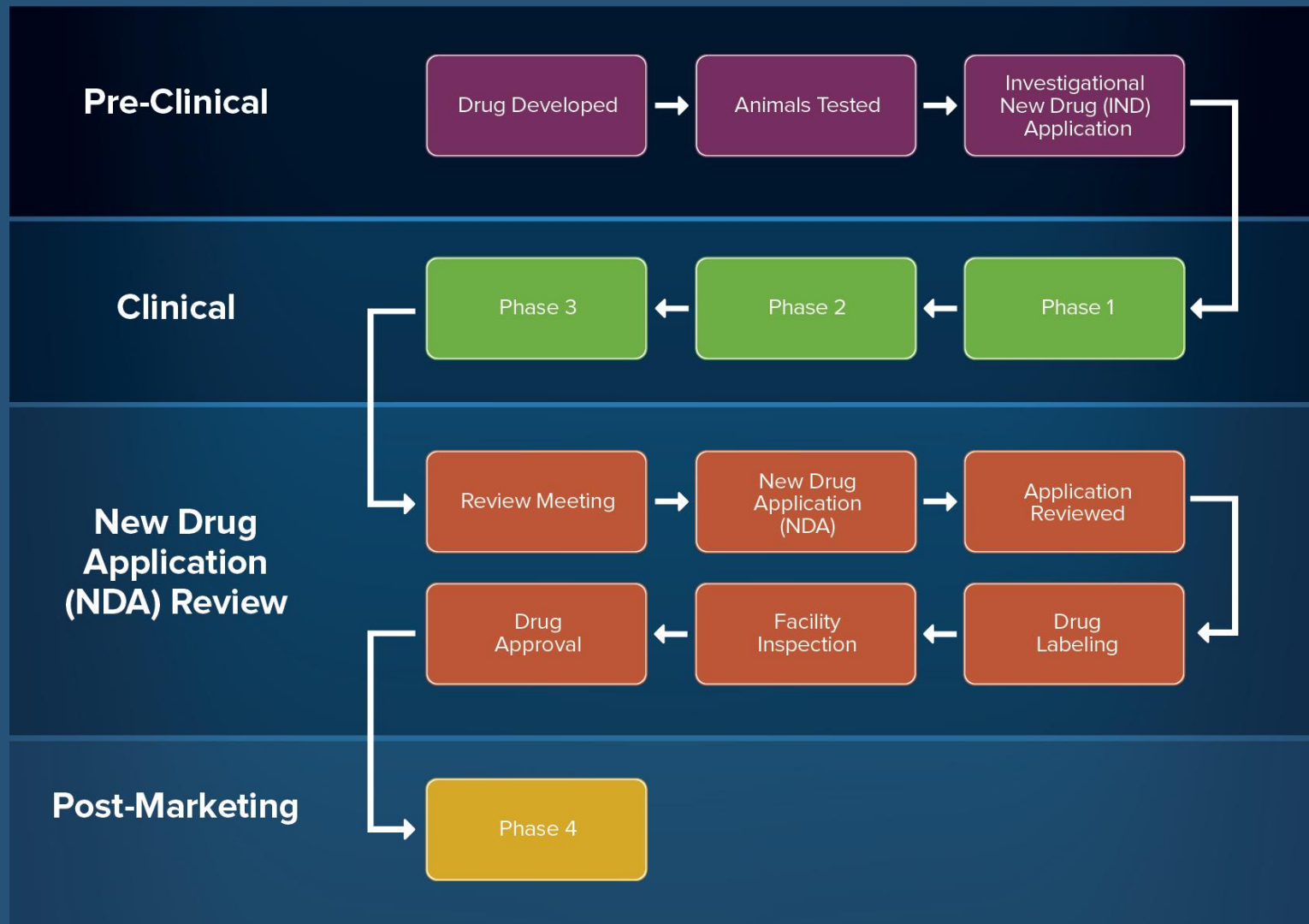
About drug specificity...



***“My feeling
is that the
proportion of
drugs that in
theory could
be repositioned
is probably
around 75%.”***

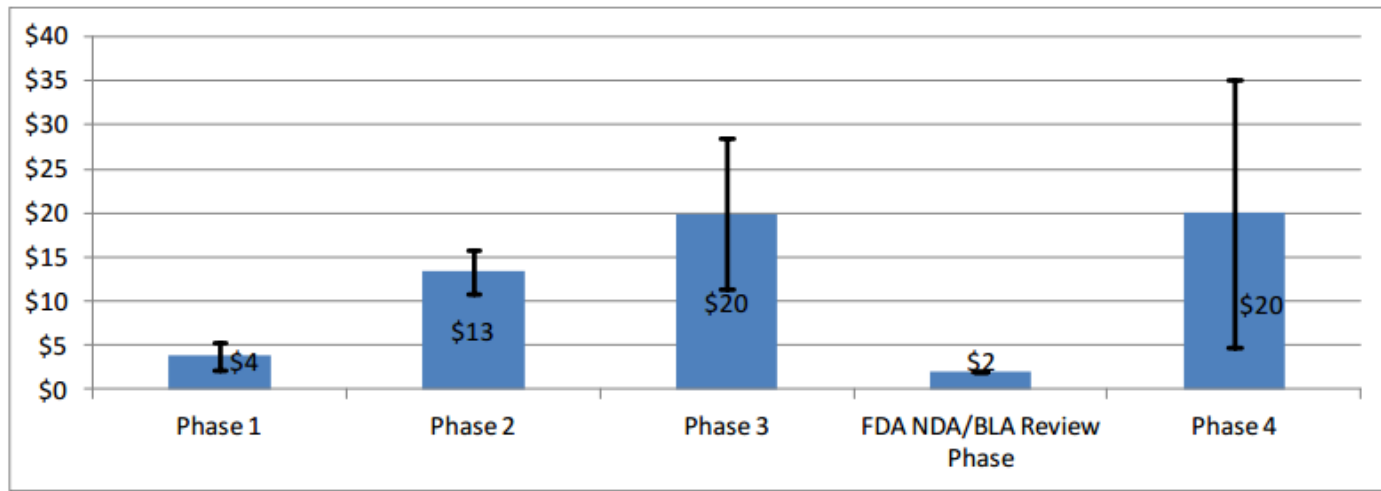
Bernhard Munos,
FasterCures

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Drug Approval Process



Average Per-Study Costs by Phase

Figure 4: Average Per-Study Costs by Phase (in \$ Millions) Across Therapeutic Areas



Phase 1: testing on 20-80 healthy volunteers using subtherapeutic dose

Phase 2: testing on 100s of patients using therapeutic dose

Phase 3: testing on 1000s of patients using therapeutic dose

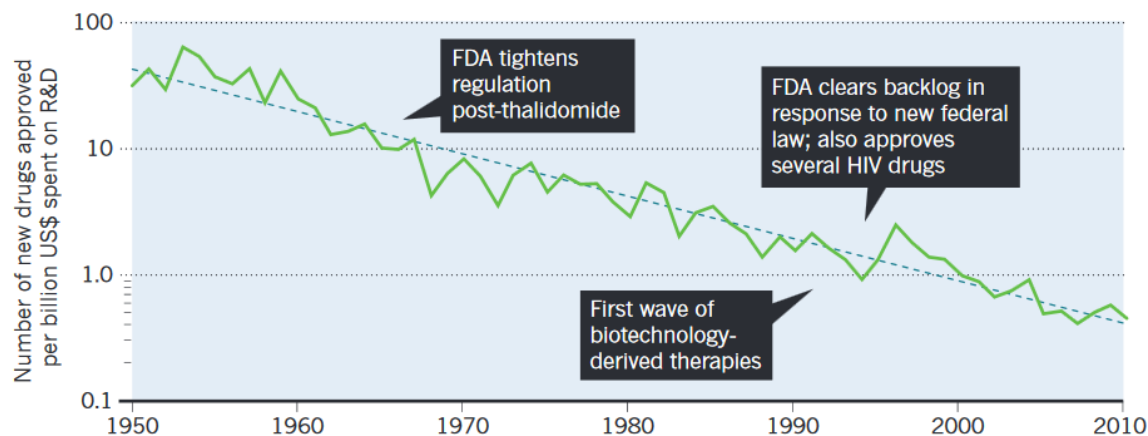
Review Phase: Prior to New Drug Application

Phase 4: surveillance phase – assessing long term effects

Eroom's law

EROOM'S LAW

The efficiency of research and development of new drugs in the United States halves every nine years or so. Drug developers sometimes call this Eroom's law — Moore's law for microprocessors in reverse. Repositioning drugs could help to counter this decline.



A SHORTER TIMESCALE

Because most repositioned drugs have already passed the early phases of development and clinical testing, they can potentially win approval in less than half the time and at one-quarter of the cost.

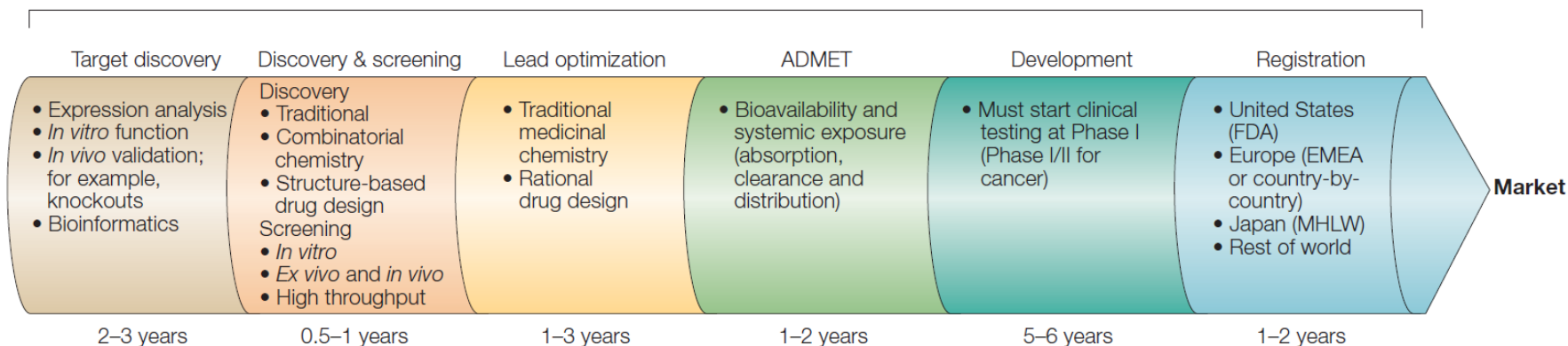
Drug repositioning

~6 years, ~\$300 million

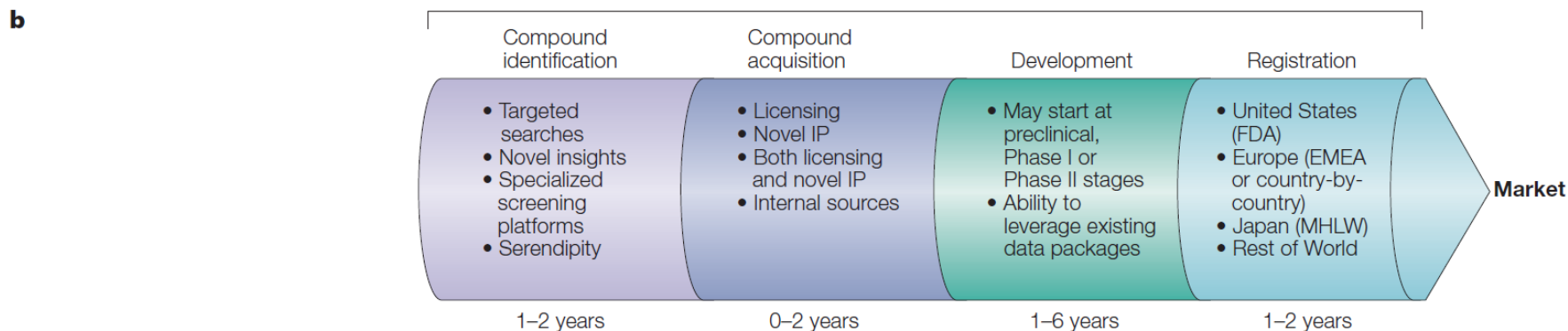
- High cost
- Long timelines
- Difficulties in recruiting and retaining participants
- Administrative barriers
- Financial barriers – sponsors
- About 30% of drugs entering approval pipeline are repurposed

De novo drug discovery vs. Drug repurposing

- a**
- De novo* drug discovery and development
- 10–17 year process
 - <10% overall probability of success



- Drug repositioning
- 3–12 year process
 - Reduced safety and pharmacokinetic uncertainty



Increasing trend for repurposing

- Financial advantages are massive
 - Relaunching a repurposed drug: ~8.4 million \$
 - Relaunching a new formulation of an existing drug: ~41.3 million \$
 - Successfully releasing a new drug: ~1.3 billion \$
- Lower risks
- Companies rise business centres exploring repositioning opportunities
 - Pfizer's indication discovery unit
 - Bayer Healthcare's common mechanisms research group
 - Novartis' new indications discovery unit
- virtual proof of concept units
- 3-4 drug repurposing companies open per year (data 2016)

Increasing trend for repurposing

- easiest to repurpose: generic drugs
 - Well known safety profile
 - Expired original patents
- Failed drugs which passed phase 1 but not 2 & 3
- Scanning thorough generic drugs to find connections involved in
 - Genes
 - Pathways
 - Targets
- Repurposing often start at physicians
 - Repurposed prescriptions

Repurposing and basic research

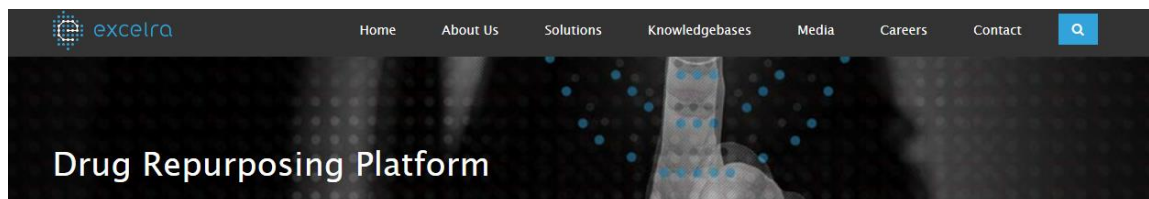
- Repurposing used in basic research
 - Acceleration of discoveries and understanding of new biology
 - uncover new pathways and mechanisms by «off-target» effects
- Vendors and CROs offering repositioning services
 - widescale in vitro binding
 - cell line screening
 - protein-protein interaction studies
 - phenotypic screening of animal model sets
 - pathway and data mining approaches
- Good for commercial and reserach sense
- Innovation in understanding of basic disease biology

Repurposing platforms



The Drug Repurposing Hub: a next-generation drug library and information resource

Steven M. Corsello^{1,2,3}, Joshua A. Bittker¹, Zihan Liu¹, Joshua Gould¹, Patrick McCarren¹, Jodi E. Hirschman¹, Stephen E. Johnston¹, Anita Vrcic¹, Bang Wong¹, Mariya Khan¹, Jacob Asiedu¹, Rajiv Narayan¹, Christopher C. Mader¹, Aravind Subramanian¹, and Todd R. Golub^{1,3,4,5,*}



<http://www.excelra.com/d-repurposing-platform.php>

Review

Informatics

Uncovering novel repositioning opportunities using the Open Targets platform

Mugdha Khaladkar¹, Gautier Koscielny^{2,3}, Samiul Hasan², Pankaj Agarwal¹, Ian Dunham^{3,4}, Deepak Rajpal¹, Philippe Sanseau^{2,3} 

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

WILEY 

Possible repurposing of pyrvinium pamoate for the treatment of mesothelioma: A pre-clinical assessment

Marcella Barbarino^{1,2} | Daniele Cesari¹ | Riccardo Intruglio¹ | Paola Indovina² |
Asadoor Namagerdi¹ | Franca Maria Bertolino¹ | Maria Bottaro¹ |
Delaram Rahamani¹ | Cristiana Bellan³ | Antonio Giordano^{1,2}

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Journal of
Cellular Physiology

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Marcella Barbarino^{1,2} | Daniele C.

Asadoor Namagerdi¹

Delara


Published online: April 17, 2018



EMBO
Molecular Medicine

Research Article

Identification of circadian clock modulators from existing drugs

T Katherine Tamai¹, Yusuke Nakane^{1,2}, Wataru Ota^{1,2}, Akane Kobayashi^{1,2}, Masateru Ishiguro^{1,2}, Naoya Kadofusa¹, Keisuke Ikegami³, Kazuhiro Yagita⁴, Yasufumi Shigeyoshi³, Masaki Sudo¹, Taeko Nishiwaki-Ohkawa^{1,2}, Ayato Sato¹ & Takashi Yoshimura^{1,2,5,6,*} 

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

WILEY

Journal of
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Accepted: 5 February 2018
DOI: 10.1111/epi.14037



OPEN
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EMBO
Molecular Medicine

FULL-LENGTH ORIGINAL RESEARCH

A comprehensive approach to identifying repurposed drugs to treat *SCN8A* epilepsy

Epilepsia®

Talia A. Atkin¹ | Chani M. Maher¹ | Aaron C. Gerlach² | Bryant C. Gay¹ | Brett M. Antonio² | Sonia C. Santos² | Karen M. Padilla² | JulieAnn Rader¹ | Douglas S. Krafte² | Matthew A. Fox¹ | Gregory R. Stewart¹ | Slavé Petrovski^{1,3} | Orrin Devinsky^{1,4} | Matthew Might^{1,5} | Steven Petrou^{1,3} | David B. Goldstein^{1,6}

T. Katherine
Naoya Kadofusa
Taeko Nishiwaki-Ohkawa

Received: 26 February 2018

Accepted: 28 February 2018

DOI: 10.1002/jcp.26579

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

WILEY

Journal of
Cellular Physiology

Possible repurposing of pyriminyl pamoate for the treatment of malaria: A pre-clinical assessment

Accepted: 5 February 2018
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FULL-LENGTH



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Molecular Medicine

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN

Sertraline, Paroxetine, and Chlorpromazine Are Rapidly Acting Anthelmintic Drugs Capable of Clinical Repurposing

Received: 9 March 2017

Accepted: 12 December 2017

Published online: 17 January 2018

Janis C. Weeks¹, William M. Roberts¹, Caitlyn Leasure², Brian M. Suzuki³, Kristin J. Robinson¹, Heather Currey⁴, Phurpa Wangchuk⁵, Ramon M. Eichenberger⁵, Aileen D. Saxton⁴, Thomas D. Bird^{4,6,7,8}, Brian C. Kraemer^{4,7,9,10}, Alex Loukas⁵, John M. Hawdon², Conor R. Caffrey³ & Nicole F. Liachko^{4,9}

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Jing-Jing Zhang^{1,2,3} 

Qin-Ming Zhou⁴

Sheng Chen⁵

Wei-Dong Le^{1,2,6} 

WILEY **CNS** Neuroscience & Therapeutics

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Journal of Neurology (2018) 265:446–448
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00415-018-8732-z>

JOURNAL CLUB

Repurposing drugs to treat neurological diseases

T. H. Massey¹ · N. P. Robertson¹

Published online: 10 January 2018

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Jing-Jing

Chloroquine Anthelmintic Drug Clinical Repurposing

Janis C. Weeks¹, William M. Roberts¹, Caitlyn Leasure², Brian M. Suzuki³, Kristin J. Robinson⁴, Heather Currey⁴, Phurpa Wangchuk⁵, Ramon M. Eichenberger⁵, Aileen D. Saxton⁴, Thomas D. Bird^{4,6,7,8}, Brian C. Kraemer^{4,7,9,10}, Alex Loukas⁵, John M. Hawdon², Conor R. Caffrey³ & Nicole F. Liachko^{4,9}

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WILEY **CNS** Neuroscience & Therapeutics

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the model

Dong Le^{1,2,6} 



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HHS Public Access

Author manuscript

Nat Med. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2017 August 23.

Published in final edited form as:

Nat Med. 2017 April 07; 23(4): 405–408. doi:10.1038/nm.4306.

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Accepted: 12 December 2017

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ARTICLE

Received 9 Dec 2014 | Accepted 24 Aug 2015 | Published 27 Oct 2015

DOI: 10.1038/ncomms9466

OPEN

Structural and functional rejuvenation of the aged brain by an approved anti-asthmatic drug

Julia Marschallinger^{1,2}, Iris Schäffner³, Barbara Klein^{1,2}, Renate Gelfert^{1,2}, Francisco J. Rivera^{1,2}, Sebastian Illes^{1,2}, Lukas Grassner^{1,2,4}, Maximilian Janssen^{1,2}, Peter Rotheneichner^{1,2,5}, Claudia Schmuckermair⁶, Roland Coras⁷, Marta Boccazzi⁸, Mansoor Chishty⁹, Florian B. Lagler¹⁰, Marija Renic¹¹, Hans-Christian Bauer^{2,12}, Nicolas Singewald⁶, Ingmar Blümcke⁷, Ulrich Bogdahn¹³, Sebastien Couillard-Despres^{2,5}, D. Chichung Lie³, Maria P. Abbracchio⁸ & Ludwig Aigner^{1,2}

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Repurposing sex steroids and related drugs as potential treatment for Parkinson's disease

Mélanie Bourque^{a,b}, Marc Morissette^a and Thérèse Di Paolo^{a,b*}

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CANADA, G1V 4G2 and

^bFaculty of Pharmacy, Université Laval, Quebec City, CANADA, G1K 7P4.

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Accepted: 12 December 2017

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Received: 3 January 2018 | Revised: 27 February 2018 | Accepted: 13 March 2018

DOI: 10.1111/cns.12855

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

WILEY **CNS Neuroscience & Therapeutics**

Repurposing carbamazepine for the treatment of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis in SOD1-G93A mouse model

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Received: 26 February 2018 | Accepted: 28 February 2018

DOI: 10.1002/jcp.26579

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

WILEY **Journal of Cellular Physiology**

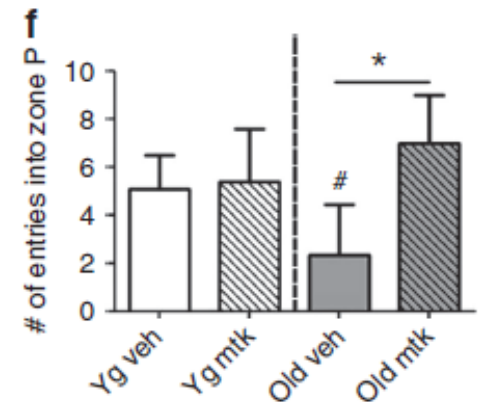
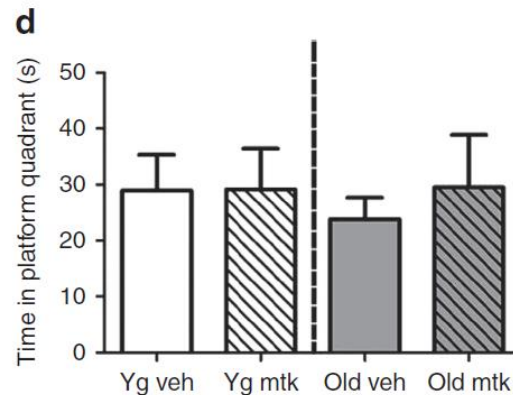
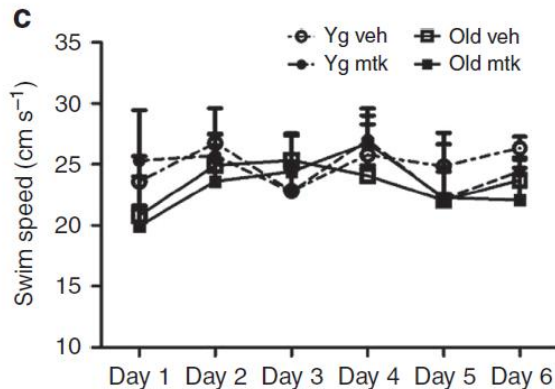
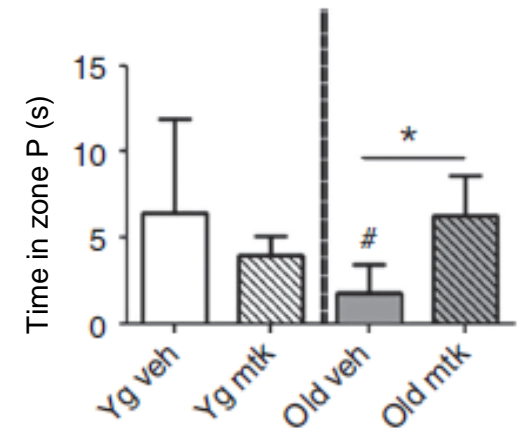
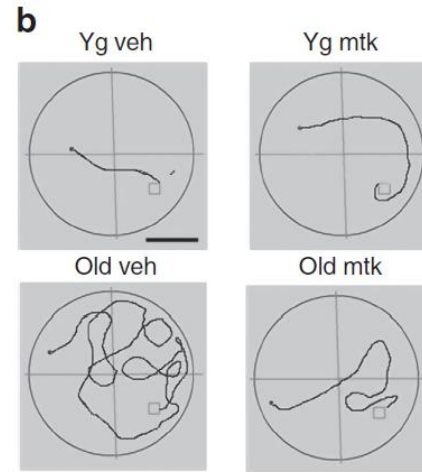
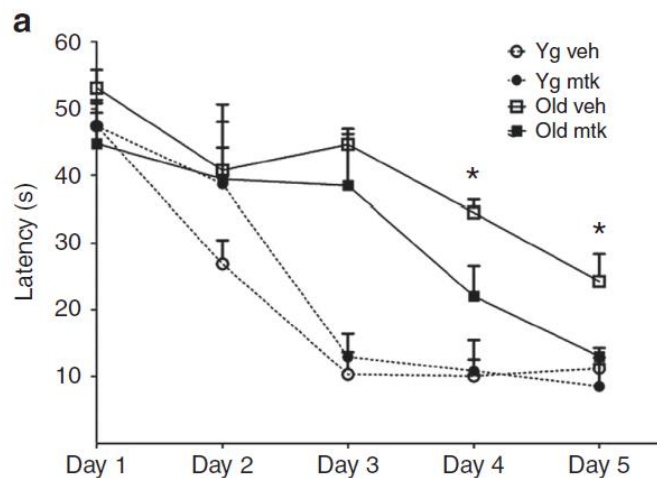
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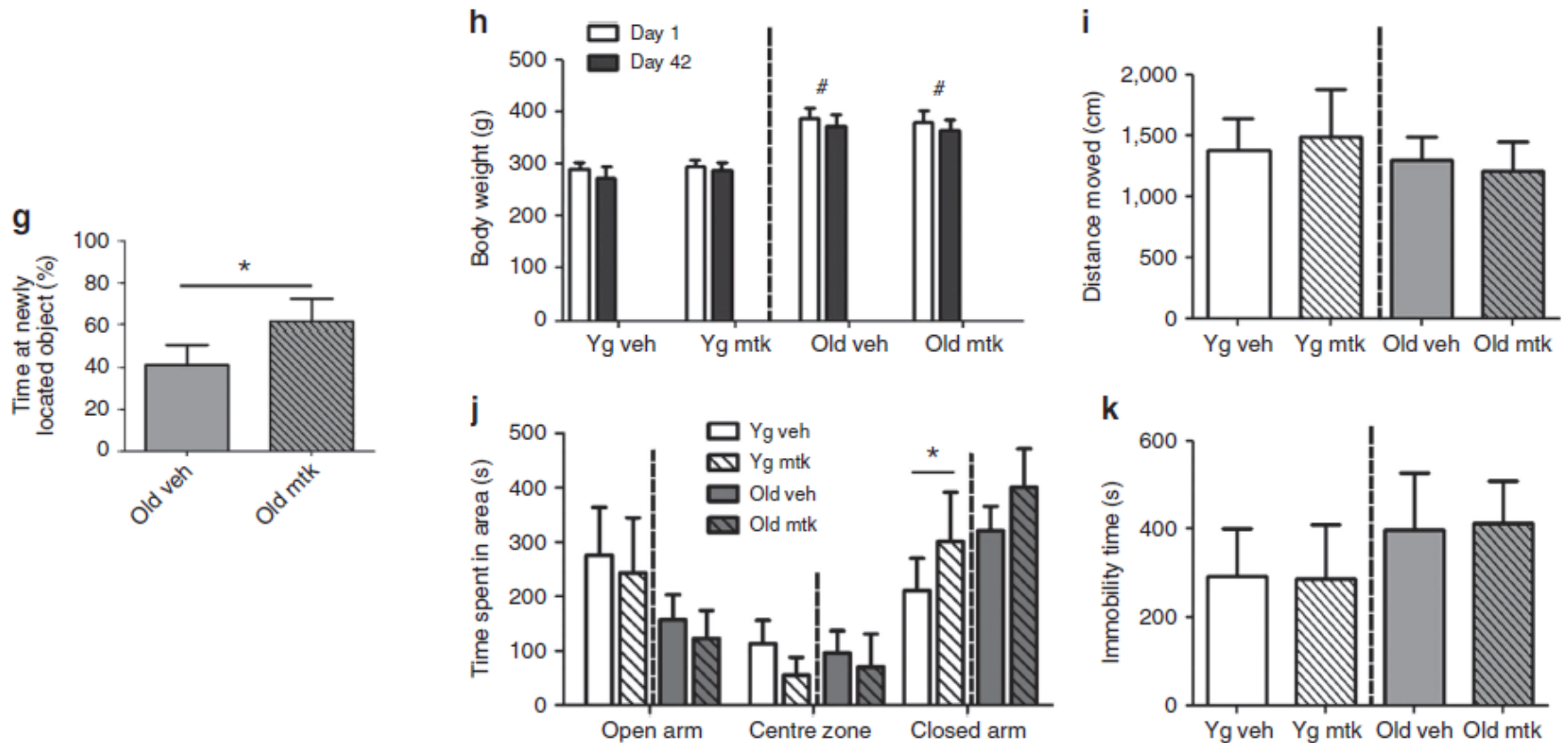
Structural and functional rejuvenation of the aged brain by an approved anti-asthmatic drug

- Aim: target histopathological processes correlating with age-related cognitive declines to structurally and functionally rejuvenate the aged brain
 - Neuroinflammation
 - Low levels of neurogenesis
 - Disrupted BBB
 - Altered neuronal activity
- 6 weeks of 10mg/kg Montelukast treatment of young (4 month) and aged (20 month) old rats
- Montelukast: Leukotriene receptor antagonist

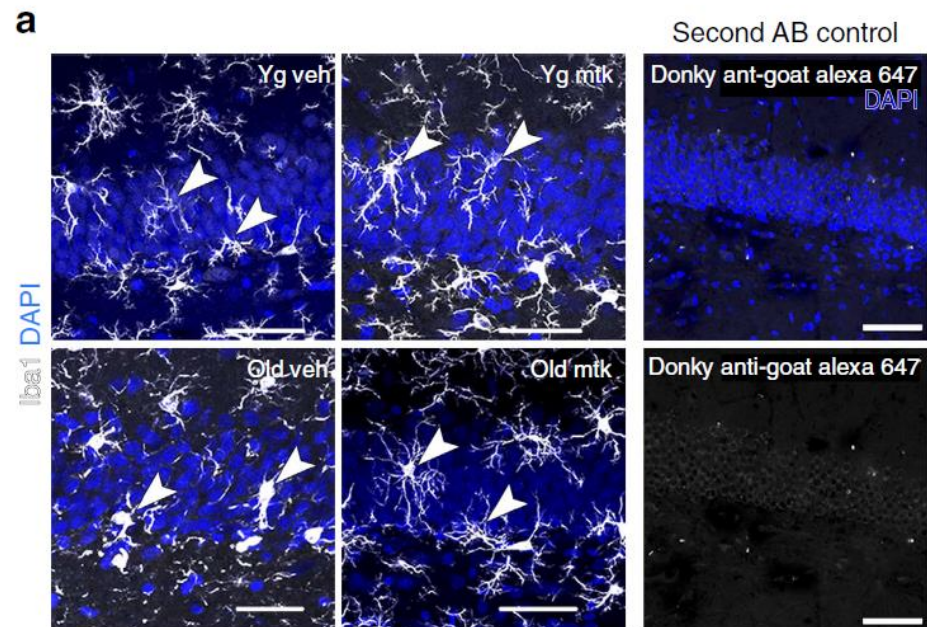
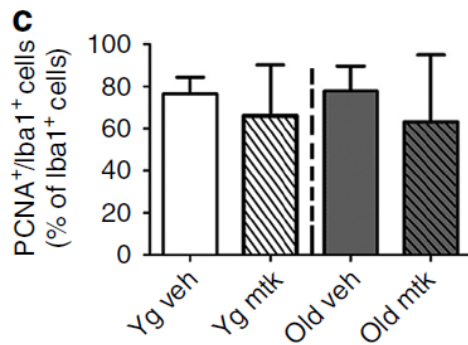
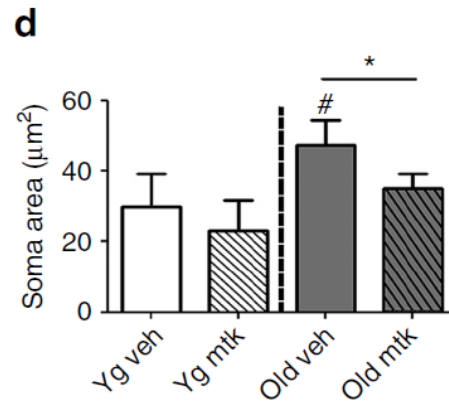
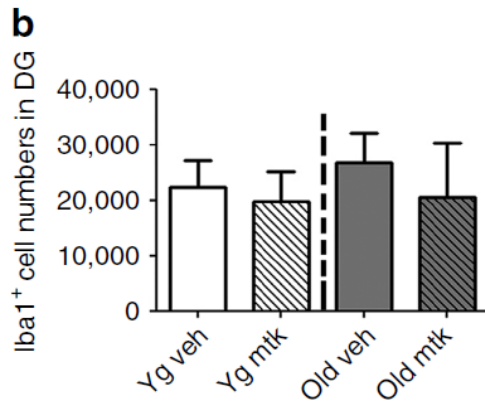
Montelukast treatment improved learning and memory in aged rats



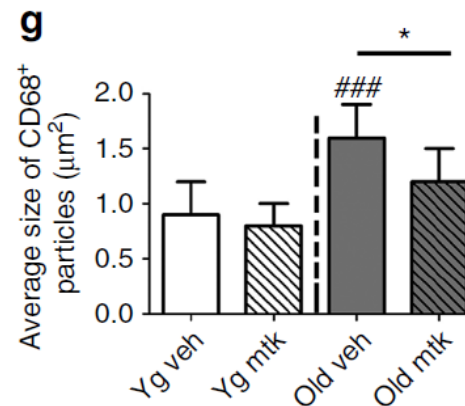
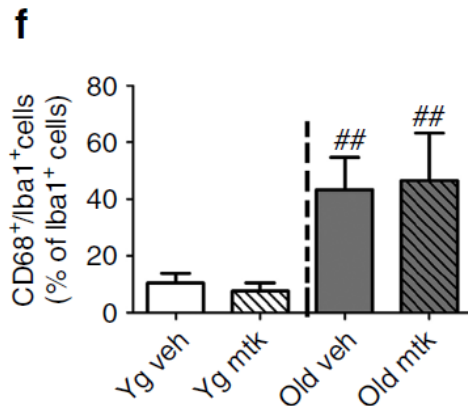
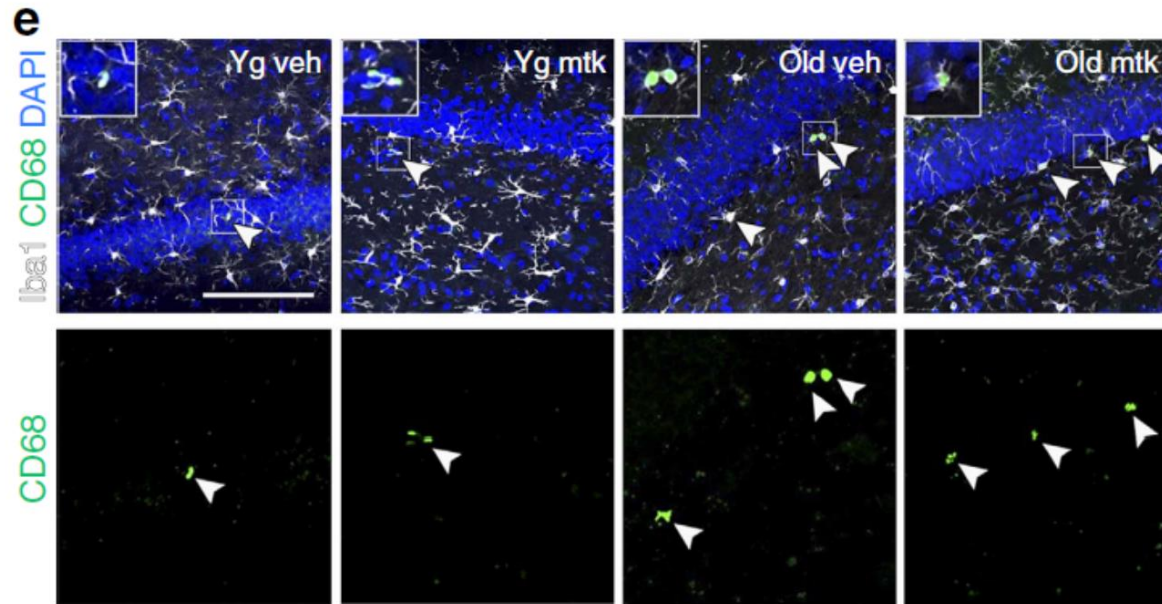
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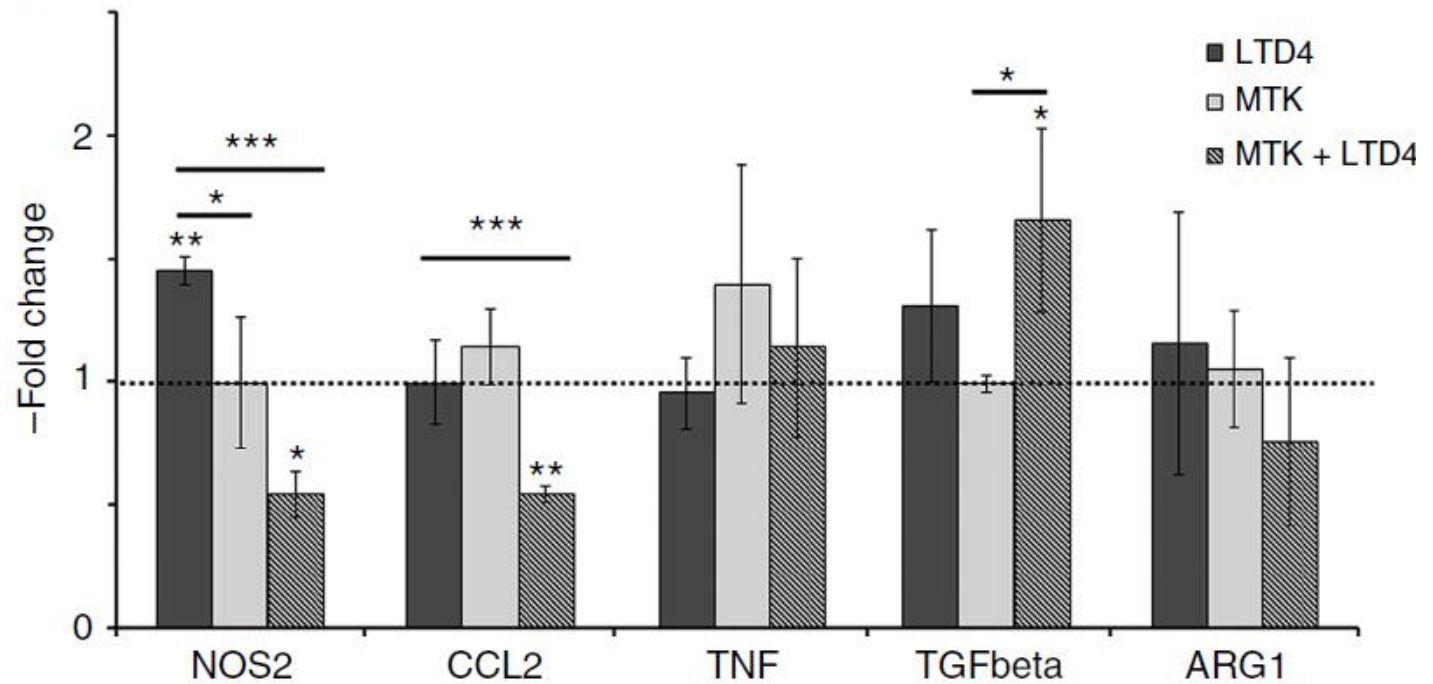
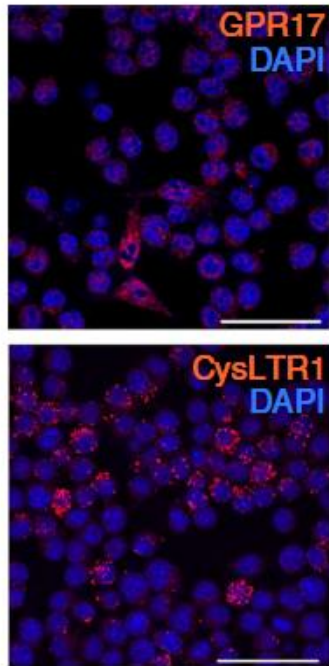
Montelukast modulates microglia in aged rats



Montelukast modulates microglia in aged rats

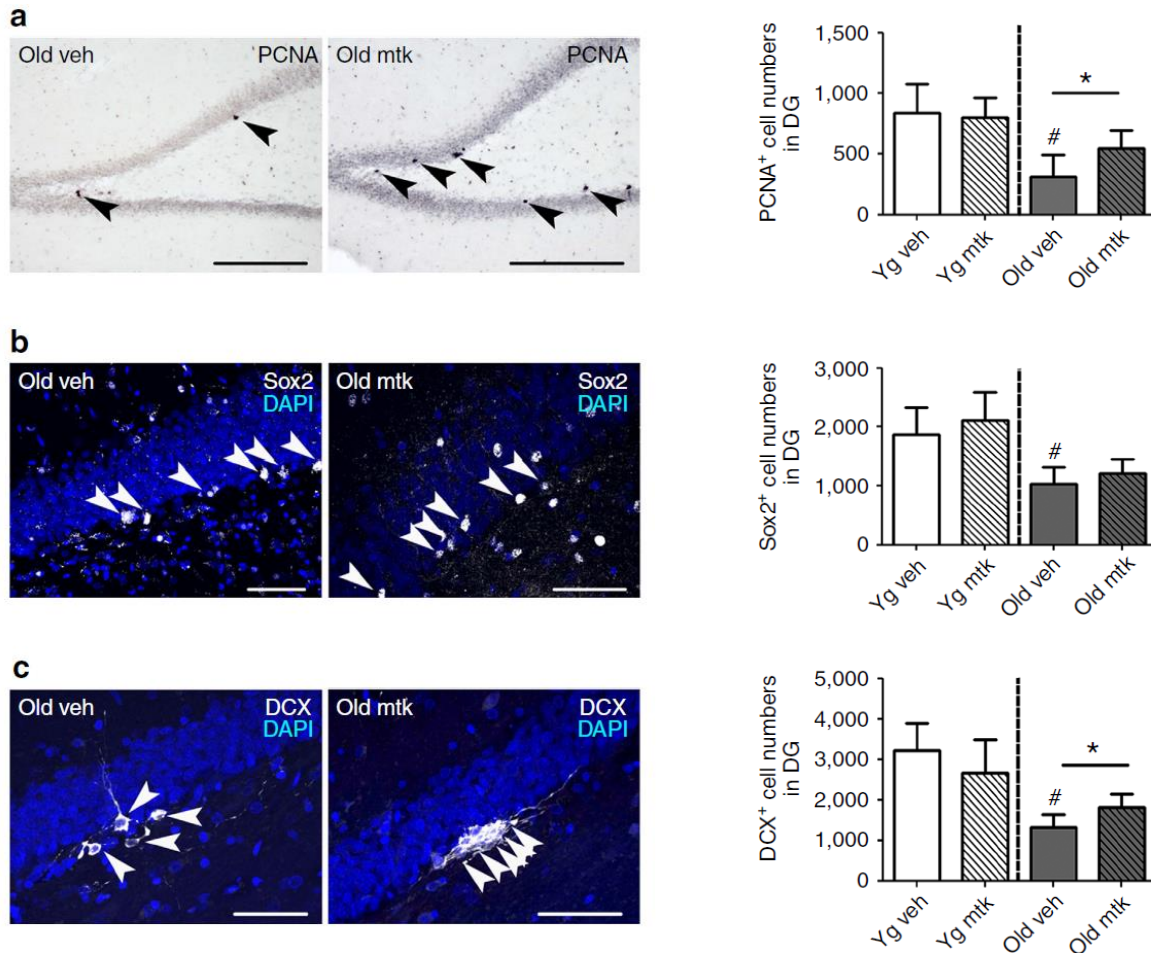


Montelukast modulates neuroinflammatory gene expression in BV-2 microglia cell line



LTD4 100nM, MTK 15μM

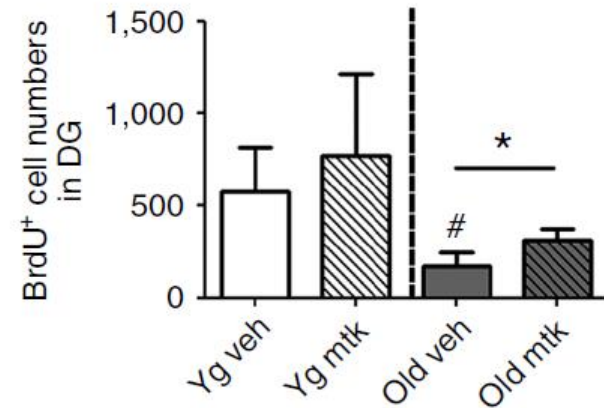
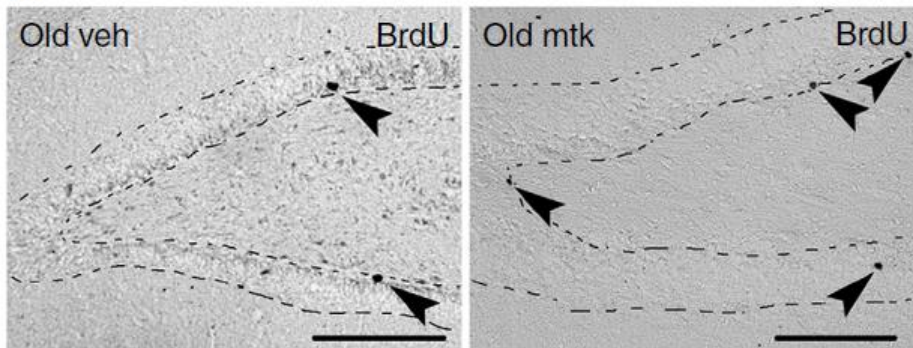
Montelukast increases dentate gyrus neurogenesis in aged rats



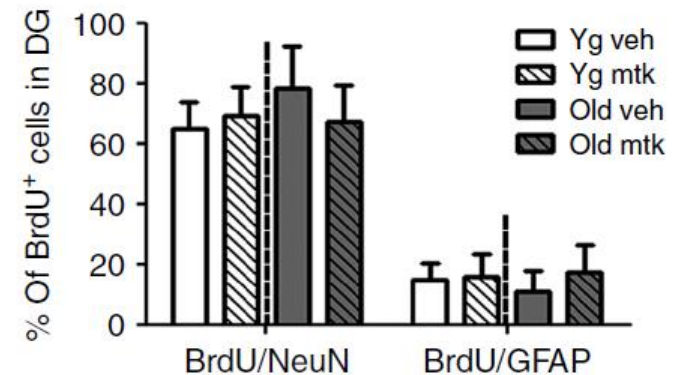
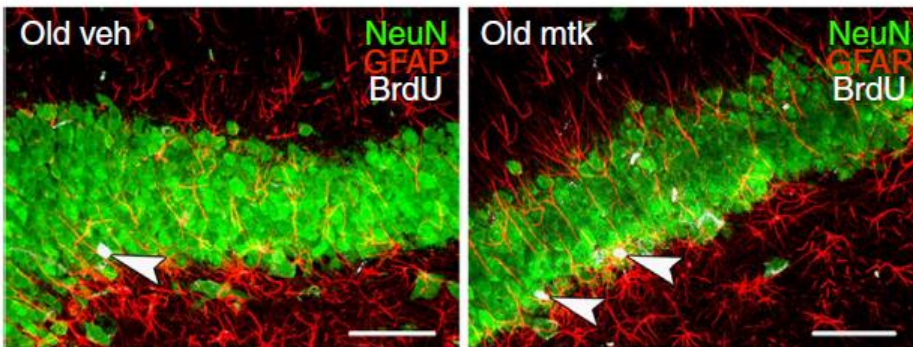
→ Elevated PCNA signal not due to enlarged neural stem cell pool

Montelukast increases dentate gyrus neurogenesis in aged rats

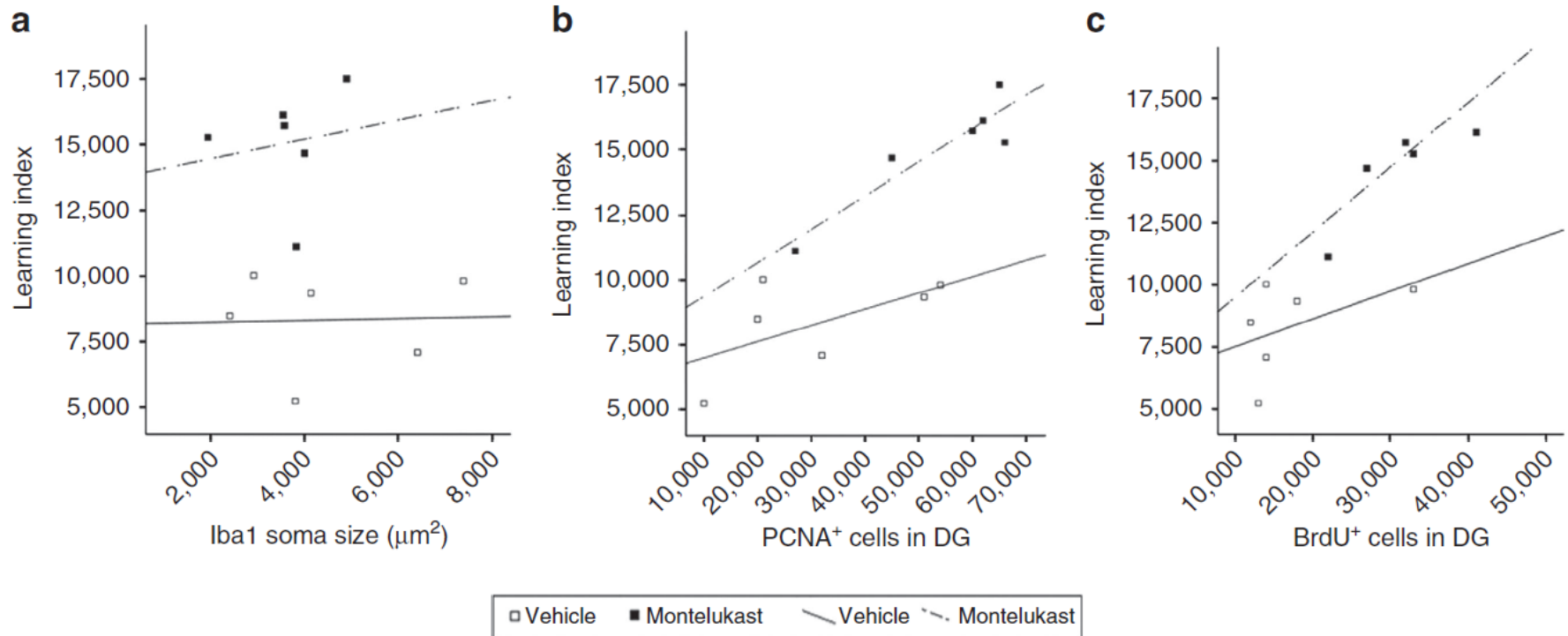
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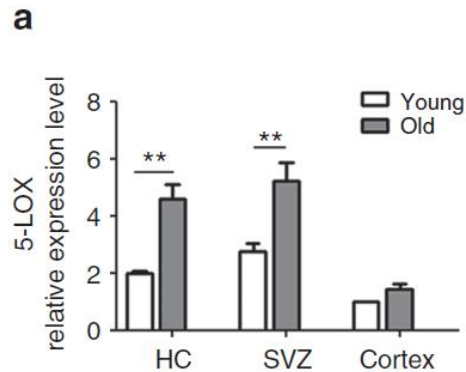
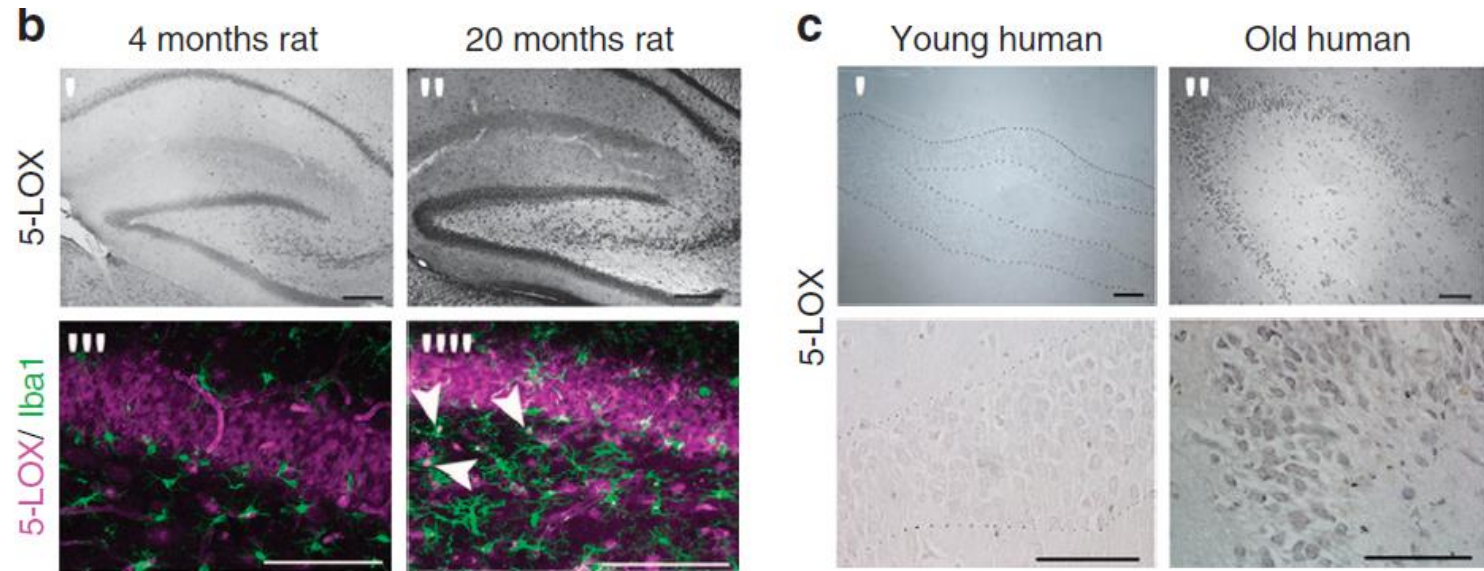


Montelukast-mediated cognitive improvements in old rats correlate with increased neurogenesis

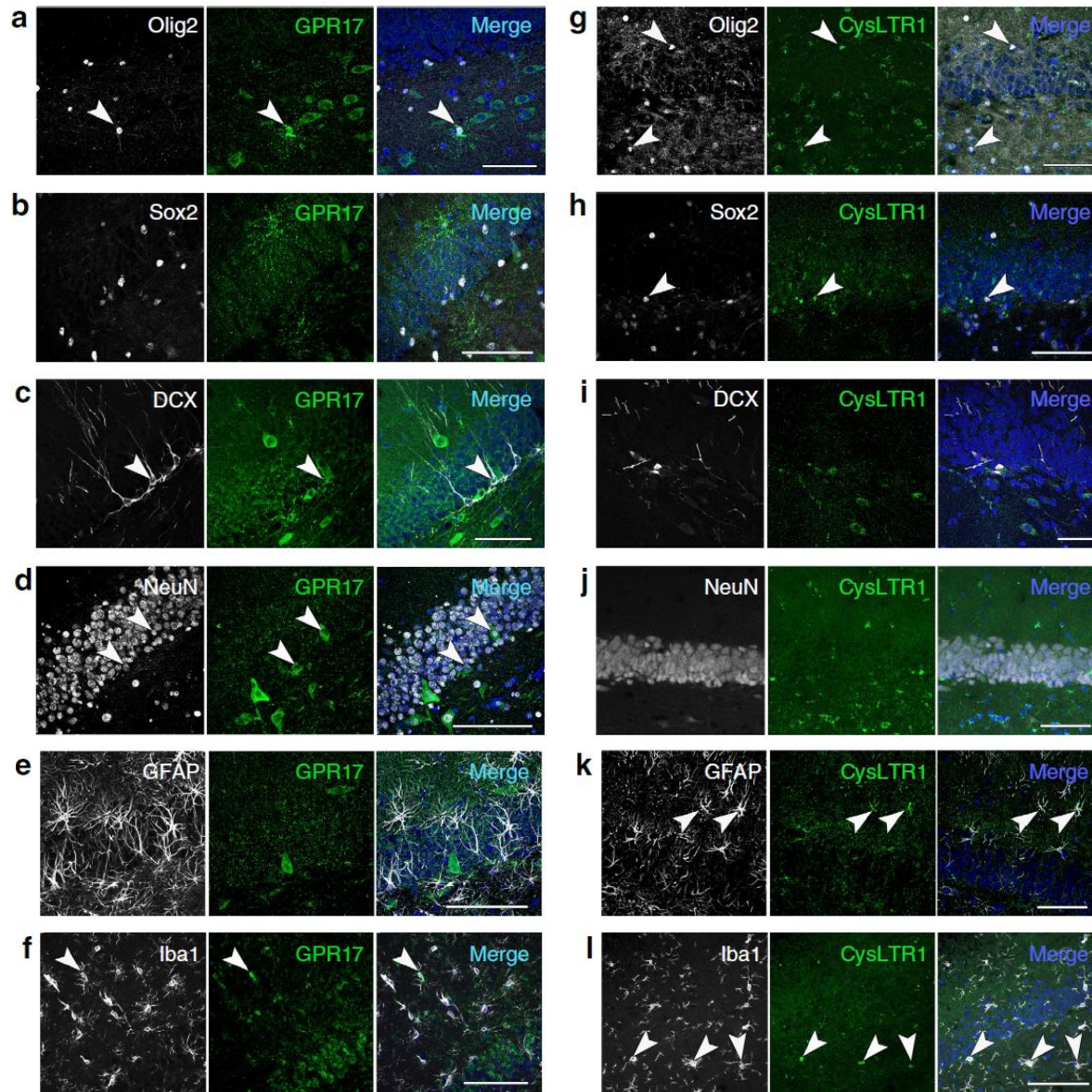


→ Increased neurogenesis might be the reason for better learning of aged rats

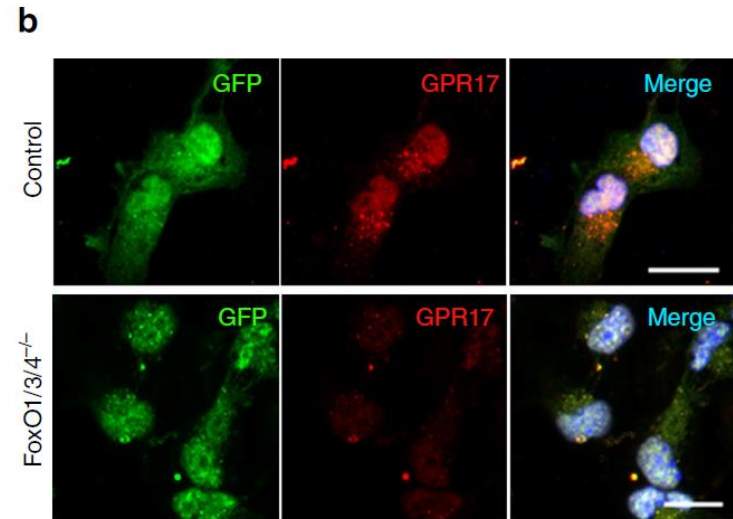
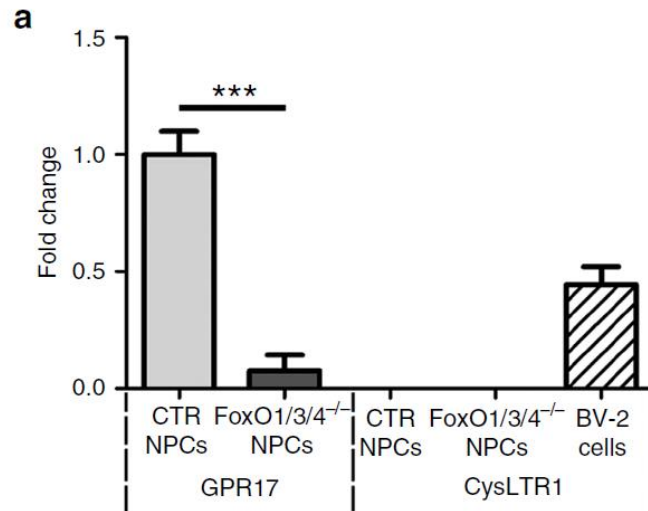
5-LOX expression is upregulated in the hippocampus of old rats and elderly humans



GPR17 and CysLTR1 are expressed within the dentate gyrus of aged rats



GPR17 and CysLTR1 expression in FoxO1/3/4 ^{-/-} NPCs

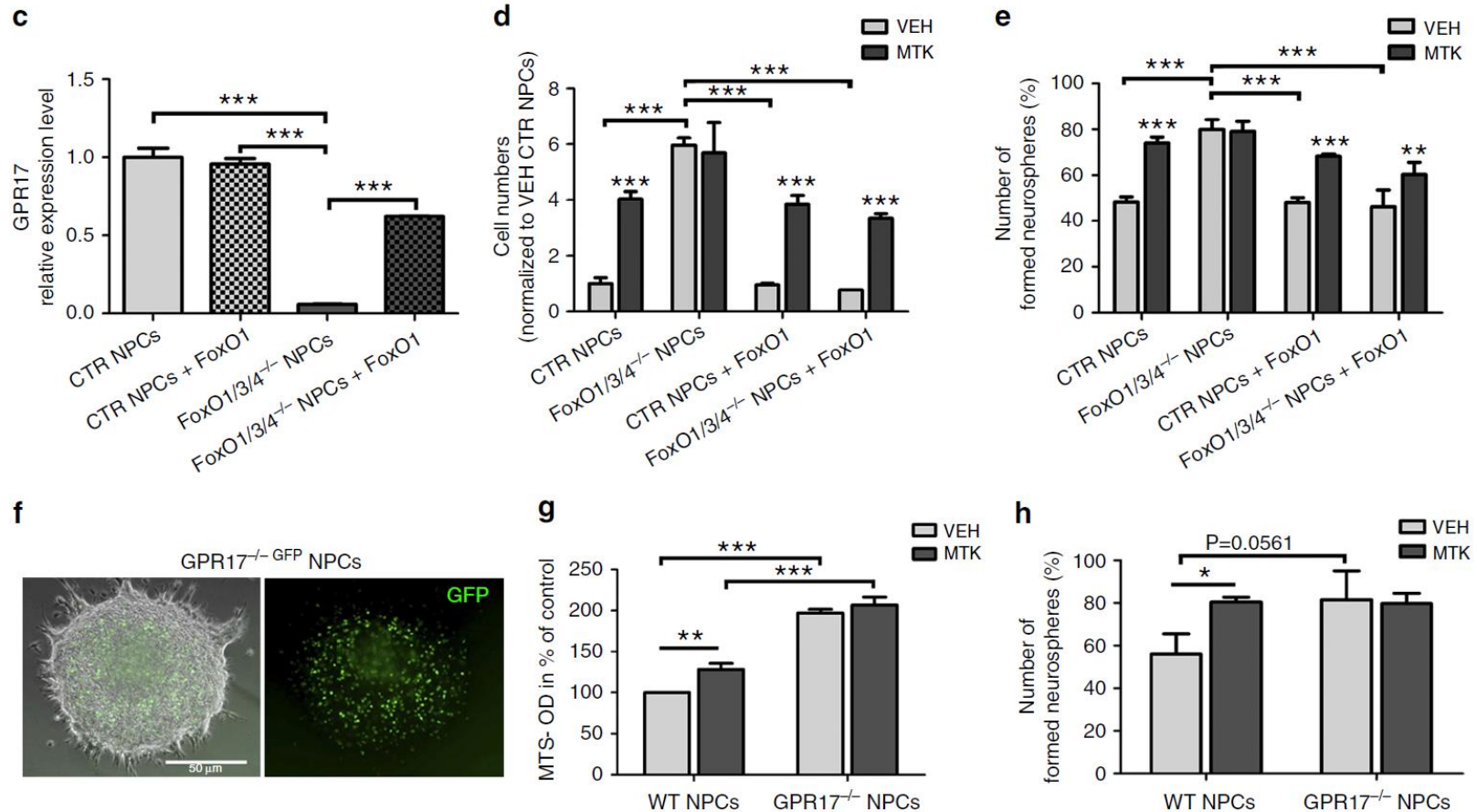


GPR17 is a target of FoxO transcription factors

Mouse line: FoxO1,3,4 fl/fl recombined with GFP/Cre retrovirus (FoxoO1/3/4 ^{-/-} NPCs)

Controls: neurospheres with GFP-only retrovirus

GPR17 k.o. in neurospheres induced hyperproliferation and abolished the effects of montelukast



Conclusion 1

- Montelukast: anti-asthmatic drug which antagonizes leukotriene receptors caused
 - Reduced neuroinflammation
 - Elevated hippocampal neurogenesis
 - Improved learning and memory of aged rats
- Gene knockout and knockdown approaches to find inhibition of GPR17 as effect mediating
- Inhibition of leukotriene receptor signaling via Montelukast could be a safe and druggable option to restore cognitive function in old individuals → treatment of dementia etc.

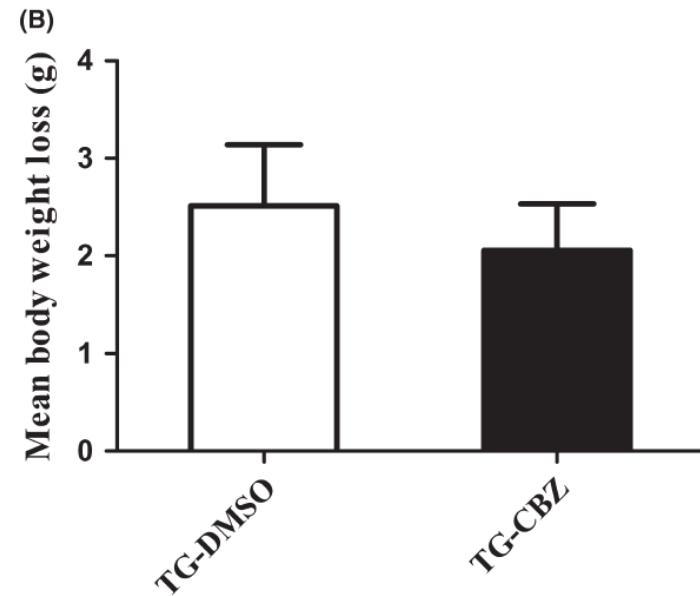
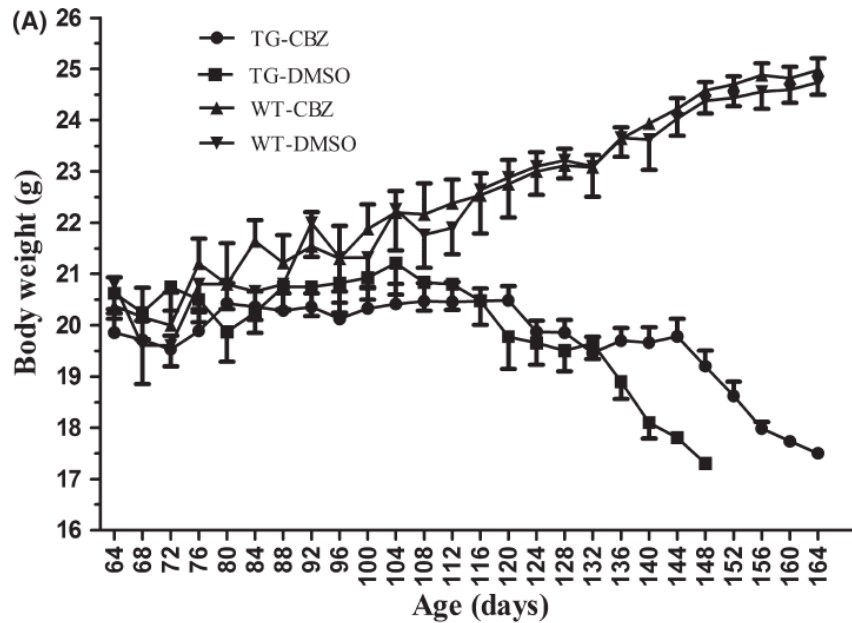
Repurposing carbamazepine for the treatment of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis in SOD1-G93A mouse model

- Aim: Investigation of the effect and mechanisms of carbamazepine (CBZ) on the onset and progression of ALS in SOD1-G93A mouse model
- daily oral administration of 200 mg/kg CBZ in DMSO from 64 days of age to death

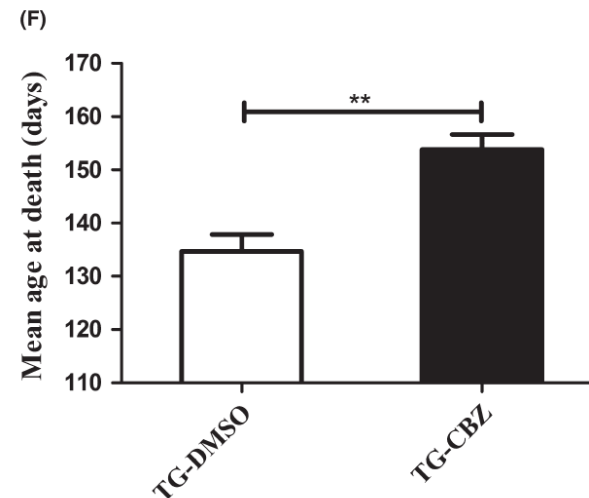
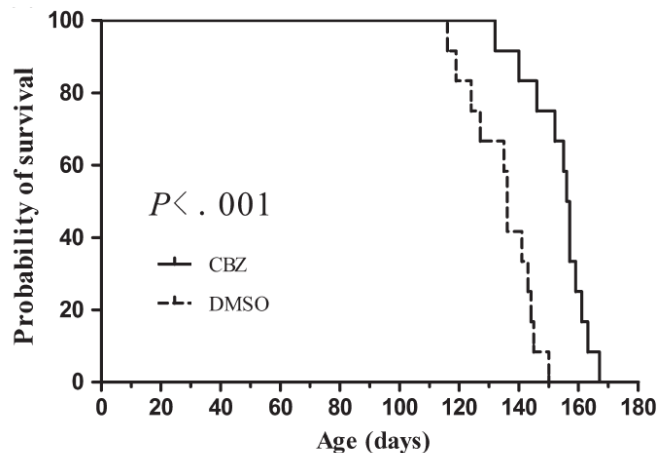
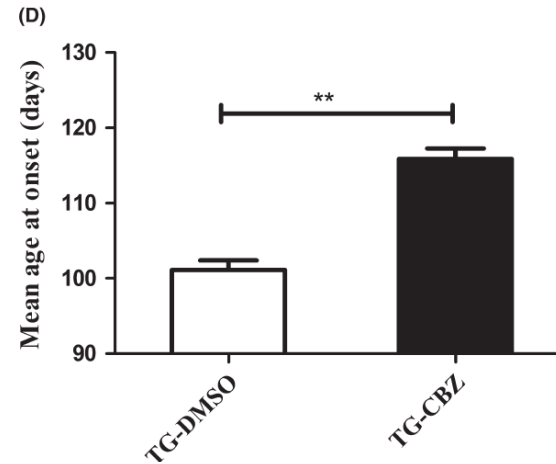
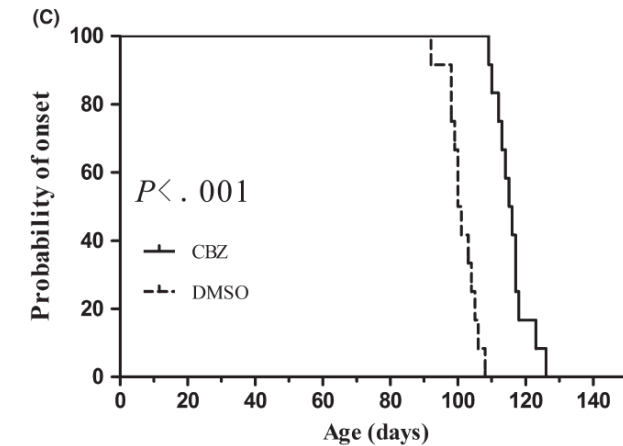
SOD1-G93A mice overexpressing high-level human mutant SOD1-G93A gene and show hindlimb paralysis in average 99.2 days of life plus MN loss after 60 days of life

Carbamazepine is an anti-epileptic drug can stimulate autophagy by decreasing the intracellular level of inositol

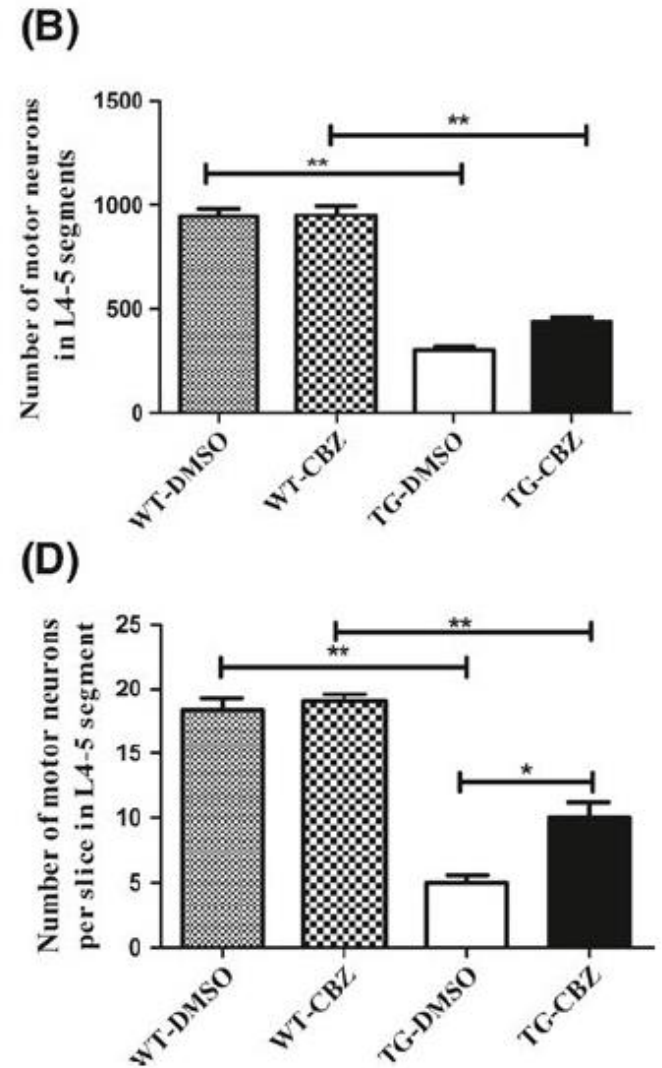
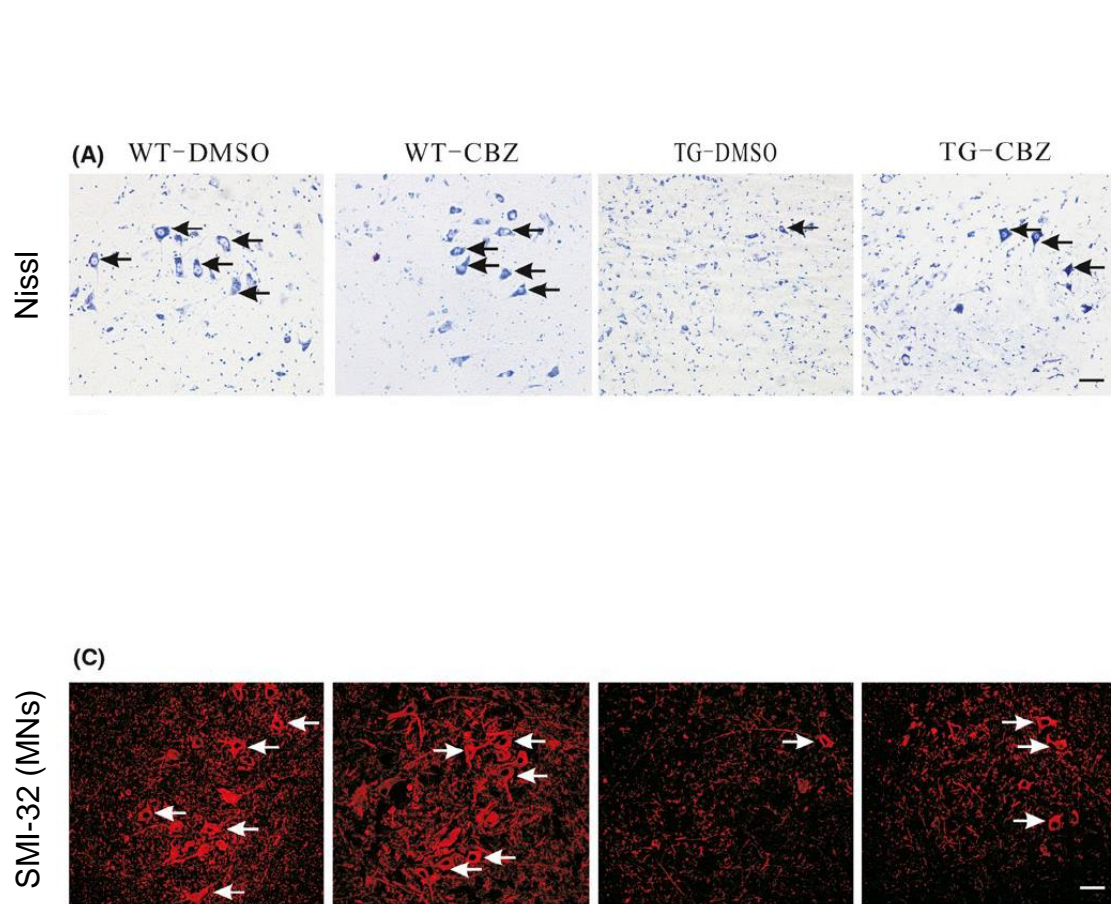
Carbamazepine treatment delayed disease onset and extended life span



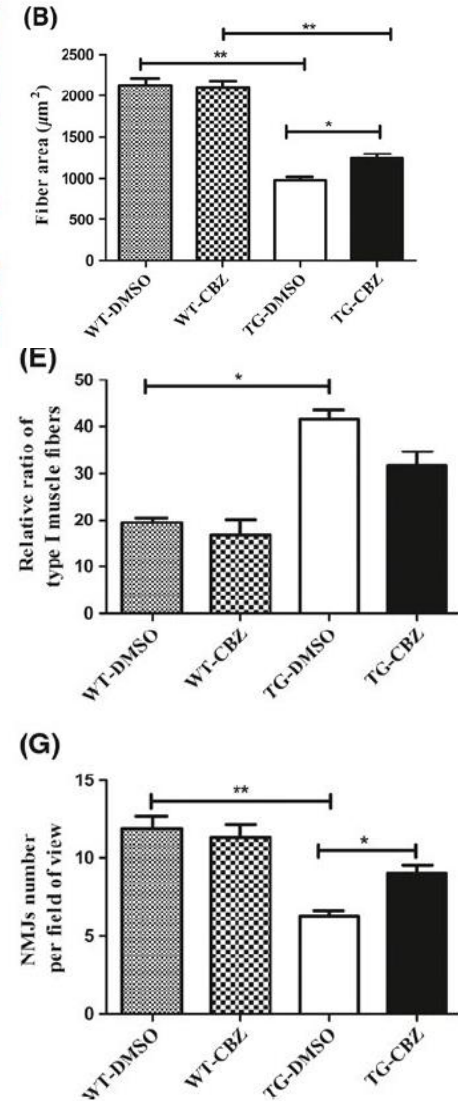
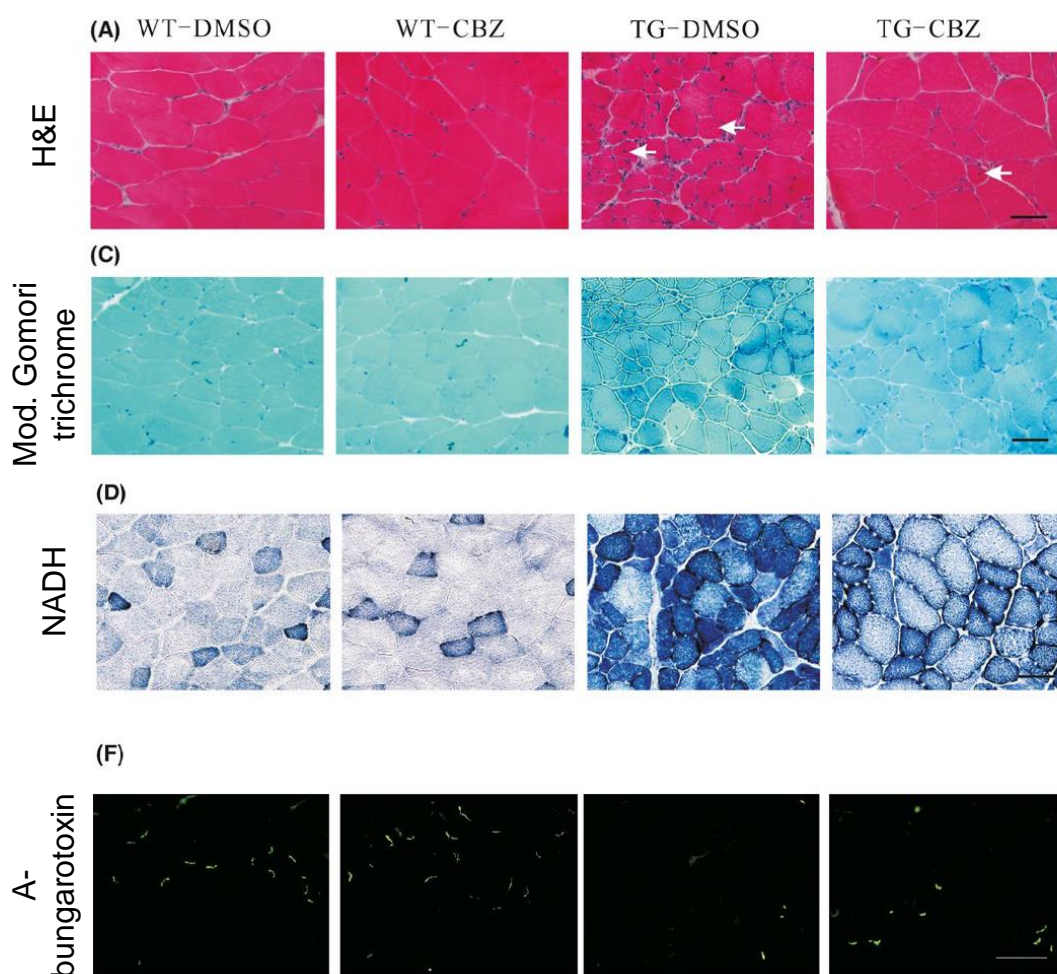
Carbamazepine treatment delayed disease onset and extended life span



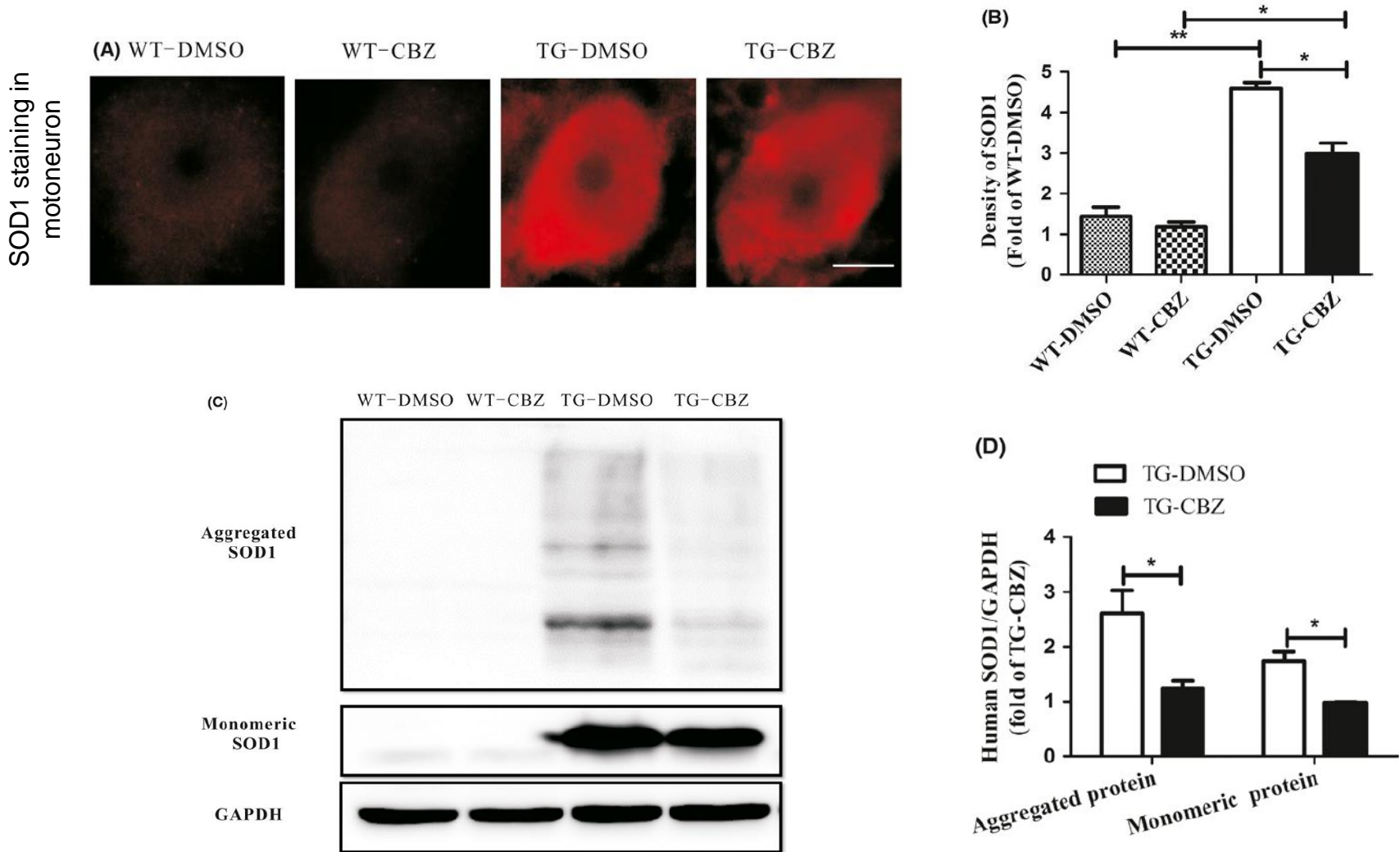
Carbamazepine treatment alleviated motoneuron loss



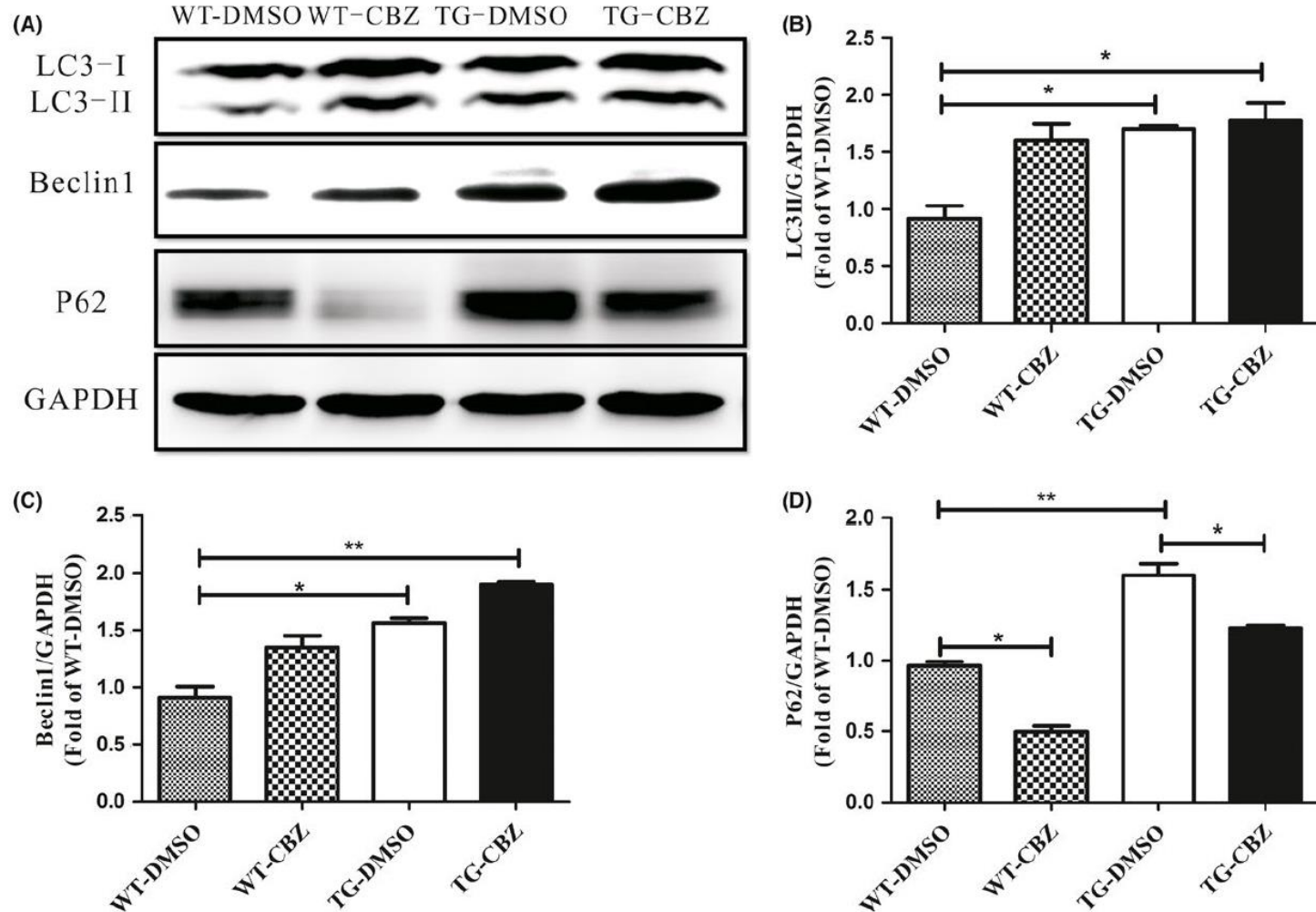
Carbamazepine treatment ameliorated morphological muscle damage



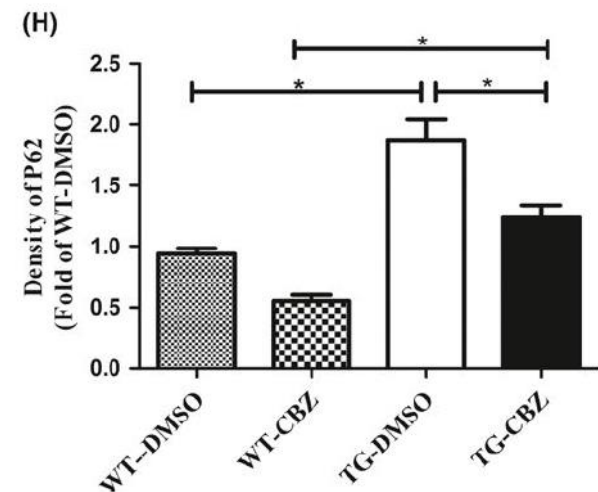
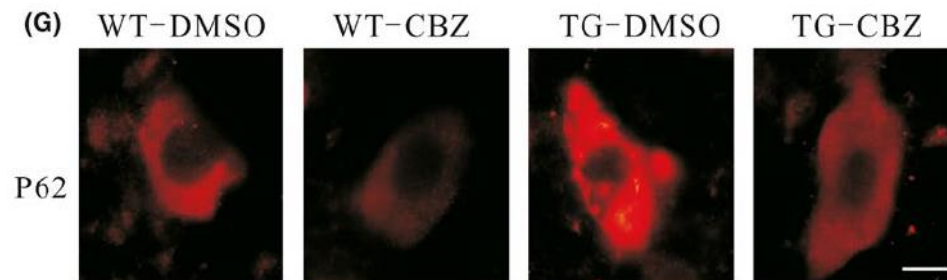
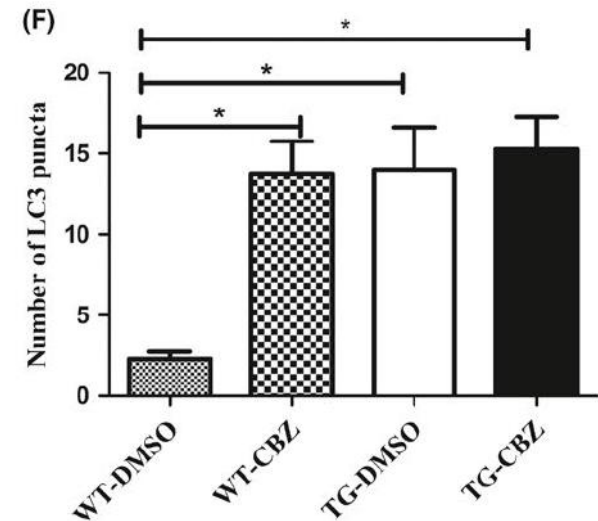
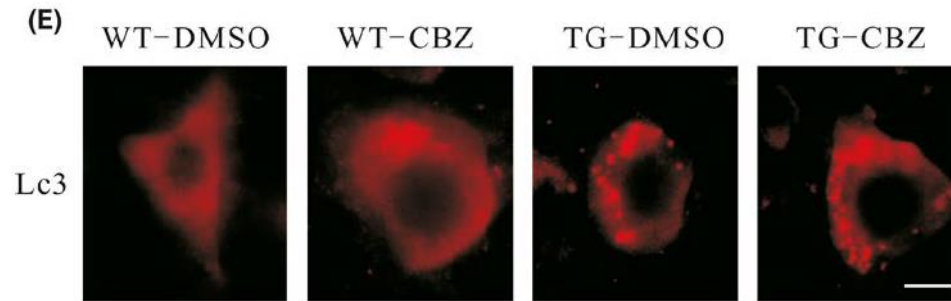
Carbamazepine effect on SOD1 aggregation in SOD1-G93A mice



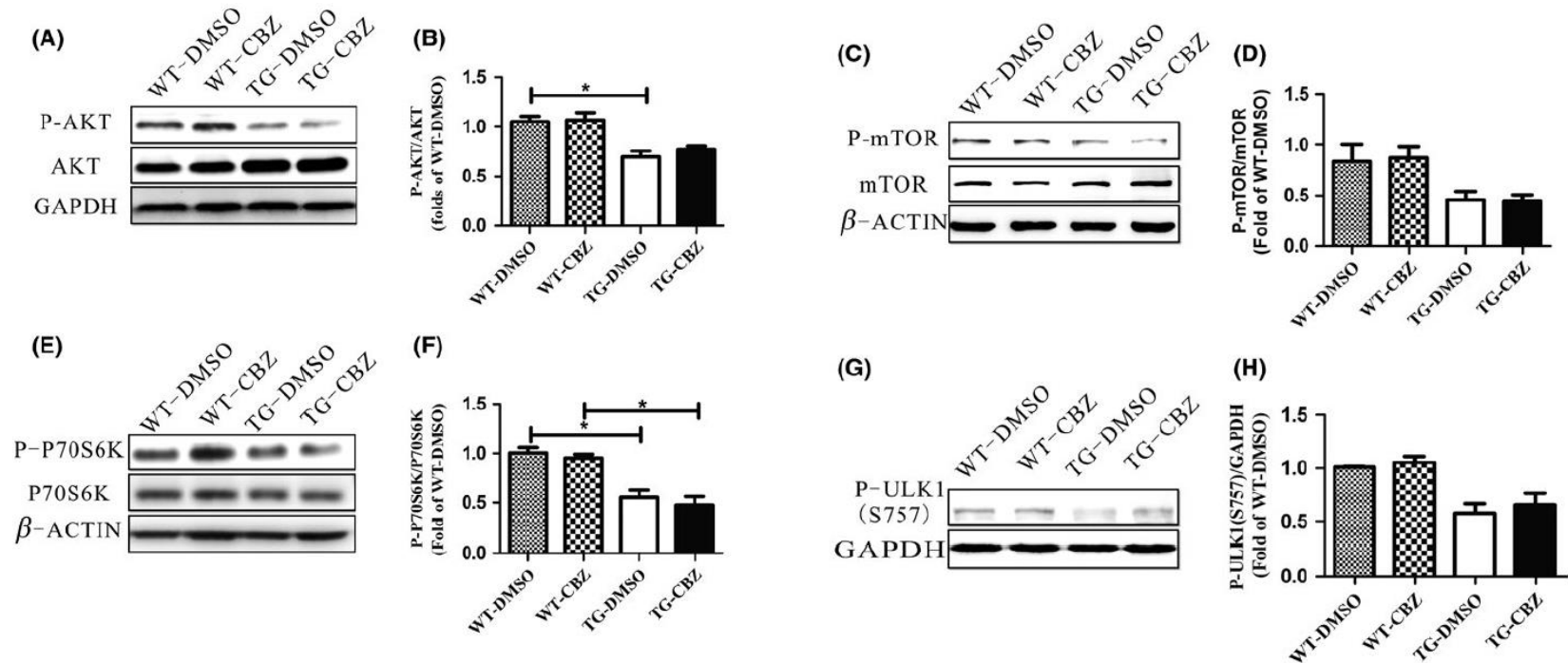
Carbamazepine regulated autophagic flux in SOD1-G93A mice



Carbamazepine regulated autophagic flux in SOD1-G93A mice



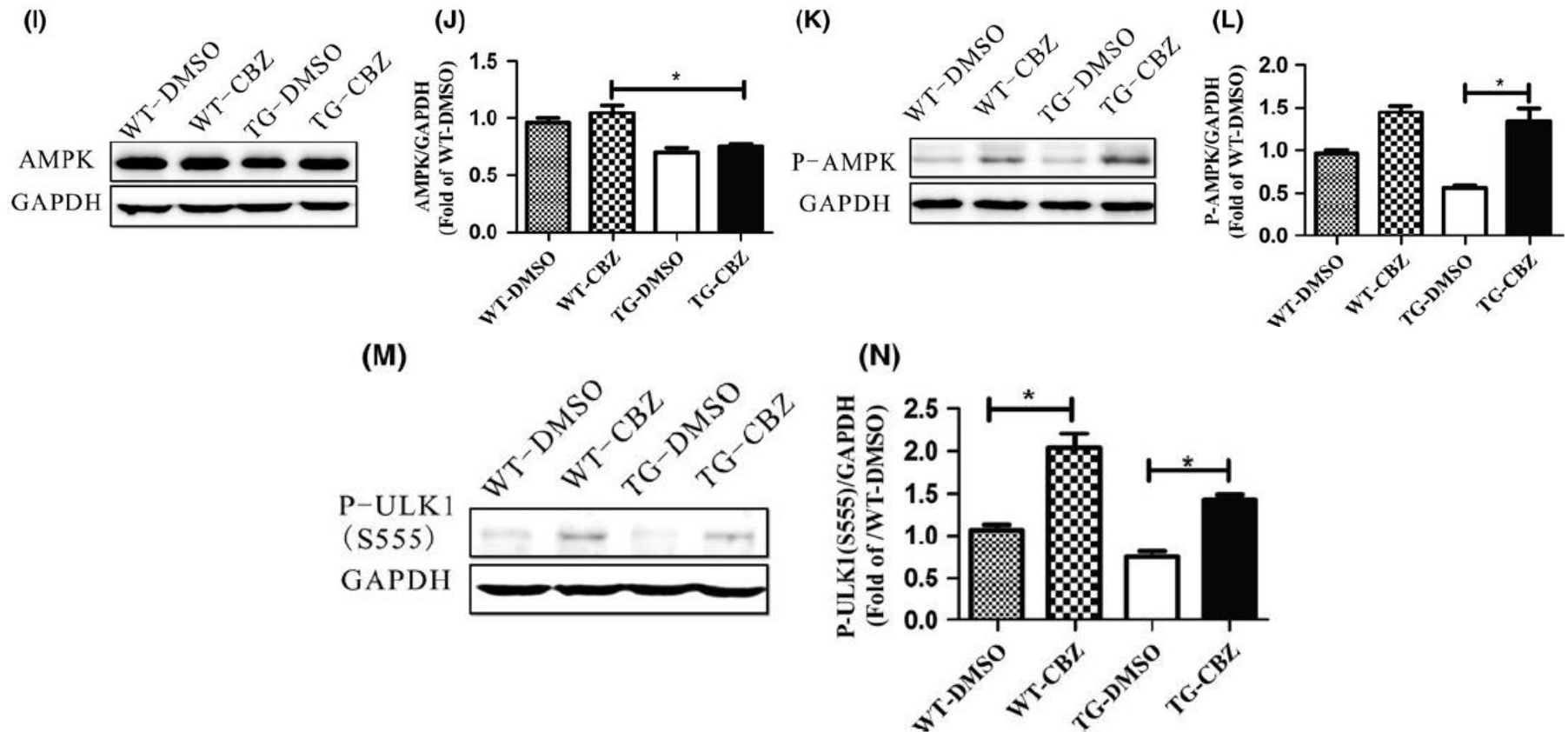
Carbamazepine activated autophagy by AMPK-ULK1 pathway



Ratio pAKT/AKT ↓
Ratio P-P70S6K ↓
P-ULK ↓

→ m-TOR independent pathway
→ AMPK regulation of ULK1

Carbamazepine activated autophagy by AMPK-ULK1 pathway



→ CBZ induces autophagy via AMPK-ULK1-Beclin1 pathway

Conclusion 2

- CBZ treatment
 - Delayed disease onset and extended lifespan of mice by 14.5% and 13.9% respectively
 - Reduced motoneuron loss by about 46.6% and ameliorated altered muscle morphology and neuromuscular junctions
 - Activated autophagy and clearance of mutant SOD1 aggregation
- Therapeutic effect on disease pathogenesis in SOD1-G93A mice → clinical utilization in ALS therapy

Possible repurposing of pyrvinium pamoate for the treatment of mesothelioma: A pre-clinical assessment

- Aim: investigate the role of the Wnt/ β -catenin inhibitory drug pyrvinium pamoate for potential anti-tumor activity on malignant mesothelioma cell lines
- Effect of different concentrations of pyrvinium pamoate on different Mesothelioma cell lines when treated 72hours
- Pyrvinium pamoate used as anthelmintic drug inhibiting different molecular oncogenic pathways.

Dose-response curves of mesothelioma cells treated with pyrvinium pamoate

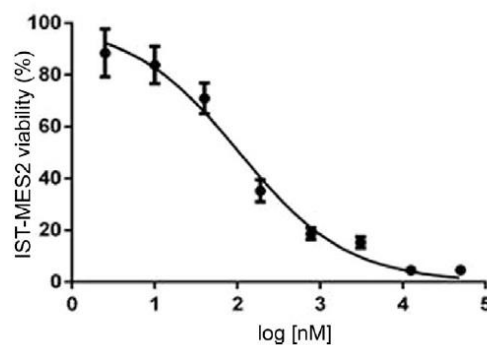
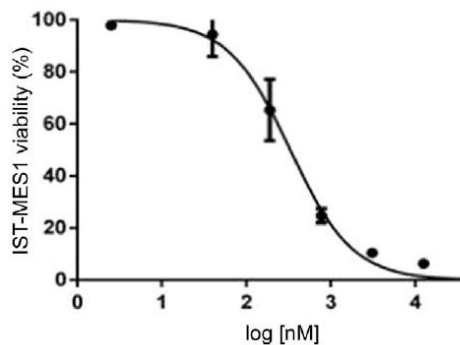
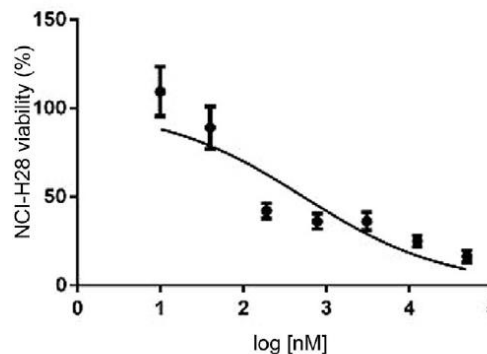
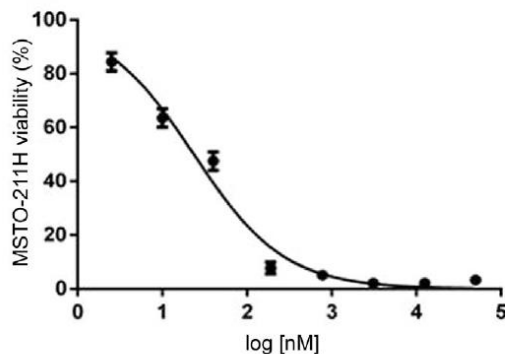
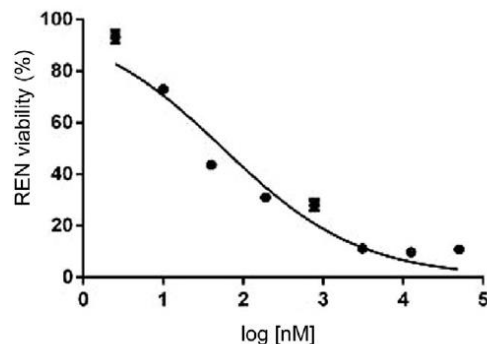
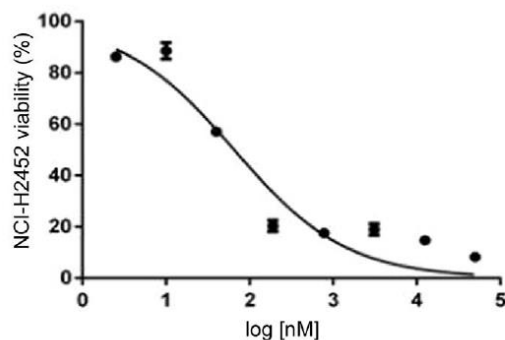
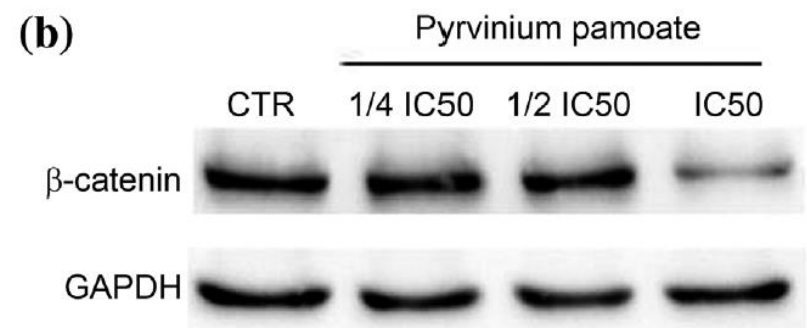
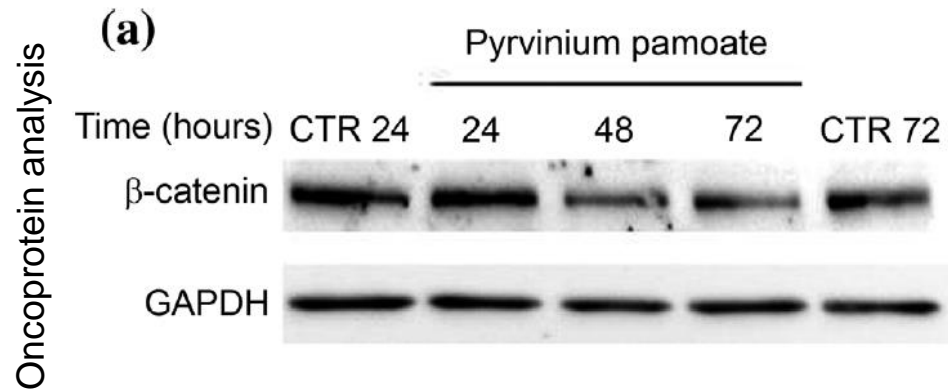
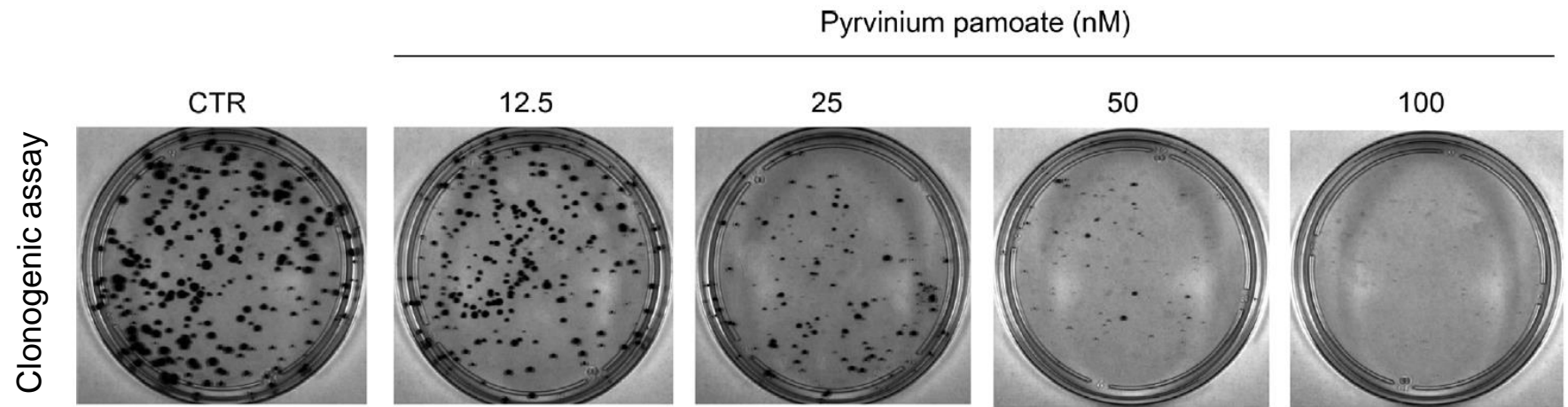


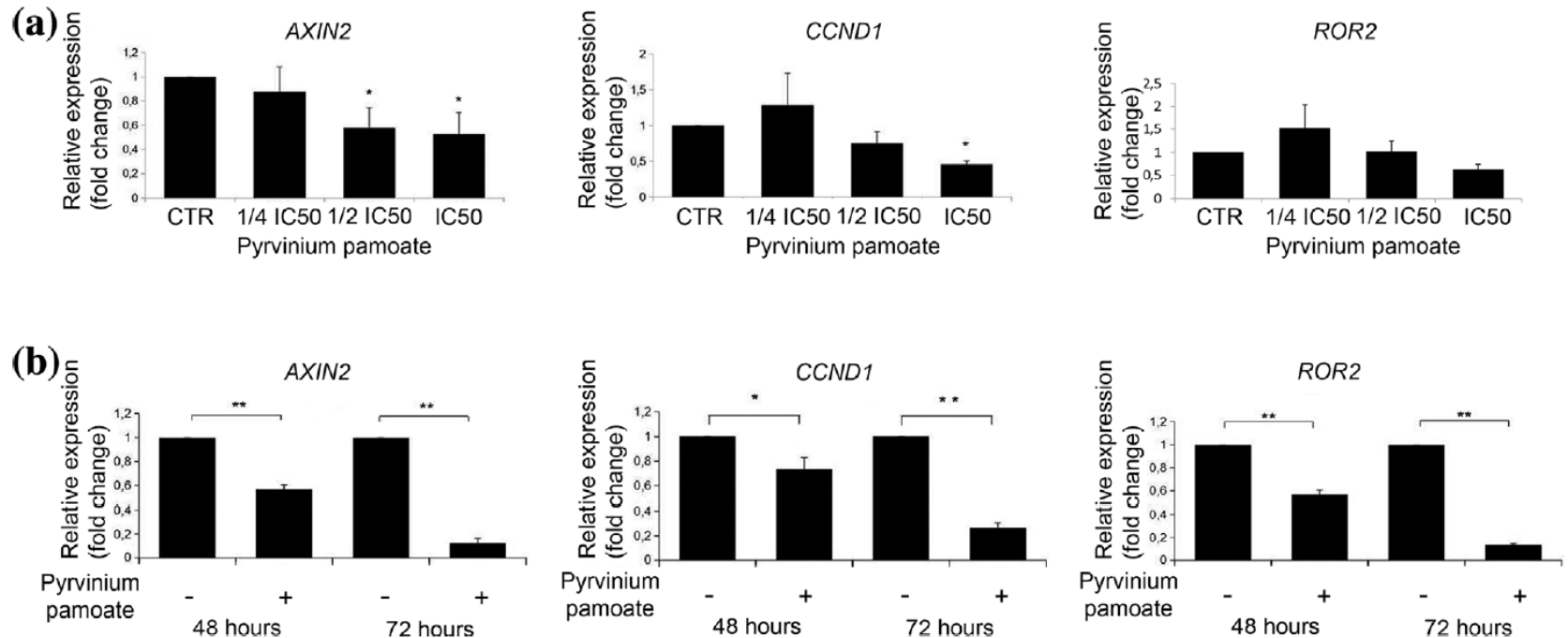
TABLE 2 IC₅₀ values of pyrvinium pamoate in mesothelioma cell lines

Cell line	IC ₅₀ (nM)
NCI-H2452	65.59
REN	56.3
MSTO-211H	23.58
NCI-H28	535.6
IST-MES1	332.3
IST-MES2	105.7

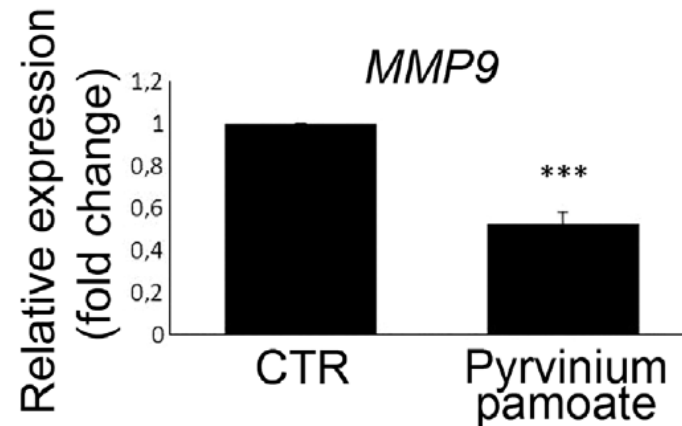
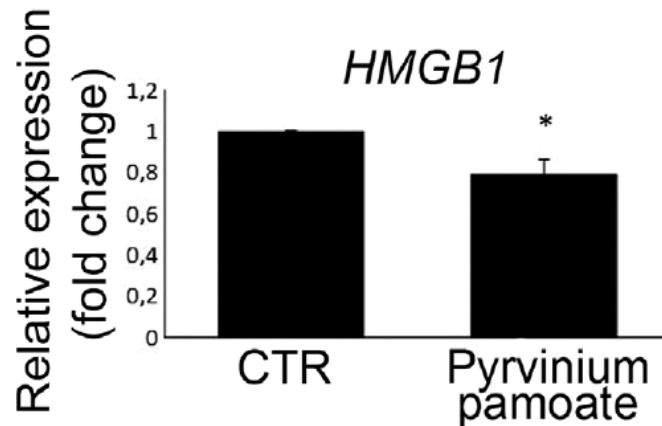
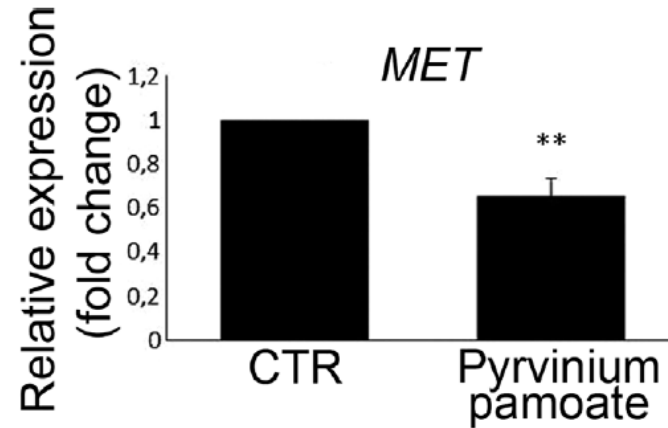
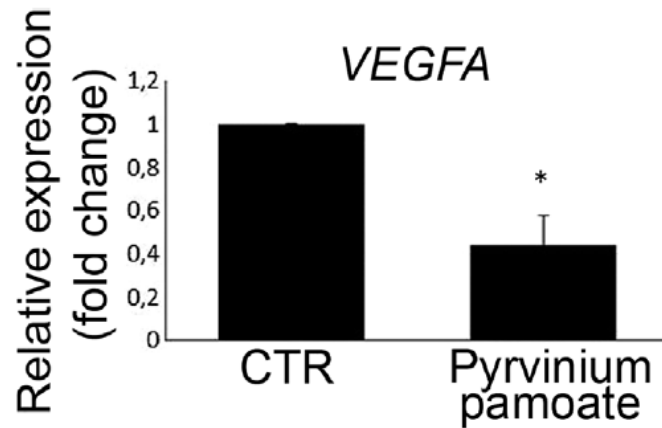
Long term effect of pyrvinium pamoate



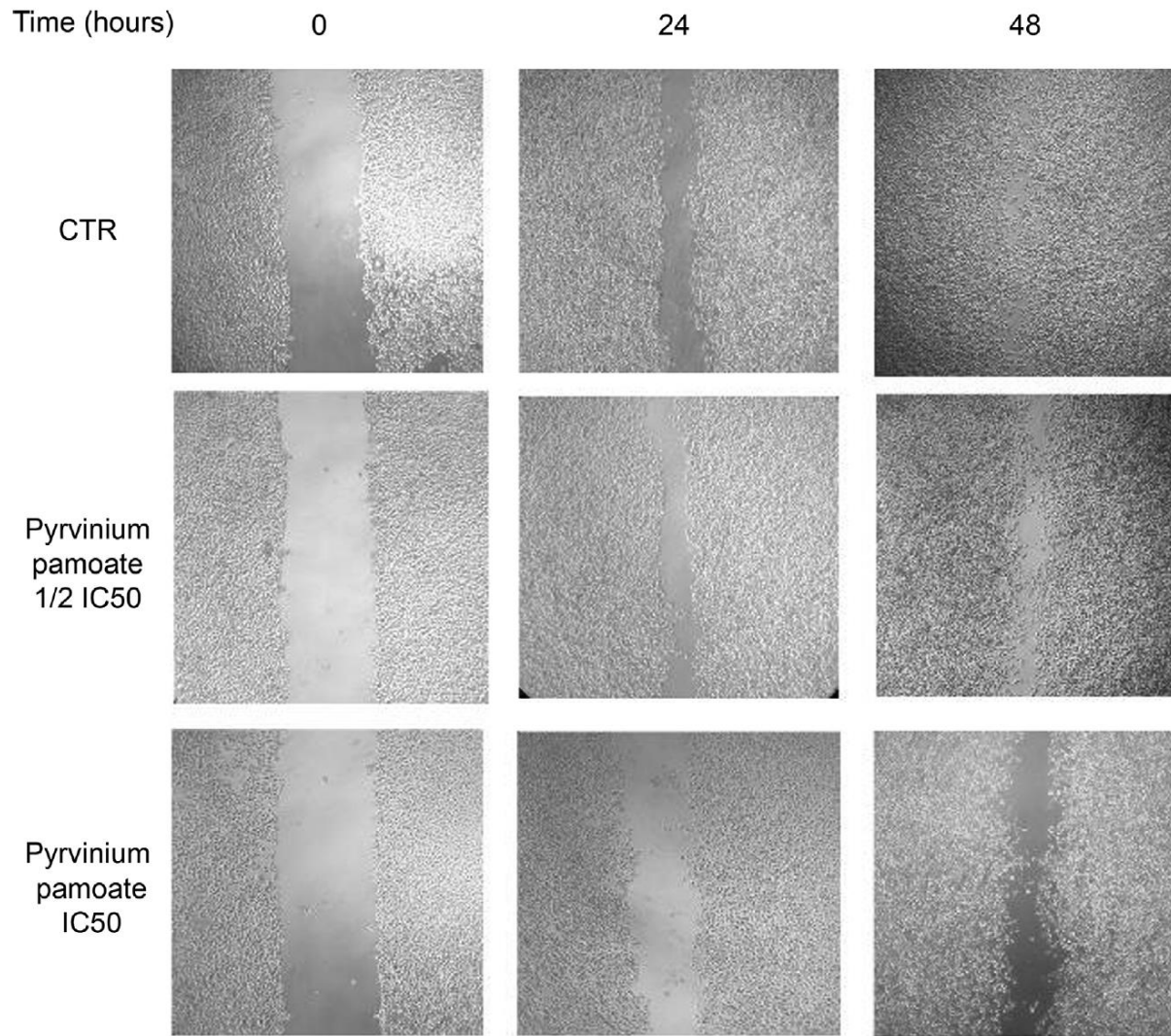
Decreased expression of downstream genes of Wnt pathway in dose- and time- dependent manner



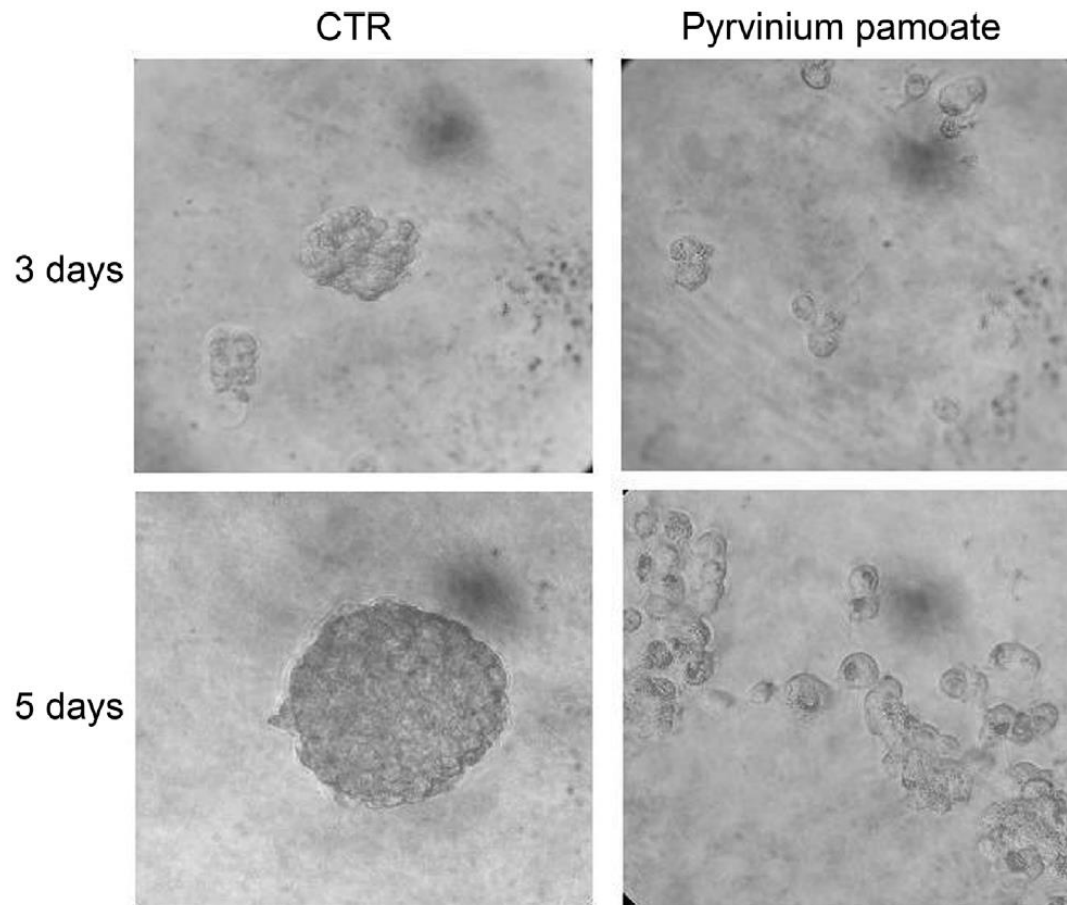
Decreased transcripts of key genes in mesothelioma



Impaired mesothelioma cell migration ability



Pyrvinium pamoate inhibits spheroid formation in 3D culture



Conclusion 3

- Pyrvinium pamoate affects hallmarks of mesothelioma cell lines
 - impairs growth
 - impairs migration
- Impairment of tumor spheroid formation
- Down-regulation of β -catenin and Wnt - regulating genes

Thank you for your interest!