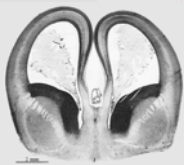


Neuro-Immune regulation of Brain Development



Stephen Noctor
UC DAVIS
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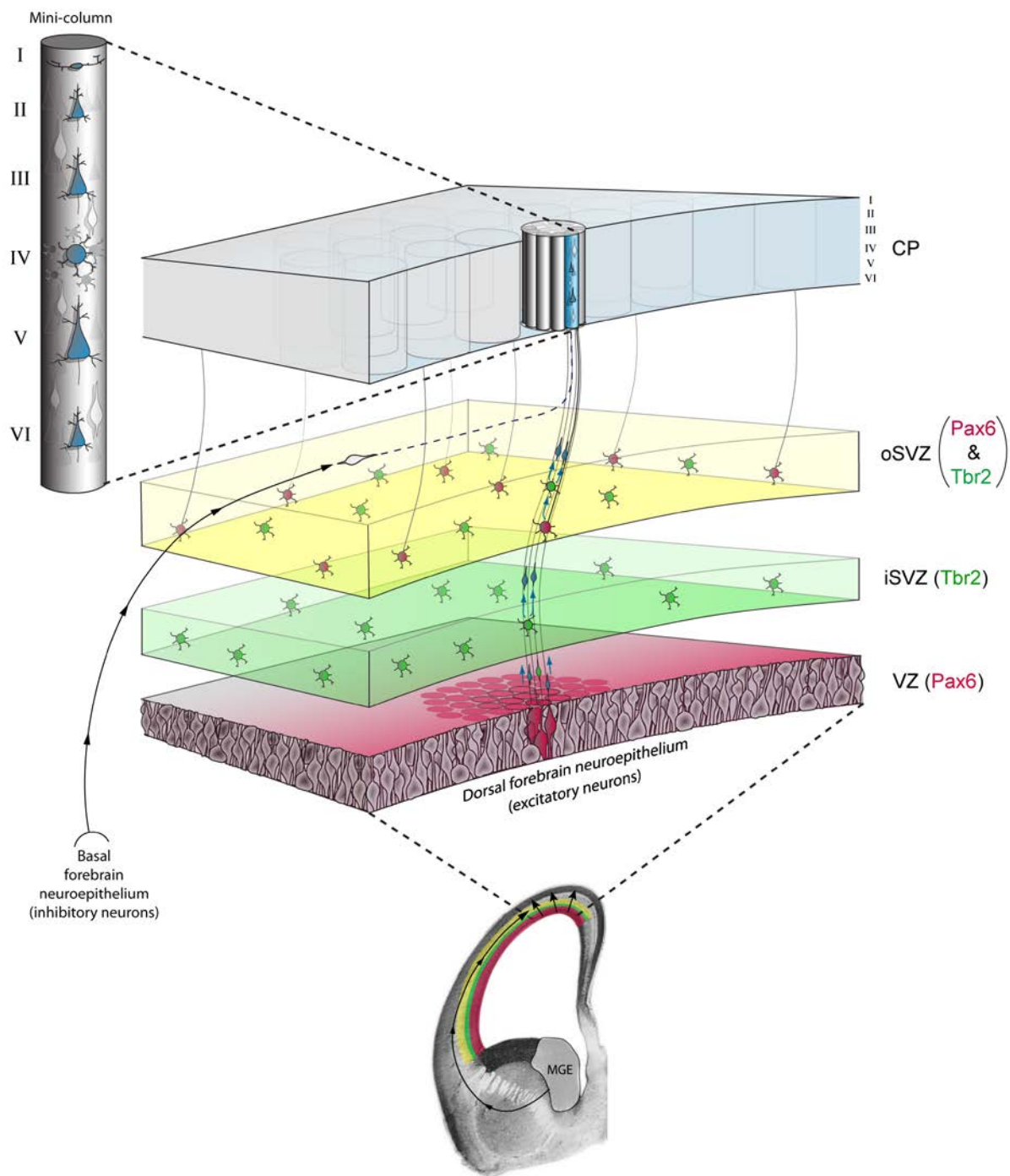
Human



GW11

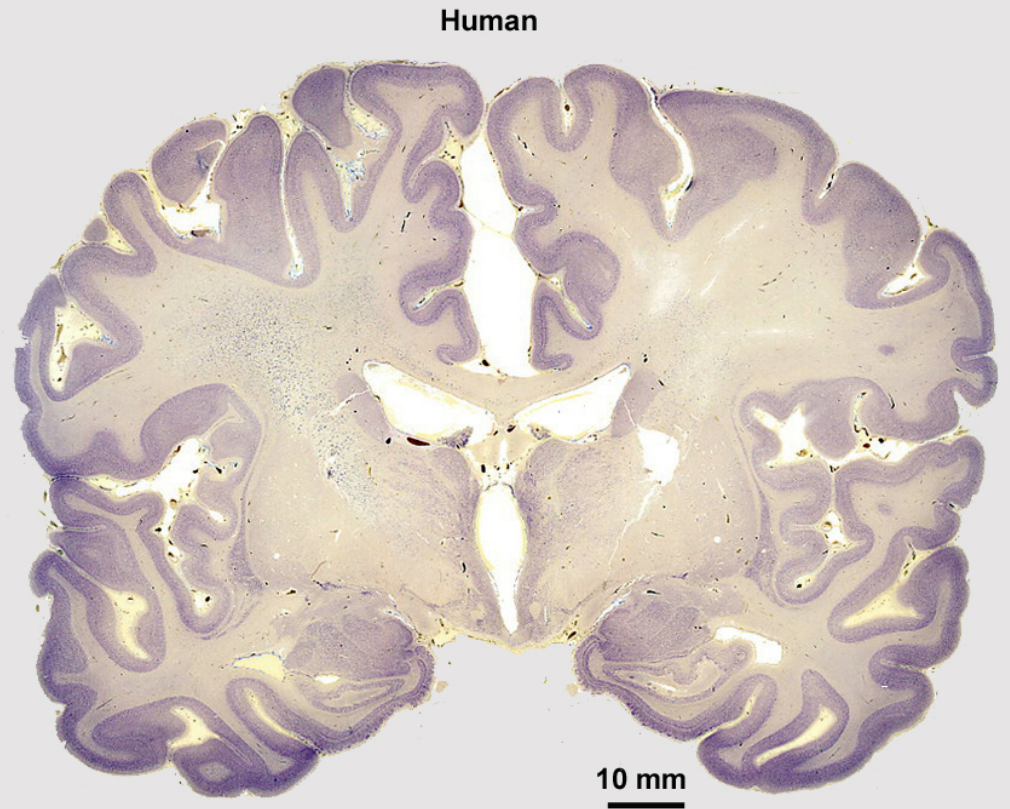
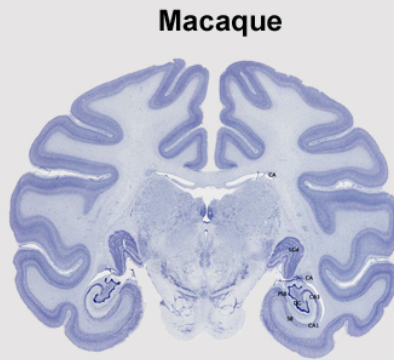
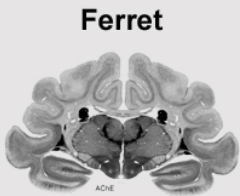
GW3

10 mm

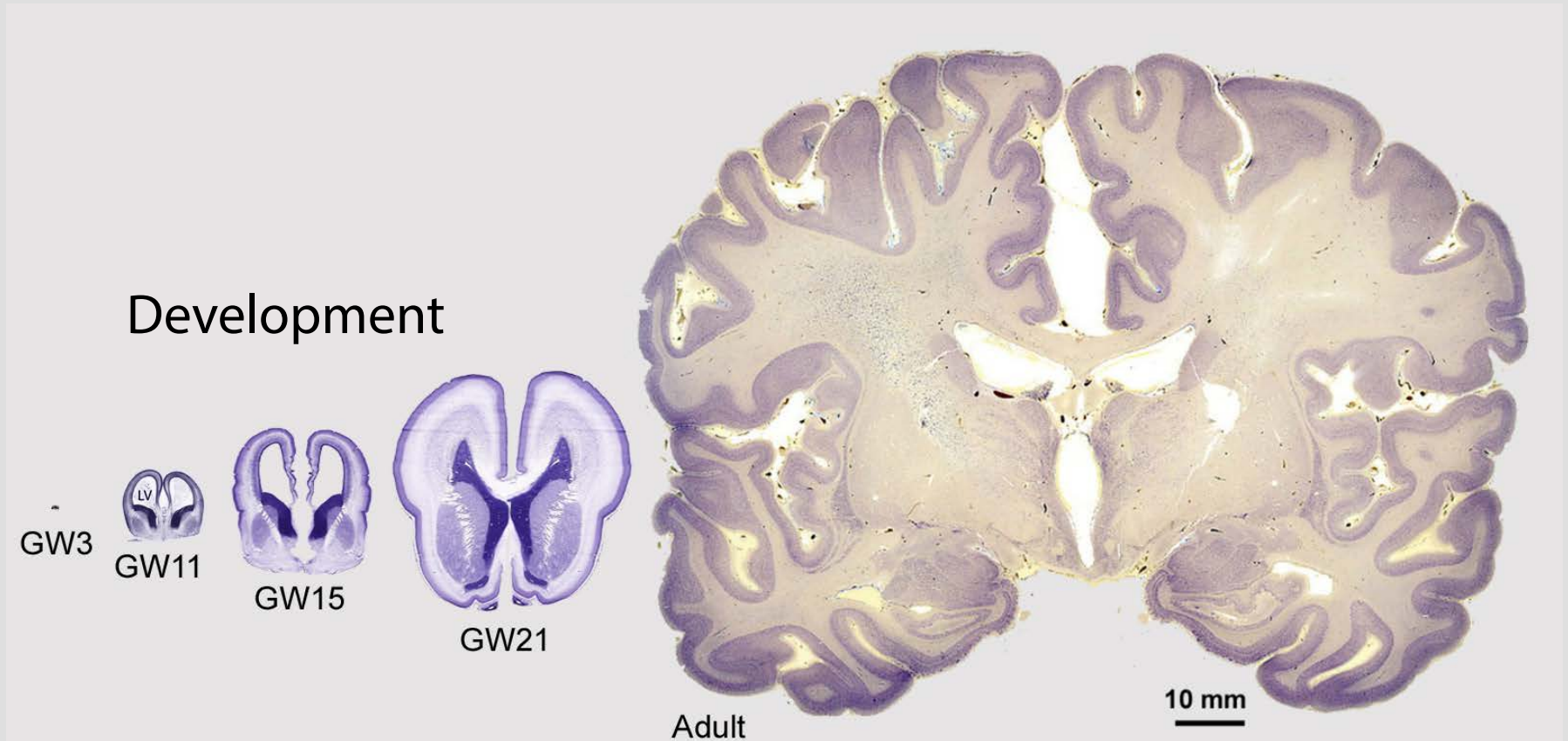


How is cortical expansion achieved?

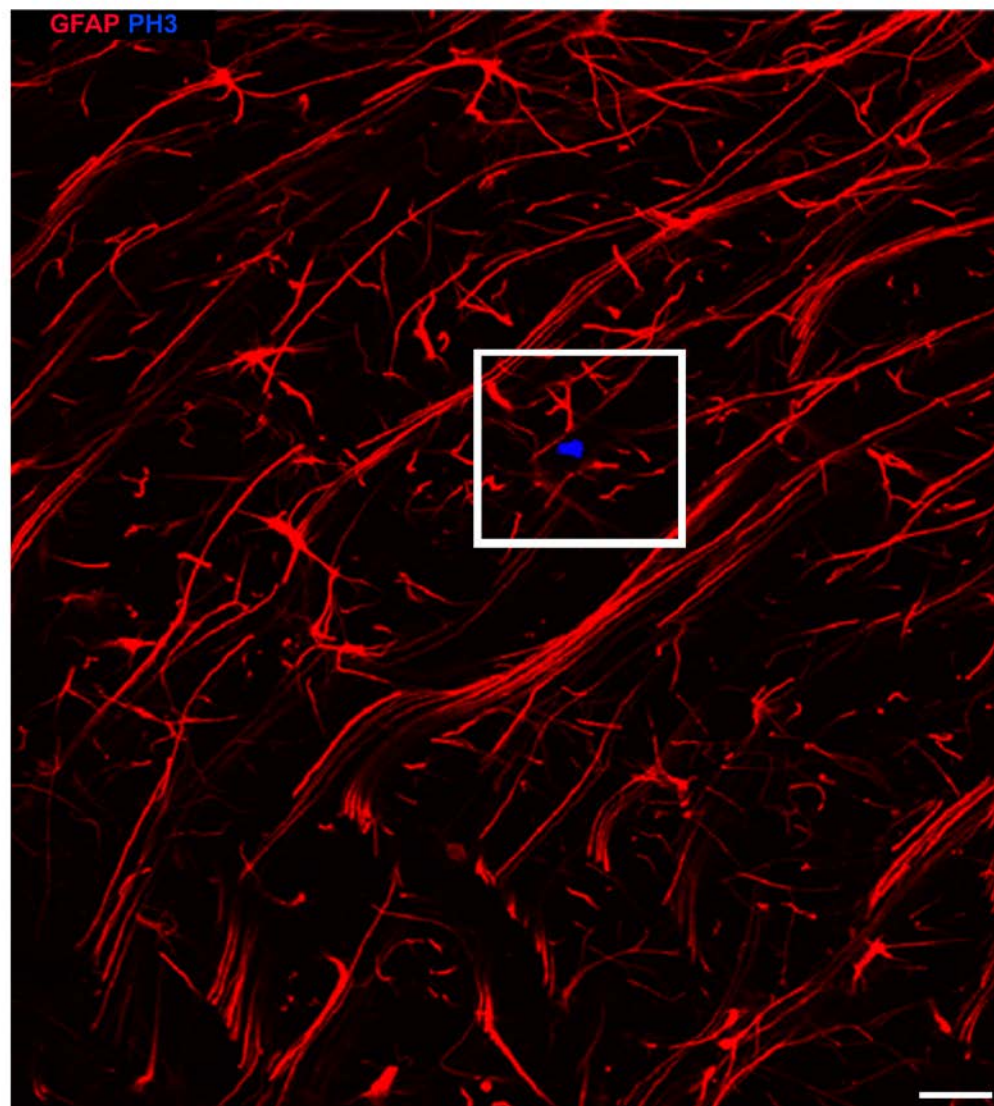
Evolution

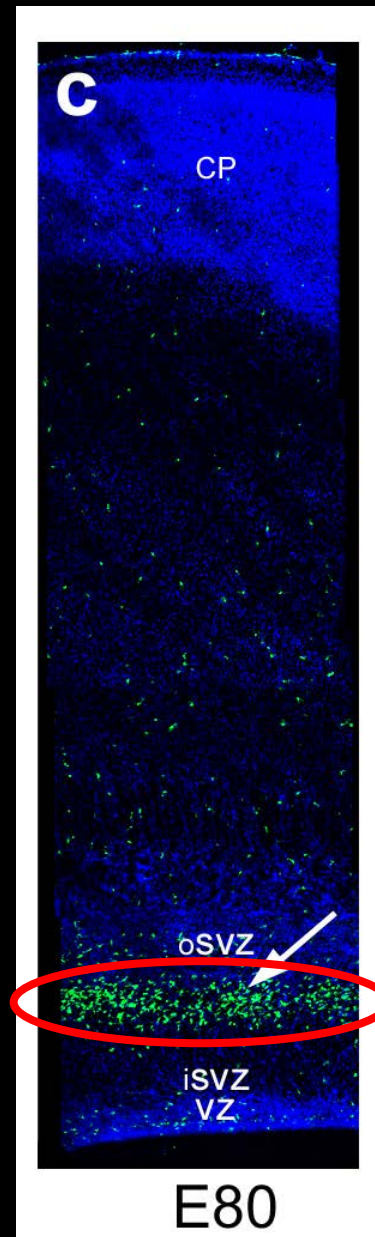


How is cortical expansion achieved?



1) Mechanisms promoting growth \longleftrightarrow 2) Mechanisms restraining growth





What are microglia?



Del Rio-Hortega, 1919

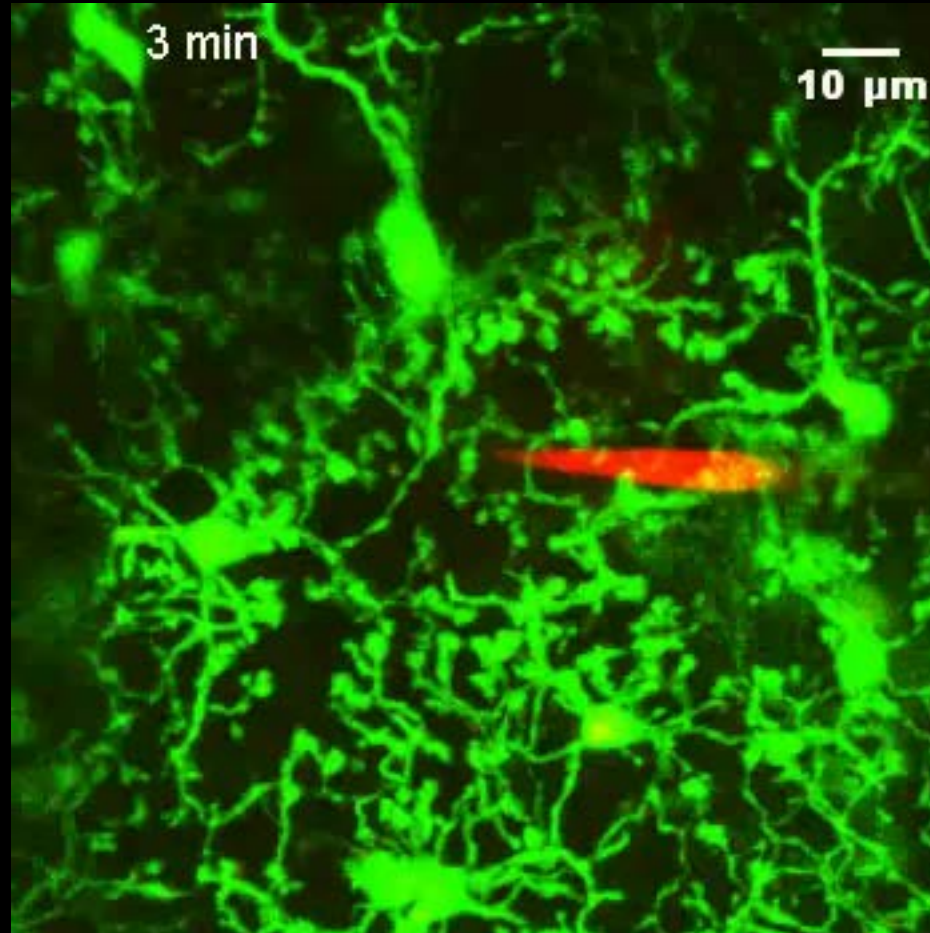
Initial Descriptions: (Pio del Rio-Hortega)

- 1) enter the brain during early development
- 2) can have amoeboid morphology, of mesodermal origin
- 3) use vessels and white matter tracts as guides for migration
- 4) enter all brain regions
- 4) branched, ramified morphological phenotype in the mature brain
- 5) in mature brain are evenly dispersed
- 6) each cell occupies a defined territory.
- 7) after pathological event undergo a transformation
- 8) transformed cells have amoeboid morphology similar to development
- 9) capacity to migrate, proliferate and **phagocytose**

Rapidly respond to stimuli / foreign pathogens



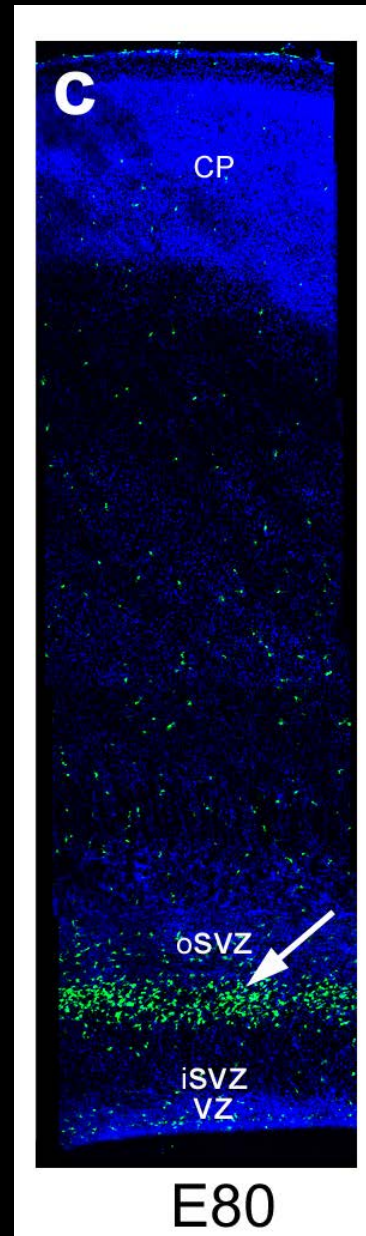
Rapidly respond to stimuli / foreign pathogens



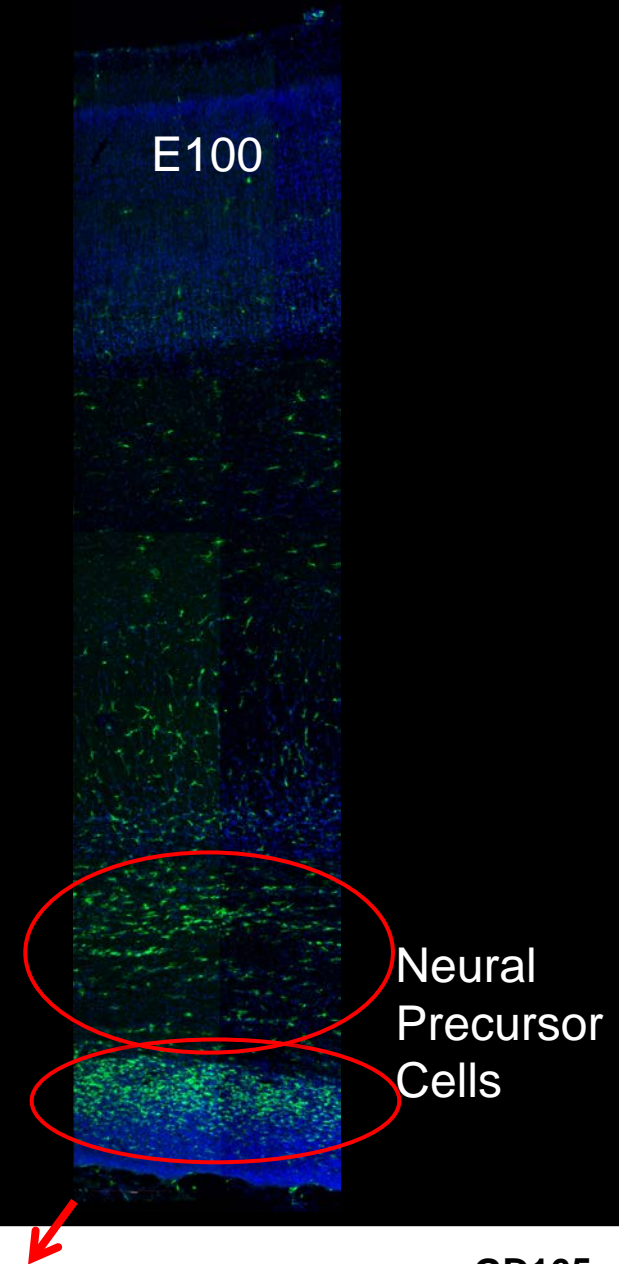
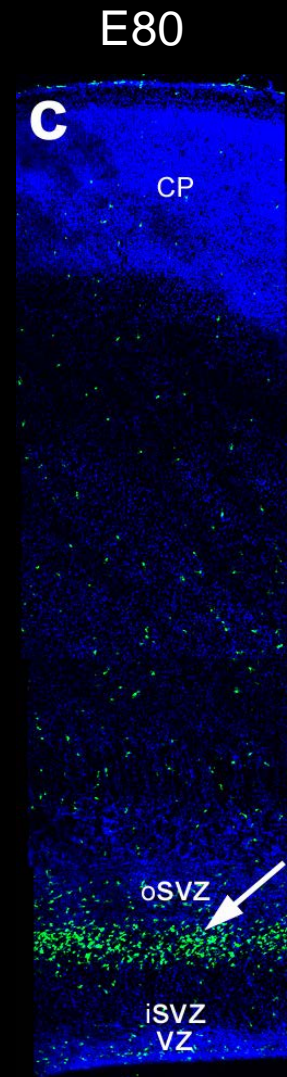
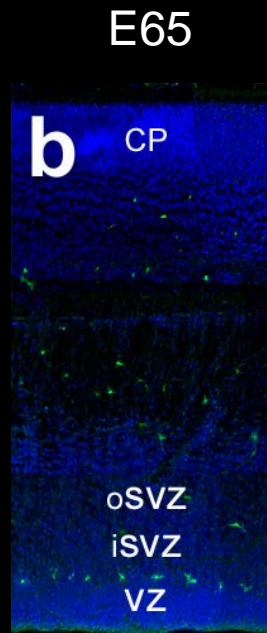
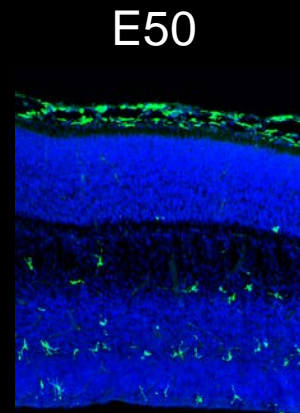
Davalos et al., 2005 Nat Neurosci

5% of all cells in the adult brain
**Very little known about microglial
function in the prenatal brain**

1. Mechanisms that promote growth:
2. Mechanisms that restrain growth: **Microglia?**



I. Colonization: Monkey



Macaque

GD165

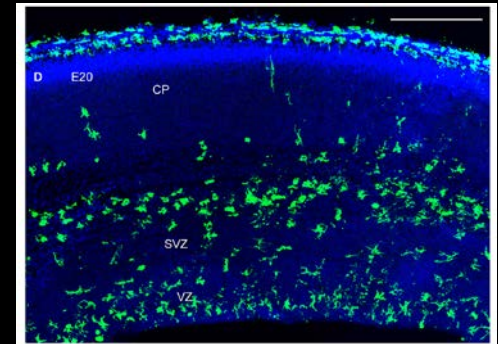
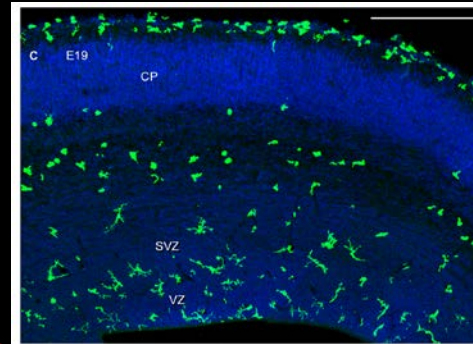
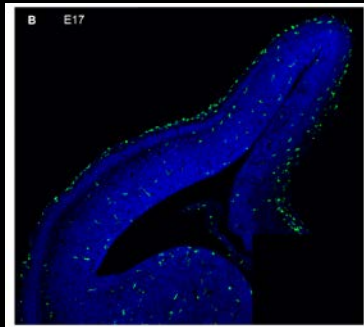
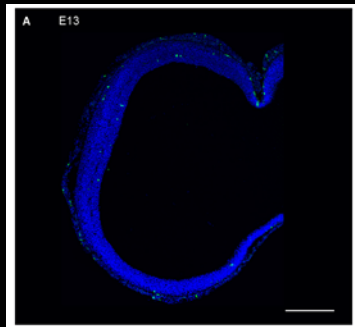
1st trimester

2nd trimester, *Neurogenesis*

3rd trimester

I. Colonization: Rat

- Microglia enter rat cortex ~E12
- Remain sparse through E17
- Begin colonizing proliferative zones heavily ~E19
- Fill proliferative zones by E20



Rat

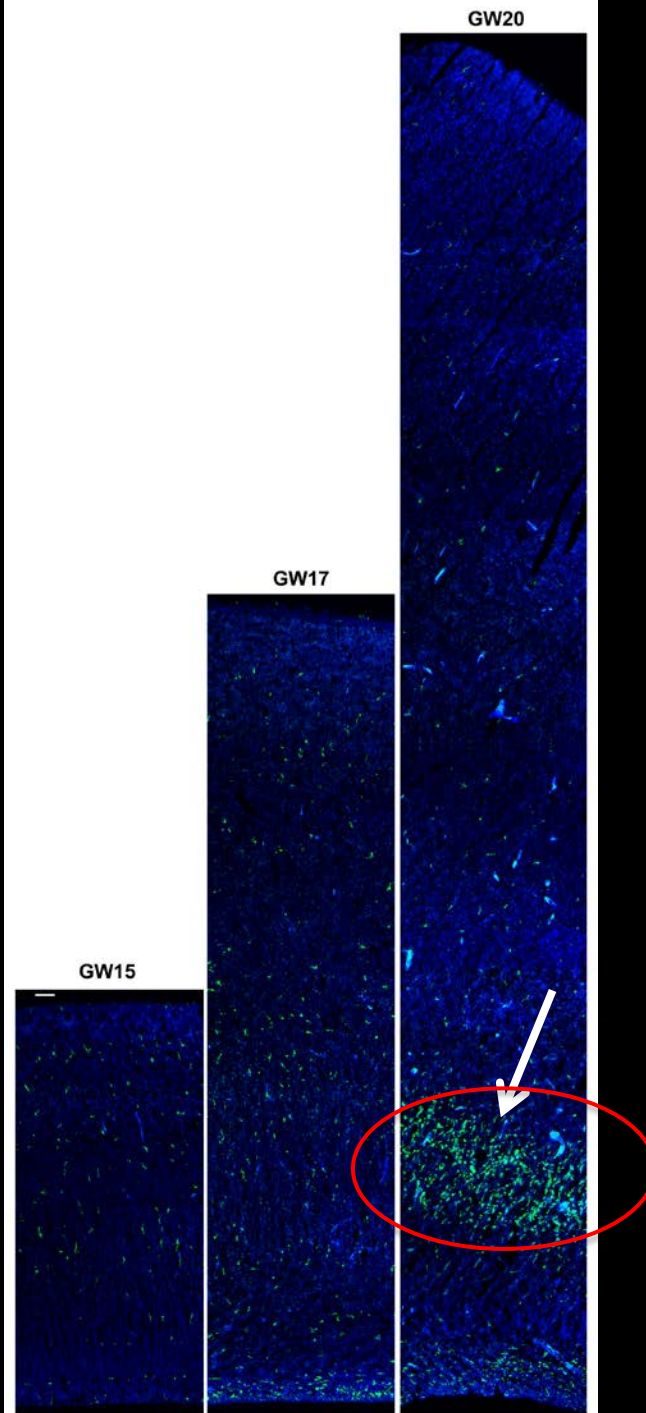
1st week

2nd week

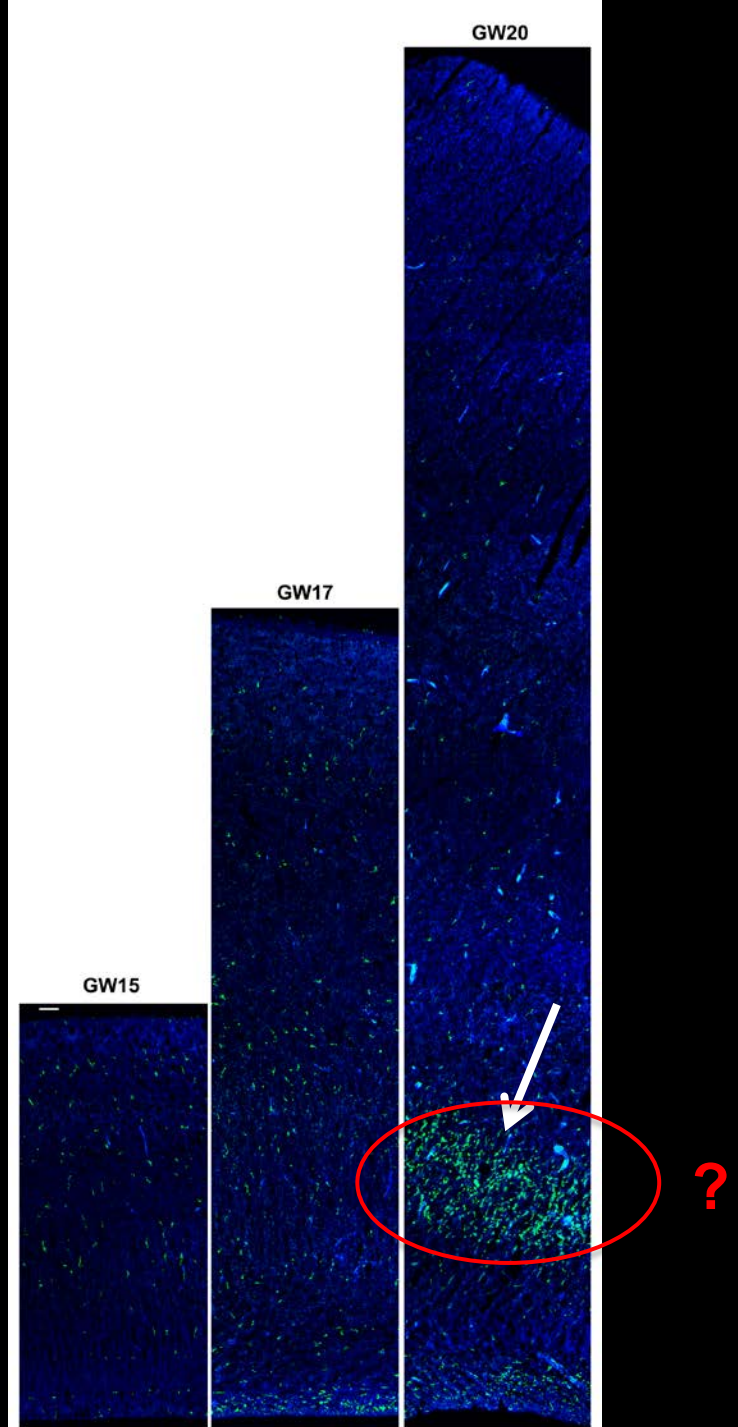
3rd week: *Neurogenesis*

GD22

Same general pattern
in fetal human cortex

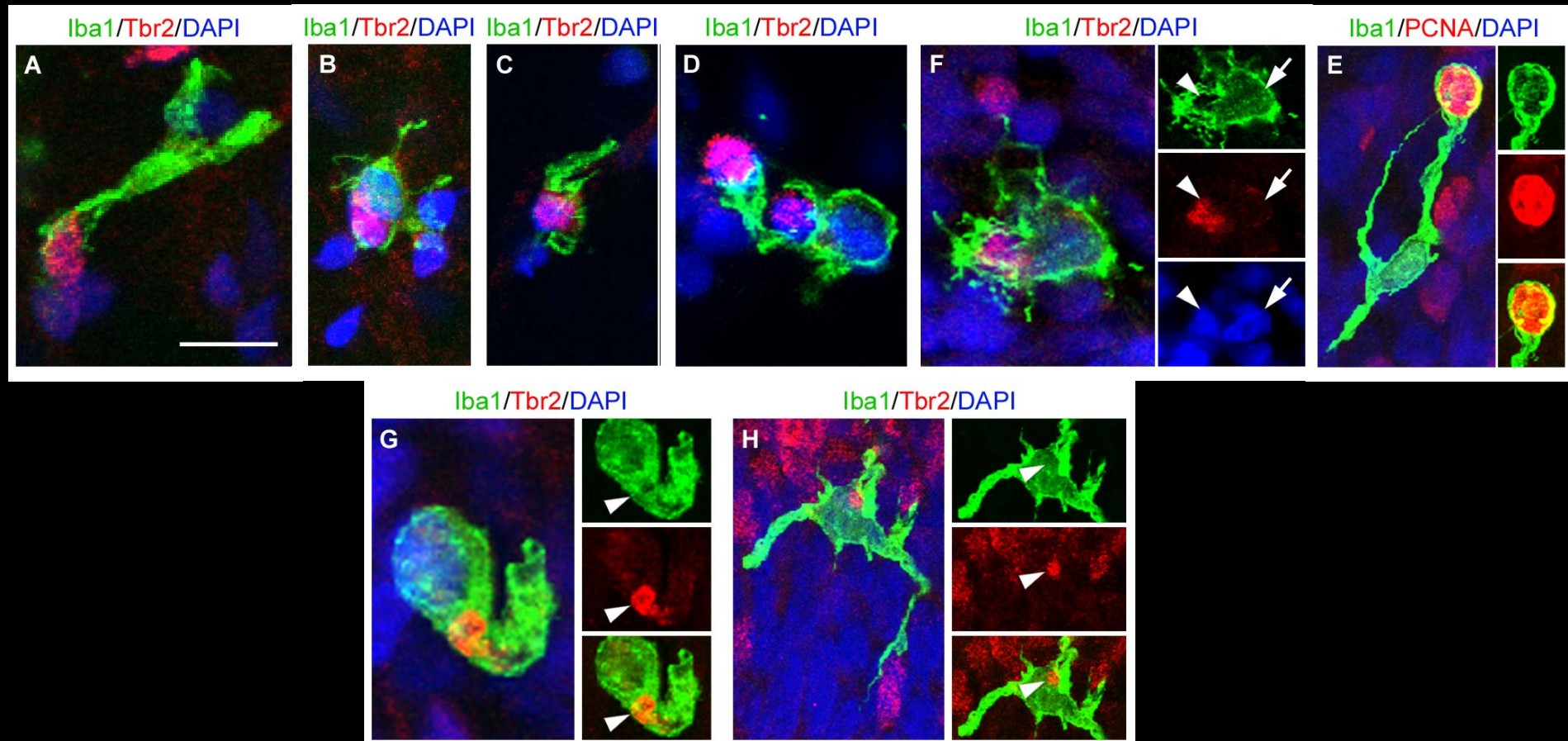


1. Microglia
2. Primary NPCs
3. Secondary NPCs



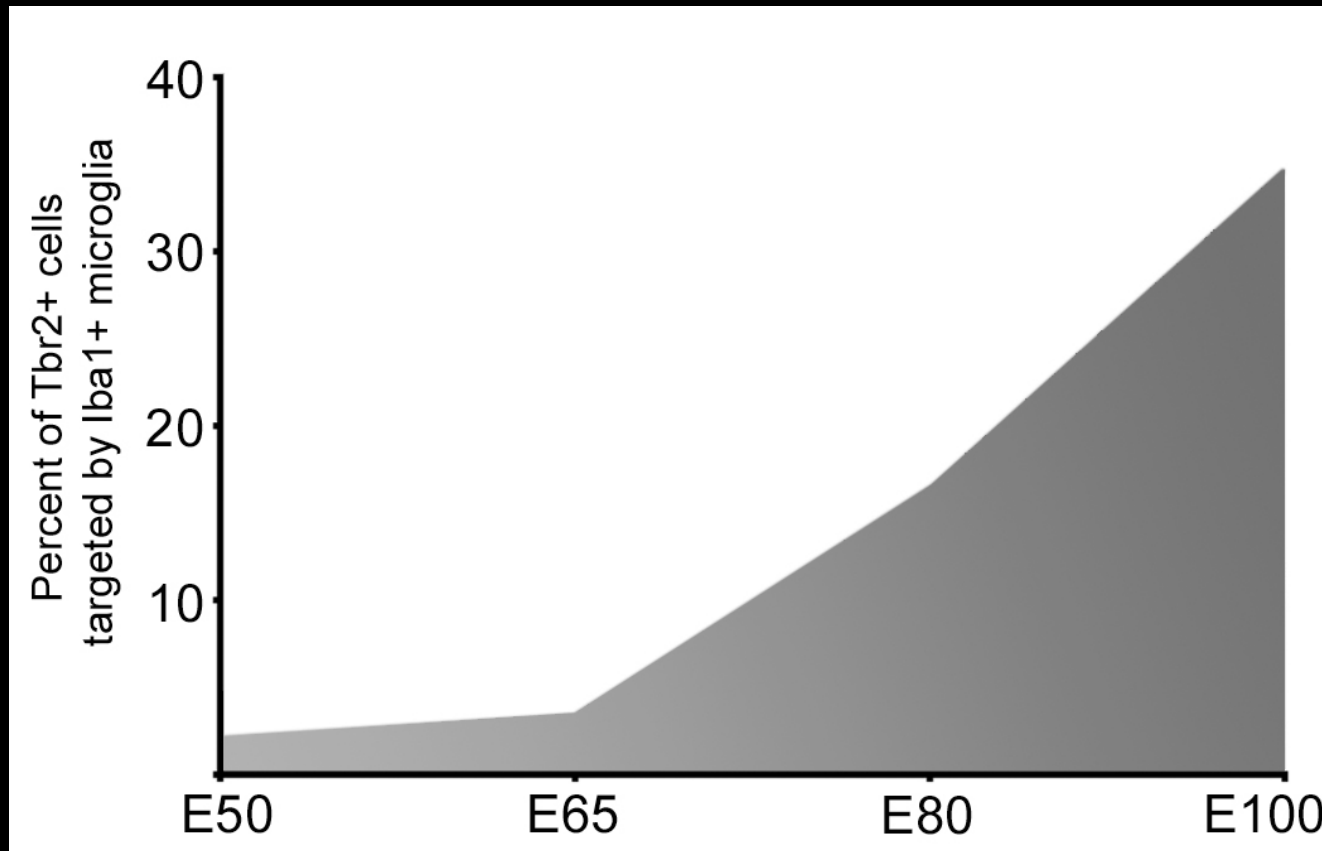
II. Function

Microglia phagocytose neural precursor cells in the fetal brain

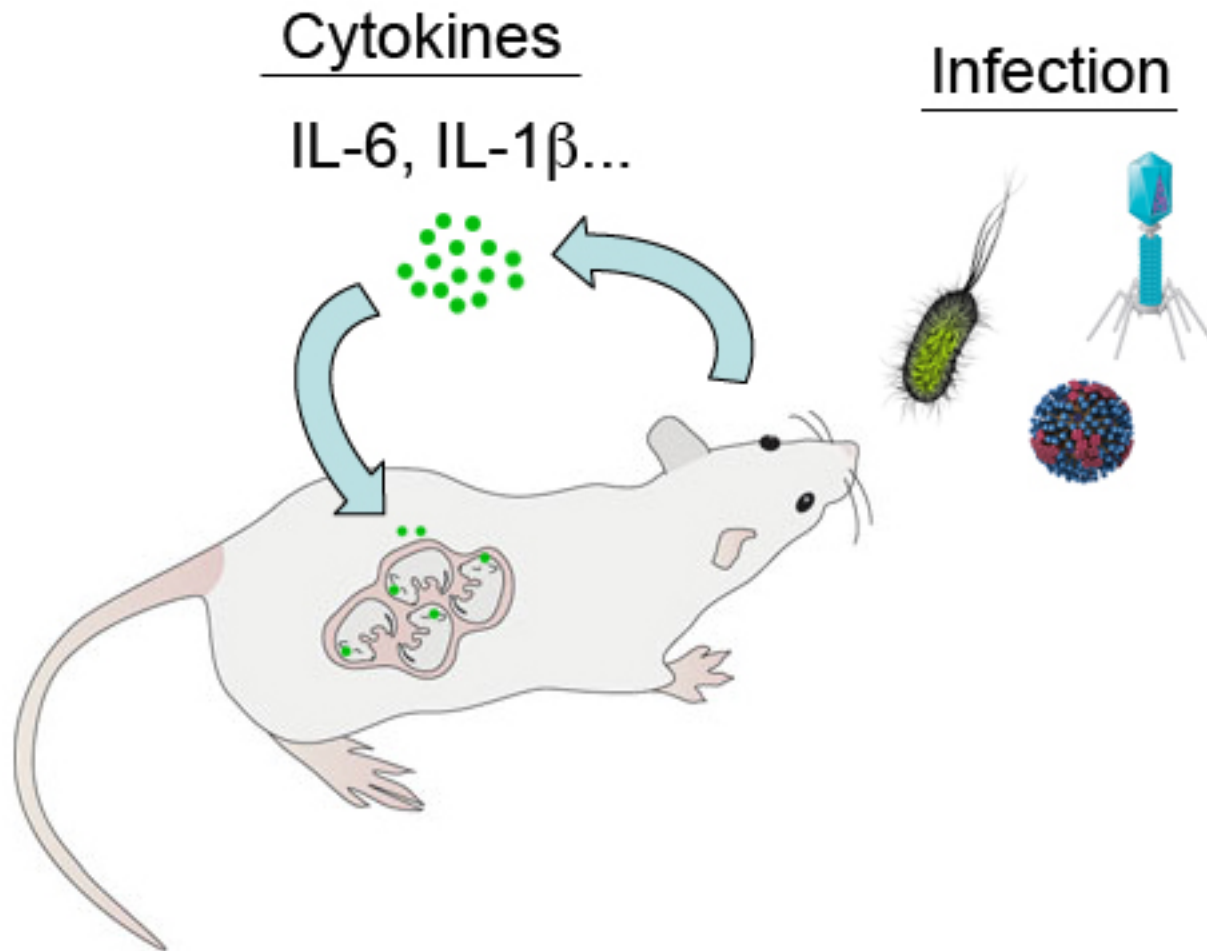


II. Function

Proportion of targeted NPCs, in cortex, ↑ during development



Maternal Immune Activation



Microglial regulate the number of precursor cells in the developing brain through phagocytosis*

Microglial reduce the number of neural precursor cells at the end of cortical neurogenesis, continue function during gliogenesis

More prominent in primates

Phagocytosis of NPCs varies across brain regions

Maternal immune responses may impact cell genesis



Acknowledgements

Chris Cunningham
Janet Keiter
Anna Kreutz
Paula Ibañez

Anish Prakash
Anisha Mazloom
Stephanie Saylor
Craig Jarvis
Craig Stewart
Elliot Weideman
Virgil Ricks
Jeanelle Ariza

Verónica Martínez Cerdeño
Laura Borodinsky
UC Davis / Shriners Hospital

Estela Maris-Muñoz *IHEM, Mendoza*

Michael Oldham
UCSF

Suzana Herculano-Maldonado
UFRJ

Lee Way Jin
UC Davis MIND Institute

