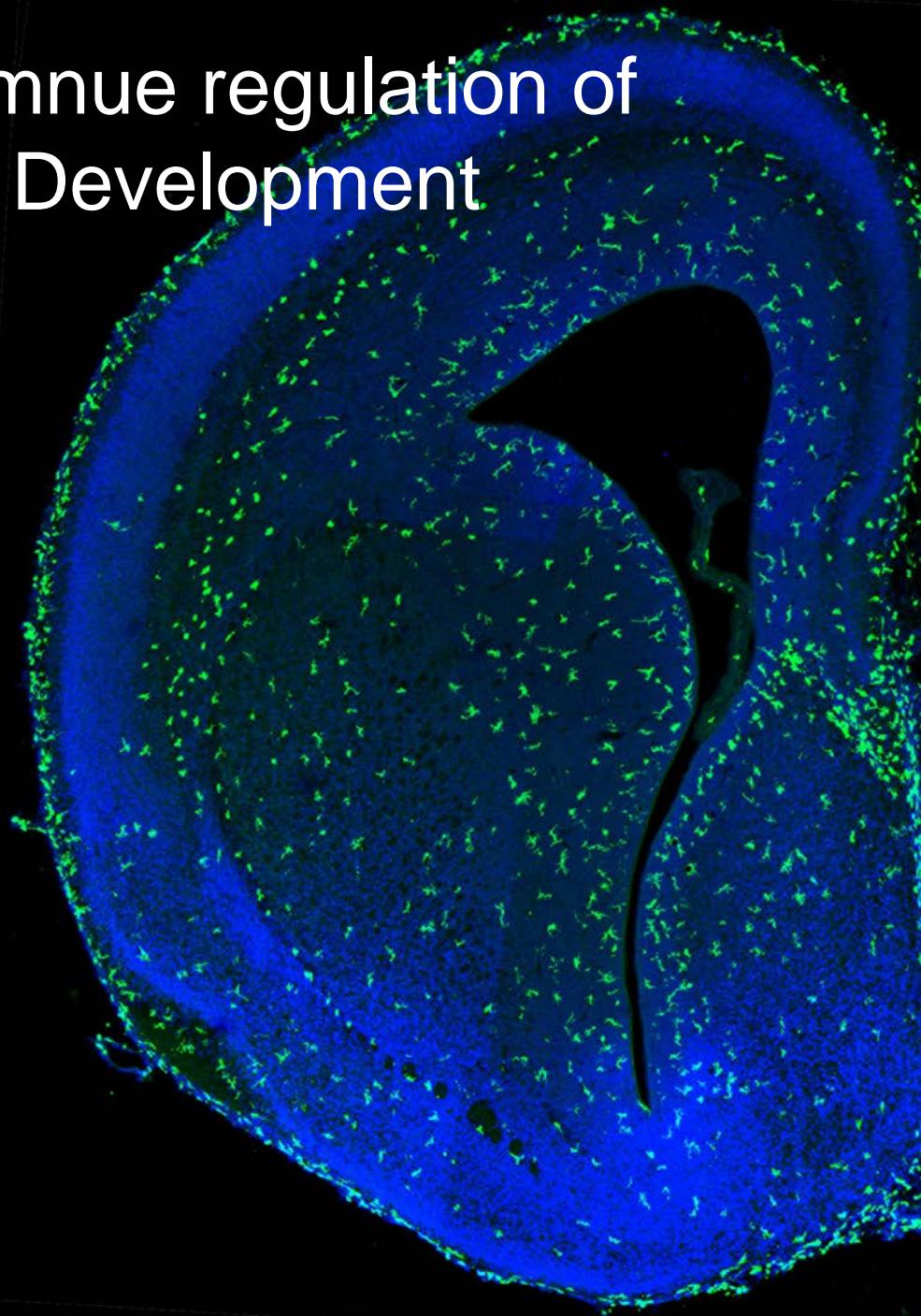
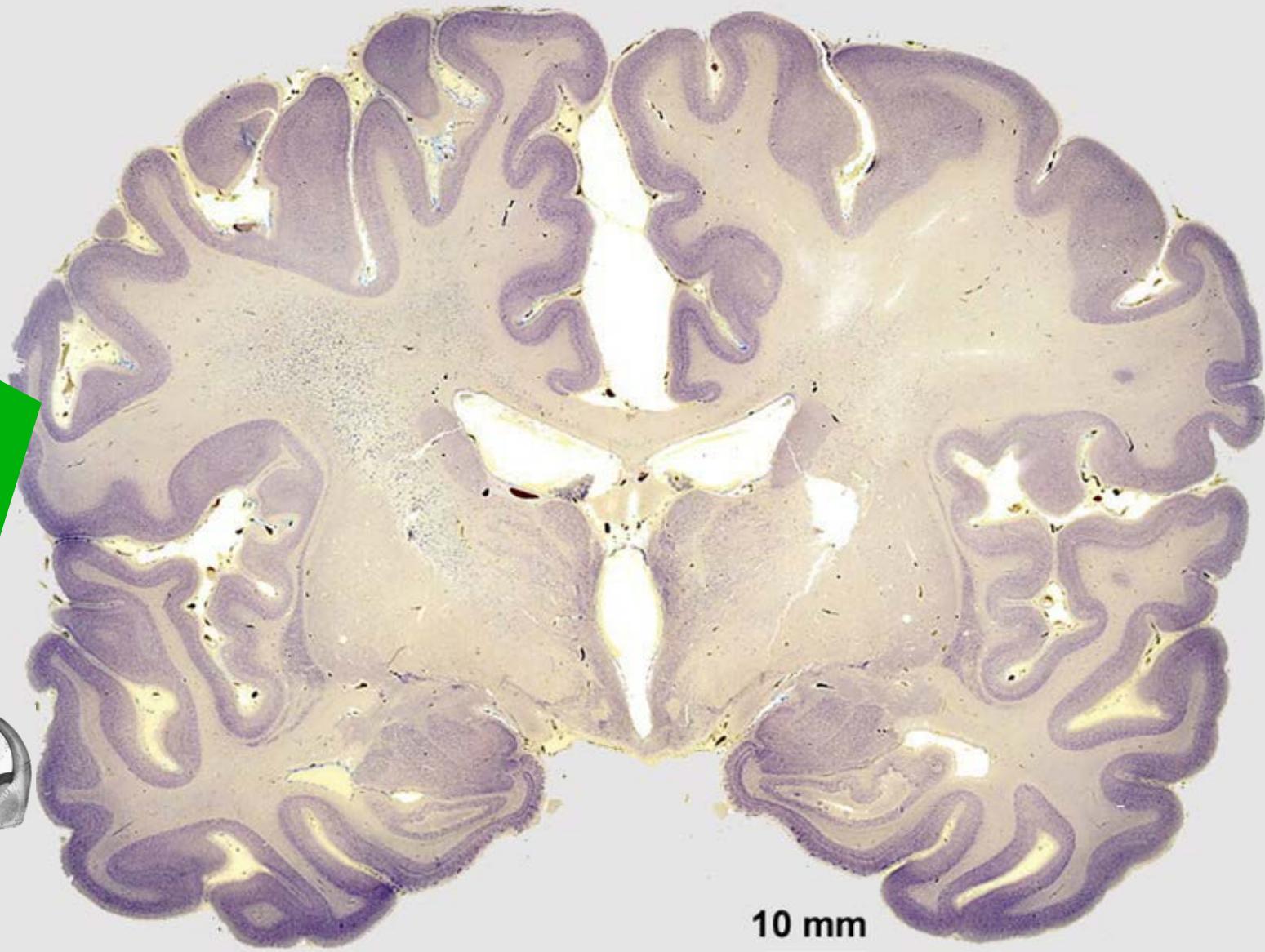


# Neuro-Immune regulation of Brain Development



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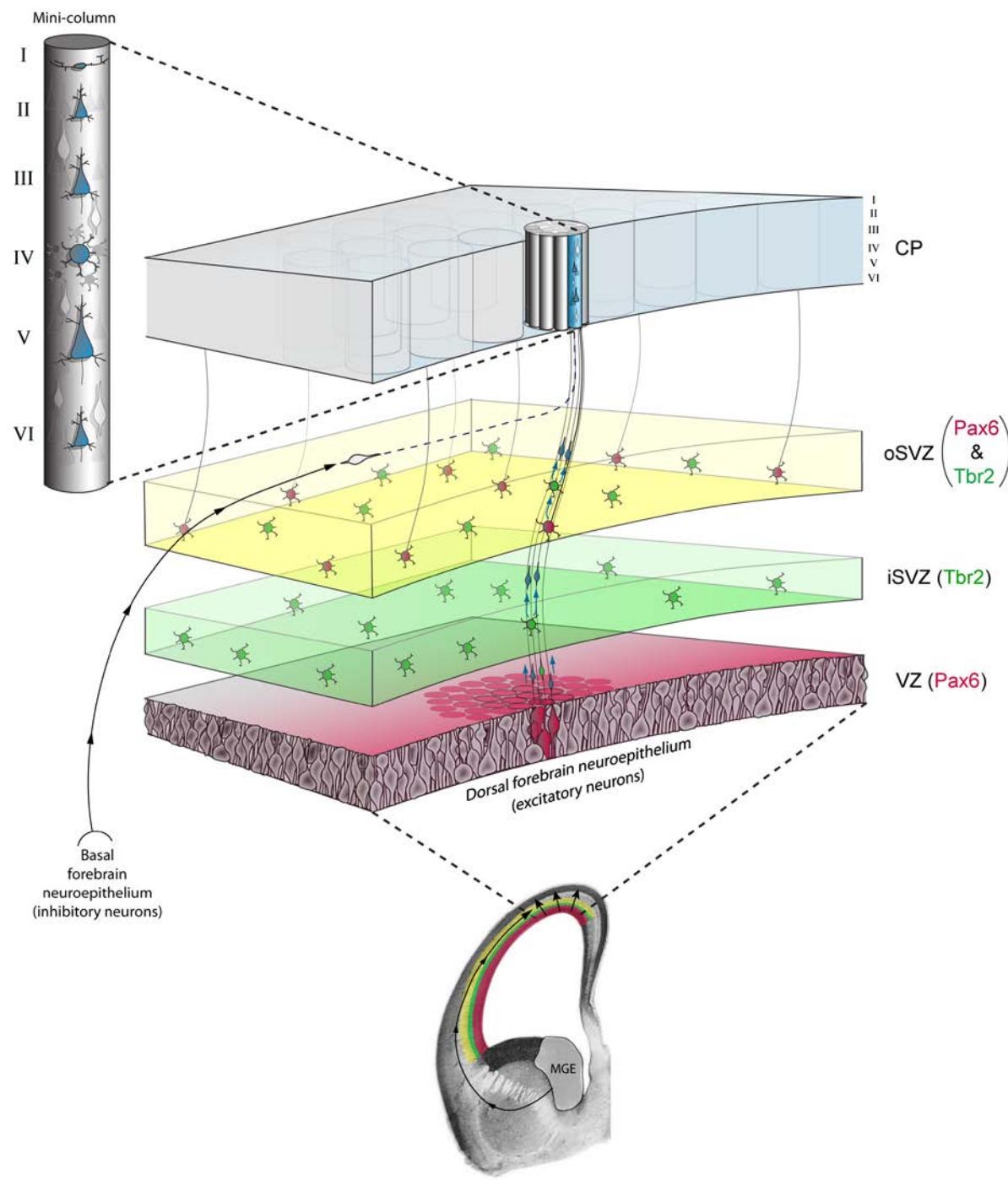
Human



GW11

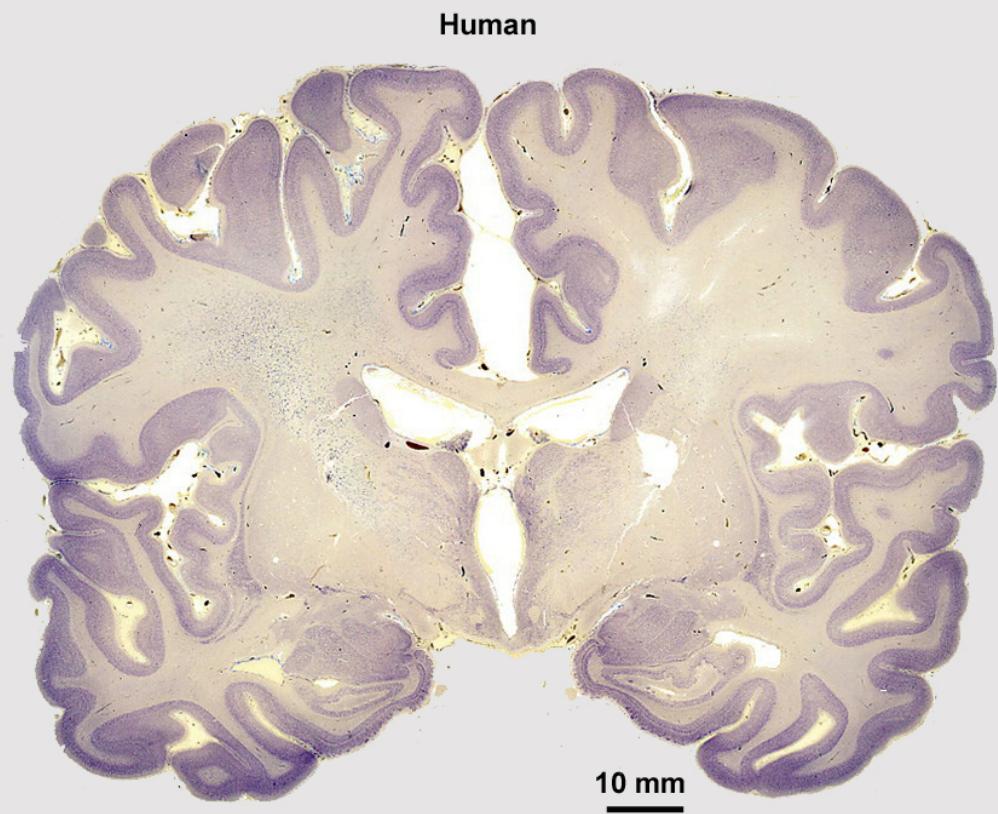
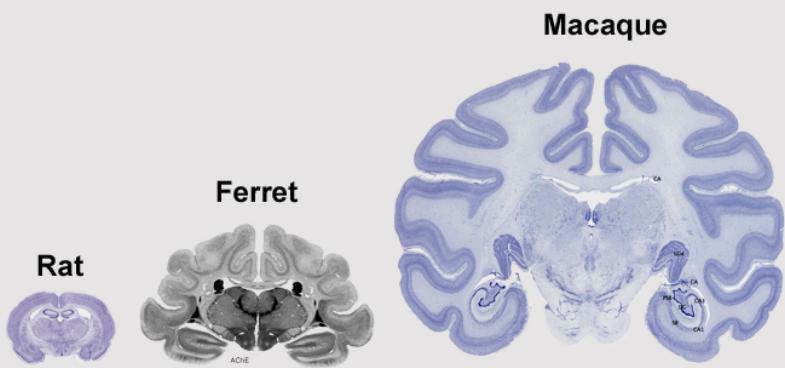
10 mm

GW3

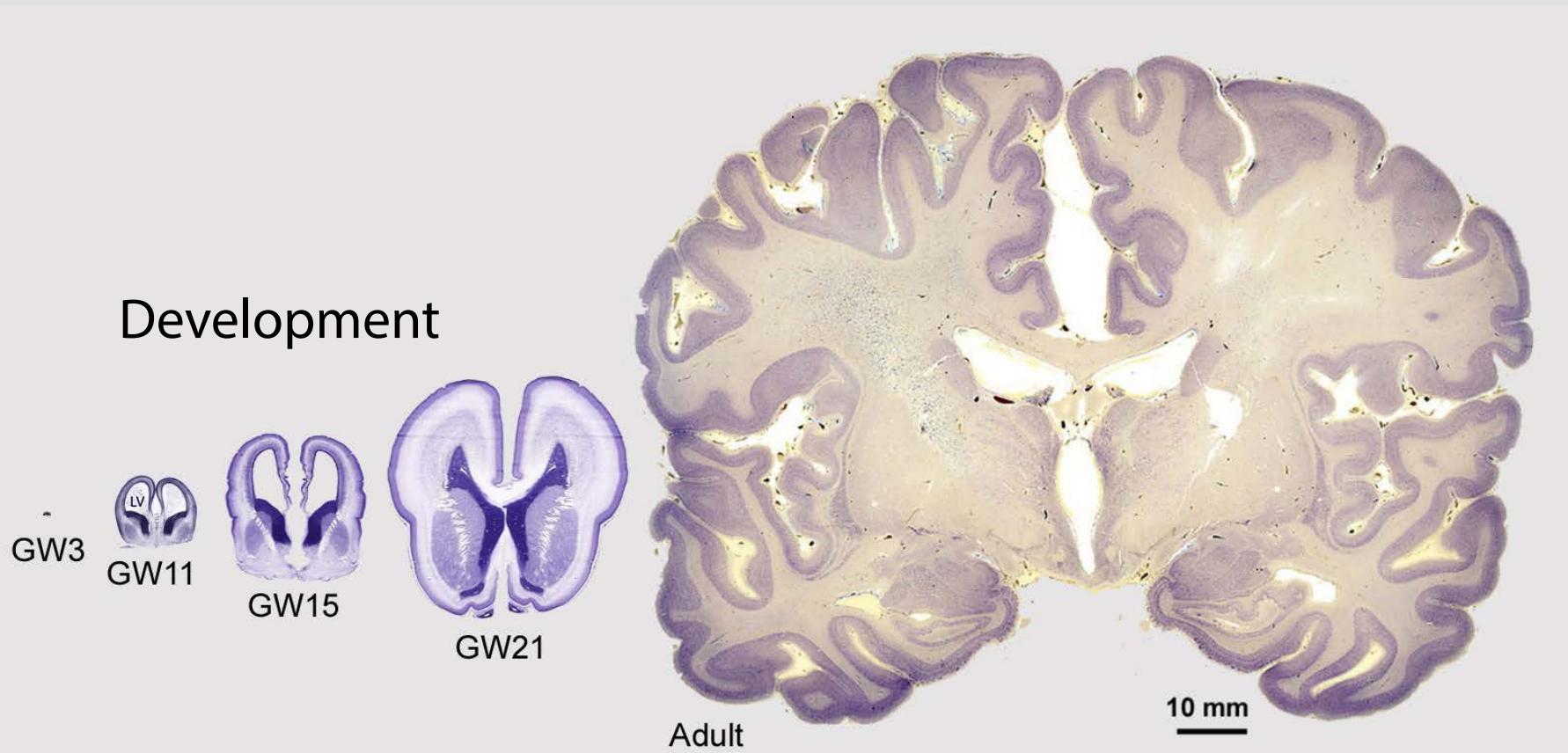


# How is cortical expansion achieved?

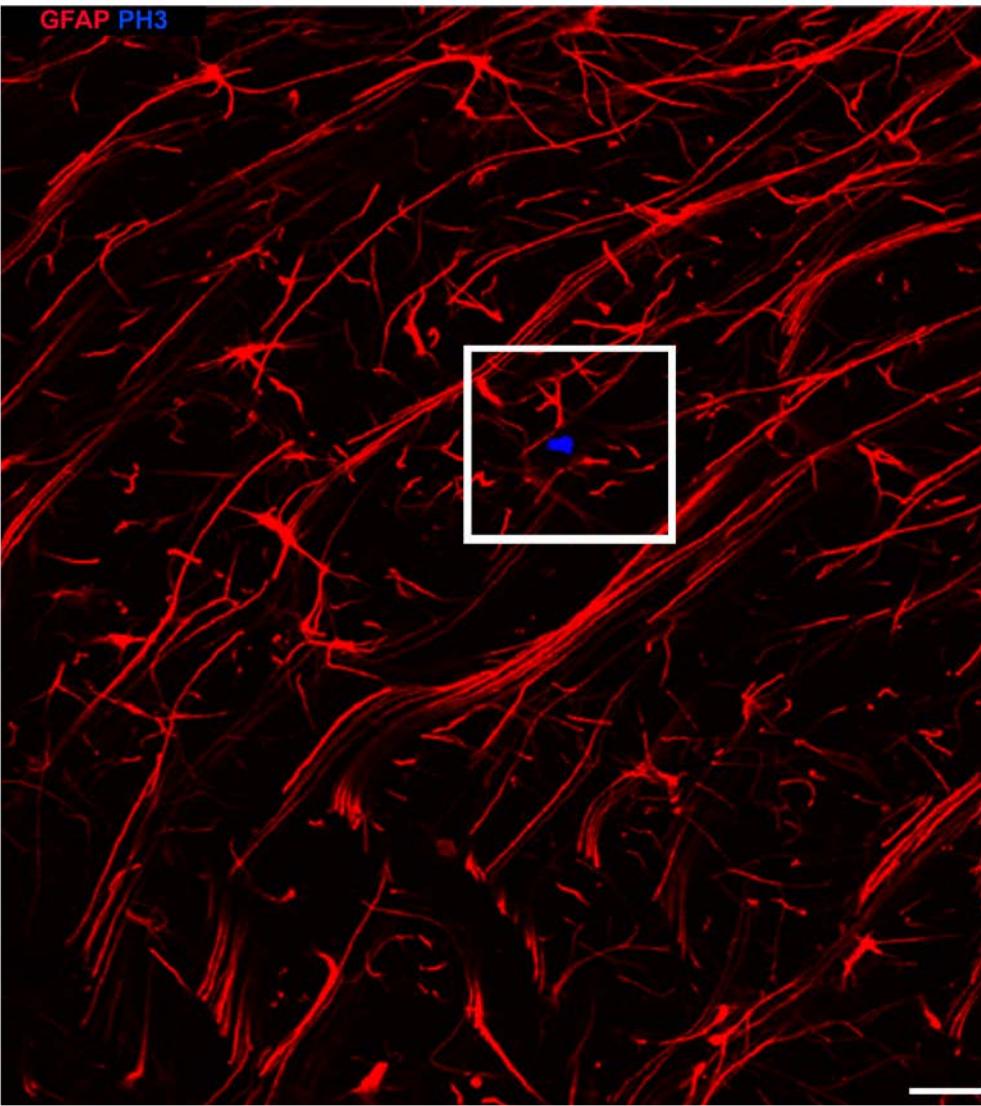
Evolution

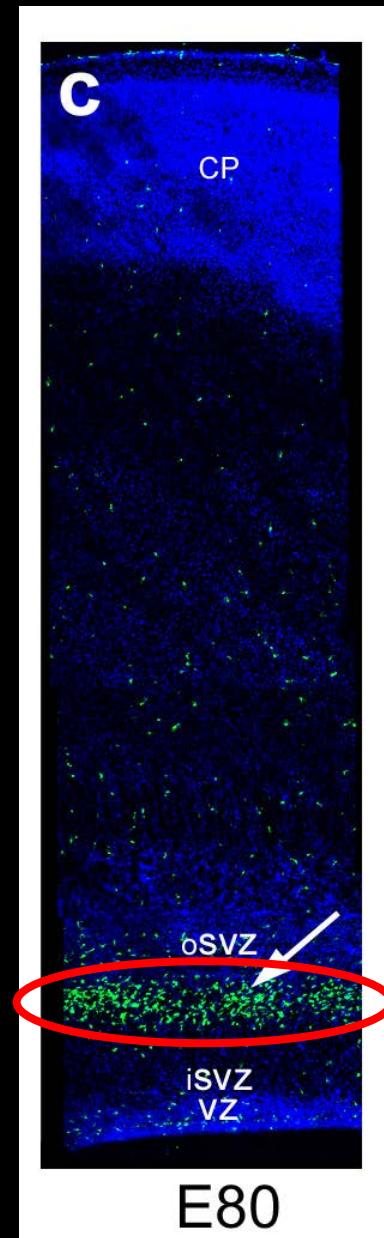


# How is cortical expansion achieved?



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





# What are microglia?



Del Rio-Hortega, 1919

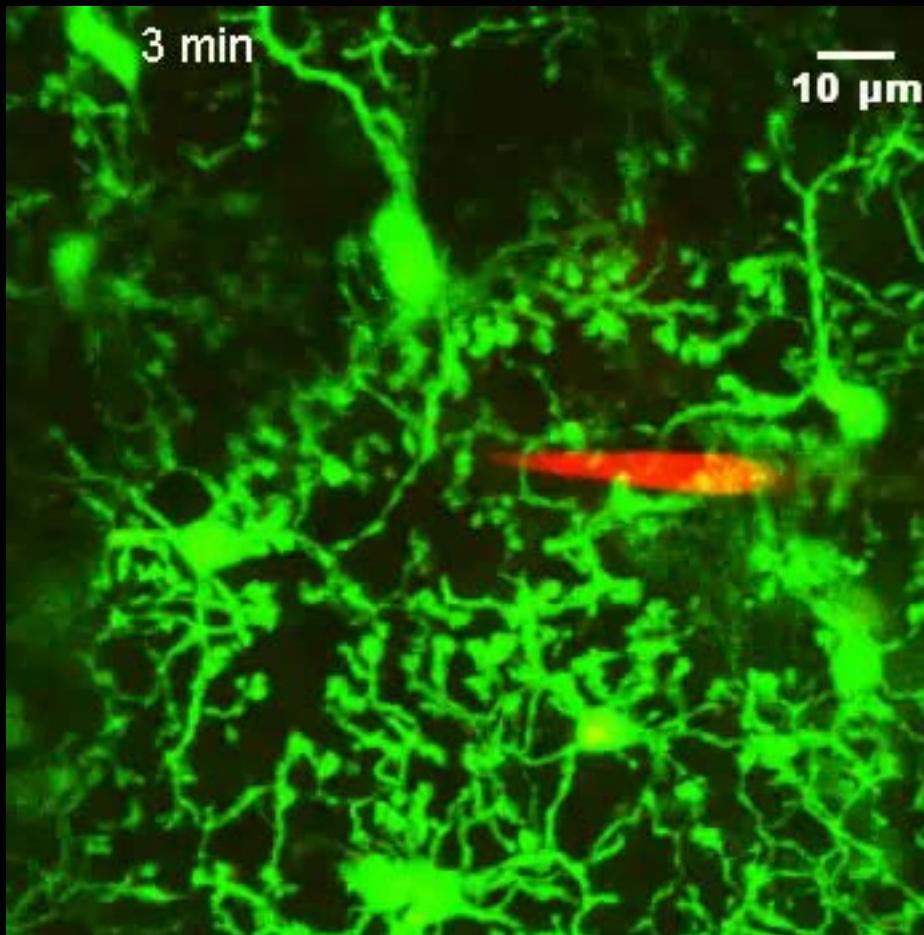
Initial Descriptions: (Pio del Rio-Hortega)

- 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



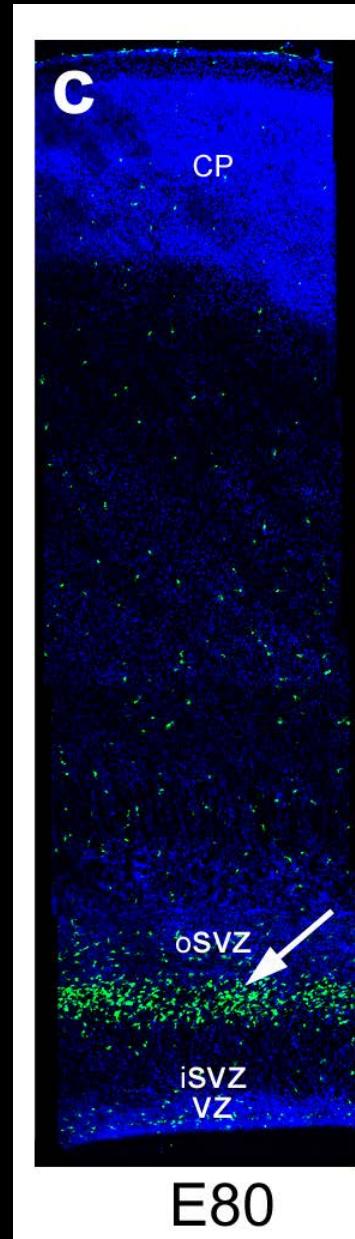
Rapidly respond to stimuli / foreign pathogens



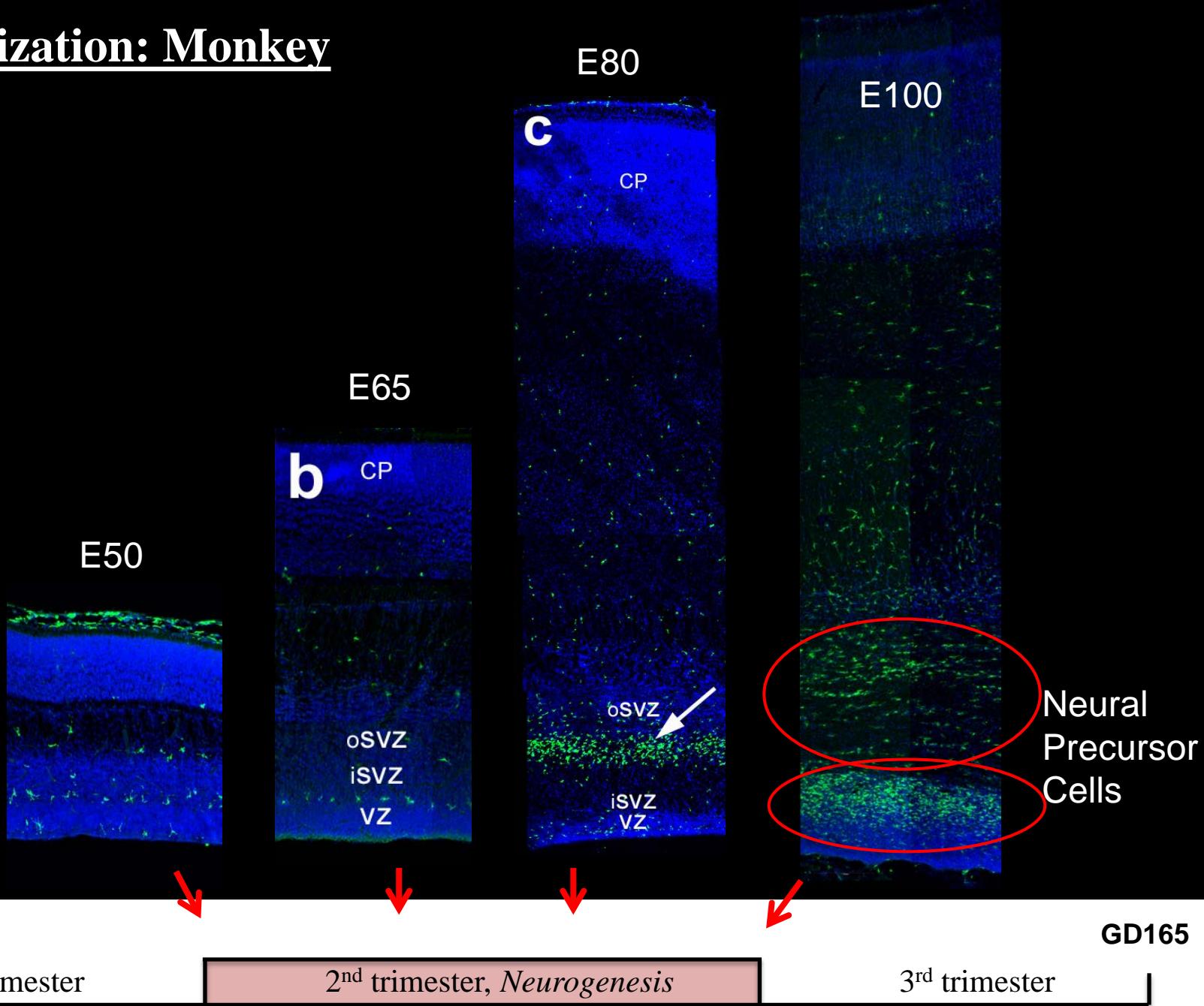
Davalos et al., 2005 Nat Neurosci

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?**

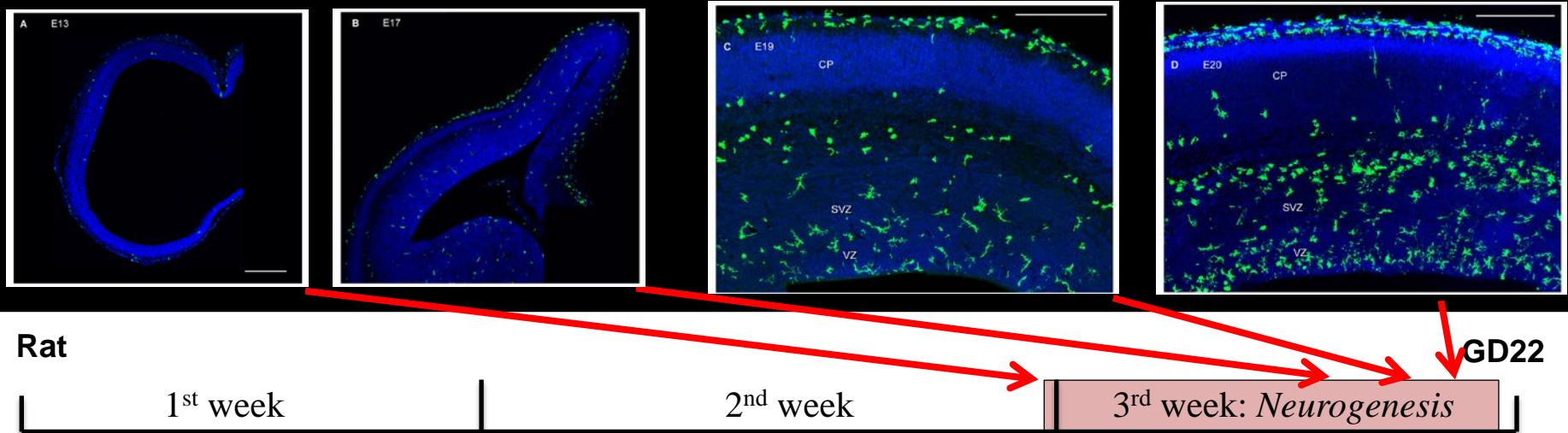


# I. Colonization: Monkey

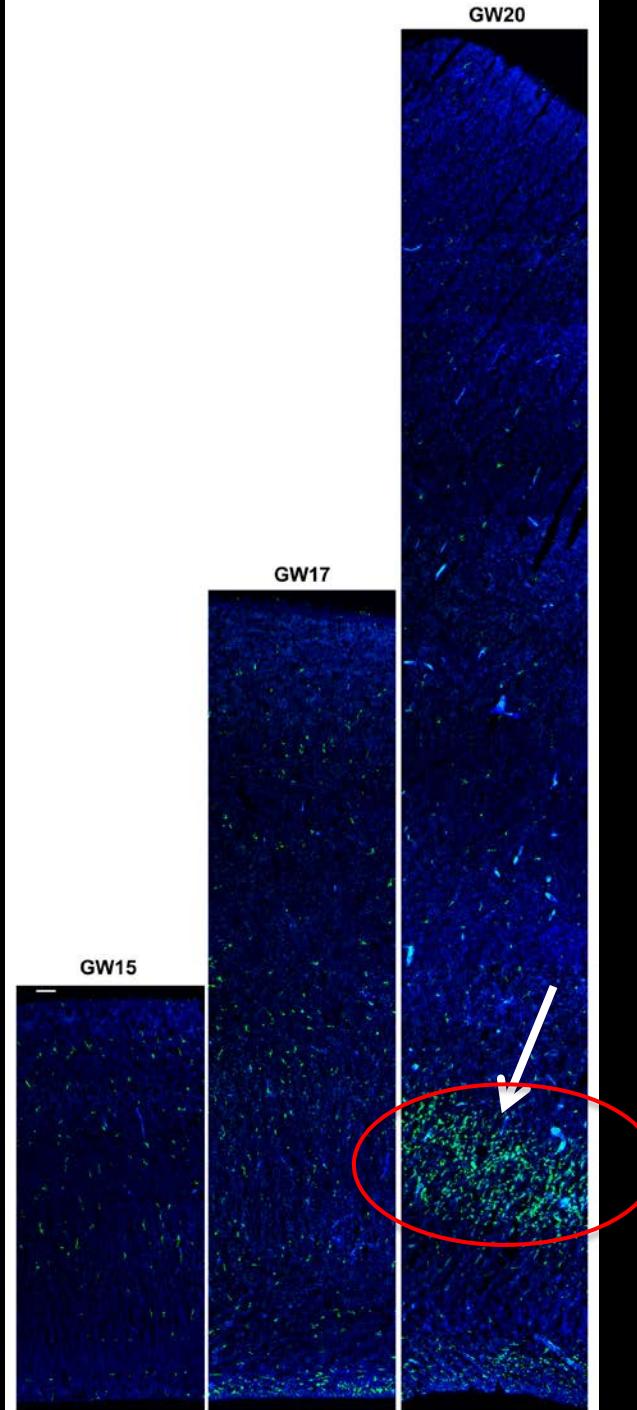


# I. Colonization: Rat

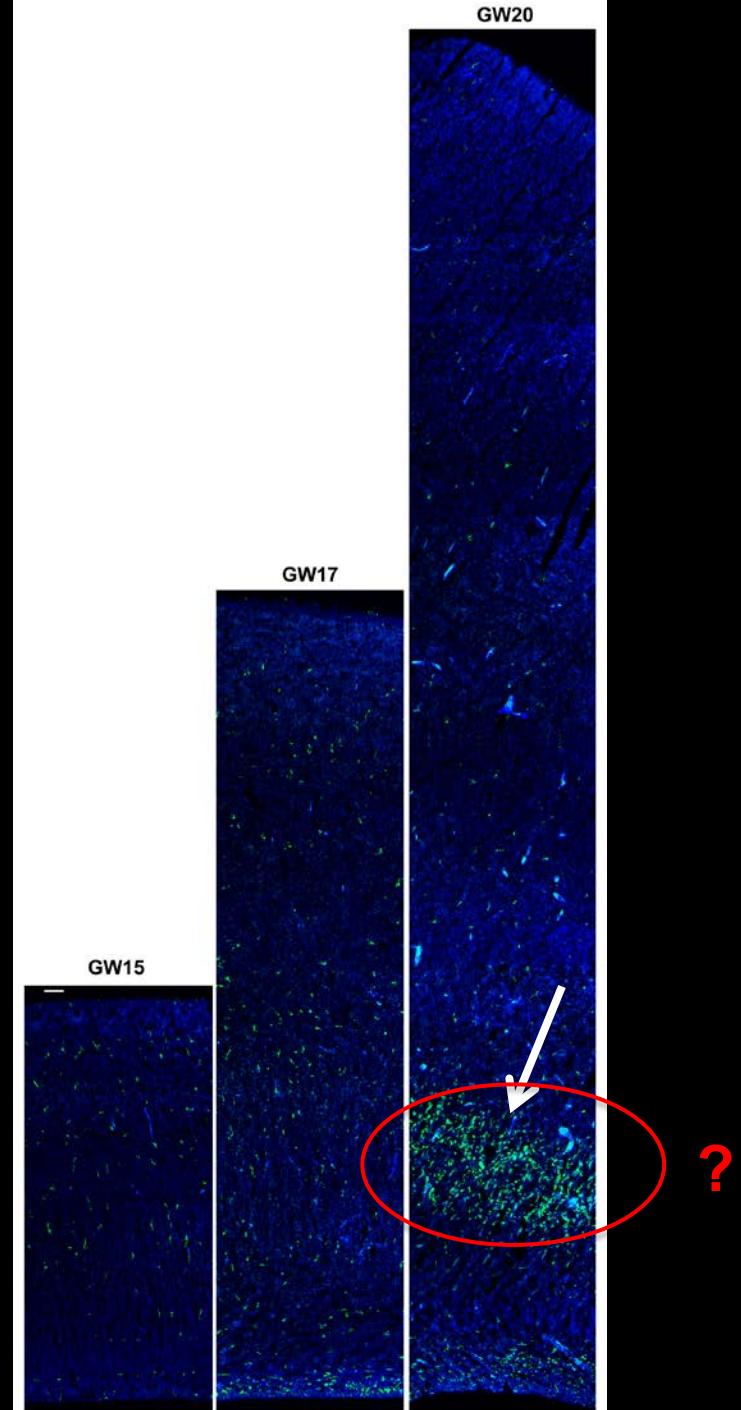
- Microglia enter rat cortex ~E12
- Remain sparse through E17
- Begin colonizing proliferative zones heavily ~E19
- Fill proliferative zones by E20



Same general pattern  
in fetal human cortex

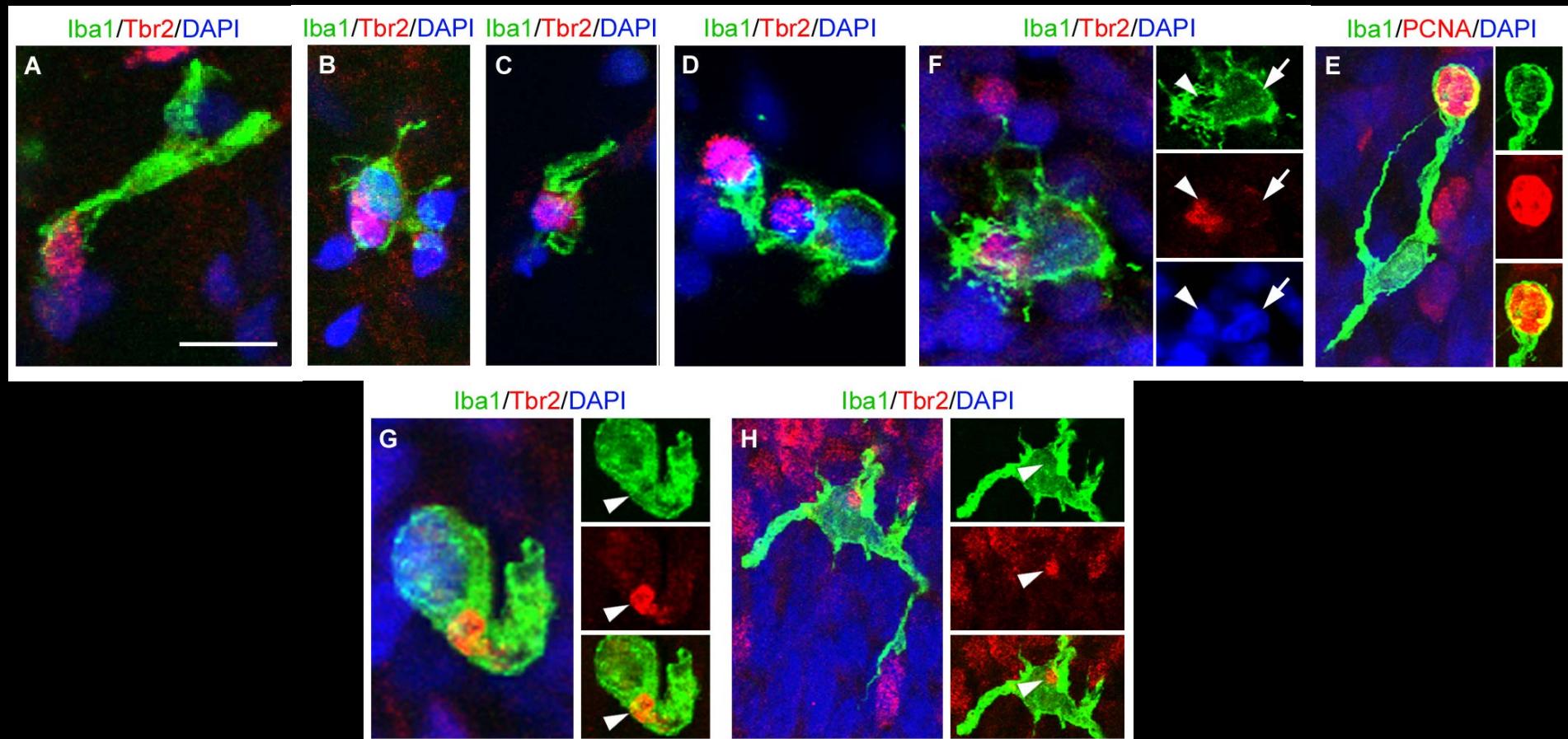


1. Microglia
2. Primary NPCs
3. Secondary NPCs



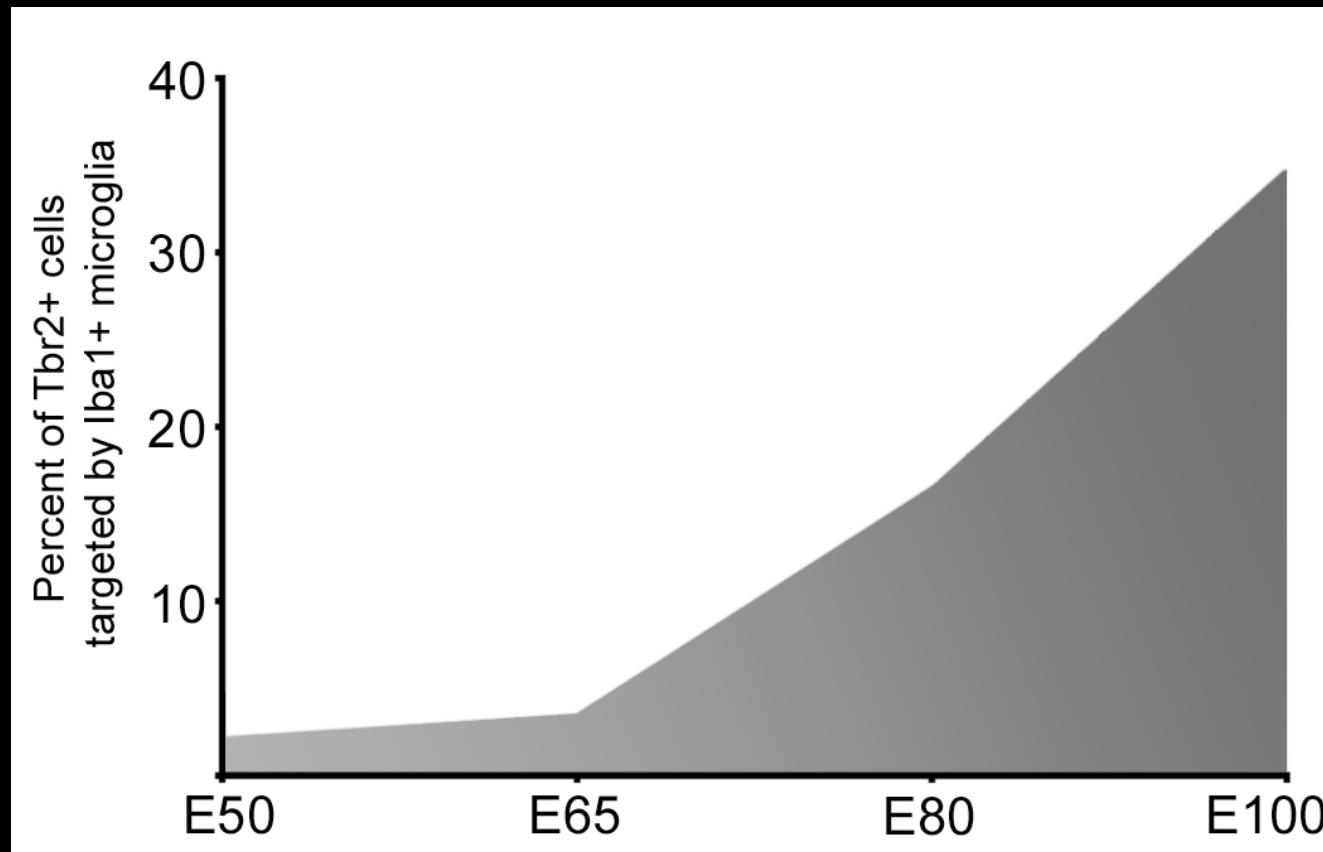
## II. Function

### Microglia phagocytose neural precursor cells in the fetal brain

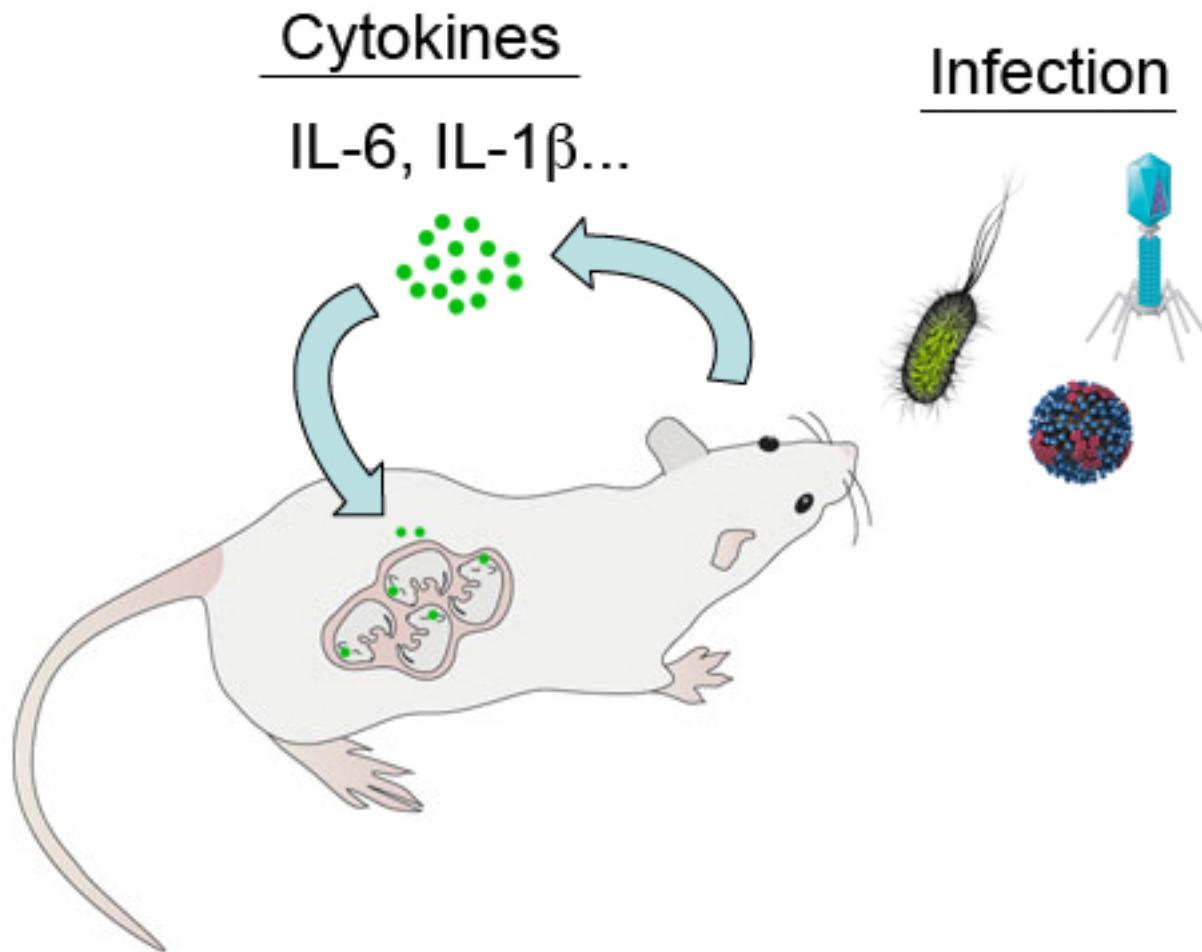


## II. Function

Proportion of targeted NPCs, in cortex,  $\uparrow$  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



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