

# Epigenetic mechanisms in cognitive impairment linked to aging and Alzheimer's disease



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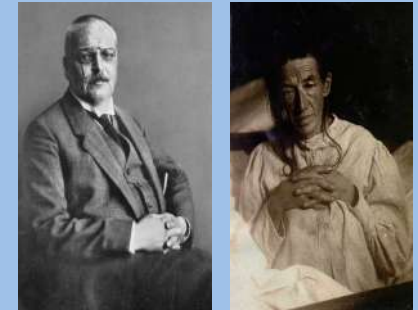
*Dr Christian Griñán-Ferré*  
*Neuropharmacology in Aging and Neurodegeneration*  
*Faculty of Pharmacy and Food Sciences*  
*May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019*



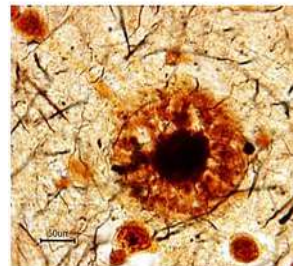
# Alzheimer's Disease



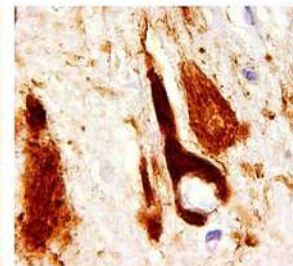
- The most common cause of dementia
- Neurodegenerative disease
- Progressive and Irreversible
- Cognitive Impairment and behavioural abnormalities
- Neuropathological alterations:  $\beta$ -amyloid, Tau hyperphosphorylation, neurotransmitter deficits and cell death.



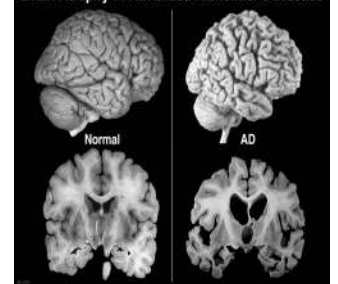
Plaques



Neurofibrillary Tangles



Brain Atrophy in Advanced Alzheimer's Disease





# Current Available Therapy for AD

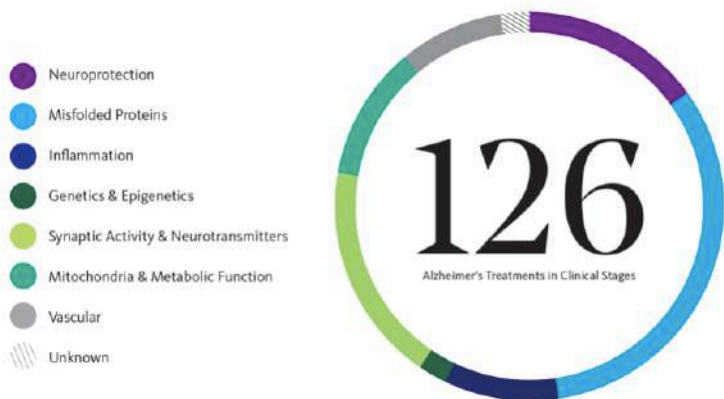
Characteristics	DONEPEZIL	RIVASTIGMINE	GALANTAMINE	MEMANTINE
Chemical class	piperidine	carbamate	phenanthrene alkaloid	Similar to amantadine
Primary mechanism	AchE inh	AchE inh	AchE inh	NMDA antagonist
Other mechanism	None	None	Nicotine modulator	HT3 receptor antagonist
Half life	70 h	90 min	7 h	70 h

**CURRENT PHARMACOLOGICAL THERAPIES DO NOT STOP THE PROGRESSION OF DEMENTIA**





## 2017 CLINICAL TRIALS BY THE NUMBERS



*Beta-amyloid remains a major target in all phases of clinical trials, despite high-profile failures in the past few years.*

BIOPHARMA

Failure of once-promising Alzheimer's drug reinforces doubts about amyloid beta

Biogen halting its Phase III trial of aducanumab last month had many proclaiming the amyloid beta hypothesis' demise. But many doctors soldier on, while others see potential alternative uses for Abeta-targeting drugs.

By ALARIC DEADWENT

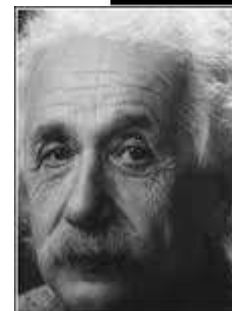
Post a comment / Apr 18, 2019 at 1:30 PM



## Unsuccessful Investigational Drugs for Alzheimer's Disease (1998-2017)



**146** Total Unsuccessful Drugs | **4** Total Approved Medicines

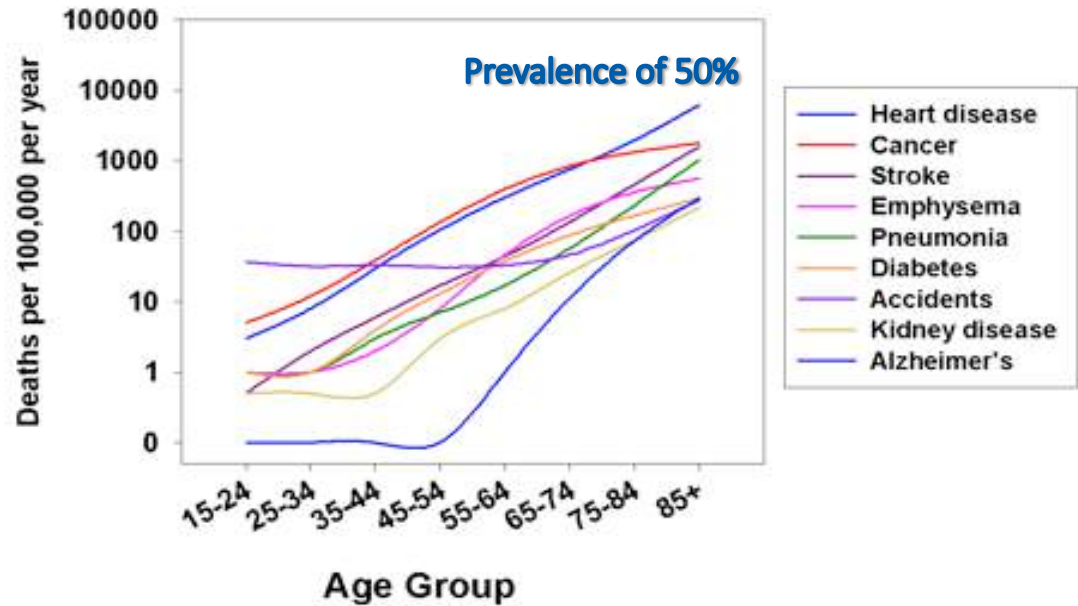
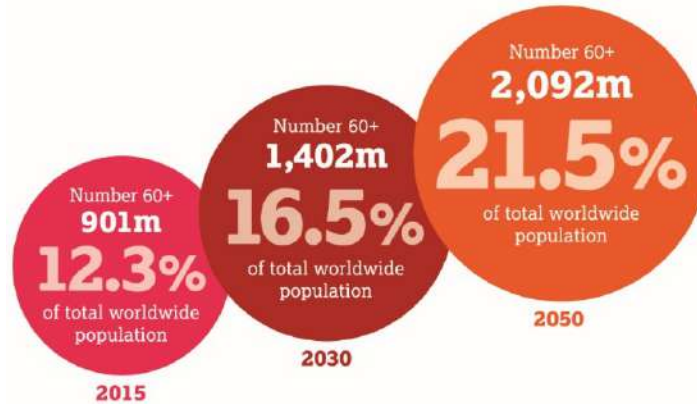


If you want different results, do not do the same things.

— Albert Einstein —

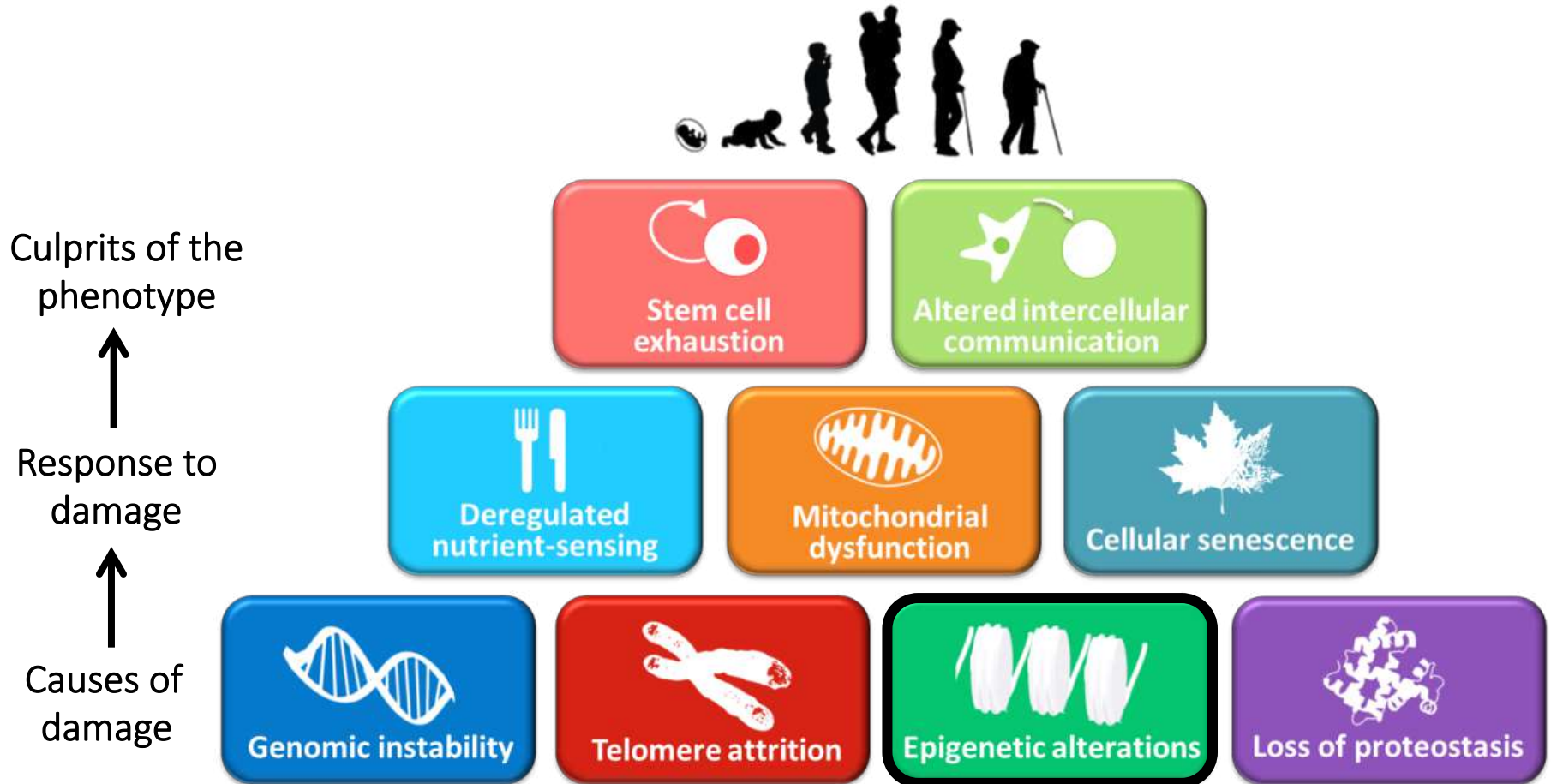


The greatest risk factor for AD is advanced age





# The hallmarks of aging

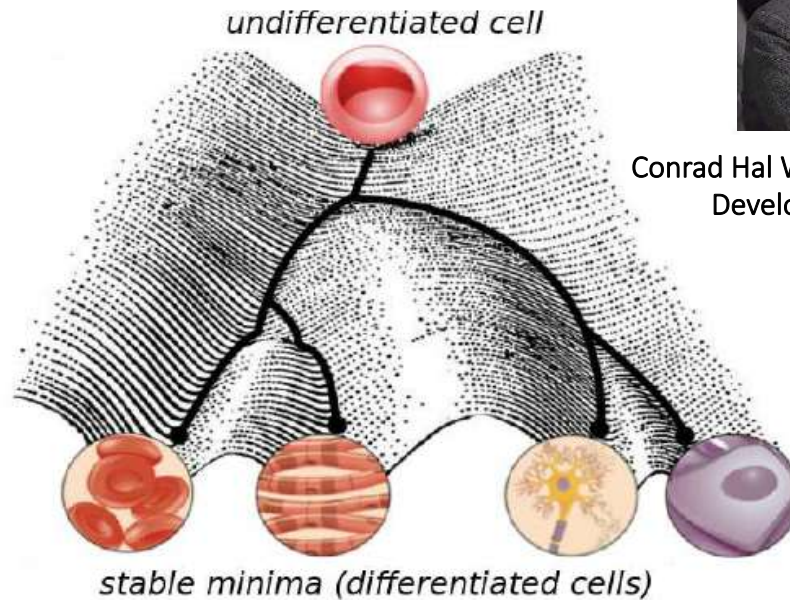


The hallmarks of aging, López-Otín et al., Cell 2013



# What is epigenetics?

- Changes in gene expression or phenotype that don't involve changes to the DNA sequence
- Its defined as heritable changes in gene activity and expression that occur without alteration in DNA sequence



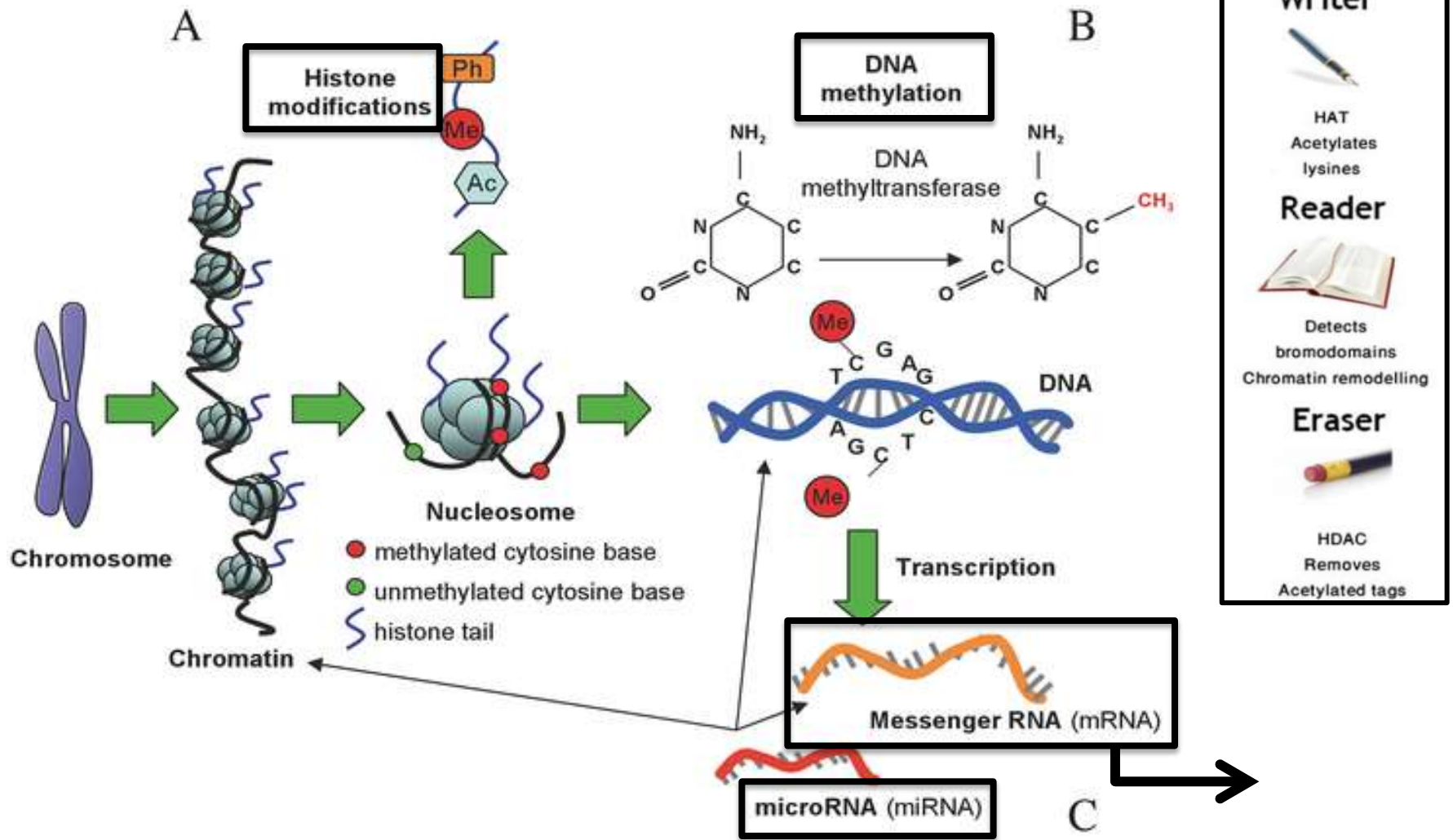
Conrad Hal Waddington (1905-1975)  
Developmental biologist

Epigenetic landscape 1940





# The three pillars of epigenetic regulations



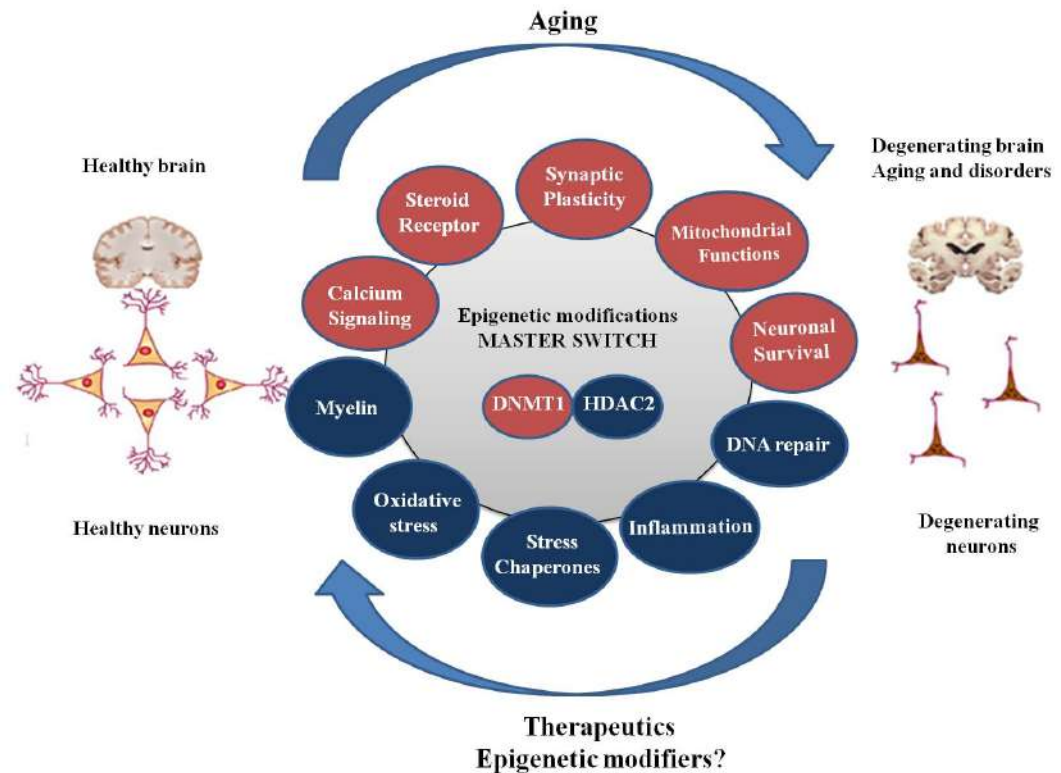




# Alterations of these epigenetic mechanisms

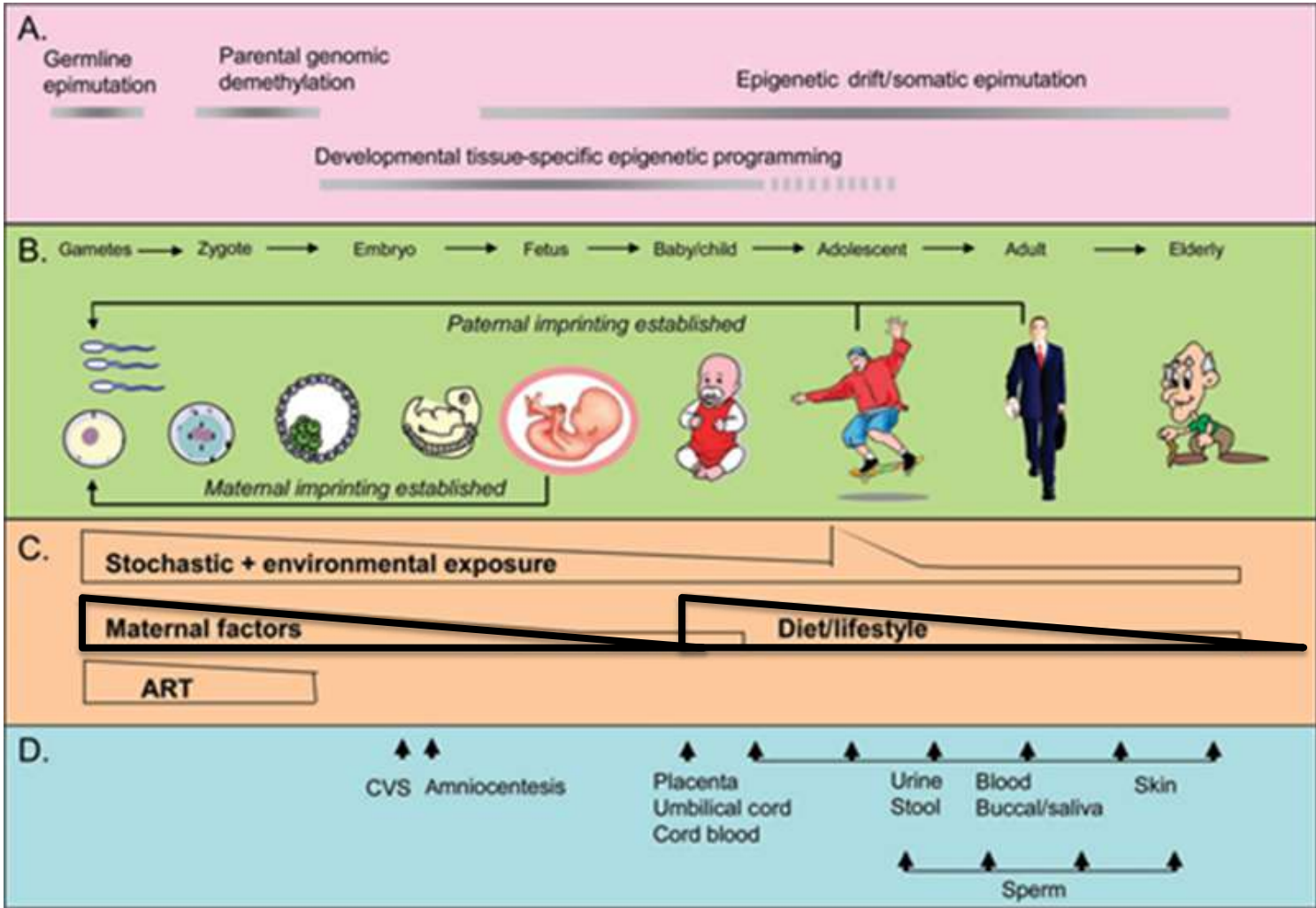
Alterations of these epigenetic mechanisms affect the vast majority of nuclear process, including:

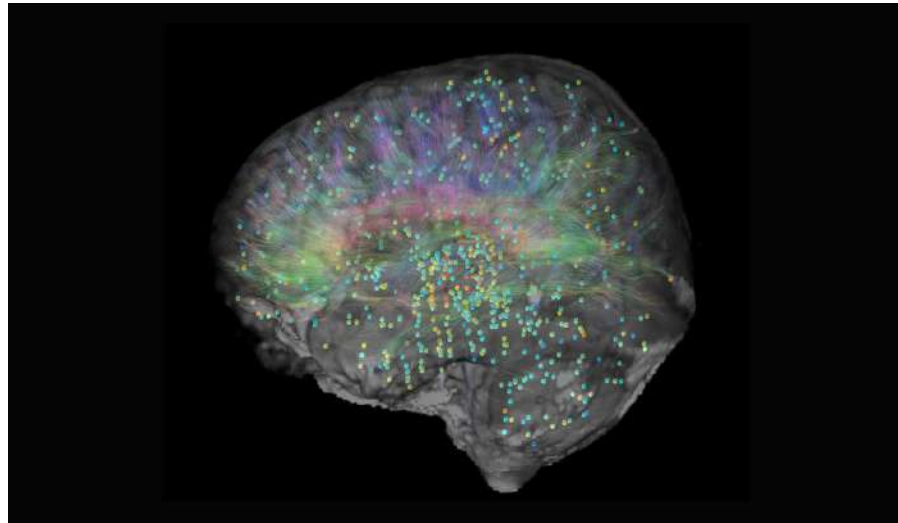
- Gene transcription and silencing
- DNA replication and repair
- Cell cycle progression
- Telomere structure and function
- Mitochondrial function
- Inflammation
- Oxidative Stress
- Cell survival



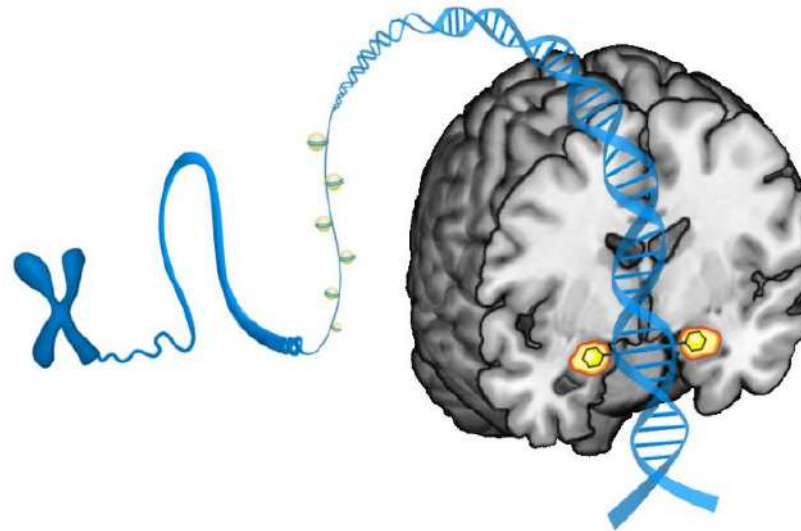


# Epigenetic and life





The human brain expresses numerous genes;  
approximately 80–95%

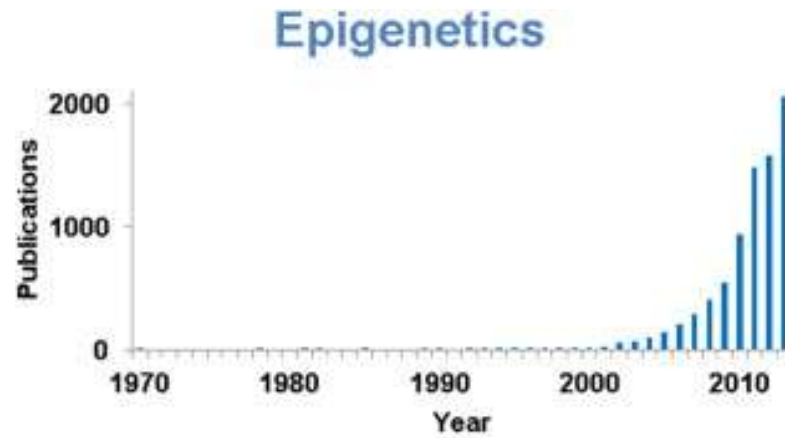


Neuronal activity *per se* modifies DNA methylation and histone modifications patterns, and further, that learning and memory depend on these epigenetic changes.





# Epigenetic mechanisms in aged brain and AD





# Epigenetic mechanisms in aged brain and AD

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Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## Ageing Research Reviews

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/arr](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/arr)



Review

### Epigenetic mechanisms in Alzheimer's disease: Implications for pathogenesis and therapy

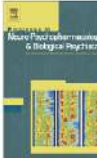
Jun Wang<sup>a</sup>, Jin-Tai Yu<sup>a,b,c,\*\*</sup>, Meng-Shan Tan<sup>b</sup>, Teng Jjiang<sup>c</sup>, Lan Tan<sup>a,b,c,\*</sup>



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## Progress in Neuro-Psychopharmacology & Biological Psychiatry

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/pnp](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/pnp)



### Epigenetics in neurodegeneration: A new layer of complexity

Sueli C.F. Marques<sup>ab,c</sup>, Catarina R. Oliveira<sup>cd</sup>, Claudia M.F. Pereira<sup>cd</sup>, Tiago F. Outeiro<sup>b,e,\*</sup>



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## Neurobiology of Aging

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/neuaging](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/neuaging)



Review

### Epigenetically regulated microRNAs in Alzheimer's disease

Daniel L. Van den Hove<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Konstantinos Kompotis<sup>a</sup>, Roy Lardenoije<sup>a</sup>, Gunter Kenis<sup>a</sup>, Jonathan Mill<sup>c,d</sup>, Harry W. Steinbusch<sup>a</sup>, Klaus-Peter Lesch<sup>a,b</sup>, Carlos P. Fitzsimons<sup>c</sup>, Bart De Strooper<sup>e,g</sup>, Bart P.F. Rutten<sup>a</sup>



Mol Neurobiol (2018) 55:3021–3032  
DOI 10.1007/s12035-017-0533-3

frontiers  
in Behavioral Neuroscience

REVIEW  
published: 17 December 2018  
doi: 10.3389/fnbeh.2018.00047



## Epigenetic Alterations in Alzheimer's Disease

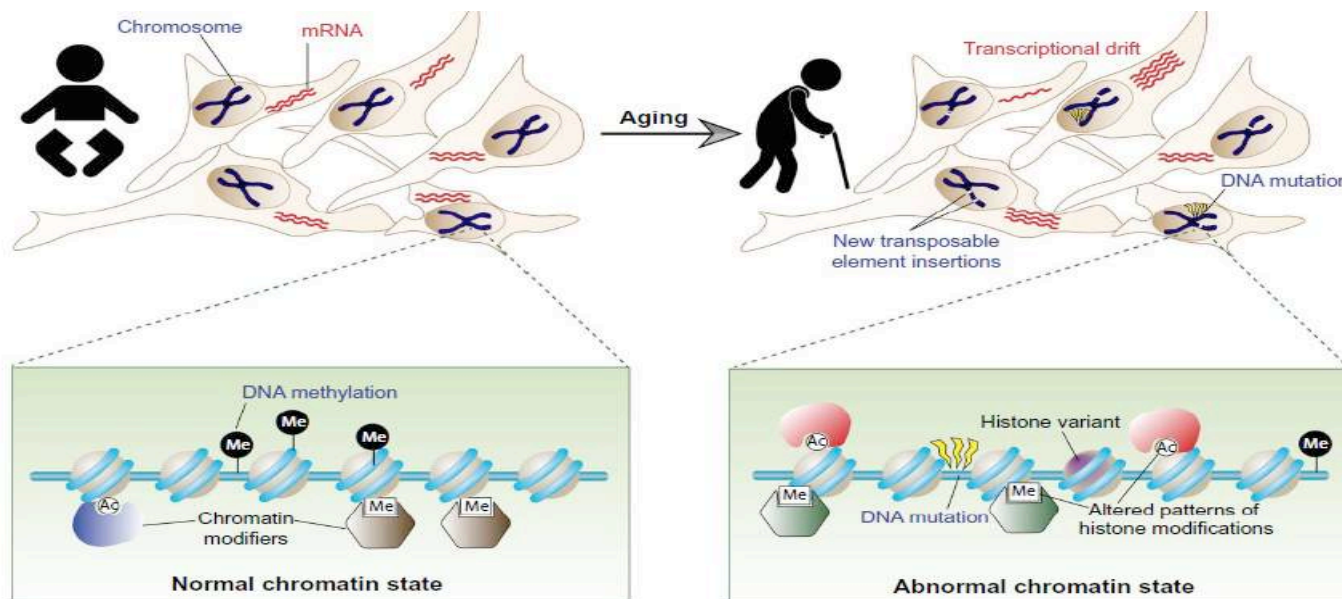
Jose V. Sanchez-Mut and Johannes Gräff\*

Neuroepigenetics Laboratory – UF-CVNEF, Brain Mind Institute, School of Life Sciences, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland

## Synaptic Dysfunction in Alzheimer's Disease: A $\beta$ , Tau, and Epigenetic Alterations

Ke Li<sup>1</sup> · Qing Wei<sup>1</sup> · Fang-Fang Liu<sup>2</sup> · Fan Hu<sup>3</sup> · Ao-Ji Xie<sup>3</sup> ·  
Ling-Qiang Zhu<sup>3</sup> · Dan Liu<sup>4</sup>

# Epigenetic mechanisms in aged brain and AD



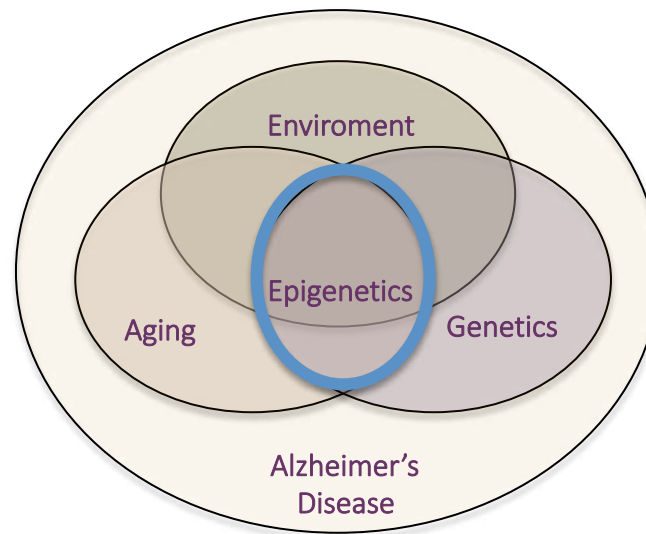
Related Aberrant Epigenetic Mark and Regulators	Epigenetic Alteration	References
DNA methylation	Global levels of 5-mC and 5-hmC ↓	[233]
Histone modifications	H3K24, H3K27, H3K36, H3K79, H3R128, H4K20 and H2AR89 ↓ Global acetylation levels of H3 and H4 ↑	[242]
miRNAs	miR-16, miR-9 and miR-139 ↓	[246, 247, 249]
DNTMs and HDACs	Dnmt3b ↑ Sirt1, Hdac5 and Hdac6 ↓	[233, 25]



# What causes AD?

The aetiology of Alzheimer's disease is multifactorial.

It is produced by a combination of genetic susceptibility factors added to exposure to environmental factors, where risk factors and protective factors interact, in a prolonged temporary sale that includes the aging process and with a different effect on each individual.







# New Clinical Trial in Phase I for AD



PHASE  
3

**0 Clinical Trials  
for Epigenetic therapies**



PHASE  
1



PHASE  
2

**More than 5 Clinical Trials  
for Epigenetic therapies**

Collaboration



Vafidemstat  
(ORY-2001)  
Phase IIa  
SATEEN (EM)  
ETHERAL (AD)  
REIMAGINE (AB)



Neuroprotection

Misfolded  
Proteins

Inflammation

Genetics &  
Epigenetics

Synaptic Activity &  
Neurotransmitters

Mitochondria &  
Metabolic Function

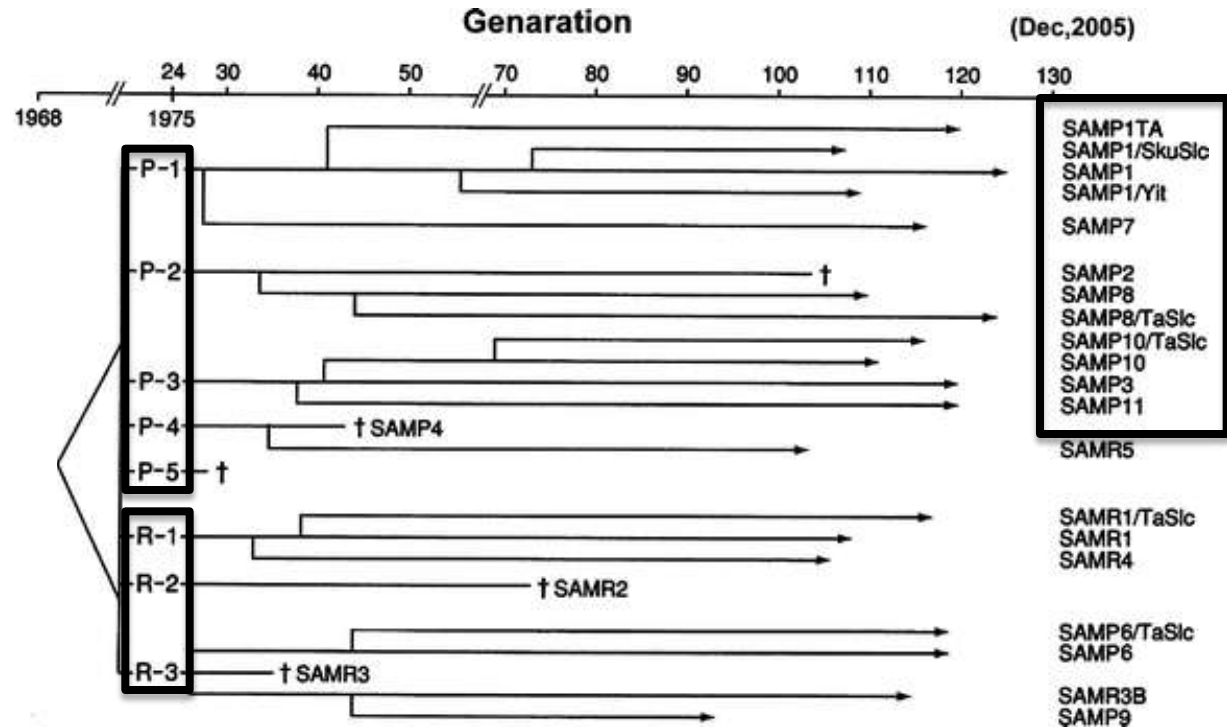
Vascular



# The SAMP8 Mouse Model

Dr. Takeda 1968

AKR/J strain



SAM resistant (SAMR) mice

SAM prone (SAMP) mice

Median survival 16.3 months

Median survival 9.7 months





# The SAMP8 Mouse Model

**TABLE 1** Pathobiological phenotypes

Strains	Phenotypes
SAMP	
SAMP1	Senile amyloidosis, contracted kidney, impaired immune response, hyperinflation of lungs, hearing impairment
SAMP1TA	Deficits in learning and memory
SAMP2	Senile and secondary amyloidosis, contracted kidney, impaired immune response
SAMP3	Degenerative temporomandibular joint disease
SAMP6	Senile osteoporosis, secondary amyloidosis
SAMP6/Ta	Senile osteoporosis
SAMP7	Thymic lymphoblastic lymphoma, senile amyloidosis
SAMP8	Deficits in learning and memory, impaired immune response
SAMP8/Ta	Deficits in learning and memory, emotional disorder (reduced anxiety-like behavior)
SAMP9	Cataract, thymic lymphoblastic lymphoma, senile amyloidosis
SAMP10	Brain atrophy, deficits in learning and memory
SAMP10/Ta	Deficits in learning and memory, emotional disorder (depressive behavior)
SAMP11	Contracted kidney, senile amyloidosis.
SAMR	
SAMR1	Nonthymic lymphoma*, histiocytic sarcoma, ovarian cyst
SAMR1TA	
SAMR4	Nonthymic lymphoma*, histiocytic sarcoma
SAMR5	Colitis

**Table 3:** Molecular and cellular pathways altered in SAMP8.

Pathway/protein target	Modification	Reference
Sirtuin 1	Decreased	[20, 58, 97]
Autophagic process	Reduced	[117–119]
Cathepsin system	Inactivated	[117]
AMPK	Not determined	
mTOR	Not determined	
mtDNA damage	Increased	[125]
Mitochondrial electron chain	Diminished efficiency	[20, 21, 29, 126, 127]
Fusion/fission proteins	Not determined	
Mitochondrial fatty acid oxidation	Altered	[128]

**Table 2:** Histopathological and cellular markers of AD and aging found in SAMP8.

Target	Modification	References
Tau protein	Increased levels and phosphorylation	[22, 55, 56]
Tau kinases	Increased levels or activity in Cdk5/p25 and GSK3 $\beta$	[22, 58, 59]
Receptor for advanced glycation end product (RAGE)	Increased	[75]
APP protein	Increased	[63–65, 80, 85, 86]
$\beta$ -amyloid	Amyloid content increased and aggregates	[26, 61, 62, 69, 70, 74, 87]
Secretases	ADAM-10 and PS1	[65, 80, 88]
BBH	Disrupted	[72, 73, 89]



# The SAMP8 Mouse Model

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## CHARACTERISTICS OF AGE-RELATED BEHAVIORAL CHANGES IN SENESCENCE-ACCELERATED MOUSE SAMP8 AND SAMP10

MASAOMI MIYAMOTO

Pharmaceutical Research Laboratories 1, Pharmaceutical Research Division, Takeda Chemical Industries, Ltd., 2-17-85, Jusohonmachi, Yodogawa-ku, Osaka 532, Japan

## Molecular Genetic Characterization of the Senescence-Accelerated Mouse (SAM) Strains

Haruo Kitado, Keiichi Higuchi, Toshio Takeda

*Journal of Gerontology*, Volume 49, Issue 6, 1 November 1994, Pages B247–B254,  
<https://doi-org.sire.ub.edu/10.1093/geronj/49.6.B247>

Published: 01 November 1994 Article history ▼

## GENETIC CHARACTERIZATION OF SENESCENCE-ACCELERATED MOUSE (SAM)

KEIICHI HIGUCHI

Department of Senescence Biology, Chest Disease Research Institute, Kyoto University, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606 Japan

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access

## Exome sequencing of senescence-accelerated mice (SAM) reveals deleterious mutations in degenerative disease-causing genes

Kumpei Tanisawa<sup>1,2</sup>, Eri Mikami<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Noriyuki Fuku<sup>1</sup>, Yoko Honda<sup>1</sup>, Shuji Honda<sup>1</sup>, Ikuro Ohsawa<sup>4</sup>, Masafumi Ito<sup>5</sup>, Shogo Endo<sup>6</sup>, Kunio Ihara<sup>7</sup>, Kinji Ohno<sup>8</sup>, Yuki Kishimoto<sup>9</sup>, Akihito Ishigami<sup>9</sup>, Naoki Maruyama<sup>9</sup>, Motoji Sawabe<sup>10</sup>, Hiroyoshi Iseki<sup>11</sup>, Yasushi Okazaki<sup>11</sup>, Sanae Hasegawa-Ishii<sup>12</sup>, Shiro Takei<sup>12</sup>, Atsuyoshi Shimada<sup>12</sup>, Masanori Hosokawa<sup>12</sup>, Masayuki Mori<sup>13</sup>, Keiichi Higuchi<sup>13</sup>, Toshio Takeda<sup>14</sup>, Mitsuru Higuchi<sup>15</sup> and Masashi Tanaka<sup>17</sup>

Research

## Mechanisms of aging in senescence-accelerated mice

Todd A Carter<sup>1\*</sup>, Jennifer A Greenhall<sup>1\*</sup>, Shigeo Yoshida<sup>1</sup>, Sebastian Fuchs<sup>\*</sup>, Robert Helton<sup>\*</sup>, Anand Swaroop<sup>1,2</sup>, David J Lockhart<sup>3</sup> and Carolee Barlow<sup>4\*</sup>

Addresses: <sup>1</sup>The Salk Institute for Biological Studies, La Jolla, CA 92037, USA. <sup>2</sup>Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48105, USA. <sup>3</sup>Department of Human Genetics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48105, USA. <sup>4</sup>Ambit Biosciences, San Diego CA 92121, USA. \*Current address: BrainCells Inc., 10835 Road to the Cure, San Diego, CA 92121, USA.



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*Experimental Gerontology* 40 (2005) 774–783

Experimental Gerontology

[www.elsevier.com/locate/expgero](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/expgero)

Mini review

The senescence-accelerated prone mouse (SAMP8): A model of age-related cognitive decline with relevance to alterations of the gene expression and protein abnormalities in Alzheimer's disease

D. Allan Butterfield<sup>\*</sup>, H. Fai Poon

REVIEW ARTICLE

## Senescence-Accelerated Mice P8: A Tool to Study Brain Aging and Alzheimer's Disease in a Mouse Model

Mercè Pallàs

NEUROPATHOLOGY

*Neuropathology* 2017; 37, 293–305

doi:10.1111/neup.12373

Occasional Review

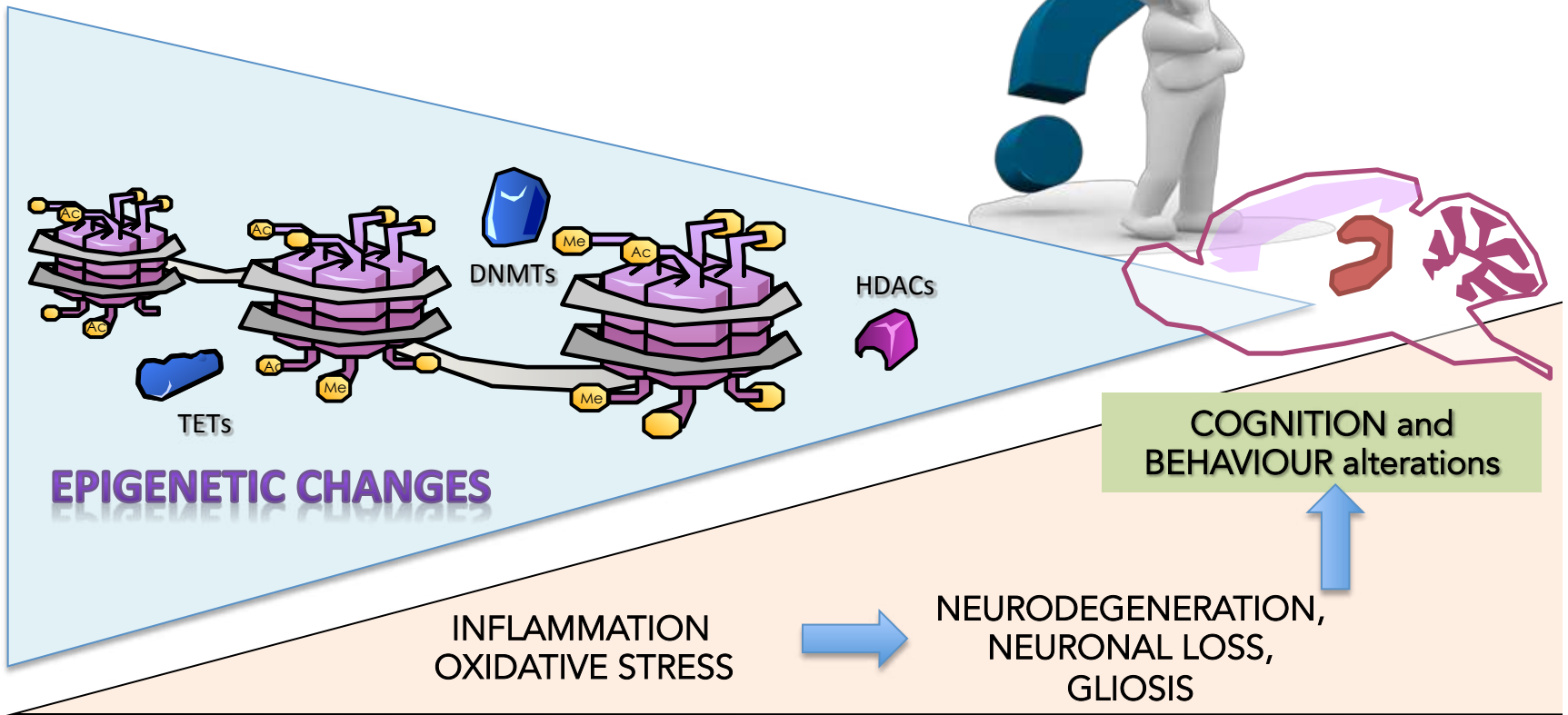
## SAMP8 mice as a neuropathological model of accelerated brain aging and dementia: Toshio Takeda's legacy and future directions

Ichiro Akiguchi<sup>1,2</sup>, Mercè Pallàs<sup>10</sup>, Herbert Budka<sup>11</sup>, Haruhiko Akiyama<sup>4</sup>, Masaki Ueno<sup>5</sup>, Jingxian Han<sup>12</sup>, Hideo Yagi<sup>1</sup>, Tomohumi Nishikawa<sup>2</sup>, Yoichi Chiba<sup>5</sup>, Hiroshi Sugiyama<sup>3</sup>, Ryoya Takahashi<sup>6</sup>, Keiko Unno<sup>7</sup>, Keiichi Higuchi<sup>8</sup> and Masanori Hosokawa<sup>9</sup>





# Accelerated senescence and epigenetics



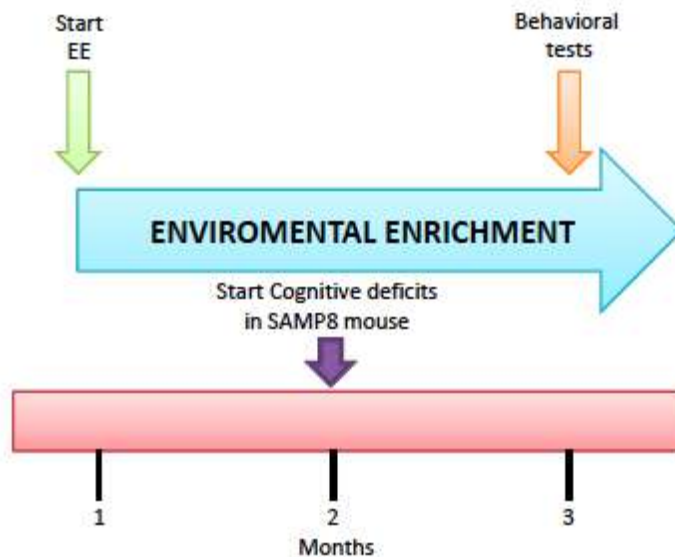


## Effect of Environment enrichment (EE) in SAMP8

SAMP8 Ct



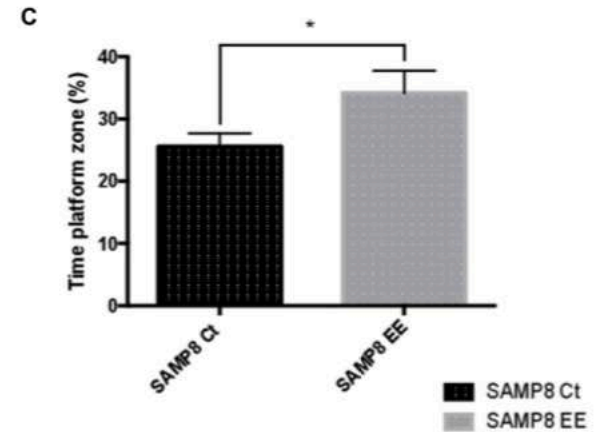
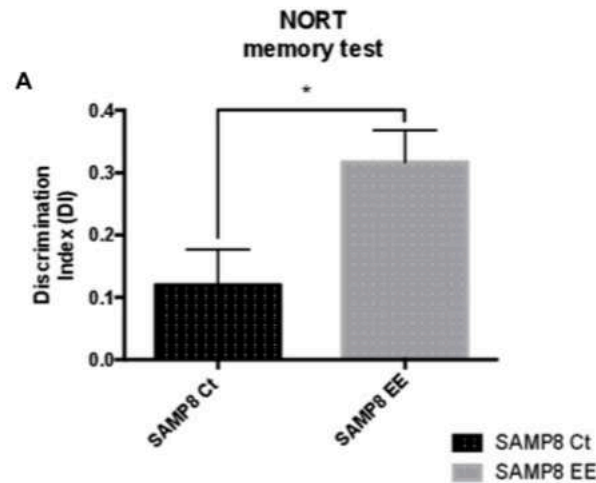
SAMP8 EE



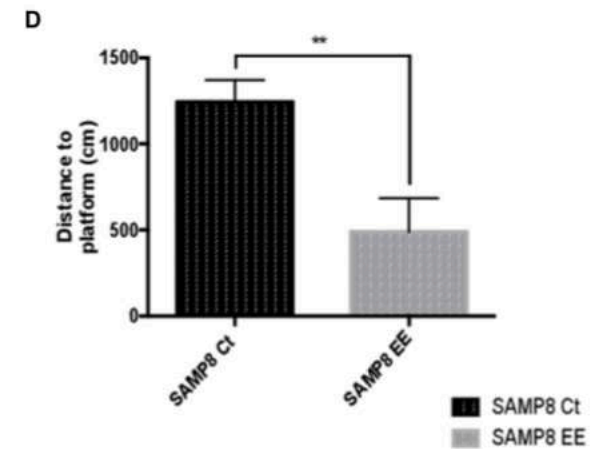
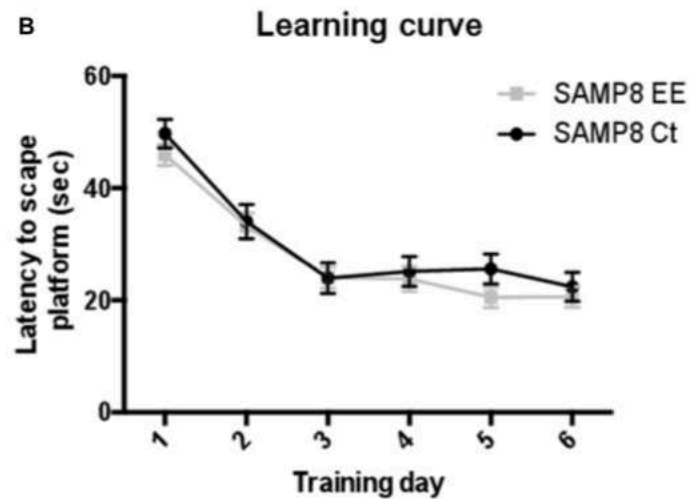
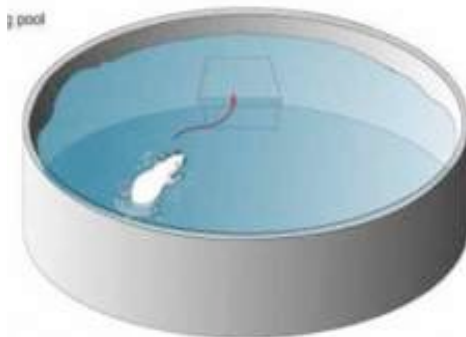


# Beneficial effects of EE in cognition

## Novel Object Recognition

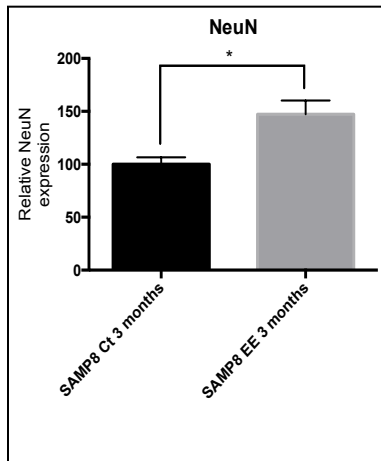


## Morris Water Maze

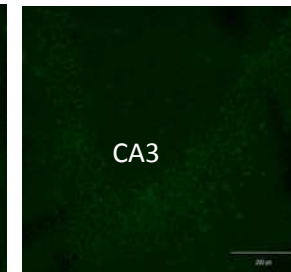
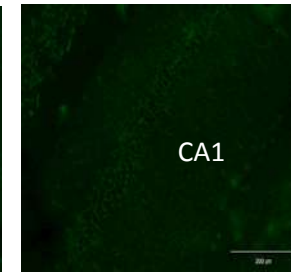
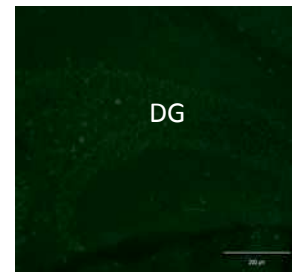
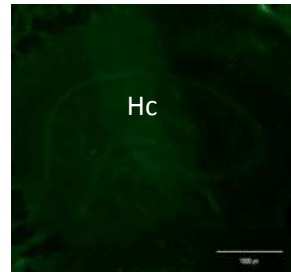




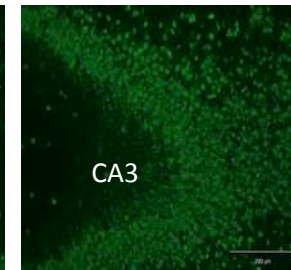
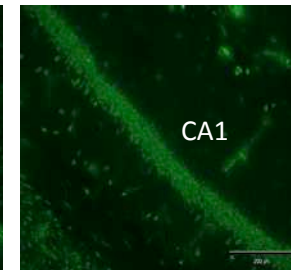
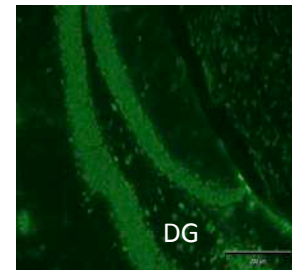
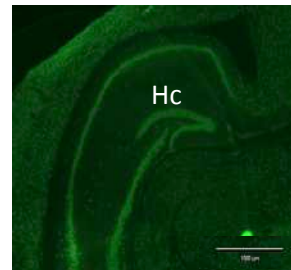
# Neuroprotective effects of EE in SAMP8



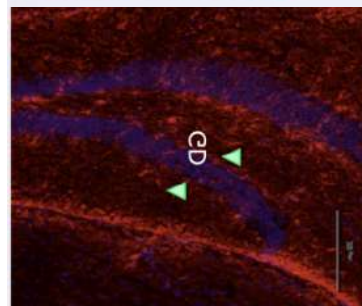
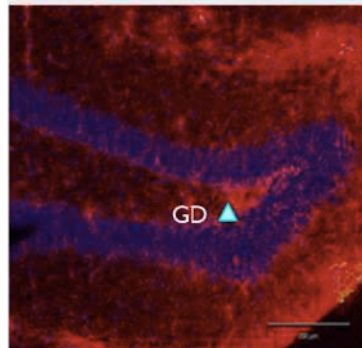
SAMP8 CT



SAMP8 EE

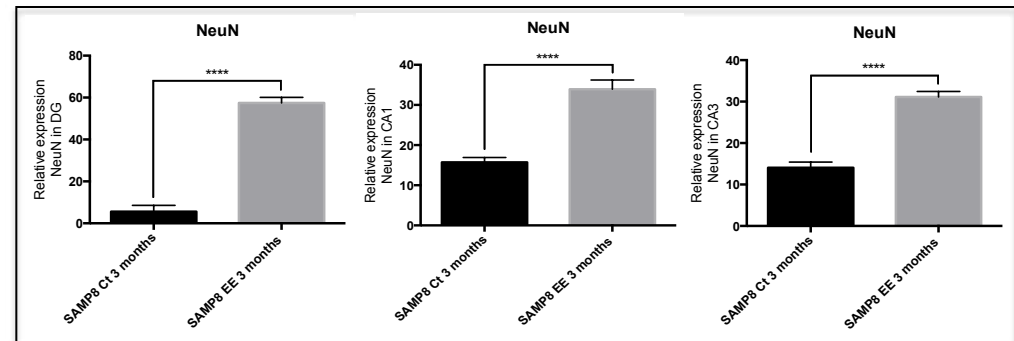


GFAP + HOECHST



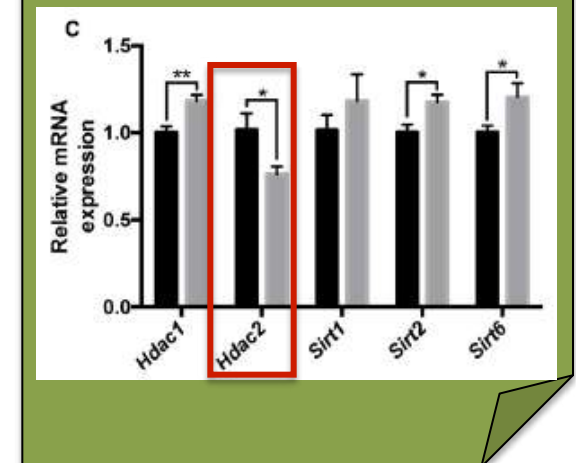
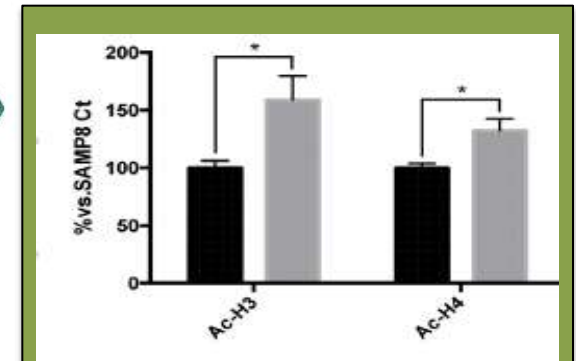
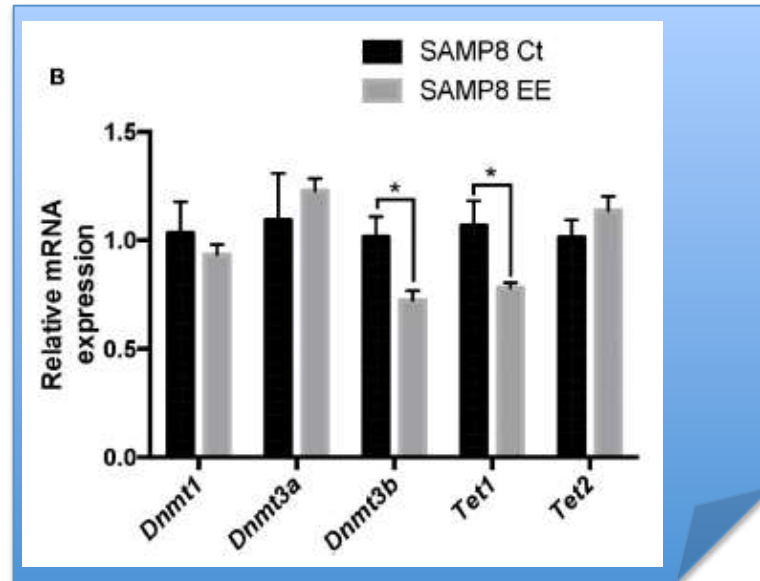
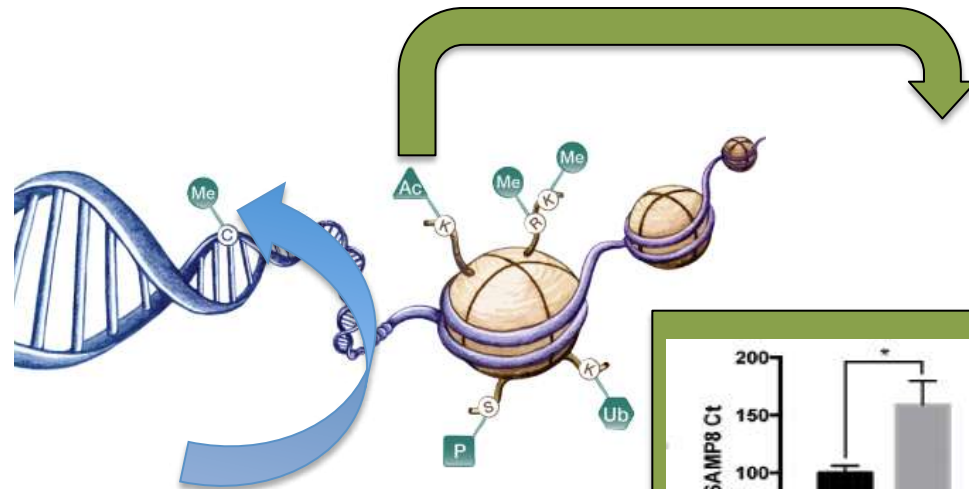
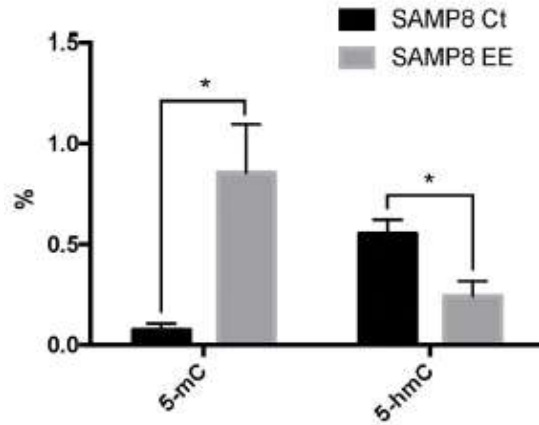
SAMP8 CT

SAMP8 EE





# Effects of EE on Epigenetics in SAMP8







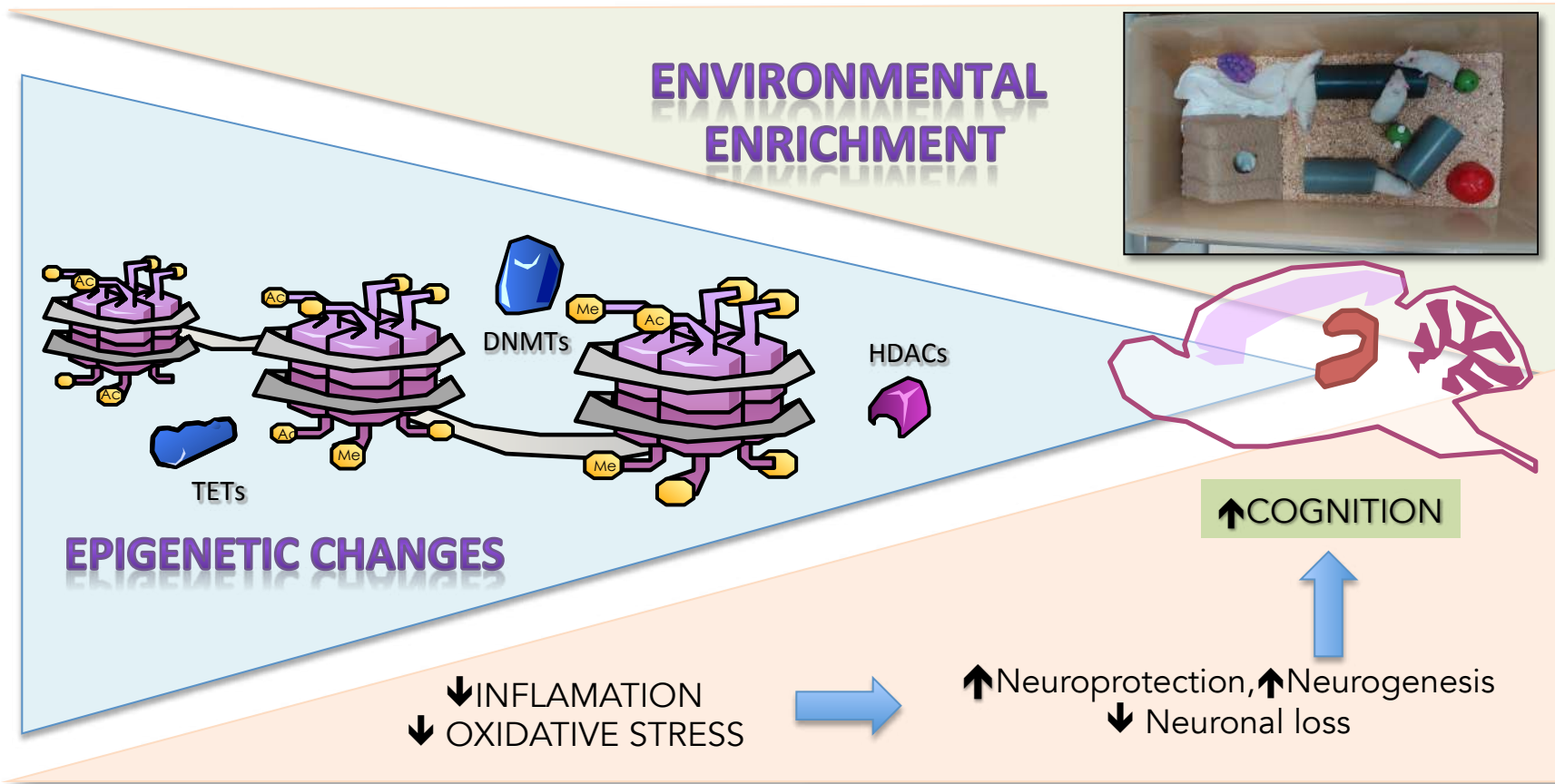
# Accelerated senescence and epigenetics

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## Environmental Enrichment Improves Cognitive Deficits, AD Hallmarks and Epigenetic Alterations Presented in 5xFAD Mouse Model

*Christian Griñán-Ferré<sup>1</sup>, Vanesa Izquierdo<sup>1</sup>, Eduard Otero<sup>1</sup>, Dolors Pulgoriol-Illamola<sup>1</sup>, Rubén Corpas<sup>2</sup>, Coral Sanfeliu<sup>2</sup>, Daniel Ortuño-Sahagún<sup>3</sup> and Mercè Pallàs<sup>1\*</sup>*





# The SAMP8 Mouse Model

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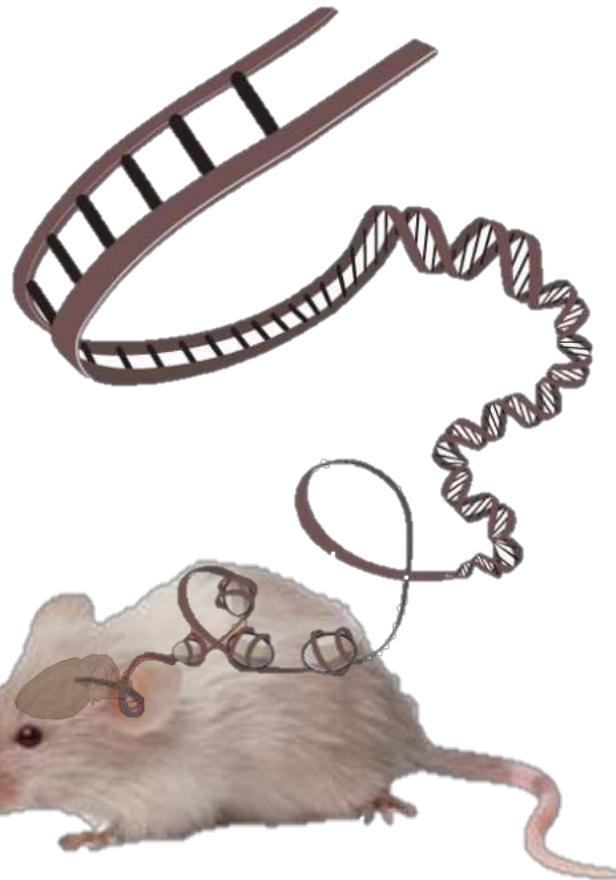
2019

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Epigenetics can explain in part the senescent phenotype that characterizes SAMP8



frontiers in  
**AGING NEUROSCIENCE**

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

published: 20 March 2014  
doi: 10.3389/fnagi.2014.00051



## Epigenetic alterations in hippocampus of SAMP8 senescent mice and modulation by voluntary physical exercise

Marta Cosín-Tomás<sup>1,2†</sup>, María J. Alvarez-López<sup>1,2†</sup>, Sandra Sanchez-Roige<sup>3</sup>, Jaume F. Llanza<sup>3</sup>, Sergi Bayod<sup>1</sup>, Coral Sanfeliu<sup>2</sup>, Mercè Pallàs<sup>1</sup>, Rosa M. Escorihuela<sup>3</sup> and Perla Kaliman<sup>2\*</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Department of Brain Ischemia and Neurodegeneration, Institut d'Investigacions Biomèdiques de Barcelona (IIBB)-Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), Barcelona, Spain

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in Aging Neuroscience

ORIGINAL RESEARCH  
published: 18 October 2019  
doi: 10.3389/fnagi.2019.00041



## Environmental Enrichment Modified Epigenetic Mechanisms in SAMP8 Mouse Hippocampus by Reducing Oxidative Stress and Inflammaging and Achieving Neuroprotection

Christian Griñan-Ferré<sup>1</sup>, Dolors Puigoriol-Illamola<sup>1</sup>, Verónica Palomera-Ávalos<sup>1</sup>, David Pérez-Cáceres<sup>2</sup>, Júlia Companys-Alemany<sup>1</sup>, Antonio Camins<sup>1</sup>, Daniel Ortuño-Sahagún<sup>3</sup>, M. Teresa Rodrigo<sup>2</sup> and Mercè Pallàs<sup>1\*</sup>

Journal of Alzheimer's Disease 62 (2018) 943–963  
DOI 10.3233/JAD-170664  
IOS Press

943

Review

## Understanding Epigenetics in the Neurodegeneration of Alzheimer's Disease: SAMP8 Mouse Model

Christian Griñan-Ferré<sup>a</sup>, Rubén Corpas<sup>b</sup>, Dolors Puigoriol-Illamola<sup>a</sup>, Verónica Palomera-Ávalos<sup>a</sup>, Coral Sanfeliu<sup>b</sup> and Mercè Pallàs<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Therapeutic Chemistry (Pharmacology Section) and Institute of Neuroscience, University of Barcelona and CIBERNED, Barcelona, Spain

<sup>b</sup> Institut d'Investigacions Biomèdiques de Barcelona (IIBB), CSIC, IDIBAPS and CIBERESP, Barcelona, Spain

Accepted 11 January 2018



# Epigenetic study in SAMP8

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frontiers  
in Genetics

ORIGINAL RESEARCH  
published: 11 December 2018  
doi: 10.3389/fgene.2018.00596



## Temporal Integrative Analysis of mRNA and microRNAs Expression Profiles and Epigenetic Alterations in Female SAMP8, a Model of Age-Related Cognitive Decline

OPEN ACCESS

Edited by:

Ruth Luthi-Carter,  
University of Leicester,

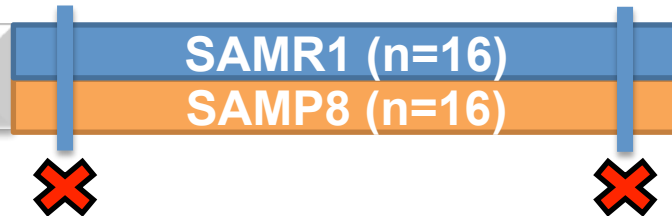
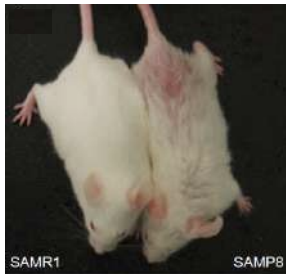
Marta Cosín-Tomás<sup>1,2</sup>, María Jesús Álvarez-López<sup>1</sup>, Júlia Companys-Alemany<sup>1</sup>,  
Perla Kallman<sup>1,3</sup>, Celia González-Castillo<sup>4</sup>, Daniel Ortuño-Sahagún<sup>5</sup>, Mercè Pallàs<sup>1\*</sup> and  
Christian Griñán-Ferré<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutic Chemistry, Institute of Neuroscience, University of Barcelona, Barcelona,

2-month-old

9-month-old

♀



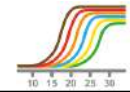
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Molecular analysis

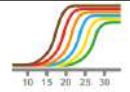
WB



qPCR  
mRNA



qPCR  
miRNA



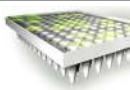
ELISA



Array  
mRNA



Array  
miRNA



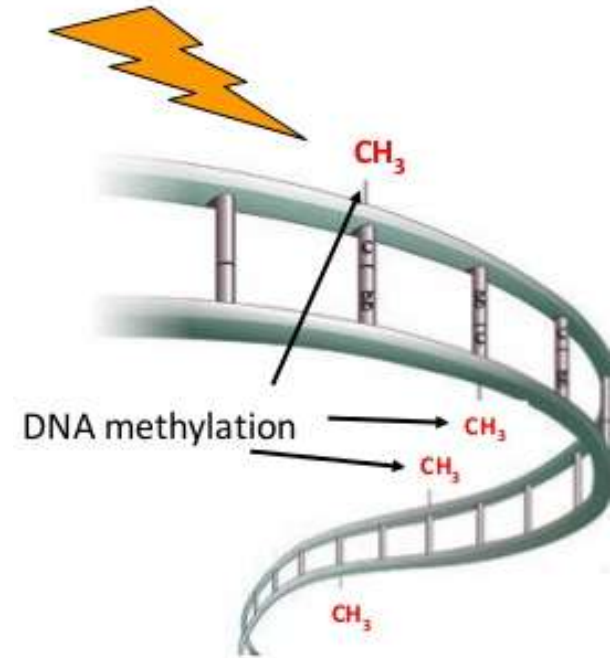
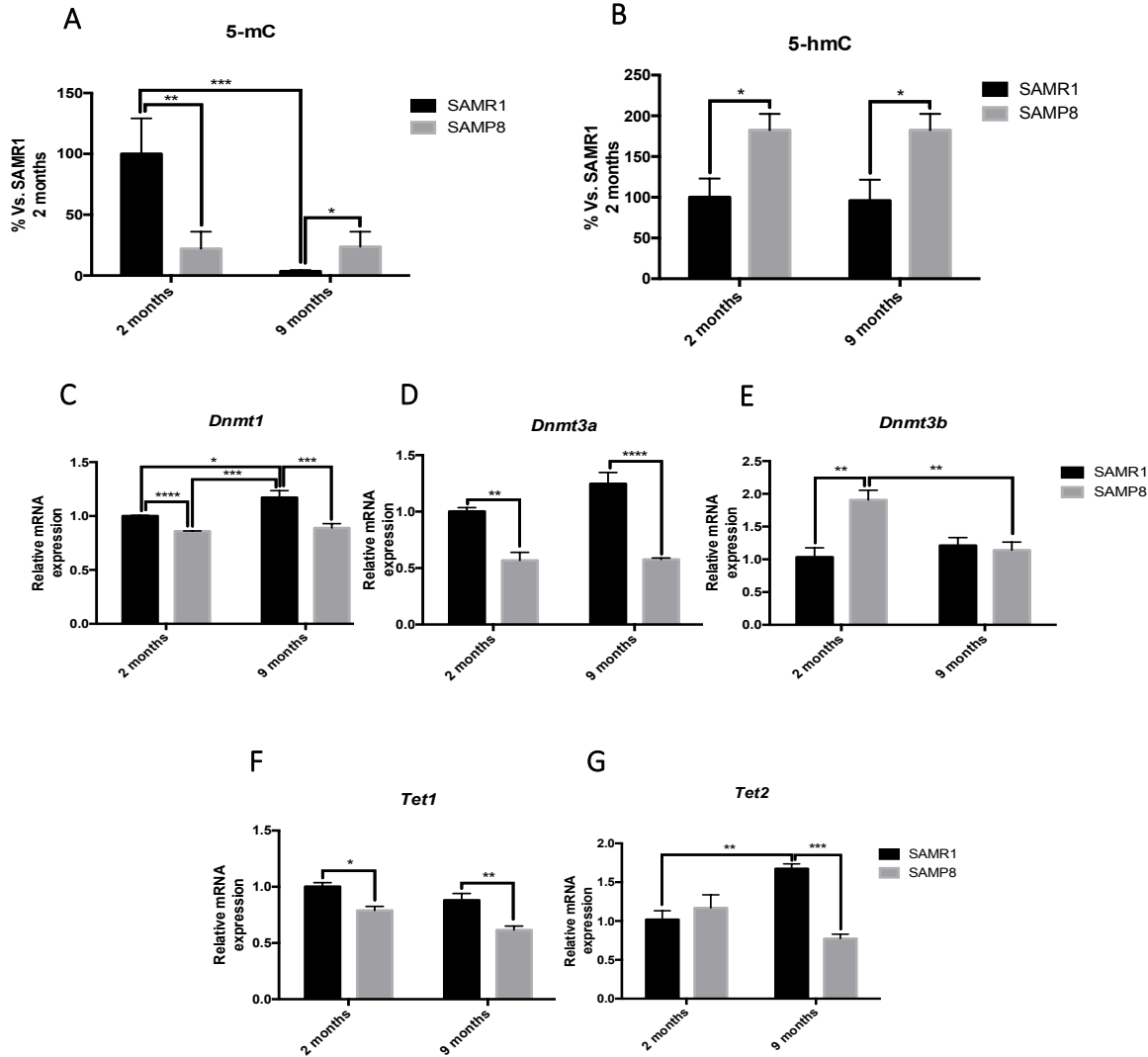
Bioinformatic  
analysis







# Epigenetic Landscape

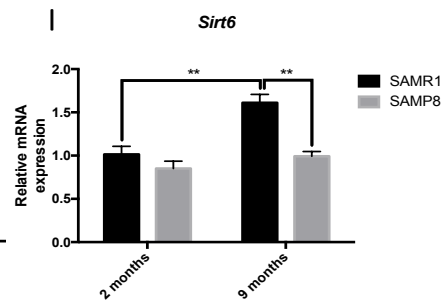
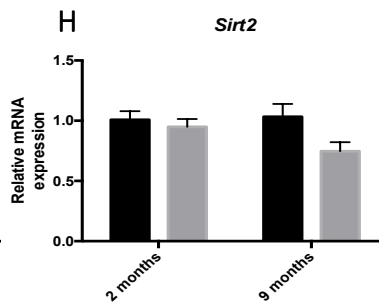
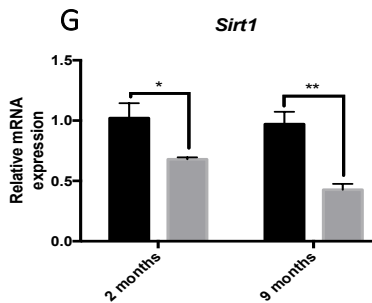
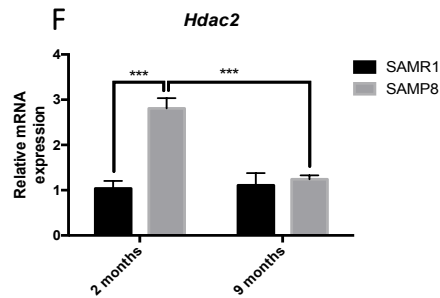
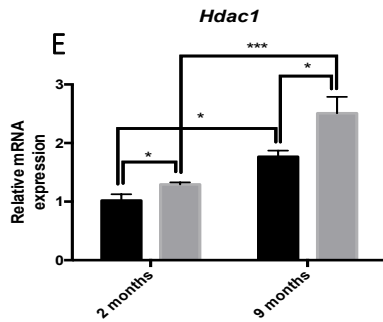
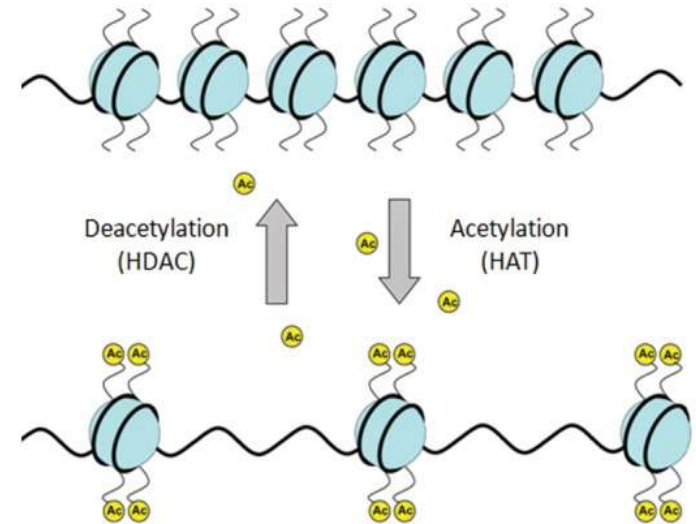
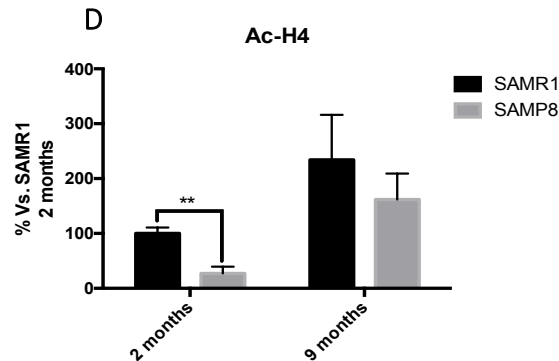
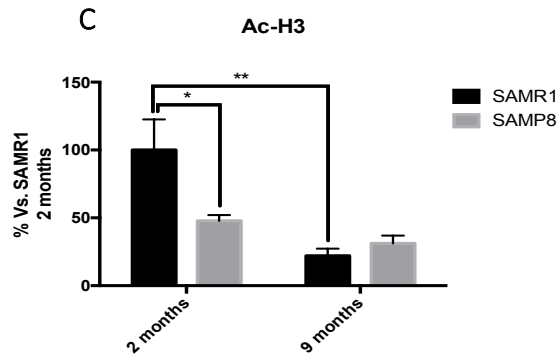
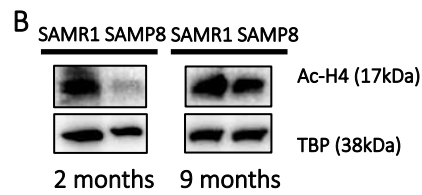
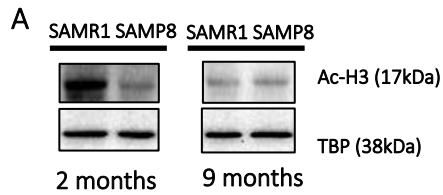


A reprint from: <http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v463/n7360/images/4631343a-01>





# Epigenetic Landscape





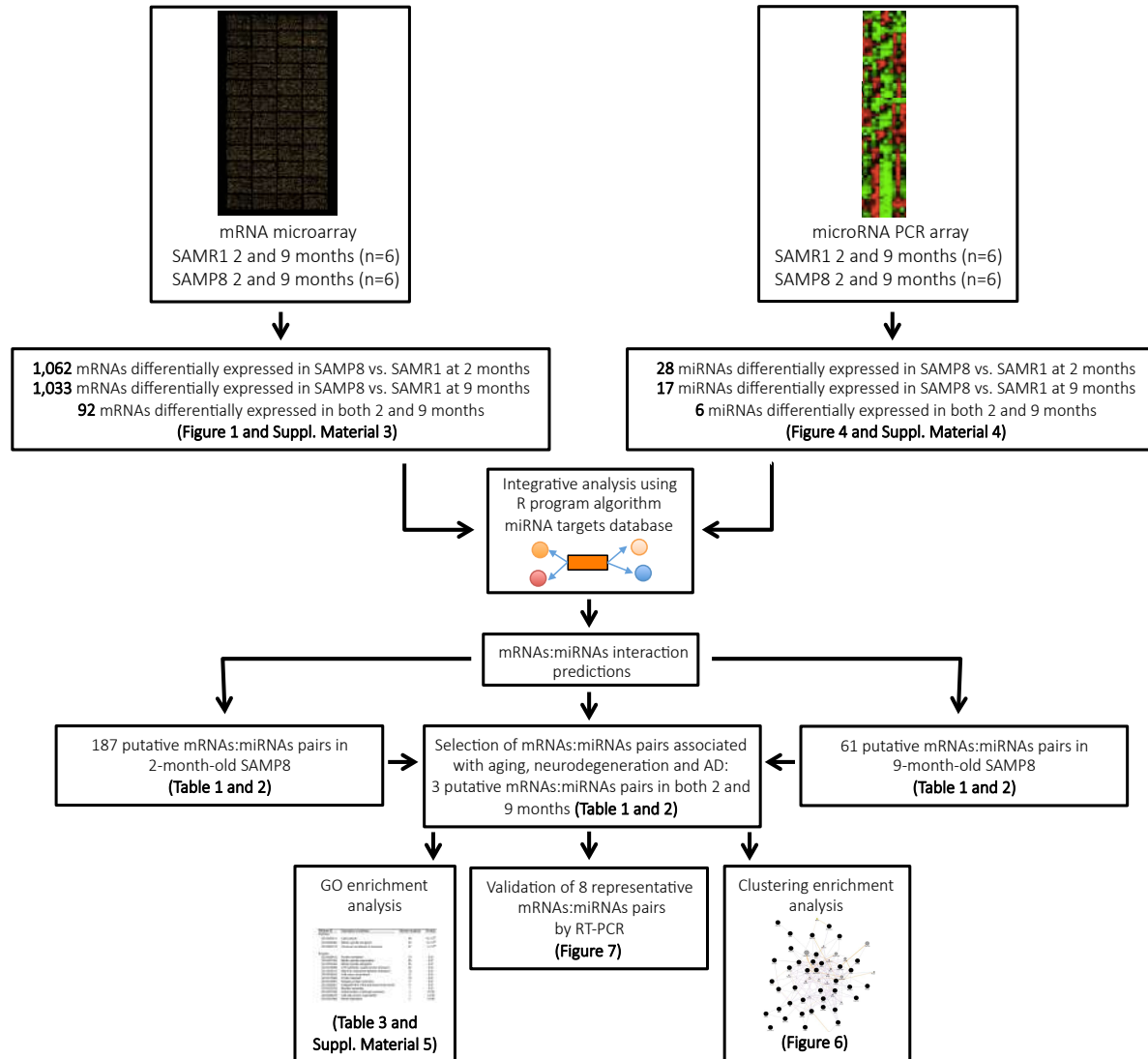
## Epigenetics in Alzheimers Disease

- Animal post-mortem studies show:

Pathology	Effect
Decreased global levels of 5'-mC in brain	Increased Tau phosphorylation
Decreased level of H3 acetylation in Temporal lobe	Decreased synaptic plasticity leading to decreased learning and memory

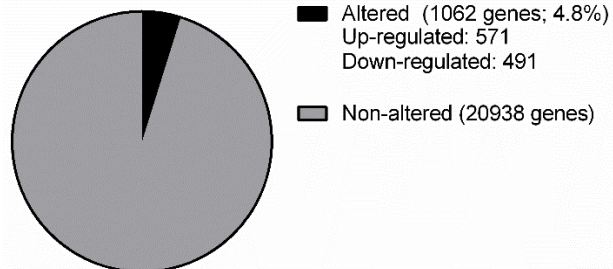


# mRNA:miRNA integrative analysis

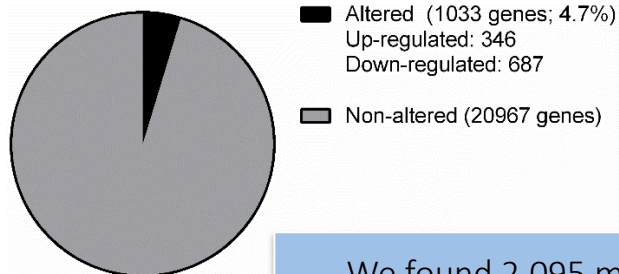




# mRNA and miRNA expression profile



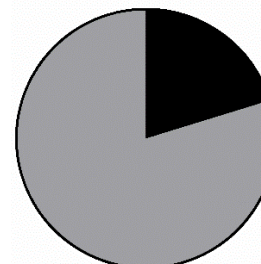
Genes altered in 2-month-old SAMP8



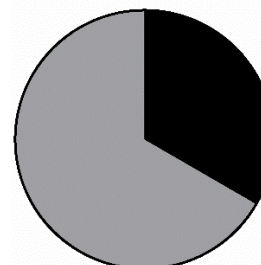
Genes altered in 9-month-old SAMP8

5%

We found 2,095 mRNA targets altered in SAMP8



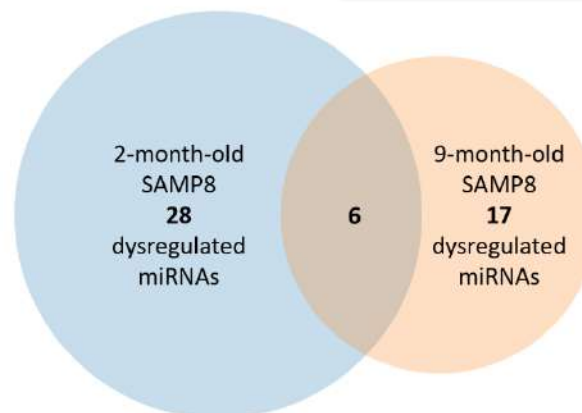
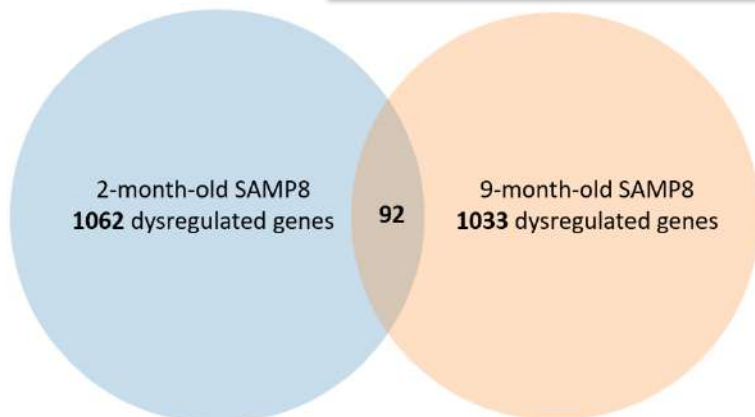
MiRNAs altered in 9-month-old SAMP8



MiRNAs altered in 2-month-old SAMP8

30%

We found 37 miRNAs altered in SAMP8

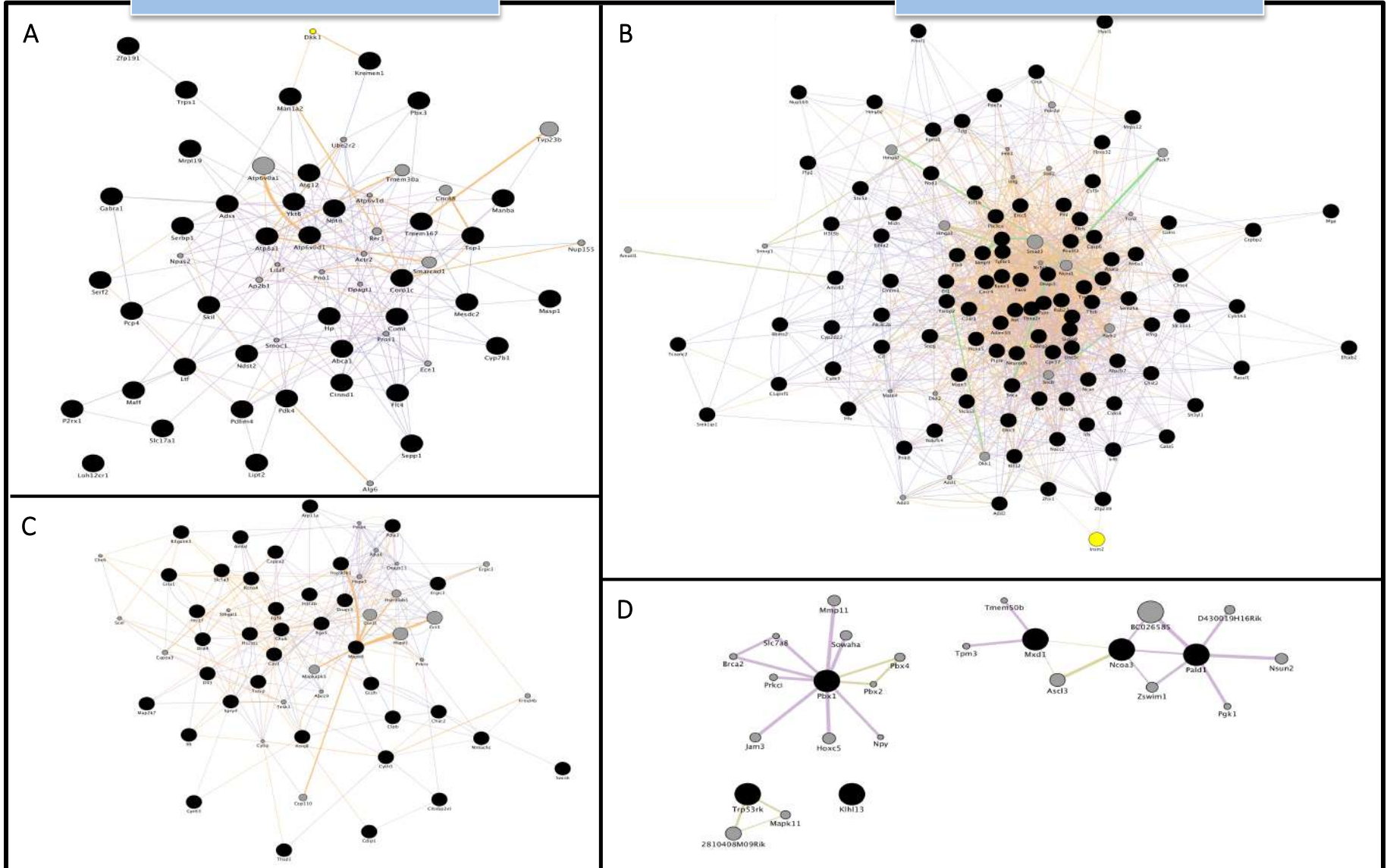




# Integrated mRNA:miRNA regulatory networks

We found 174 mRNA targets altered in SAMP8

We found 37 miRNAs altered in SAMP8







# Integrated mRNA:miRNA regulatory networks

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		MicroRNAS	Target mRNAs	Top 10 GO Biological process	p-value	Z-score	Combined score	
2-month-old SAMP8	miRNAs up:mRNAs down	<i>mmu-miR-298-5p</i>	<i>Adss, Ctnd1, Comt1, Cyp7b1,</i>	Regulation of membrane lipid distribution (GO: 0097035)	0.002603	-2.53	4.08	
		<i>mmu-miR-151-3p</i>	<i>Flt4, Ltf, Masp1, P2rx1, Pcp4,</i>	Cellular response to extracellular stimulus (GO: 0031668)	0.002990	-2.26	3.66	
		<i>mmu-miR148b-3p</i>	<i>Nptn, Sepp1, Slc17a1, Atp8a1,</i>	Regulation of extrinsic apoptotic signaling pathway via death domain receptors (GO: 1902041)	0.005549	-2.37	3.33	
		<i>mmu-let-7b-5p</i>	<i>Gabra1, Maff, Man1a2, Ndst2,</i>	Wnt signaling pathway (GO: 0016055)	0.01844	-2.26	3.17	
		<i>mmu-let-7e-5p</i>	<i>Serf2, Skil, Coro1c, Abca1,</i>	Brain development (GO: 0007420)	0.01021	-2.25	3.16	
			<i>Atp6v0d1, Tcp, Pdk4, Pbx3,</i>	Neuron-neuron synaptic transmission (GO: 0007270)	0.008912	-2.05	2.88	
			<i>Hp, Pdlim4, Ykt6, Kox17,</i>	Insulin receptor signaling pathway (GO: 0008286)	0.04929	-1.97	2.77	
		<i>Mesdc2, Tmem167, Serbp1,</i>	Cellular ion homeostasis (GO: 0006873)	0.07075	-1.96	2.76		
		<i>Lipt2, Atg12, Loh12cr1,</i>	Positive regulation of neuron projection development (GO: 0010976)	0.04696	-1.89	2.65		
		<i>Mrpl19, Manba, Trps1,</i>	Locomotor behavior (GO: 0007626)	0.07133	-1.83	2.57		
		miRNAs down:mRNAs up	<i>mmu-miR-92a-3p</i>	<i>Adam10, Bsn, Crcp, Csf3r,</i>	Embryonic morphogenesis (GO: 0048598)	0.0007922	-2.40	6.34
	<i>mmu-miR-24-3p</i>		<i>Ncan, Cyb561, Elk4, Gabrg2,</i>	Brain development (GO: 0007420)	0.05911	-2.13	4.16	
	<i>mmu-miR-27a-3p</i>		<i>Gata5, Gif, Slc6a9, H3f3b, Hlx,</i>	Synapse organization (GO: 0050808)	0.005018	-2.06	4.07	
	<i>mmu-miR-30e-5p</i>		<i>Hmg20b, Hyal1, Kif5b, Kpna1,</i>	Neuron migration (GO: 0001764)	0.00583	-2.05	4.01	
	<i>mmu-miR-107-3p</i>		<i>Zfp239, Nsd1, Pde7a, Pik3ca,</i>	Neuron development (GO: 0048666)	0.006725	-2.06	3.97	
	<i>mmu-miR-26b-5p</i>		<i>Pml, Pou3f2, Rab23, Ret,</i>	Behavior (GO: 0007610)	0.01035	-2.18	3.60	
<i>mmu-miR-7a-5p</i>	<i>Rfng, Sema5a, Snca, Tarpb2,</i>		Regulation of synaptic transmission (GO: 0050804)	0.01713	-2.04	3.16		
<i>mmu-miR-181a-5p</i>	<i>Tbx2r, Tgfb1, Thrb, Unc5c,</i>		Response to oxygen levels (GO: 0070482)	0.02114	-2.09	3.11		
<i>mmu-miR-181d-5p</i>	<i>Nrsn1, Zhx1, Neurod6,</i>		Cellular senescence (GO: 0090398)	0.01385	-1.90	2.98		
<i>mmu-miR-132-3p</i>	<i>Atp2b2, C3ar1, Casp6, Runx1,</i>		Inflammatory response (GO: 0006954)	0.02707	-1.91	2.65		
		<i>Cxcr4, En1, Esr2, Nr6a1,</i>						
		<i>Gpr37, Hoxa5, Ids, Klf12,</i>						
		<i>Matn3, Ndufs4, Pik3c2a,</i>						
		<i>Ppara, Cyth3, Ptpre, Sncg,</i>						
		<i>Tfeb, Tdg, Ercc5, Mrps12,</i>						
		<i>Chst4, Add2, Crem, Eif4a2,</i>						
		<i>Mmp9, Pam, Pax6, Sh3yl1,</i>						
		<i>Mga, Rasal1, Slc33a1, Dkk3,</i>						
		<i>Galns, Dnajc5, Irf6, Slc5a3,</i>						
		<i>Chst2, Cldn8, Grpbp2, Rbms2,</i>						
		<i>Plp2, Amotl2, Cyp2d22, Stx5a,</i>						
		<i>C1qtnf1, Pnkd, Insm2, Srf,</i>						
		<i>Nup160, Rhot1, Midn, Tsc1,</i>						
		<i>Cmtm3, Tceanc2, Srek1ip1,</i>						
		<i>Fbxo32, Nacc2, Efcab2.</i>						



# Integrated mRNA:miRNA regulatory networks

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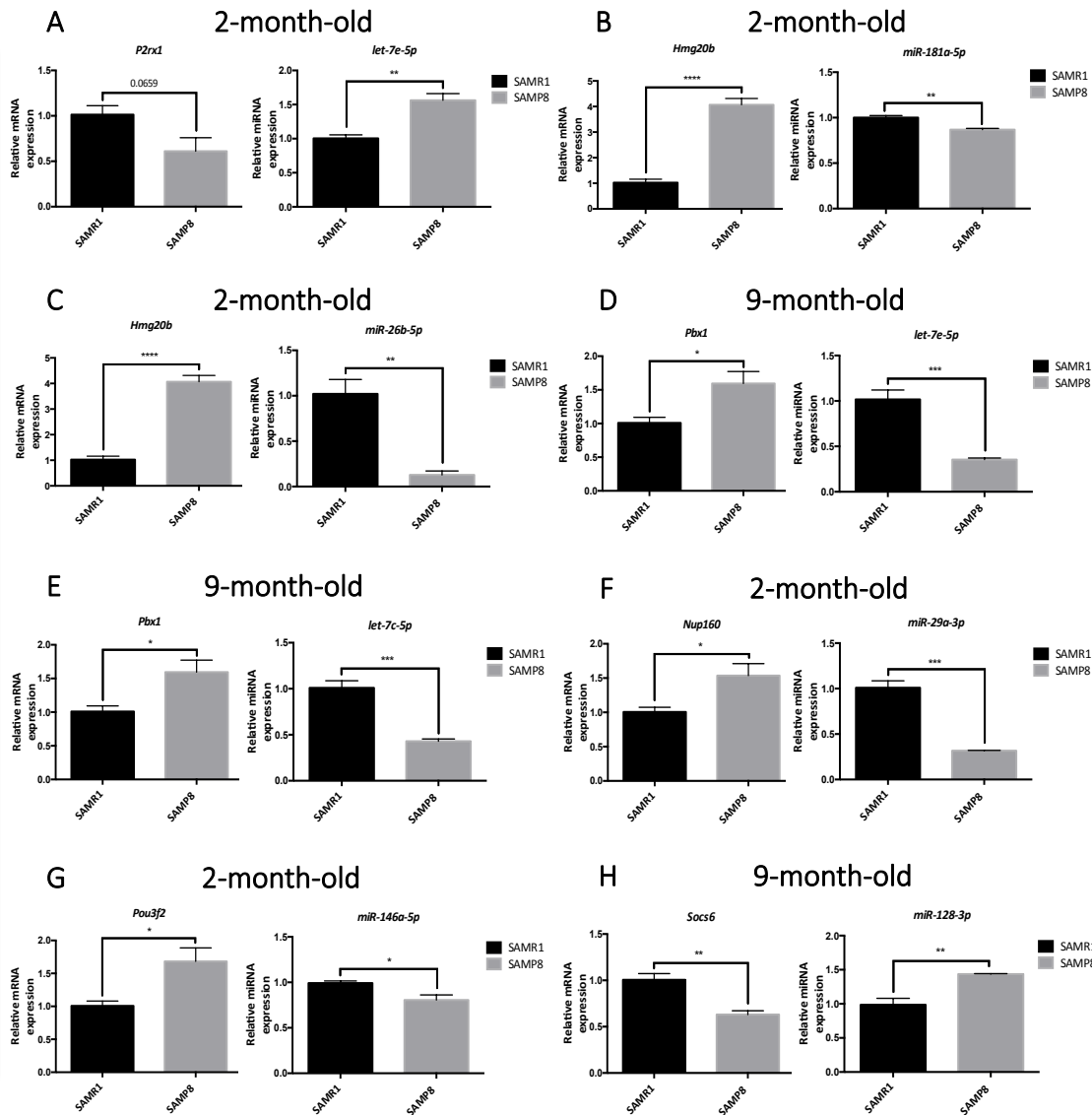
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		MicroRNAS	Target mRNAs	Top 10 GO Biological process	p-value	Z-score	Combined score
9-month-old SAMP8	miRNAs up:mRNAs down	<i>mmu-miR-128-3p</i>	<i>Capza2, Cav1, Chuk, Dll3,</i>	Memory (GO: 0007613)	0.001378	-2.23	4.11
		<i>mmu-miR-140-5p</i>	<i>Drd4, Pdia3, Gcdh, Gria1,</i>	Response to tumor necrosis factor (GO: 0034612)	0.002467	-2.31	3.96
		<i>mmu-miR-148b-3p</i>	<i>H3f3b, Htr1f, Kcnj8, Dnajc3,</i>	Synaptic transmission (GO: 0007268)	0.003559	-2.32	3.88
		<i>mmu-miR-342-3p</i>	<i>Clpb, Itga5, Itk, Cyth3,</i>	Activation of innate immune response (GO: 0002218)	0.005741	-2.21	3.70
		<i>mmu-miR-98-5p</i>	<i>Hsp90b1, Hs2st1, Spry4,</i>	Learning or memory (GO:0007611)	0.01189	-2.20	3.63
		<i>mmu-miR-107-3p</i>	<i>Map2k7, Fgf9, Atp11a, Mapk6,</i>	Cognition (GO: 0050890)	0.01703	-2.16	3.57
			<i>Slc5a3, Socs6, Thsd1,</i>	Positive regulation of canonical Wnt signaling pathway (GO: 0090263)	0.009200	-2.11	3.49
			<i>B3galtn1, Kcna4, Txnip,</i>	Cellular response to unfolded protein (GO: 0034620)	0.01849	-2.01	3.32
			<i>Vps50, Arl4d, Cdip1, Mmachc,</i>	Neuron-neuron synaptic transmission (GO: 0007270)	0.008912	-2.01	3.32
			<i>Ergic1, Chac2, Ctnnbp2nl,</i>	Response to carbohydrate (GO: 0009743)	0.04411	-1.89	3.11
		<i>Gpr63.</i>					
9-month-old SAMP8	miRNAs down:mRNAs up	<i>mmu-let-7b-5p</i>	<i>Ncoa3, Pbx1, Mxd1, Pald1,</i>	Positive regulation of cell cycle G2/M phase transition (GO:1902751)	0.004199	-2.74	9.30
		<i>mmu-let-7c-5p</i>	<i>Trp53rk, Kihl13.</i>	Positive regulation of G2/M transition of mitotic cell cycle (GO:0010971)	0.004199	-2.74	9.29
		<i>mmu-let-7d-5p</i>		Positive regulation of mitotic cell cycle (GO:0045931)	0.02884	-2.15	6.24
		<i>mmu-let-7e-5p</i>		Intracellular steroid hormone receptor signaling pathway (GO:0030518)	0.02059	-2.07	6.09
				Negative regulation of sequence-specific DNA binding Transcription factor activity (GO:0043433)	0.03514	-2.10	5.95
				Histone acetylation (GO:0016573)	0.02829	-2.05	5.93
				Developmental growth (GO:0048589)	0.04520	-2.16	5.83
				Negative regulation of neuron differentiation (GO:0045665)	0.04085	-2.15	5.83
				Positive regulation of cell cycle process (GO:0090068)	0.06054	-2.29	5.74
		Negative regulation of neurogenesis (GO:0050768)	0.05032	-2.14	5.56		



# Validation of mRNA:miRNA pairs

The selected mRNA:miRNA pairs are involved in brain aging and neurodegeneration.



miRNAs upregulated/mRNAs blocked

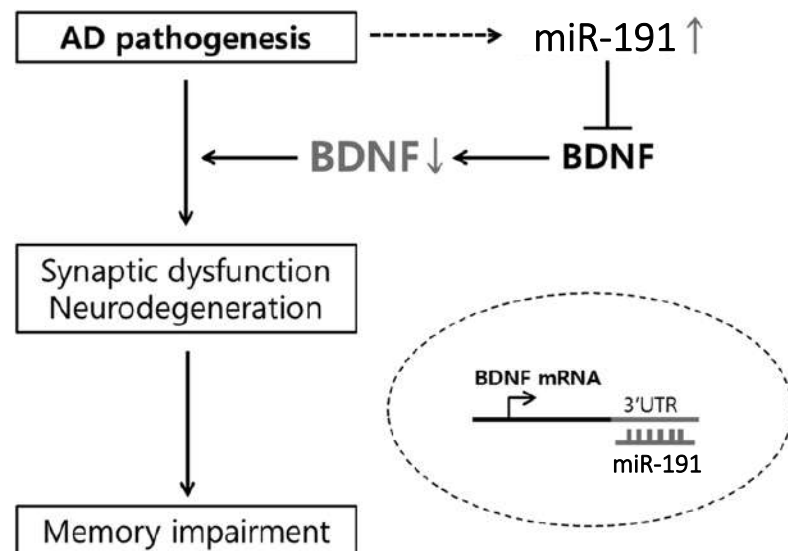
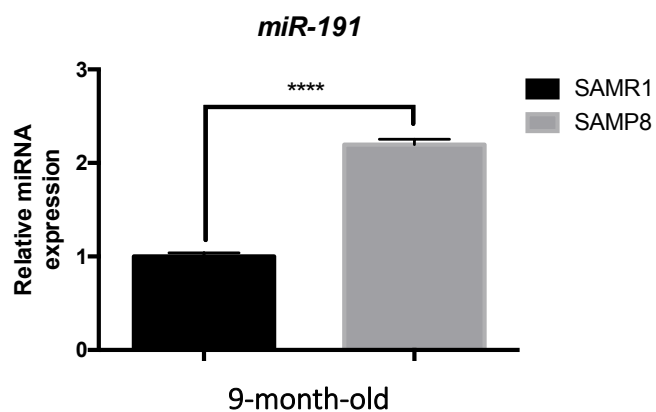
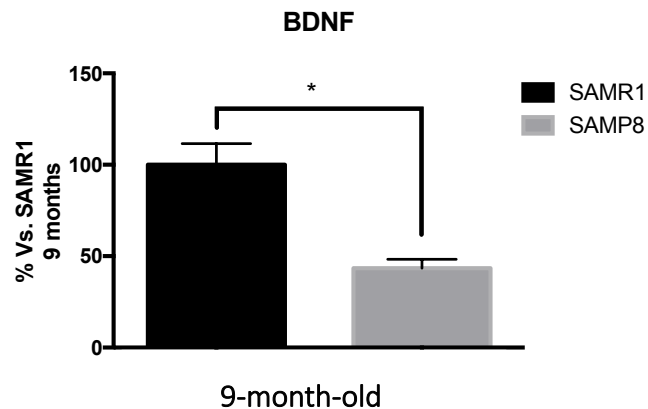
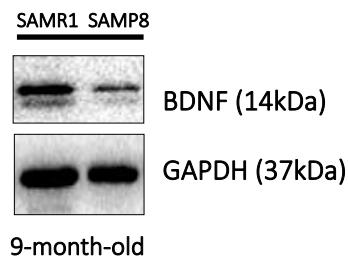
miRNAs downregulated/mRNAs enhanced

Abnormal pathways

- Purinergic signaling  
*P2rx1*
- Inflammatory process  
*Socs6*
- Neuron differentiation  
*Pou3f2*, *Hmg20b*
- Neurogenesis  
*Pbx1*
- Protein trafficking  
*Nup160*

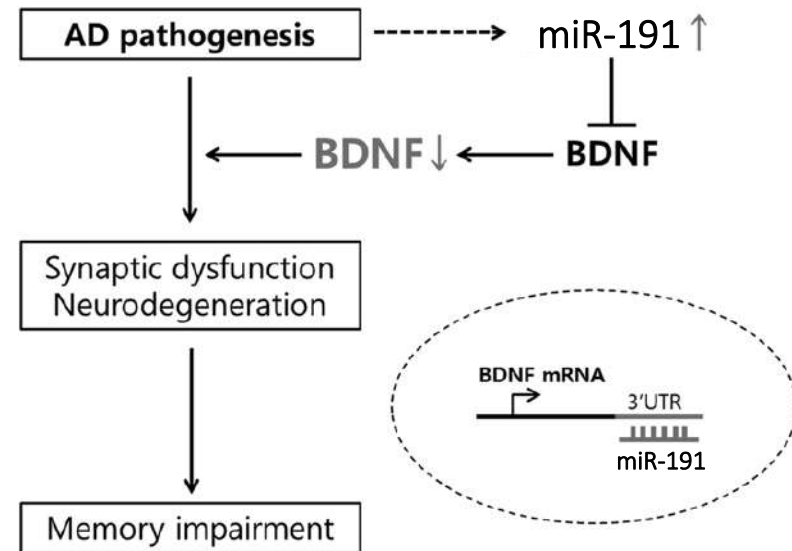
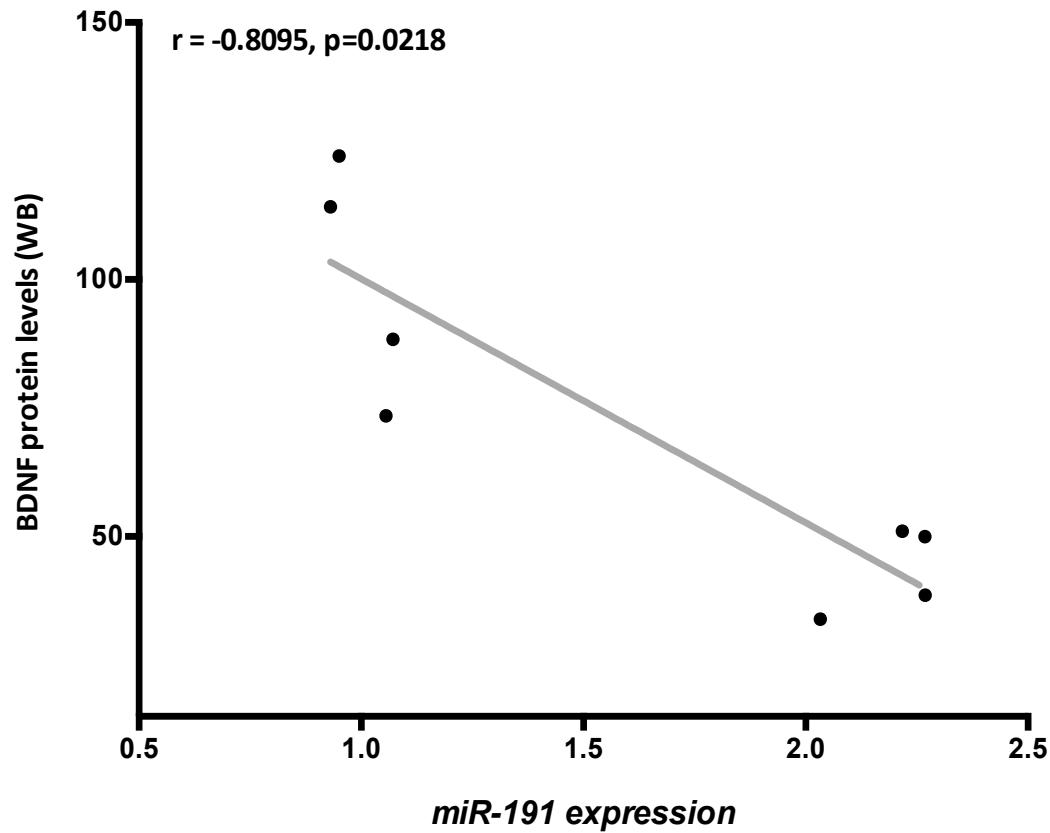


# Validation of mRNA:miRNA pairs





# Validation of mRNA:miRNA pairs







www.impactaging.com

AGING, April 2016, Vol 8 No 4

Research Paper

## Epigenetic mechanisms underlying cognitive impairment and Alzheimer disease hallmarks in 5XFAD mice

Christian Griñán-Ferré<sup>1</sup>, Sara Sarroca<sup>3</sup>, Aleksandra Ivanova<sup>1</sup>, Dolors Puigoriol-Illamola<sup>1</sup>, Fernando Aguado<sup>2</sup>, Antoni Camins<sup>1</sup>, Coral Sanfeliu<sup>3</sup>, and Mercè Pallàs<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Pharmacology and Therapeutic Chemistry (Pharmacology Section) and Institute of Neuroscience, University of Barcelona, 08028 Barcelona, Spain

<sup>2</sup>Department of Cellular Biology, University of Barcelona, 08028 Barcelona, Spain

<sup>3</sup>Institut d'Investigacions Biomèdiques de Barcelona (IIBB), CSIC, and IDIBAPS, 08036 Barcelona, Spain

**Key words:** Alzheimer disease, neurodegeneration, behavior, cognition, deacetylase, methyltransferase

**Received:** 12/16/15; **Accepted:** 01/23/16; **Published:** 03/21/16

**Correspondence to:** Mercè Pallàs, PhD; **E-mail:** [pallas@ub.edu](mailto:pallas@ub.edu)

## Tg6799 (5xFAD) mice





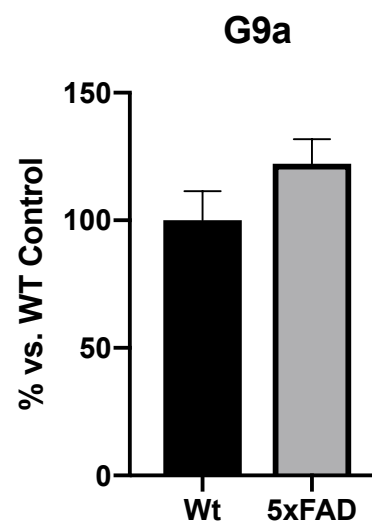
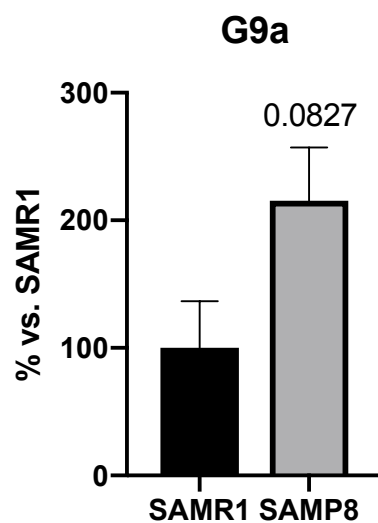
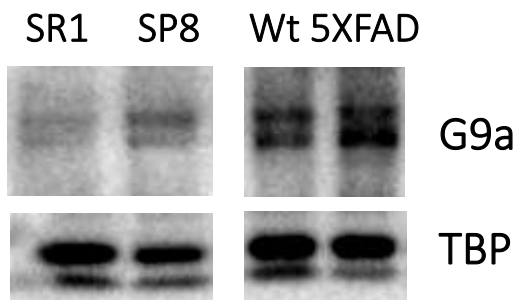
# New Challenges: G9a inhibition for AD

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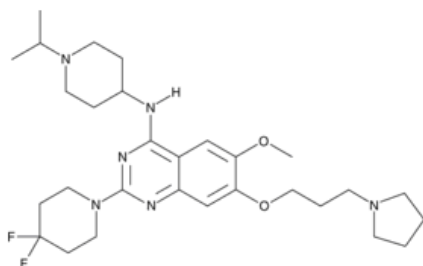
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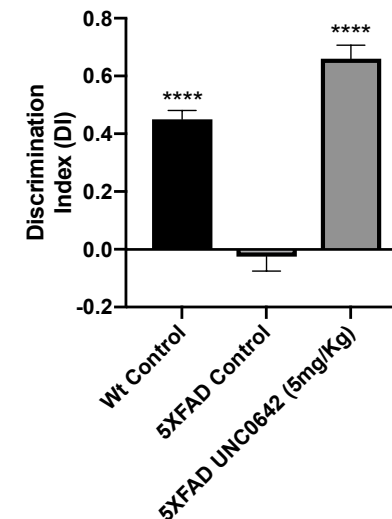


## Proof-of-Concept (PoC)

UNC0642 an *in vivo*  
BBB penetrant  
G9a inhibitor  
 $IC_{50} < 2.5$  nM



### Summary NORT short-term memory

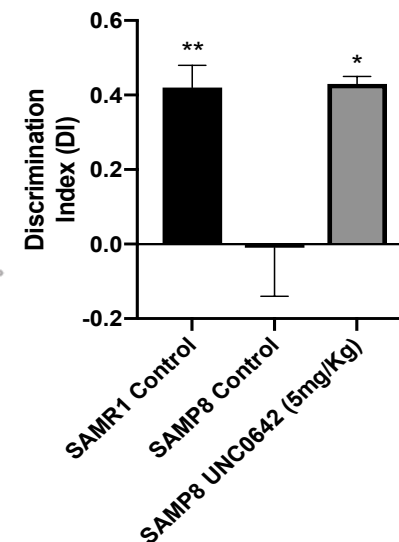


## Inhibition of EHMT1/2 rescues synaptic and cognitive functions for Alzheimer's disease

Yan Zheng,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Aiyi Liu,<sup>1,3,\*</sup> Zi-Jun Wang,<sup>1,4,\*</sup> Qing Cao,<sup>1</sup> Wei Wang,<sup>1</sup> Lin Lin,<sup>1</sup> Kaijie Ma,<sup>1,4</sup> Freddy Zhang,<sup>1</sup> Jing Wei,<sup>1,4</sup> Emmanuel Matas,<sup>1</sup> Jia Cheng,<sup>1</sup> Guo-Jun Chen,<sup>3</sup> Xiaomin Wang,<sup>2</sup> and Zhen Yan<sup>1,4</sup>



### Summary NORT short-term memory





# Conclusions

1. SAMP8 and 5XFAD are a suitable model to study ageing processes, including AD.
2. EE, as a tool to unveil epigenetic influence in senescence process, supported the hypothesis of epigenetic control in ageing in SAMP8.
3. Our data indicate the reciprocal interaction between non-genetic factors and epigenetic mechanisms that can explain the senescence process in the SAMP8.
4. miRNA have a pivotal role in gene regulation in SAMP8.
5. The different pathological process that suffer SAMP8 and 5XFAD, will allow to use them an *in vivo* model for drug discovery in neurosciences, by using a broad number of different targets related with inflammation, oxidative stress, AD hallmarks and epigenetic mechanisms.



**Our *lifestyle choices* affect our  
risk of developing dementia**



# Chemistry and Pharmacology of drugs against neurodegenerative diseases (CHEMPHARNEURO)

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