

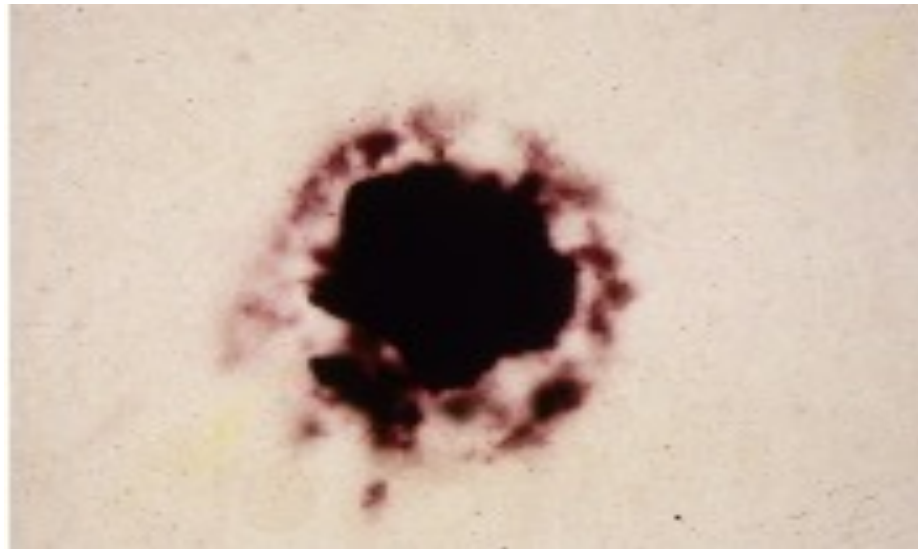


Truncated Amyloid beta as triggers of Alzheimer's disease pathology: Recent advances on their production mechanisms and toxicology

**Frédéric Checler**  
**USP**  
**9 novembre 2023**



# Canonical macroscopic lesions in Alzheimer disease: The senile plaque



# A few words about genetics.....



Monogenic forms of AD are due to mutations on three genes

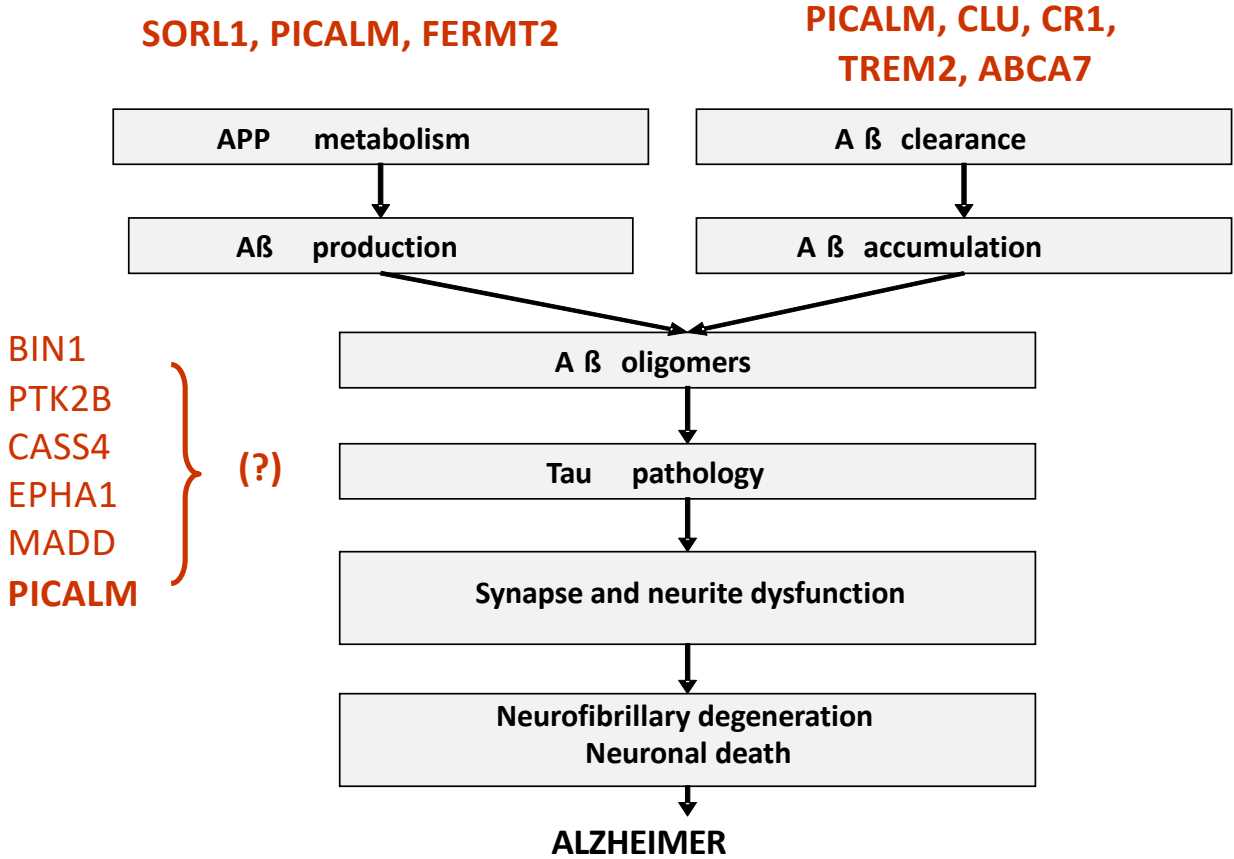
Presenilin 1 (chromosome 1)

Presenilin 2 (chromosome 2)

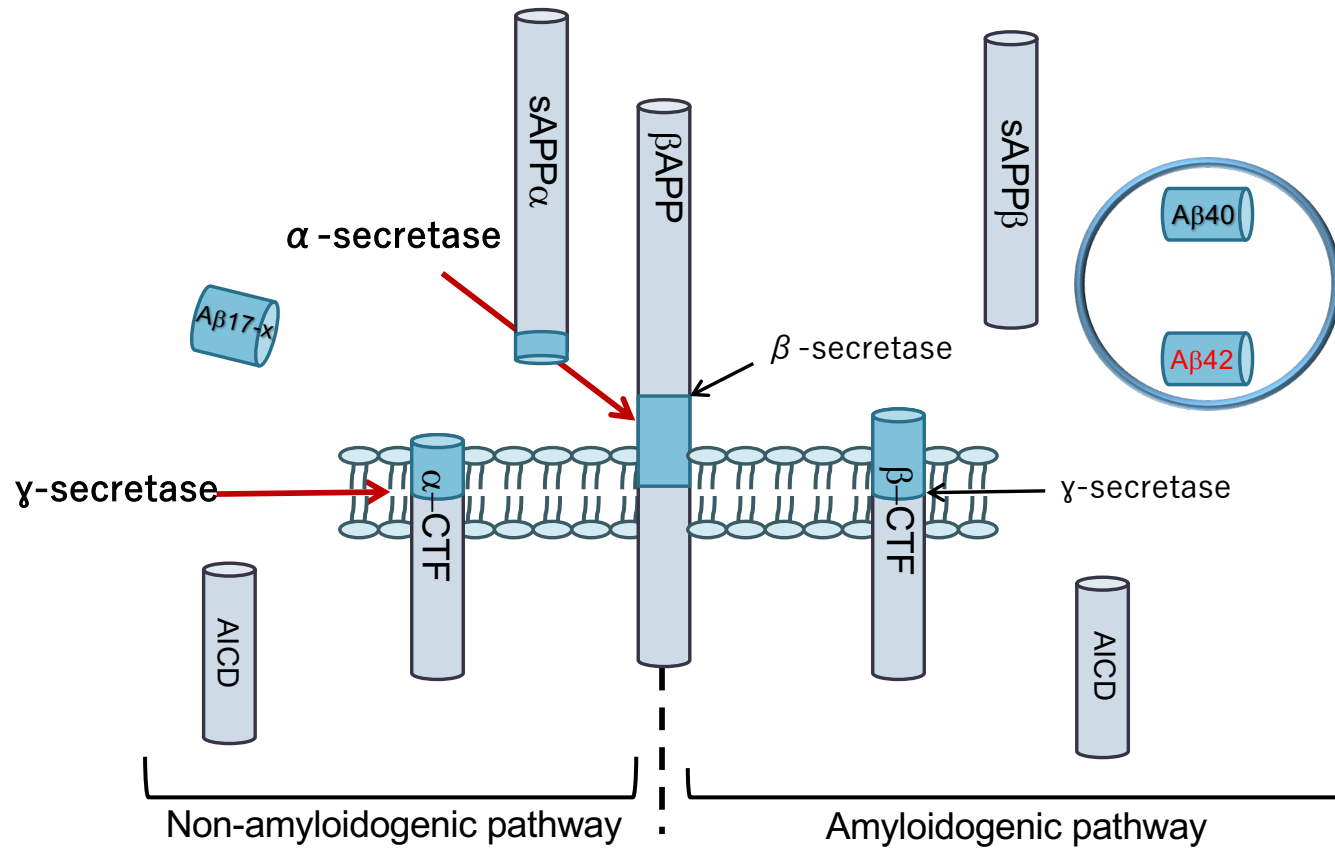
$\beta$ APP (chromosome 21)

All familial mutations with mendelian autosomal inheritance affect APP biology or that of enzymes involved in its catabolism

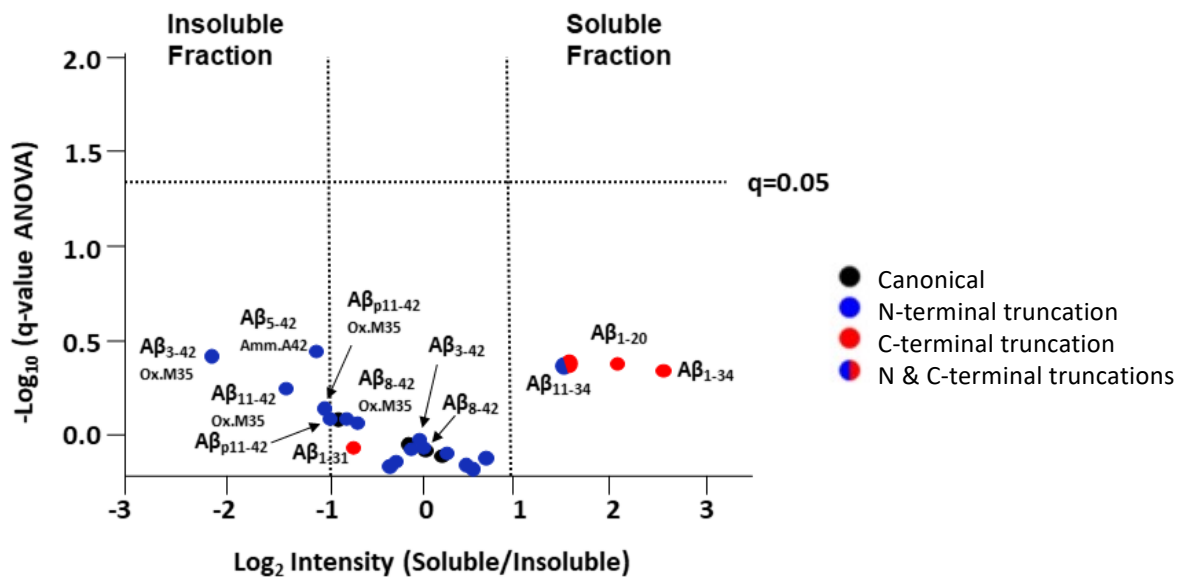
# GWAS identified risk factors that also participate at various levels to the amyloid cascade



# Proteolytic maturation of $\beta$ APP



# N-truncated A $\beta$ species in human brains



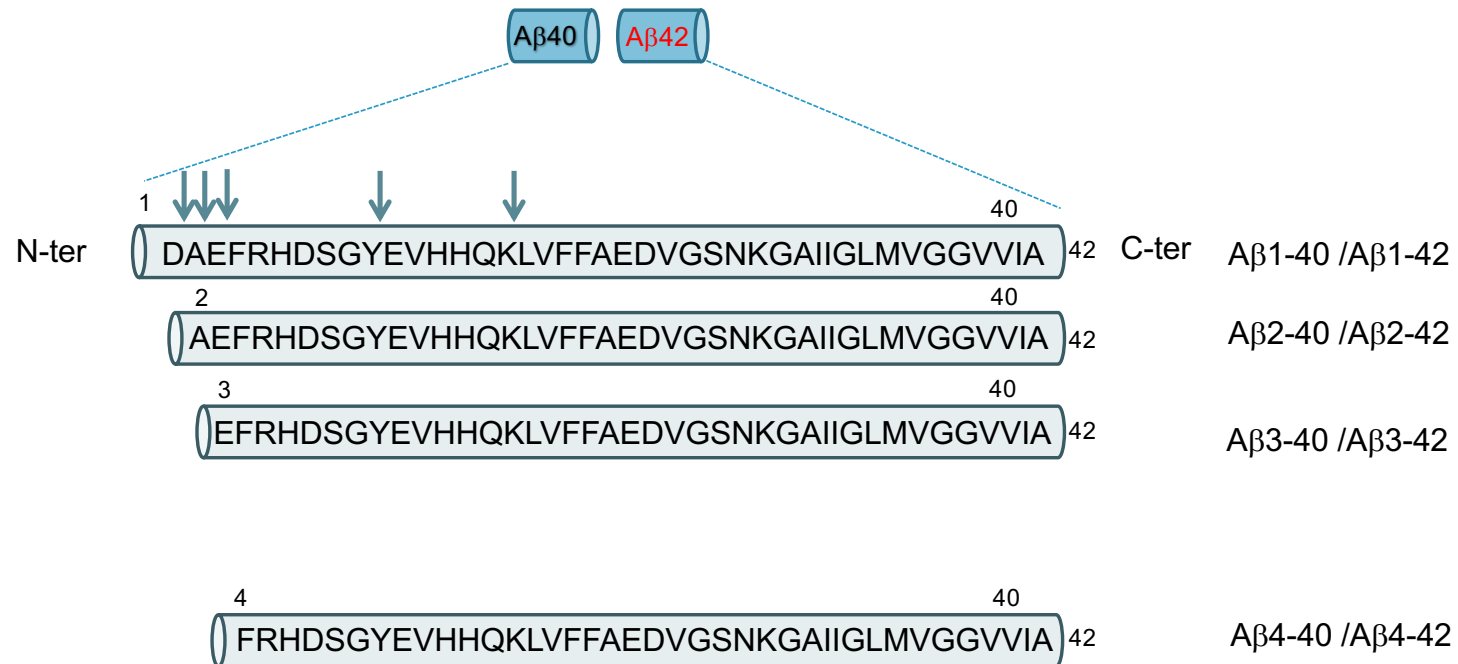
A $\beta$ -peptides	Brain	CSF	Plasma
<b>Non-truncated forms</b>			
1-42, 1-40	+	+	+
1-43	+		
<b>C-terminal truncations</b>			
1-39, 1-38, 1-37, 1-34, 1-20	+	+	+
1-33, 1-19, 1-18, 1-17, 1-15, 1-14		+	+
1-35			+
1-30, 1-28, 1-16, 1-13		+	
1-31	+		
<b>N-terminal truncations</b>			
3-40	+	+	+
11-40		+	+
6-40			+
5-40	+		+
2-42, 3-42, 4-42, 5-42, 7-42, 8-42, 9-42, 10-42, 11-42, 4-40, 8-40, 9-40	+		+
<b>N,C-truncations</b>			
6-39, 6-38			+
3-19, 3-17, 3-15, 11-30		+	
2-38, 11-34	+		
<b>PTMs</b>			
1-40ox	+	+	+
1-39ox, 1-38ox, 1-37ox, 1-17-HHnSa <sub>2</sub> , 1-15-HHnSa <sub>2</sub> , 1-15-HHnSa <sub>3</sub>		+	
1-42ox, pGlu3-42, 3-42ox, pGlu3-42ox, 4-42ox, 5-42ox, 8-42ox, pGlu11-42, pGlu11-42ox, pGlu3-40	+		

Modifications: ox – oxidated M35; pGlu – N-terminal pyroglutamate; HHnSa – O-glycans, H = Hex, Hn = HexNAc, Sa = sialic acid (Neu5Ac).

Wildburger et al, Scientific reports 2017

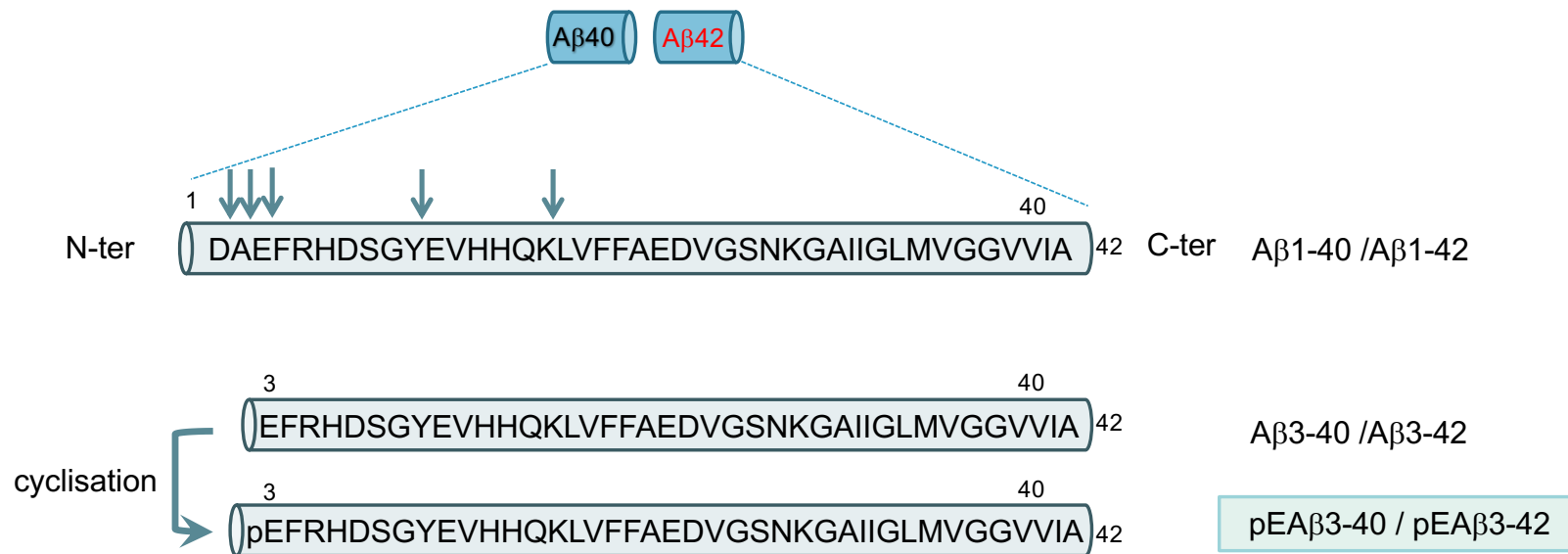
Zakharova et al, Expert review of proteomics, 2018

## Secondary cleavages



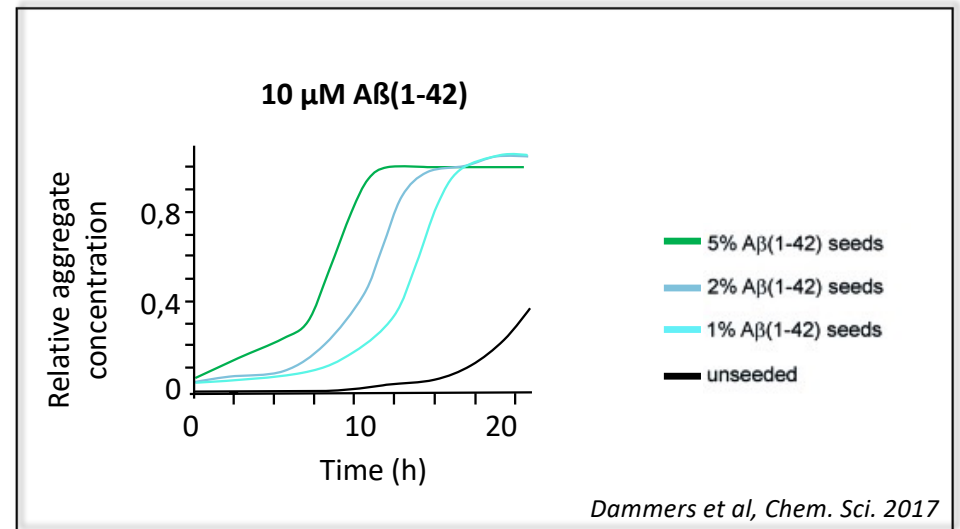


## Secondary cleavages

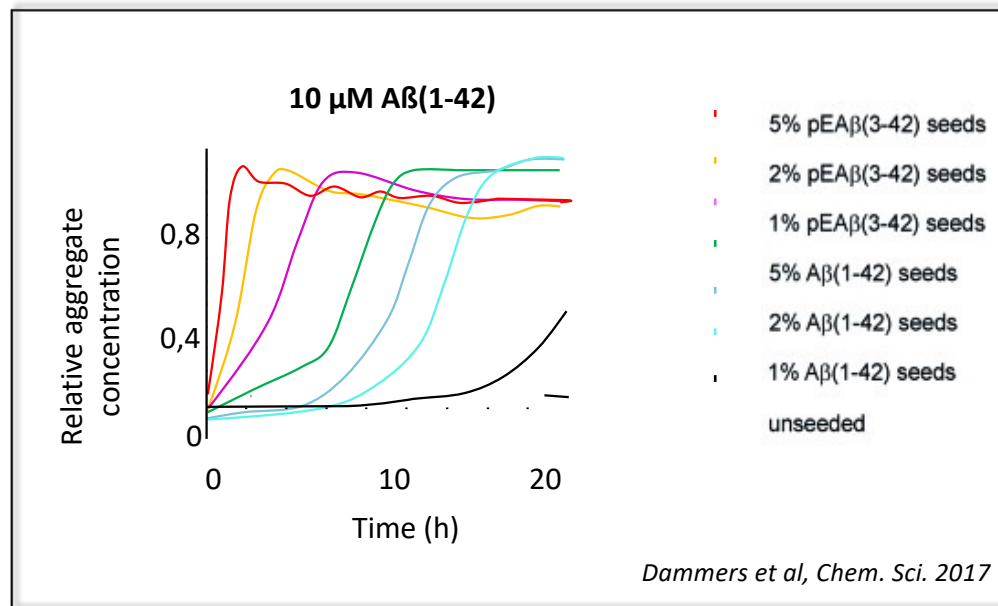


## N-truncated A $\beta$ : pE3- A $\beta$

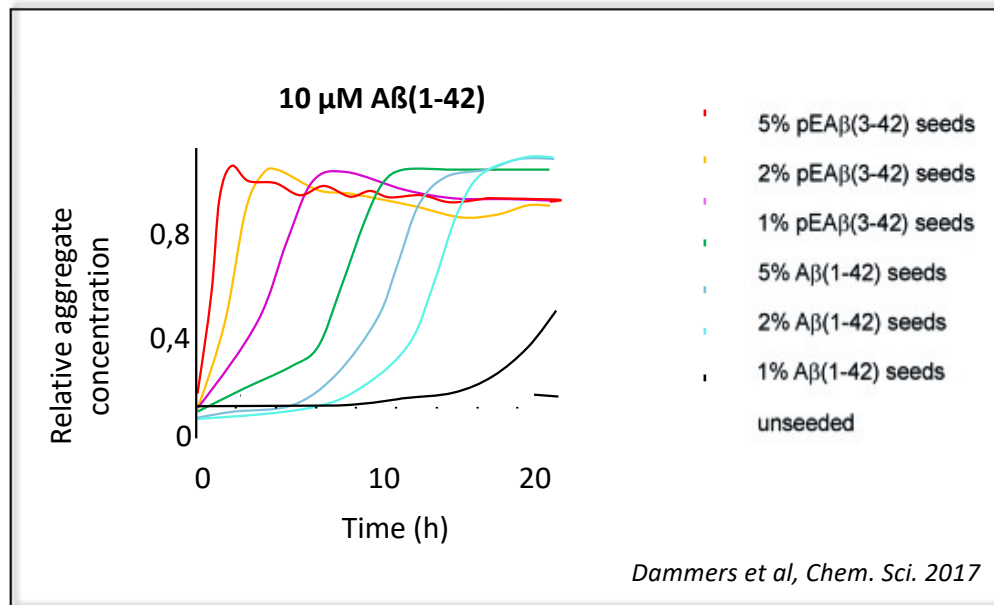
- ✓ Accumulation of pE3-A $\beta$  in AD but not in normal aging
- ✓ pE3-A $\beta$  42 is neurotoxic
- ✓ pE3-A $\beta$  42 increases the propensity of A $\beta$  to aggregate



## N-truncated A $\beta$ : pE3- A $\beta$

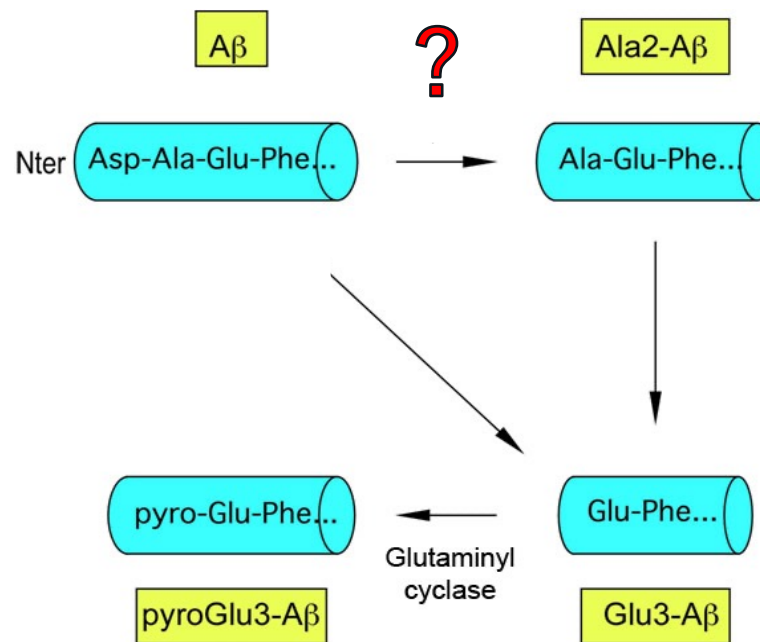


## N-truncated A $\beta$ : pE3- A $\beta$

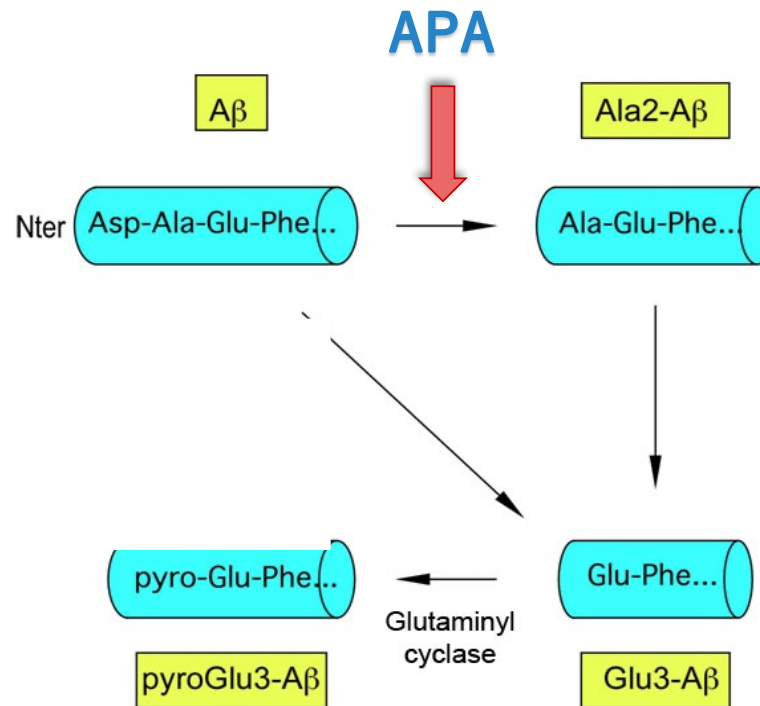


What are the enzymes responsible for pE3-A $\beta$  production ?

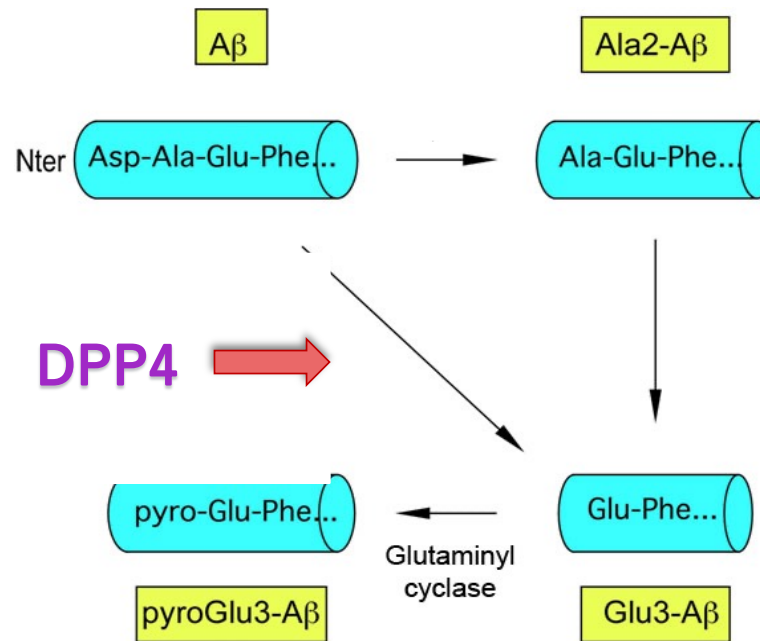
An hypothesis about the nature of the enzymes  
Involved in A $\beta$  truncation



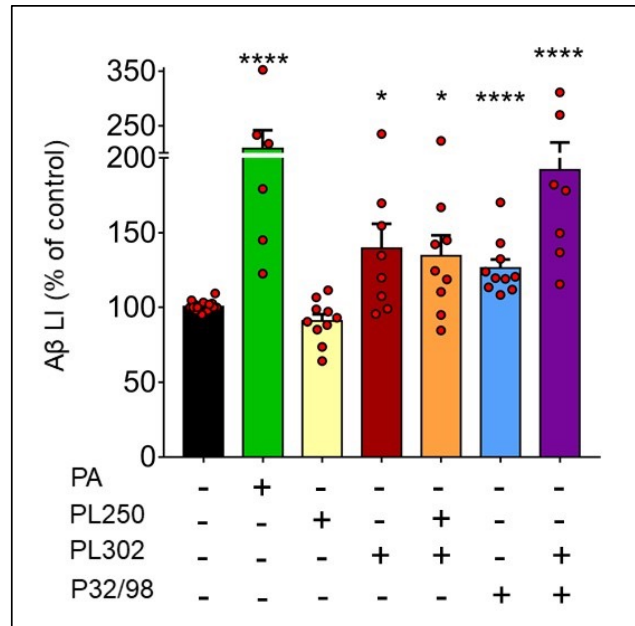
An hypothesis about the nature of the enzymes  
Involved in A $\beta$  truncation



An hypothesis about the nature of the enzymes  
Involved in A $\beta$  truncation



## Pharmacological approach on cultured cells

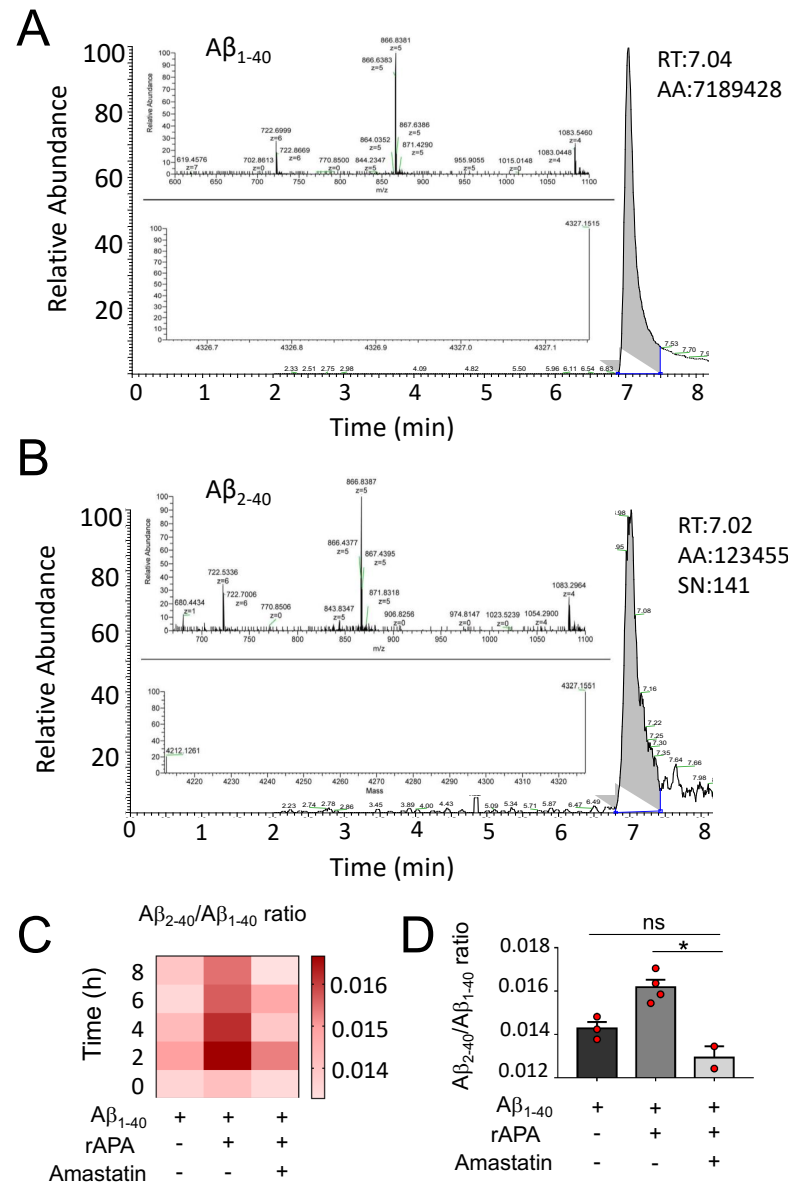


Augmentation d'Aβ 1-x  
immunoreactivité in human cells  
expressing APPWT

**APA and DPP4 inhibitors protect Aβ from degradation**



# Biochemical approach

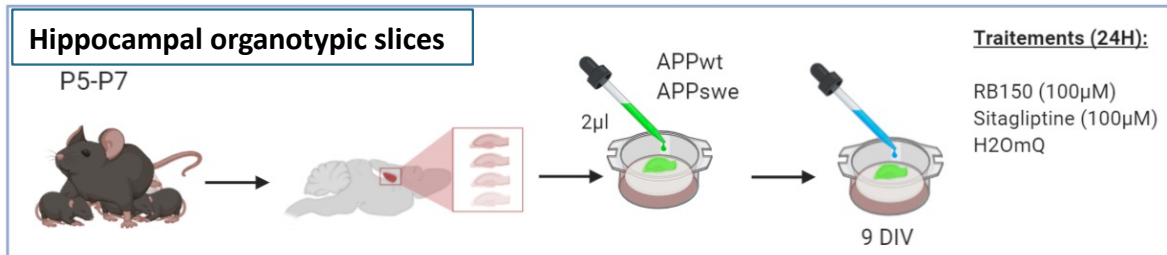


10/12/2020

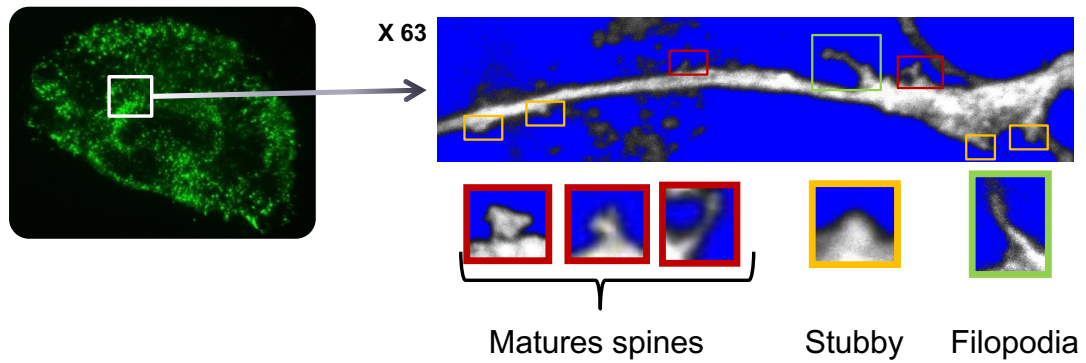
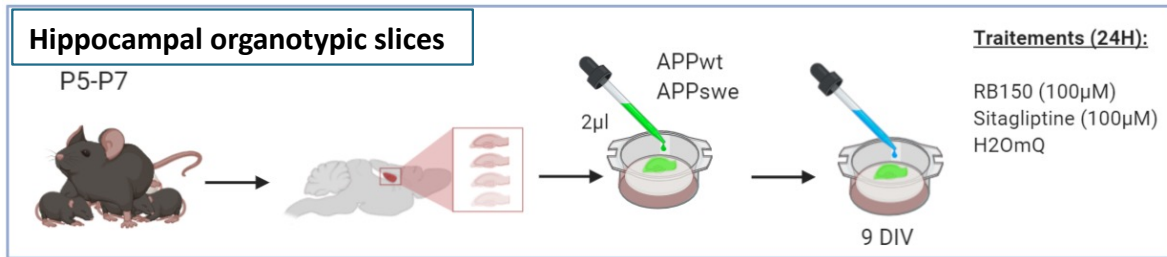
Figure 1. Valverde et al.

Impact of the modulation of APA and DPP4  
on the maturation of dendritic spines:  
an *ex-vivo* approach.

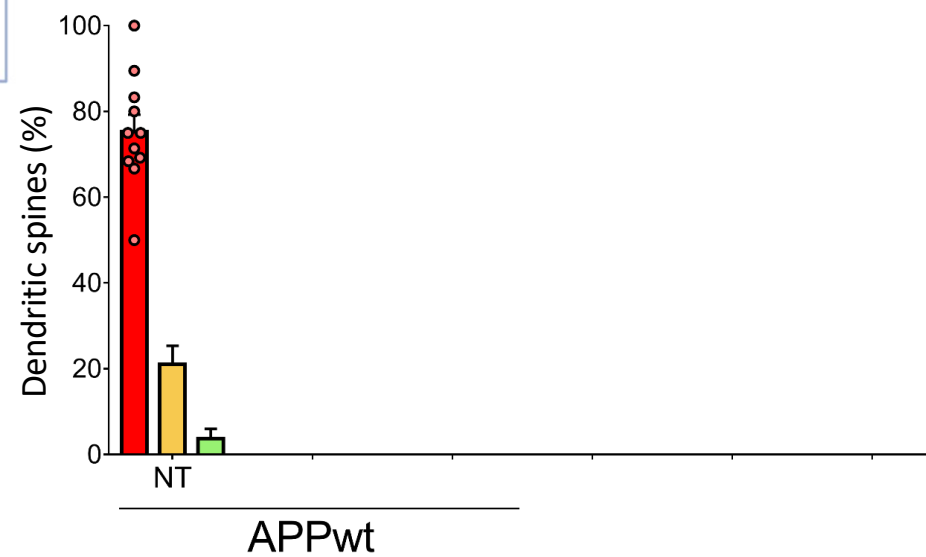
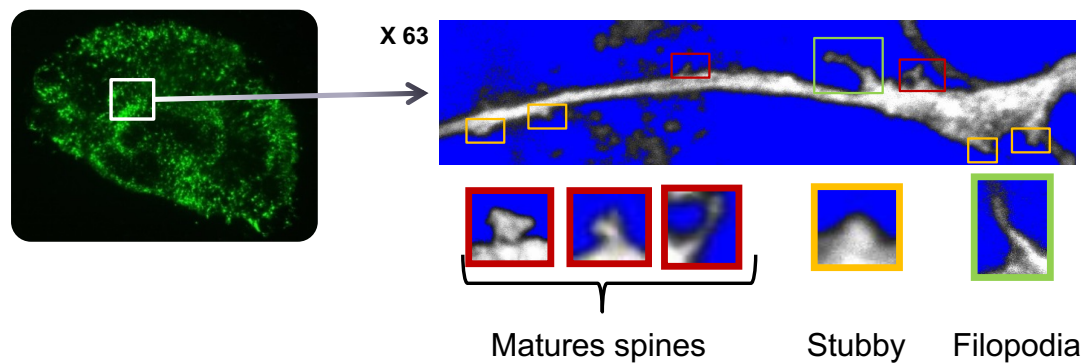
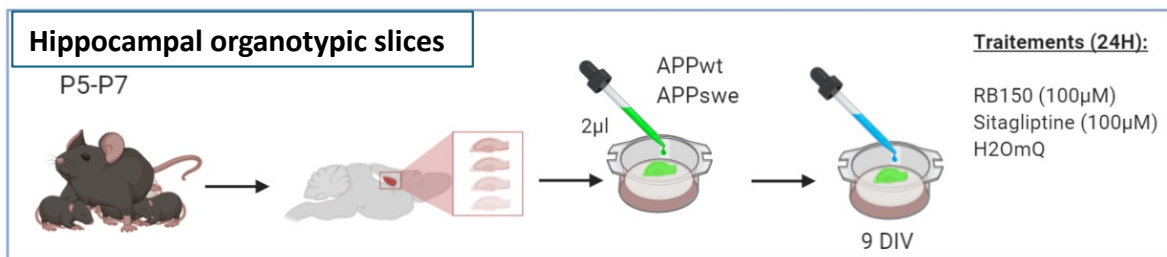
## Morphological study of dendritic spines



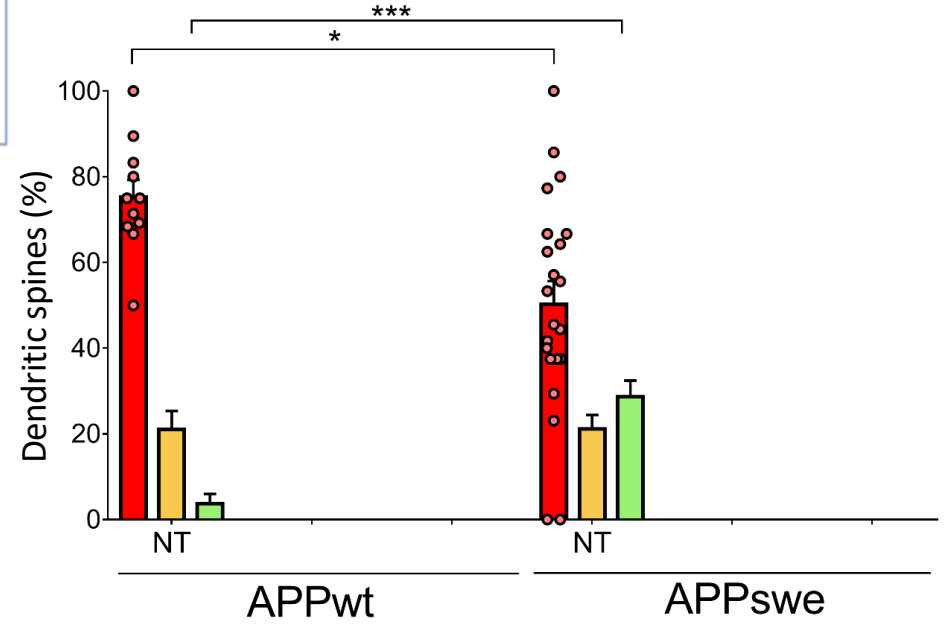
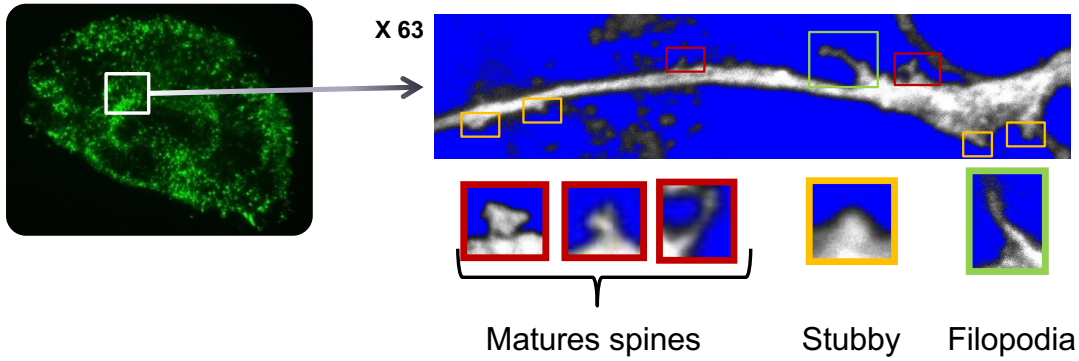
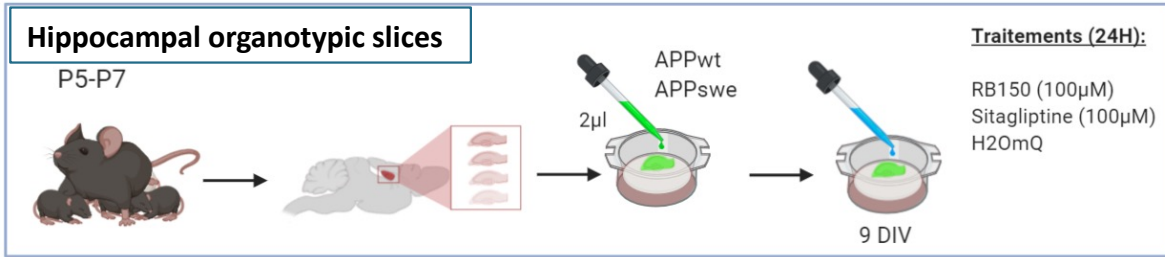
## Morphological study of dendritic spines



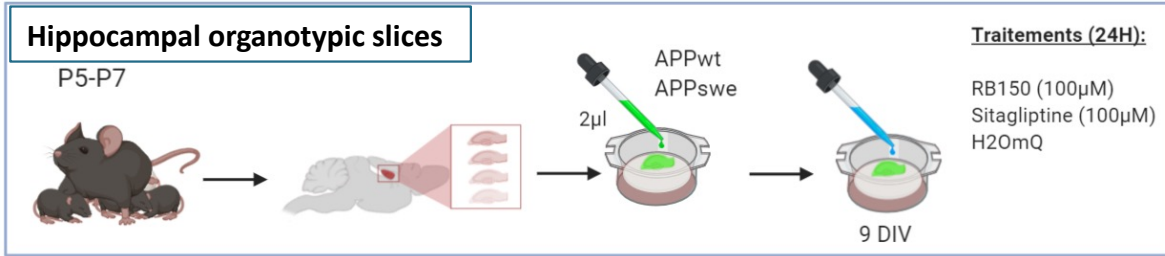
## Morphological study of dendritic spines



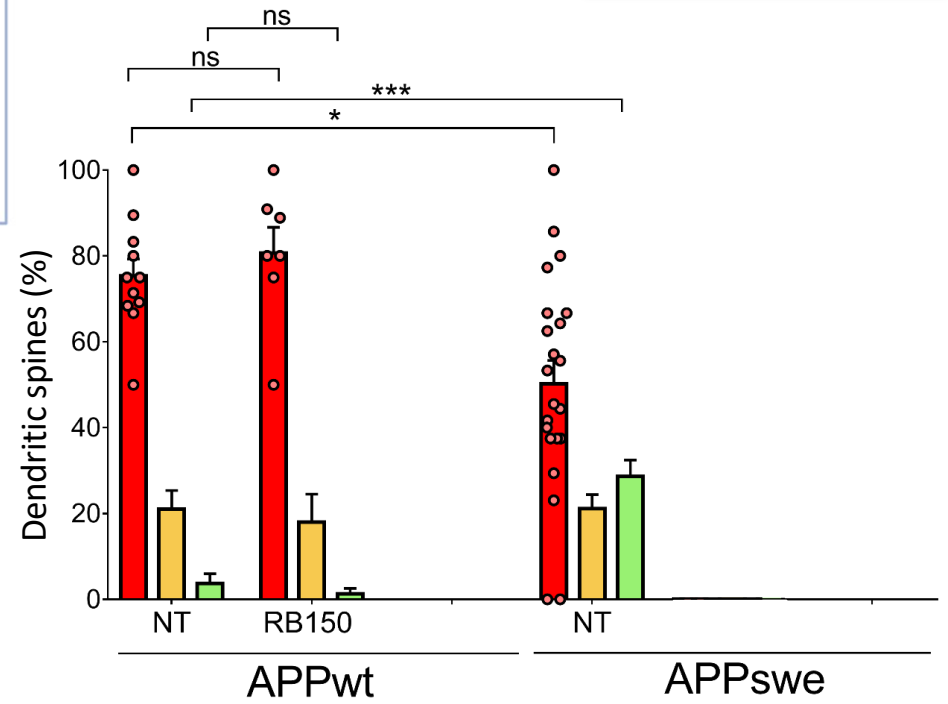
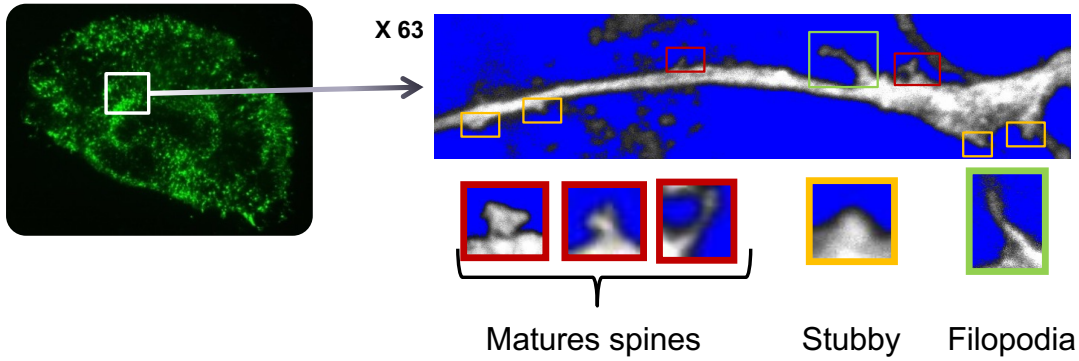
# Morphological study of dendritic spines



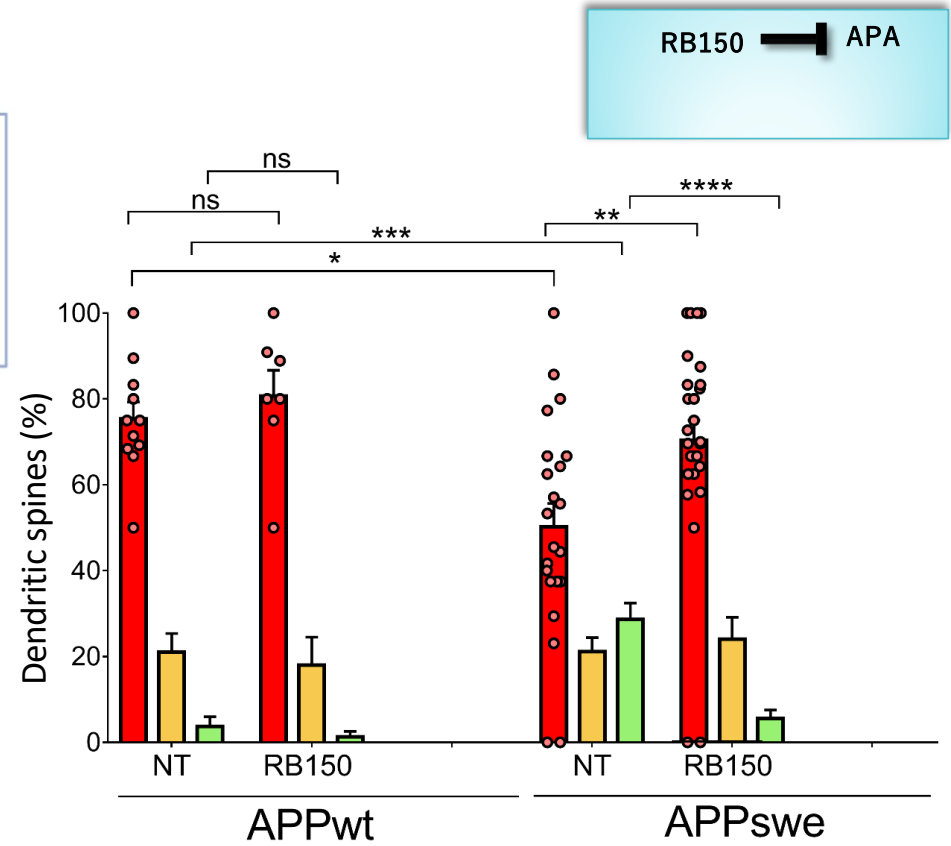
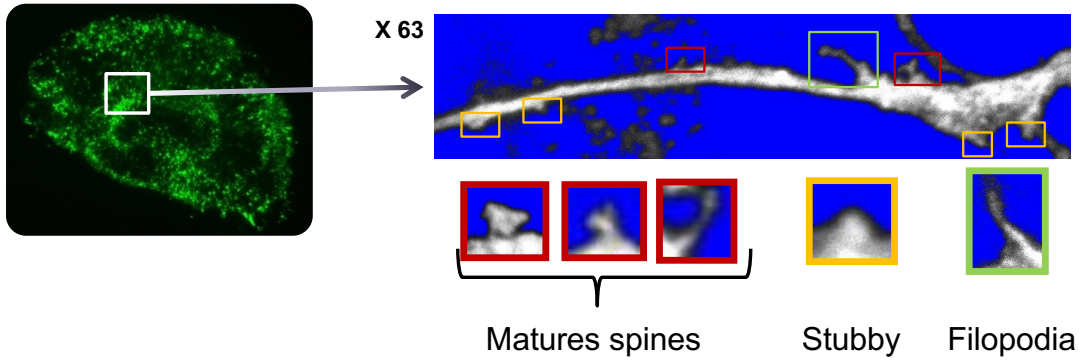
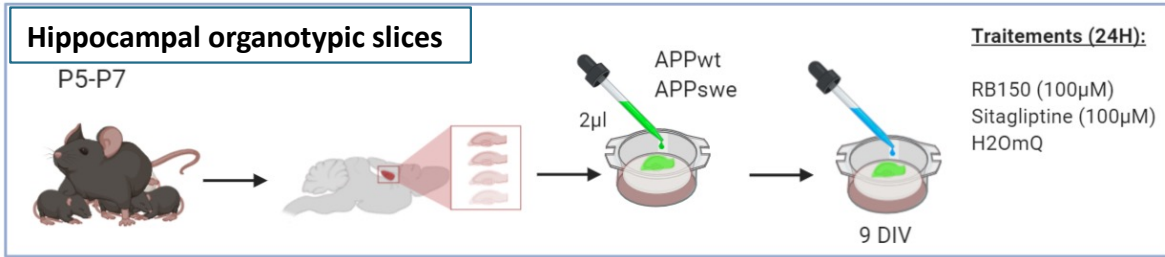
# Morphological study of dendritic spines



RB150 APA

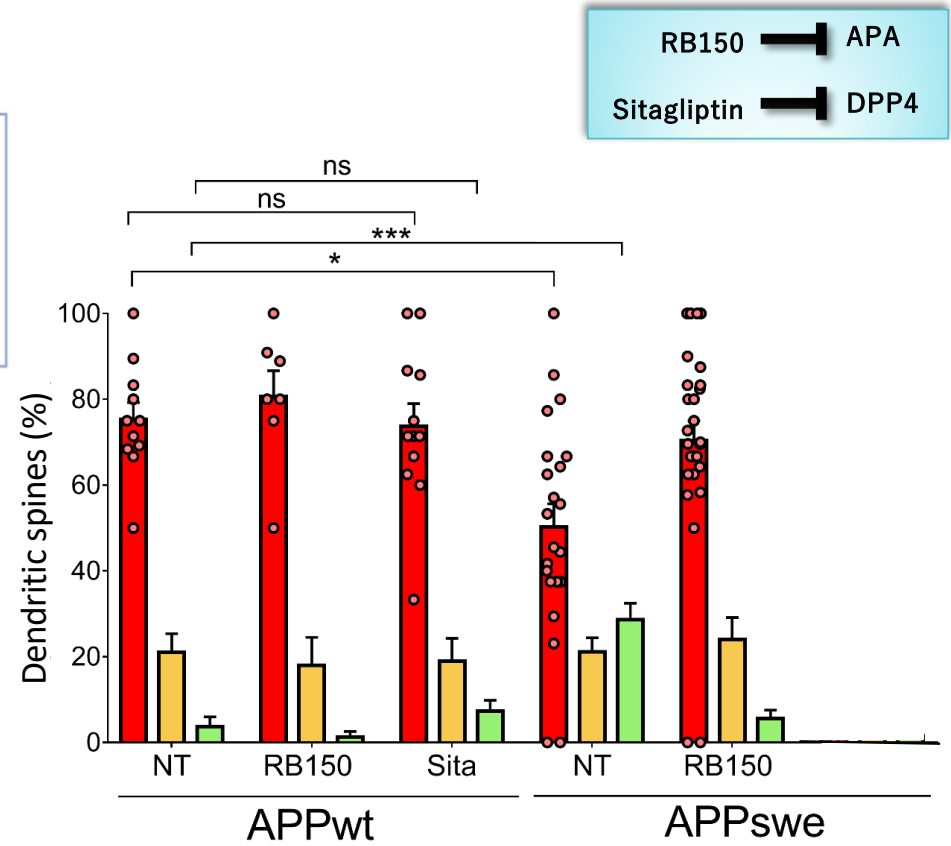
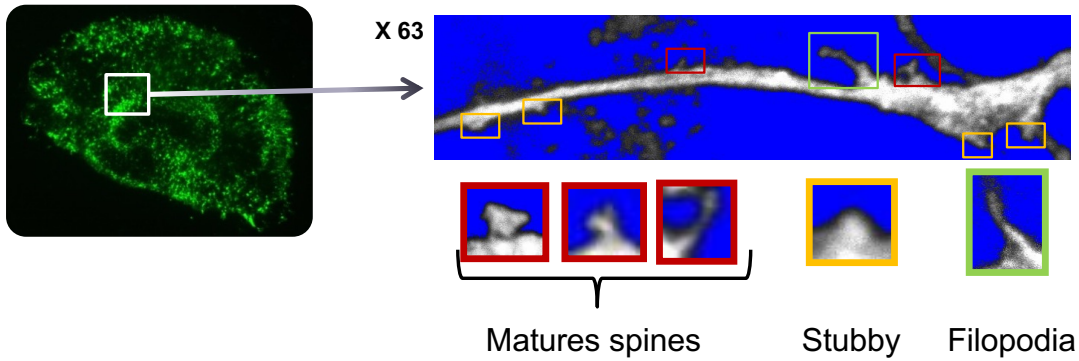
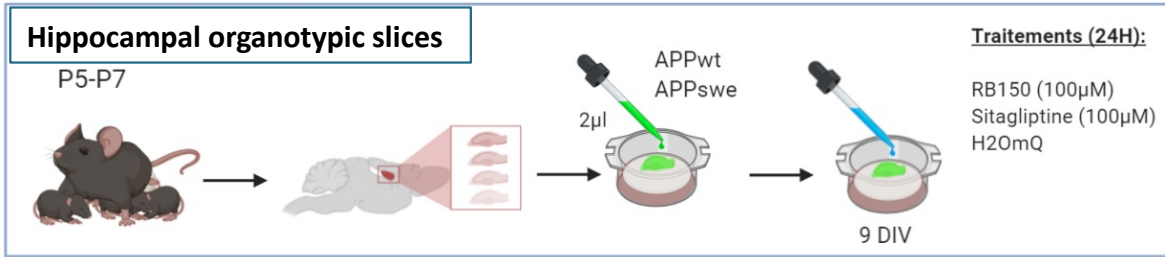


# Morphological study of dendritic spines

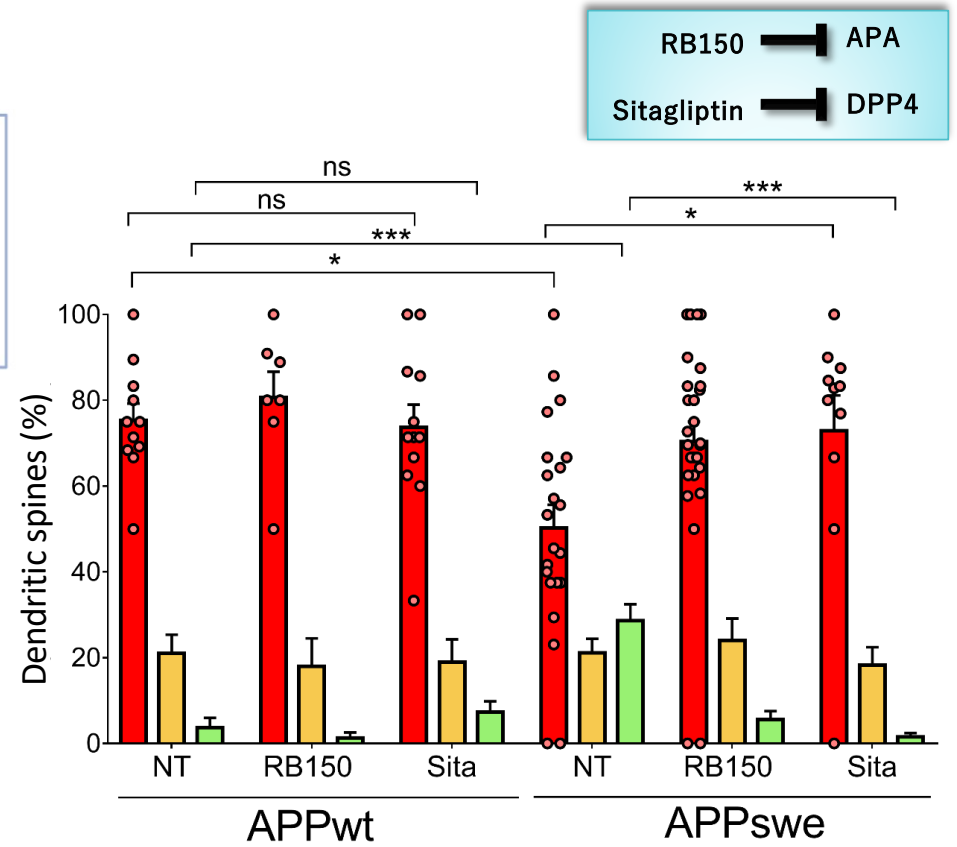
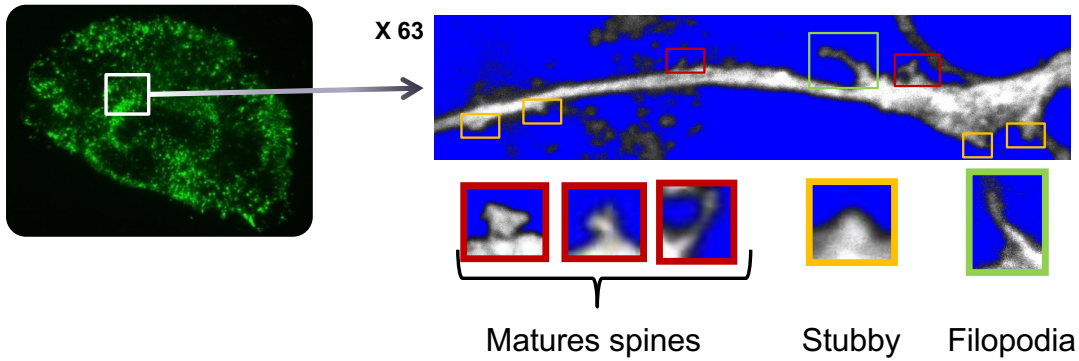
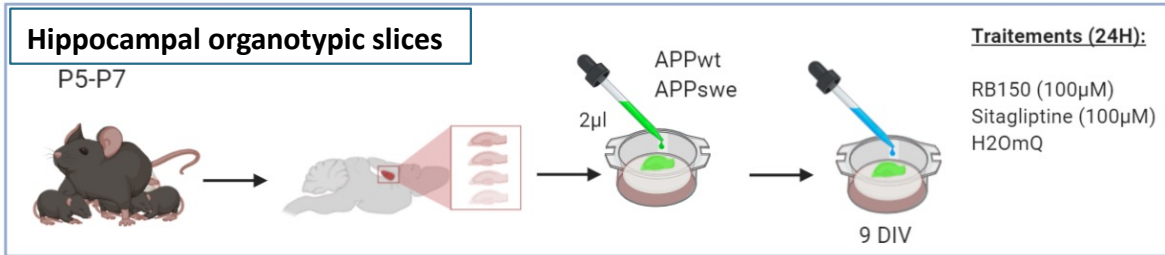




# Morphological study of dendritic spines



# Morphological study of dendritic spines



## Conclusion #1

There is a beneficial effect of APA et DPP4 inhibitors  
on dendritic spines maturation

Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation on biochemical and anatomical lesions in a murine model of AD:  
Pharmacological and genetic approaches.

# Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation on biochemical and anatomical lesions in a murine model of AD

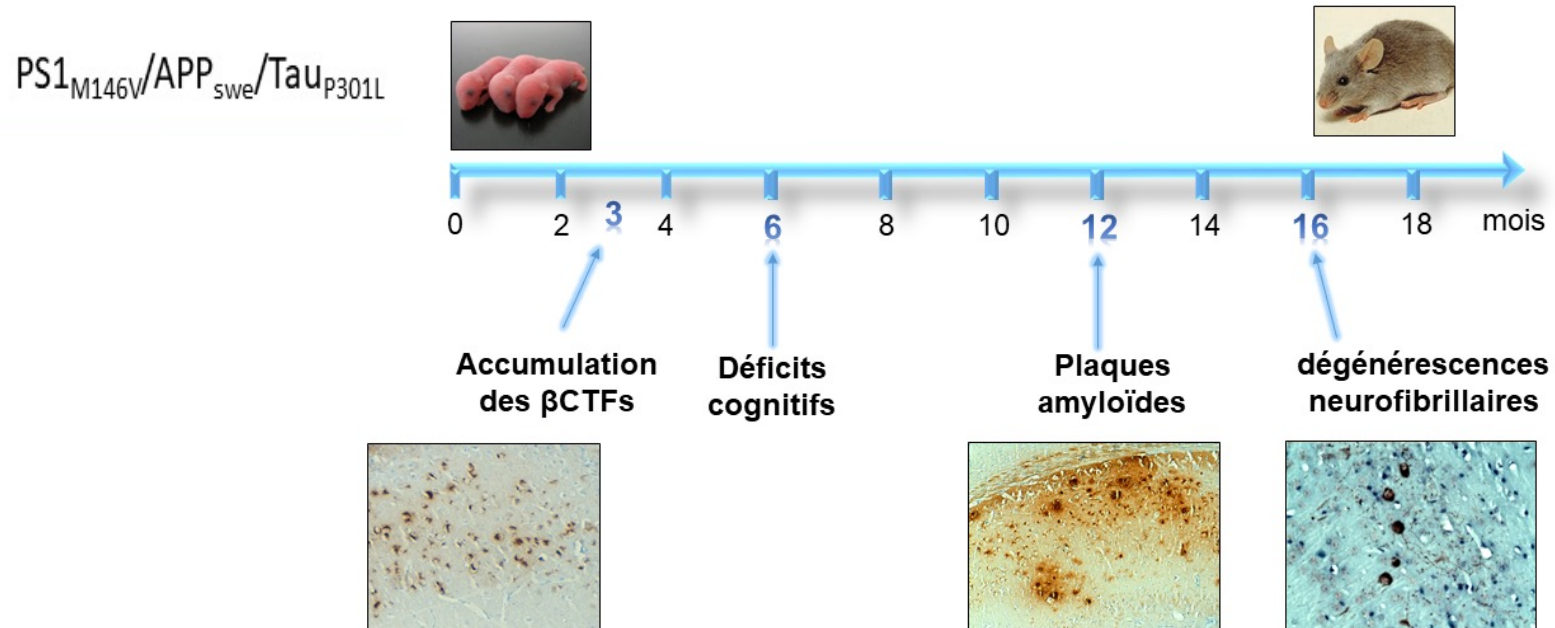
*In vivo approach: WT and 3xTg-AD mice:*

PS1<sub>M146V</sub>/APP<sub>Swe</sub>/Tau<sub>P301L</sub>



# Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation on biochemical and anatomical lesions in a murine model of AD

*In vivo approach: WT and 3xTg-AD mice:*

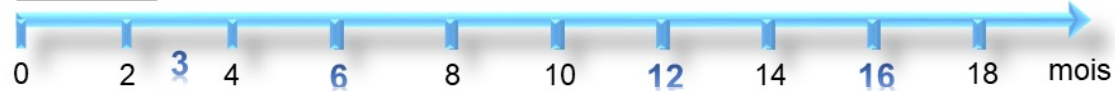


# Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation on biochemical and anatomical lesions in a murine model of AD

In vivo approach: WT and 3xTg-AD mice:

Genetic approach:  
shRNA

PS1<sub>M146V</sub>/APP<sub>Swe</sub>/Tau<sub>P301L</sub>

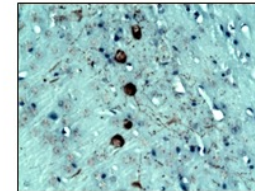
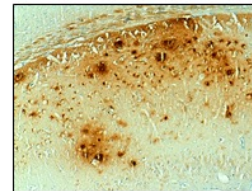
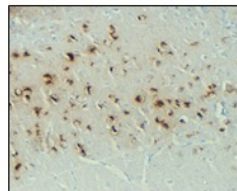


Accumulation  
des  $\beta$ CTFs

Déficits  
cognitifs

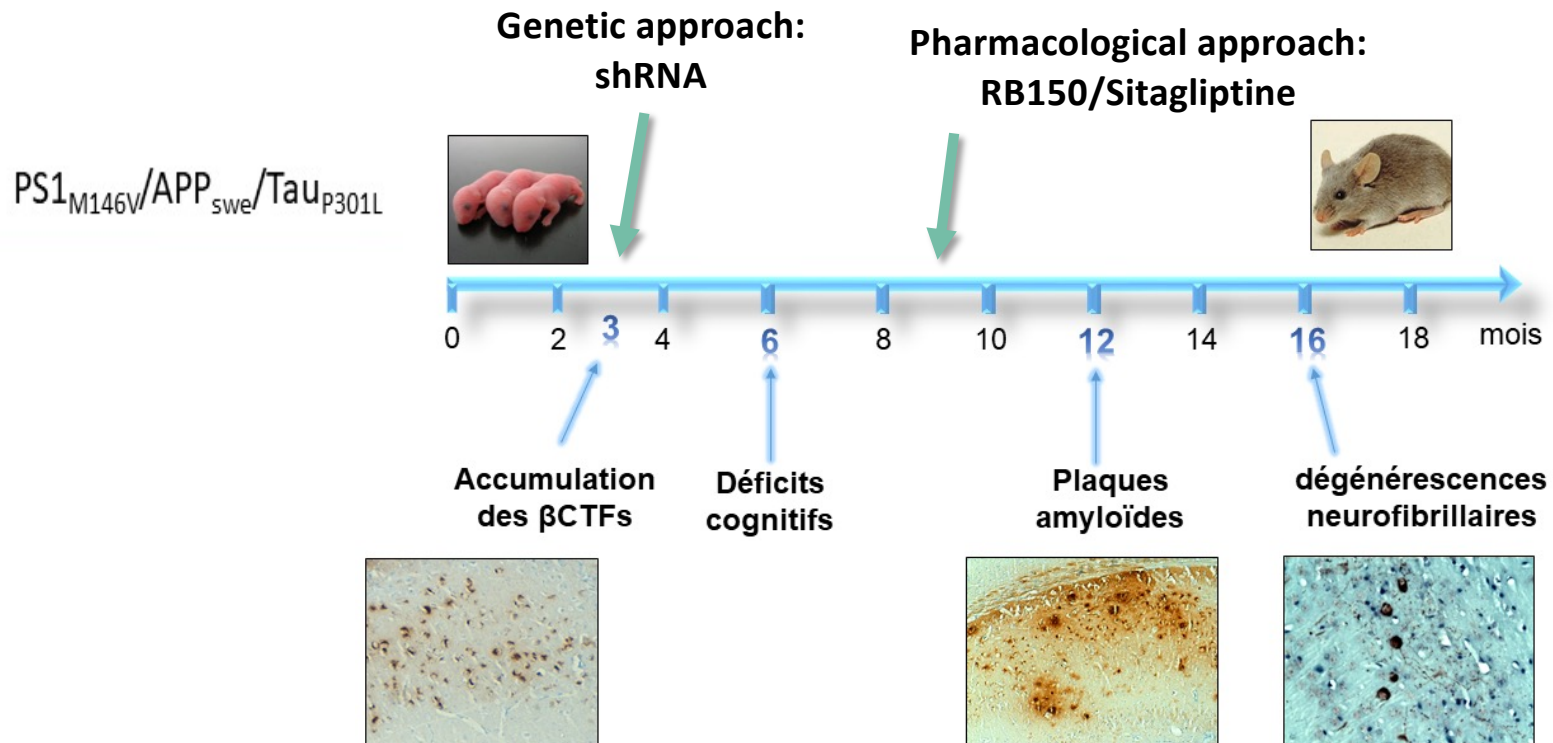
Plaques  
amyloïdes

dégénérescences  
neurofibrillaires



# Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation on biochemical and anatomical lesions in a murine model of AD

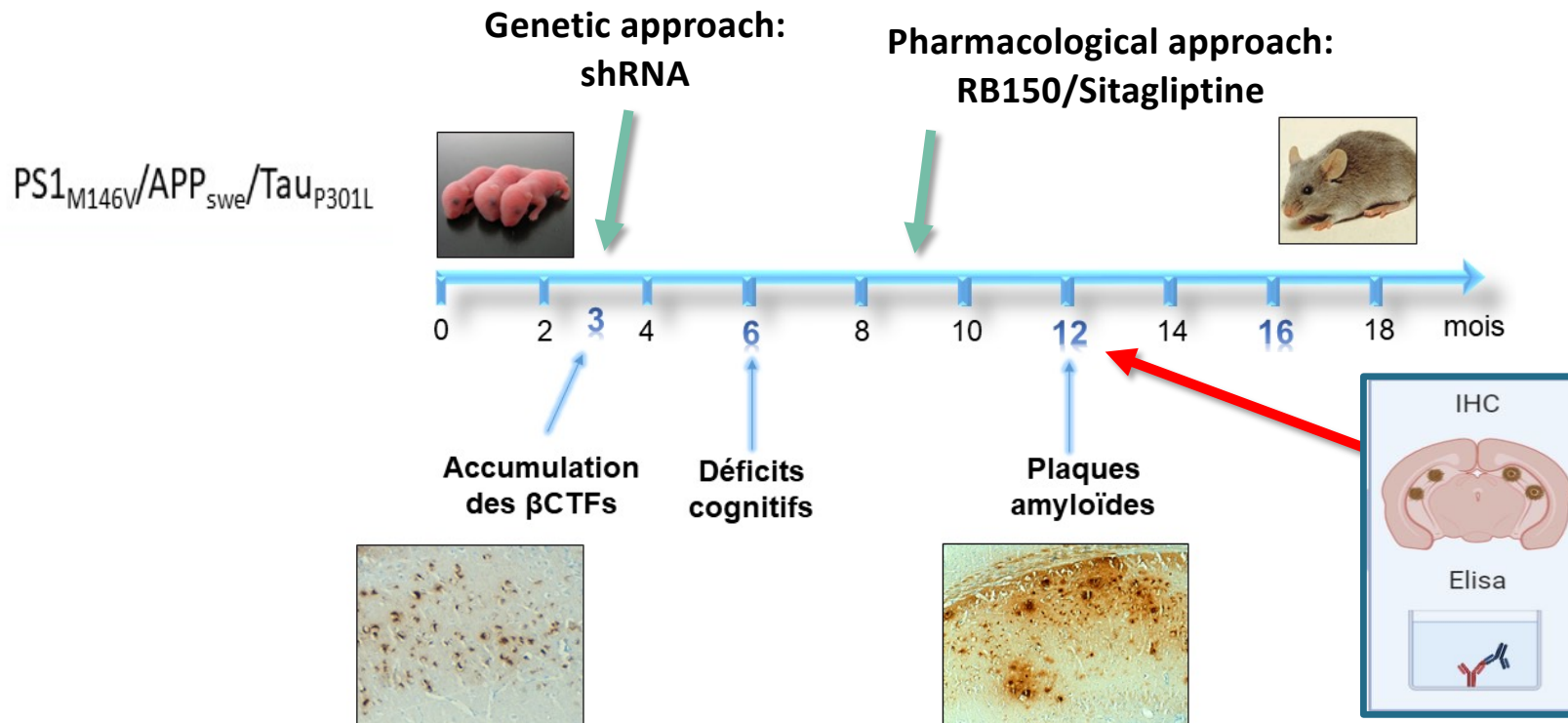
*In vivo approach:* WT and 3xTg-AD mice:





# Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation on biochemical and anatomical lesions in a murine model of AD

*In vivo approach:* WT and 3xTg-AD mice:



Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation on anatomical lesions in a murine model of AD  
A genetic approach

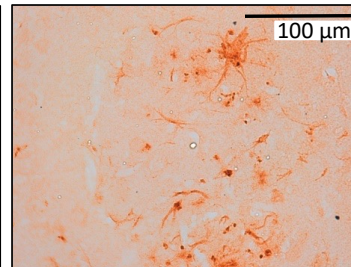
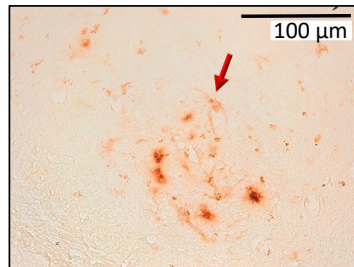
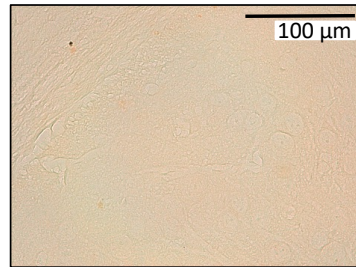
pE3-A $\beta$ x

WT

3xTg-AD

**12 months**

shScr



Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation on anatomical lesions in a murine model of AD  
A genetic approach

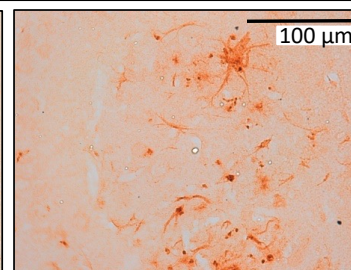
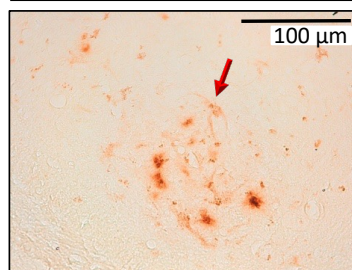
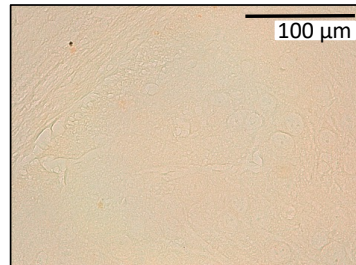
pE3-A $\beta$ x

WT

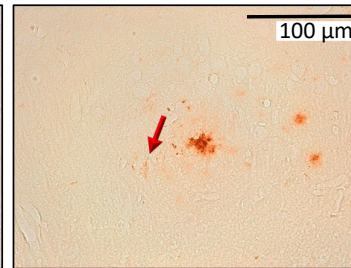
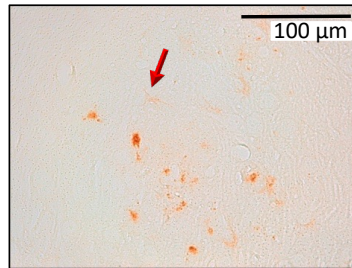
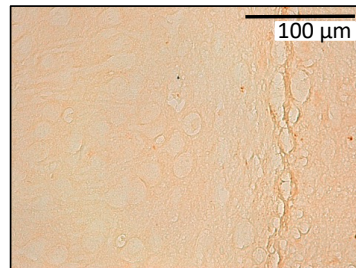
3xTg-AD

**12 months**

shScr



shAPA



# Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation on anatomical lesions in a murine model of AD

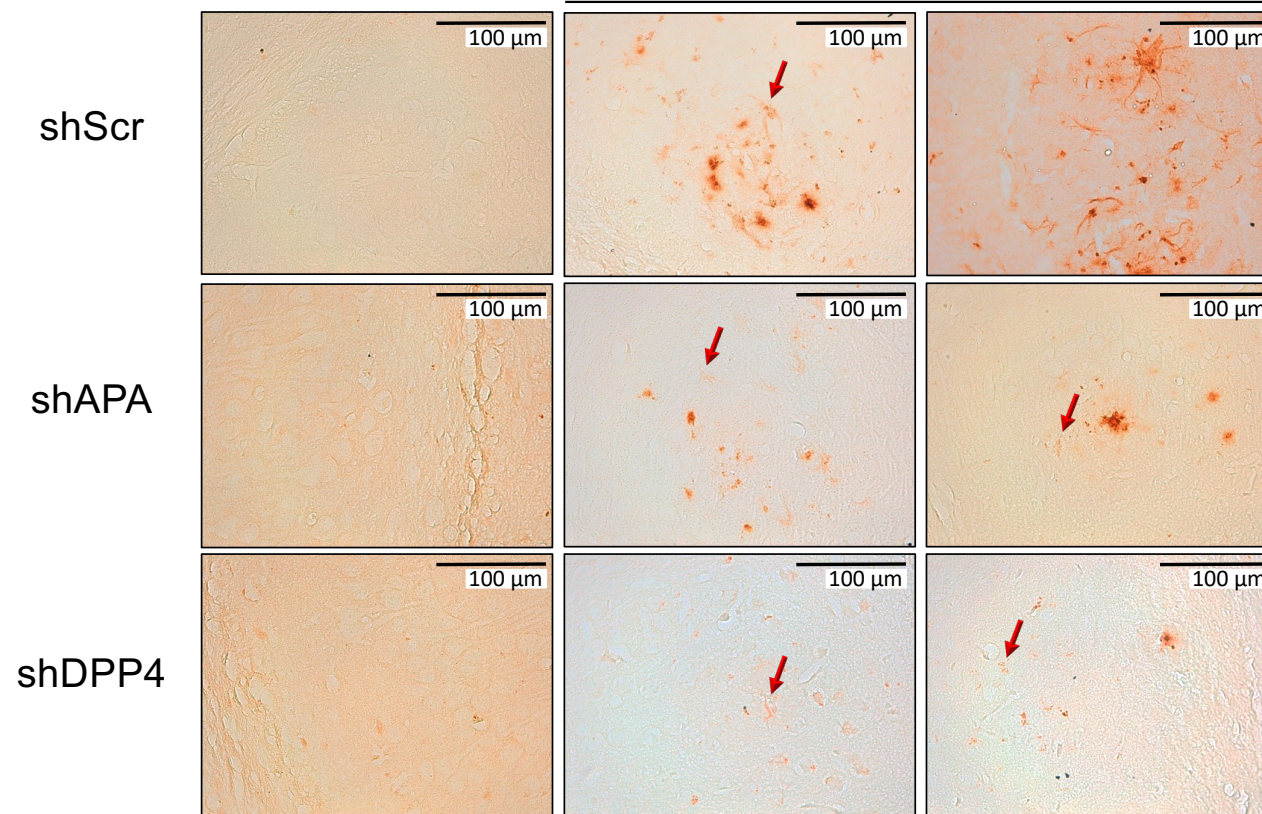
## A genetic approach

pE3-A $\beta$ x

WT

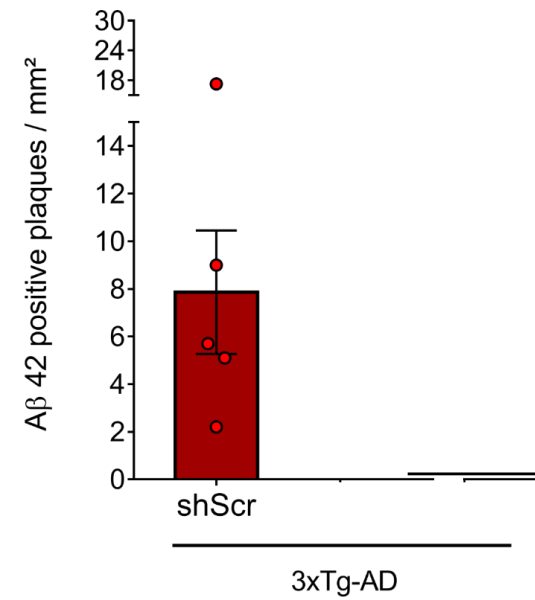
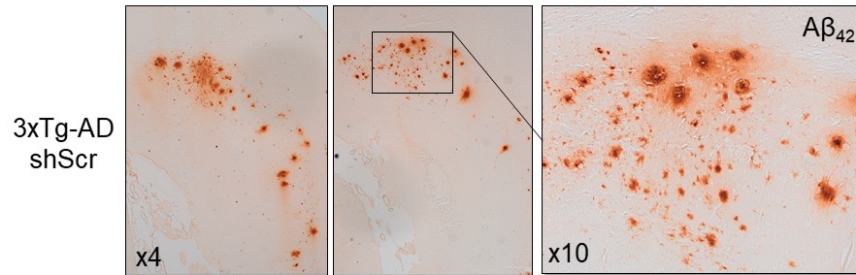
3xTg-AD

**12 months**



# Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation on anatomical lesions in a murine model of AD

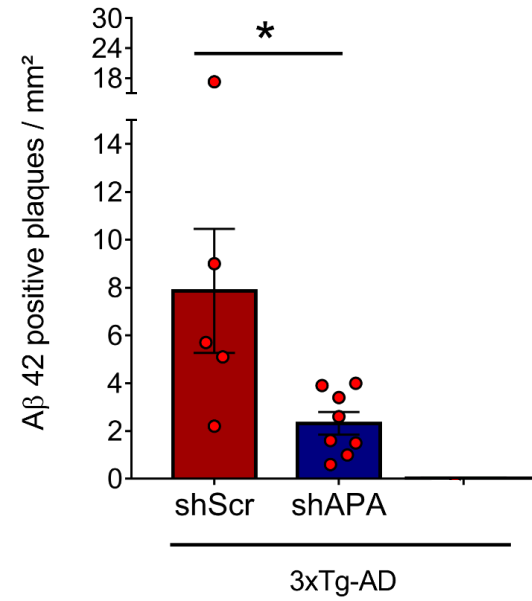
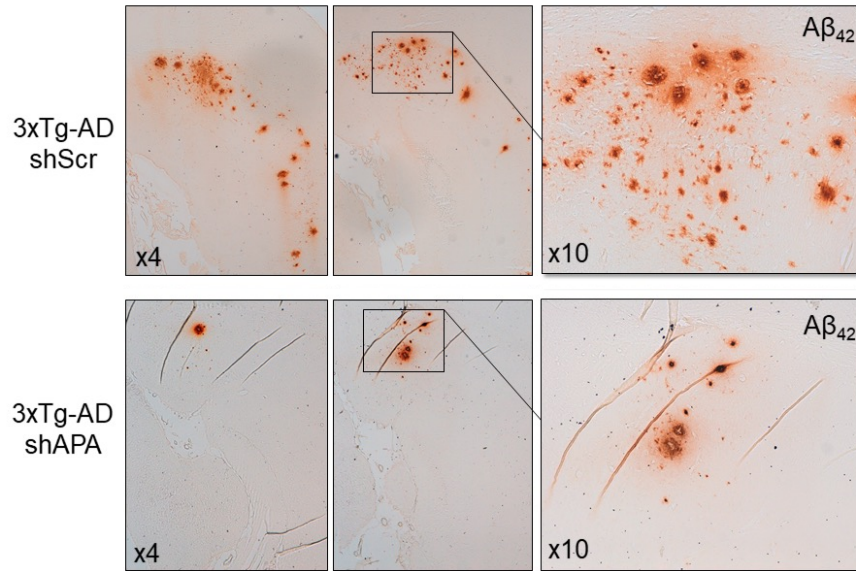
## A genetic approach





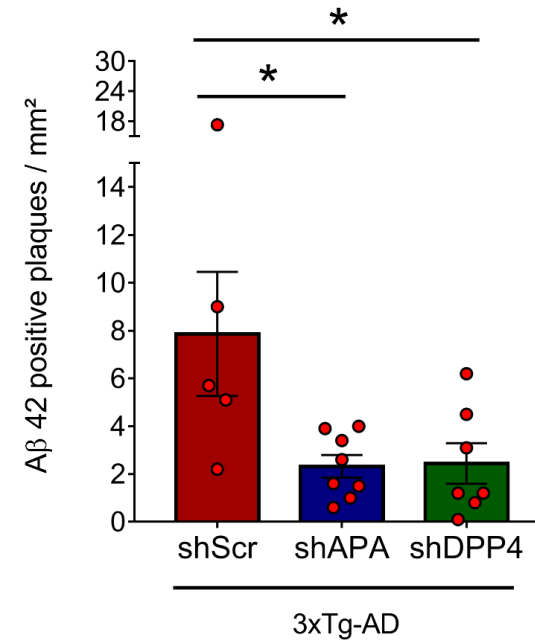
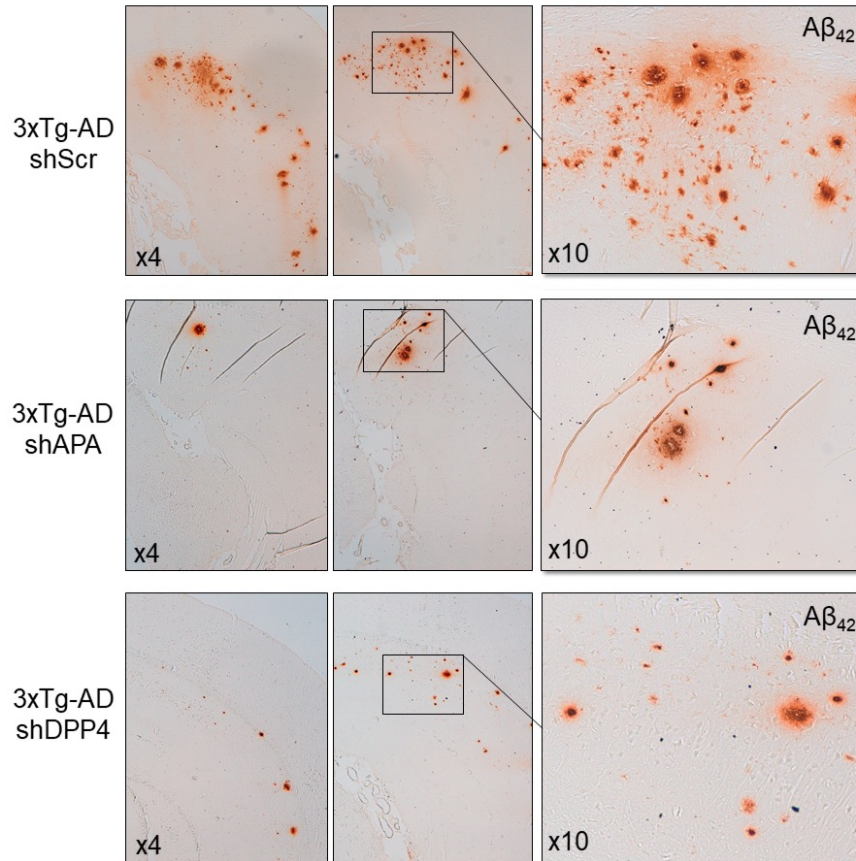
# Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation on biochemical and anatomical lesions in a murine model of AD

## A genetic approach



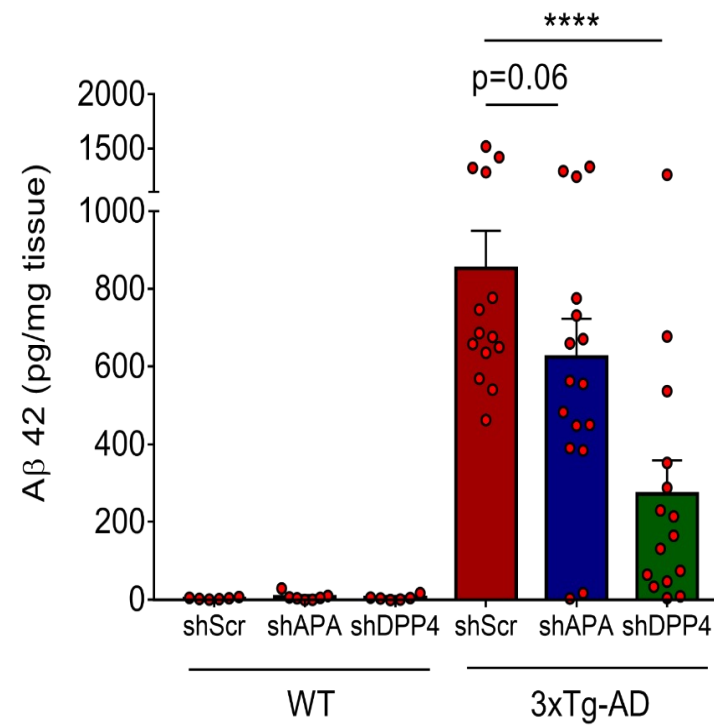
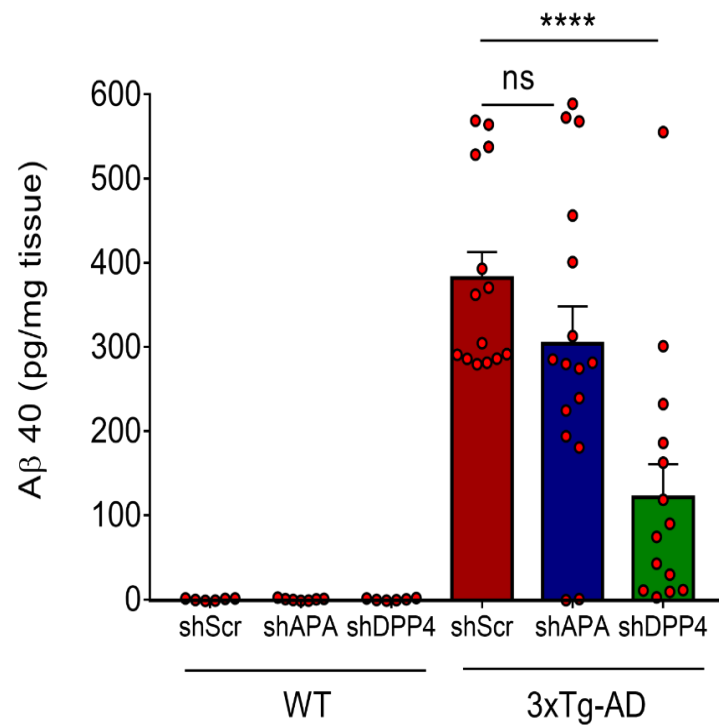
# Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation on biochemical and anatomical lesions in a murine model of AD

## A genetic approach



# Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation on anatomical lesions in a murine model of AD

## A genetic approach





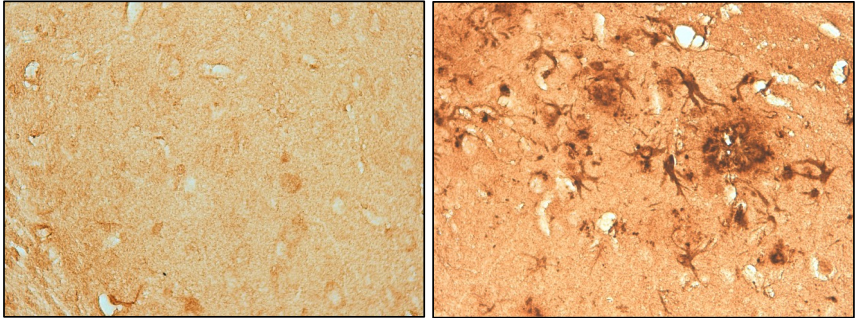
# Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation: A pharmacological approach


pE3-Aβ x

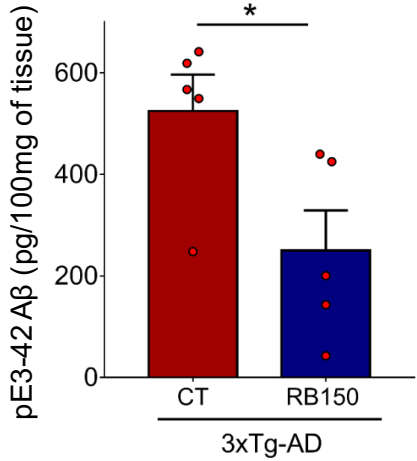
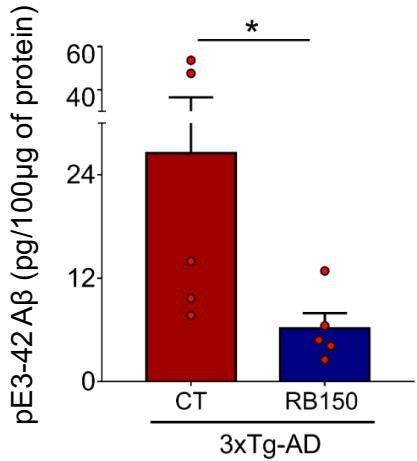
WT

3xTg-AD

15 months



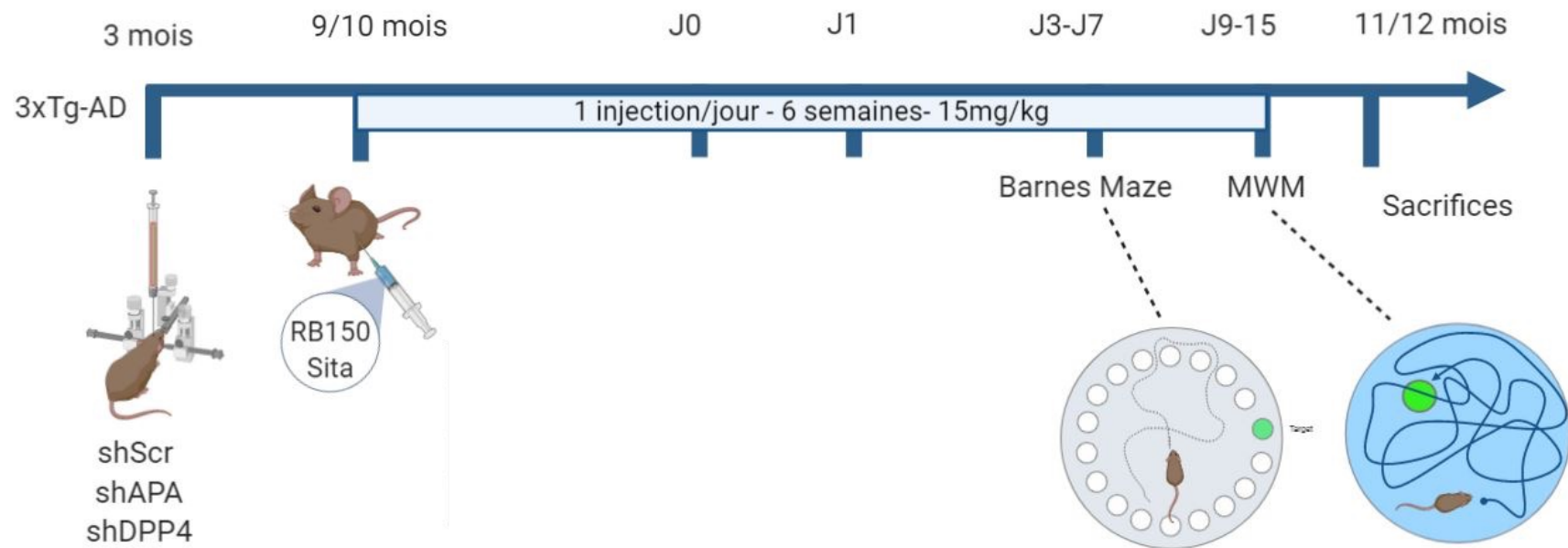
RB150  APA



Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation on  
biochemical and anatomical lesions in a murine model of AD

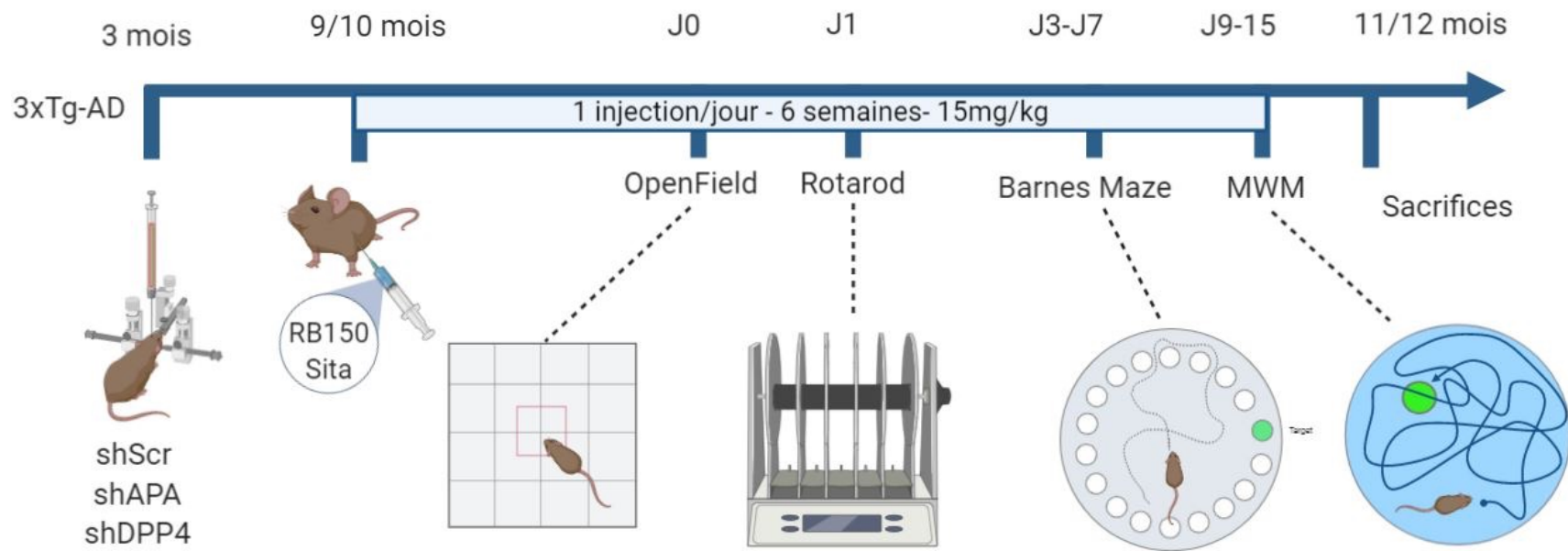
- **Beneficial effect of** APA and DPP4 reduction on both A $\beta$ 42- and pE3-A $\beta$ 42- positive plaques
- **Reduction** of A $\beta$  load in 3xTg-AD by both pharmacological and genetic approaches
- **Lowering of** pE3-A $\beta$ x in treated 3xTg-AD mice

Influence of APA and DPP4 modulation on cognitive deficits in 3xTg-AD by pharmacological and genetic approaches.

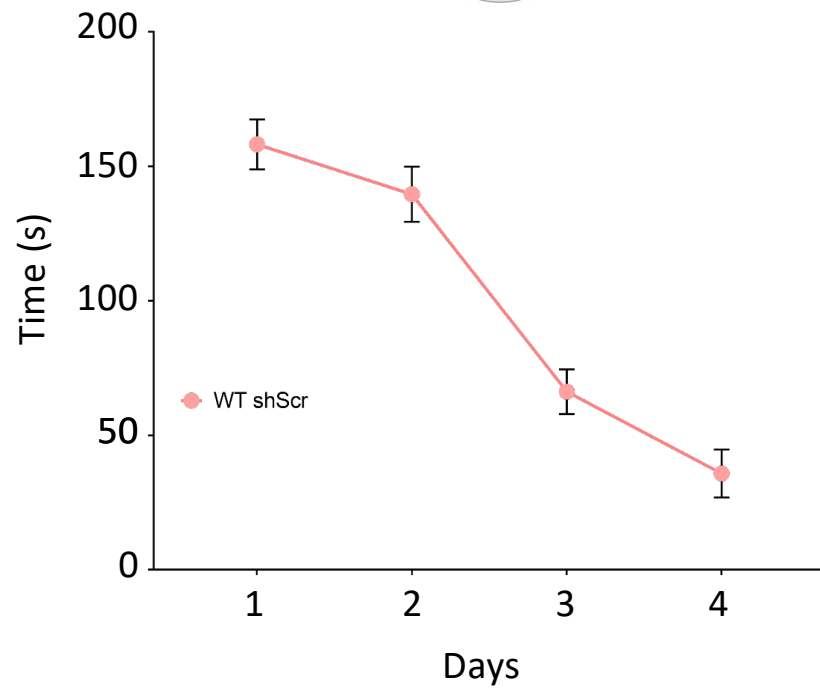
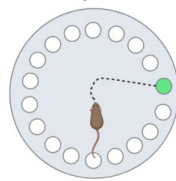


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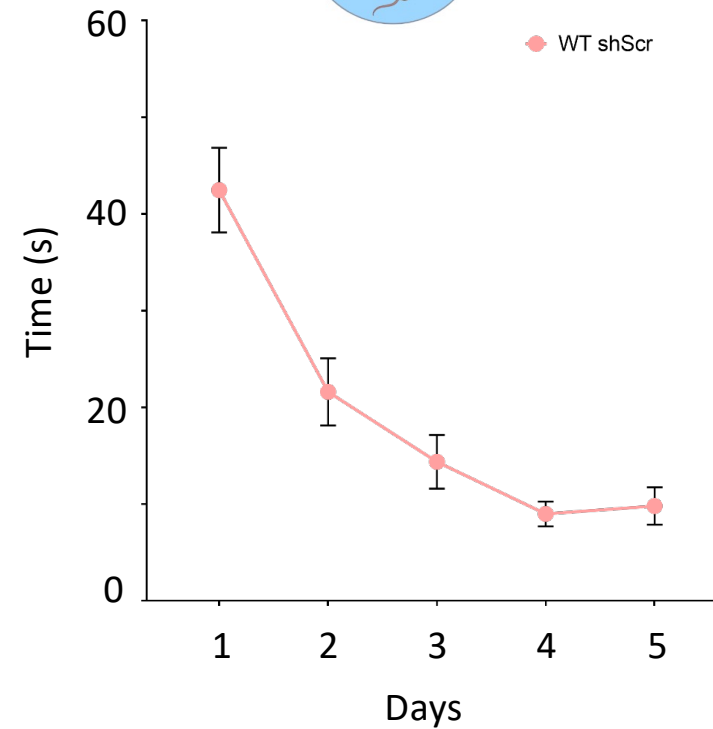
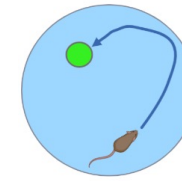
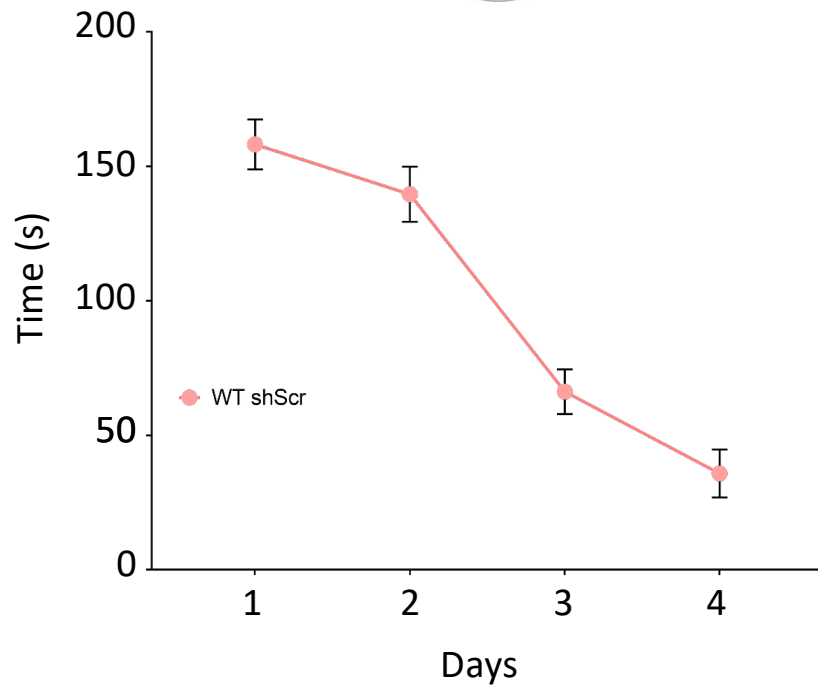
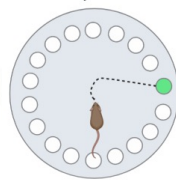
- Learning recording
- Number of entries in target zone»
- Number of entries in various quadrants
- Number of entries in various holes



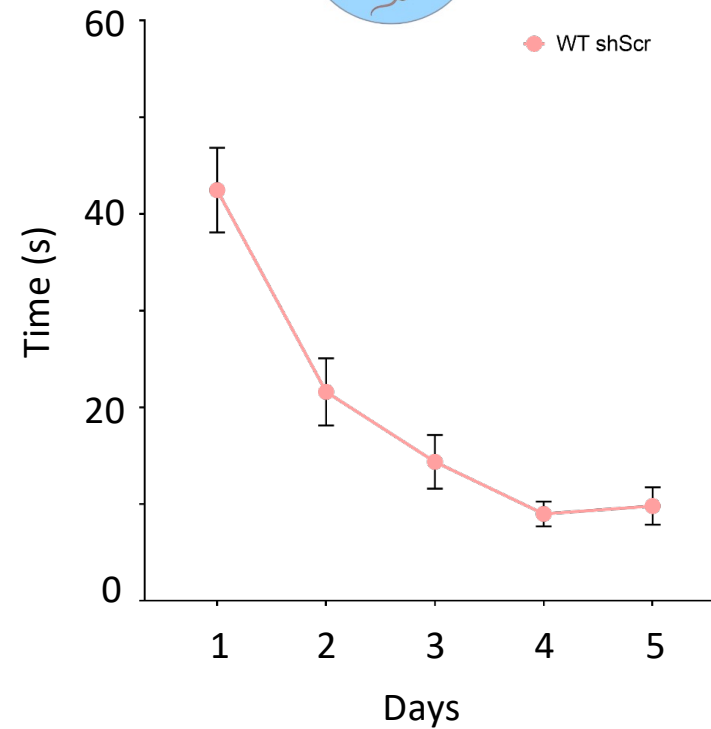
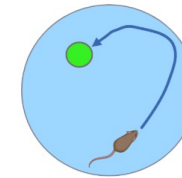
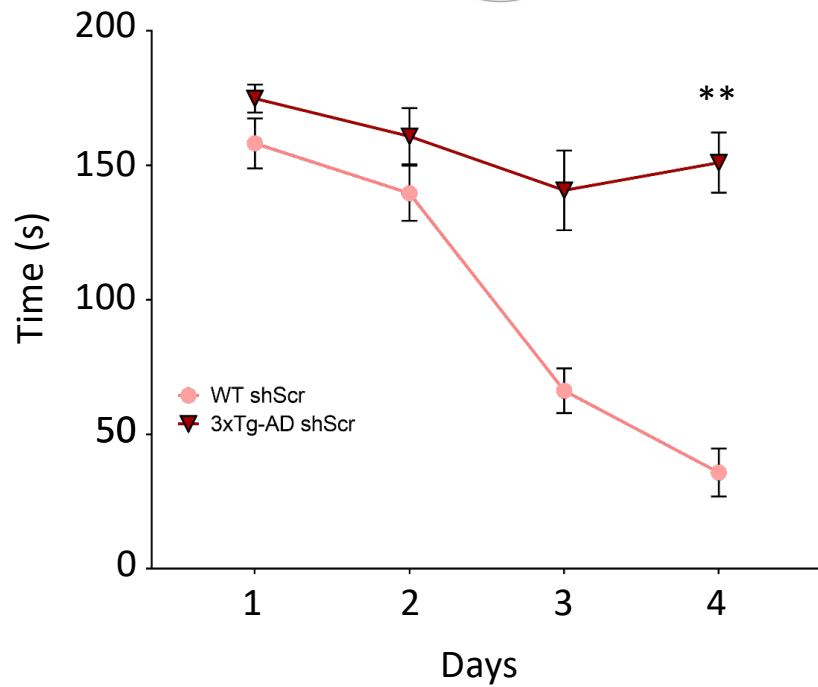
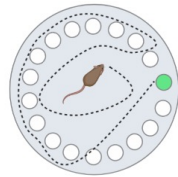
# Learning in Barnes Maze et MWM: genetic approach targeting APA



# Learning in Barnes Maze et MWM: genetic approach targeting APA

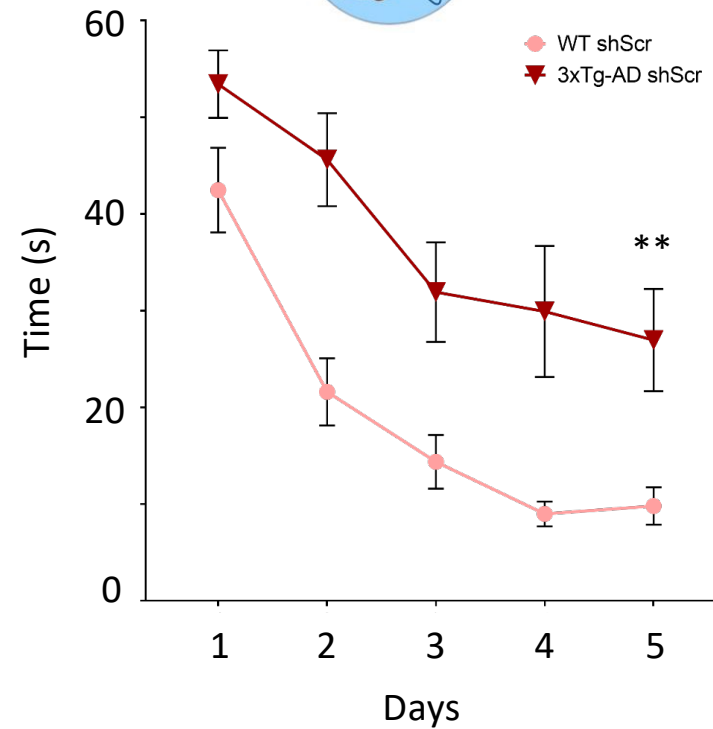
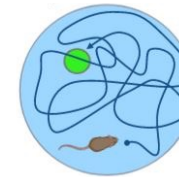
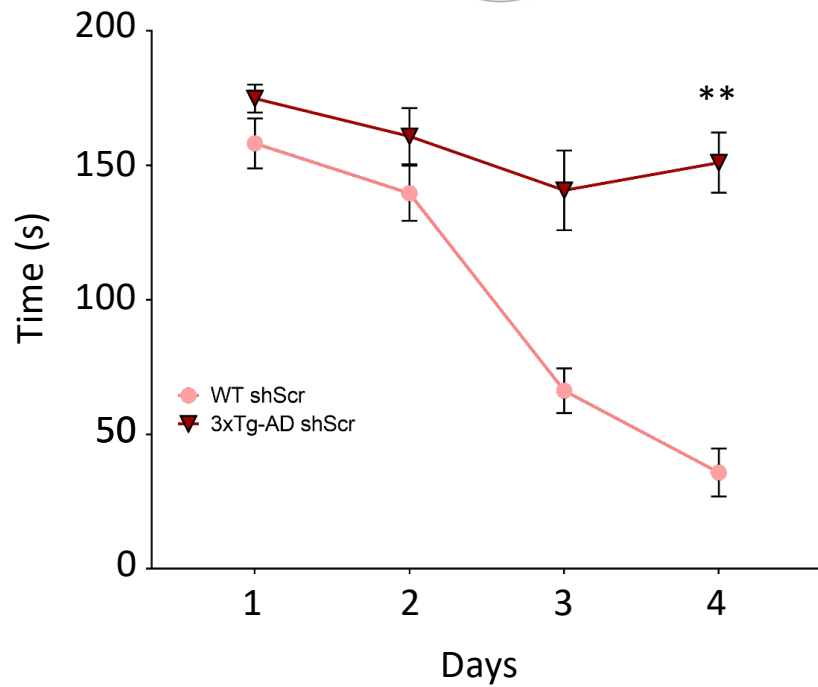
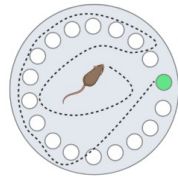


# Learning in Barnes Maze et MWM: genetic approach targeting APA

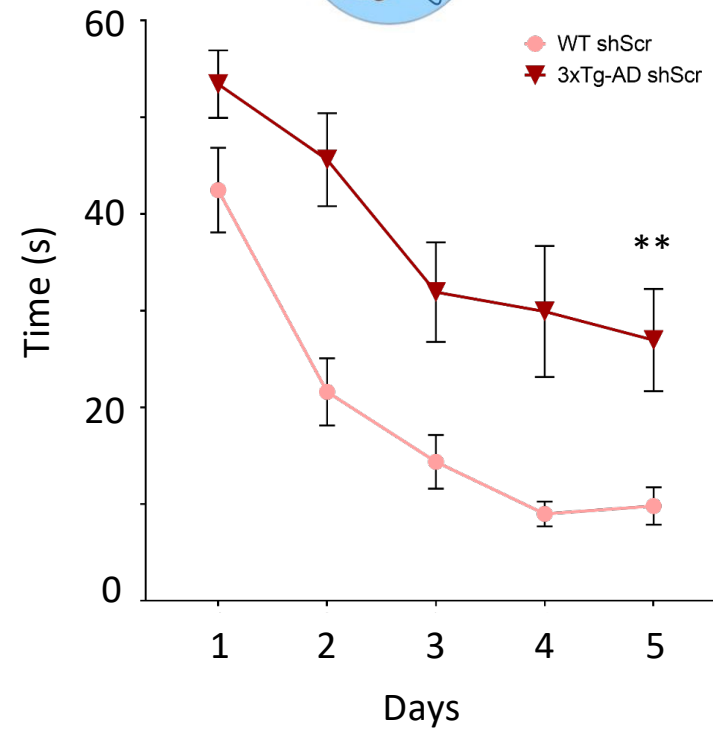
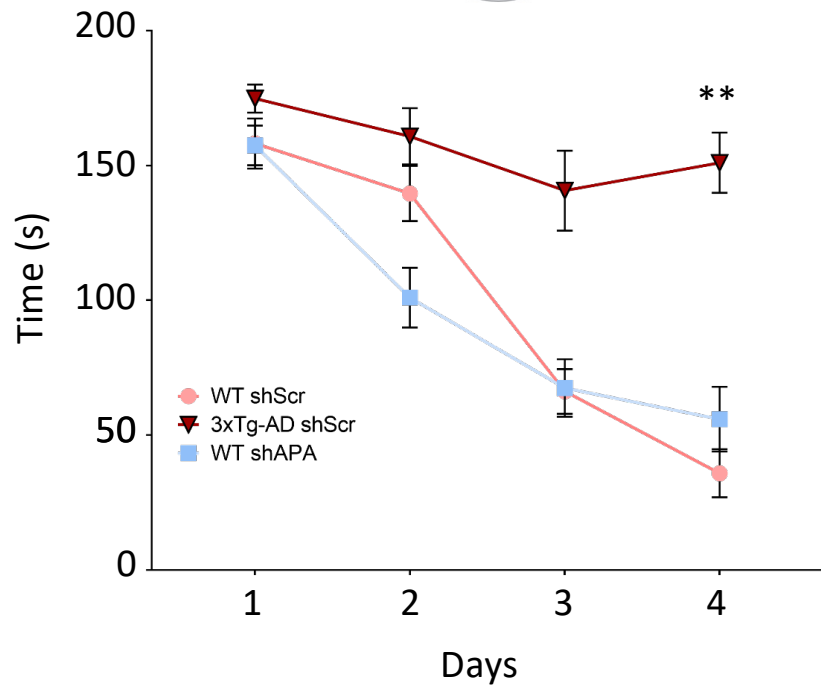
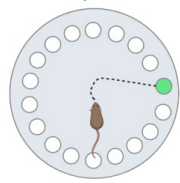




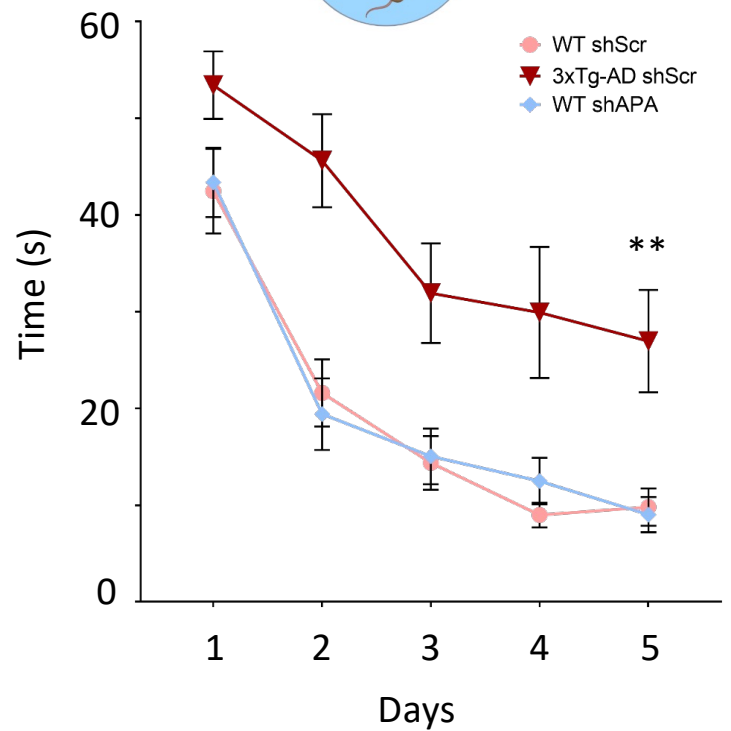
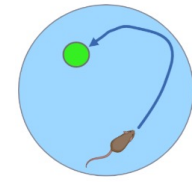
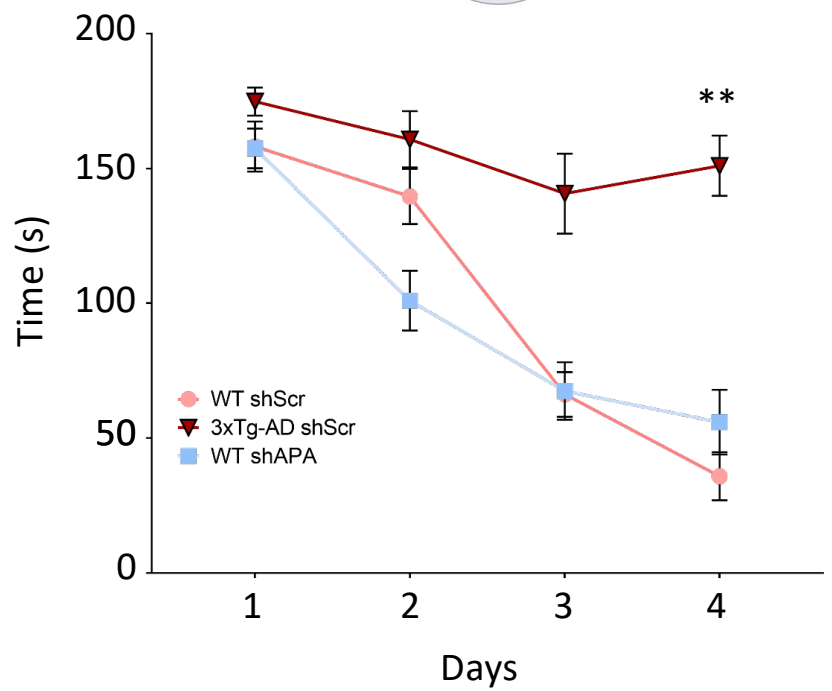
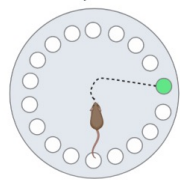
# Learning in Barnes Maze et MWM: genetic approach targeting APA



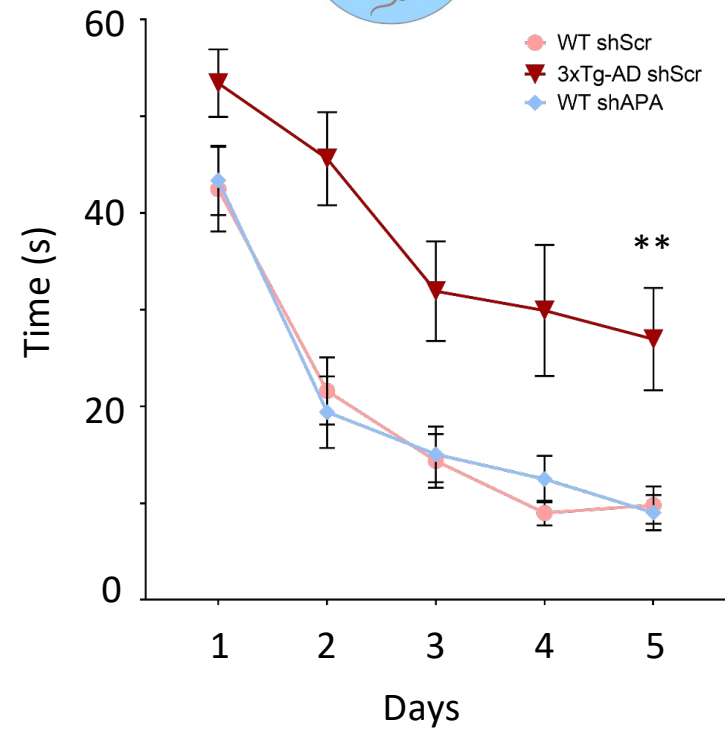
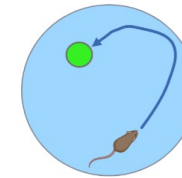
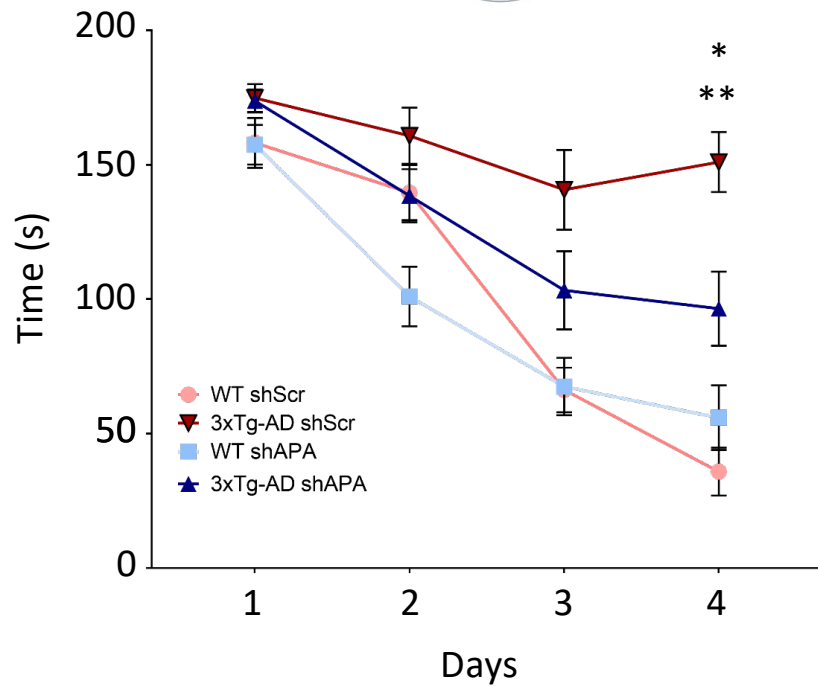
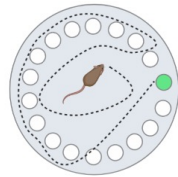
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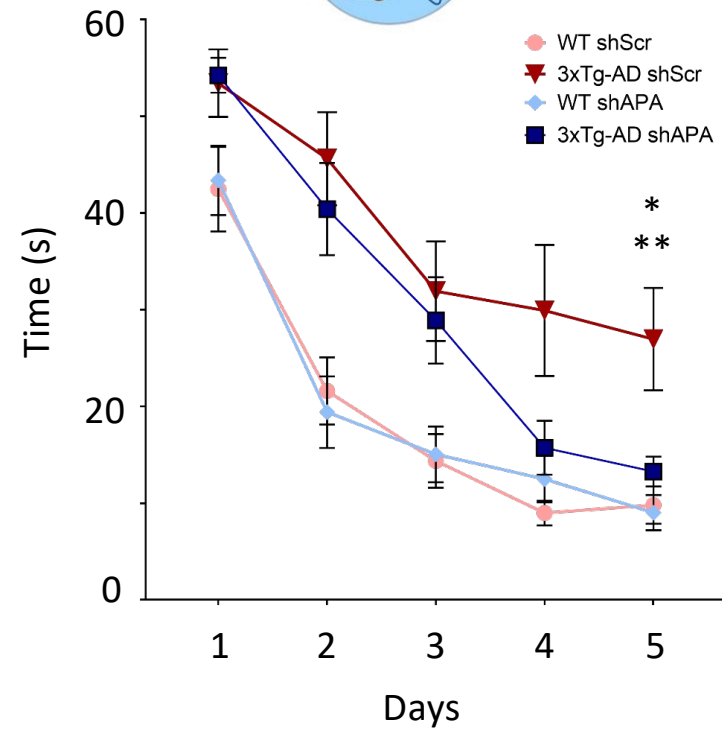
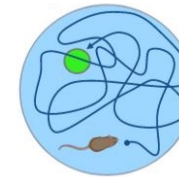
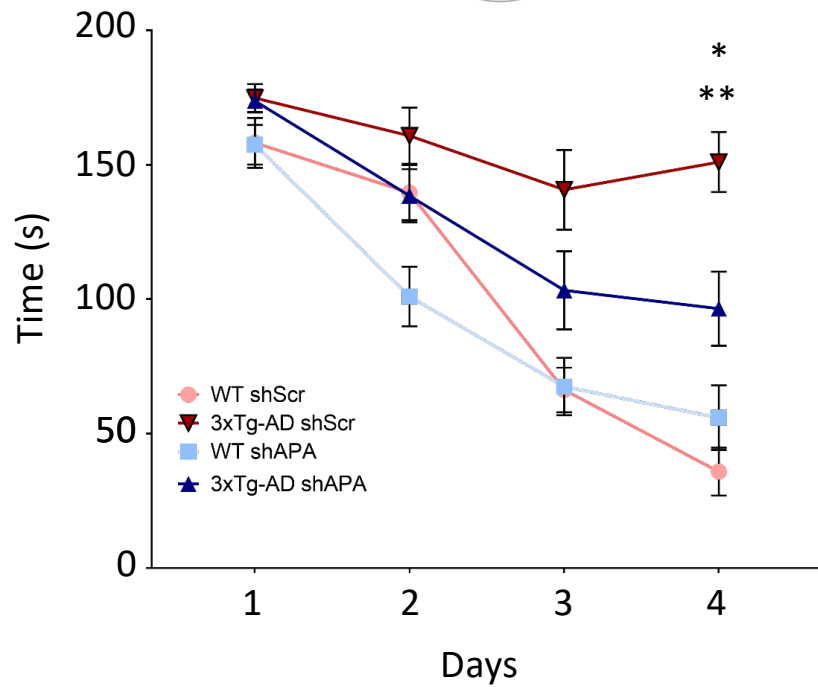
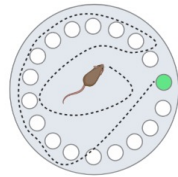
# Learning in Barnes Maze et MWM: genetic approach targeting APA




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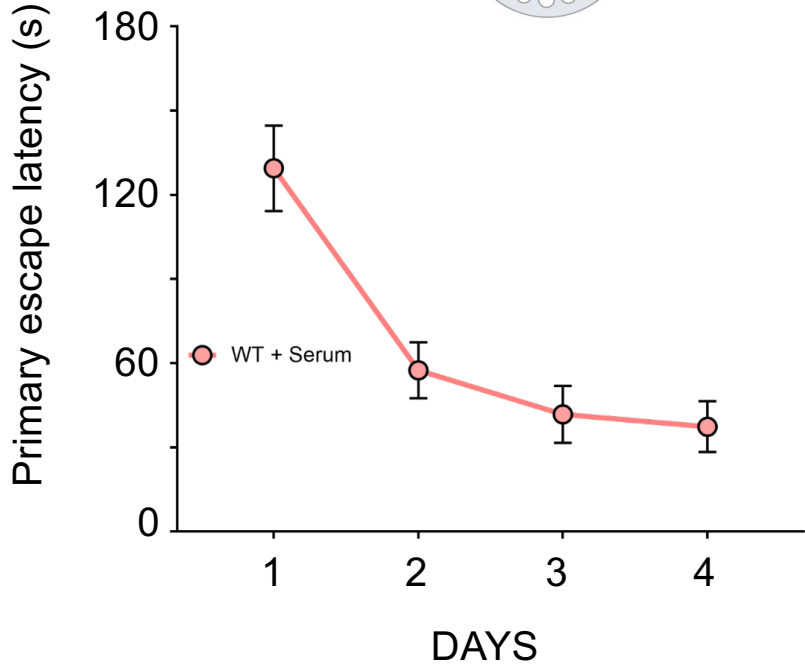
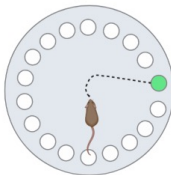


# Learning in Barnes Maze et MWM: genetic approach targeting APA

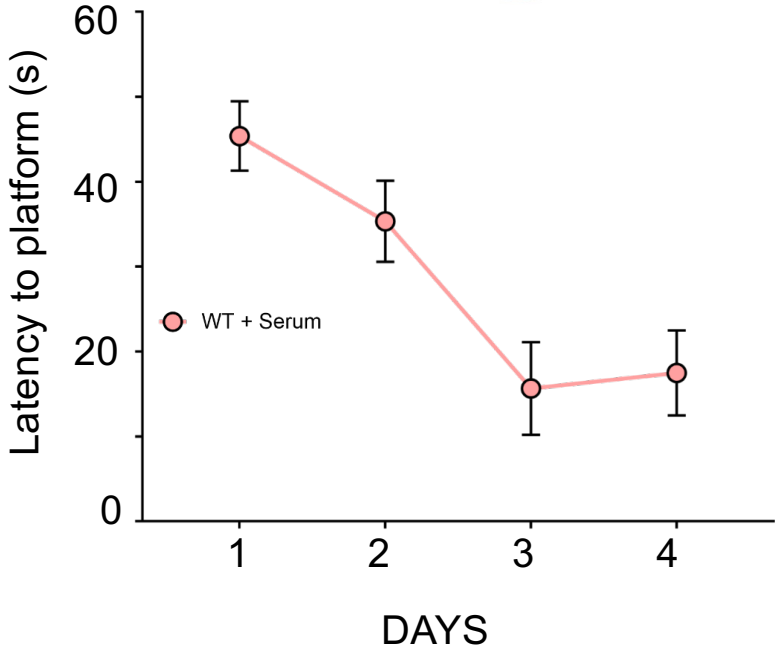
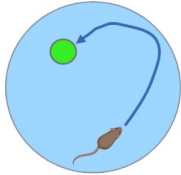
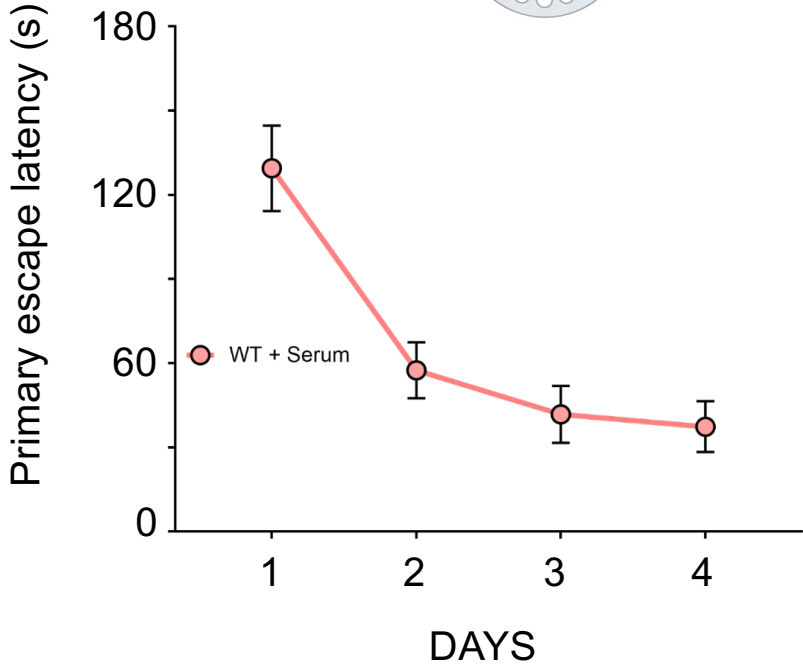
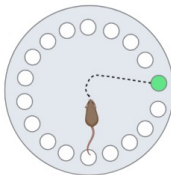


# Learning in Barnes Maze and MWM: pharmacological targeting of APA

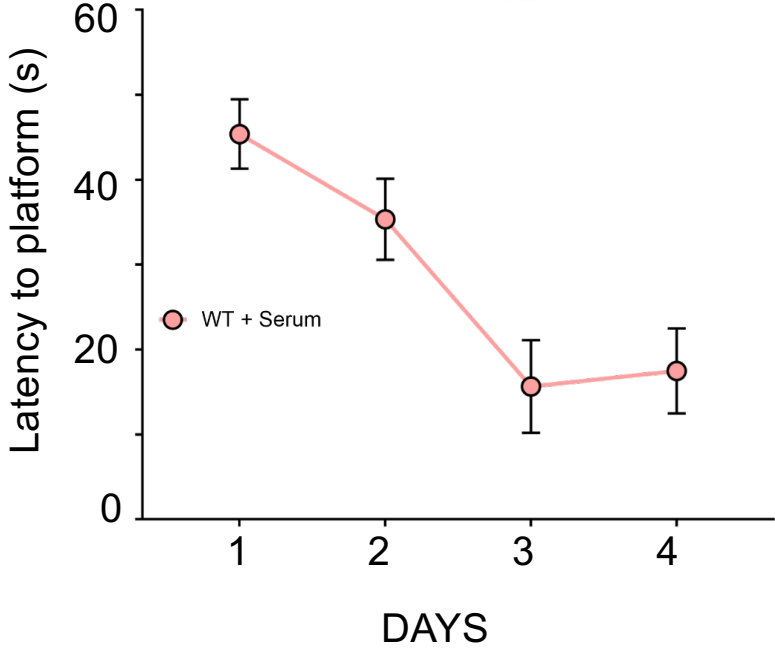
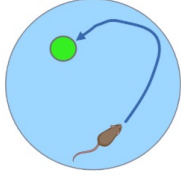
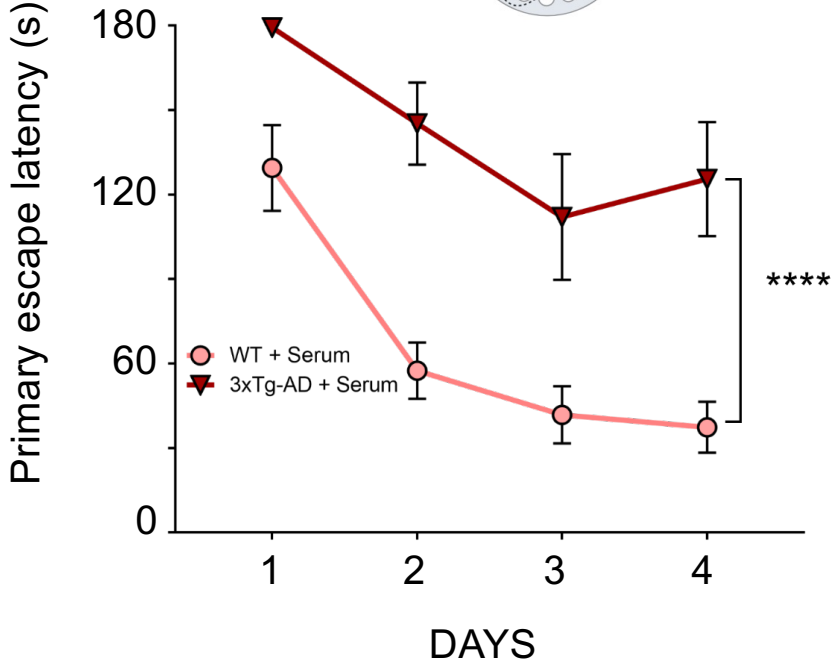
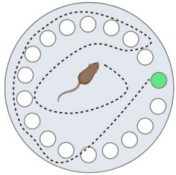
RB150 



# Learning in Barnes Maze and MWM: pharmacological targeting of APA

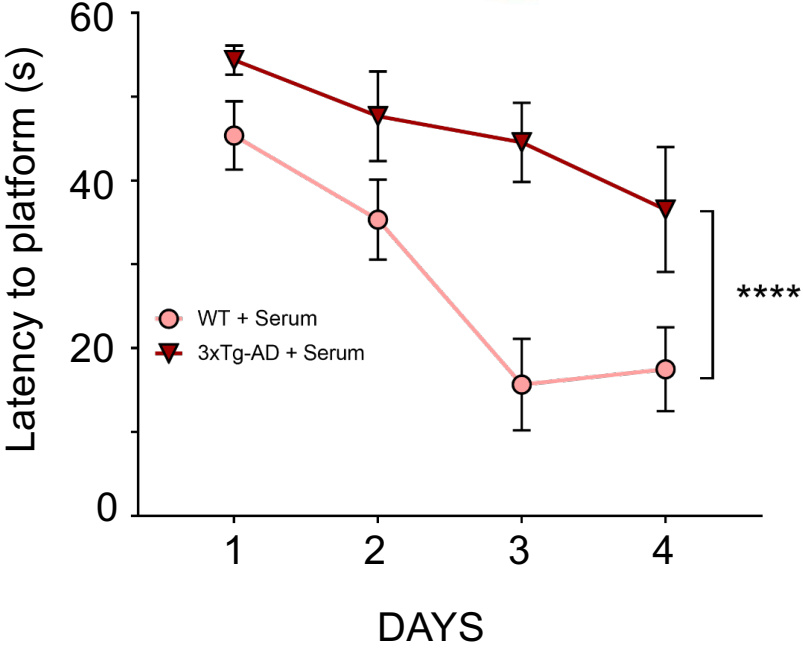
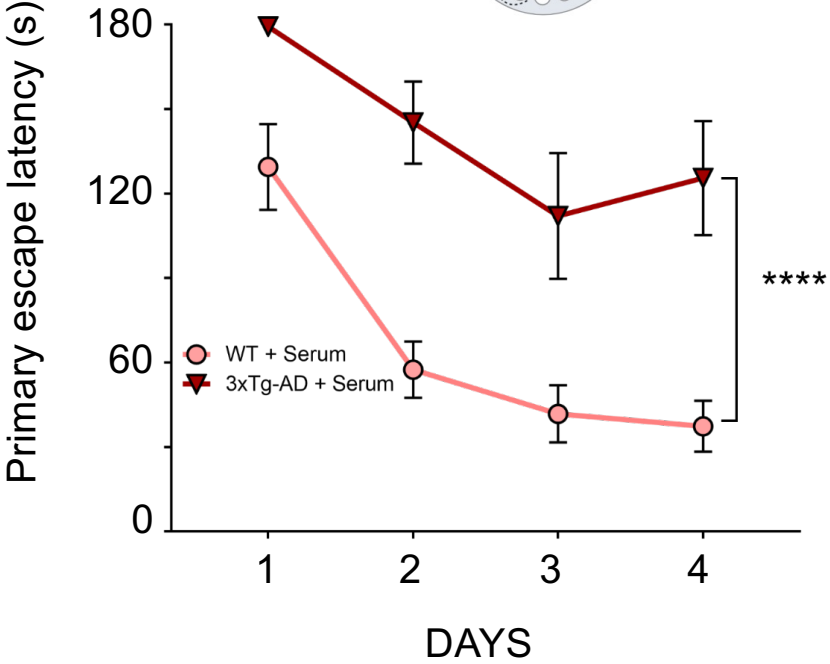
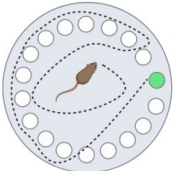


# Learning in Barnes Maze and MWM: pharmacological targeting of APA

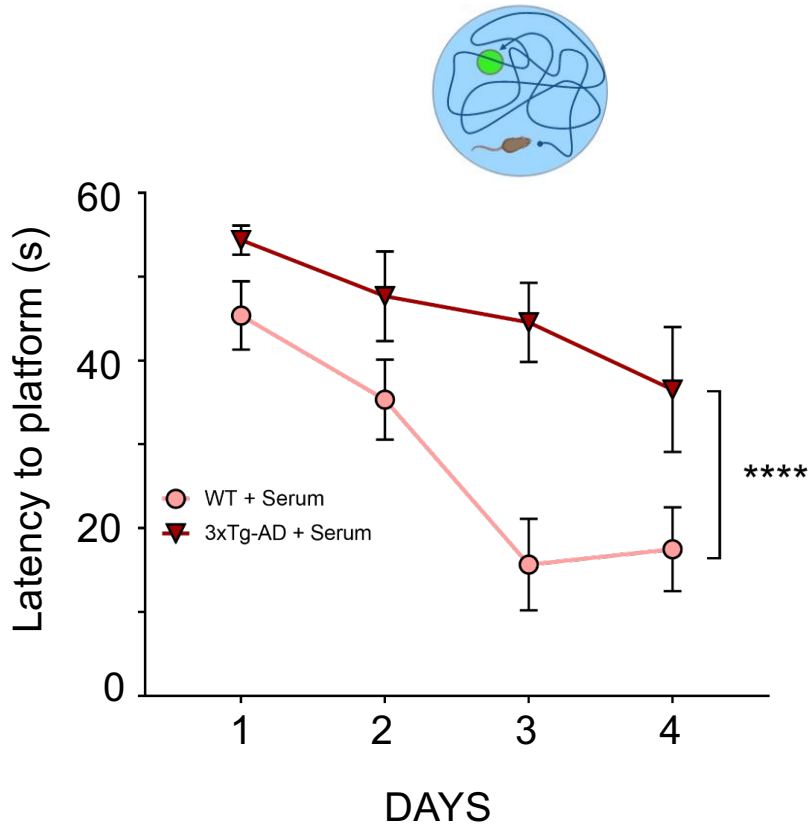
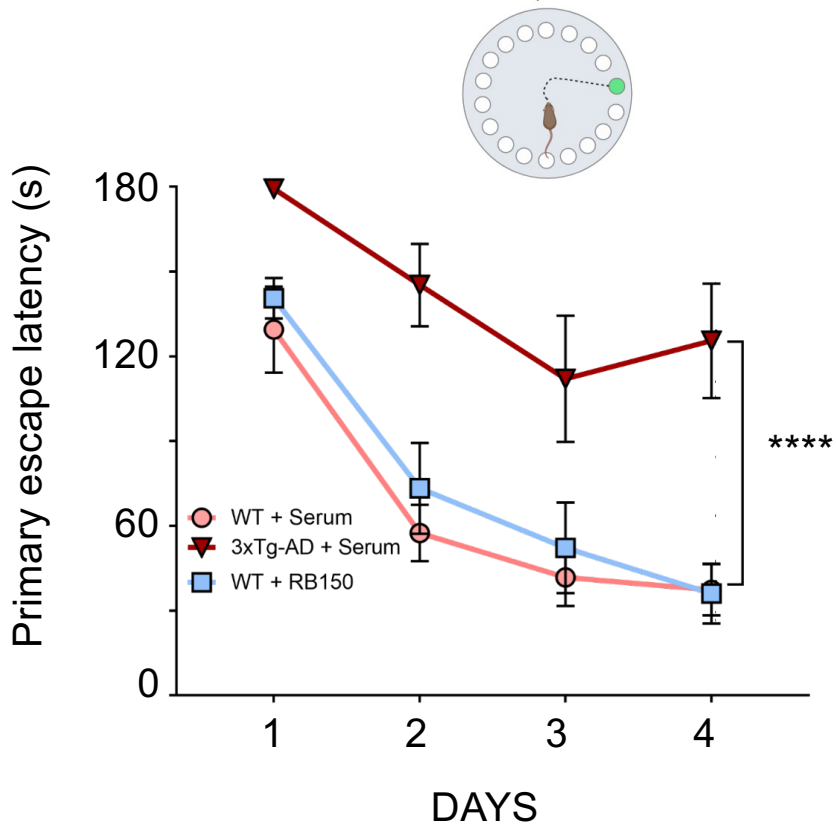




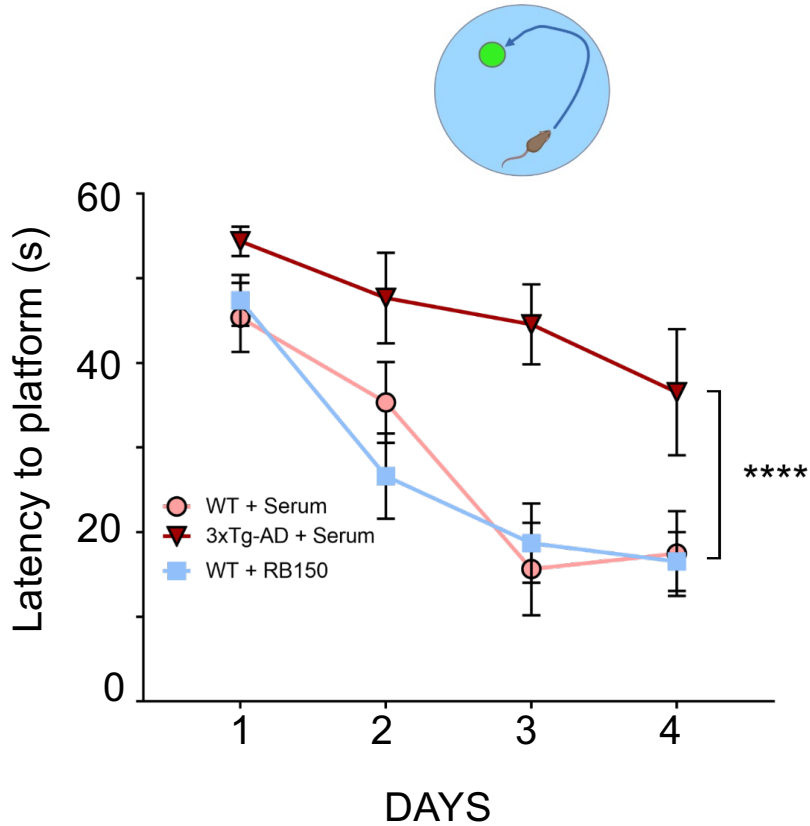
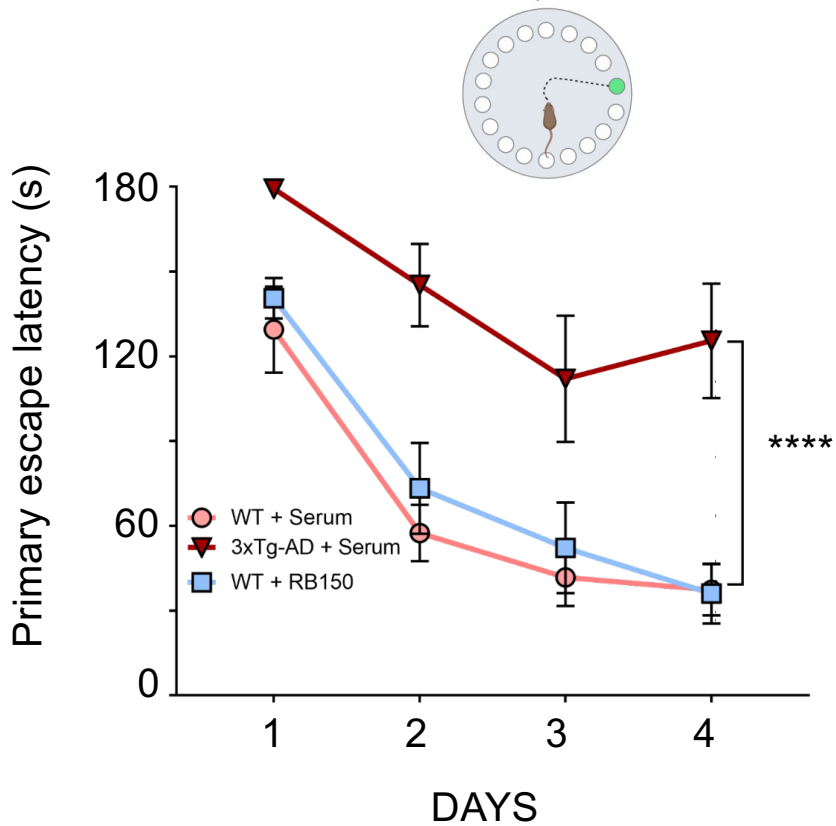
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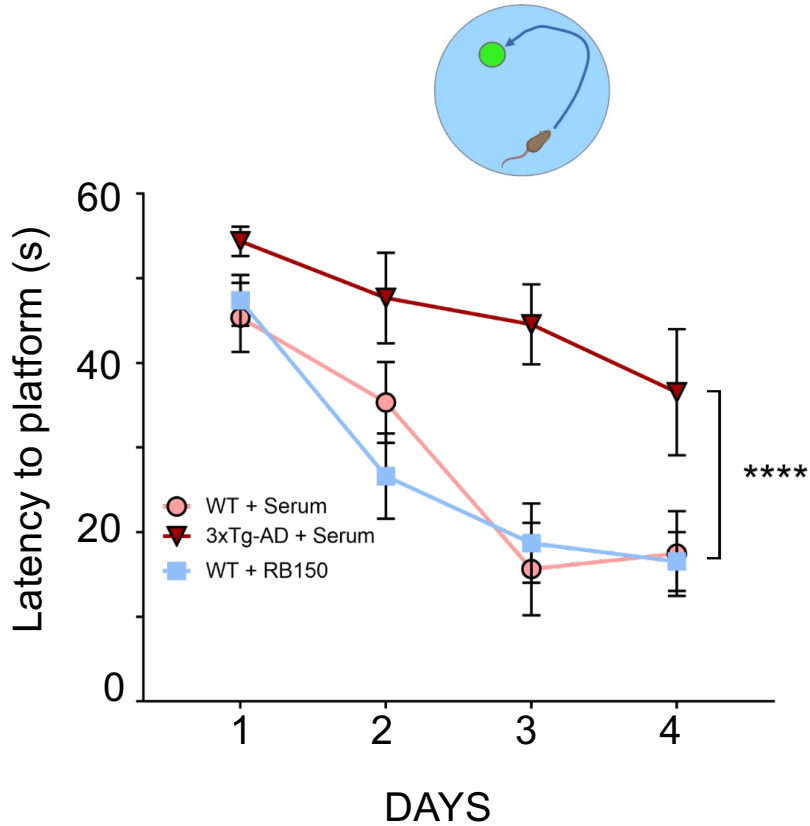
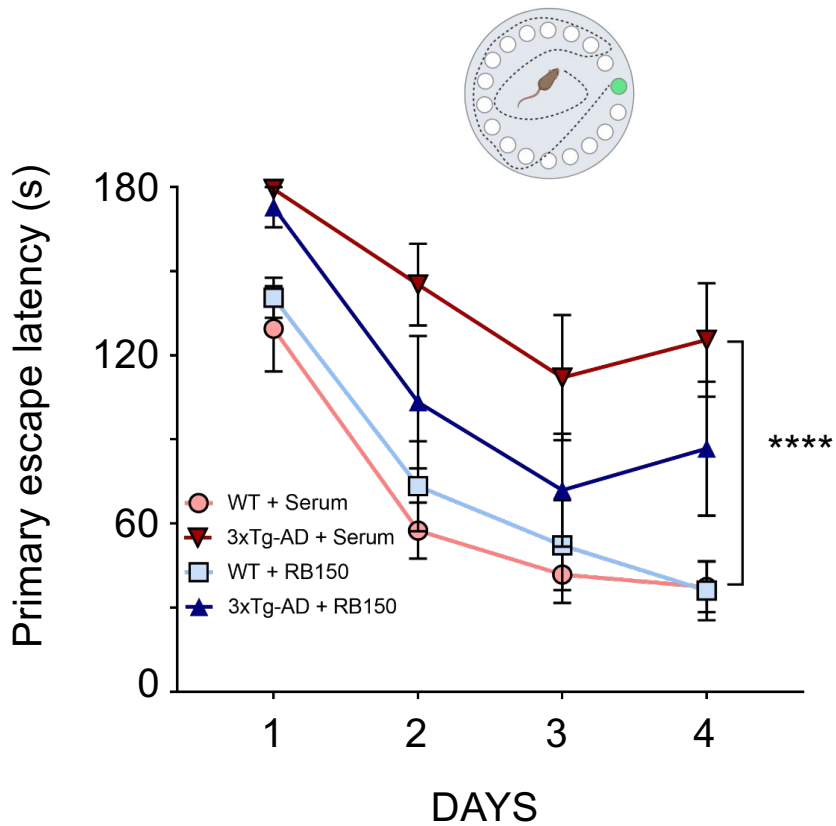
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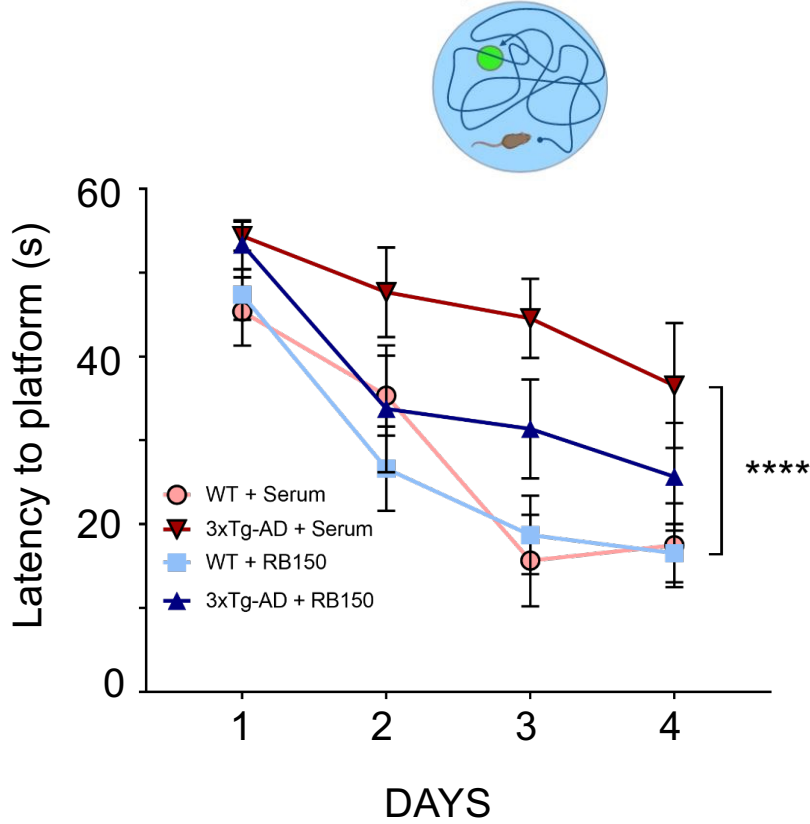
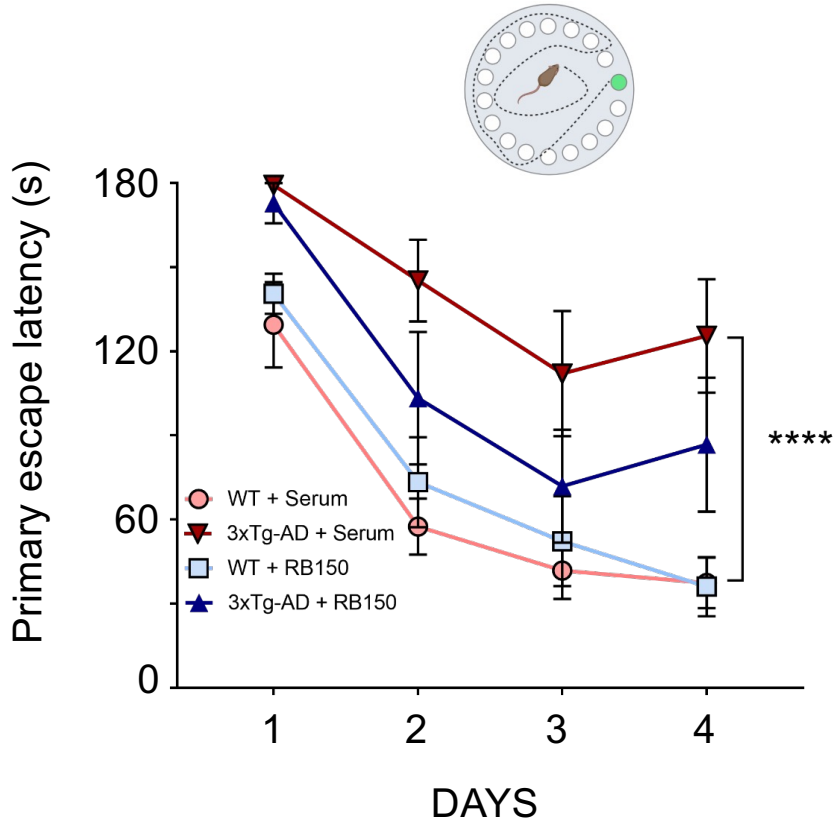
# Learning in Barnes Maze and MWM: pharmacological targeting of APA



# Learning in Barnes Maze and MWM: pharmacological targeting of APA



# Learning in Barnes Maze and MWM: pharmacological targeting of APA



# Conclusions

## **APA**

→ Improvement of cognitive deficits in Barnes Maze and MWM by both genetic and pharm

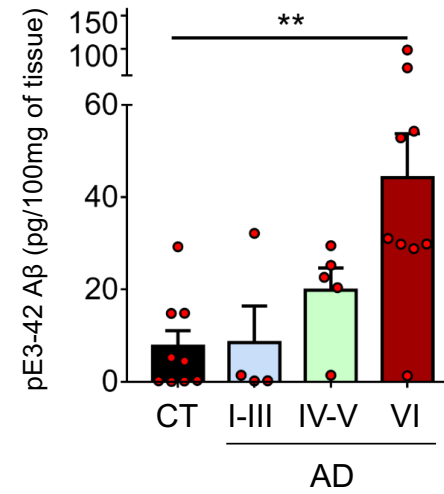
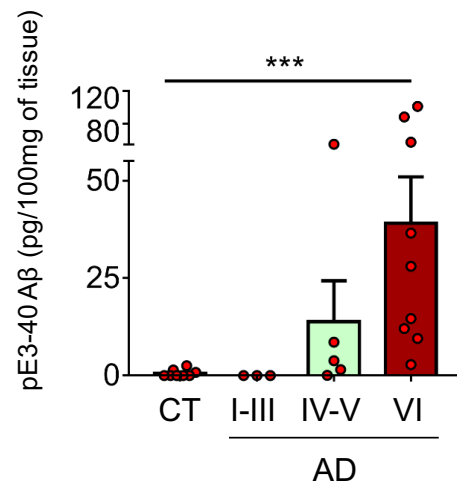
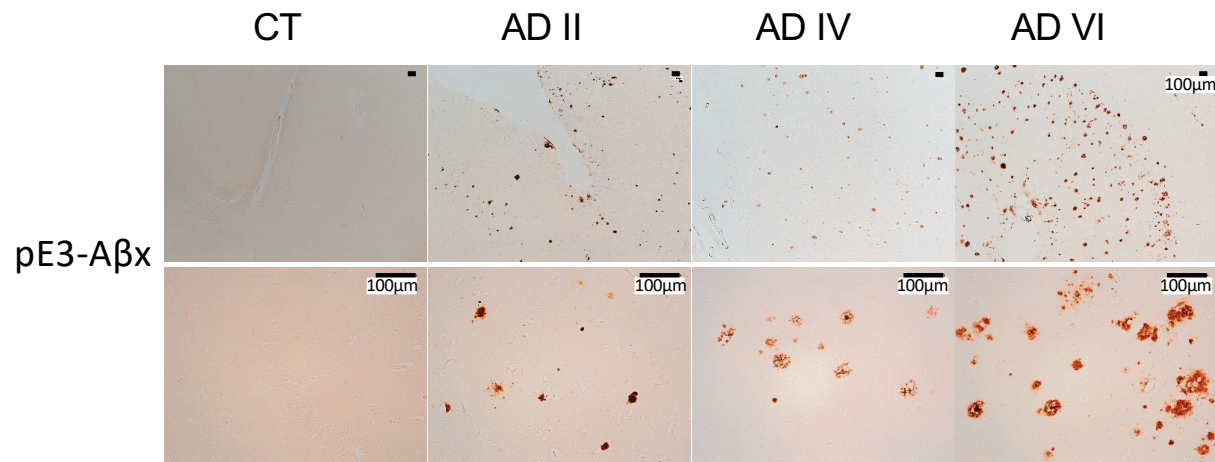
## **DPP4**

→ Improvement of cognitive defects in the MWM by genetic approach

→ Improvement of cognitive defects in the Barnes Maze by pharmacological approach

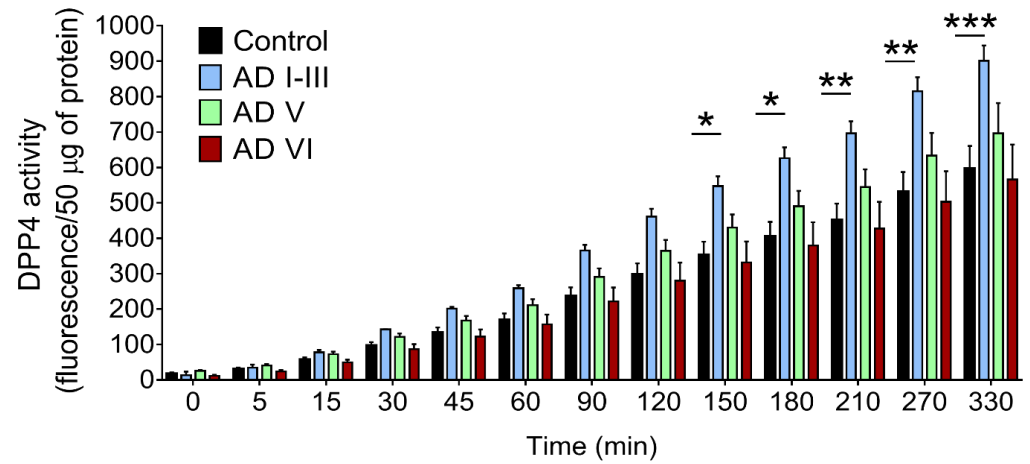
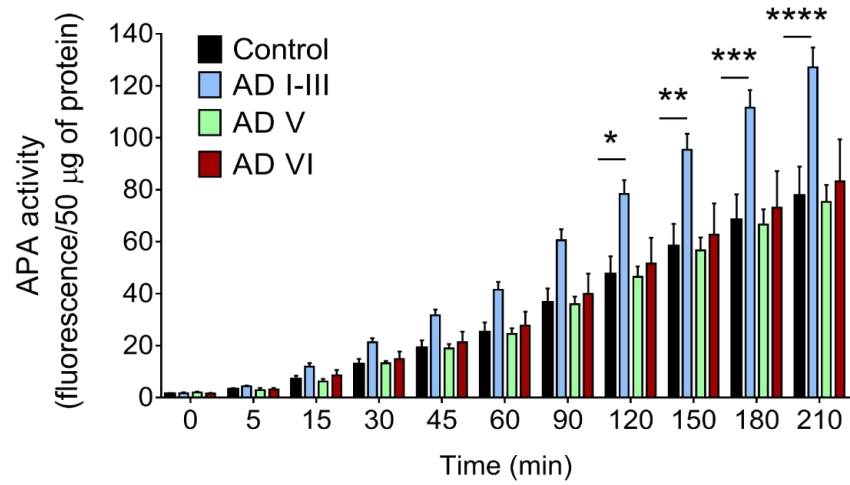
Measurements of APA and DPP4  
activities in sporadic AD brains.

# Truncated A $\beta$ AD-affected brains





# APA and DPP4 activities in sporadic AD brains.



Targeting A $\beta$  truncation,  
an alternative therapeutic strategy in AD

*Aminopeptidase A contributes to biochemical, anatomical and cognitive defects in Alzheimer's disease mice and is increased at early stage of sporadic Alzheimer's disease. (Acta Neuropathologica)*

A.Valverde, J.Dunys, D.Debayle, T.Lorivel, AS.Gay , B.Roques, S.Lacas-Gervais, M.Chami et F.Checler. **Acta Neuropathologica**, 2021 Jun;141(6):823-839

Dipeptidyl peptidase 4 accounts for Alzheimer's disease-like defects in a mouse model and its activity is increased in sporadic Alzheimer's disease brains.

A.Valverde, J.Dunys, C.Caillava, D.Debayle, T.Lorivel, AS.Gay , M.Chami et F.Checler, 2021 **Journal of Biological Chemistry**, Aug;297(2):100963

## Remerciements

### Equipe FC:

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Xavier MECKLER

Moustapha CISSE

Yannis GERAKIS

Thomas GOIRAN

Cécile MARTIN

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### Plateforme Imagerie:

**Sophie ABELANET**

**Julie CAZARETH**

Frédéric BRAU

### Animalerie:

Nicolas GUY

**Thomas LORIVEL**

Alain BARBOT

Véronique THIEFFIN

Benjamin DONNET

### Plateforme protéomique:

**Delphine DEBAYLE**

**Anne-Sophie GAY**

Nathalie LEROUDIER

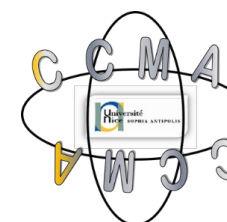
Lucile FLEURIOT



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Pr Bernard ROQUES



### Centre Commun de Microscopie

Sandras GERVAIS

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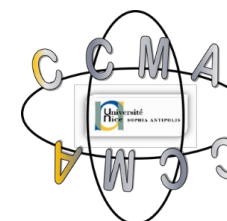
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