

### The Glymphatic System, Sleep & other states of unconsciousness

Helene Benveniste, MD, PhD Department of Anesthesiology & Radiology, Stony Brook University, NY

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#### **Collaborators**

- Hedok Lee, PhD (Stony Brook Medicine)
- M. Nedergaard, MD, PhD (Univ. of Rochester, NY & Univ. of Copenhagen, Denmark)
- Paul Vaska, PhD (Stony Brook Medicine)
- Mei Yu, BS (Stony Brook Medicine)
- S. David Smith, PhD (Stony Brook Medicine)
- Nora Volkow MD, (NIAAA, NIH)
- Dinko Franceschi, MD (Stony Brook Medicine)
- Jean Logan, PhD (NYU)
- Vadim Ratner, PhD (Stony Brook Medicine)
- Allan Tannenbaum (Stony Brook Medicine)
- Mark Schweitzer, MD (Stony Brook Medicine)
- John Danias, MD, PhD (SUNY-Downstate, NY)



Dr. Hedok Lee







Mei Yu



Dr. Vadim Ratner



Dr. S. David Smith

Dr. Maiken Nedergaard

Dr. Paul Vaska

### Significance

- The brain is one of the most metabolically active organs in the body
- Removal of excess fluids and waste products is critical for normal brain function
- The brain parenchyma has no authentic lymphatic vessels for detoxification

#### The brain & metabolic waste: Example - Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>)



The glutamate-glutamine cycle leads to production of ammonia  $(NH_3)$ ....at the same time ammonia is needed in astrocytes for the synthesis of glutamine from glutamate.

Ammonia is rapidly eliminated by the brain

From: Schousboe et al. Frontiers in Endocrinology, 2013

# The brain & metabolic waste: Proteins

- Cytosolic proteins are constantly renewed
- Proteins incorporated in the cytoskeleton and membranes are constantly renewed
- Lack of specialized BBB transporters for most peptides and protein
- Recycling/degradation of protein: ubiquitination and autophagy



Schematic overview of autophagy Rubinzstein, NATURE, Vol 443; 206

## Significance

- Age-related decline in the efficiency of protein degradation has been implicated in pathological protein aggregation
- Neurodegenerative diseases, are characterized by accumulation of aggregation-prone mutated, misfolded or hyperphosphorylated proteins
- These proteins are present intracellular and extracellular

Neurofibrillary tangle and amyloid plaque



http://neuropathology-web.org/

# Alternative waste removal pathway from CNS: CSF-ISF exchange

#### New discovery (mouse), 2015



Brain parenchyma lacks a lymphatic system ?



Lyve-1 DAPI Louveau et al., Nature 2015

#### CSF has been proposed as a sink for waste removal from brain



#### Authentic Lymphatic Vessels

CSF is produced by the choroid plexus in the ventricles from where it flows through foramen magendi and eventually leaves via the arachnoid villi, the olfactory bulb, or cranial nerves....

# Waste removal via CSF characterized by Heinrich Quincke in 1872



Quincke injected cinnabar granules into CSF of anima (dogs, cats, rabbits)





Cinnabar is a large molecule and while it is transported in CSF it does not go into parenchyma....

From: "Modern CSF Research and Heinrich Quincke's Seminal Paper on the Distribution of Cinnabar in Freely Moving Animals. Benveniste et al., JCN 2015

# State-of-the-art knowledge of the glymphatic pathway

## State-of-the art knowledge of the ISF-CSF exchange process



#### Illif et al., Science Translational Medicine, 2012

### In vivo imaging of CSF tracers: Discovering the glymphatic pathway



#### How do we know that this system removes waste products?





#### lliff et al., Science Translational Medicine, 2012

#### State-of-the-art-knowledge:

#### Visualizing glymphatic transport in real time using MRI

## Tracking glymphatic transport using contrast-enhanced MRI



3D FLASH sequence (T1-weighted); each scan acquired over 4 min



Whole Brain, N=9



Iliff, Nedergaard, Benveniste; J Clin Invest. 2013 Mar 1;123(3):1299-309

#### Quantification of Gd-DTPA brain-wide transport







Dr. Jean Logan, NYU



Lee et al., J Neuroscience. 2015

#### Brain loss (clearance) and 'retention' of Gd-DTPA after CSF administration in rodent whole brain



----Rat\_072414\_WB\_TAC

----Rat\_072414\_2C\_model

Lee et al., J Neuroscience 2015

# Factors that influence glymphatic pathway function:

- AQP4
- Adrenergic tone
- Pulsatility
- Sleep / hypnotics





#### Importance of Noradrenergic tone



..We also see differences in glymphatic transport with use of different anesthetics...

Alpha-2 agonist - dexmedetomidine

#### Knowledge gap:

If unconsciousness enhance brain waste removal – what about body position during the unconscious state?

# How does body position during sleep/anesthesia influence glymphatic transport?



"Consistently, poor sleepers spent more time on their backs with their heads straight" De Koninck et al., Sleep 1983;6 (1):52-9

The most favored position is right lateral decubitus (Sleep 1983;6 (1):52-9)



http://bestadjustablemattress.com/how-to-find-thebest-sleeping-positions/

#### **Results from DeKonick's paper**

	Good Sleepers	Poor Sleepers
Body movement/night		
Film records	42.3	50.5
Polygraph records	56.7	77.0
Position changes/night	22.3	35.6
By trunk position (first 3 cycles)		
Stomach	5	3
Back	9	18
Right side	24	17
Left side	15	11

Average body movements and trunk position for good and poor sleepers for both nights (modified Table 4 from (Sleep 1983;6 (1):52-9))

#### **Sleeping gorillas**





http://www.freepik.com/free-photo/gorilla-sleeping\_352304.htm

#### **Sleeping rats**

"Slow wave sleep (SWS). During this stage, subjects assumed a reclining posture, sometimes on their abdomen....sometimes curled in a fetal position with eyes closed." (Hobson; Behavioral Neruoscience; 2000, Vol 114; No. 6, 1239-1244).



http://blogs.discovermagazine.com/s ciencenotfiction/2010/08/10/incepti on-and-the-neuroscience-ofsleep/#.VLZI0CvF8j4

#### Effect of body position on glymphatic transport



Neck, ears and nose is not affected by the head holder Cisterna Magna Catheter







MRI compatible head holder fixing the head of the anesthetized rat in prone position during imaging. There are no ear-bars; the fixation points are at the level of the squamosal bone. Head holder designed by Dr. Hedok Lee.

#### **Physiological parameters:**



120 Breath per min 9 80 9 80 20 0 100 120 0 20 40 60 80 140 160 Time (min) • SUPINE (N=9) ■PRONE (N=7) ORLD (N=8)

Respiratory rate

Heart Rate



Anesthetized rat in the SUPINE position being monitored: Respiratory rate, heart rate, Oxygen saturation and body temperature.

All the rats were anesthetized with a mixture of Ketamine:Xylazine i.p.; glycopyrulate 0.01mg/kg i.p was also administered as an anti-sialagogue.

All rats were spontaneously breathing.

#### 2-compartment model

Clearance (loss) is greatest in RLD and lowest in prone position...

k3/k4 = Retention

k2/(1+k3/k4) = "loss"





Does body position influence whole brain glymphatic transport of Gd-DTPA

Data are presented as median (1<sup>st</sup> quartile, 3<sup>rd</sup> quartile) for each group. \*One rat in the PRONE group was excluded from analysis due to 2compartmental fitting failure.



Kinetic parameter	SUPINE (N=9)	PRONE (N=6*)	RLD (N=8)	P-value
Retention = (k3/k4)	10.70 (9.88, 12.50)	14.98 (12.23, 16.53)	6.86 (6.28, 9.47)	0.008
Loss = k2/(1+k3/k4)	0.23 (0.13, 0.26)	0.14 (0.09, 0.21)	0.31 (0.23, 0.40)	0.021

MRI data validated by optical imaging....and also showing that Aβ is cleared least efficiently in prone position

Prone Lateral Supine • Texas red - 3KD 😑 FITC - 2000KD 0.25 0.06 FITC (% area covered) Texas red ( % area covered) 0.20 0.04 0.15 0.10 0.02 0.05 0.00 0.00 Prone Lateral Supine Prone Lateral Supine <sup>125</sup>I Amyloid β Clearance (%) 100 o 1251 Amyloid B 80 60 40 20 0 Prone Lateral Supine Prone Lateral Supine Merge • Texas red - 3KD FITC - 2000KD Fluorescence Intensity of FITC (AU) 100 100 100 250 280 Fluorescence Intensity of Texas red (AU) 260 Т 240 220 200 100

А

В

С

D

Prone

Lateral

Supine

Prone

Lateral

Supine

### **Research opportunities**

- Understand how the cardiac sympatho-vagal balance influence central nervous system arousal and glymphatic pathway function in the context of sleep and aging
- Understand how perivascular neurons, gliovascular interactions and intramural vascular signaling change and interferes with glymphatic pathway functioning in normal aging.
- Mapping of the glymphatic, perivascular 'connectome'; need to understand CSF-ISF streaming pattern in health and disease