an activating signal (as ATP), which promotes the formation of the complex.

**Methods:** Organotypic slices were used to assess the interplay between inflammation and epilepsy. Slices were exposed to different concentrations of LPS (5, 10 and 20 ng/mL), either alone or in the presence of ATP (1 mM). LPS-induced inflammation was characterized using molecular-based assays, such as ELISA to quantify IL-1β, CBA to measure TNF-α, and western blot to assess the expression of Iba-1, GFAP, NLRP3/ASC, and αII-Spectrin. Field potential recordings were used to evaluate the epileptic-like activity of the slices and the effect of MCC950, a NLRP3 selective inhibitor, was assessed.

**Results:** Results obtained by ELISA showed a significant increase in IL-1β concentration in slices exposed to 10 ng/mL LPS/1 mM ATP. TNF-α, assessed by CBA, was also significantly increased in this condition, corroborating the inflammatory phenotype. No changes in NLRP3 expression were observed by immunoblot analysis, but ASC, one component of the inflammasome, showed a decreased expression in LPS/ATP exposed slices, suggestive of its binding to NLRP3 and thus to complex formation.

Furthermore, epileptic-like activity, measured by field potential recordings, was blocked by MCC950 (10 μM).

**Conclusion:** We demonstrate that LPS induces an inflammatory phenotype in organotypic slices. NLRP3 blockade eliminated the epileptic-like activity of the slices.

**References**


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**PS048**

The influence of antipsychotics therapy and sociodemographic characteristics on cognitive performances in acute phase of schizophrenia

Milica Erdevički *, Nataša Jovičić

Medical Faculty of Novi Sad

E-mail address: mimaerdevikci1@gmail.com

(M. Erdevički).

**Aim:** The main purpose of this research was to examine the influence of sociodemographic characteristics (gender, age, level of education, heredity, alcohol and psychoactive substances), and the effect of different therapies on cognitive capabilities of patients diagnosed with schizophrenia.

**Introduction:** Schizophrenia, as one of the most common psychiatric diseases, is characterized by generalized cognitive damage with various degrees and in all domains of cognitive functioning. Cognitive dysfunction is one of the main causes of poor social and professional functioning for patients with schizophrenia.

**Methods:** The research involved 50 patients with acute phases of schizophrenia from the Psychiatric Clinic in Novi Sad. The primary instrument for the research was the standardized test for examination of cognitive impairments, Mini-Mental Scale Examination (MMSE).

**Results:** Acquired data correlated with MMSE score, noting the degree of cognitive impairments in patients, particularly significant with relation to age and duration of illness. Gender, level of education and type of used antipsychotics were not significantly correlated with MMSE score.

**Conclusion:** During this research it is found that aging and longer illness duration bear significant correlation to higher levels of cognitive impairment.

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**PS110**

Study of the modular CNS regions in the visual circuit Retina-Superior Colliculus-Lateral Posterior nucleus triggering freezing behavior

Ares Sellés Rius

NERF (Neuro-Electronics Research Flanders), Karl Farrow’s Laboratory, Belgium

E-mail address: aresser128@gmail.com.

**Aim:** The goal is to understand the neuronal networks organization from the sensory input to the freezing behavior through the identification of modular brain regions that project to the Superior Colliculus.

**Introduction:** The behavior of an animal can be triggered by signals in its visual environment. Threatening stimulus evoked innate defense behaviors as freezing behavior. This project is focused in one visual-guided behavioral circuit that links the retina visual information with the Lateral Posterior thalamic nucleus(LP) via Superior Colliculus(SC).

**Methods:** The experimental approach is based on retrograde viral tracing techniques. Using the stereotaxic surgery, the first injection with a Herpes Simplex Virus expressing TVA receptor and glycoprotein G was done at LP. After 21 days, the second injection was done at the SC with a Rabies Virus coated by EnV and lacking of glycoprotein G. The combination of these viruses allowed the restriction of the viral tracing to the circuit of interest. Subsequently, the experimental procedure continued perfusing the mouse, slicing the brain and staining it. Finally, the slices were scanned using the fluorescent confocal microscope.

**Results:** The resulting images presented labeled cells in all brain areas that sent inputs to collicular neurons that are projecting to LP. The main nuclei identified were the Periaqueductal gray, the primary visual cortex and the Substantia nigra, suggesting their modulatory role in freezing responses.

**Conclusion:** The main areas labeled are sending excitatory projections to SC to reinforce the freezing behavior. Also, Ntsrl-GN209-Cre mice used in combination with flox-HSV for the first injection restricted more the viral tracing, specifically to the Ntsr1+-Wild-field neurons of SC which were already known that project to LP. The results were not completely consistent with the non-flox-HSV injections but the main nuclei named above were also labeled. These results suggest that the flox-HSV is necessary to exclude nonspecific labeling of projections from SC-LGN.

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**PS190**

Voluntary inhibition of saccadic eye movements: EEG study

A. Fedotova *, M. Slavutskaya

Lomonosov Moscow State University, Department of Higher Nervous Activity, Russia
Aim: The aim of our study was to find out EEG markers of inhibitory control in human.

Introduction: The voluntary inhibition is an important component of cognitive control. It is strong in healthy adults and weak in people with schizophrenia. The cortical mechanisms of inhibition are associated with event-related potentials (ERPs). In the case of a saccadic response some new EEG correlates of inhibition could be found.

Methods: Sixteen healthy right-handed subjects (18–22 years) participated in the study. We used a modified “Go/No go delay” paradigm with long interstimulus interval (2800–3000 ms). The task involved two types of target stimuli (“Go”, “No go”) with 50% probability. EEG and saccades were recorded simultaneously. ERPs were determined by means of coherent averaging relative to target stimulus onset. The EEG brain mapping was used to depict spatial dynamics of P1.

Results: P1 peak latency was 90–140 ms and tended to increase in cases of inhibition (by 6 ± 0.5 ms, p < 0.05). In the “No go” situation P1 amplitude was significantly lower than that in case of “Go” stimulus presentation (by 3.3 ± 0.7 mkV, p < 0.05). Regardless of the place where “No go” stimulus appeared, P1 amplitude was significantly higher on the right hemisphere, that is known to be the dominant one for inhibitory control. The EEG mapping data demonstrate the “bottom-up” spreading of P1 foci in “No go” conditions. It also indicates inhibitory processes.

Conclusion: The spatiotemporal parameters of P1 component in “Go/No go delay” paradigm reflect inhibitory processes. Therefore, P1 can be used as EEG marker of inhibitory violations in the clinical research. Our current research involves as subjects the patients with schizophrenia and ultra-high risk patients, as they demonstrate weakened the inhibitory processes. The data would contribute to the reliable diagnostics of schizophrenia at its early stages and to the plausible correction of cognitive impairments.

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PS097

Antidepressive potential of aqueous extract of common vervain (V. officinalis L. Verbenaceae) and molecular docking studies of its main components as potential antidepressive agents

N. Lasica, N. Lasica

1 Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Clinical Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Novi Sad, Serbia
2 Department of Chemistry, Biochemistry and Environmental Protection, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia

E-mail address: nebojsa.lasica@gmail.com (N. Lasica).


Introduction: Common vervain is a plant used in traditional medicine. Its AE contains a vast number of compounds, hence its significant pharmacological potential.

The monoamine hypothesis is the central theory of depression, and a majority of conventional antidepressants act on the monoaminergic system.

Methods: Experiments were conducted on Swiss albino sexually mature male mice. There were 6–8 animals in each of 5 subgroups (imipramine; fluoxetine; two different doses of AE – AE I, II; and VS); Forced Swimming Test (FST) and Tail Suspension Test (TST) were used to assess the antidepressive effect.

Molecular docking experiments were performed using the program AutoDock 4.2, with 3D structures of crystallized proteins from the PDB database and 3D structures of ligands generated by the software Avogadro 2.0.8.0.