

# **Smaller subjects: neuromodulation in children and in animal models**

## **IOM Panel Discussion**

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# Special considerations in pediatric neuromodulation

- Vulnerability and ethical considerations
- Head and brain growth
- Capacity to cooperate
- Developmental regulation of neuronal excitability



# Risks and potential mechanisms for injury to the developing brain

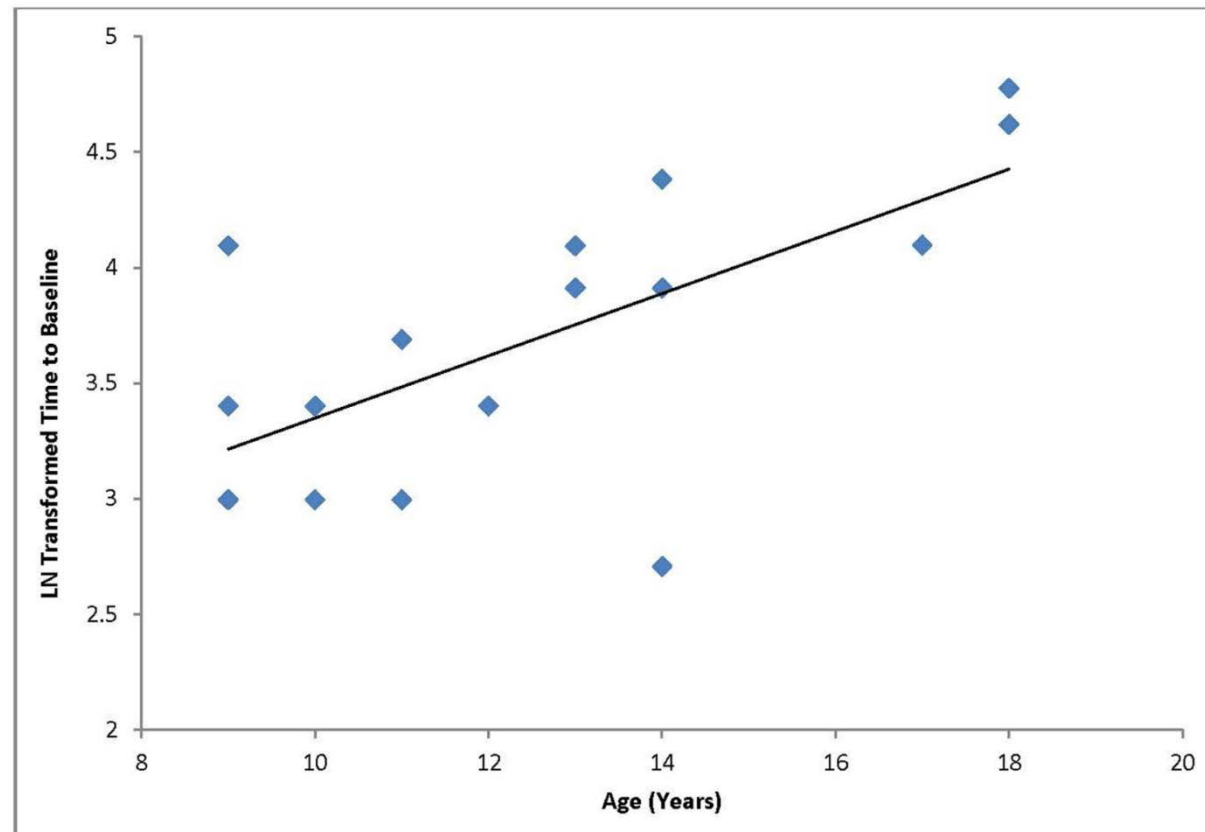
- Enhanced excitability and vulnerability to seizure in early life
  - Risk for excitotoxicity
- Enhanced synaptic plasticity
  - Risk for interference with learning and memory
- Ongoing neurogenesis, synaptogenesis, myelination, etc.
  - Risk of use-dependent structural change



# Modulation of corticospinal excitability by transcranial magnetic stimulation in children and adolescents with autism spectrum disorder

Lindsay M. Oberman<sup>1,2,3,4\*</sup>, Alvaro Pascual-Leone<sup>1</sup> and Alexander Rotenberg<sup>1,2\*</sup>

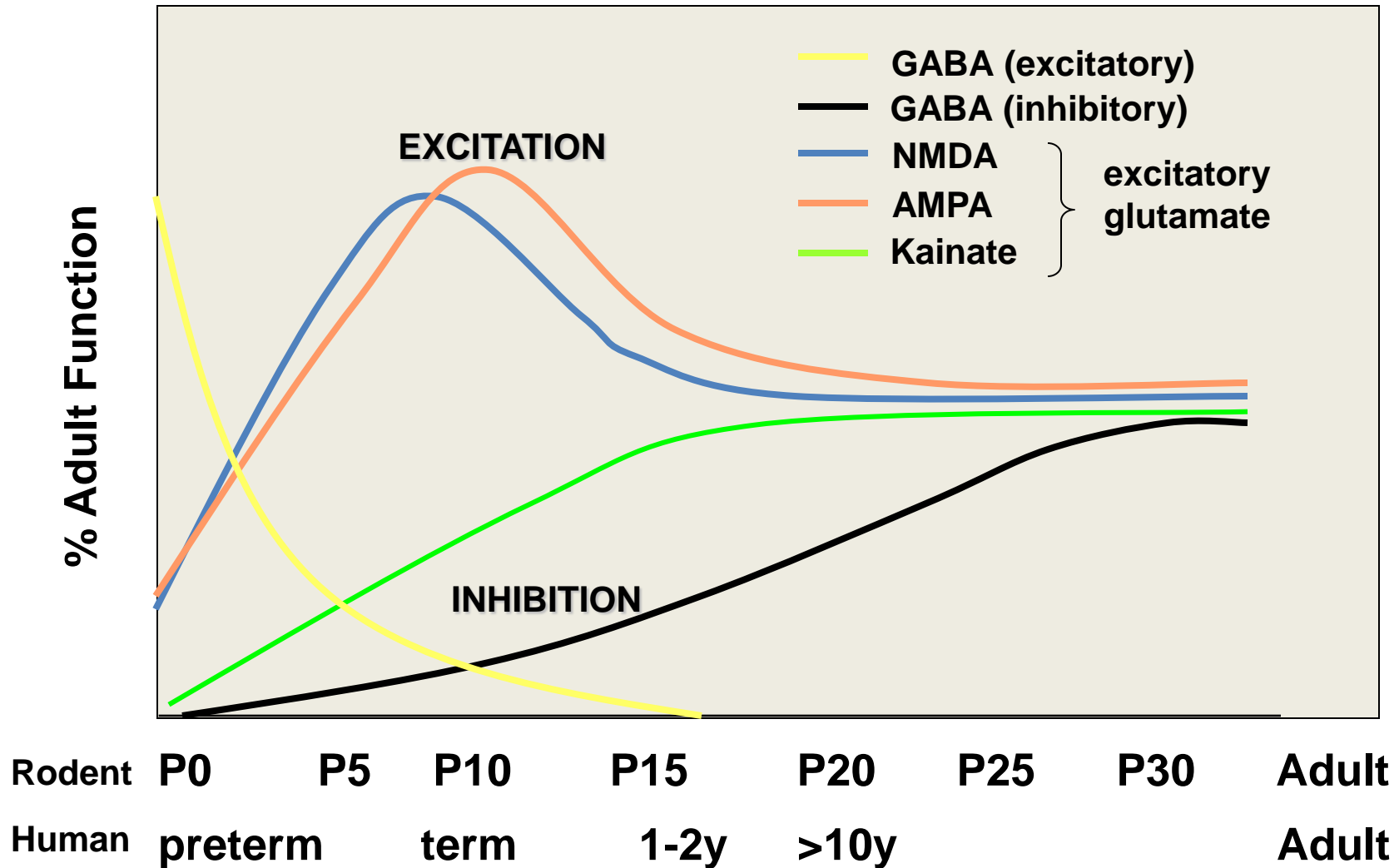
## Maturation of motor plasticity



# Developing brain is a moving target

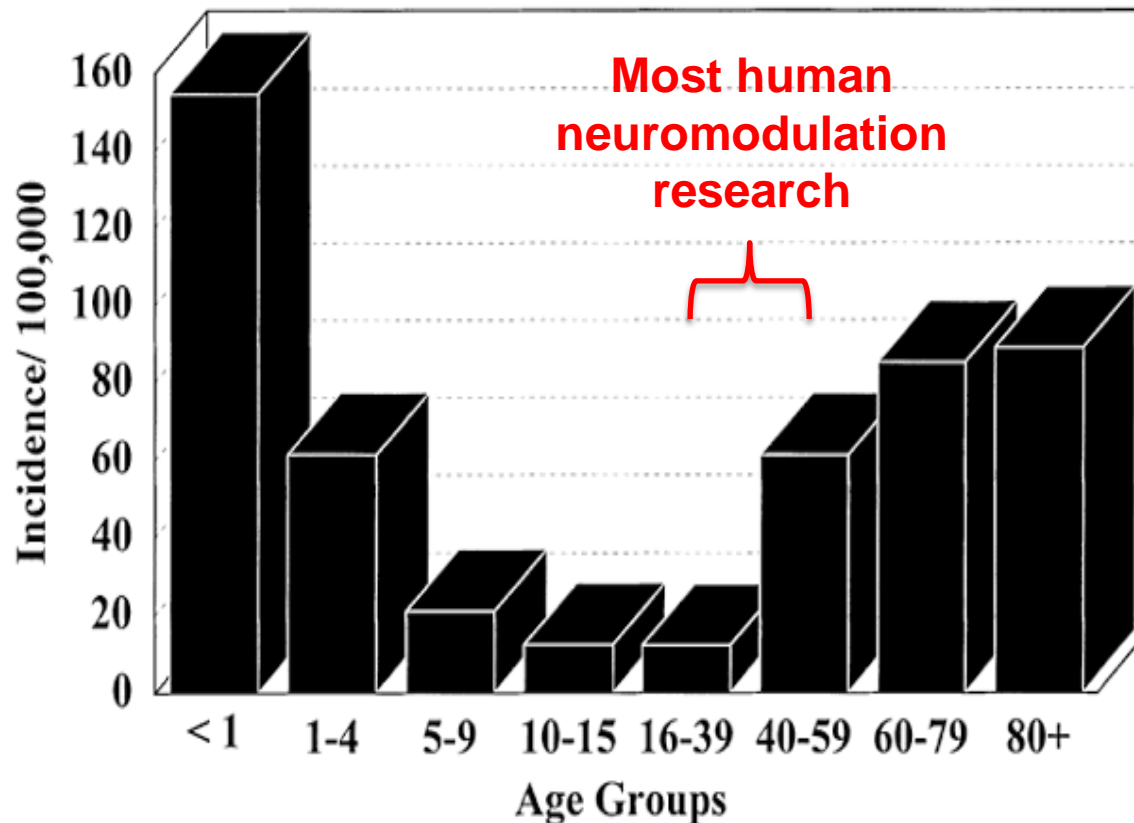
- Vulnerability (or resistance) to injury likely varies with age
- Studies restricted to narrow age windows are lacking
  - Subdivision of the pediatric age group are necessary

# Neuronal Receptor Expression vs Age



Physiology is reflected in disease ...and  
perhaps in neurostimulation risks

## Status Epilepticus by Age



# Clinical research limitations

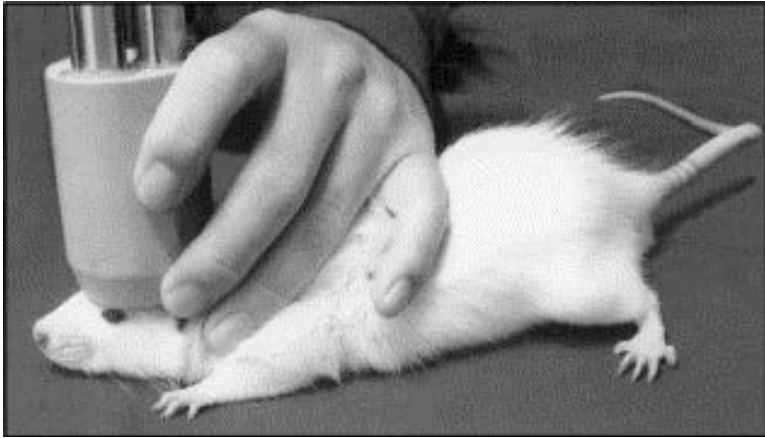
- Patient volume is limited
- Patient populations often inhomogeneous
- Interactions with drugs and other treatments uncertain
- Access to tissue is rare



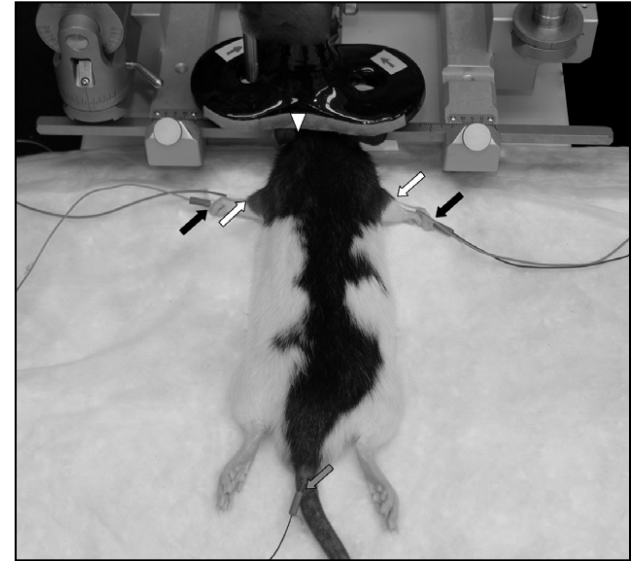
**Ongoing trial: 1 Hz rTMS for  
temporal lobe epilepsy (BCH)**



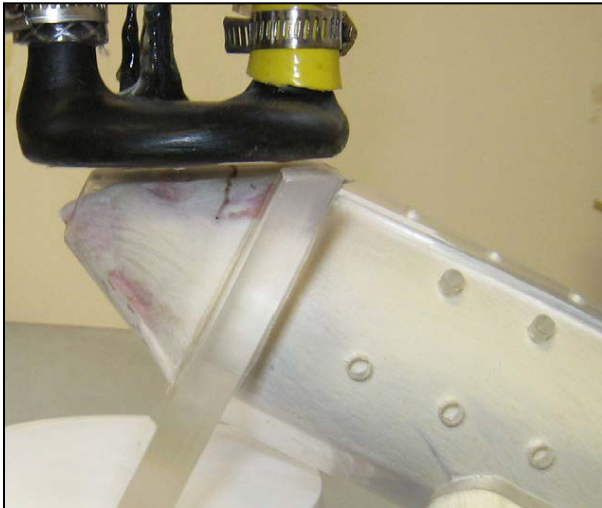
# We can complement clinical research with with preclinical studies



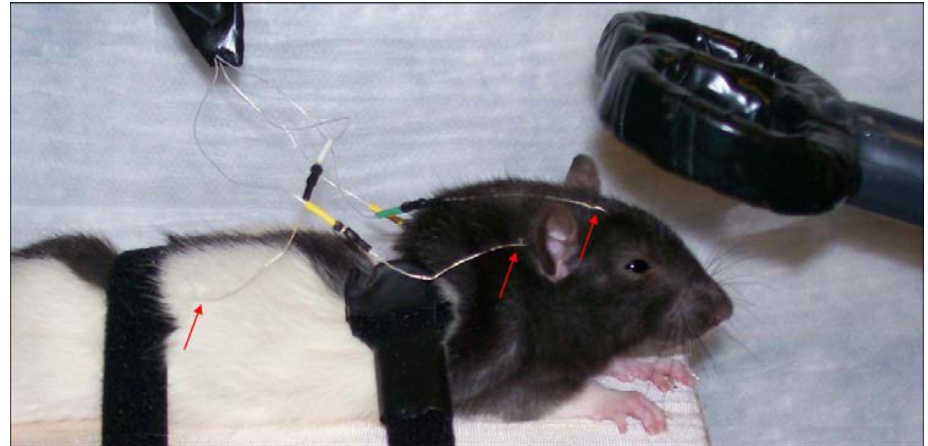
**Liebetanz et al., J Psychiatr Res 2003**



**Rotenberg et al., Clin Neurophys 2009**



**Charlet de Sauvage et al.  
Clin Neurophys 2007**



**Rotenberg et al., Clin Neurophys 2008**

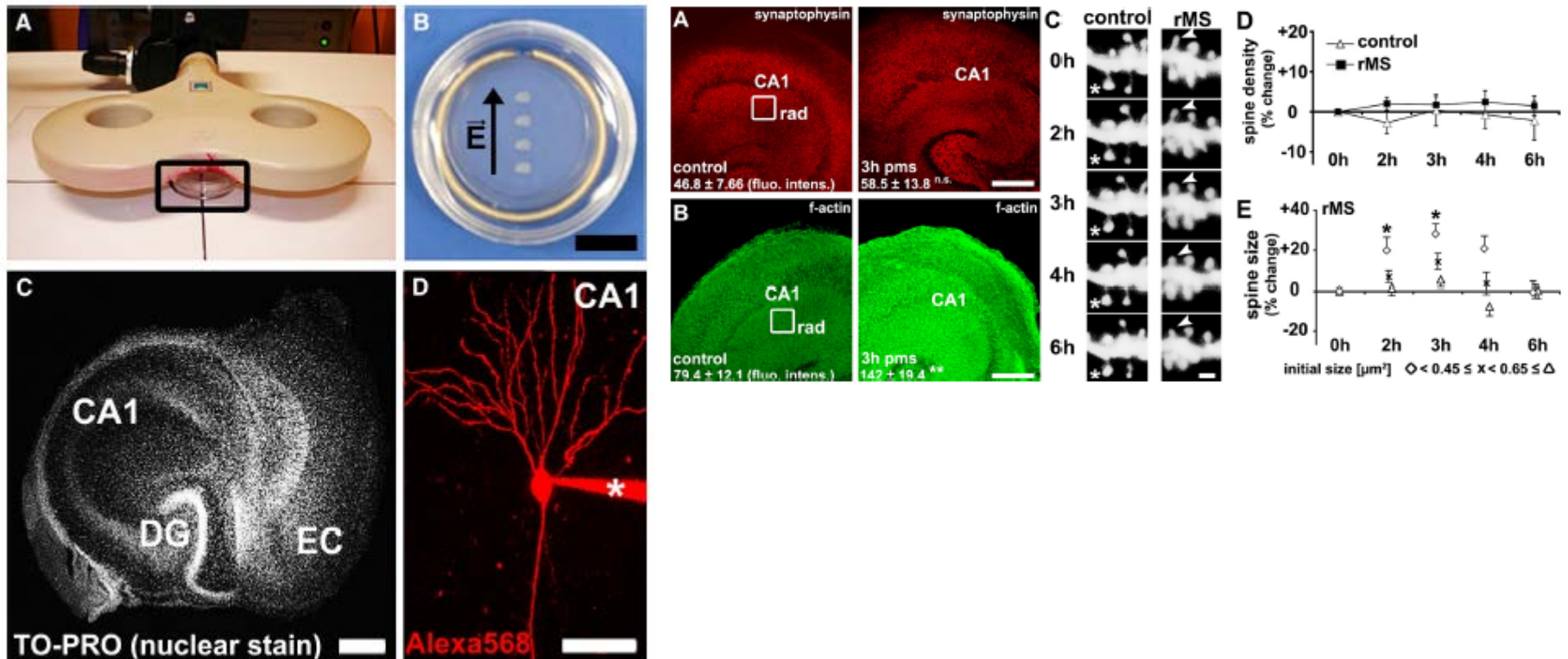
# Mechanisms are more accessible in preclinical models

17514 • The Journal of Neuroscience, November 28, 2012 • 32(48):17514–17523

Development/Plasticity/Repair

## Repetitive Magnetic Stimulation Induces Functional and Structural Plasticity of Excitatory Postsynapses in Mouse Organotypic Hippocampal Slice Cultures

Andreas Vlachos,<sup>1,\*</sup> Florian Müller-Dahlhaus,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Johannes Rosskopf,<sup>1,2</sup> Maximilian Lenz,<sup>1</sup> Ulf Ziemann,<sup>2,3†</sup> and Thomas Deller<sup>1†</sup>



# Preclinical tests of therapeutic protocols

Clinical Neurophysiology 119 (2008) 2697–2702



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](http://www.sciencedirect.com)

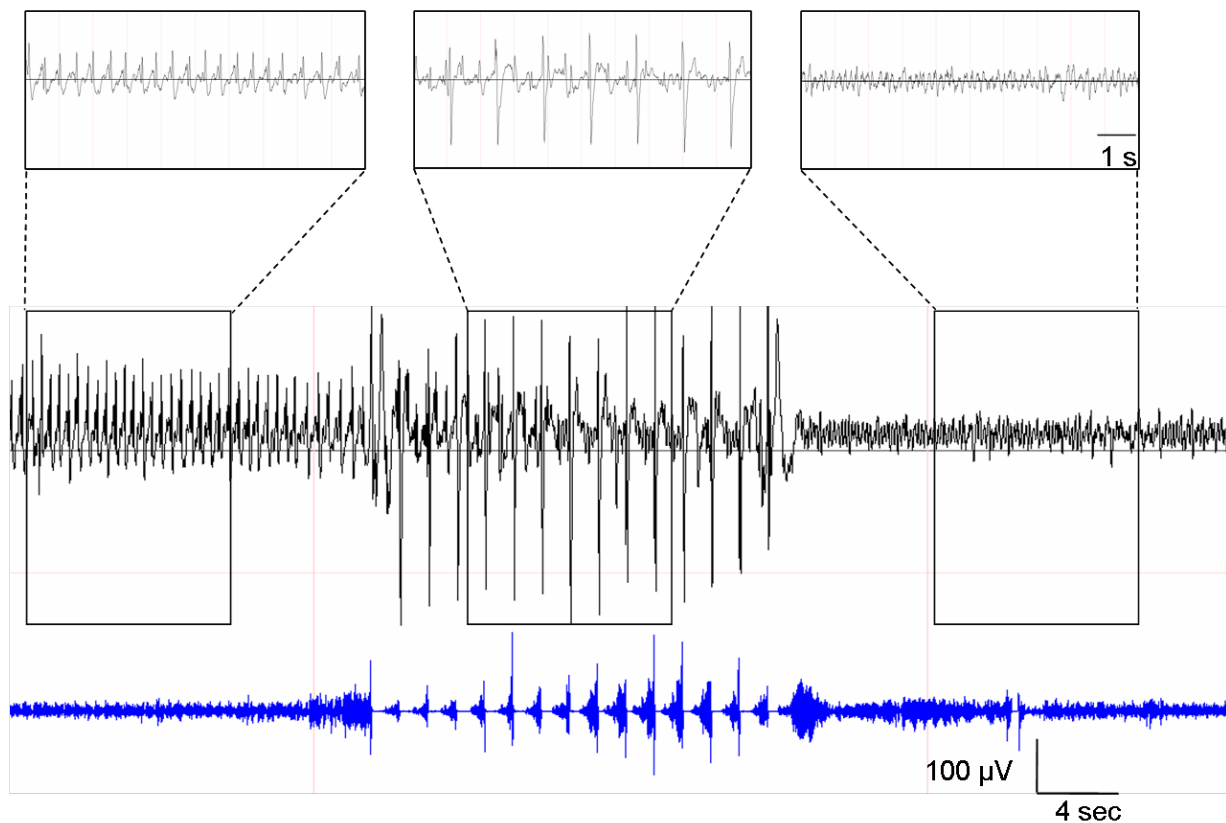
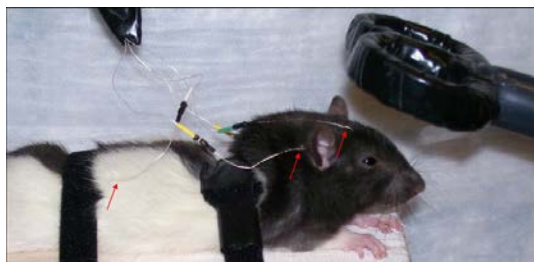
Clinical Neurophysiology

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

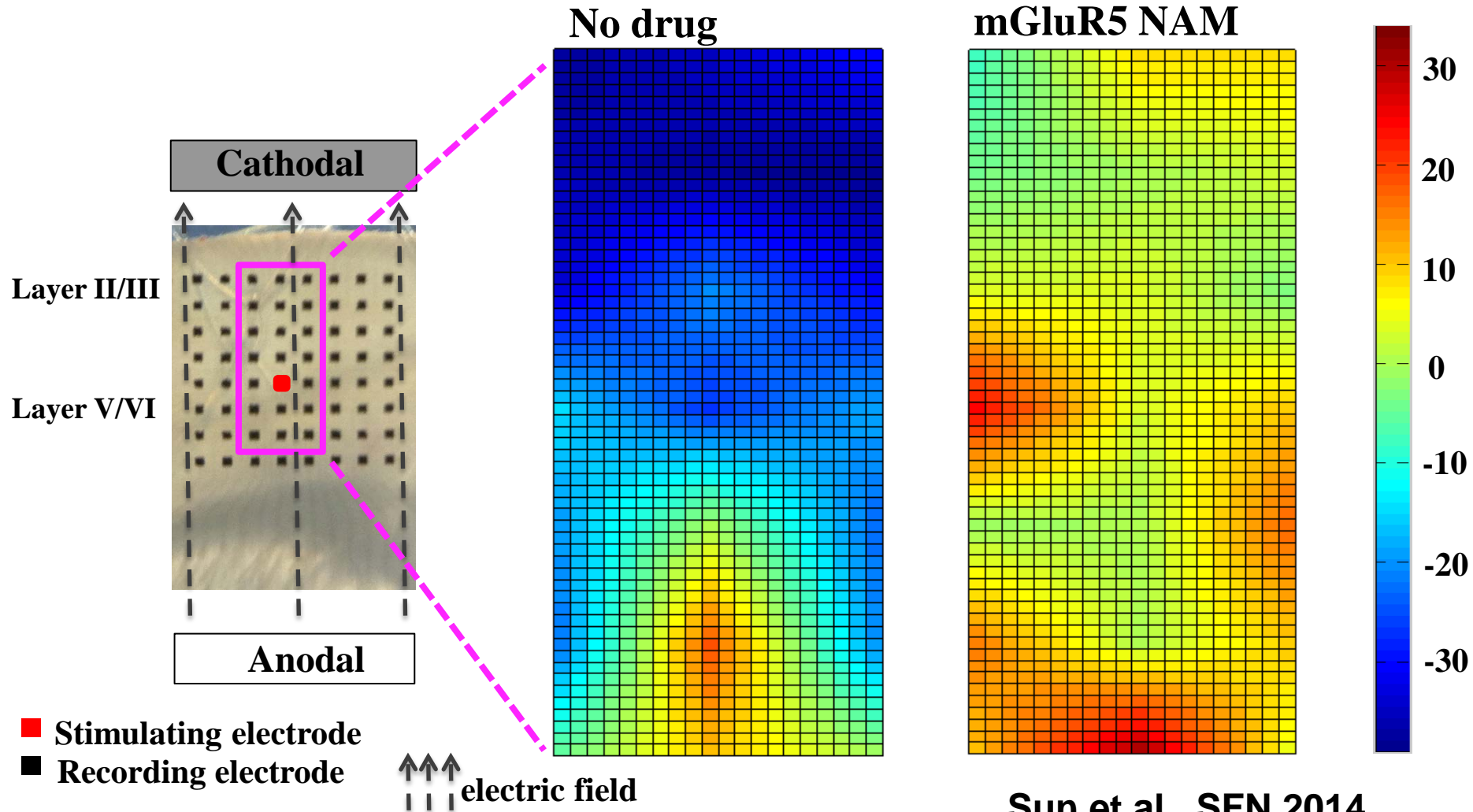


## Seizure suppression by EEG-guided repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation in the rat

Alexander Rotenberg<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Paul Muller<sup>a</sup>, Daniel Birnbaum<sup>a</sup>, Michael Harrington<sup>a</sup>, James J. Riviello<sup>c</sup>, Alvaro Pascual-Leone<sup>b</sup>, Frances E. Jensen<sup>a</sup>

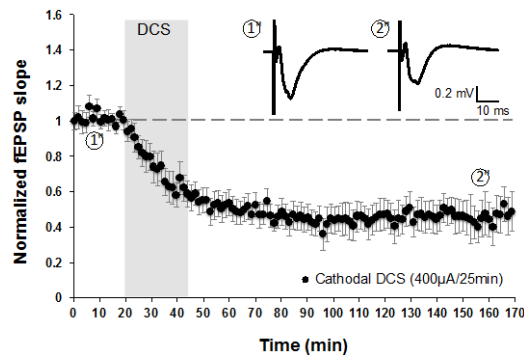


# High resolution of cortical effects

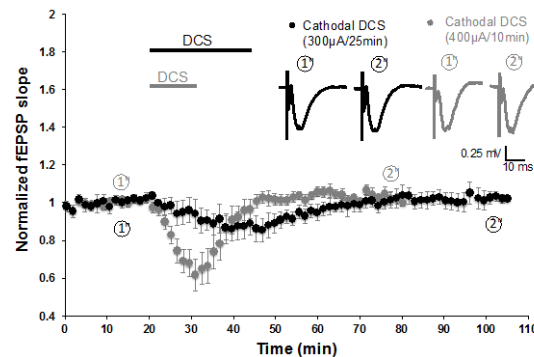


# Preclinical studies may enable logical coupling between brain stimulation protocols and drugs

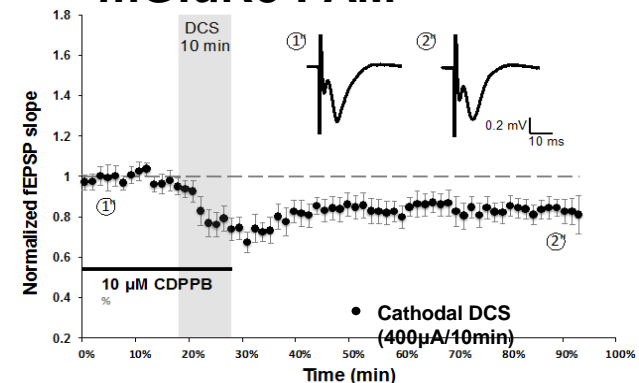
## Effective DCS



## Sub-effective DCS (either low current or low duration)



## Sub-effective DC + mGluR5 PAM





# The Direction of Neurite Growth in a Weak DC Electric Field Depends on the Substratum: Contributions of Adhesivity and Net Surface Charge

Ann M. Rajnicek,<sup>\*,1</sup> Kenneth R. Robinson,<sup>†</sup> and Colin D. McCaig<sup>\*</sup>

<sup>\*</sup>Department of Biomedical Sciences, Institute of Medical Sciences, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen AB25 2ZD, United Kingdom; and <sup>†</sup>Department of Biological Sciences, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907

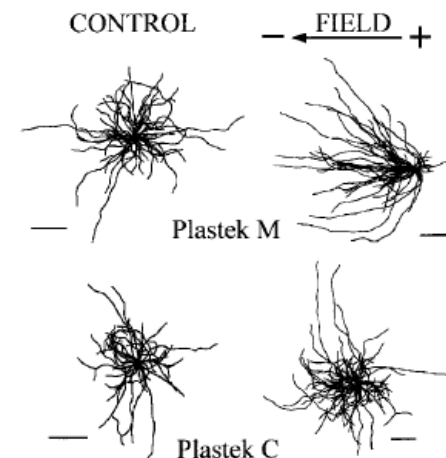


FIG. 3. Neurons in which cell bodies have been superimposed. Neurons were grown on Plastek M (negatively charged) or Plastek

European Cells and Materials Vol. 4, Suppl. 2, 2002 (pages 30-31)

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## DIRECTING CELL SHAPE AND MIGRATION BY TOPOGRAPHIC AND ELECTRICAL SIGNALS

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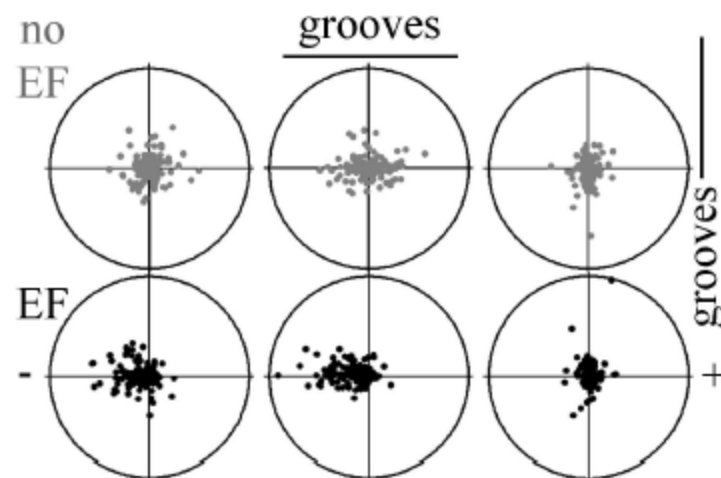


Fig. 2: Bovine corneal epithelial cell migration on flat or grooved quartz. Top row: cells in the absence of an EF. Bottom row: cells in an EF of 150 mV/mm, cathode at left. Left column: flat

## Galvanotropism and gavanotaxis (relevant to tDCS?)

## Current and recent lab members

Nicolas Chiriboga  
Sameer Dhamne  
Roman Gersner  
Mustafa Hameed  
Tsung-Hsun Hsieh  
Henry Lee  
Richard Manfready  
Michaela Meyer  
Paul Muller  
Carmen Paredes  
Maria Sanchez  
Yan Sun  
Andrew Vahabzadeh  
Jingpu Zhao  
Hongyang Zhao  
Zhihong Zhou

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Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy  
Boston Children's Hospital Translational Research  
Program  
Children's Hospital Department of Neurology  
Al Rashed family; Siegel family; Fisher Family



# Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well<sup>SM</sup>

# Thanks!

### Colleagues and mentors

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Frances Jensen - U Penn

Anli Liu - NYU

Tobias Loddenkemper - BCH

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Alvaro Pascual-Leone - BIDMC

Phil Pearl - BCH

Ann Poduri - BCH

James Riviello - Columbia

Paul Rosenberg - BCH

Mustafa Sahin - BCH

Steve Schachter - CIMIT / BIDMC

Don Schomer - BIDMC

Mo Shafi - BIDMC

Masanori Takeoka - BCH

Abraham Zangen - BGU, Israel