## Key Concepts in Neuroimmunology, a dialogue between Philosophers and Scientists



Basophil

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Eosinophil

Neutrophil

Lymphocyte



Neuro

BORDEAUX

Dendritic cel

Monocyte

neurocampus

# MICROGLIA: THE BRAIN INNATE IMMUNE SYSTEM

THE CNS: A SITE OF LIMITED IMMUNE SURVEILLANCE



**MICROGLIA: THE RESIDENT IMMUNE CELLS OF THE BRAIN** 

(Ransohoff, 2016)

# THE DISCOVERY OF MICROGLIAL CELLS





PIO DEL RIO HORTEGA (1882-1945)



SANTIAGO RAMON Y CAJAL (1852-1934)

✓ FIRST CALLED "MICROGLIA" AROUND 1920✓ BASED ON NISSL STAINING

(Rio-Hortega P del. 1932. Volume 2. Edited by W Penfield, Hoeber, New York, pp. 482-534)

### ORIGINAL STATEMENTS FROM HORTEGA

- 1. Microglia enter the brain during early development.
- 2. These invading cells have amoeboid morphology and are of mesodermal origin.
- 3. They use vessels and white matter tracts as guiding structures for migration and enter all brain regions.
- 4. They transform into a **branched**, **ramified morphological** phenotype in the more mature brain (known today as the resting microglia).
- 5. In the mature brain, they are found almost **evenly dispersed** throughout the central nervous system and display little variation.
- 6. Each cell seems to occupy a **defined territory**.
- 7. After a **pathological event**, these cells undergo a transformation.
- 8. Transformed cells acquire amoeboid morphology similar to the one observed early in development.
- 9. These cells have the capacity to migrate, proliferate and phagocytose.

### **Still valid today**

#### CNS IMMUNE REGULATION: THE CLASSICAL VIEW



(Hanisch and Kettenmann, Nature Neuroscience, 2007)



(Gentleman, Neuropathology and Applied Neurology, 2013; Patel et al., Int J Physiol Patho Pharm, 2013; Aguzzi et al., Science, 2013)

#### PHENOTYPIC PLASTICITY OF MICROGLIA



#### EACH PATHOLOGICAL SITUATION IS ASSOCIATED TO A UNIQUE PHENOTYPIC SHIFT

(Perry et al., Nature Reviews Neurology, 2010)

MICROGLIA IS NOT JUST AN IMMUNE CELL

### MICROGLIA ENTERS THE BRAIN VERY EARLY DURING DEVELOPMENT



(Ginhoux et al., Frontiers in Cellular Neuroscience, 2013)

#### MICROGLIA IS INVOLVED IN CNS DEVELOPMENT



(Frost and Schafer, Trends in Cell Biology, 2016)

### MICROGLIA: FAR FROM BEING « DORMANT SOLDIER »

## Resting Microglial Cells Are Highly Dynamic Surveillants of Brain Parenchyma in Vivo

Axel Nimmerjahn,<sup>1</sup> Frank Kirchhoff,<sup>2</sup> Fritjof Helmchen<sup>1\*</sup>

27 MAY 2005 VOL 308 SCIENCE



(Nimmerjahn et al., Science, 2005)

#### MICROGLIA MAKES CONTACTS WITH NEURONS



MICROGLIA NEVER WALKS ALONE

### THE BRAIN IMMUNE SYSTEM ANATOMY MATTERS



Debbie Maizels/Springer Nature

#### (Engelhardt et al., Nature Immunology, 2016)

### CNS-ASSOCIATED LEUKOCYTE DIVERSITY IN THE STEADY-STATE



#### CNS-ASSOCIATED LEUKOCYTE DIVERSITY IN THE STEADY-STATE



#### **BORDER-ASSOCIATED MACROPHAGES (BAM)**

#### **√** 4 SUBSETS OF BAMS.



#### **V** DIFFERENT LOCATIONS WITHIN THE CNS



3

#### **DENDRITIC CELLS**





#### DAPI CD11c Iba1 MHCII

#### LEUKOCYTES TURNOVER



#### AGING CAUSES AN ALTERED CNS IMMUNE LANDSCAPE...



# ... AND A SUBSET OF REACTIVE MICROGLIA EMERGES



### AUTOIMMUNE NEUROINFLAMMATION EAE MODEL



#### CONCLUSION THE CNS IMMUNE SYSTEM: NEW CONCEPT



#### CONCLUSION THE CNS IMMUNE SYSTEM: NEW CONCEPT

**V WHAT IS THE BRAIN IMMUNE SYSTEM?** 

- **V** WHAT IS ITS ROLE? STEADY-STATE, PATHOLOGY?
- **V HOW DO LEUKOCYTES COORDINATE THEIR RESPONSE IN THE CNS**
- **V** WHAT IS THE ROLE OF MICROGLIA UNDER IMMUNE ACTIVATION?
- **V** INTERACTION WITH PERIPHERAL IMMUNE SYSTEM?
- ✓ IS THERE A FRONTIER BETWEEN PERIPHERAL AND CENTRAL IMMUNE SYSTEMS? ROLE OF THAT FRONTIER IN IMMUNE RESPONSE



