

### Microglia and macrophages are distinct populations (i)

- *Microglia and Macrophages* share a common mesodermal origin – the yolk sac
- *Microglia and Macrophages* are members of the Mononuclear Phagocytic System (MPS)
- *Microglia and Macrophages* share many receptors and functions
- Nonetheless, *Microglia and Macrophages* also differ in some of their functions

### Microglia and macrophages are distinct populations (ii)

- *Microglia* originate from MPS-precursors that migrate during embryogenesis to the developing CNS parenchyma, giving rise to a self-sustained population of proliferating microglia
- *Monocytes* originate from MPS-precursors that migrate during embryogenesis to the bone-marrow
- *Tissue Macrophages* originate from circulating bone-marrow derived *monocytes* after their recruitment to tissues

### Microglia and macrophages are distinct populations (iii)

- *Microglia and Monocytes/Macrophages* populations become separated one from the other by the Blood-Brain-Barrier (BBB) at/or around birth
- Blood-borne *monocytes* enter the CNS when the BBB is functionally and/or anatomically disrupted (e.g. trauma, radiation and multiple sclerosis)

### Microglia and macrophages are distinct populations (iv)

parabiosis

**a**

GFP Healthy Facial axotomy ALS

**b**

5.2 bone marrow GFP bone marrow

Ajami, Bennett, Krieger, Tetzlaff & Rossi, *Nature Neuroscience*, 2007

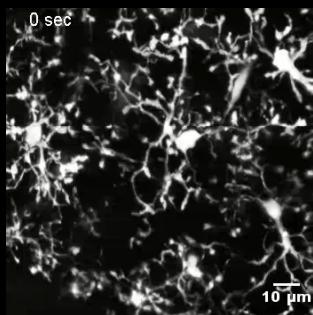
### Microglia – the third element in the CNS

Santiago Ramon Y Cajal

Pio del Rio-Hortega

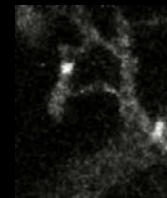
Wilder G. Penfield

## In-vivo imaging “resting” microglia $GFP^+$ by time lapse two-photon microscopy



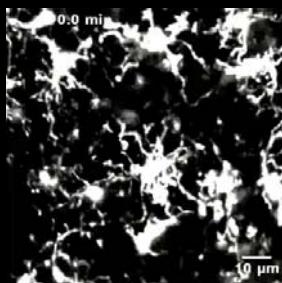
Davalos, Grutzendler, Yang, Kim, Zuo, Jung, Littman, Dustin & Gan, *Nature Neuroscience*, 2005

## In-vivo imaging “resting” microglia $GFP^+$ by time lapse two-photon microscopy



Nimmerjahn, Kirchhoff & Fritjof, *Science*, 2005

# In-vivo imaging of injury activated microglia *GFP*<sup>+</sup> by time lapse two-photon microscopy

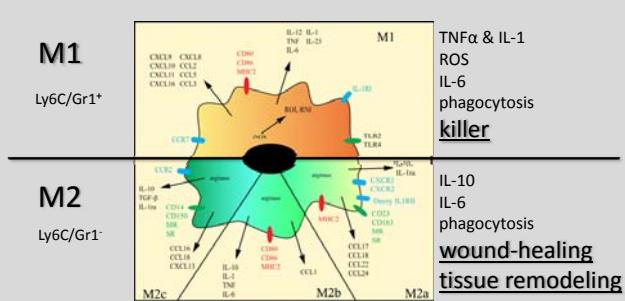


Davalos, Grutzendler, Yang, Kim, Zuo, Jung, Littman, Dustin & Gan, *Nature Neuroscience*, 2005

## Microglia activation – what does it mean?

- the term “activation” by itself is not informative
  - microglia can be induced to upregulate the expression of various molecules and thereby be activated to perform different functions
  - “activation” must be defined by the type of
    - molecules that are upregulated
    - and / or
    - functions that are activated

## M1-killer and M2-wound healing phenotypes



Benoit, Desnues & Mege, *J. Immunol.* 2008  
Auffray, Sieweke, & Geissmann, *Ann. Rev. Immunol.* 2009

## Are microglia and macrophages friend or foe?

### M2 type – Wound healing

#### Anti-Inflammatory cytokines

- #### - IL-10

## Phagocytosis

- apoptotic cells
  - pathogens
  - neurotoxic products of neurodegeneration
  - tissue debris

## M1 type – Killer

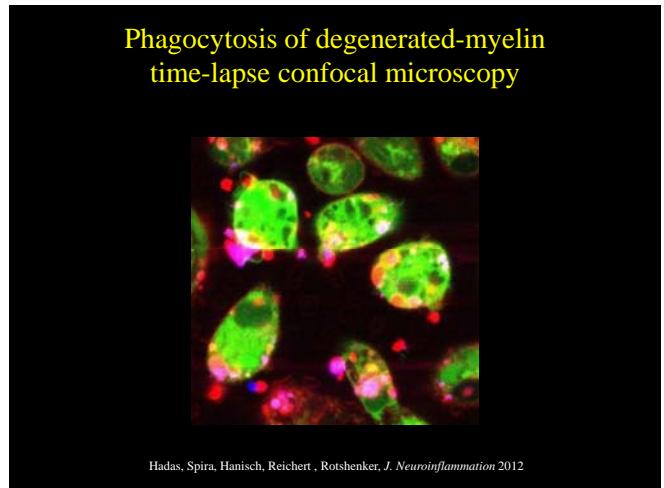
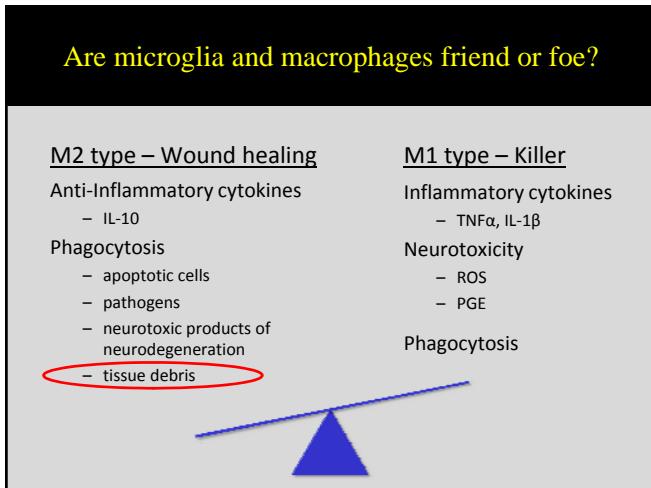
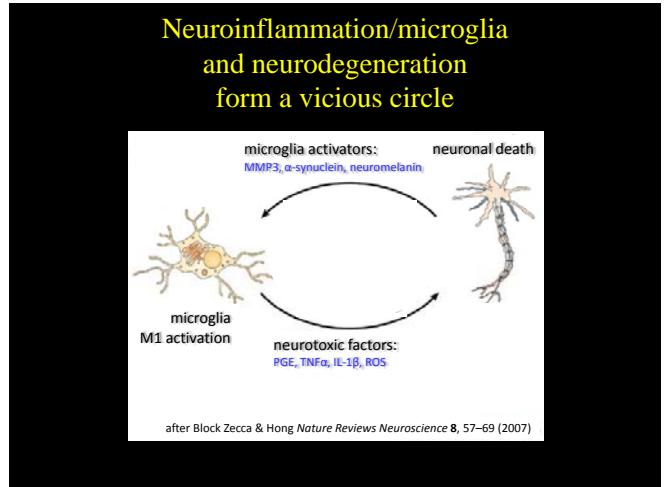
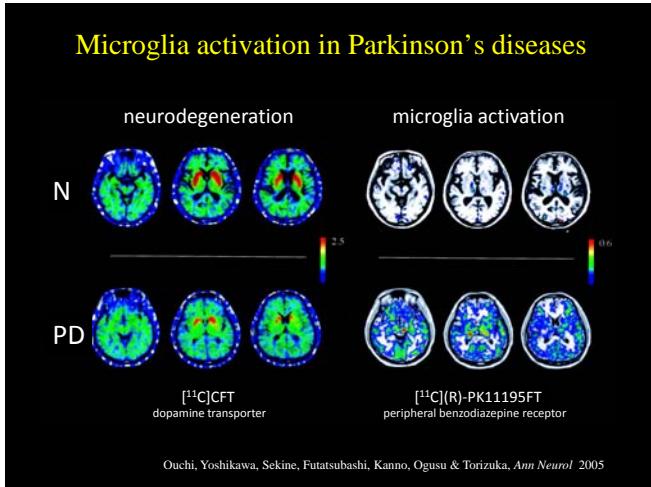
#### Inflammatory cytokines

- TNF $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\beta$

Neurotoxicity

- ROS
  - PGE

## Phagocytosis



- ### Mechanisms that regulate the phagocytosis of degenerated-myelin
- Galectin-3 / MAC-2
  - Cytoskeleton; actin and myosin
  - Immune inhibitory receptors
    - SIRP $\alpha$  and CD47 interactions

