

Autologous neural cell ecosystems (ANCE) transplantation as therapy for Parkinson's disease: a promising approach

Cognition day – the 5th of October 2016 – University of Fribourg

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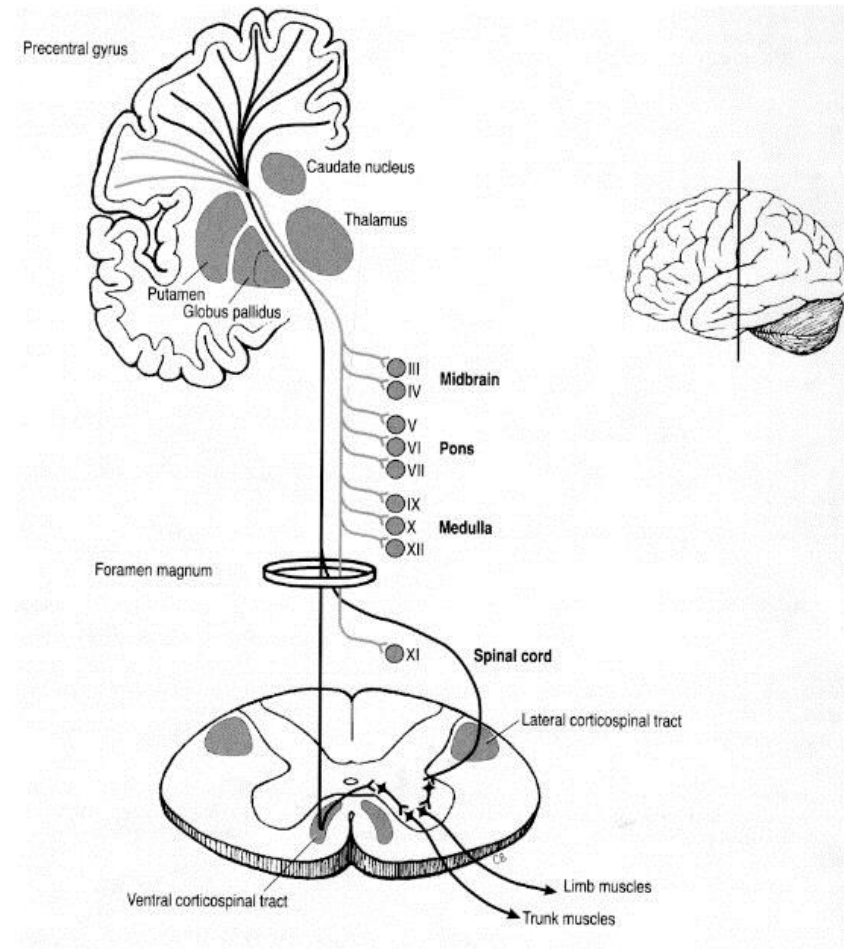
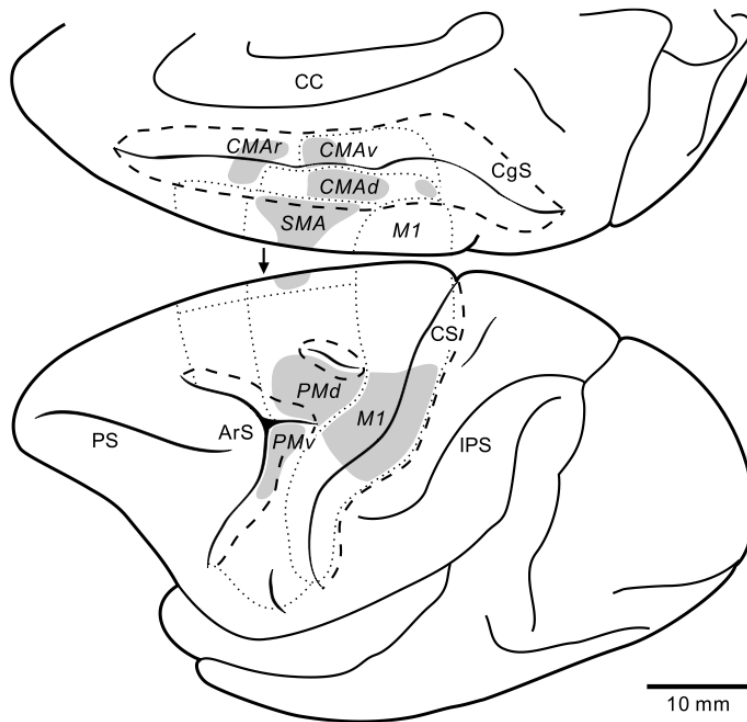
In collaboration with Dr. Jocelyne Bloch & Dr. Jean-François Brunet (CHUV)



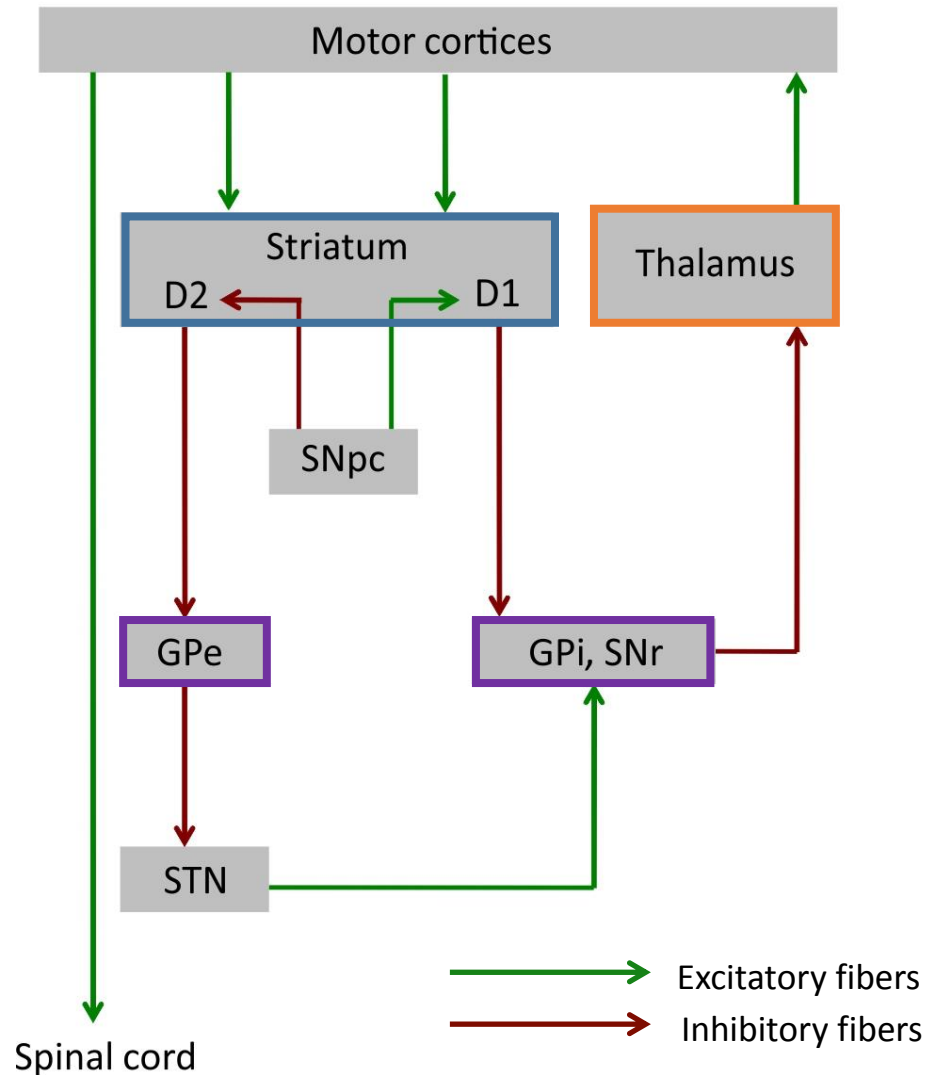
SPCCR



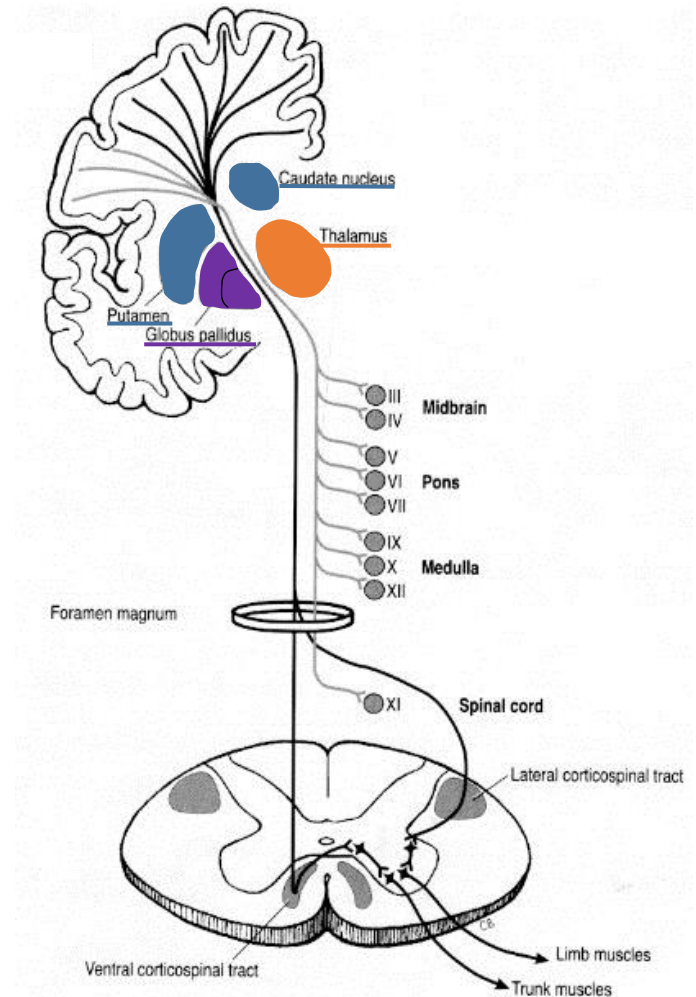
Motor cortices & corticospinal tract (CST)



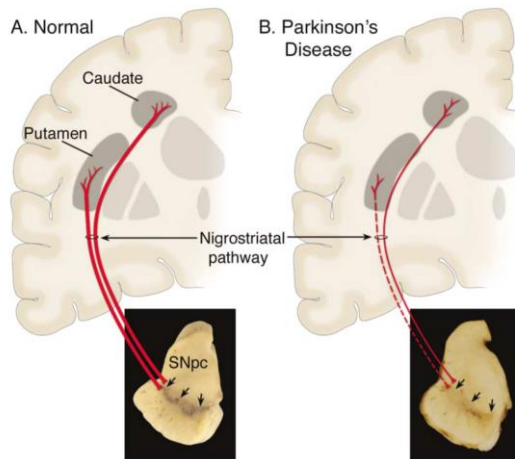
Simplified motor circuits: direct and indirect pathways



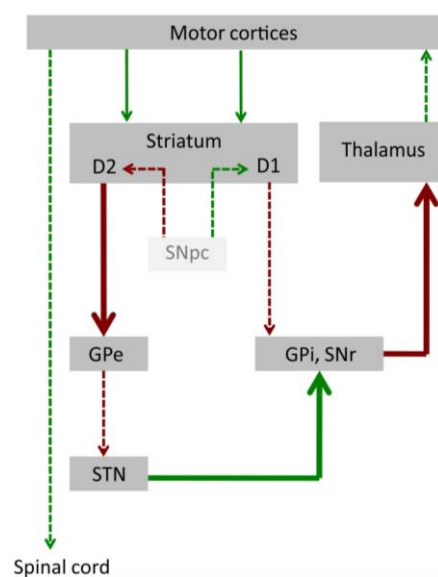
Adapted from DeLong & Wichmann (2007). *Arch. Neurol.*



Parkinson's disease (PD): 2nd most common neurodegenerative disease



Dauer & Przedborski (2003). *Neuron*



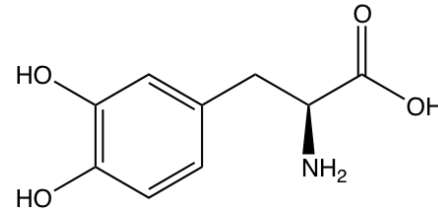
Gowers (1886). *A manual of disease of nervous system*

Parkinson's disease (PD): treatments

Pharmacological treatments:

Levodopa, dopa agonist, ...

→ dyskinesia,...



Surgical approach:

Deep brain stimulation (DBS)

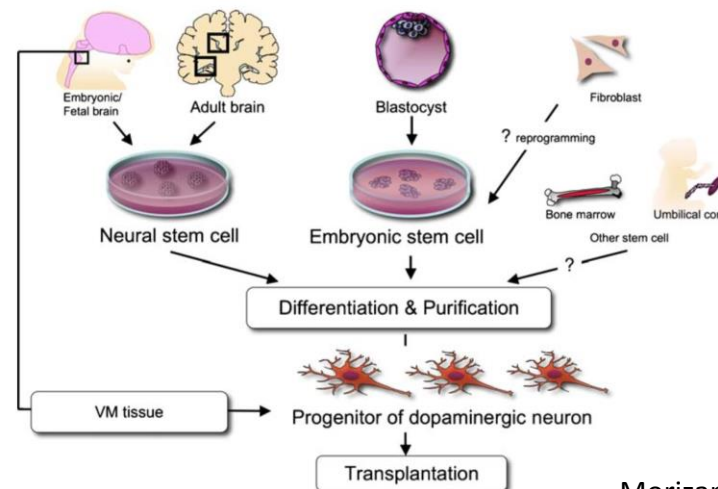
→ symptomatic treatment



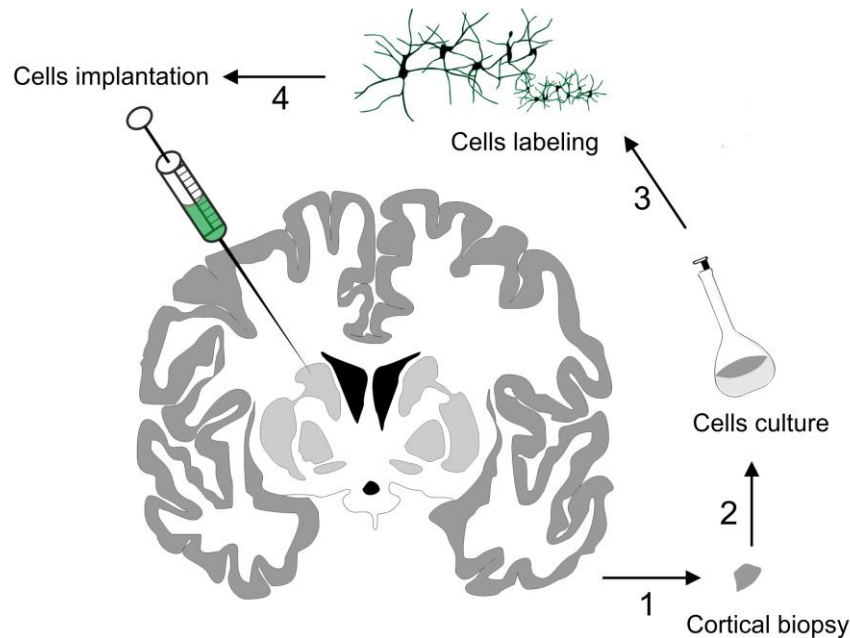
Cell therapies:

- Stem cells
- induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs)

→ Immune limitations, tumors, ...



Autologous neural cell ecosystems (ANCE) transplantation



Dr. Jocelyne Bloch & Dr. Jean-François Brunet



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Brief Communication

Primate adult brain cell autotransplantation, a new tool for brain repair?

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Primate Adult Brain Cell Autotransplantation, a Pilot Study in Asymptomatic MPTP-Treated Monkeys

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Primate Adult Brain Cell Autotransplantation Produces Behavioral and Biological Recovery in 1-Methyl-4-Phenyl-1,2,3,6-Tetrahydropyridine-Induced Parkinsonian St. Kitts Monkeys

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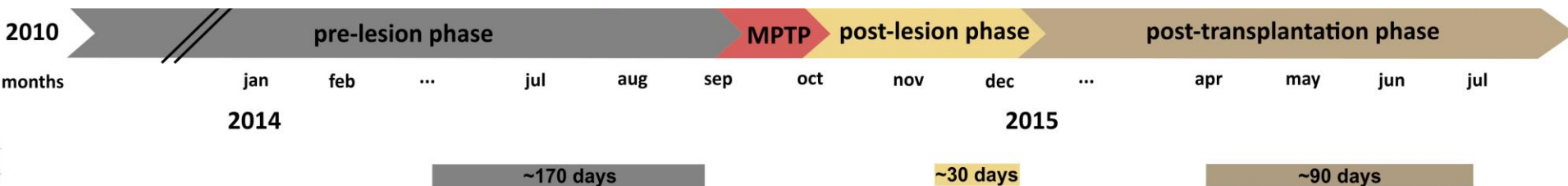
³Departments of Psychiatry and Neurosurgery, Yale University School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut 06520

Experimental design

4 adult female macaque monkeys (*Macaca fascicularis*)
→ Parkinsonian (MPTP) lesion **AND** the cells transplantations

Bloch et al., 2014: efficiency of ANCE transplantation in parkinsonian monkeys

Present study: investigation of the ANCE impact assessing with brain imaging
& with fine manual motor behavior



Comparison between PRE VS POST-LESION VS POST-TRANSPLANTATION for each monkey

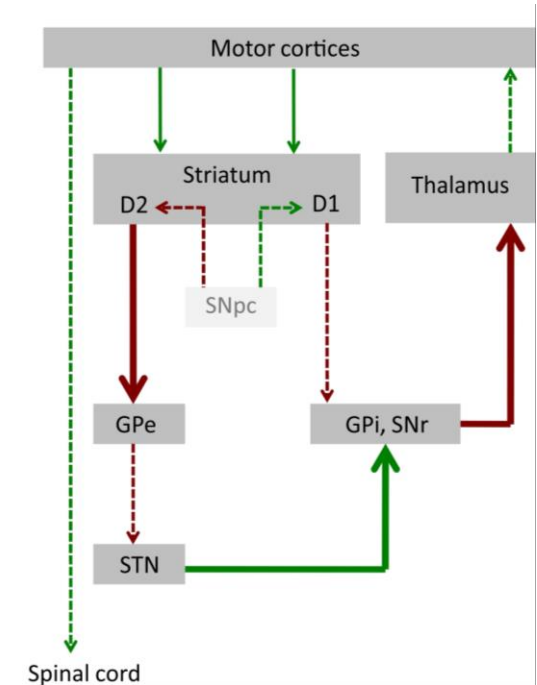
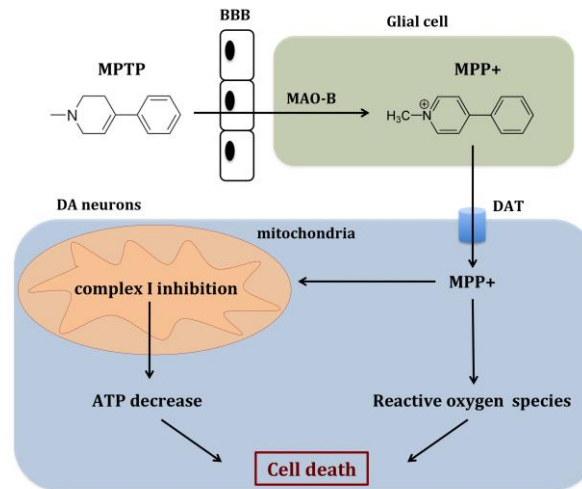
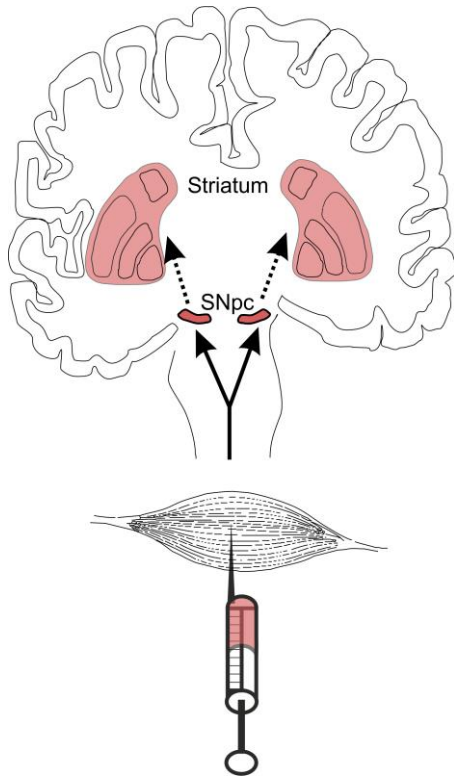
Pre-lesion phase: quantitative evaluation of the motor performance

Modified-Brinkman board task

Reach and grasp drawer task

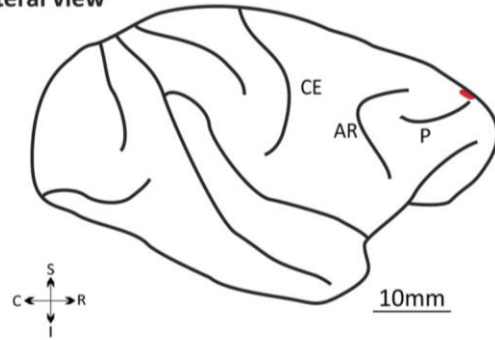


Parkinsonian lesion: the MPTP non-human primate model

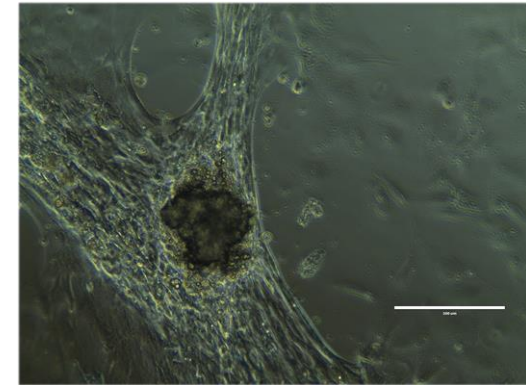
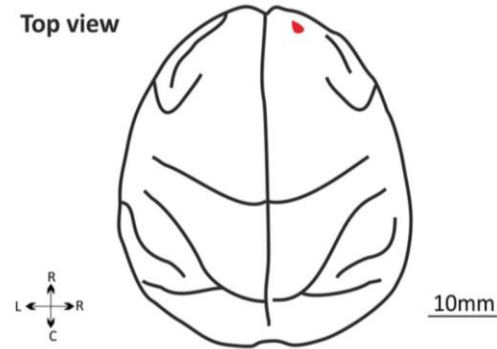


Cortical biopsies & cell cultures

Lateral view

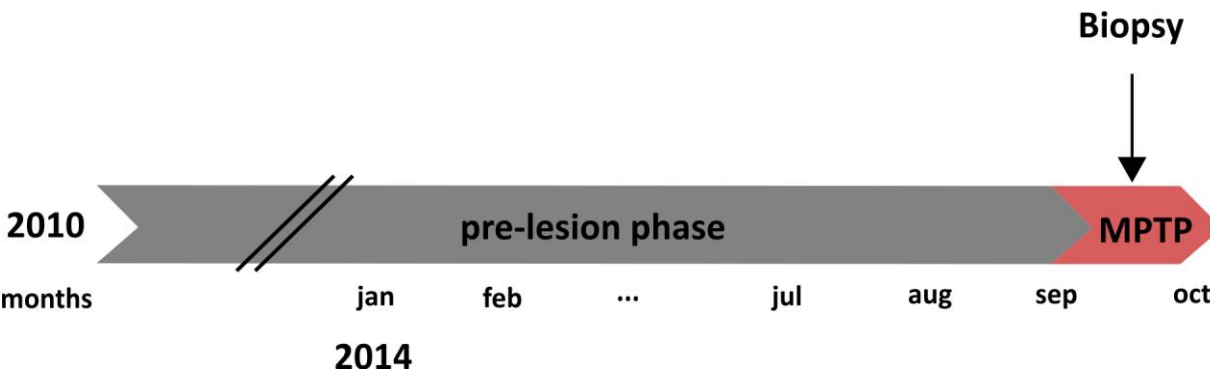


Top view



~10mm³ of cortical tissue from the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex (dlPFC)

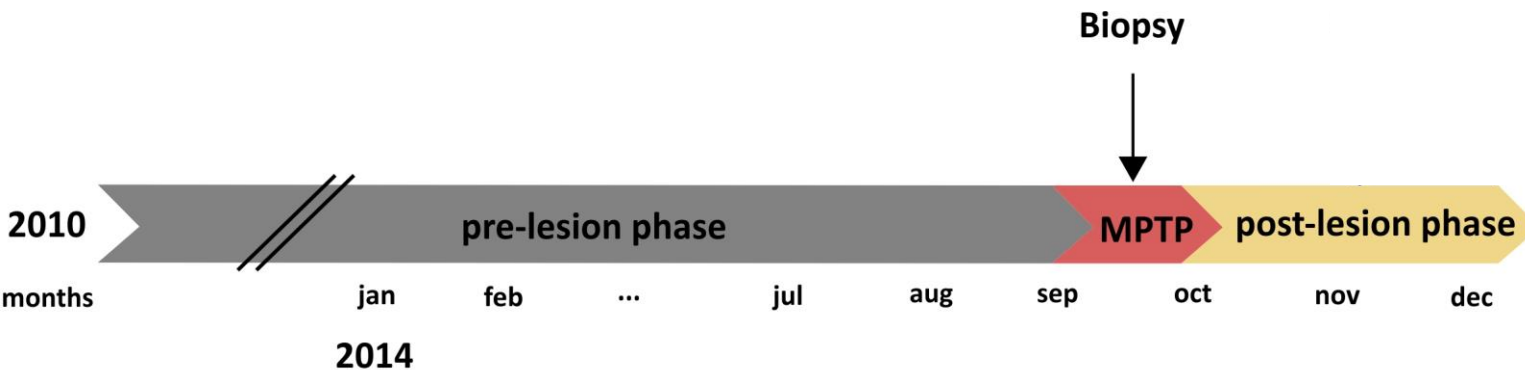
Ecosystem formation *in-vitro*



Post-lesion phase: quantitative evaluation of the motor deficits

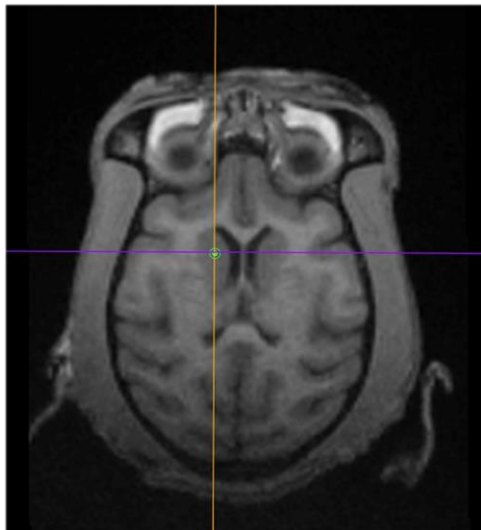
Monkey-MY – 7 days post-lesion

Monkey-MI – 14 days post-lesion



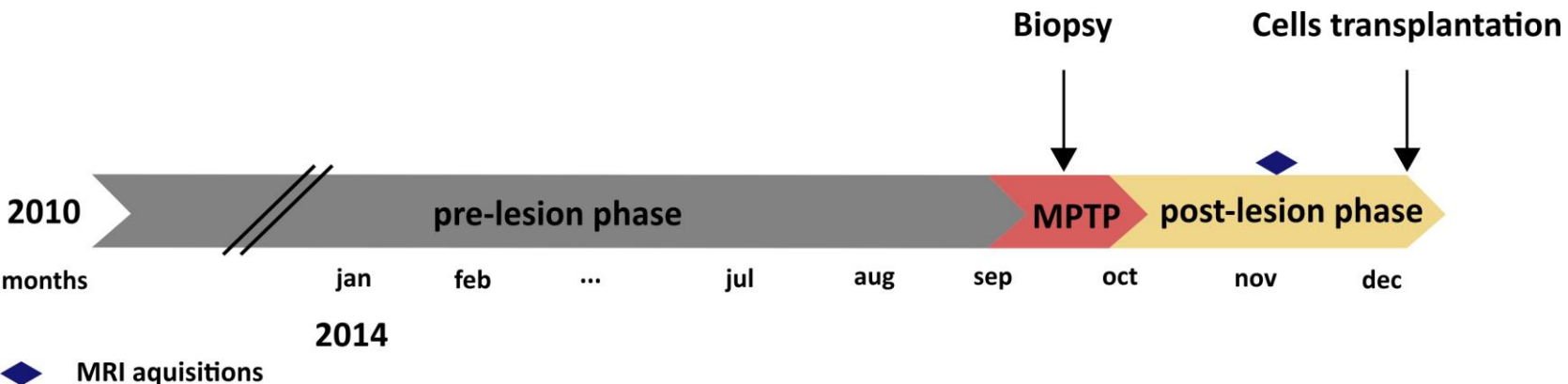
Cells transplantation: Stereotaxic implantations

Coordinates in MRI scans → Transplantation



6 implantation sites within the Striatum

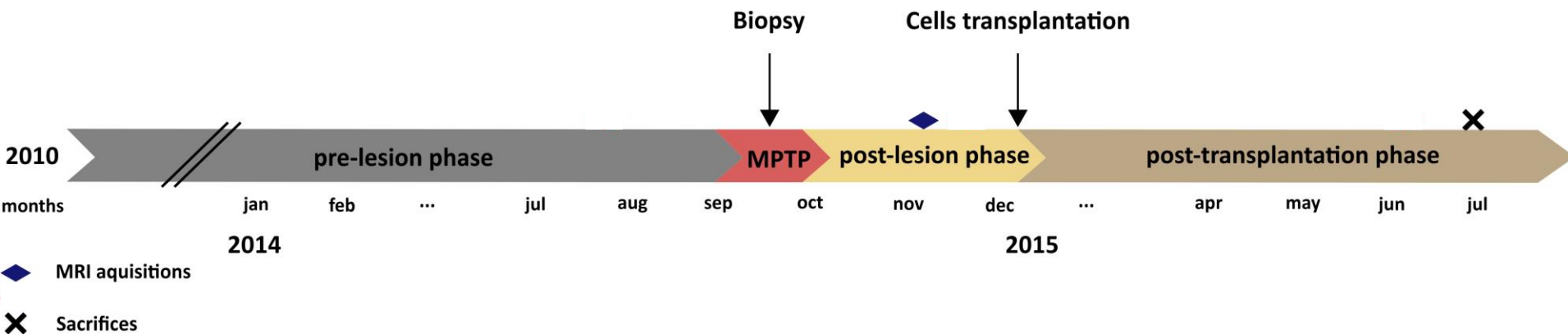
Left hemisphere	Right Hemisphere
Caudate nucleus	Caudate nucleus
Putamen anterior	Putamen anterior
Putamen posterior	Putamen posterior



Post-transplantation phase: quantitative evaluation of the motor improvement

Monkey-MY – 6 months post-transpl.

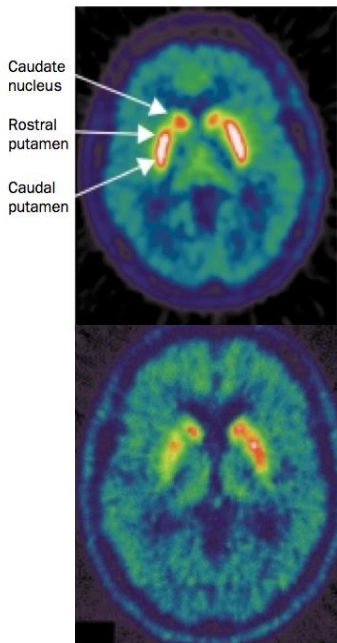
Monkey-MI – 21 weeks post-transpl.



In-vivo imaging: state of the dopaminergic system with ^{18}F -Dopa PETscan

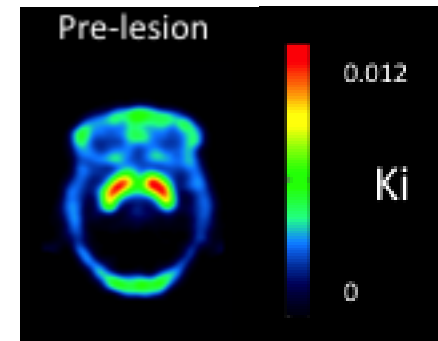
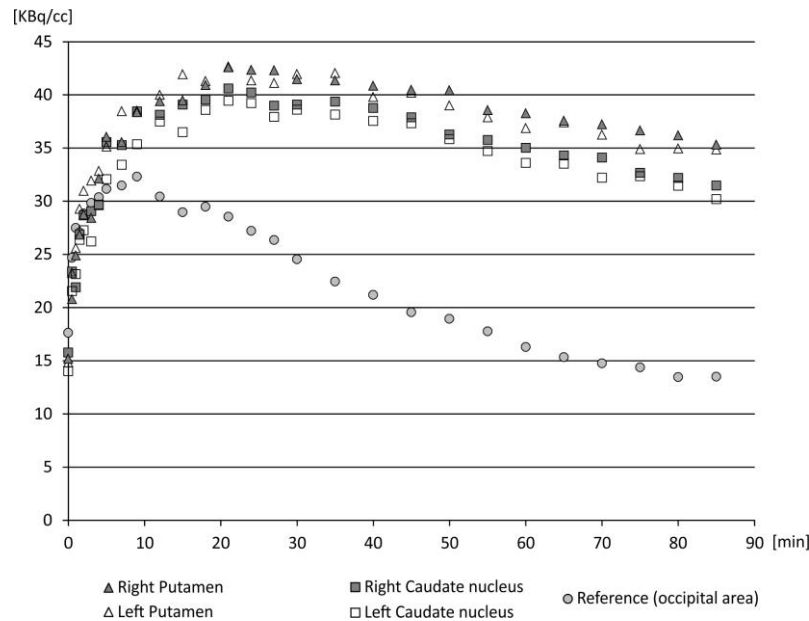
Example in human

Patlak algorithm \rightarrow influx rate constant (K_i)

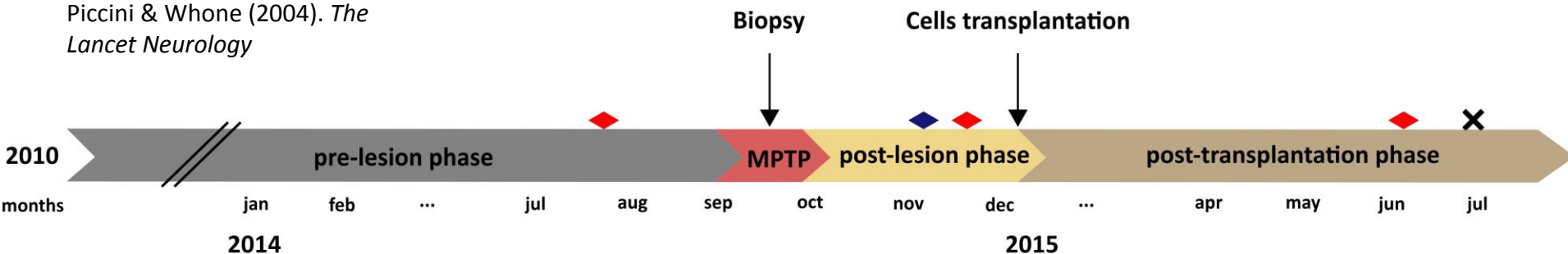


Healthy subject

Subject with PD

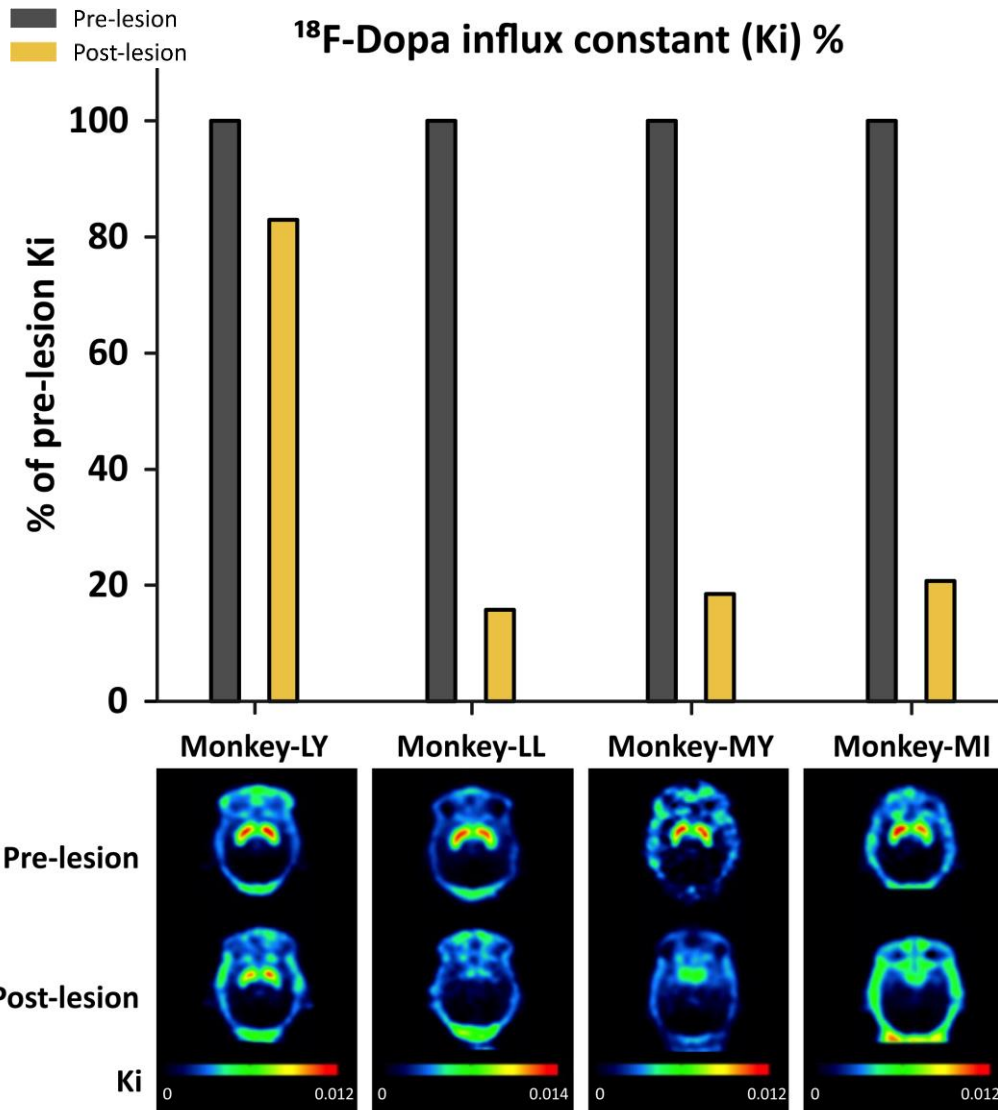


Piccini & Whone (2004). *The Lancet Neurology*

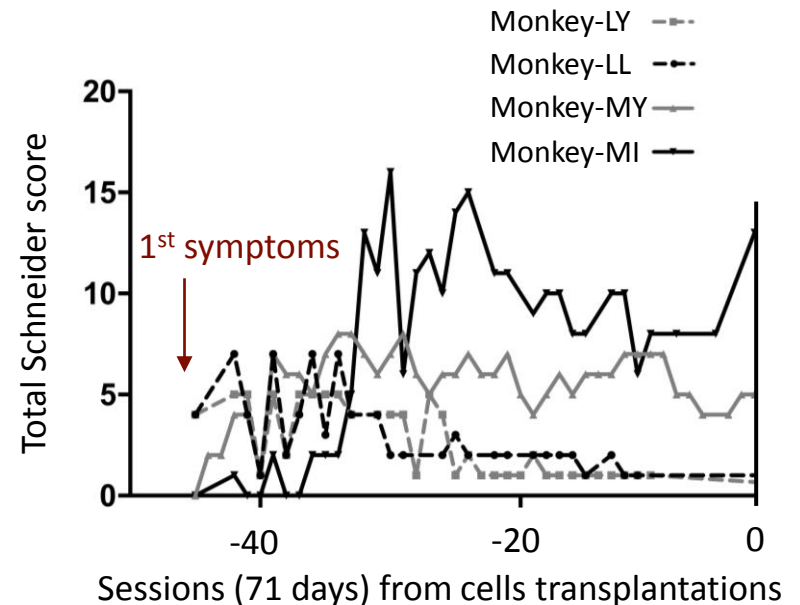


- MRI acquisitions
- ◆ ^{18}F -Dopa PET scan
- ✕ Sacrifices

MPTP lesion and symptoms



Parkinsonian symptoms evaluated with the Schneider scale



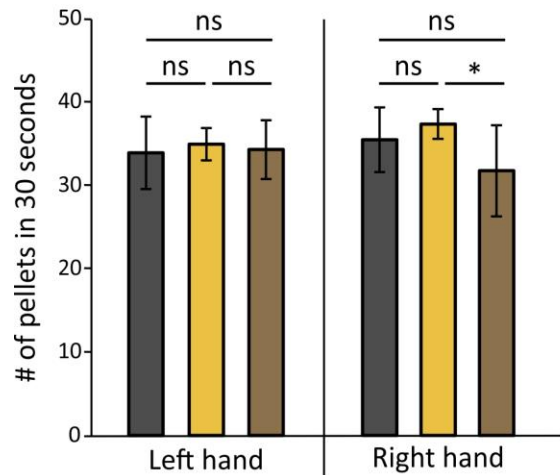
Monkey-LY → **resistant** to MPTP
 Monkey-LL → **recovered** to MPTP
 Monkey-MY → **moderate** PD symptoms
 Monkey-MI → **severe** PD symptoms

Fine manual dexterity in the Modified-Brinkman board task

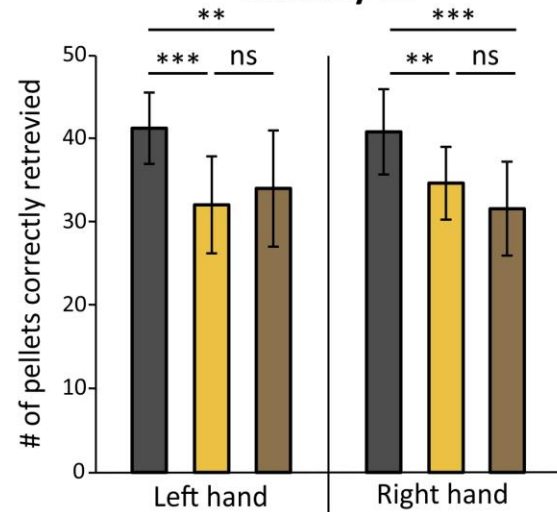


■ Pre-lesion
■ Post-lesion
■ Post-transplantation

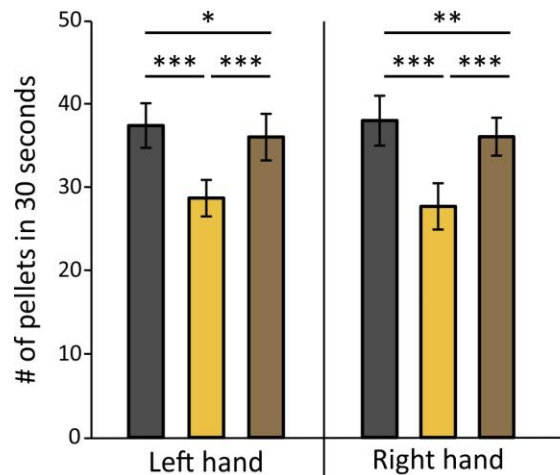
Monkey-LY



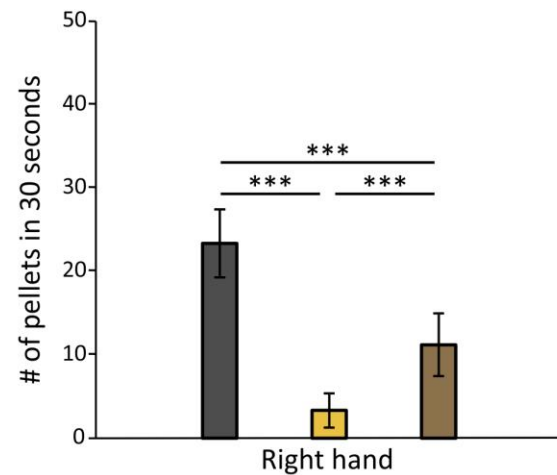
Monkey-LL



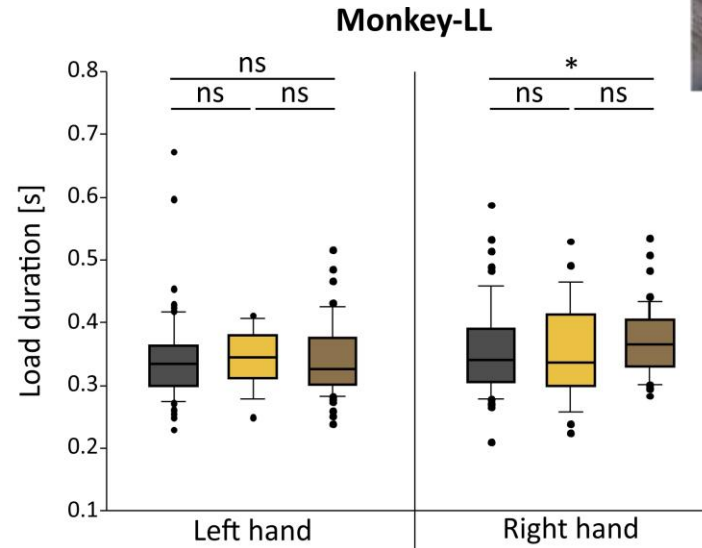
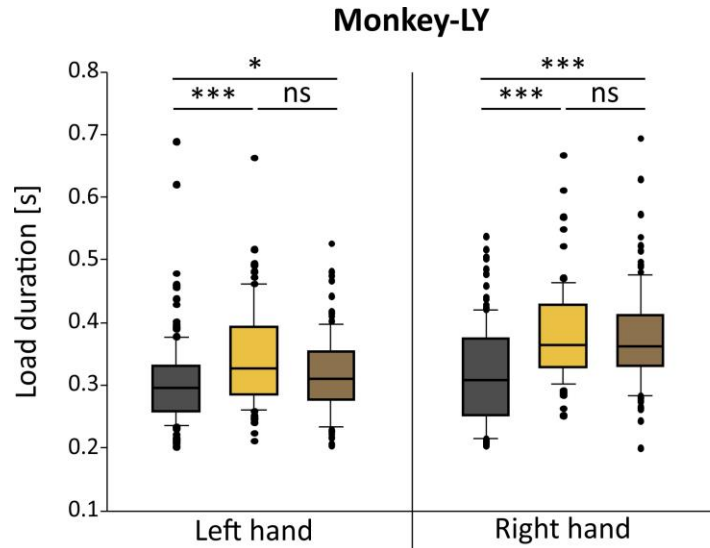
Monkey-MY



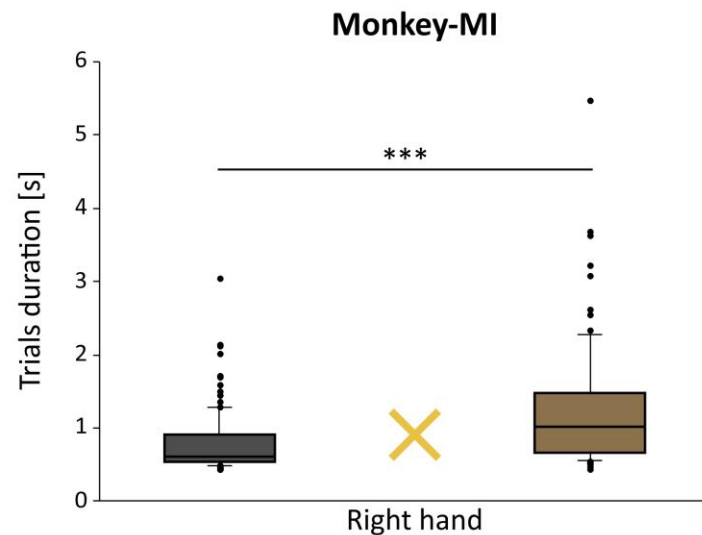
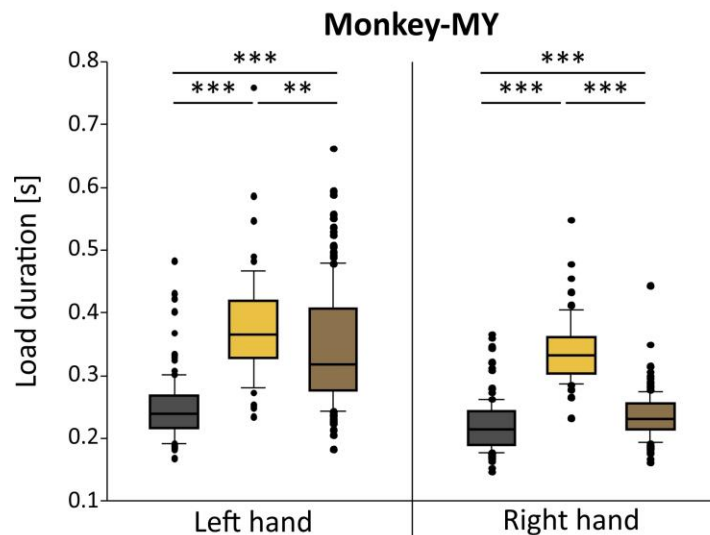
Monkey-MI



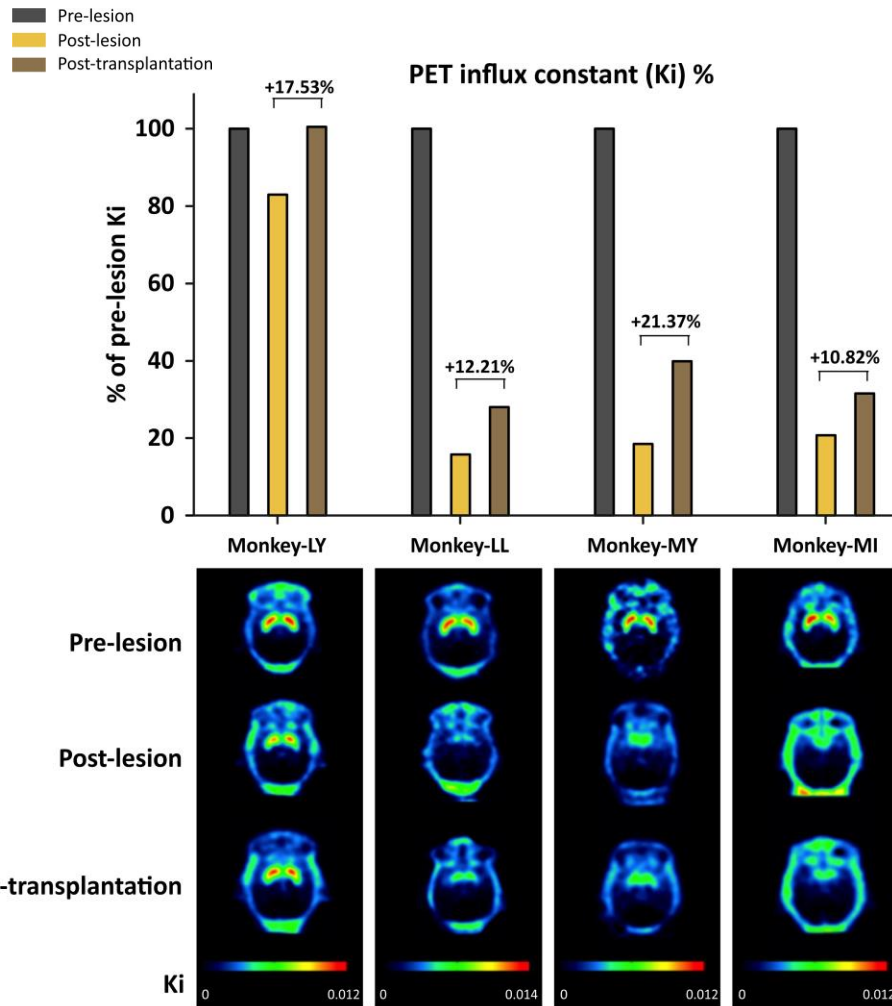
Time to execute movement in the drawer task



Pre-lesion
Post-lesion
Post-transplantation



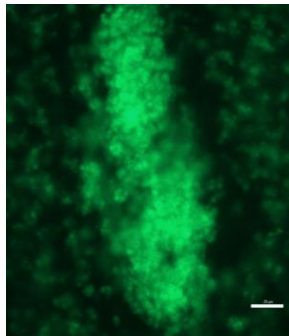
State of the dopaminergic system



- All the four animals were differentially affected by the MPTP lesion (**inter-individual variability**)
 - No correlation between lesion level and behavioral functions
 - Complexity of the MPTP model (Elsworth et al, (2000). *Neuroscience*)
- Cell transplantation promoted **recovery** in voluntary motor tasks and **increase of striatal activity**
 - Consistent with previous studies: Brunet et al., (2009). *Cell transplant.* & Bloch et al., (2014). *J Comp. Neurol.*
- ANCE transplantation represents an **attractive approach** in order to treat brain dysfunction or brain lesion.
- This promising technique might add **new therapeutic strategies** leading to clinical applications.

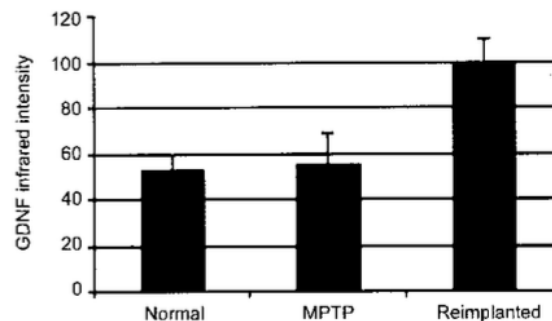
Next step: fate of the implanted cells

- **Histological readout:** cells survival, migration, astrocytes activation, 5-HT in resistant and/or recovered monkeys ?



Implanted cells in Monkey-MY, Caudate nucleus. Scale = 50um

- Hypothesis: release of neurotrophic factor (BDNF, GDNF,...) -> **Neuroprotection** effect ? **Sprouting** of the remaining dopamine fibers (already suggested by PETscan) ?



Brunet et al., (2009). *Cell transplant*.

Promising approach ?

Severe parkinsonian Monkey-MI
(4 days post-lesion)

Severe parkinsonian Monkey-MI
(10 weeks post-tranplantation)

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Laura Carrara

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