Cell Proliferation in the Septo-Hippocampal Pathway: Season, Lesion, and Species Effects



Ricca D. Gardner Interdisciplinary Studies: Neuroscience Adviser: Dr. Diane Lee, Psychology California State University, Long Beach October 1, 2009





Avian Model & Food-Storing Behavior

Septo-Hippocampal Pathway



Hippocampal Cell Proliferation & Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Injury-Induced Cell Proliferation

Hippocampus & Subventricular Zone (SVZ)

Septum

Seasonal Changes in Cell Proliferation

Future Directions









AVIAN FOOD-STORING

- Seasonal behavior
- Relies on an intact Hippocampus
- Storers outperform nonstorers on tasks of spatial memory
- Storers have larger hippocampal and septal volumes as well as more hippocampal neurogenesis than non-storers
- Storers have larger hippocampal and septal volumes during the fall compared to the spring







SEPTO-HIPPOCAMPAL PATHWAY

Hippocampus shares reciprocal, bilateral connections to Septum – both regions involved in food-storing

Mammals: Septal injury reduces hippocampal neurogenesis

Zebra Finches: Hippocampal injury results in cell proliferation in the hippocampus & adjacent stem cell rich subventricular zone (SVZ; Lee et al., 2007)

New cells found in Septum (Lucas & Lee, 2009)





SEPTO-HIPPOCAMPAL PATHWAY

Zebra Finches: Hippocampal injury results in upregulation of aromatase in reactive astrocytes & glia (Peterson et al., 2004; 2007; Lee et al., 2007)

Somas of adult radial cells are anchored in SVZ
 & their processes extend out toward the injury





(Peterson et al., 2004)



SPECIES-SPECIFIC INJURY-INDUCED CELL PROLIFERATION IN THE HIPPOCAMPUS & SVZ

Effect of hippocampal injury to storers during fall food-storing season?

✤Law et al. (2009):

Examined innate & injury-induced cell proliferation in wild-caught food-storing black-capped chickadees & non-storing dark-eyed juncos during the fall at the CSC

Birds received either no lesion or a unilateral lesion to the right hippocampus

24 hours later, all birds received an injection of the mitotic marker BrdU

7 days later, all birds were perfused

DV: Density of BrdU-immunoreactive cells (cells/mm2) in the hippocampus & SVZ



SPECIES-SPECIFIC INJURY-INDUCED CELL PROLIFERATION IN THE HIPPOCAMPUS & SVZ

SVZ
SVZ

SVZ divided based on proximity to hippocampus

Proximal SVZ (pSVZ): Lies adjacent to hippocampus

Distal SVZ (dSVZ): Nonadjacent to hippocampus





SPECIES-SPECIFIC INJURY-INDUCED CELL PROLIFERATION IN THE HIPPOCAMPUS & SVZ

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INNATE CELL PROLIFERATION: CHICKADEE > JUNCO





INJURY-INDUCED CELL PROLIFERATION: JUNCO > CHICKADEE









INJURY-INDUCED CELL PROLIFERATION: JUNCO > CHICKADEE











INJURY-INDUCED NEUROGENESIS: CHICKADEE > JUNCO



	-		
	Brain Region		
Species	HP (%)	pSVZ (%)	dSVZ (%
BCC	37	7	<1
DEJ	17	0	0



SPECIES-SPECIFIC INJURY-INDUCED CELL PROLIFERATION IN THE SEPTUM

Septal response following hippocampal injury?

♦ Gardner et al. (in prep):

Examined injury-induced cell proliferation in wild-caught storing chickadees & non-storing juncos during the fall at the CSC

Same birds used by Law et al. (2009)

DV: Density of BrdU-IR cells (cells/mm2) in the Septum







INJURY-INDUCED CELL PROLIFERATION: JUNCO > CHICKADEE





SEASONAL CELL PROLIFERATION

Seasonal fluctuations in septal or SVZ cell proliferation?

✤Gardner et al. (in prep):

Examined innate (unlesioned) cell proliferation in wildcaught storing chickadees & non-storing juncos during the fall & spring at the CSC

48 hours after capture, all birds received an injection BrdU

7 days later, all birds were perfused

DV: Density of BrdU-IR cells (cells/mm2) in the hippocampus, septum, pSVZ, & dSVZ



CHICKADEE HIPPOCAMPUS & SEPTUM FALL> SPRING

Hippocampus







NO SEASONAL CHANGES IN SVZ





SUMMARY OF MAIN FINDINGS

Both the hippocampus & septum have peak rates of cell proliferation during the fall in chickadees but not juncos

There are no seasonal effects in the SVZ in either species

Lesioned chickadees only show injury-induced cell proliferation in the hippocampus

Lesioned juncos show injury-induced cell proliferation in the hippocampus, septum, pSVZ, & dSVZ (similar to zebra finches)

Lesioned chickadees had fewer newly born hippocampal cells following injury compared to juncos

Lesioned chickadees had a higher percentage of newly born neurons compared to juncos



INTERPRETATIONS: WHAT'S UP CHICKADEE?

Innate cell proliferation:

Is enhanced in storers, especially during the fall?

Selective advantage in the brain designed to meet the cognitive demands of food-storing?

Injury-Induced cell proliferation:

Spread of injury restricted in storers?

Storers demonstrate a much faster cellular turnover than nonstorers?



FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Do food-storing birds differ from non-storing birds in the speed of cellular turnover following brain injury?

Our current project will test the temporal characteristics of cell division by examining injury-induced cell proliferation by varying the time between injury, mitotic labeling, & survival



FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Are there seasonal differences in response to hippocampal injury?

Does food-storing behavior lead to a reproductive advantage?

Our ongoing project compares the timing of gonadal recrudescence & regression between storers & non-storers





THANKS TO:



* Involved in this project

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- ★ Katie Mitterling
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FUTURE DIRECTIONS



Density of BrdU-IR Cells