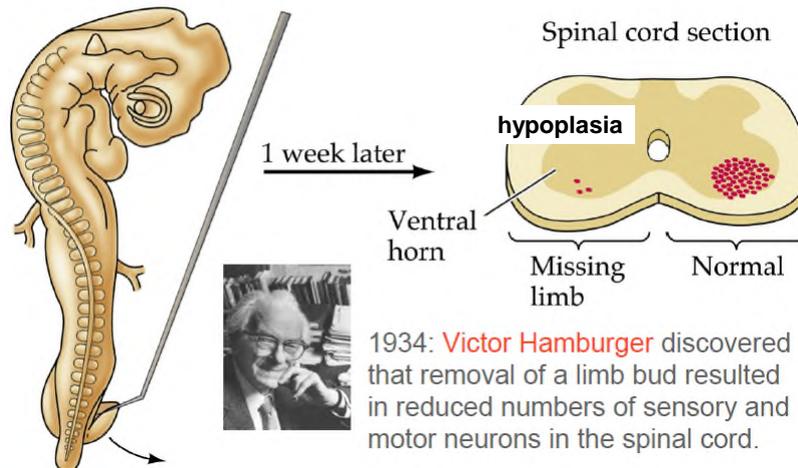


## Lessons 16-17

### Neurotrophic Factors and their signaling

#### First experiment by Viktor Hamburger (1934)

Limb bud ablation

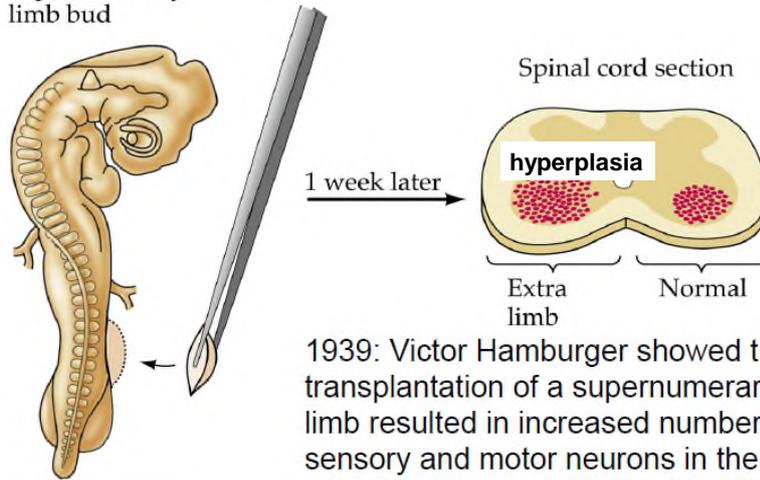


1934: **Victor Hamburger** discovered that removal of a limb bud resulted in reduced numbers of sensory and motor neurons in the spinal cord.

[e]very structure within the growing limb, muscle as well as sensory organs, send[s] stimuli to the central nervous system. Each part of the peripheral field controls directly its own nervous center, i.e., the limb muscles affect the lateral motor centers, the sensory fields control the ganglia.

### Second experiment by Viktor Hamburger (1939)

Transplantation of  
supernumerary  
limb bud



1939: Victor Hamburger showed that transplantation of a supernumerary limb resulted in increased numbers of sensory and motor neurons in the spinal cord.

© 2001 Sinauer Associates, Inc.

## The Neurotrophic factor hypothesis

Based on his limb-bud experiments, V. Hamburger **hypothesized** that the targets of innervating neurons provide signals that recruit undifferentiated cells to develop into sensory or motor neurons.

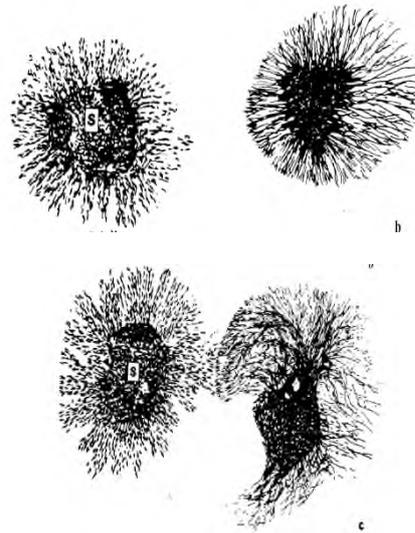
**(but he was wrong)**

1942, Levi-Montalcini and Levi proposed that target derived signals **maintain survival of differentiating neurons**. In 1949, Hamburger and Levi-Montalcini repeated the limb bud experiments and found that their results supported the **neurotrophic hypothesis**.

Hamburger, V. and Levi-Montalcini, R. (1949) *J. Exp. Zool.* 111: 457-502.

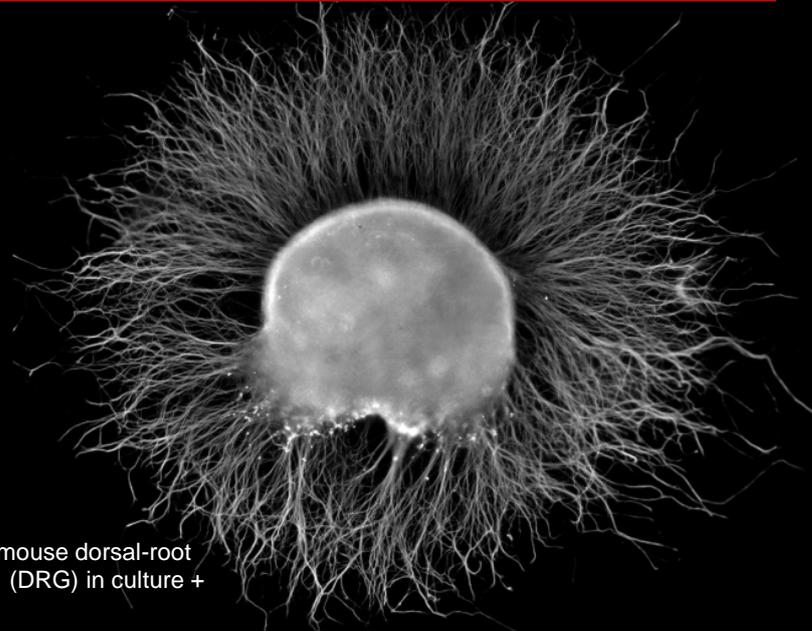
## The discovery of the Nerve Growth Factor

In December 1952, working on the identification of the development of the nervous system at embryonic stage in chick embryos, Rita Levi-Montalcini identified a «diffusible factor» able to induce nerve fibres sprouting.

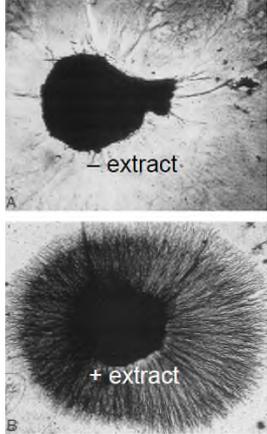


## The experimental model for the discovery of the NERVE GROWTH FACTOR

Isolated mouse dorsal-root ganglion (DRG) in culture + NGF



Different Neurons have Different Requirements for Neurotrophic Factors



- extract

+ extract

|         | DRG | NG | SG |
|---------|-----|----|----|
| Control |     |    |    |
| NGF     |     |    |    |
| BDNF    |     |    |    |
| NT-3    |     |    |    |

1960: NGF purified

1969: NGF purified to homogeneity

DRG = Dorsal Root Granglion, NG = Nodose Ganglion, SG = Sympatethic ganglion

## The neurotrophins family, besides NGF

**BDNF** -brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF), isolated by Barde et al. at the Max Planck in Munich (1982). BDNF is 55% homologous to NGF

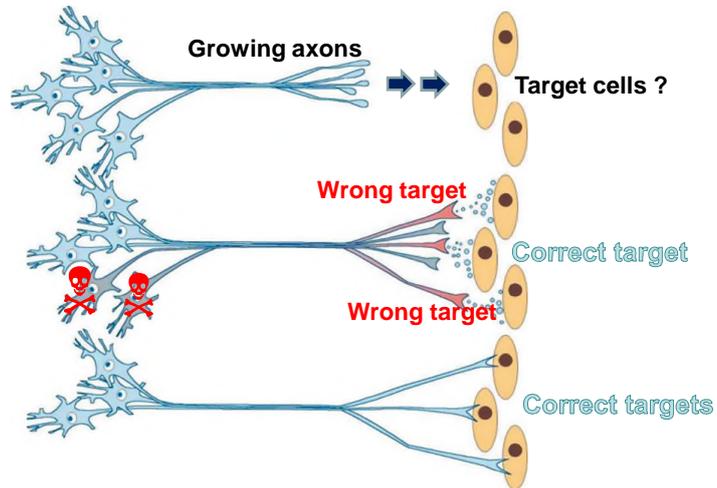
**NT3** – Discovered by primer sequences constructed from sequences in the conserved regions (Maisonpierre et al., 1990; Hohn et al., 1990; Rosenthal et al., 1990; Ernfors et al., 1990; Jones and Reichardt, 1990). 58% homologous to BDNF and 57% homologous to NGF.



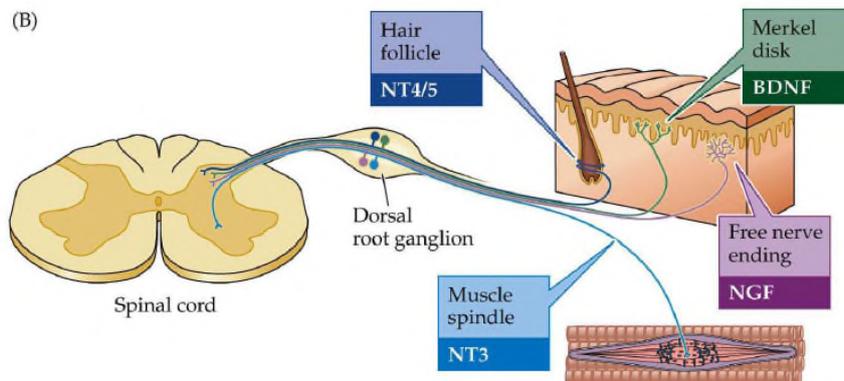
Hallböök et al, 1991) and 1992).

Chao, Nat Rev Neurosci, 2003

## Neurotrophins “classical” trophic role on neuronal survival.



## Knock-out mice have highlighted the role of neurotrophins in survival of different neuronal types



## What is a growth factor ? What is a trophic factor ?

### DEFINITION

**Growth factors** include substances that stimulate cells to divide (hyperplasia) or increase in size (hypertrophy). Many growth factors are now known to exist

**Trophic factors** include those substances that have effects on cell differentiation, cell survival, expression of a specific cellular phenotype (e.g. a cell becomes an inhibitory or an excitatory neuron), cellular morphological plasticity, as well as cell hypertrophy including, for example, the induction of neurite extension (also considered a "trophic" action). Importantly, some growth factors may also act as trophic factors and viceversa and each growth/trophic factor may have a specific combination of cellular effects.

## Families of growth and trophic factors

| Family                                       | Specific examples   |
|--|---|
| <b>Neurotrophin</b>                          | Nerve growth factor (NGF)<br>Brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF)<br>Neurotrophin 3 (NT-3)  |
| <b>EGF</b>                                   | Epidermal growth factor (EGF)<br>Transforming growth factor alpha (TGF $\alpha$ )<br>Vaccinia virus growth factor<br>Amphiregulin (AR)  |
| <b>FGF</b>                                   | Schwannoma-derived growth factor (SDGF)<br>Acidic fibroblast growth factor (aFGF)<br>Basic fibroblast growth factor (bFGF)<br>INT-2, FGF-5, FGF-6, KGF, HST/KGF   |
| <b>Insulin-like</b>                          | Insulin<br>Insulin-like growth factors (somatomedins)   |
| <b>Others</b>                                | Relaxin<br>Growth hormone (GH)<br>Platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF)<br>Mast cell growth factor (MGS)<br>Colony stimulating factors<br>Ciliary neurotrophic factor (CNTF)<br>Glial maturation factor<br>Protease nexin 1, II<br>Sweat gland factor<br>Cholinergic neuronal differentiation factor (CDF)<br>Muscle-derived growth factors (MDGF)<br>Striatal-derived neurotrophic factor<br>Transforming growth factor beta (TGF $\beta$ )/inhibin/Vactivin family<br>Membrane-associated neurotransmitter stimulating factor (MANS)<br>Thrombin<br>Entactin<br>Erythropoietin<br>Neurite inducing factor<br>Stem cell factor (SCF)<br>Interleukin 1,3,6<br>Glial-derived nexin<br>Heparin-binding NF |
| <b>Extracellular matrix/adhesion factors</b> | Laminin<br>Fibronectin<br>Purpurin<br>Apolipoproteins<br>Gangliosides   |
| <b>Nonpeptide hormones</b>                   | Steroid<br>T3/T4  |

## Neurotrophic factors

**Neurotrophic factors** are endogenous soluble proteins regulating survival, growth, morphological and synaptic\* plasticity, or synthesis of proteins for differentiated functions of neurons or glial cells.  
 (\* synaptic plasticity = regulation of the transmission activity at the level of the synapse)

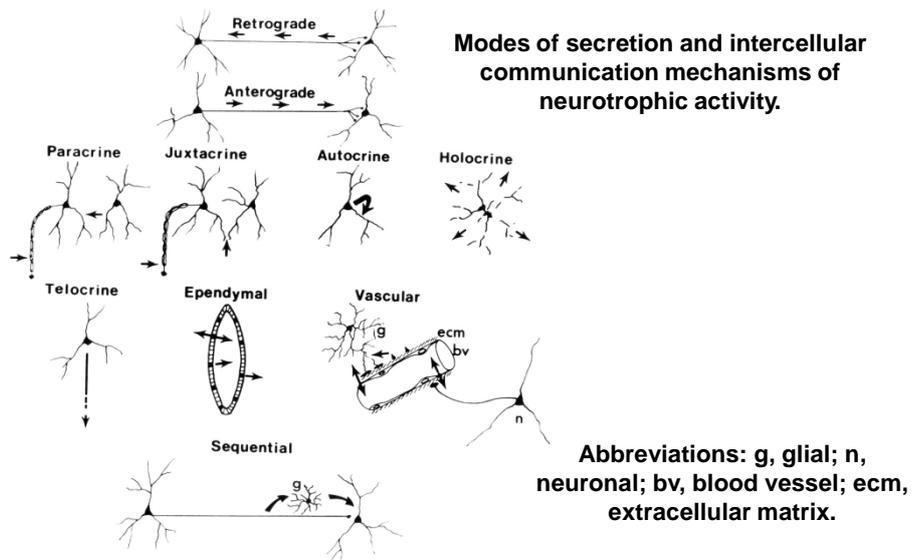
### List of characterized proteins exhibiting neurotrophic activities

| Growth factor                               | References   |
|---|--|
| Nerve growth factor (NGF)                   | Thoenen et al., 1987<br>Whittemore and Sciger, 1987<br>Hefti et al., 1989                        |
| Brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF)    | Barde et al., 1982<br>Leibrock et al., 1989  |
| Neurotrophin-3 (NT-3)                       | Ernfors et al., 1990<br>Hohn et al., 1990<br>Maisonpierre et al., 1990<br>Rosenthal et al., 1990 |
| Neurotrophin-4 (NT-4)                       | Hallbrook et al., 1991   |
| Neurotrophin-5 (NT-5)                       | Berkerneier et al., 1991   |
| Ciliary neurotrophic factor (CNTF)          | Lin et al., 1989   |
| Heparin-binding neurotrophic factor (HBNF)  | Stöckli et al., 1989<br>Kovesdi et al., 1990   |
| Growth factors with neurotrophic activity   |  |
| Basic fibroblast growth factor (bFGF)       | Morrison et al., 1986<br>Walicke, 1988   |
| Acidic fibroblast growth factor (aFGF)      | Walicke, 1988  |
| Insulin-like growth factors (IGFs), insulin | Aizenman et al., 1986<br>Baskin et al., 1987   |
| Epidermal growth factor (EGF)               | Fallon et al., 1984<br>Morrison et al., 1987   |
| Transforming growth factor cc (TGFcc)       | Deryncl., 1988<br>Fallon et al., 1990  |
| Interleukin 1                               | Spranger et al., 1990  |
| Interleukin 3                               | Kamegai, 1990  |
| Interleukin 6                               | Harna et al., 1989   |
| Protease nexin 1 and II                     | Monard, 1987<br>Oltersdorf et al., 1989  |
| Cholinergic neuronal differentiation factor | Whitson et al., 1989<br>Yarnarnori et al., 1989  |

## Which cell synthesizes the neurotrophic factors ?

Neurotrophic factors are produced by all cells of the nervous system, including neurons, glial cells, ependymal cells, blood vessels endothelial cells and cells from innervated tissues such as muscles, epidermis, etc...

## How are neurotrophic factors released from cells ?



## What cellular actions have neurotrophins ?

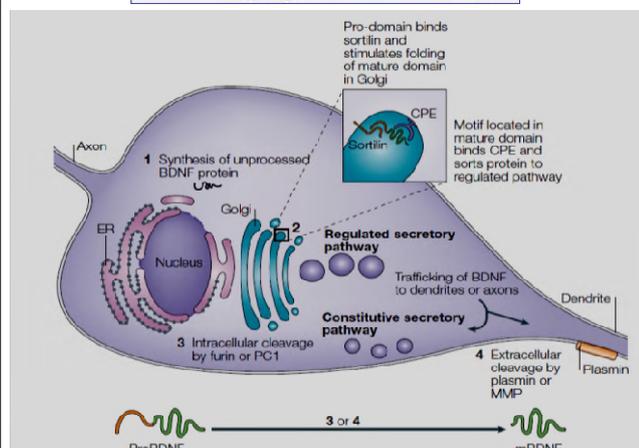
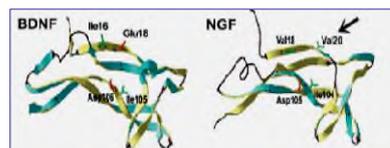
- Neurotrophins will be taken as example because they were the first neurotrophic factors to be discovered and because they have a large number of cellular effects. In particular neurotrophins have a:
  - 1) Trophic action as cell survival factors
  - 2) Trophic action by stimulating growth of cellular processes (axons and dendrites = neurites, i.e. they promote *neuritogenesis*)
  - 3) Trophic action on the cellular phenotype
  - 4) Trophic/growth action on cellular dimensions
  - 5) Trophic action on morphological plasticity
  - 6) Trophic action on synaptic plasticity
  - 7) Trophic action on cellular differentiation

**Neurotrophic Factors signalling**

## Regulation of neurotrophin signalling

- 1) Synthesis and sorting in the regulated secretory pathway
- 2) Proteolytic processing (intra or extra cellular)
- 3) Interaction with the receptor(s)
- 4) Initiation of the appropriate signaling cascade
- 5) Localization of the signals and activation of effectors in the compartment

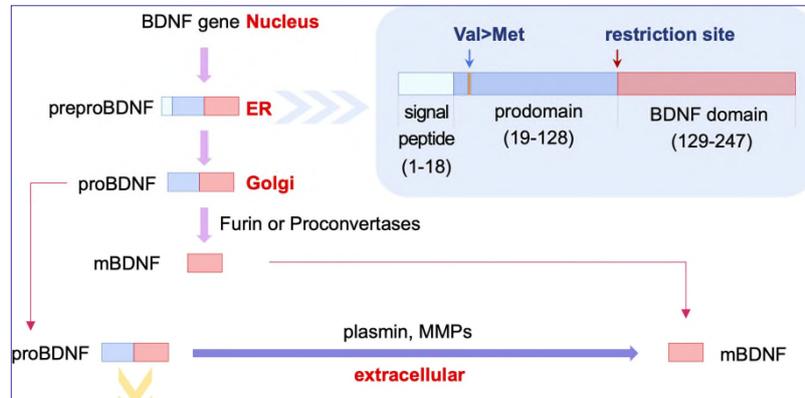
### 1) Synthesis and sorting of BDNF in the regulated secretory pathway



Synthesized in the ER (1), proBDNF binds to intracellular **sortilin** in the Golgi to facilitate proper folding of the mature domain (2). A motif in the mature domain of BDNF binds to **carboxypeptidase E (CPE)**. In the absence of this motif, BDNF is sorted into the constitutive pathway. proBDNF can be released by neurons. Extracellular proteases, such as metalloproteinases and plasmin, can subsequently cleave the pro-region to yield mature BDNF (4).

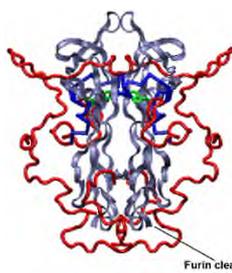
Bai Lu et al, Nat Rev Neurosci, 2005

## 2) Processing of proBDNF.

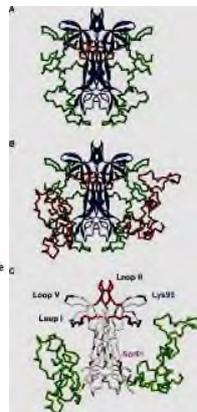


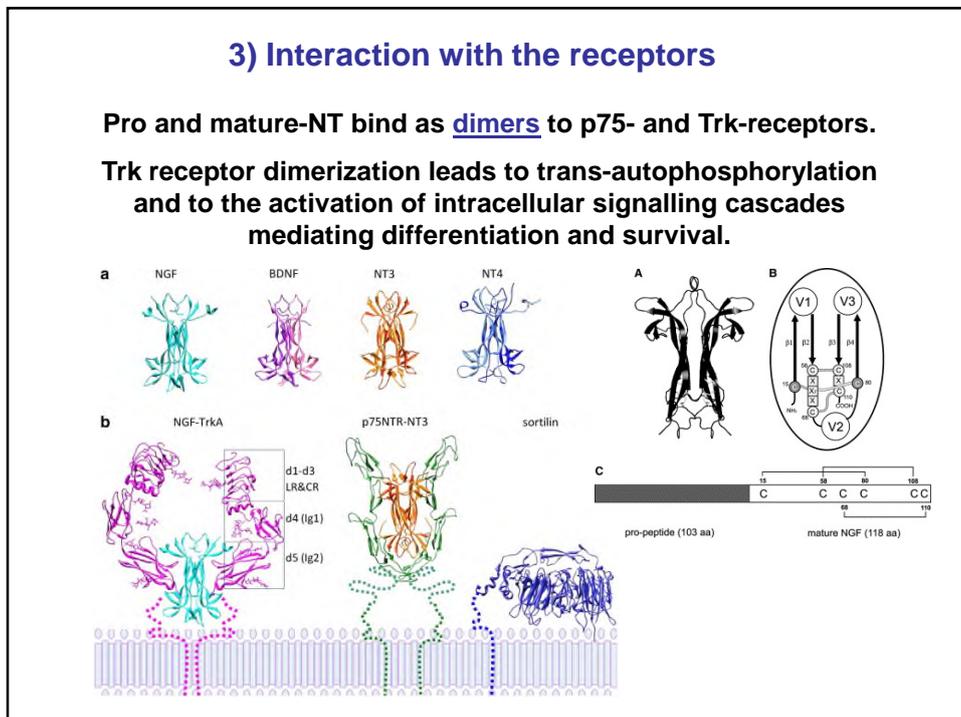
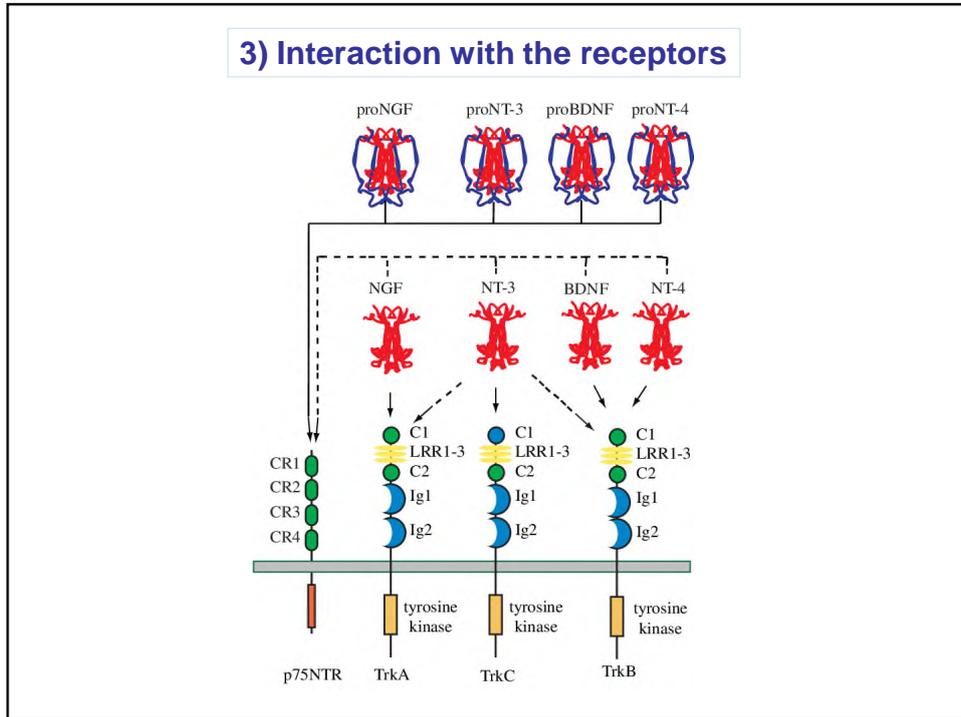
The BDNF gene produces preproBDNF protein in the ER, which is processed to proBDNF in the Golgi. ProBDNF may be cleaved into mBDNF intracellularly by furin or proconvertases, or extracellularly by plasmin or MMPs.

## 2) Processing of neurotrophins



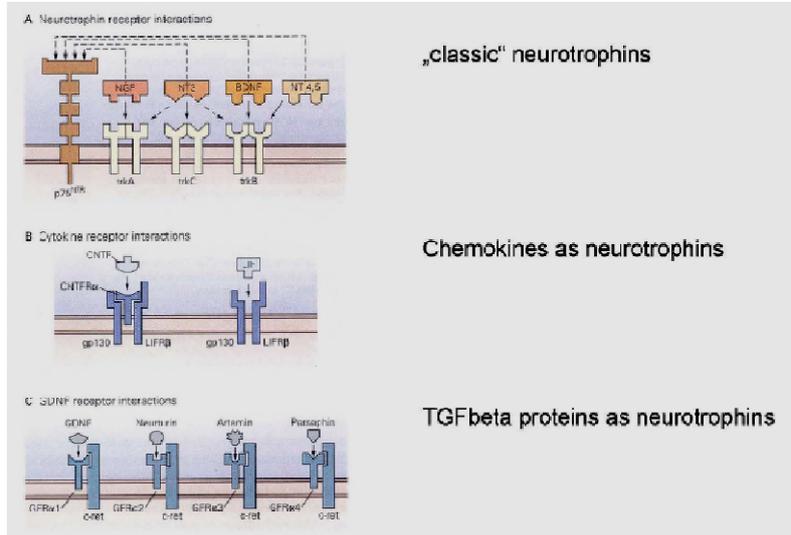
Precursors pro-peptides with IUD (Intrinsically Unstructured Domain)





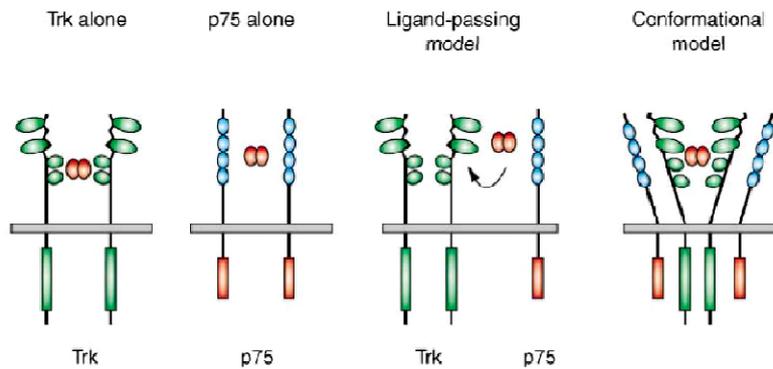
### 3) Interaction with the receptors

The receptors of other neurotrophic factors can also dimerize



### 3) Models for Trk and p75<sup>NTR</sup> interaction

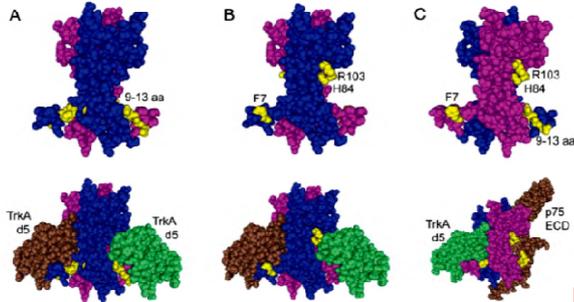
The p75 receptor can bind to each NT, and also acts as a co-receptor for Trk receptors



Chao and Bothwell (2002) Neuron

### 3) Models for Trk and p75<sup>NTR</sup> interaction: how were they discovered?

Page 15



**Δ9/13 NGF mutein**, a deletion of N-terminal residues 9–13 = **no TrkA binding or activity**

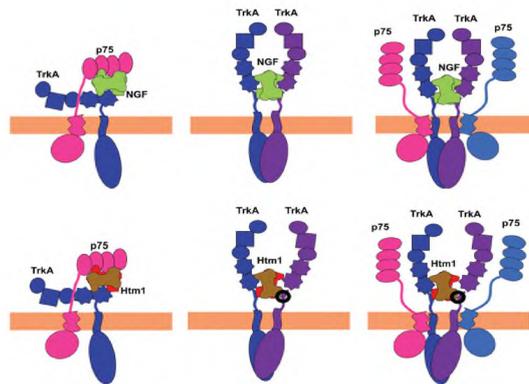
7-84-103 NGF mutein, mutated at residues F7, H84, and R103 to alanine, **has 200-fold reduced binding to TrkA and is signal selective for survival over neurotogenesis**

The two muteins form a heteromultimer, which can bind TrkA on only one side at the NGF protomer-protomer interface. The heteromultimer Htm1 has the ability to bind normally to p75, in the absence of TrkA homodimerization Htm1 induces cell survival at half-reduced efficiency than wt-NGF.

**Fig. 1.** Design rationale for an NGF heteromultimer capable of forming a TrkA-NGF-p75 complex but not a TrkA-NGF-TrkA complex. **A:** The 9–13 amino acids on the N-terminus of NGF are highlighted in yellow on each protomer (pink, blue) of NGF dimer (upper structure). These amino acids are deleted in the mutein Δ9/13 that is unable to bind TrkA. The lower structure shows the interaction of residues 9–13 with TrkA d5 domain (brown, green). **B:** The F7, H84, and R103 amino acids are highlighted in the NGF dimer (upper structure), and their interaction with TrkA d5 domains (brown, green) is shown in the lower structure. F7A/H84A/R103A (7-84-103) mutein is an NGF mutein binding weakly to TrkA. **C:** A dimer of NGF in which 9–13 amino acids are highlighted on one protomer (pink) and F7, H84, and R103 are highlighted on the other protomer (blue) of NGF shows that, if these highlighted residues are mutated or deleted, it would abolish TrkA binding on one side (upper structure). Therefore, a heterodimer of Δ9/13 mutein and the 7-84-103 mutein would lose TrkA binding on one side but still have the ability to form a heteroreceptor complex (p75 ECD, brown, TrkA d5, green, lower structure). PDB IDs for NGFTrkA(d5) complex and NGF-p75 complex are 1WWW and 1SG1, respectively.

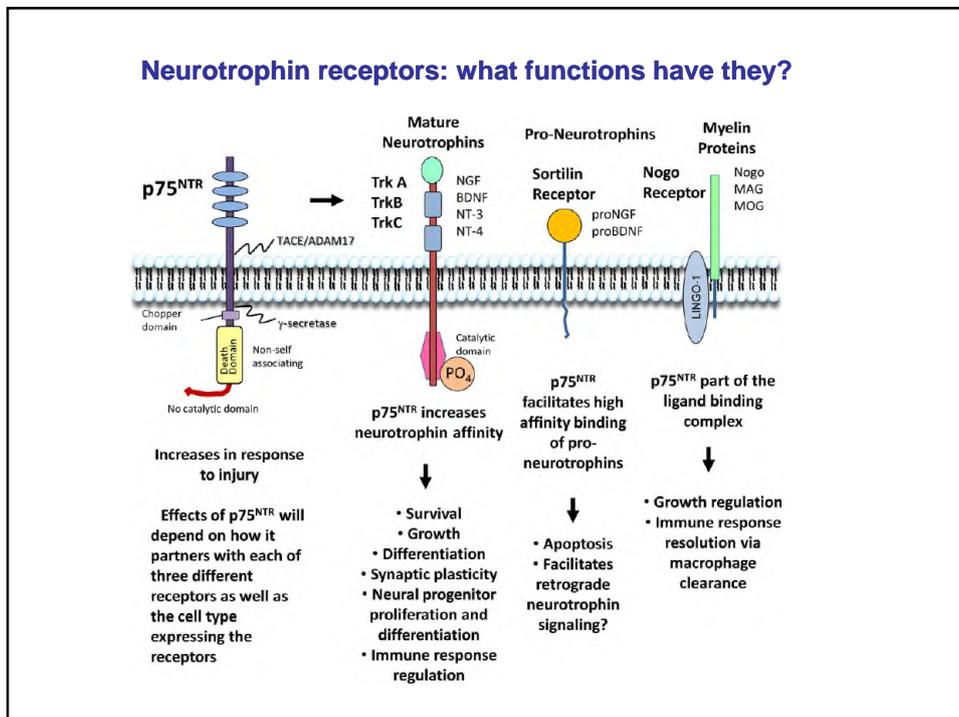
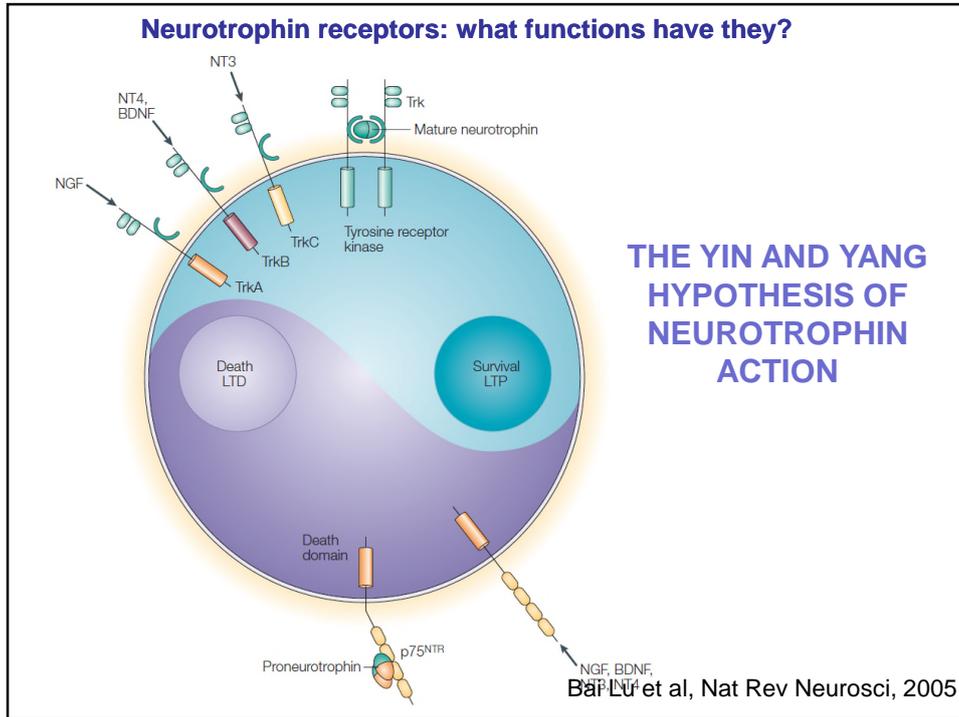
### 3) Models for Trk and p75<sup>NTR</sup> interaction: how were they discovered?

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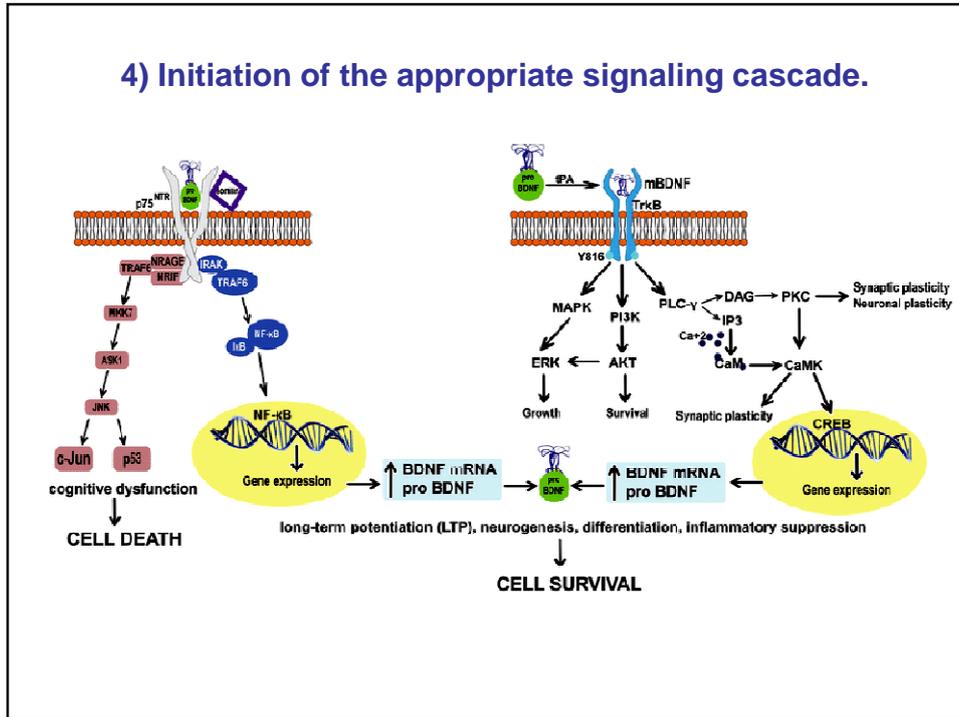


**Fig. 10.** Model of ligand passing and TrkA presentation for NGF binding. Upper row: NGF. Lower row: Htm1. Left column: Putative complex of NGF or Htm1 with TrkA and p75 that represents an intermediate in the ligand-passing model. Note the antiparallel orientation of the two receptors resulting from the binding mode of each ligand relative to the membrane (Barker, 2007). The formation of this complex would be preceded by the binding of NGF or Htm1 to the p75 receptor. Middle column: NGF or Htm1 binding to a homodimeric TrkA receptor. The binding pathway for NGF or Htm1 to form this complex can occur by directly binding to TrkA or via the two-step ligand-passing process, which involves formation of the complex shown in the left column. Right column: Putative heteroreceptor complex of undefined stoichiometry in the Trk presentation model. This complex represents the TrkA presentation model. A pre-existing TrkA-p75 heteroreceptor complex can bind to NGF with greater affinity than TrkA alone. In the lower middle and lower right models, the area in the circle designates additional modes of interaction among Htm1 loop L-I, L-II, and L-IV residues and the extracellular, juxtamembrane region of TrkA to explain the cellular and signaling data (see Discussion). <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3674885/pdf/nihms-463239.pdf>

2012



#### 4) Initiation of the appropriate signaling cascade.



#### 4) Trk receptor signaling

When a neurotrophin binds to a trk receptor, the kinase domain is activated resulting in autophosphorylation.

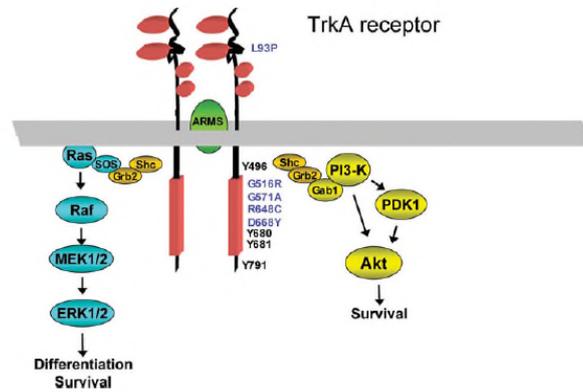
Autophosphorylation results in further activation of the kinase domain, leading to activation of three potential signaling cascades:

MAPK

PI3K

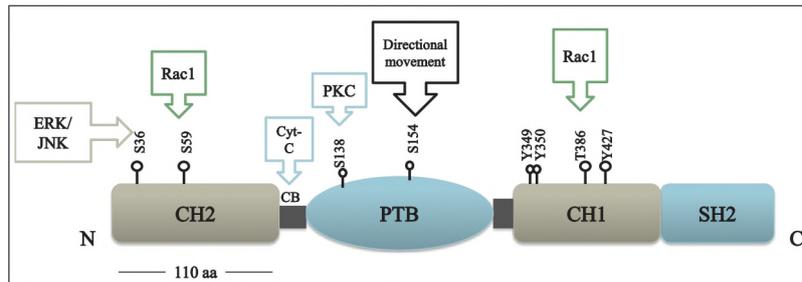
PLC-γ

### 4) NT signalling transduction pathways mediated by trk receptors



**Figure 1** TrkA receptors mediate differentiation and survival signalling through ERK, PI3K and PLC- $\gamma$  pathways  
 TrkA receptors recruit and increase the phosphorylation of PLC- $\gamma$  and Shc, which leads to activation of PI3K and ERK. Highlighted residues (blue) are human mutations in TrkA that are associated with patients suffering from congenital insensitivity to pain [33–35]. Grb2, growth factor receptor-bound protein 2; Gab1, Grb2-associated binder-1; PDK1, phosphoinositide-dependent kinase 1; SH2B, Src homology 2-B; SOS, son of sevenless.

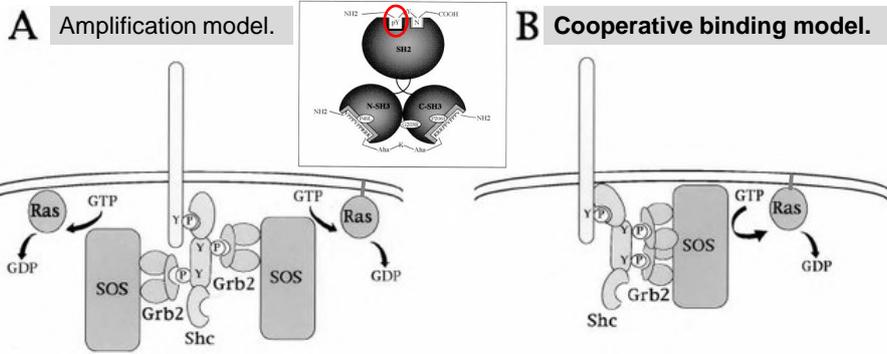
### Shc is a multidomain protein able to interact with multiple partners



Schematic representation illustrating the phosphorylation sites on p66ShcA. There are three tyrosine phosphorylation sites and a threonine phosphorylation residue in the CH1 domain. There is one serine phosphorylation site on (Serine 138) the PTB domain as well as two serine phosphorylation sites in the amino terminal CH2 domain. p66ShcA has a unique cytochrome c binding region (CB). Ser36, Ser59, Ser138 and Thr386 are involved in the oxidative stress response, whereas S154 has a role in the directional movement of pancreatic cells. The phosphorylation of tyrosine residues in the CH1 domain are involved in MAPK activation (Adapted from Rajendran et al. 2010)

Published in Journal of molecular signaling 2017  
[Insights into the Shc Family of Adaptor Proteins](#)  
 Samrein B. M. Ahmed, S. Prigent

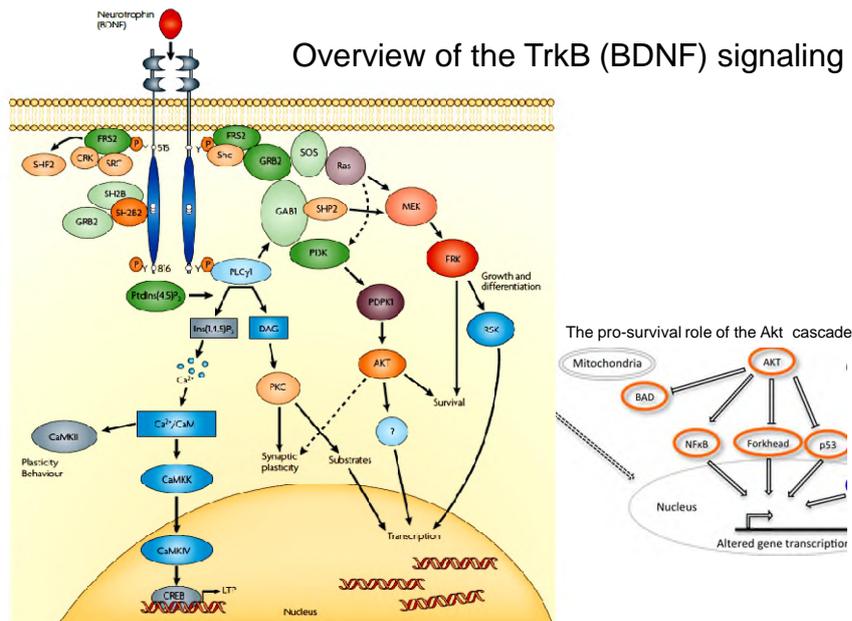
**Two models describing Shc-Grb2-SOS interactions.**

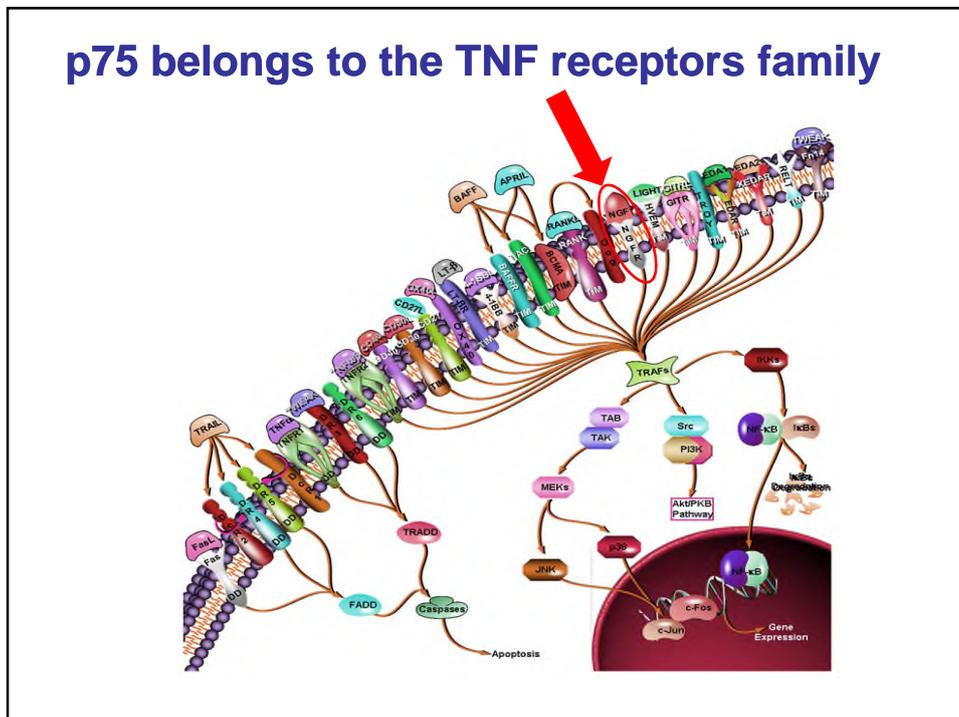
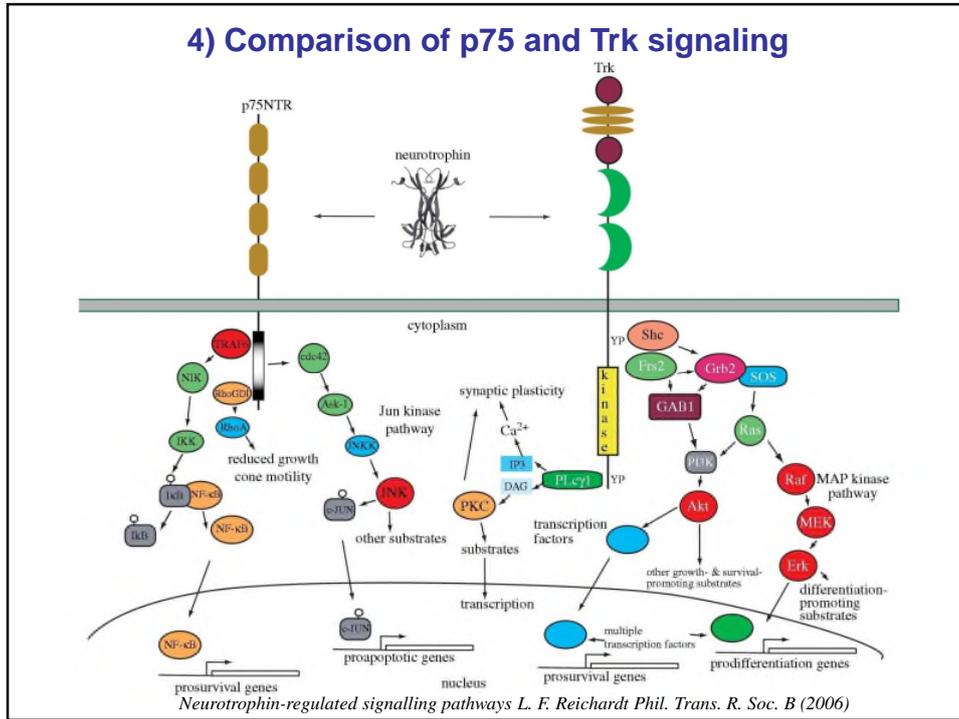


- (A) Amplification model.** The phosphorylation of two Grb2 binding sites on Shc may allow the recruitment of two SOS molecules, perhaps amplifying the signal and leading to more Ras activation.
- (B) Cooperative binding model.** Shc may bind two Grb2 molecules that in turn bind to a single SOS molecule. The multiple protein-protein interactions afforded by such a four-way Shc-Grb2-SOS complex might result in more stable binding than would be provided by the Shc-Grb2-SOS complex depicted in panel A and could explain the enhanced association between Grb2 and SOS that is observed upon BCR stimulation of cells. The identity of the transmembrane protein shown anchoring Shc at the membrane is unknown.

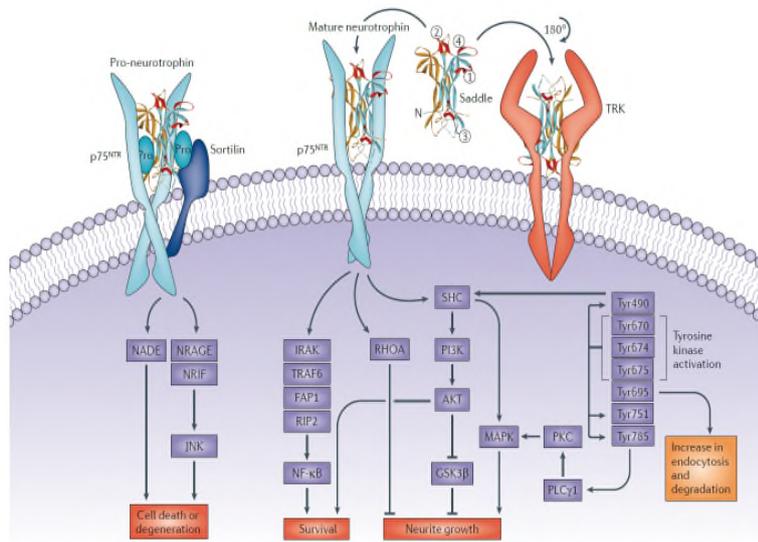
**4) NT signalling transduction pathways mediated by trk receptors**

**Overview of the TrkB (BDNF) signaling**



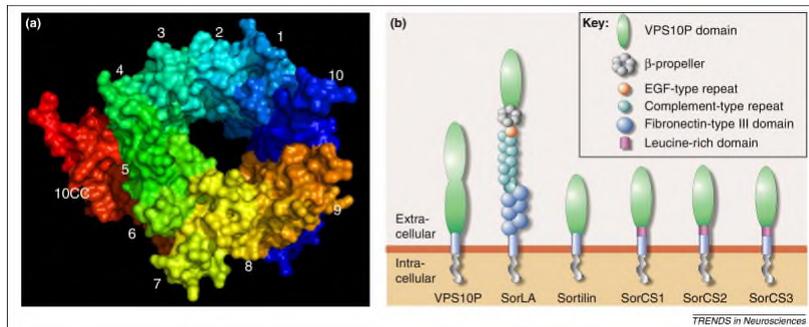


#### 4) Comparison of p75 and Trk signaling

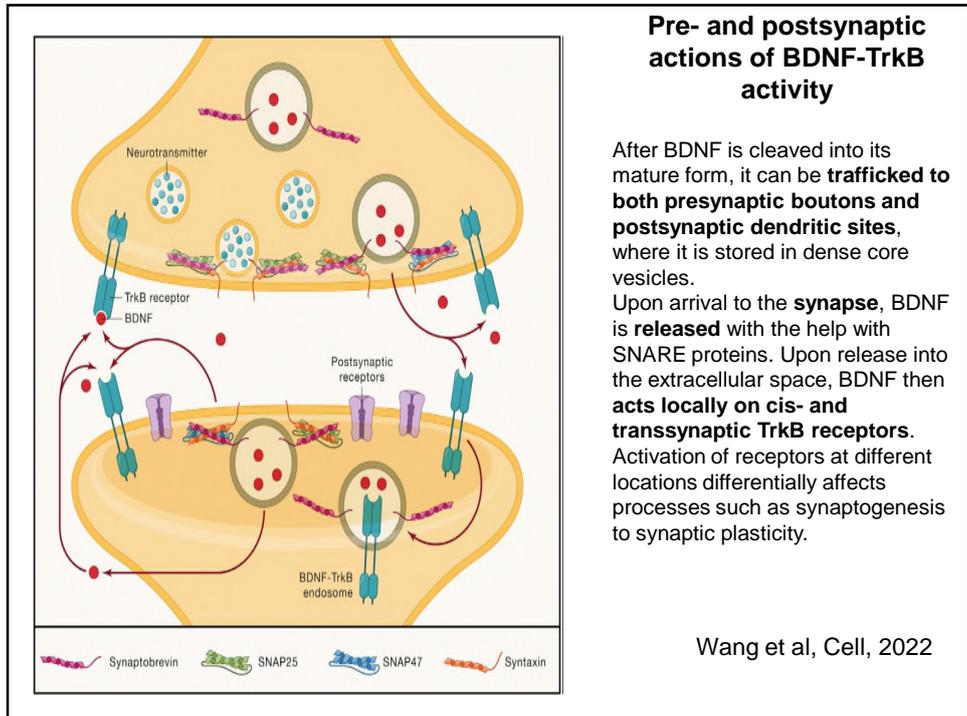
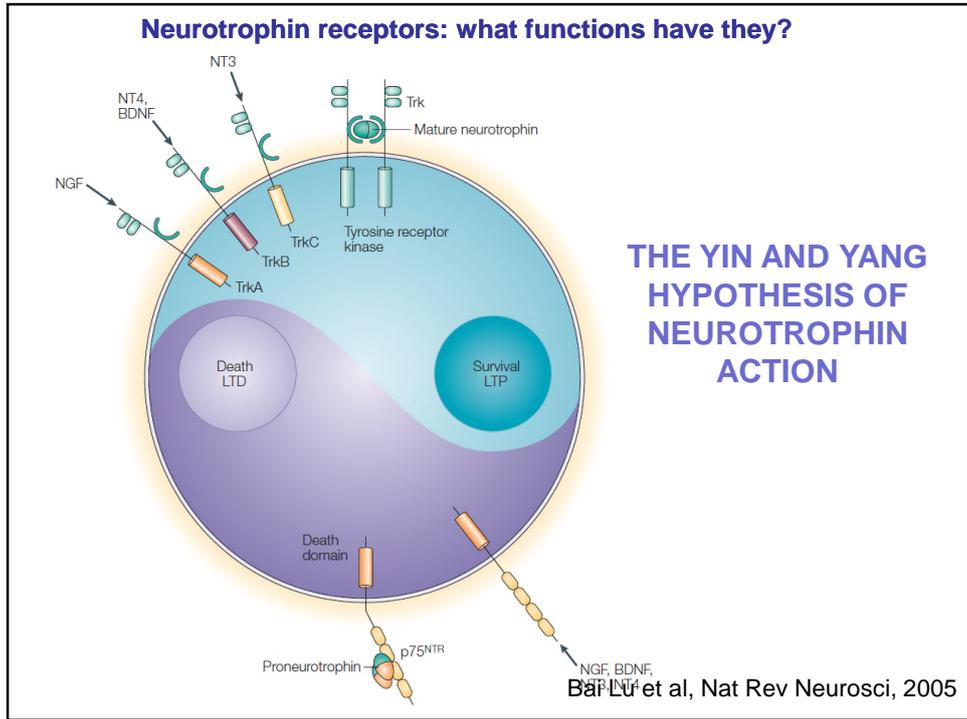


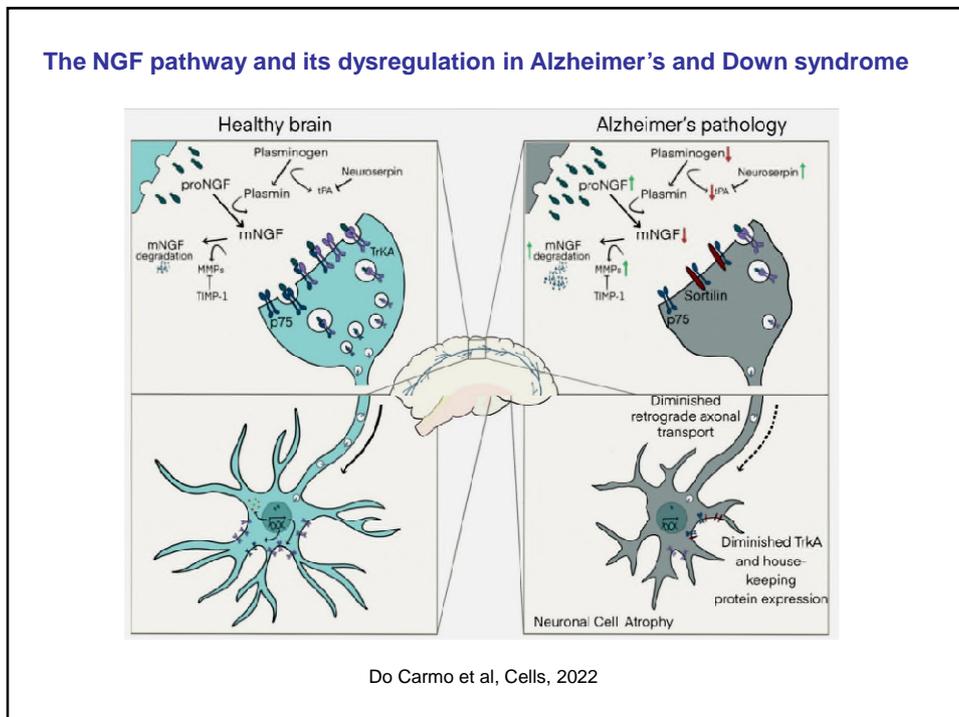
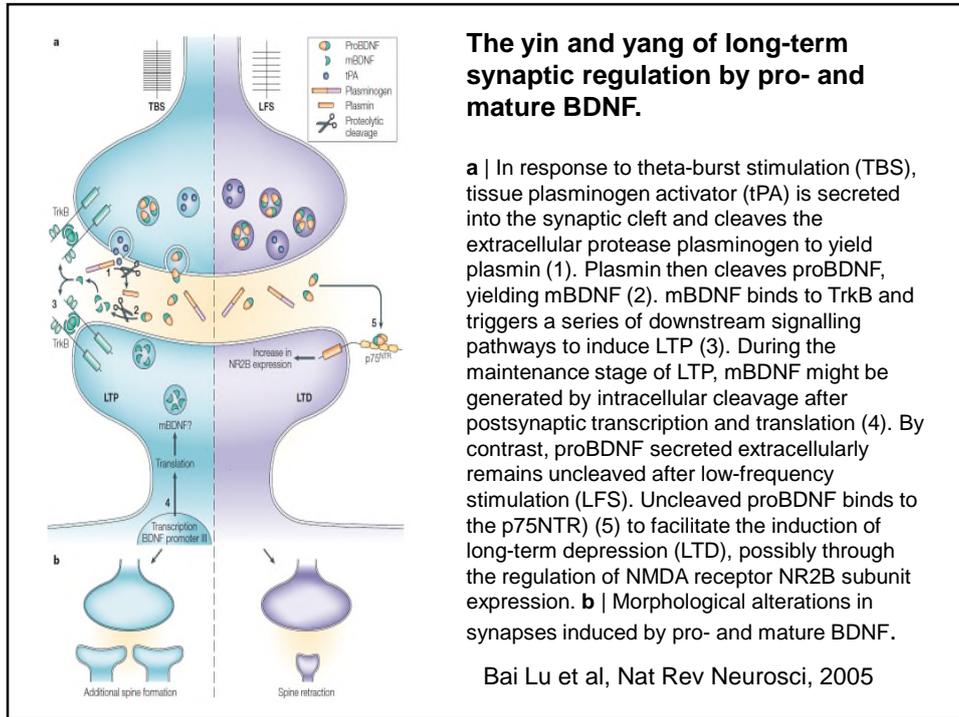
Longo, Massa, Nat Rev Drug Disc, 2013

#### 4) NT signalling transduction pathways mediated by sortilin receptors



The vacuolar protein sorting 10 protein (VPS10P) domain is a 700-amino-acid module that was first recognized in the *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* protein VPS10P, a sorting receptor that directs the trafficking of lysosomal enzymes from the Golgi to the vacuole

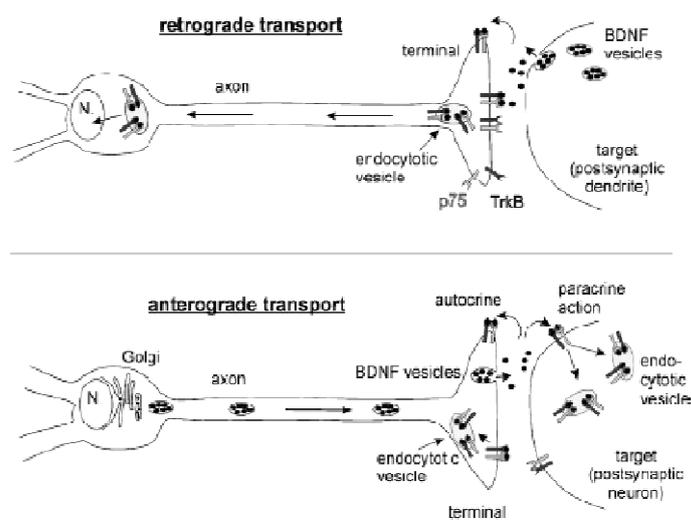




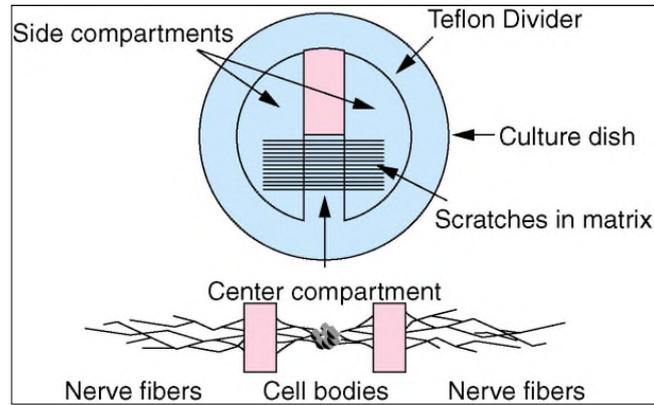
## 5) A spatial view of NT signalling pathways

Three are the neurotrophin signalling spatial ways in a neuron:  
 the signalling endosome  
 the signalling within the axons  
 the signalling at the cell body

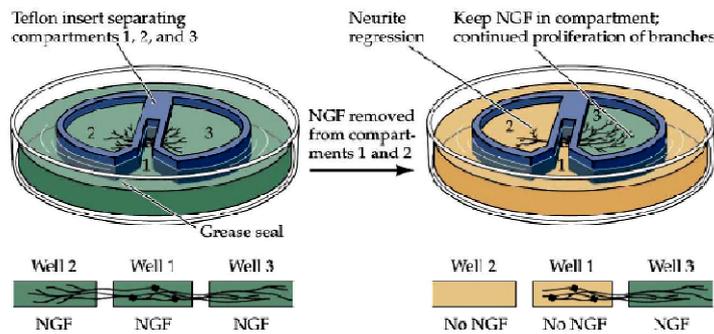
### BDNF can be secreted from both axons and dendrites



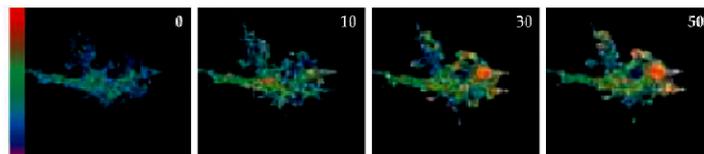
### The experiment of the Campenot's chamber



### Neurotrophins influence neurite growth by local effects



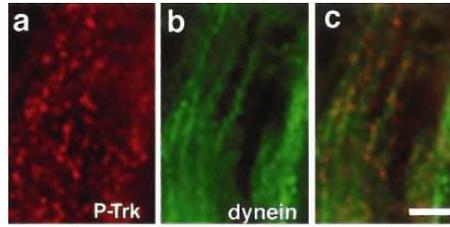
(B)



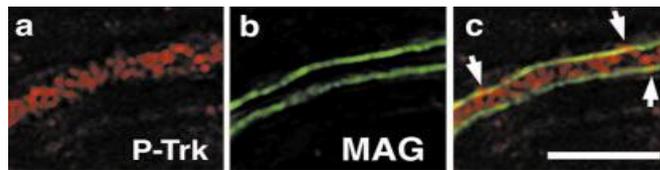
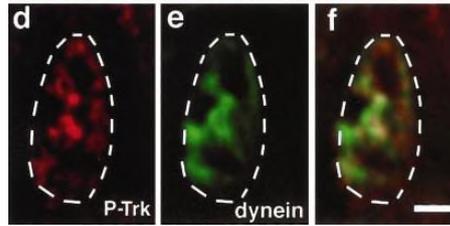
**Conclusion:**  
 NGF must be present at growth cones, not cell bodies.  
 NGF must be transported to the cell body by retrograde transport.

### Co-localization of Dynein with p-Trk

Longitudinal Section

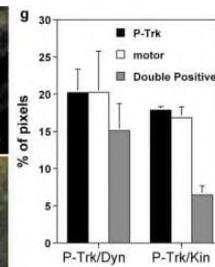
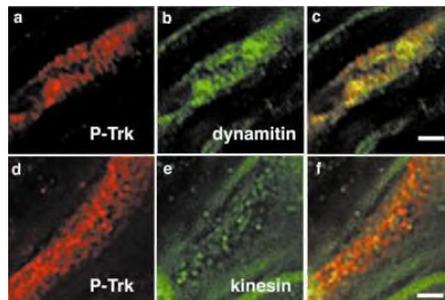


Deconvoluted Cross Section – dashed line is the axon membrane



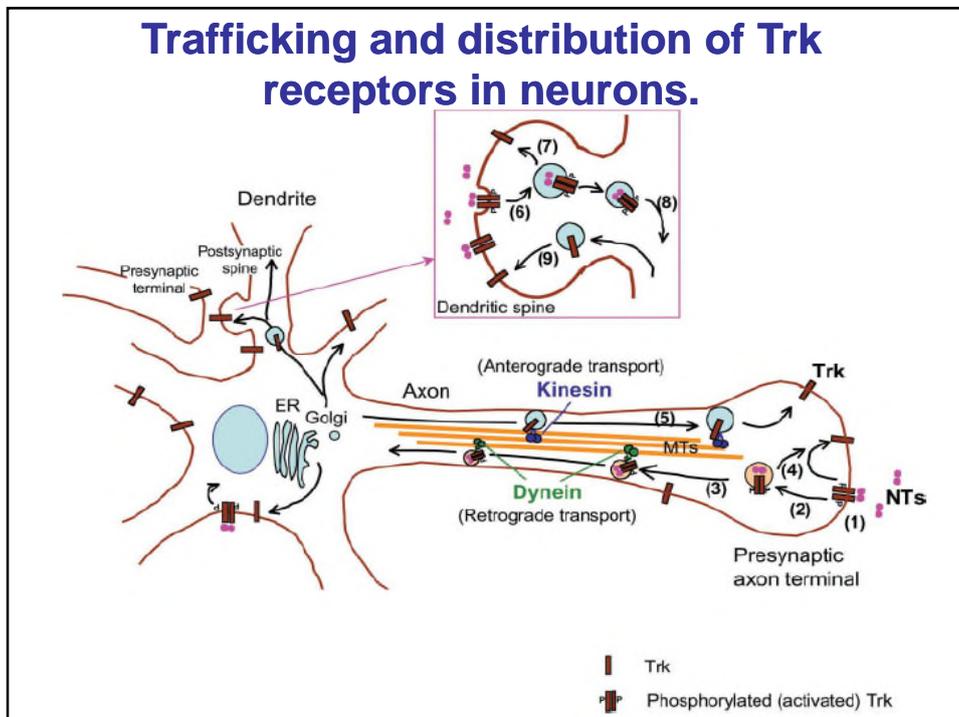
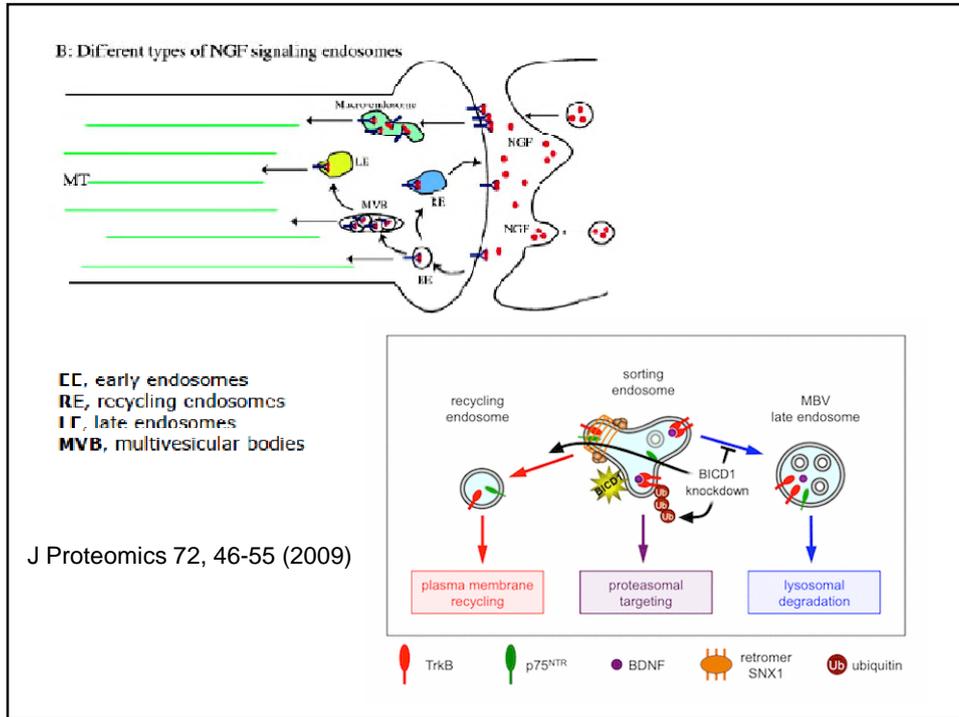
Staining of individual axons of the sciatic nerve

P-Trk (activated Trk)      MAG myelin associated glycoprotein)



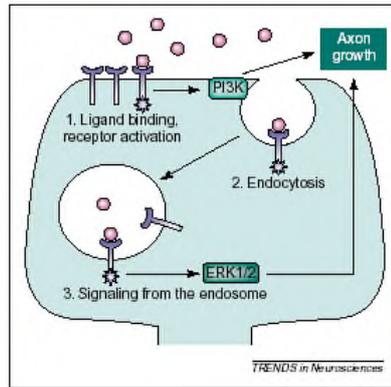
Correlation of Trk with Dynein/ Dynactin  
not with Kinesin in sciatic nerves

Dynamitin is the p50 subunit of dynactin (a dynein associated protein)

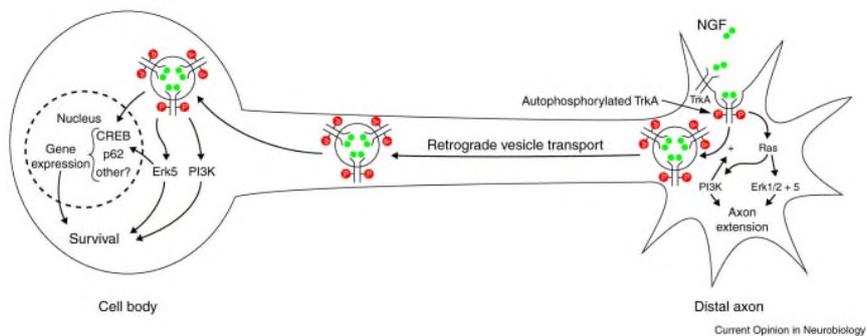


**Activated Trk can signal locally and retrogradely using different signalling pathways**

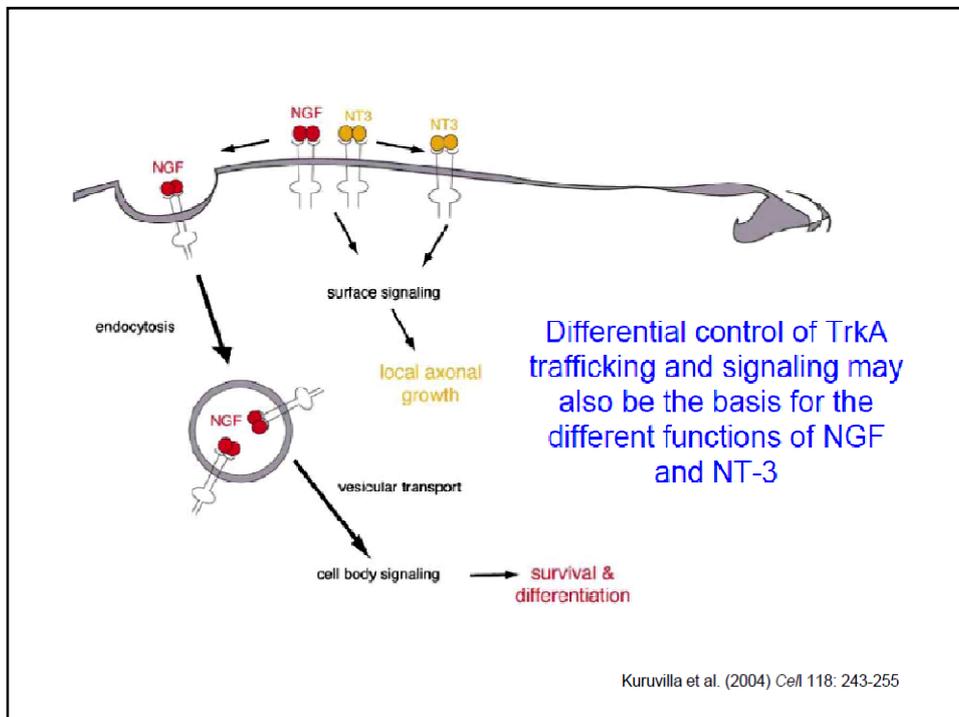
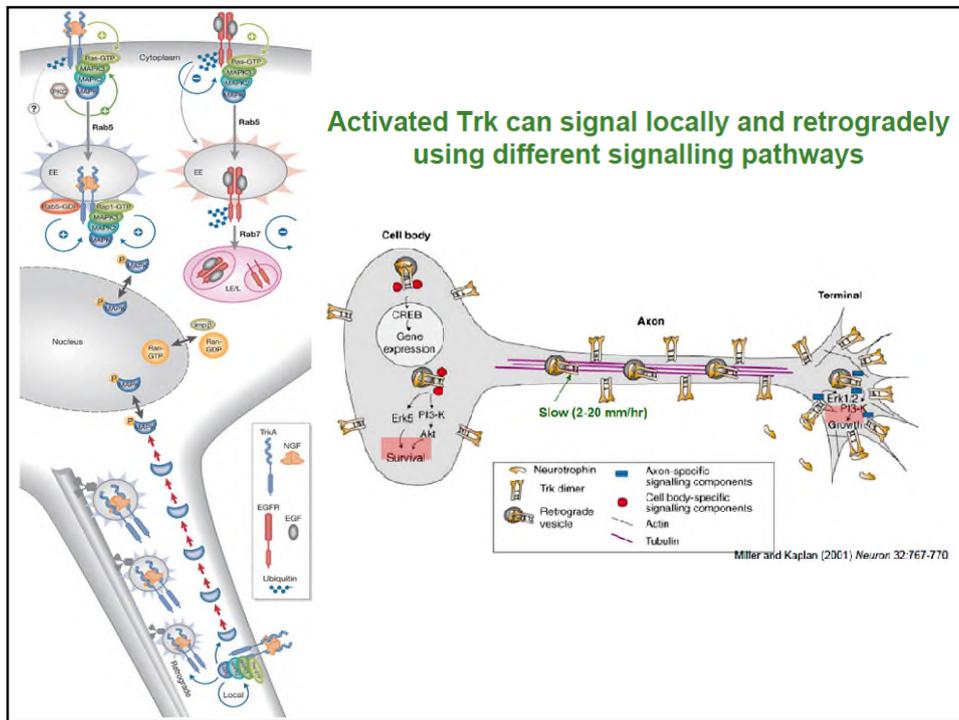
NT (purple spheres) binds to Trks (blue) at the nerve terminal. Location of the PI3 kinase cascade promotes both axon outgrowth and receptor endocytosis. Activated endosomal Trks within the terminal and axon might be primarily responsible for activating the erk172 pathway (from [Heerssen, 2002 #93]).



**Transport of vesicle with NGF bound to TrkA (nerve growth factor receptor)**

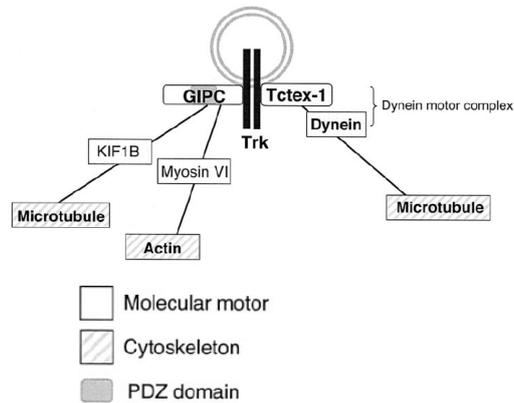


From Rosalind Segal

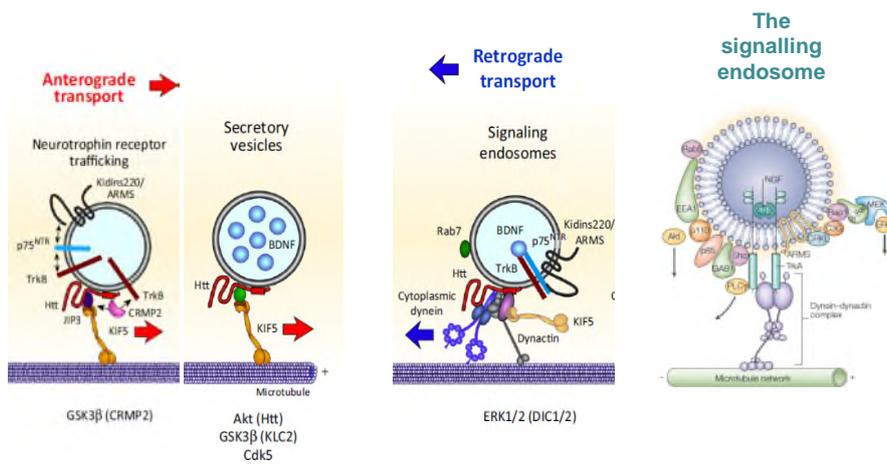


## Model linking Trk-bearing vesicles to motors.

GIPC and Tctex-1 are Trk-interacting proteins that may be involved in Trk trafficking. The interaction of these proteins with Trk has been found by yeast two-hybrid system and coimmunoprecipitation (Lou et al., 2001; Yano et al., 2001). GIPC: a PDZ domain-containing protein; Tctex-1: a dynein light chain subunit. KIF1B and myosin VI were found to bind to GIPC by yeast two-hybrid screen (Bunn et al., 1999). A functional ternary complex of Trk-GIPC-KIF1B (or myosin VI) remains to be shown. The Trk-Tctex-1-dynein motor complex was detected by immunoprecipitation from brain lysate (Yano et al., 2001).

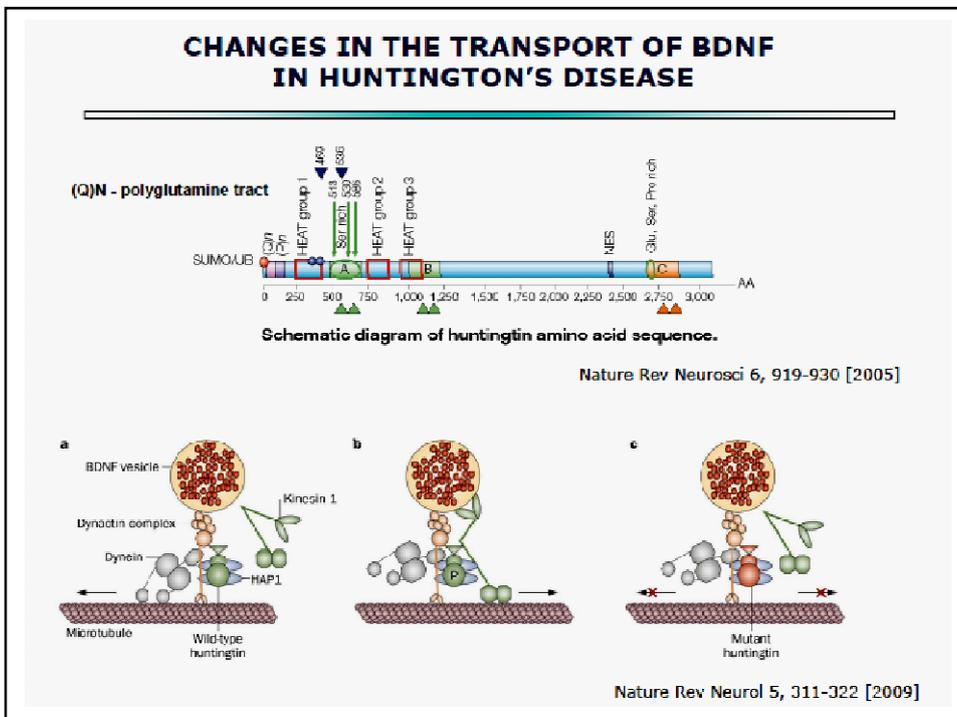
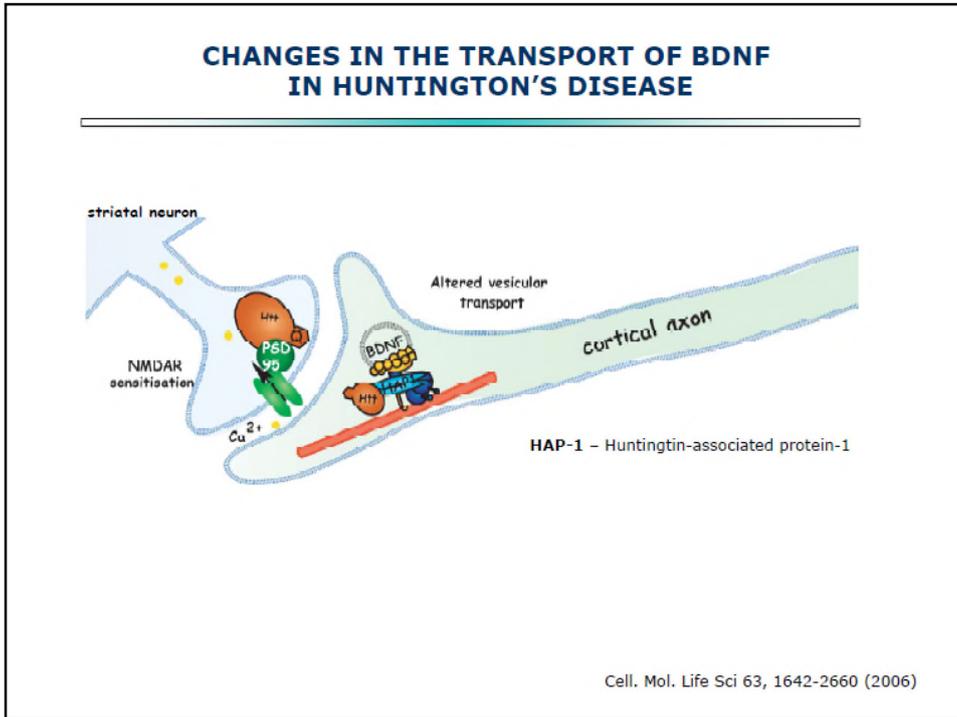


## Transport of a vesicle with NGF bound to TrkA (growth factor receptor)



Gibbs, Trends Biochem Sci, 2015

Zweifel et al, Nat Rev Neurosci, 2005



## Why are neurotrophins still interesting?

Involvement in an a big number of pathways/cellular conditions/pathologies. Pharmacological interest.

Research Article

**A third HSAN5 mutation disrupts the nerve growth factor furin cleavage site**

Samika S Shalish<sup>1</sup>, Michael S Nahorski<sup>1</sup>, and C Geoffrey Woods<sup>1,2</sup>

Molecular Pain  
Volume 14, 1-11  
© The Author(s) 2018  
DOI: 10.1177/1744501918020223  
journals.sagepub.com/home/mop  
SAGE

Mol Neurobiol (2018) 55:2934-2951  
DOI: 10.1007/s12035-017-0305-7

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joint Bone Spine (2018) xxx-xxx

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www.sciencedirect.com

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EMJ  
www.elsevier.com

**PRoneurotrophins and CONsequences**

Rui O. Costa<sup>1,2</sup>, Tânia Perestrelo<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Ramiro D. Almeida<sup>1,2,4</sup>

Editorial

Targeting nerve growth factor to relieve pain from osteoarthritis  
What can we expect?

RESERVAIRE INSTITUT

Received: 20 April 2017 | Revised: 22 January 2018 | Accepted: 03 January 2018

DOI: 10.1016/j.glia.2018.01.002

GLIA  
WILEY

RESEARCH ARTICLE

**NGF steers microglia toward a neuroprotective phenotype**

Caterina Rizzi<sup>1</sup> | Alexia Tiberi<sup>1</sup> | Michela Giustolieri<sup>2</sup> | Maria Cristina Marrone<sup>2</sup> | Francesco Gobbo<sup>1</sup> | Nicola Maria Carucci<sup>1</sup> | Giovanni Meli<sup>2</sup> | Ivan Arisi<sup>2</sup> | Mara D'Onofrio<sup>2</sup> | Silvia Marinelli<sup>2</sup> | Simona Capsoni<sup>1,2</sup> | Antonino Cattaneo<sup>1,2</sup>

Differentiation by nerve growth factor (NGF) involves mechanisms of crosstalk between energy homeostasis and mitochondrial remodeling

Francesca Martorana, Daniela Gaglio, Maria Rosaria Bianco, Federica Aprea, Assunta Virtuoso, Marcella Bonanomi, L'Elia Alberghina, Michele Pappo & Anna Maria Colangelo

Cell Death & Disease 9, Article number: 391 (2018) | Received: 14 December 2017

Prolyl isomerase Pin1 and neurotrophins: a loop that may determine the fate of cells in cancer and neurodegeneration

Francesco Angelucci and Jakub Hort

The Am. J. Med. Sci.  
2017, Vol. 153, 94-102  
DOI: 10.1177/1750474416640776  
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journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/yphrs

Invited Review

**Neurotrophin receptors in the pathogenesis, diagnosis and therapy of neurodegenerative diseases**

Jacopo Meldolesi  
Department of Neuroscience, Vita-Salute San Raffaele University and Scientific Institute San Raffaele, via Olgettina 58, 20132 Milan, Italy

RESERVAIRE INSTITUT

Div. Neurobiol. 2017, April, 77(4): 405–418. doi:10.1002-dnem.22427.

 International Journal of  
Molecular Sciences

**The Neurotrophin Receptor Signaling Endosome: Where Trafficking Meets Signaling**

Kelly Barford<sup>1</sup>, Christopher Duppman<sup>2</sup>, and Bettina Wroclker<sup>1</sup>

Review

**A Review on Ubiquitination of Neurotrophin Receptors: Facts and Perspectives**

Julia Sánchez-Sánchez<sup>1</sup> and Juan Carlos Arévalo<sup>2,\*</sup>

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Review Article

Dysregulation of neurotrophin signaling in the pathogenesis of Alzheimer disease and of Alzheimer disease in Down syndrome<sup>††</sup>

Xu-Qiao Chen<sup>1</sup>, Mariko Sawa, William C. Mobley<sup>2</sup>

Cell. Mol. Life Sci. (2016) 73:1859–1870  
DOI 10.1007/s00018-016-2156-7

Cellular and Molecular Life Sciences

REVIEW

 CrossMark

**Neurotrophin signaling in cancer stem cells**

Valérie Chopin<sup>1,2</sup>, Chann Lagadee<sup>3</sup>, Robert-Alain Tollon<sup>1</sup>, Xuefen Le Bourhis<sup>1</sup>

 JOURNAL OF  
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Chemistry

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[pubs.acs.org/jmc](http://pubs.acs.org/jmc)

**Targeting the Nerve Growth Factor (NGF) Pathway in Drug Discovery. Potential Applications to New Therapies for Chronic Pain**

Bryan H. Norman<sup>1,2</sup> and Jeff S. McDermott<sup>2</sup>

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