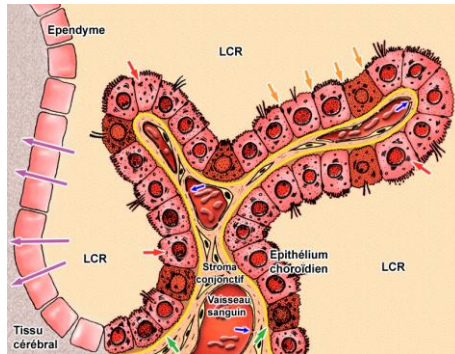
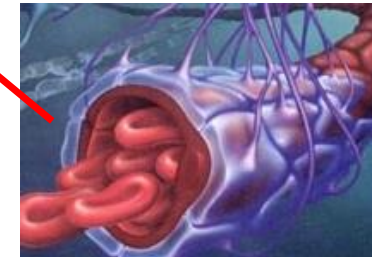
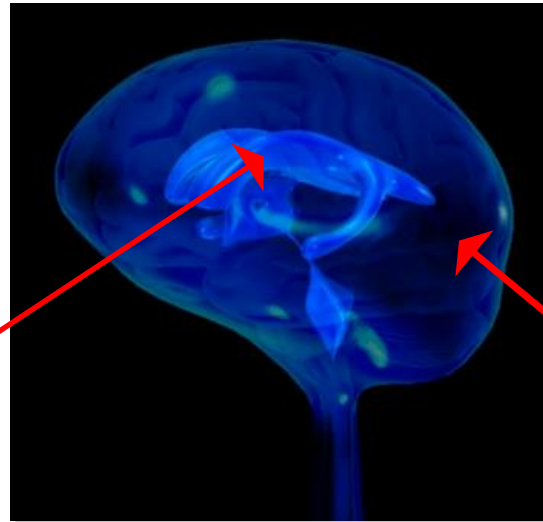


**Two main interfaces between the blood and the central nervous system**

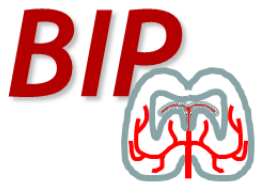


**Blood-cerebrospinal fluid barrier  
(choroid plexuses)**



**Blood-brain parenchyma barrier  
(microvessels)**

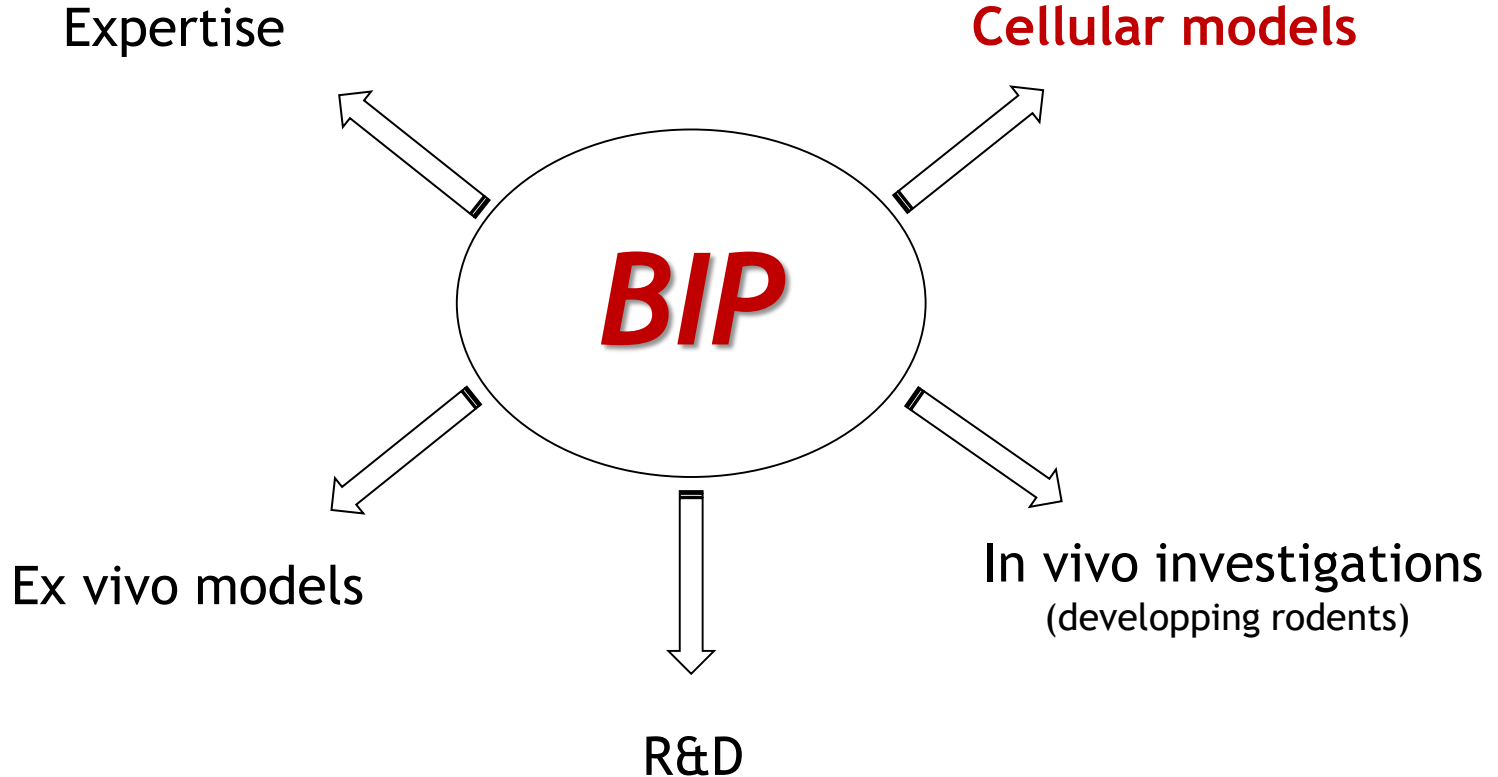
- ✓ *Protection and cerebral homeostasis/ Neuroprotective therapeutic strategies*
- ✓ *Cerebral drug delivery*
- ✓ *Neuroimmune Interactions/neuroinflammatory diseases*

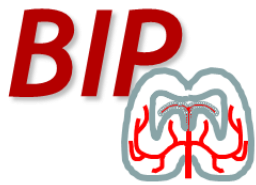


# Blood-brain interfaces exploratory platform



*to develop and propose original tools to study  
blood-brain interfaces functions*





# Blood-brain interfaces exploratory platform



**Contacts:** Jean-François Gheresi-Egea, PharmD, PhD

[jean-francois.ghersi-egea@inserm.fr](mailto:jean-francois.ghersi-egea@inserm.fr)

Nathalie Strazielle, PharmD, PhD

[ns.brain.i@gmail.com](mailto:ns.brain.i@gmail.com)

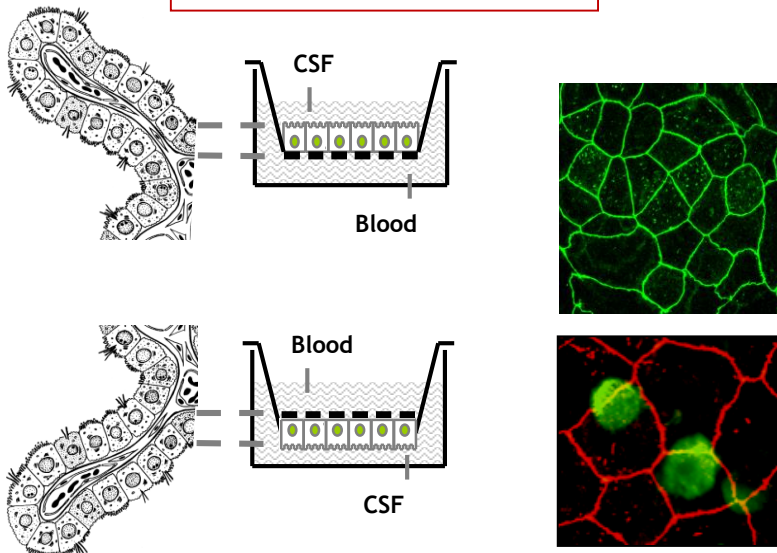


## Cellular models of blood-brain interfaces

### *Primary cultures to obtain an optimal differentiation*

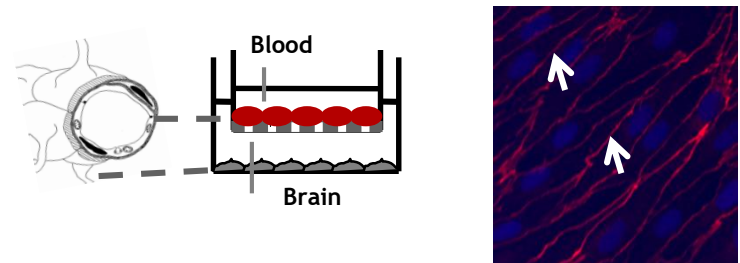
choroid plexus epithelial cells

➤ Blood/CSF barrier  
rat, mouse



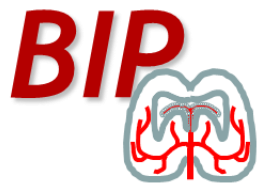
brain capillary endothelial cells

➤ Blood-brain barrier  
rat, monkey in partnership with CYNBIOSE.



### Analytical expertise

- Immunocytology
- Spectrophotometry
- Immunofluorescence
- Protein extraction
- UV-Fluorescence HPLC
- Radiodetection
- RNA isolation
- Elisa

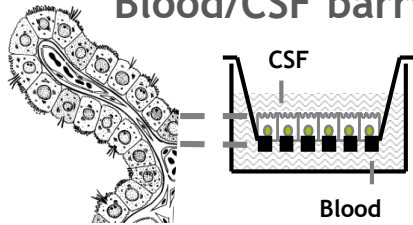


# Blood-brain interfaces exploratory platform



## Cellular models of blood-brain interfaces

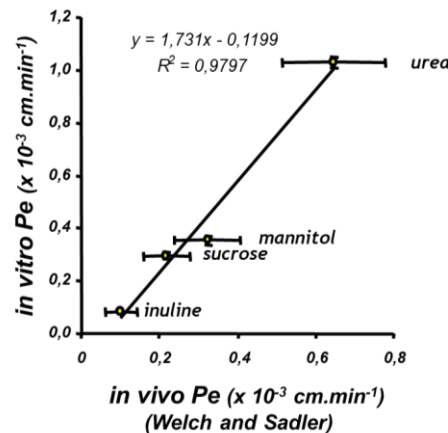
### Blood/CSF barrier



### Pharmacotoxicological applications

- ✓ Drug delivery
- ✓ Transport

- *In vitro / in vivo correlation of epithelial permeability towards passive diffusion markers*

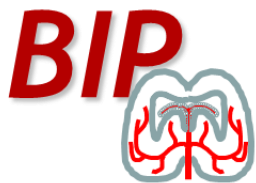


- *Epithelial permeability coefficient (cPe) of antiretroviral nucleoside analogs*

| Nucleoside analog | Concentration | Basolateral to apical | Apical to basolateral      |
|-------------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| AZT               | 5 $\mu$ M     | $0.335 \pm 0.030$     | $0.914 \pm 0.154$ \$\$     |
|                   | 1 mM          | $0.604 \pm 0.020$ **  | $0.644 \pm 0.039$ *        |
| d4T               | 5 $\mu$ M     | $0.109 \pm 0.008$     | $0.174 \pm 0.018$ \$\$     |
|                   | 1 mM          | $0.136 \pm 0.002$ **  | $0.165 \pm 0.012$ \$       |
| ddl               | 5 $\mu$ M     | $0.018 \pm 0.015$     | $0.106 \pm 0.035$ \$\$     |
|                   | 1 mM          | $0.027 \pm 0.013$     | $0.058 \pm 0.010$ **, \$\$ |
| 3TC               | 5 $\mu$ M     | $0.024 \pm 0.014$     | $0.127 \pm 0.025$ \$\$     |
|                   | 1 mM          | $0.035 \pm 0.006$     | $0.055 \pm 0.004$ *, \$\$  |
| ddC               | 5 $\mu$ M     | $-0.009 \pm 0.050$    | $0.009 \pm 0.028$          |
|                   | 1 mM          | $0.007 \pm 0.012$     | $0.035 \pm 0.009$          |



- AIDS, 2003, 17:1473-1485
- Eur J Med Chem, 2015, 98:237e249

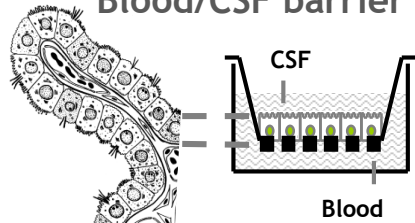


# Blood-brain interfaces exploratory platform



## Cellular models of blood-brain interfaces

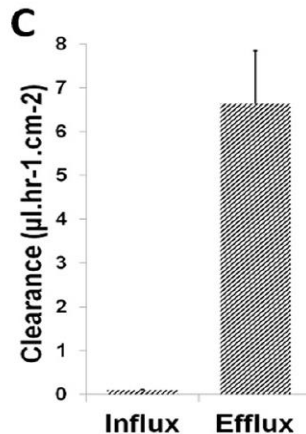
Blood/CSF barrier



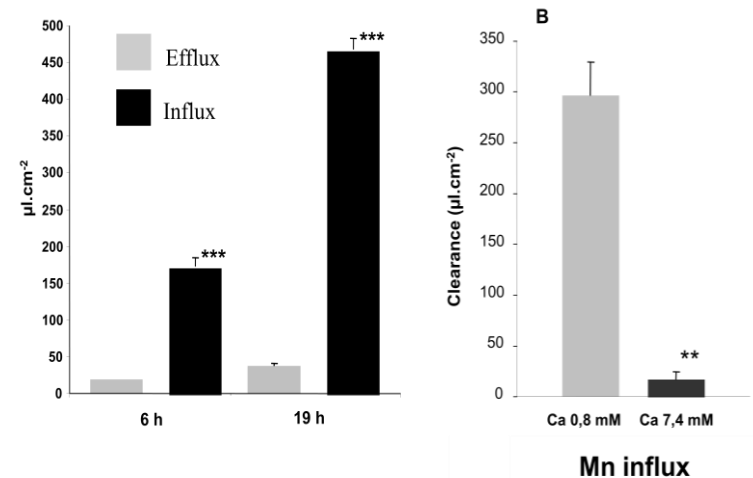
### Pharmacotoxicological applications

- ✓ Drug delivery
- ✓ Transport

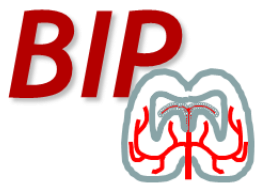
#### • IgG transport



#### • Manganese transport



- Mol Pharmaceutics, 2013, 10:1473-1491
- J Neurochem, 2011, 117:747-756



# Blood-brain interfaces exploratory platform

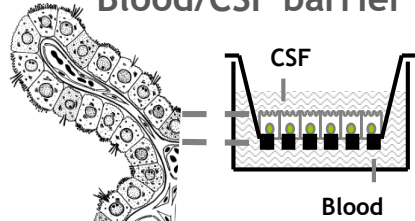


## Cellular models of blood-brain interfaces

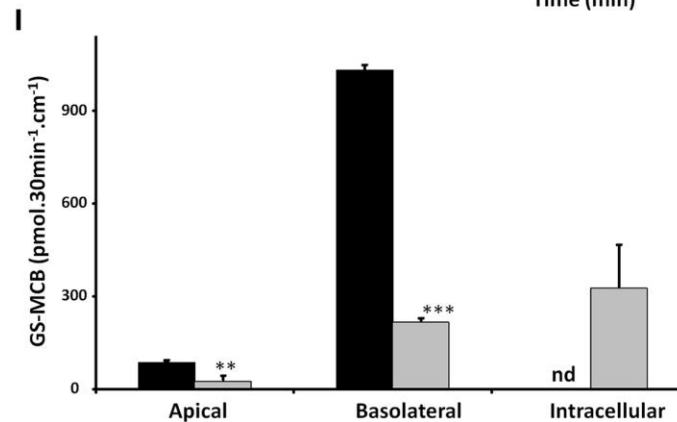
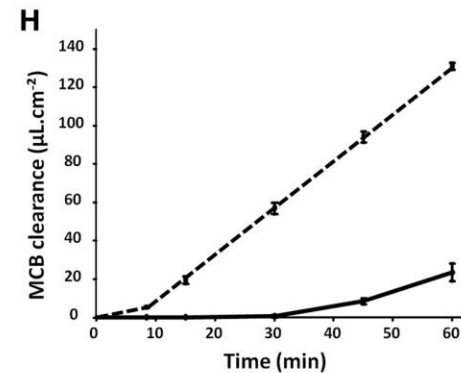
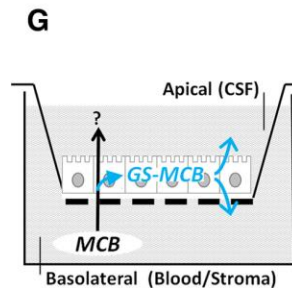
### Pharmacotoxicological applications

- ✓ Metabolic barrier towards drugs and toxicants

Blood/CSF barrier

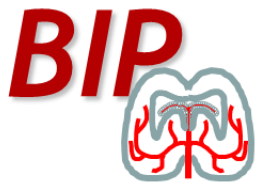


*Metabolism en passage of the toxic compound MCB and polarized elimination of its glutathione-conjugated metabolite*



- Article in preparation
- J Neurosci, 2018, 38:3466 -79
- J Cereb Blood Flow Metab, 2006, 26:1165-75
- J Neurosci, 1999, 19:6275-89



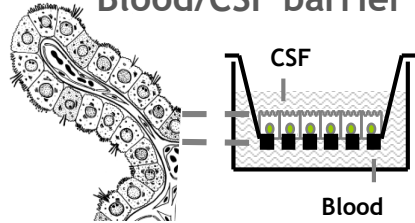


# Blood-brain interfaces exploratory platform



## Cellular models of blood-brain interfaces

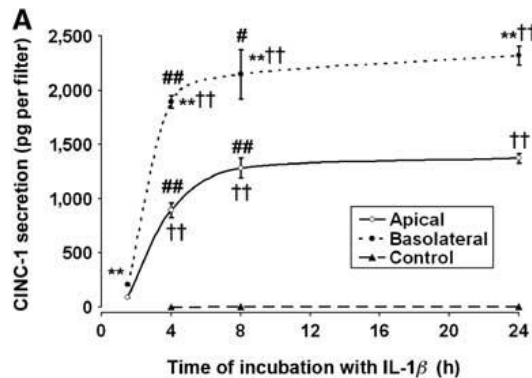
Blood/CSF barrier



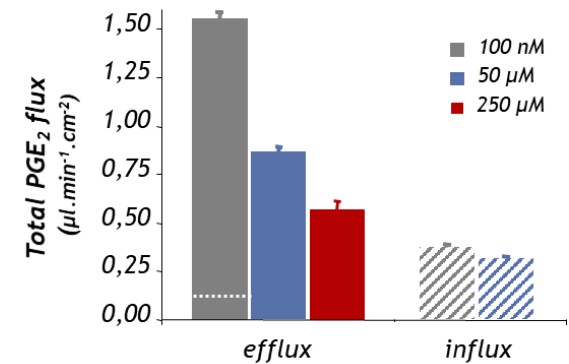
### Physiopathological applications

- ✓ Secretion and transport of inflammatory mediators

- Polarity of Cinc-1 secretion induced by the cytokine IL-1

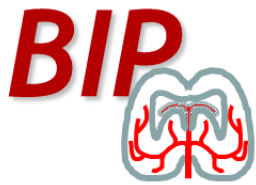


- PGE<sub>2</sub> transcellular flux



- Article in preparation
- *J Cereb Blood Flow Metabol* 2012, 32:93-104
- *J Cereb Blood Flow Metabol* 2009, 29:1503-16
- *J Infectious Dis* 2006, 194:341-9
- *J Neurochem* 2005, 94:1580-1593



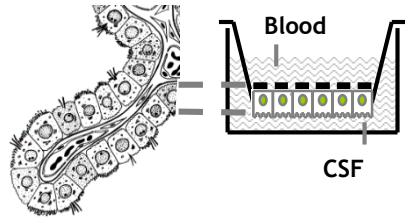


# Blood-brain interfaces exploratory platform



## Cellular models of blood-brain interfaces

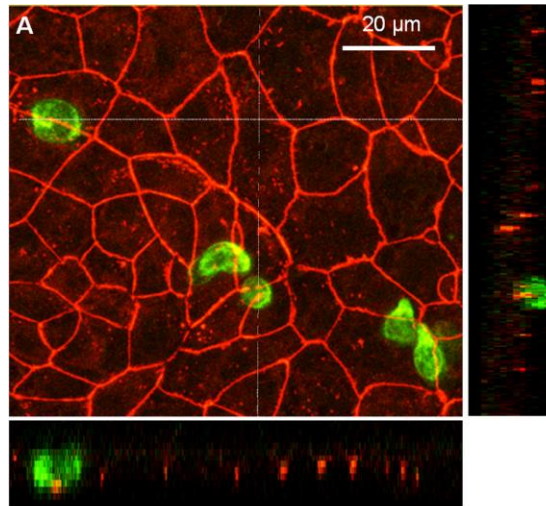
Blood/CSF barrier



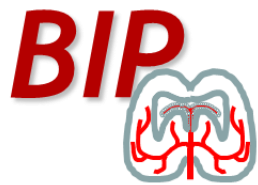
### Physiopathological applications

- ✓ Cellular infiltration
- ✓ Neuroinfection

Transepithelial traffic of immune cells



- *Fluids Barriers CNS*. 2024 Aug 16;21(1):66.
- *Acta Neuropathol Commun*. 2020 Jan 23;8(1):4
- *PLoS ONE* 11(3): e0150945

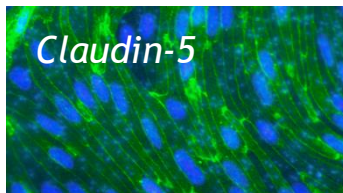
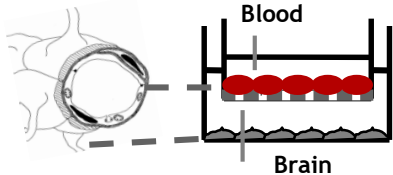


# Blood-brain interfaces exploratory platform



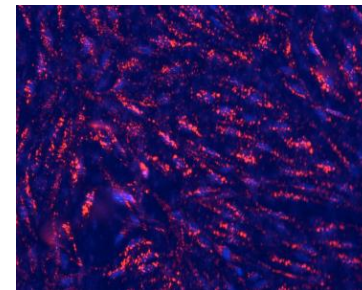
## Cellular models of blood-brain interfaces

Blood-brain barrier (rat, monkey)

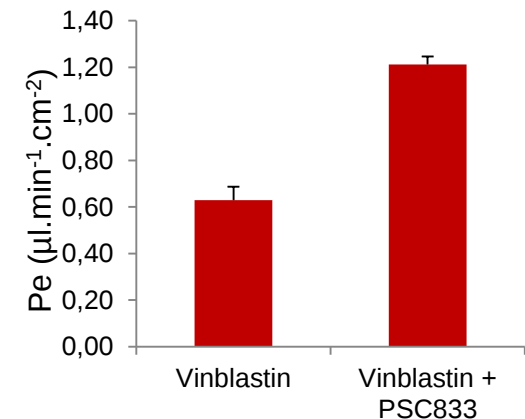
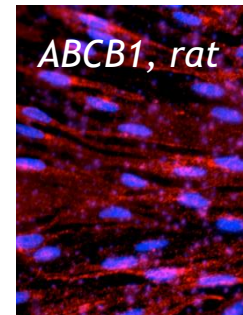


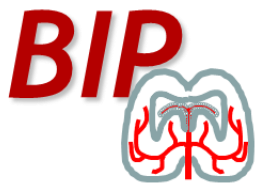
Exemples of molecular transport

- *receptor-mediated*



- *mediated by SLC/ABC transporters*



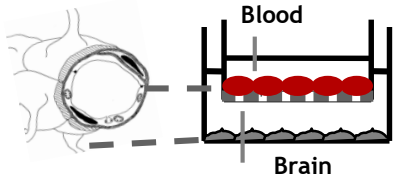


# Blood-brain interfaces exploratory platform



## Cellular models of blood-brain interfaces

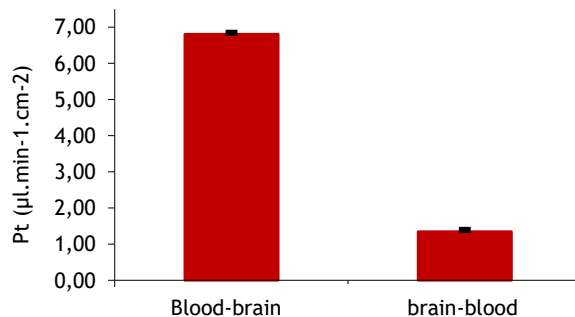
### Blood-brain barrier



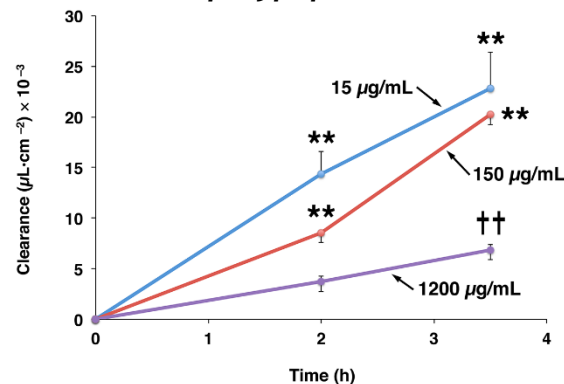
### Applications

- ✓ Drug delivery
- ✓ Transport
- ✓ Neuroprotection
- ✓ Neuroinflammation
- ✓ Neuroinfection

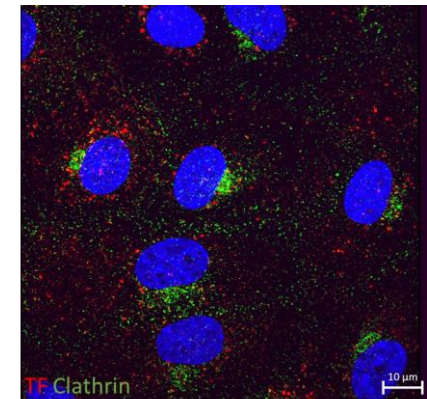
#### • Polarized transport of an inflammatory modulator



#### • Saturability of the blood-to-brain transport of a pharmacological polypeptide

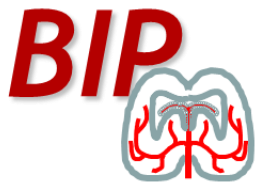


#### • Quantitative analysis of endosomal sorting following receptor-mediated endocytosis



- Articles in preparation
- J Neurotrauma. 2021 Feb 15;38(4):385-398,
- One patent deposited by a partner

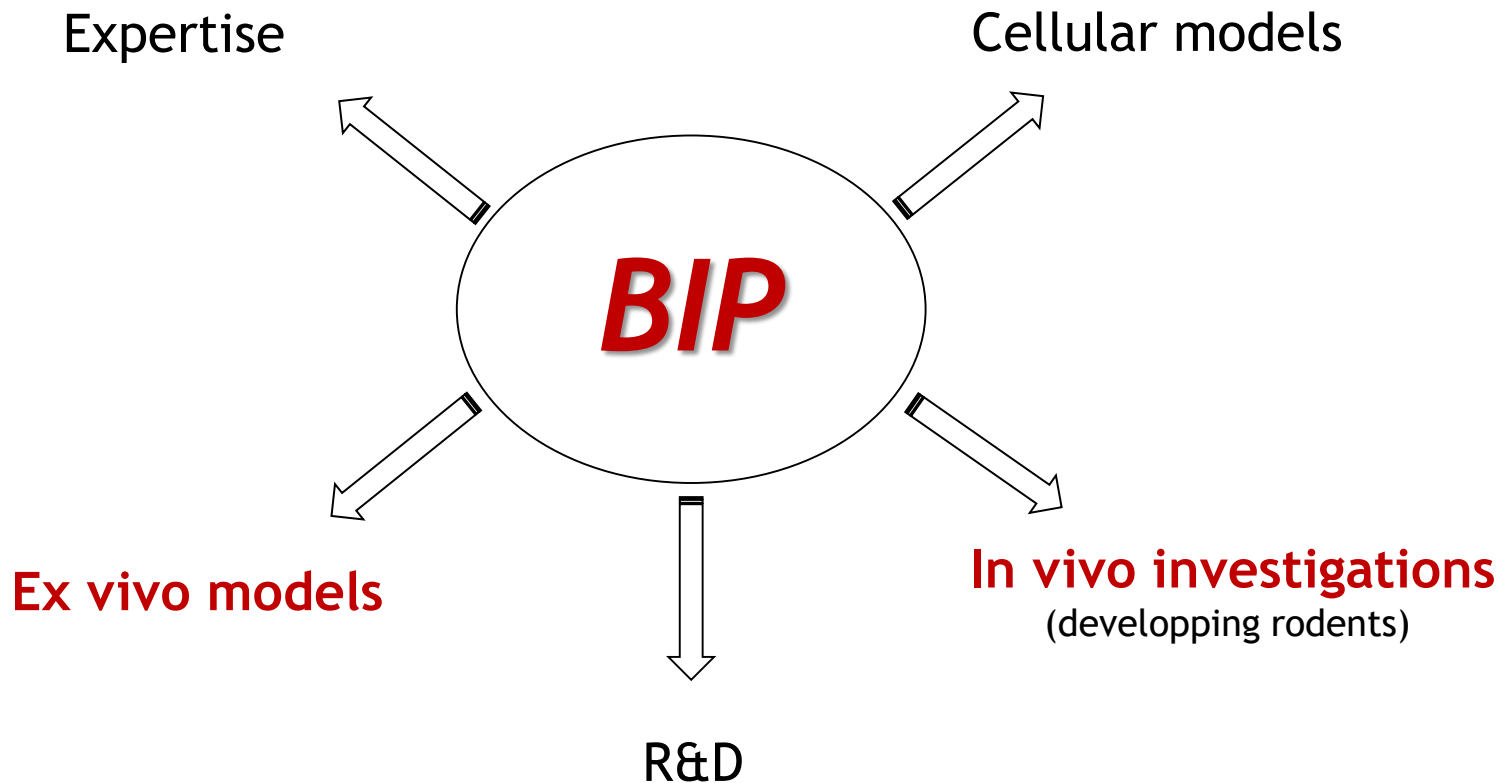


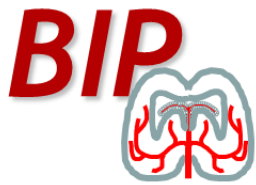


# Blood-brain interfaces exploratory platform



*to develop and propose original tools to study  
blood-brain interfaces functions*





# Blood-brain interfaces exploratory platform



in vivo Investigations (developing rodents)

## Permeability constants

between Blood and CSF, blood and brain

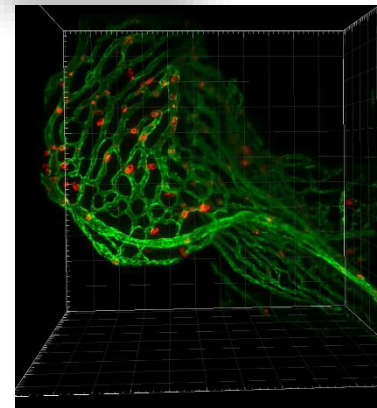
$$K_{in\ csf} = C_t / AUC_{0 \rightarrow t}$$

$$K_{w\ csf} = K_{in\ csf} \times V_{csf}$$

$$K_{in\ cx, pons, cb}$$

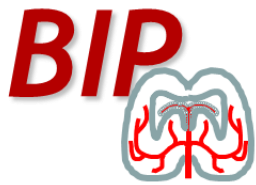


## Cell tracking at the blood-CSF barrier



- *Fluids Barriers CNS*. 2022 Jun 7;19(1):47
- *Acta Neuropathol Commun* 2020, 8:4
- *J Neurosci*. 2018, 38:3466-3479
- *Fluids Barriers CNS* 2015, 12:8.





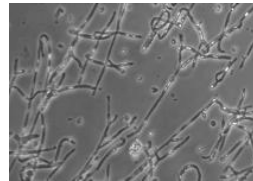
# Blood-brain interfaces exploratory platform



## Ex vivo models of blood-brain interfaces

Isolated cerebral microvessels and choroid plexuses (live tissue),  
from healthy and diseased animals

- Molecular studies  
(transcriptomic, proteomic)



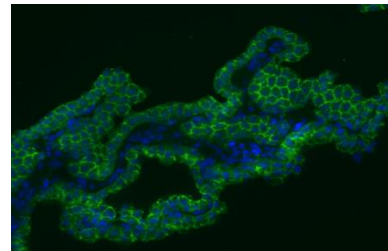
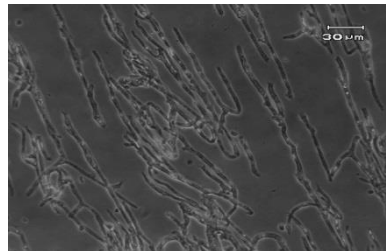
- Functional studies  
(uptake, metabolism, secretion)



Sci Rep 2019, 9:5998; Am J Physiol Cell Physiol 2018, 315:C445-C456; J Neurosci. 2018, 38:3466-3479; Front Neurosci 2015, 9:123; Fluids Barriers CNS 2013, 10:25; PLoS One 2013, ;8:e65629; Histochem Cell Biol; 2012,138:861-79; J Neurochem 2011, 117:747-56; ...

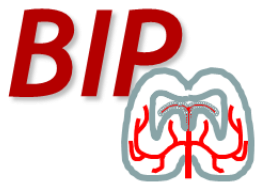
➤ **Primate tissue bank** Partnership :  CYNBIOSE.

*Macaca fascicularis* (mRNA, proteins, paraffin sections, cryopreserved tissue, validated through quality control) Front Pharmacol, 2025, Mar 12:16:1523819



### Analytical tools

- Immuno-cytology
- Immuno-fluorescence
- Protein extraction
- UV/fluorescence-HPLC
- Radiodetection
- RNA isolation
- Elisa



# Blood-brain interfaces exploratory platform



## Instrumentation available on the facility

### - Analytic

- *HPLC (equipped with 2 detectors Dual UV and fluorescence, a mass detector (available in September 2024), automatic refrigerated sample holder, Shimadzu)*
- *Liquid Scintillation ( $^{14}\text{C}$ ,  $^3\text{H}$ ) (Tricarb 4910 TR, Packard)*
- *Thermostated fluorescence plate reader (Spark, Tecan)*

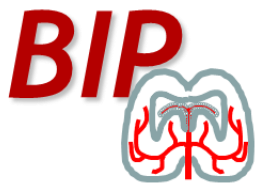
### - Histology and cellular imaging

- *Cryostat (NX50, Microm)*
- *Fluorescence Macroscopy (Axiozoom V16, Zeiss)*
- *Access to epifluorescence (Axioimager M.2, Zeiss (FLUID) and confocal (LSM800, Zeiss, CRNL) microscopes*
- *Access to light sheet microscope (Zeiss Spim, IFR Lyon-Est)*

### - Molecular analyses through qRT-PCR

- *Lightcycler LC 480 Roche instrument*





# Blood-brain interfaces exploratory platform



## Partnerships

Public laboratories : *Brown University, Göttingen Medizin University, Institut Cochin, Observatoire Français des nocardioses, Université de Lyon, Tokyo University*

Private companies : *Axoltis, Discoveric-Bio, Gaoma, Merck-Serono, Neurogen, Novartis, Servier, SAAT Université Grenoble-Alpes, SAAT Toulouse, Vect-Horus.*

- ✓ **Fee-for-services** :
  - ADR Rhône-Alpes Auvergne INSERM
  - Brain-*i*
- ✓ **Research contracts** : (quotes, Brain-*i*)
- ✓ **Collaborations** : Development of innovative blood-brain interfaces-oriented tools and approaches

## *Institutional fundings* EC-FP7, ANR-IHU



**La Région**  
Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes



## Selected publications BIP : Developed Méthodologies, exemple of applications, expert reviews.

- Strazielle N, Gherzi-Egea JF. Demonstration of a coupled metabolism-efflux process at the choroid plexus as a mechanism of brain protection toward xenobiotics. **J Neurosci.** 1999 Aug 1;19(15):6275-89
- Strazielle N, Gherzi-Egea JF, Ghiso J, Dehouck MP, Frangione B, Patlak C, Fenstermacher J, Gorevic P. In vitro evidence that beta-amyloid peptide 1-40 diffuses across the blood-brain barrier and affects its permeability. **J Neuropathol Exp Neurol.** 2000 Jan;59(1):29-38
- Strazielle N, Belin MF, Gherzi-Egea JF. Choroid plexus controls brain availability of anti-HIV nucleoside analogs via pharmacologically inhibitable organic anion transporters. **AIDS.** 2003 Jul 4;17(10):1473-85.
- Strazielle N, Khuth ST, Murat A, Chalon A, Giraudon P, Belin MF, Gherzi-Egea JF. Pro-inflammatory cytokines modulate matrix metalloproteinase secretion and organic anion transport at the blood-cerebrospinal fluid barrier. **J Neuropathol Exp Neurol.** 2003 Dec;62(12):1254-64
- Khuth ST, Strazielle N, Giraudon P, Belin MF, Gherzi-Egea JF. Impairment of blood-cerebrospinal fluid barrier properties by retrovirus-activated T lymphocytes: reduction in cerebrospinal fluid-to-blood efflux of prostaglandin E2. **J Neurochem.** 2005 Sep;94(6):1580-93. Epub 2005 Jul 18.
- Gherzi-Egea JF, Strazielle N, Murat A, Jouvet A, Buénerd A, Belin MF. Brain protection at the blood-cerebrospinal fluid interface involves a glutathione-dependent metabolic barrier mechanism. **J Cereb Blood Flow Metab.** 2006 Sep;26(9):1165-75. Epub 2006 Jan 4.
- Batissou M, Strazielle N, Hejmadi M, Thomas D, Gherzi-Egea JF, Etienne J, Vandenesch F, Lina G. Toxic shock syndrome toxin-1 challenges the neuroprotective functions of the choroidal epithelium and induces neurotoxicity. **J Infect Dis.** 2006 Aug 1;194(3):341-9. Epub 2006 Jun 30.
- Gazzin S, Strazielle N, Schmitt C, Fevre-Montange M, Ostrow JD, Tiribelli C, Gherzi-Egea JF. Differential expression of the multidrug resistance-related proteins ABCb1 and ABCc1 between blood-brain interfaces. **J Comp Neurol.** 2008 Oct 10;510(5):497-507.
- Szmydynger-Chodobska J, Strazielle N, Zink BJ, Gherzi-Egea JF, Chodobski A. The role of the choroid plexus in neutrophil invasion after traumatic brain injury. **J Cereb Blood Flow Metab.** 2009 Sep;29(9):1503-16.
- Ginguené C, Champier J, Maallem S, Strazielle N, Jouvet A, Fevre-Montange M, Gherzi-Egea JF. P-glycoprotein (ABCB1) and breast cancer resistance protein (ABCG2) localize in the microvessels forming the blood-tumor barrier in ependymomas. **Brain Pathol.** 2010 Sep;20(5):926-35
- Schmitt C, Strazielle N, Richaud P, Bouron A, Gherzi-Egea JF. Active transport at the blood-CSF barrier contributes to manganese influx into the brain. **J Neurochem.** 2011 May;117(4):747-56.
- Gazzin S, Berengeno AL, Strazielle N, Fazzari F, Raseni A, Ostrow JD, Wennberg R, Gherzi-Egea JF, Tiribelli C. Modulation of Mrp1 (ABCC1) and Pgp (ABCB1) by bilirubin at the blood-CSF and blood-brain barriers in the Gunn rat. **PLoS One.** 2011 Jan 31;6(1):e16165.
- Szmydynger-Chodobska J, Strazielle N, Gandy JR, Keefe TH, Zink BJ, Gherzi-Egea JF, Chodobski A. Posttraumatic invasion of monocytes across the blood-cerebrospinal fluid barrier. **J Cereb Blood Flow Metab.** 2012 Jan;32(1):93-104.
- Kratzer I, Vasiljevic A, Rey C, Fevre-Montange M, Saunders N, Strazielle N, Gherzi-Egea JF. Complexity and developmental changes in the expression pattern of claudins at the blood-CSF barrier. **Histochem Cell Biol.** 2012 Dec;138(6):861-79.
- Schmitt C, Strazielle N, Gherzi-Egea JF. Brain leukocyte infiltration initiated by peripheral inflammation or experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis occurs through pathways connected to the CSF-filled compartments of the forebrain and midbrain. **J Neuroinflammation.** 2012 Aug 7;9:187.

## Selected publications BIP : Developed Methodologies, exemple of applications, expert reviews.

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