

AUTOIMMUNE PERIPHERAL NERVE DISORDERS TC 16



Auto-antibodies in chronic inflammatory neuropathies



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Disclosure

- I. Illa has received research funds from Grifols and received speaking fees and travel grants from Grifols, Genzyme and Pfizer.
- I. Illa provided expert testimony to Alexion, UCB and Grifols.

CIDP

1. Heterogeneous group of neuropathies
2. Diagnosis based on clinical and EMG criteria
3. Response to immune therapy

European Journal of Neurology 2010, **17**: 356–363

doi:10.1111/j.1468-1331.2009.02930.x

EFNS TASK FORCE/CME ARTICLE

European Federation of Neurological Societies/Peripheral Nerve Society Guideline on management of chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculoneuropathy: Report of a joint task force of the European Federation of Neurological Societies and the Peripheral Nerve Society — First Revision

Members of the Task Force: P. Y. K. Van den Bergh^a, R. D. M. Hadden^b, P. Bouche^c, D. R. Cornblath^d, A. Hahn^e, I. Illa^f, C. L. Koski^g, J.-M. Léger^h, E. Nobile-Orazioⁱ, J. Pollard^j, C. Sommer^k, P. A. van Doorn^l and I. N. van Schaik^m

CIDP pathogenesis:

Synergistic interaction of cell-mediated and humoral immune responses directed against *incompletely characterized peripheral nerve antigens.*

Autoantibodies in chronic immune neuropathies

- **MYELIN GLYCOPROTEINS**

MAG, PMP 22, P0, P2, PBM, connexin 32

- **GANGLIOSIDES**

IgM GM1 MMN; CANOMAD

Table 2 Antibodies to myelin proteins and nodal antigens in chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculoneuropathy (CIDP)

Candidate antigen	Positive sera/total tested	Ig Class	Method	Reference			
Myelin proteins	P0	IgG	Western blotting	113			
			IF on normal nerve				
			Western blotting				
		IgG (3), IgA (3)	6/32	IgG (3), IgA (3)	Western blotting	114	
			6/36*		IgG	115	
			5/32		IgM	116	
			0/32		IgG	117	
			7/30*		IgG		
			0/20*		ELISA		
			1/24*		IgG	Western blotting	119
			3/40*			ELISA	120
			2/40*			IgM	
			P2		11/32*	IgM	ELISA
4/32*	IgG	115					
4/36*	IgG						
4/30	IgG						
3/20*	ELISA						
3/30*	IgG		117				
PMP22	0/24*	Ig (3), IgM (3), pan Ig (1)	Western blotting	119			
	7/17		ELISA	121			
	6/17		Western blotting	122			
	3/6*		Western blotting				
Cx32	1/24*	IgG	Western blotting	119			
MBP	2/40*		ELISA	120			

Autoantibodies in chronic immune neuropathies

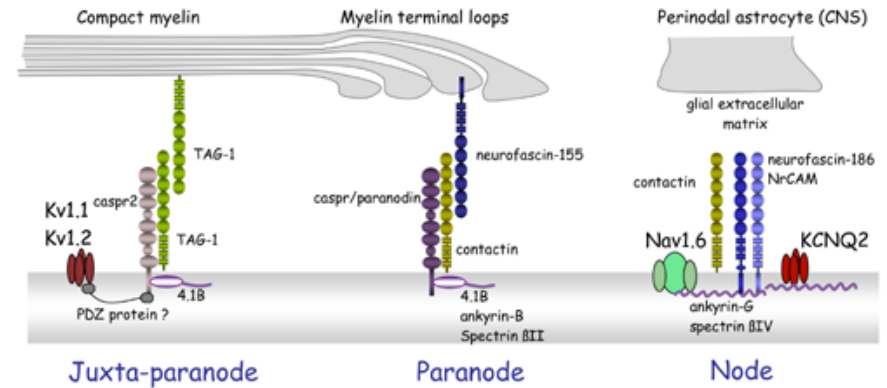
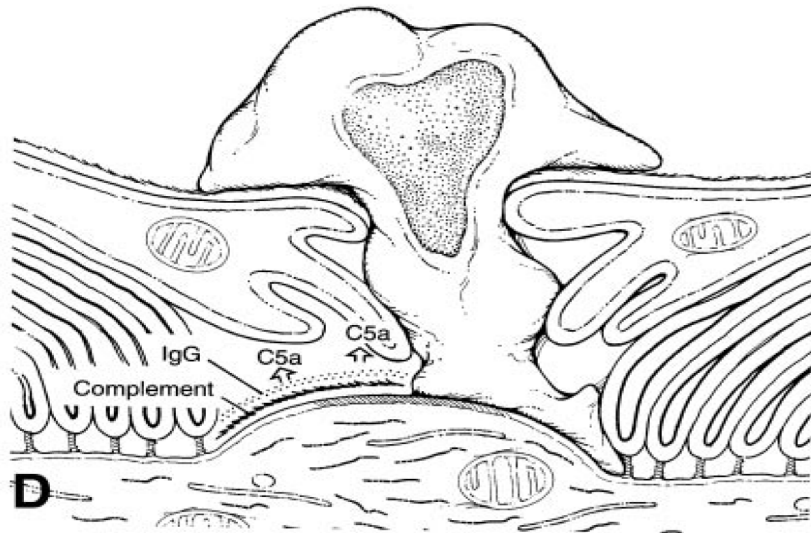
- MYELIN GLYCOPROTEINS

MAG, PMP 22, P0, P2, PBM, connexin 32

- **GANGLIOSIDES**

IgM GM1 MMN; CANOMAD

- **Antibodies directed against glycolipids** were first **detected** in the serum of patients with inflammatory neuropathies **nearly 20 years ago**.
- A number of distinct serological patterns with variable clinical and pathological associations have emerged **Acute > Chronic**.
- **Anti-GM1 antibodies** are however detected in **50% of patients with multifocal motor neuropathy (MMN)**.
- **CANOMAD** **C**hronic **A**taxic **N**europathy **O**phthalmoplegia **M**-protein **A**gglutination **D**isialosyl antibodies.

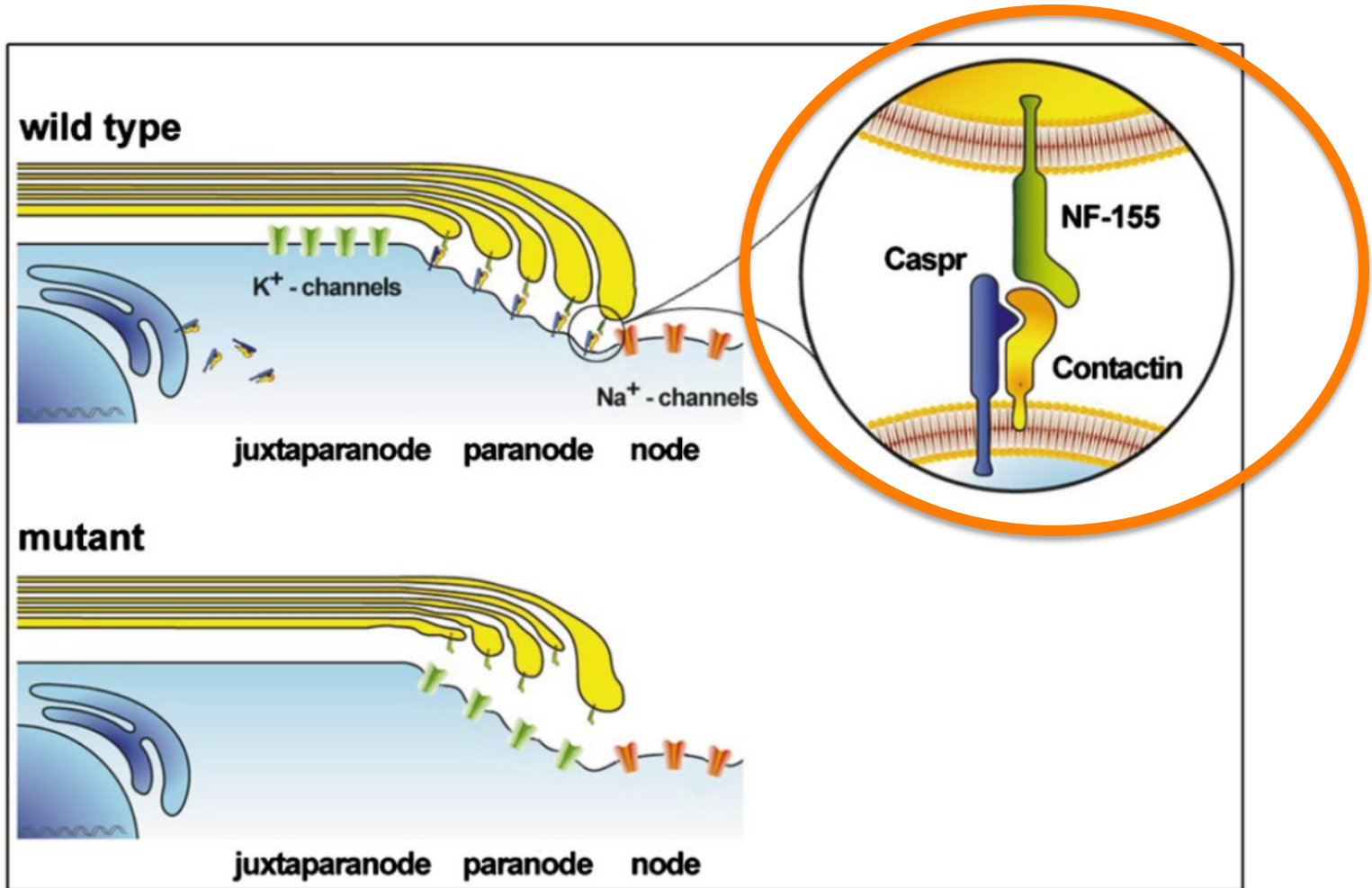


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Pollard et al, JPNS 2012; Devaux J et al, JPNS 2012; Doppler K et al,
JPNS 2013; Ng JKM et al, Neurology 2012; Querol et al, Ann
Neurol 2013; Querol et al, Neurology 2014

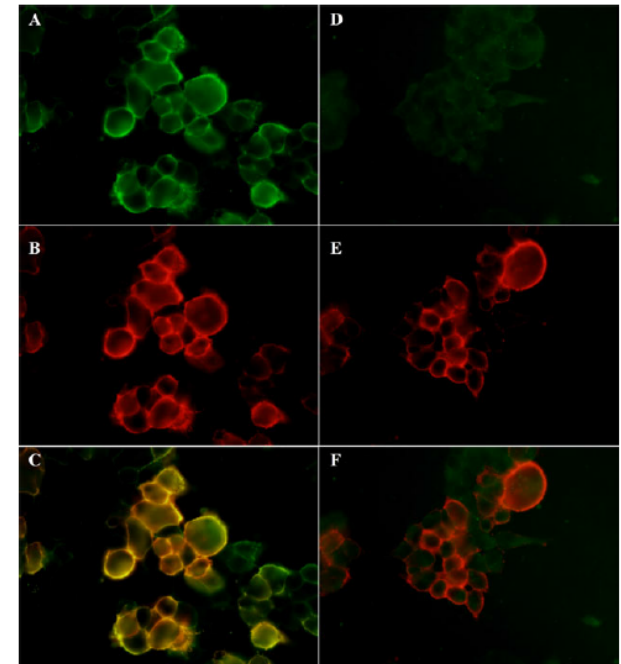
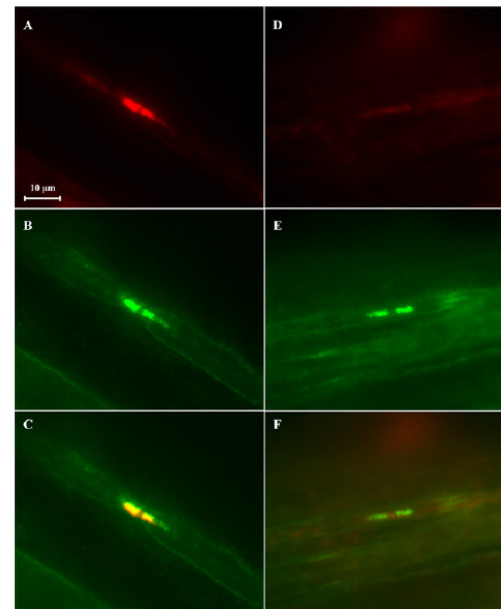
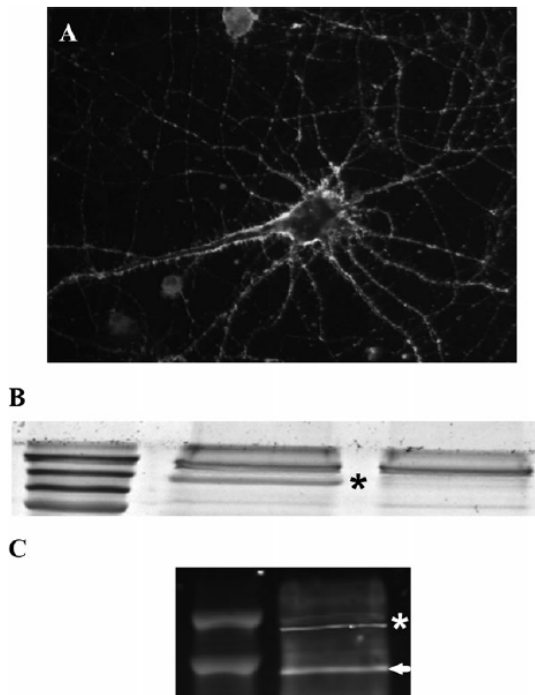
Focus on the NODE of RANVIER

Paranodal antibodies



Antibodies to Contactin-1 in Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy

Luis Querol, MD,^{1,2} Gisela Nogales-Gadea, PhD,^{1,2} Ricard Rojas-Garcia, MD, PhD,^{1,2}
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Neurofascin IgG4 antibodies in CIDP associate with disabling tremor and poor response to IVIg



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Table 1 Epidemiologic, clinical, and electrophysiologic features of patients with CIDP positive for anti-NF155 antibodies

Patient	Age at onset (sex)	Symptoms	mRS score	CSF	Brain MRI	Treatments (responses)	Tremor frequency (amplitude)	NF155 titers
1	46 (M)	Rapidly progressive onset; severe weakness, predominantly distal; sensory disturbances; ataxia; severe intention tremor	4	1.5 g/L; 2 cells	Normal	IVIg (no); prednisone (no); PEx (yes)	3 Hz (9/10)	1:70,000
2	22 (M)	Chronic progressive; severe weakness, predominantly distal; sensory disturbances; ataxia; moderate intention tremor	4	4.6 g/L; 6 cells	Normal	IVIg (no); prednisone (partial); PEx (yes, partial)	6.6 Hz (2/10)	1:70,000
3	29 (M)	Chronic progressive; severe weakness, proximal and distal; sensory disturbances; ataxia; severe intention tremor	4	1.4 g/L; 7 cells	Normal	IVIg (no); prednisone (no); methotrexate (no)	4 Hz (8/10)	1:25,000
4	67 (F)	Chronic progressive; severe weakness, predominantly distal; sensory disturbances; no tremor	4	0.41 g/L; 0 cells	ND	IVIg (no); prednisone (no); cyclophosphamide (no); rituximab (no)	Not present	1:8,000

Abbreviations: CIDP = chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyradiculoneuropathy; IVIg = IV immunoglobulin; mRS = modified Rankin Scale; ND = not determined; NF155 = neurofascin 155; PEx = plasma exchange.

Conclusion: Patients with CIDP positive for IgG4 NF155 antibodies constitute a specific subgroup with a severe phenotype, poor response to IVIg, and disabling tremor. Autoantibodies against paranodal structures associate with distinct clinical features in CIDP and their identification has diagnostic, prognostic, and therapeutic implications.

Clinically Homogeneous Phenotype Features

Contactin-1

- Older
- Aggressive neuropathy
- Predominantly motor
- Demyelinating features, early axonal damage
- **Poor response to IVIg**
- Response to plasma exchange
- Partial response to steroids
- **IgG4 isotype antibodies**

Ann Neurol 2013

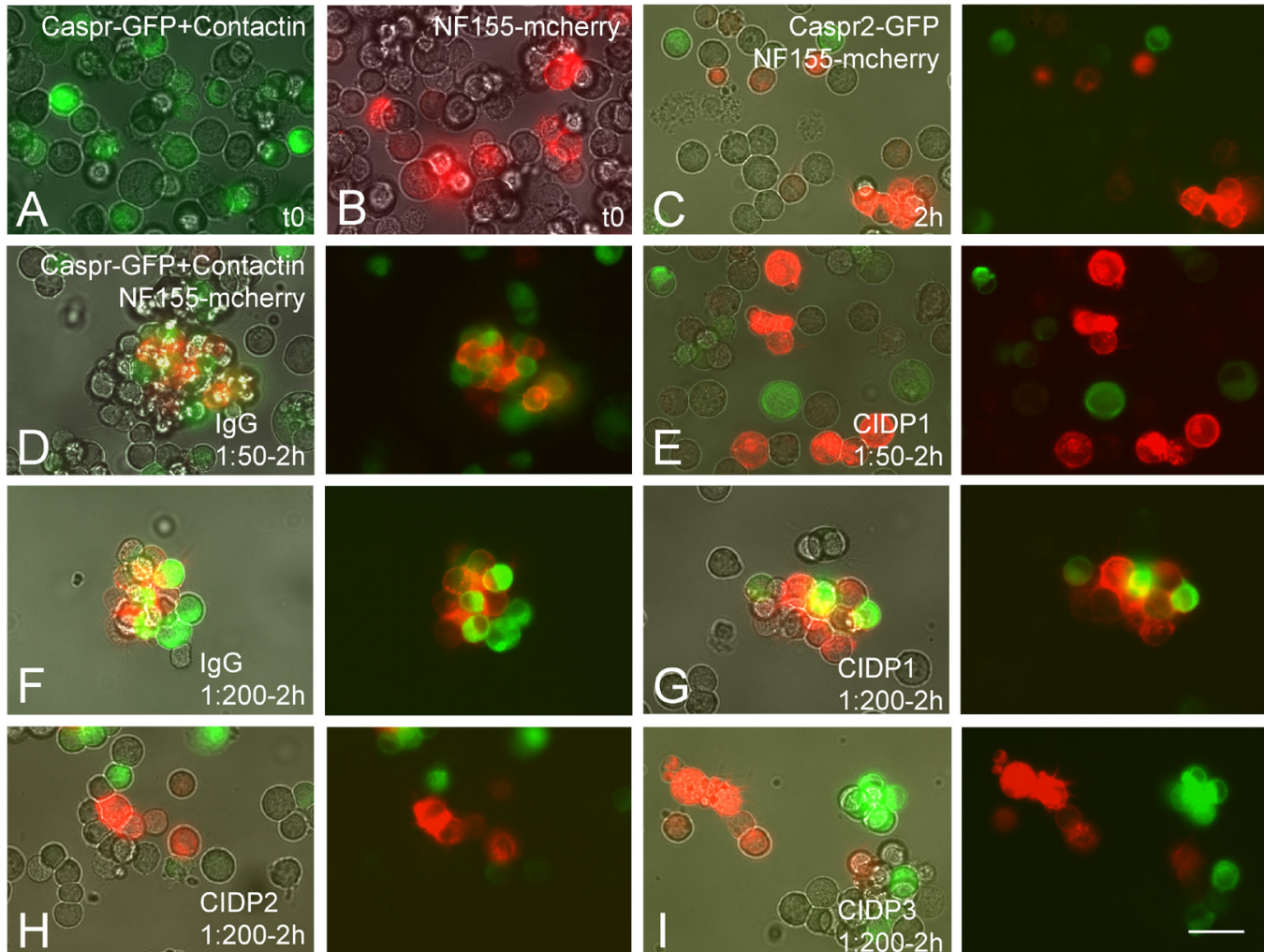
NF-155

- Predominantly distal weakness
- Ataxia
- Disabling postural and intentional tremor low frequency (3-5 Hz)
- Demyelinating features, no early axonal damage
- **Nor or poor response to IVIg**
- Response to plasma exchange
- Partial response to steroids
- **IgG4 isotype antibodies**

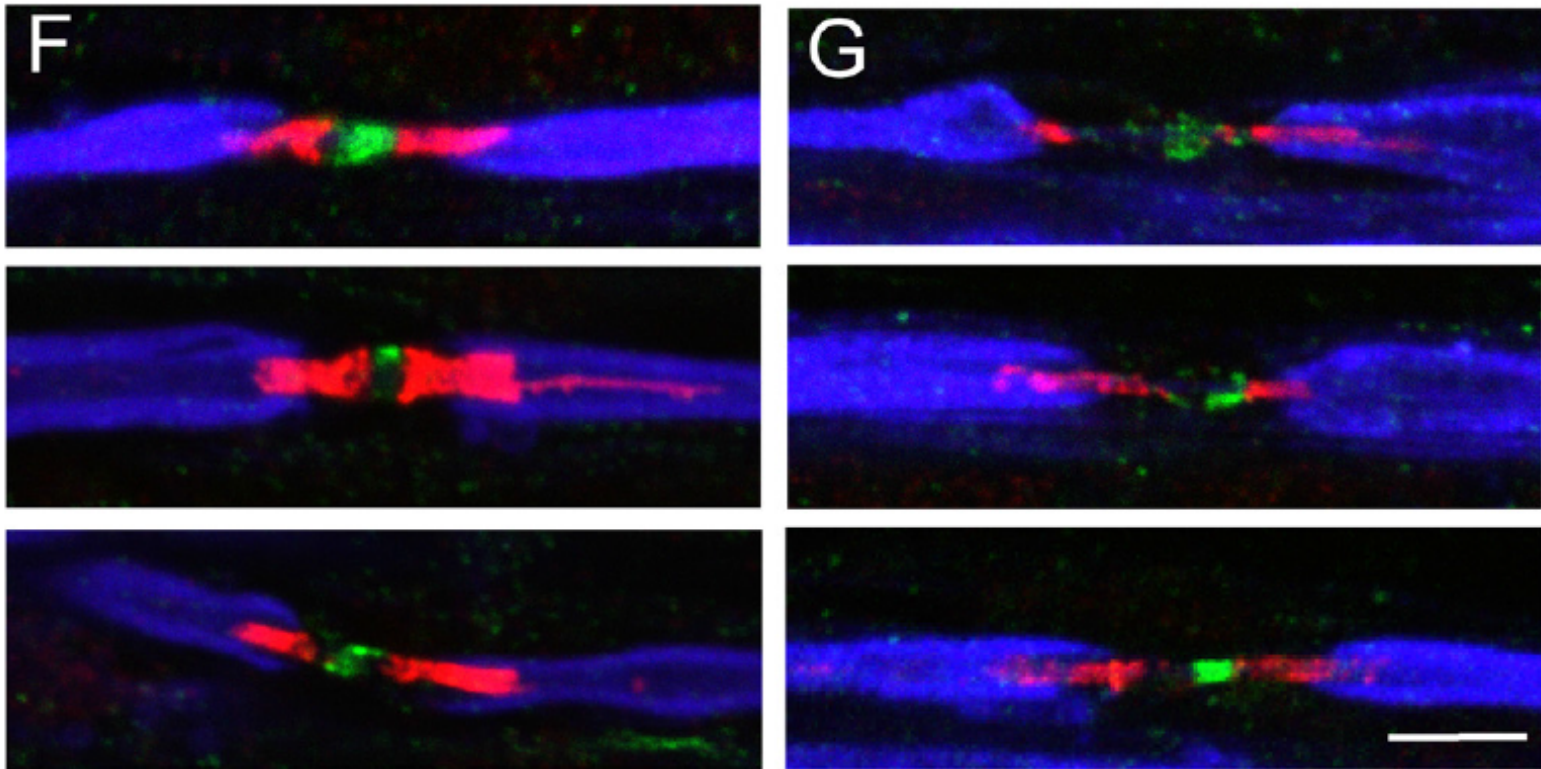
Neurology 2014

Pathogenic role of Contactin 1:

Cell aggregation assays indicate that patients autoantibodies against CNTN1 display functional blocking activity

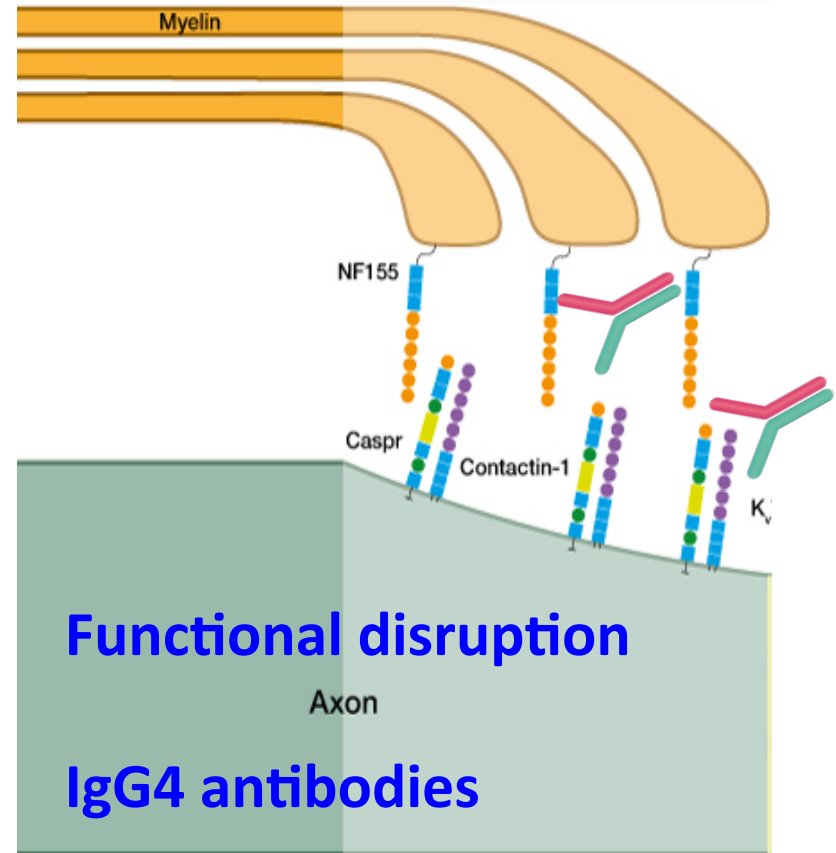
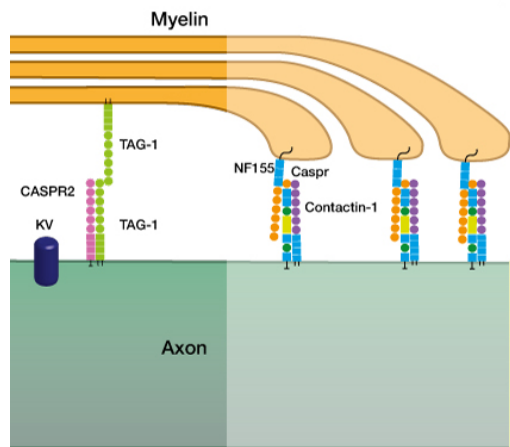


CIDP autoantibodies against contactin-1 induce paranodal alterations in myelinated DRG neurons in culture.
(DRG neuron/Schwann cell)



Neurobiology:
**Specific Contactin N-Glycans Are
Implicated in Neurofascin Binding and
Autoimmune Targeting in Peripheral
Neuropathies**

Marilyne Labasque, Bruno Hivert, Gisela
Nogales-Gadea, Luis Querol, Isabel Illa and
Catherine Faivre-Sarrailh
J. Biol. Chem. 2014, 289:7907-7918.



RESEARCH PAPER

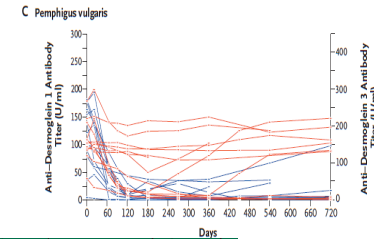
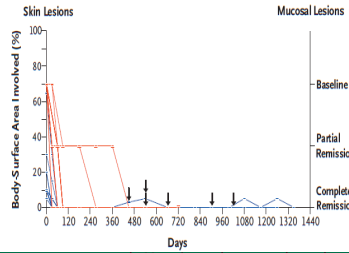
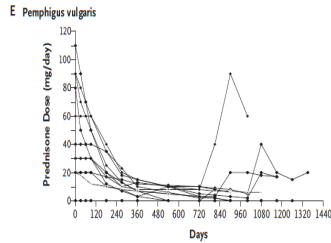
**Destruction of paranodal architecture in inflammatory
neuropathy with anti-contactin-1 autoantibodies**

Kathrin Doppler,¹ Luise Appeltshauer,¹ Kai Wilhelmi,¹ Carmen Villmann,²
Sulayman D Dib-Hajj,^{3,4} Stephen G Waxman,^{3,4} Mathias Mäurer,⁵
Andreas Weishaupt,¹ Claudia Sommer¹

Diseases mediated by IgG4-Ab respond to Rituximab

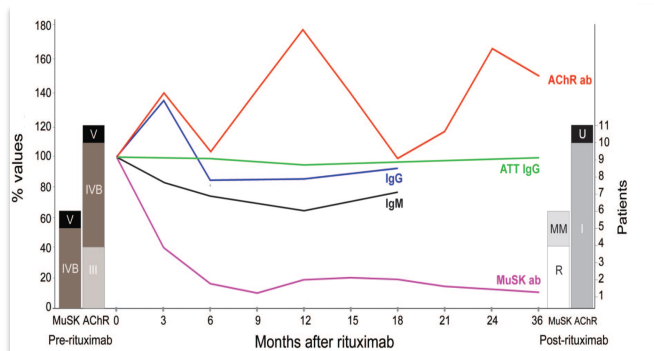
A Single Cycle of Rituximab for the Treatment of Severe Pemphigus

New Engl J Med 2007



Long-lasting treatment effect of rituximab in MuSK myasthenia

Clinical and serologic evolution after treatment with rituximab

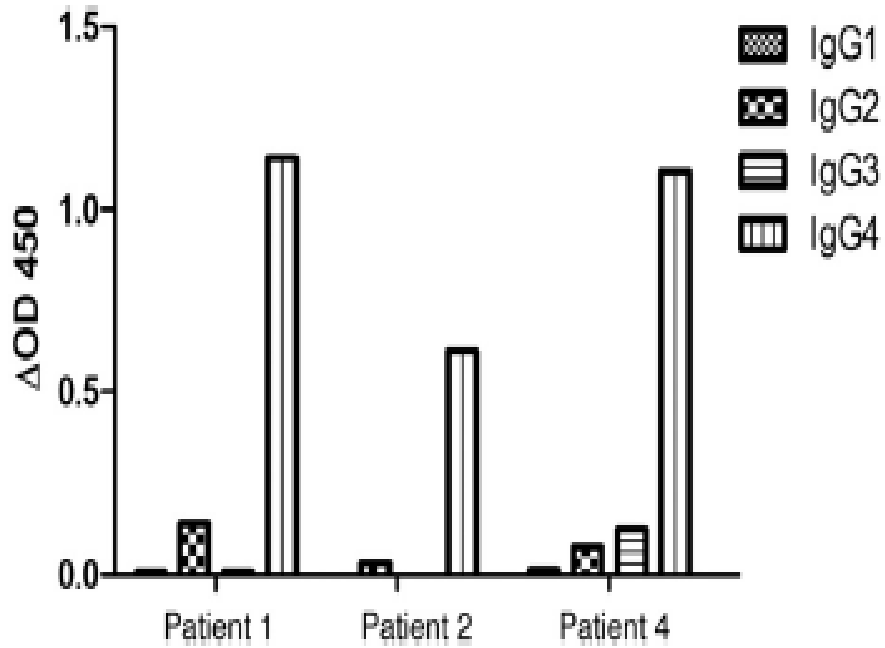


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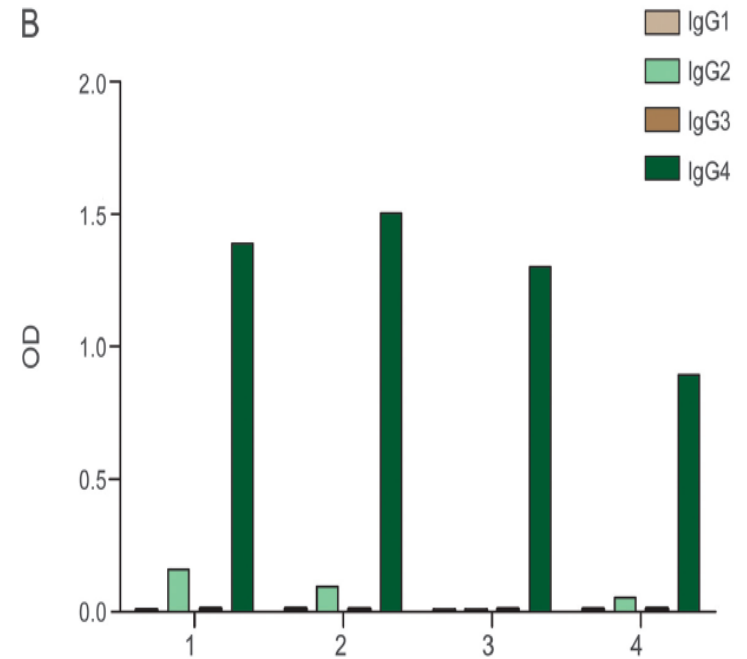
Correspondence & reprint requests to Dr. Illa: illa@santpau.cat

Conclusion: In view of the long-lasting benefit observed in MuSK+MG patients, we recommend to use rituximab as an early therapeutic option in this group of patients with MG if they do not respond to prednisone.

IgG4



Anti-Contactin antibodies
J. Biol Chem 2014



Anti-NF-155 antibodies
Neurology 2014

RESPONSE TO RITUXIMAB OF PATIENTS WITH PARANODAL Ab. RESISTANT TO THERAPY

- **RITUXIMAB:** Patients received 375 mgr. x m² once weekly for 4 weeks followed by 1 dose per month for two additional doses.
- **SCALES:**
 - Overall neuropathy limitations scale (ONLS) Range: 0= normal to 12= maximum disability
 - Rasch-built overall disability scale (R-ODS) Range: 0= maximum disability to 48= normal
- **ANTIBODY SAMPLES:** Blood sampling were collected prospectively every three months during the first year and every six months thereafter.

Key messages

- The node of Ranvier emerges as a target of the immune response in chronic immune neuropathies.
- Future studies will likely identify additional novel targets demonstrating the clinical and immunological heterogeneity of CIDP (? each target representing a small group).
- IgG4 antibodies against Contactin-1 or NF-155 have direct clinical and therapeutic value. Rituximab treatment is an option for patients resistant to conventional therapies.

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ACCEPTED N2.