

3.1.3 Neuroprotective Strategies in Neurodegenerative Diseases Group

Publications: 14

Q1: 14

COMPOSITION

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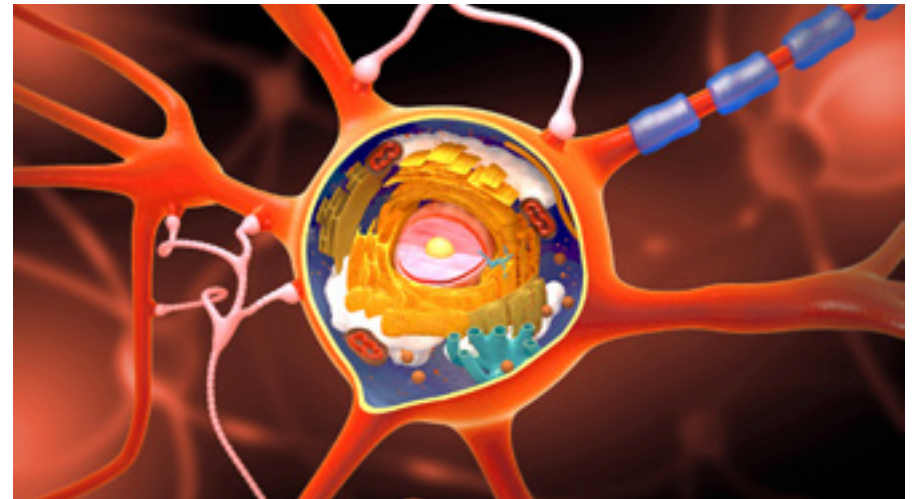
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STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Oxidative stress is a key element in the aetiopathogenesis of neurodegenerative diseases and their comorbidities. Our laboratory studies the antioxidant protection mechanisms activated by extracellular signals and how this response could be regulated pharmacologically to provide a therapeutic benefit in these diseases.

To meet these two objectives, we are studying signalling pathways that regulate antioxidant metabolism and provide a general protective response. An important finding of this group was

the observation that the PI3K/AKT/GSK-3 survival pathway regulates the transcription factor NRF2, guardian of cellular redox homeostasis, that provides protection against oxidative, inflammatory and proteotoxic stress.

For the past year we have been working on the validation this transcription factor as a new therapeutic target to modify progression of Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease as well co-morbid retinopathy and type II diabetes.



RESEARCH LINES

- Role of oxidative stress in neuronal death and neuroinflammation in neurodegenerative diseases.
- Validation of NRF2 as a new therapeutic target in neurodegenerative diseases.
- Use of NRF2 transcriptional signature as a biomarker of prognosis, progression and therapeutic efficacy.
- Identification of NRF2 activating compounds by inhibiting their interaction with β -TrCP.
- Relevance of NRF2 transcriptional signature in altered molecular processes in ALS models.
- Molecular basis of the role of Nrf2 in type 2 diabetes and its complications (diabetic retinopathy and nephropathy).

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

● Doctoral theses

Barahona Sanz I. PTPN1 deletion protects oval cells against lipoapoptosis by targeting cellular processes that favour lipid droplet formation and dynamics[dissertation]. Madrid: UAM: 2022(27/01/2022).

Directors: Martínez Valverde AM, Valdecantos Jiménez de Andrade MP.

European Mention 

Duarte Flórez P. Nuevos inductores de NRF2 e inhibidores selectivos de MAO-B para el tratamiento de la enfermedad de Parkinson[dissertation]. Madrid: UAM: 2022(19/09/2022).

Directors: León Martínez R, Cuadrado Pastor A.

Fernández Ginés R. Desarrollo de nuevos moduladores de actividad del factor de transcripción NRF2.[dissertation]. Madrid: UAM: 2022(24/11/2022).

Directors: Cuadrado Pastor A, Rojo Sanchís AI.

● Master theses

Cazalla Ibáñez E. Role of transcription factor NRF2 in the regulation of the Blood-Brain Barrier component TIE2 receptor[dissertation]. Madrid: UAM: 2022(08/07/2022).

Directors: Cuadrado Pastor A, García-Yagüe AJ.

● Publications

- Cuadrado A. Brain-Protective Mechanisms of Transcription Factor NRF2: Toward a Common Strategy for Neurodegenerative Diseases. *Annu Rev Pharmacol.* 2022; 62: 255-77. Review. IF: 12.5; D1
- Cucos CA, Milanesi E, Dobre M, Musat IA, Manda G, Cuadrado A. Altered blood and brain expression of inflammation and redox genes in Alzheimer's Disease, common to APP(V717I) x TAU(P301L) mice and patients. *Int J Mol Sci.* 2022; 23(10): 5799. Article. IF: 5.6; Q1
- del Hierro JN, Cantero-Bahillo E, Fernández-Felipe MT, García-Risco MR, Fornari T, Rada P, Doblado L, Ferreira V, Hitos AB, Valverde AM, Monsalve M, Martín D. Effects of a mealworm (*Tenebrio molitor*) extract on metabolic syndrome-related pathologies: In vitro insulin sensitivity, inflammatory response, hypolipidemic activity and oxidative stress. *Insects.* 2022; 13(10): 896. Article. IF: 3; Q1
- Duarte P, Michalska P, Crisman E, Cuadrado A, León R. Novel series of dual NRF2 inducers and selective MAO-B inhibitors for the treatment of Parkinson's disease. *Antioxidants.* 2022; 11(2): 247. Article. IF: 7; D1
- Fernández-Ginés R, Encinar JA, Hayes JD, Oliva B, Rodríguez-Franco MI, Rojo AI, Cuadrado A. An inhibitor of interaction between the transcription factor NRF2 and the E3 ubiquitin ligase adapter beta-TrCP delivers anti-inflammatory responses in mouse liver. *Redox Biol.* 2022; 55: 102396. Article. IF: 11.4; D1

- Ferreira V, Folgueira C, Guillén M, Zubiaur P, Navares M, Sarsenbayeva A, López-Larrubia P, Eriksson JW, Pereira MJ, Abad-Santos F, Sabio G, Rada P, Valverde AM. Modulation of hypothalamic AMPK phosphorylation by olanzapine controls energy balance and body weight. *Metabolism.* 2022; 137: 155335. Article. IF: 9.8; D1
- Jiménez MTB, Frenis K, Hahad O, Steven S, Cohen G, Cuadrado A, Muenzel T, Daiber A. Protective actions of nuclear factor erythroid 2-related factor 2 (NRF2) and downstream pathways against environmental stressors. *Free Radical Bio Med.* 2022; 187: 72-91. Review. IF: 7.4; Q1
- Jiménez-Villegas J, Kirby J, Mata A, Cadenas S, Turner MR, Malaspina A, Shaw PJ, Cuadrado A, Rojo AI. Dipeptide repeat pathology in C9orf72-ALS is associated with redox, mitochondrial and NRF2 pathway imbalance. *Antioxidants.* 2022; 11(10): 1897. Article. IF: 7; D1
- Kopacz A, Rojo AI, Patibandla C, Lastra-Martínez D, Piechota-Polanczyk A, Kloska D, Jozkowicz A, Sutherland C, Cuadrado A, Grochot-Przeczek A. Overlooked and valuable facts to know in the NRF2/KEAP1 field. *Free Radical Bio Med.* 2022; 192: 37-49. Review. IF: 7.4; Q1
- Lastra D, Escoll M, Cuadrado A. Transcription factor NRF2 participates in cell cycle progression at the level of G1/S and mitotic checkpoints. *Antioxidants.* 2022; 11(5): 946. Article. IF: 7; D1
- Manda G, Milanesi E, Genc S, Niculite CM, Neagoe IV, Tastan B, Dragnea EM, Cuadrado A. Pros and cons of NRF2 activation as adjunctive therapy in rheumatoid arthritis. *Free Radical Bio Med.* 2022; 190: 179-201. Article. IF: 7.4; Q1

- Srivastava R, Fernández-Ginés R, Encinar JA, Cuadrado A, Wells G. The current status and future prospects for therapeutic targeting of KEAP1-NRF2 and beta-TrCP-NRF2 interactions in cancer chemoresistance. *Free Radical Bio Med.* 2022; 192: 246-60. Review. IF: 7.4; Q1
- Uribe-Carretero E, Martínez-Chacón G, Yakhine-Diop SMS, Duque-González G, Rodríguez-Arribas M, Alegre-Cortés E, Paredes-Barquero M, Canales-Cortés S, Pizarro-Estrella E, Cuadrado A, González-Polo RA, Fuentes JM, Niso-Santano M. Loss of KEAP1 causes an accumulation of nondegradative Organelles. *Antioxidants.* 2022; 11(7): 1398. Article. IF: 7; D1
- Val-Blasco A, Prieto P, Jaen RI, Gil-Fernández M, Pajares M, Domenech N, Terron V, Tamayo M, Jorge I, Vázquez J, Bueno-Sen A, Vallejo-Cremades MT, Pombo-Otero J, Sánchez-García S, Ruiz-Hurtado G, Gómez AM, Zaragoza C, Crespo-Leiro MG, López-Collazo E, Cuadrado A, Delgado C, Boscá L, Fernández-Velasco M. Specialized proresolving mediators protect against experimental autoimmune myocarditis by modulating Ca²⁺ handling and NRF2 activation. *JACC Basic Transl Sci.* 2022; 7(6): 544-60. Article. IF: 9.7; D1

● Research projects

Cuadrado Pastor A, Seabra M. NRF2 as a novel therapeutic target in age-related macular degeneratio (HR22-00569). Fundación La Caixa. 2022-2026.

Managment centre: UAM



Cuadrado Pastor A. Activation of NRF2 by 6-MISTC, role in AD (2021/0175). Kinjirushi Ltd. Co. 2021-2023.

Management centre: Fundación UAM

Cuadrado Pastor A. Desarrollo de fármacos activadores de NRF2 para terapias innovadoras de la enfermedad de Alzheimer - GT2 (2018/00050/001). CM. 2018-2022.

Management centre: UAM

Cuadrado Pastor A. Investigación traslacional sobre la regulación farmacológica NRF2 en enfermedades no transmisibles (10.2J.01.03). MICIN. 2020-2022.

Management centre: UAM

Cuadrado Pastros A, Rojo Sanchís AI. Desarrollo de nuevos fármacos antiinflamatorios basados en la activación del factor de transcripción NRF2 (PDC2021-121421-100). Agencia Estatal de Investigación. 2021-2023.

Management centre: UAM

Cuadrado Pastros A, Rojo Sanchís AI. El factor de transcripción NRF2 en la patofisiología de la enfermedad de Alzheimer (1004020167). MICIN. 2020-2023.

Management centre: UAM

Martínez Valverde A. Extending the knowledge of the cellular and molecular mediators in the progression and treatment of non-

alcoholic fatty liver disease linked to obesity (FATLiV). (RTI2018-094052-B-I00). MICIN. 2019-2022.

Management centre: CSIC

Martínez Valverde A. Extracellular vesicles: new insights into their role in liver-pancreas interactome in T2D. European Association for the Study of Diabetes. 2021-2023.

Management centre: CIBER

Martínez Valverde A. Identification of metabolic biomarkers for chronic diseases and treatments. Identificación de biomarcadores metabólicos para enfermedades crónicas y sus tratamientos. (EIN2020-112263). MICIN. 2021-2022.

Management centre: CSIC

Martínez Valverde A. Mecanismos moleculares y comunicación intertisular en la resistencia a la insulina (B2017/BMD-3684 MOIR2-CM). CM. 2018-2022.

Management centre: CISC

Martínez Valverde A. New messengers in the interactome of hepatic and extrahepatic cells in non-alcoholic fatty liver disease with diagnostic value. Fundación Ramón Areces. 2019-2022.

Management centre: CSIC

Rojo Sanchís AI. NRF2: Biomarcador y evaluación como diana terapéutica para la es-

clerosis lateral amiotrófica (ref-P024.FTPGB 2018). Fundación Tatiana Pérez de Guzmán el Bueno. 2018-2022.

Management centre: UAM

● Cibers and Retics

Cuadrado Pastor A. Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Enfermedades Neurodegenerativas. (CB06/05/0010). ISCIII. (31/12/2022).

Management centre: UAM

Martínez Valverde A. Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Red de Diabetes y Enfermedades Metabólicas Asociadas. (CB07/08/0033). ISCIII. (31/12/2022).

Management centre: CSIC

Cuadrado Pastor A, Rojo Sanchís AI. Bench to bedside transition for pharmacological regulation of NRF2 in noncommunicable diseases (BenBedPhar). (CA20121). EU Cost Actions. (18/10/2025).

Management centre: Victor Babes Research Institute (Romania)

● Patents and trademarks

Cuadrado Pastor A, Innamorato NG, inventors: CSIC, UAM. Use of sulforaphane as supplementary therapy for early-stage neurodegenerative disease. P201231693; 2012

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León Martínez R, Egea Maiquez J, Buendía Abaitua I, Parada Pérez E, Navarro González de Mesa E, inventors; Fundación para la Investigación Biomédica del Hospital Universitario de La Princesa, UAM, CSIC, DNS NEUROSCIENCE S.A., assignees. Use of 3-(2-isothiocyanatoethyl)-5-methoxy-1H-indole for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases. P201300667; 2013 July 17.

León Martínez R, Buendía Abaitua I, Navarro González de Mesa E, Michalska P, Gameiro Ros I, López Vivo A, Egea Maiquez J, García López M, García García A, inventors; Fundación para la Investigación Biomédica del Hospital Universitario de La Princesa, UAM, DNS NEUROSCIENCE S.A., assignees. Compounds derived from 3-alkylamine-1H-indolyl acrylate and its use for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases. P201400810, PCT/ES2015/000139, CA2964309; 2014 October 15.

Cuadrado Pastor A, Fernández-Ginés R, León Martínez R, Encinar JA, Rodríguez Franco MI, García López MG, Rojo Sanchís AI, inventors. UAM, CSIC, UMH y Fundación de Investigación Biomédica del Hospital Universitario de la Princesa, assignees. Treatment of NRF2-Related diseases. PCT/2022/382025.1.