

**The art and science of asking
questions is the source of all
knowledge.**

Thomas Berger

CASE STUDIES

Regenerative medicine

Perdita irreversibile di tessuti e cellule

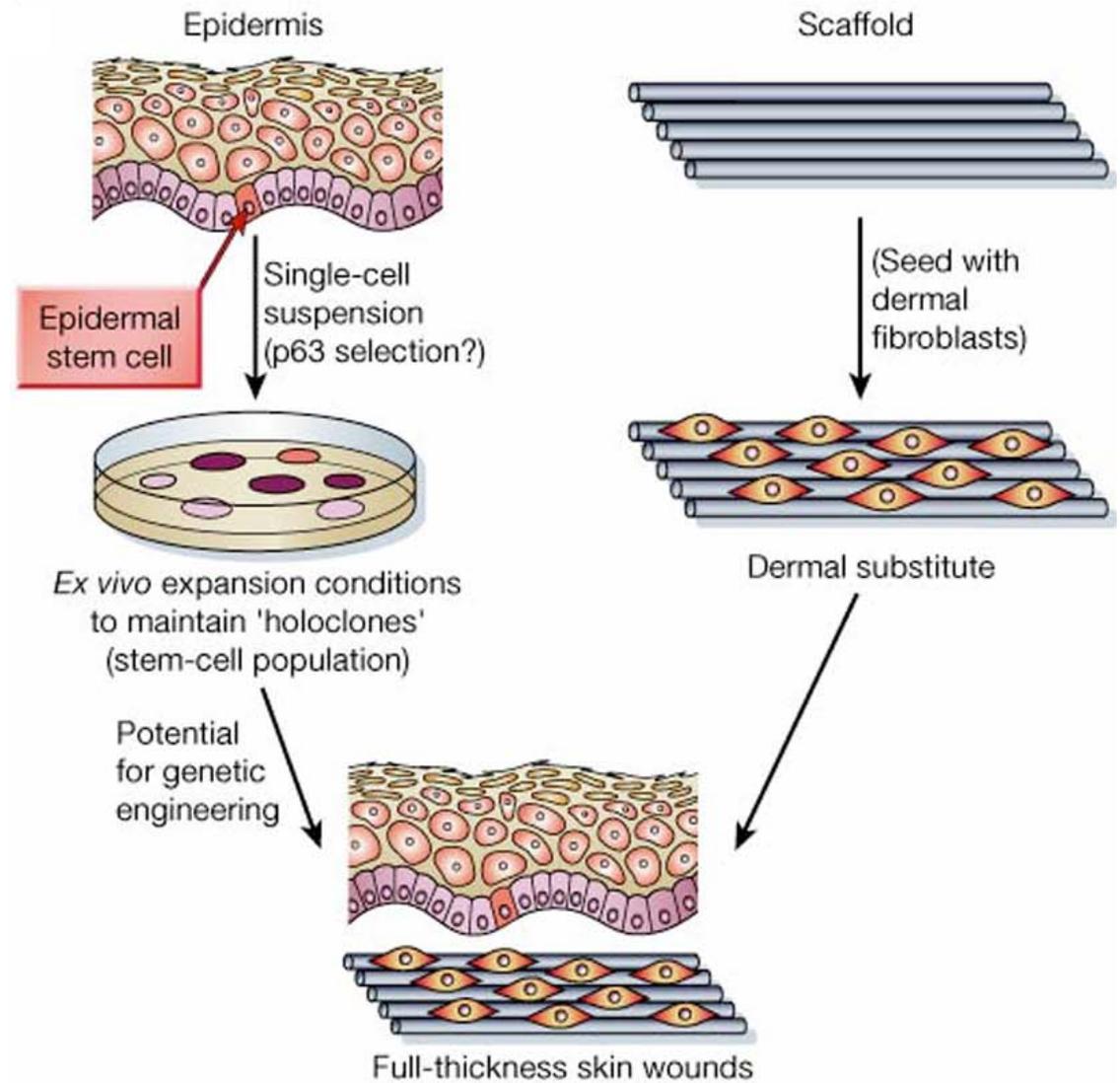
Infarto del miocardio
Ictus cerebrale
Diabete
m. Alzheimer

Anomalia irreversibile di tessuti e cellule

Malattie genetiche

Regenerative medicine

1. *Ingegneria dei tessuti*
2. *Terapia cellulare*
3. *Terapia genica*



Cell therapy of alpha-sarcoglycan null dystrophic mice through intra-arterial delivery of mesoangioblasts.

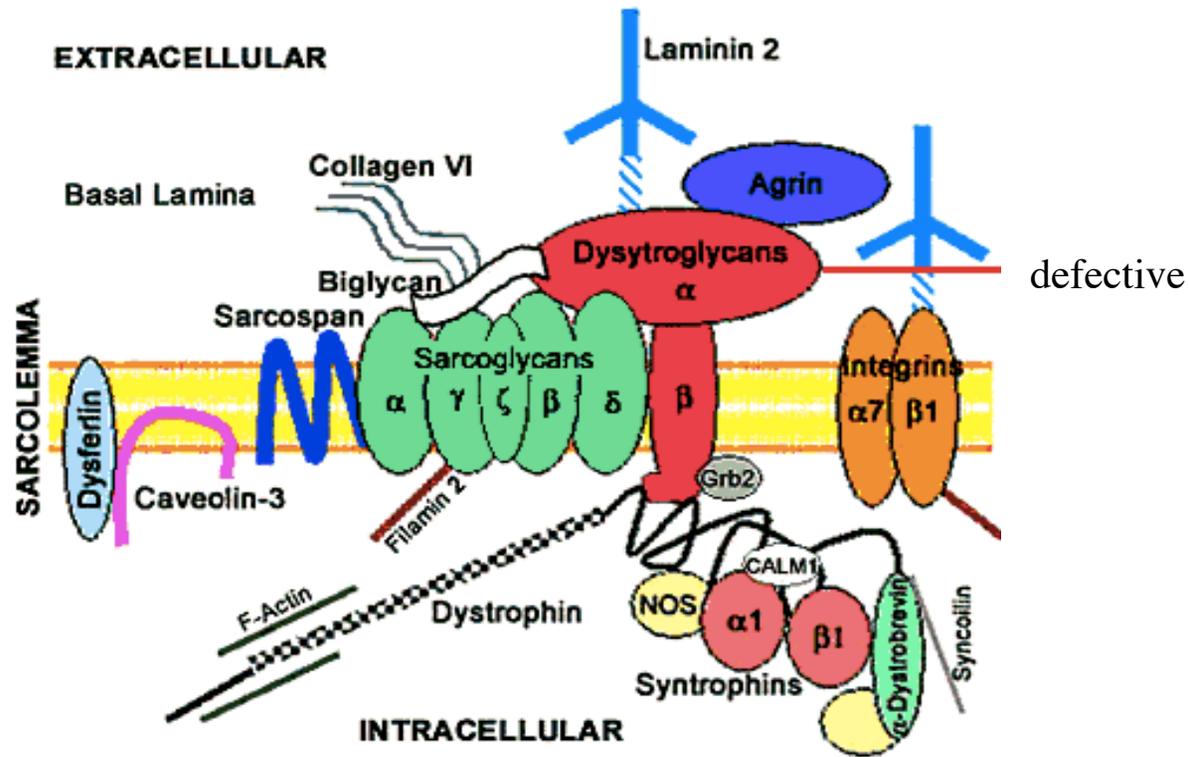
- knock out mice
- Cloned gene
- Genetically modified foetal cells

Science 2003 Jul 25

Muscular dystrophies

- Genetic disease
- Multiple genes involved; most common involving the dystrophin glycoprotein complex (DGC)
- typical trait is fiber necrosis

Dystrophin-glycoprotein complex



Conventional therapy

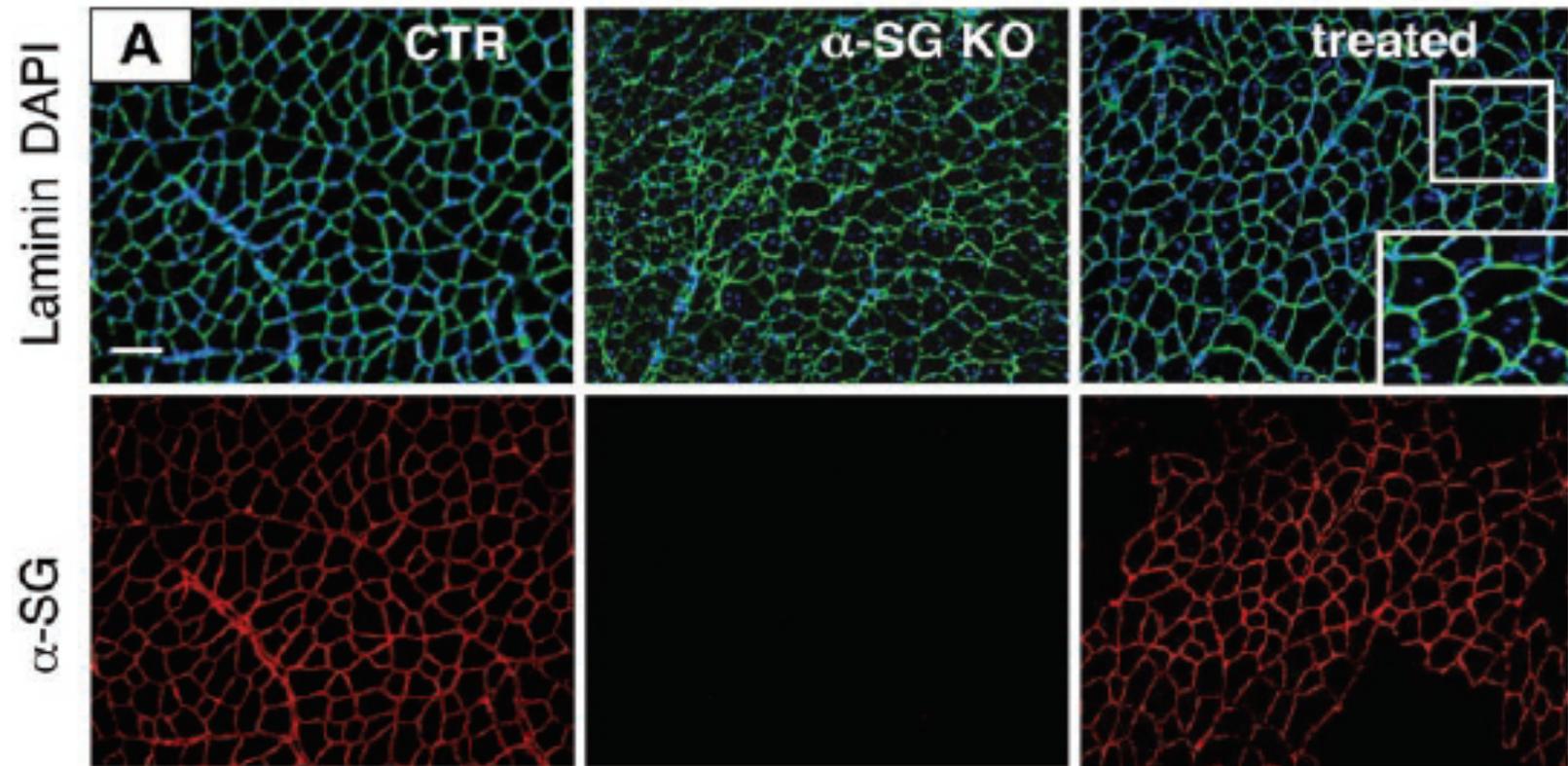
- Stretching of muscles ⇒ Does not cure
- Corticosteroid treatment ⇒ Side effects

- Drugs to induce protein synthesis
similar to the absent (utrophin) ⇒ Mechanism validation to be
assessed

Mesoangioblasts

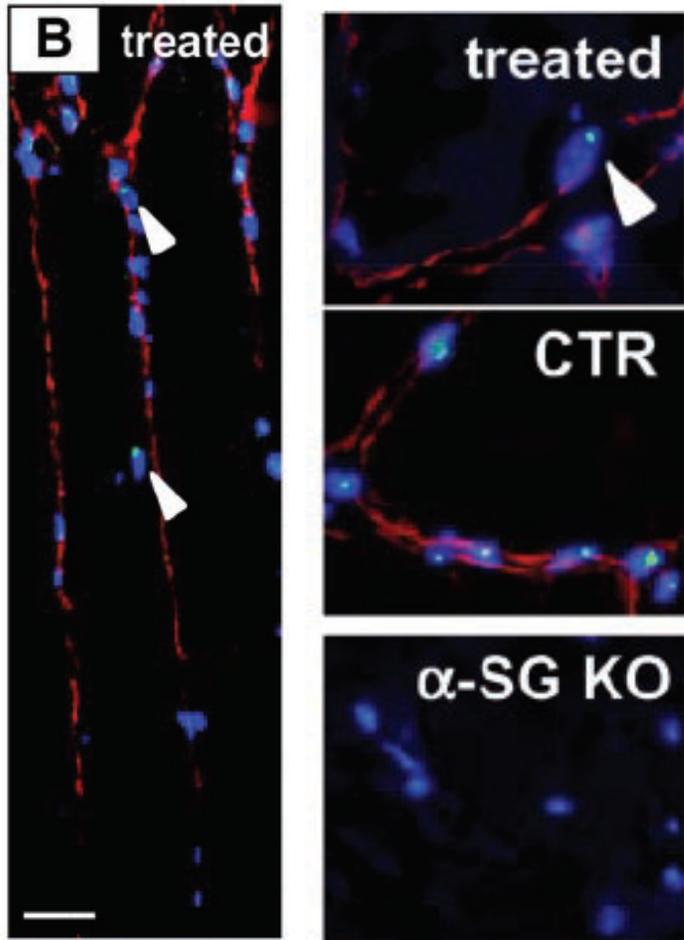
- Foetal stem cells associated with vascular system
- Highly proliferative
- Can move out of the vasculature in presence of inflammation
- Respond to necrotic cytokines

α -sarcoglycan expression after mesoangioblasts (10^5) wt, heterologous in female $-/-$ mice. Analysis at 2 months.



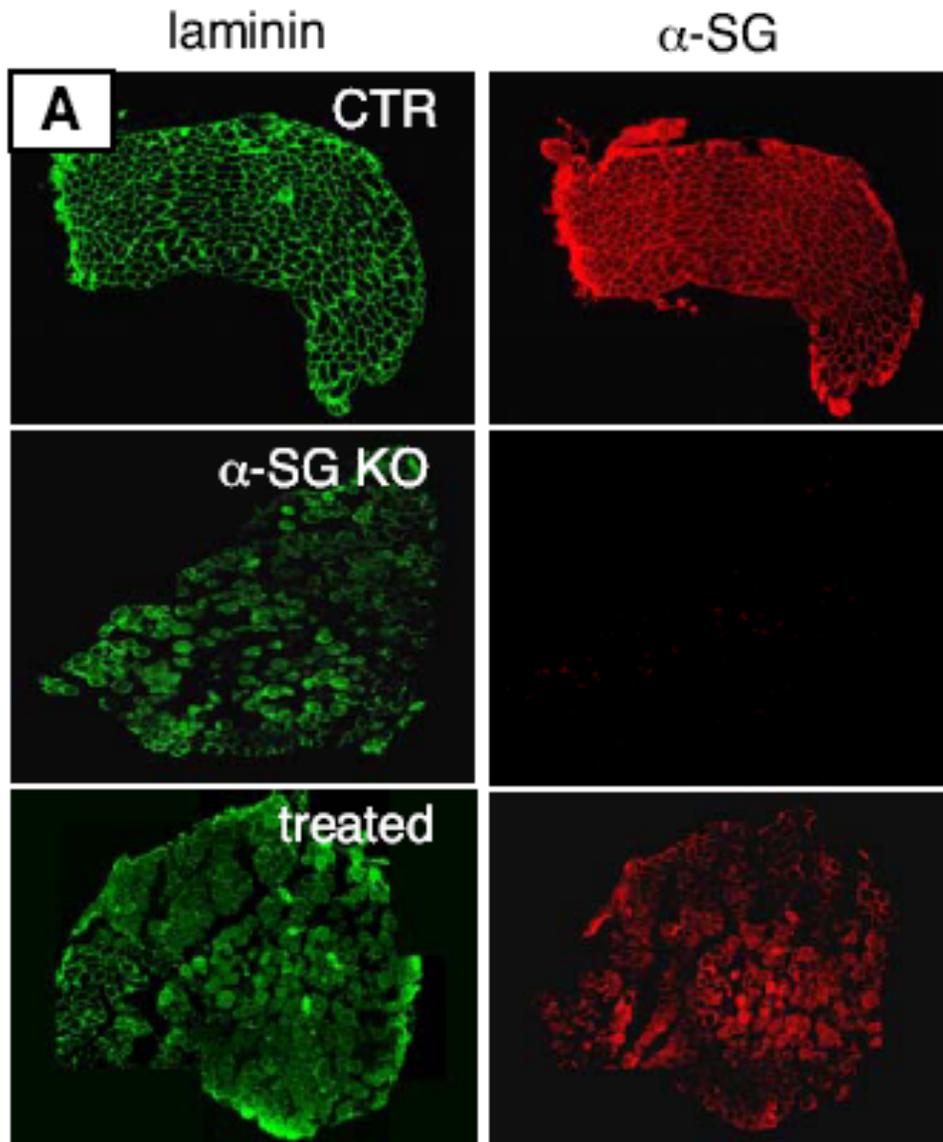
α -SG ab and tissue quality

α -SG in mesoangioblasts



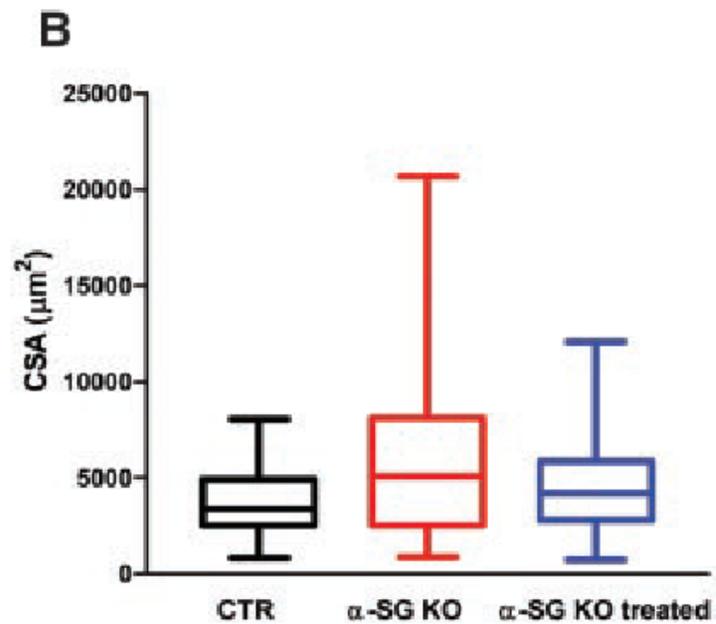
Fish (in blue) shows Y (arrow head),
and α -SG positive (red)

3 injections at 40 days intervals; 5×10^5 mesoangioblasts male wt in female -/-. Assay 4 months after 1st injection



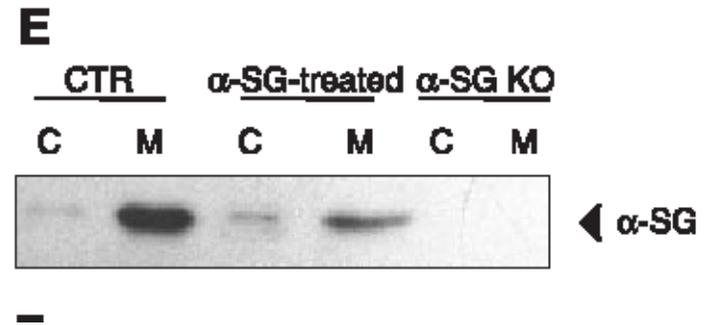
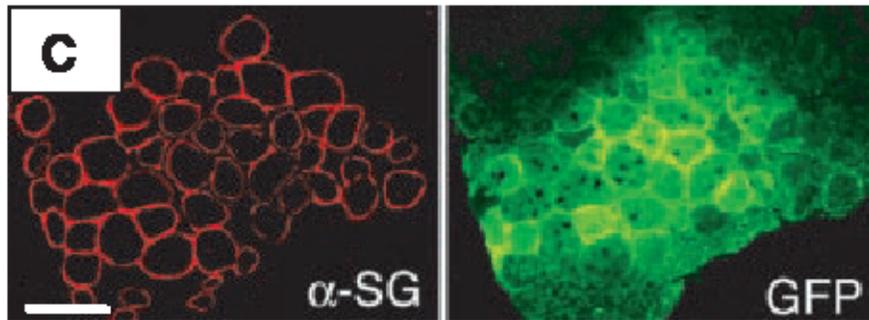
α -SG (in red), absent in disease animals, is visible in treated mice

Triple injection. Muscle functionality evaluated ex vivo



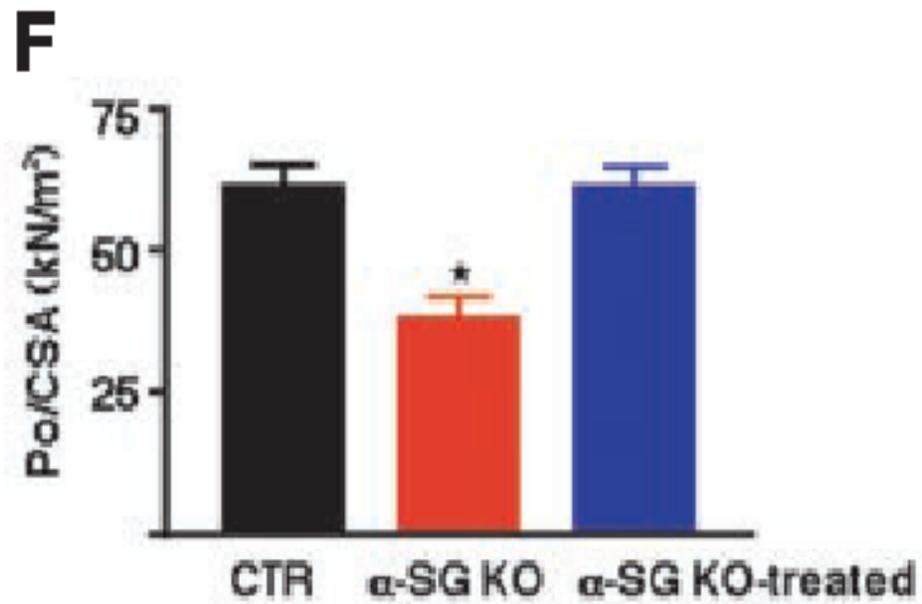
- Fibre section area

3 injections at 40 days intervals 5×10^5 autologous **mesoangioblasts**
(from $-/-$ mice aged **15d**) treated with lenti-PGK-SG-IRES-GFP



IF and WB show GFP and α -SG

Assay of muscular force in treated mice

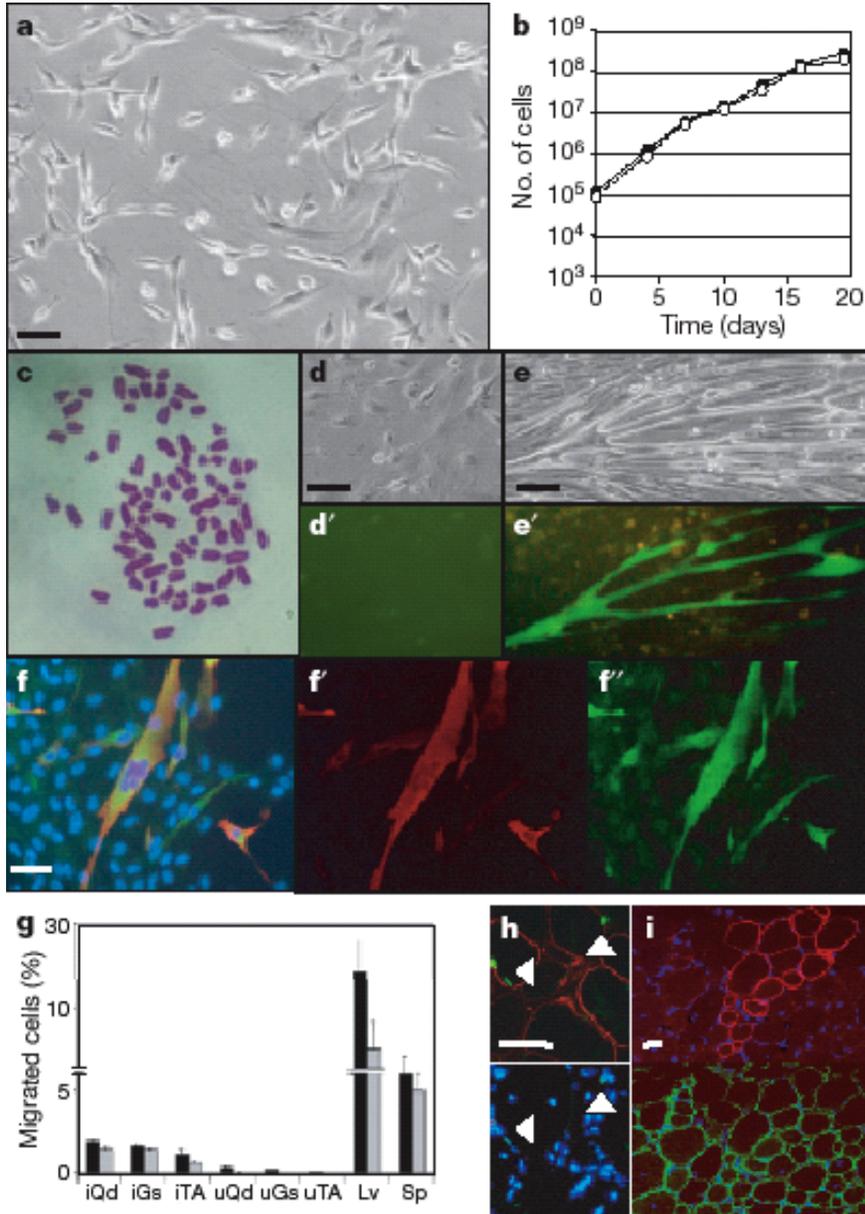


Mesoangioblast stem cells ameliorate muscle function in dystrophic dogs

Maurilio Sampaolesi^{1,2*}, Stephane Blot^{3*}, Giuseppe D'Antona², Nicolas Granger³, Rossana Tonlorenzi¹, Anna Innocenzi¹, Paolo Mognol⁴, Jean-Laurent Thibaud³, Beatriz G. Galvez¹, Ines Barthélémy³, Laura Perani¹, Sara Mantero⁴, Maria Guttinger⁵, Orietta Pansarasa², Chiara Rinaldi², M. Gabriella Cusella De Angelis², Yvan Torrente⁶, Claudio Bordignon¹, Roberto Bottinelli² & Giulio Cossu^{1,5,7}

Sanpaolesi Nature 2006

Characterization of dog mesoangioblasts in vitro and in mice



Dog mesangio

A-morphology

B-proliferation

C-karyotype

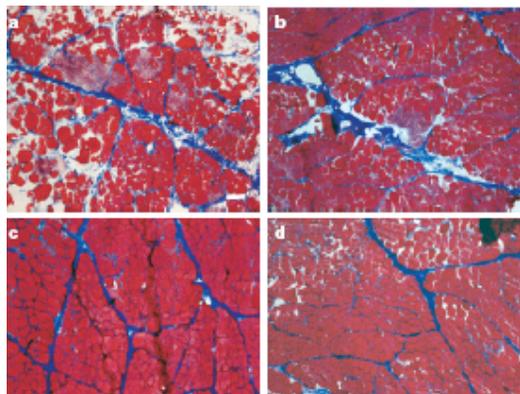
D-F transduction microdystro an GFP lenti

G-migration into skeletal muscle

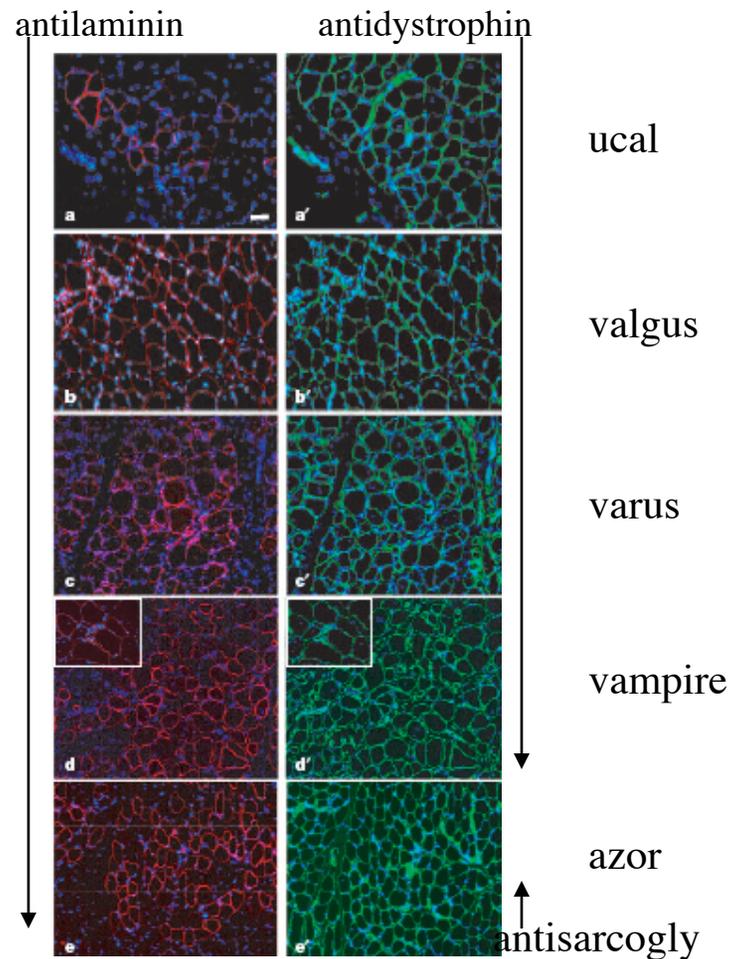
H-histology in scid-mdx mice (laminin, dystro)

Sanpaolesi Nature 2006

Dogs (duchenne model) after intraarterial delivery of heterologous wt mesangioblasts

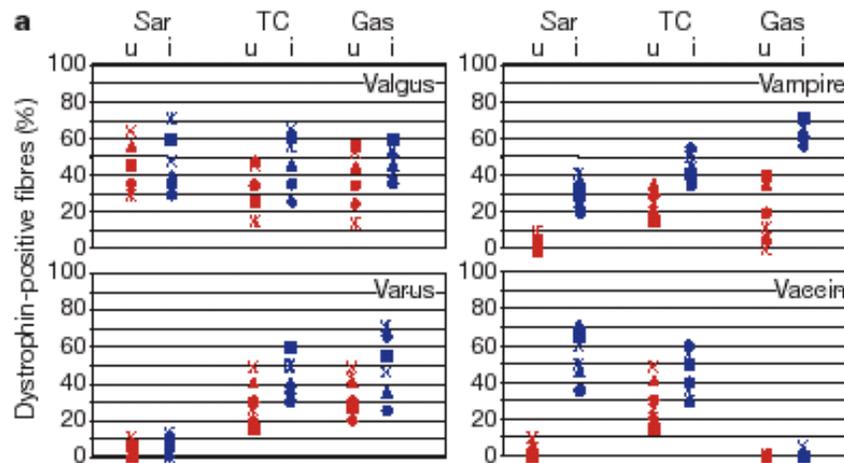


Histo (d-cured; a-c variable ill phenotype)



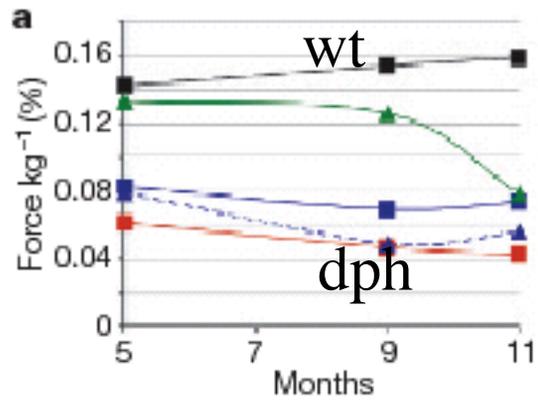
Immune histo on muscle

Quantitative analysis of dystrophin content in tissue from treated dogs

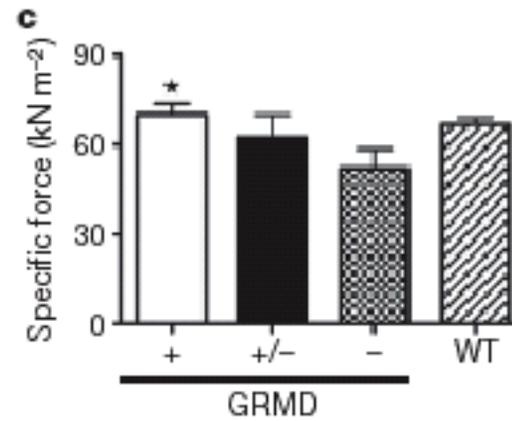


Physiology of treated dogs

Tetanic force



Fiber counting





<http://www.telethon.it/comunicazione/cossu/Cossu.MP3>

Test

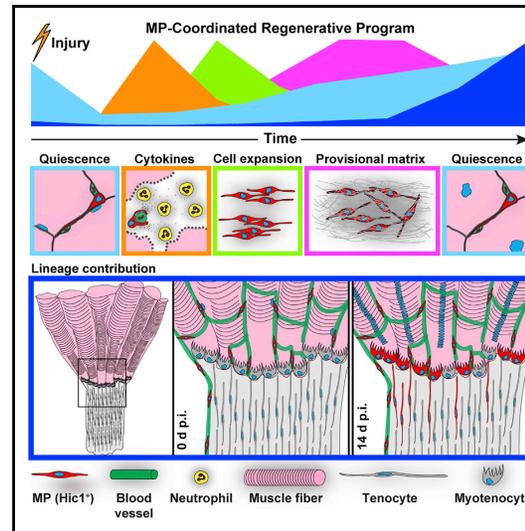
What would
you do next

Article

Cell Stem Cell

***Hic1* Defines Quiescent Mesenchymal Progenitor Subpopulations with Distinct Functions and Fates in Skeletal Muscle Regeneration**

Graphical Abstract



Authors

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In Brief

Multiple stem/progenitor populations, including stromal mesenchymal progenitors (MPs), participate in skeletal muscle regeneration. Scott and colleagues found that *Hic1* is a functional marker for MP quiescence, and *Hic1*⁺ MPs coordinate multiple facets of the muscle regeneration program and contribute to several mesenchymal lineages, including “myotendinous junctions.”

Highlights

- *Hic1* marks multiple quiescent mesenchymal progenitor (MP) subsets within skeletal muscle
- Conditional deletion of *Hic1* leads to MP hyperplasia and an activated MP phenotype
- *Hic1*⁺ MPs generate transit-amplifying progeny post-injury that support regeneration
- Following injury, select *Hic1*⁺ progeny persist and regenerate the myotendinous junction



Scott et al., 2019, Cell Stem Cell 25, 797–813
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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.stem.2019.11.004>

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