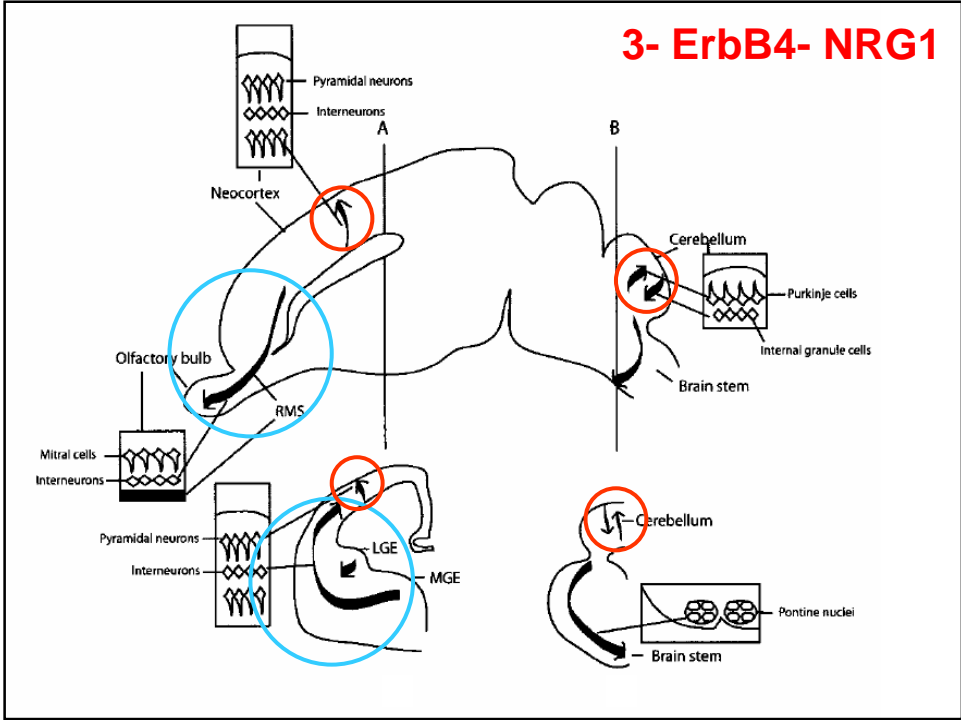
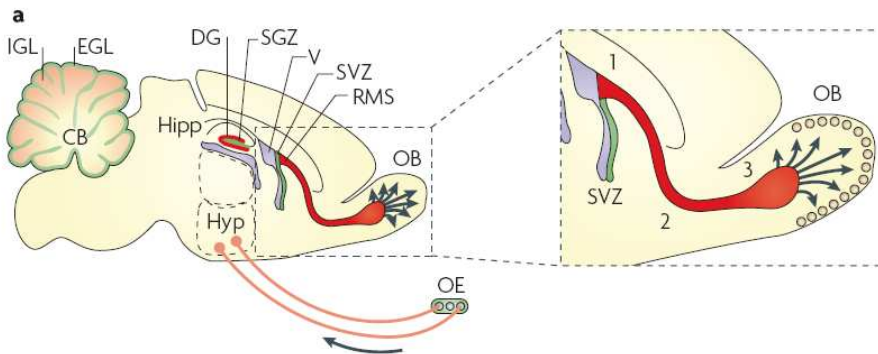


ErbB4 migrazione I parte



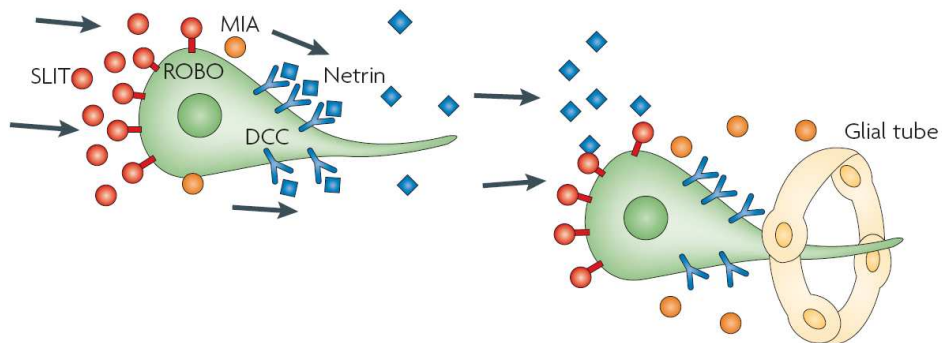
Receptor tyrosine kinase ErbB4 modulates neuroblast migration and placement in the adult forebrain

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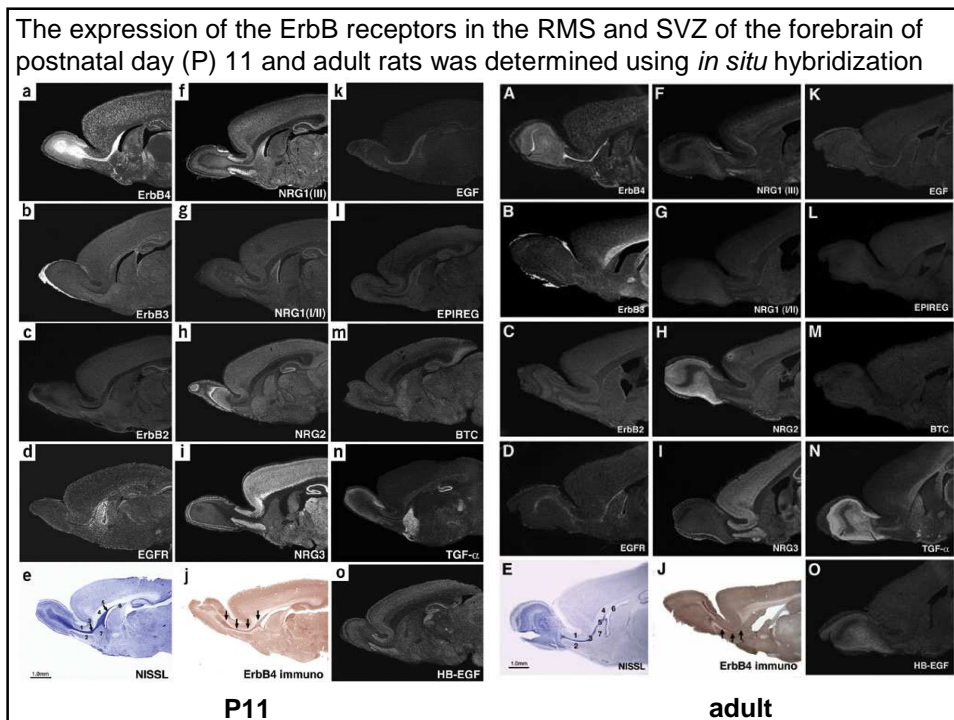
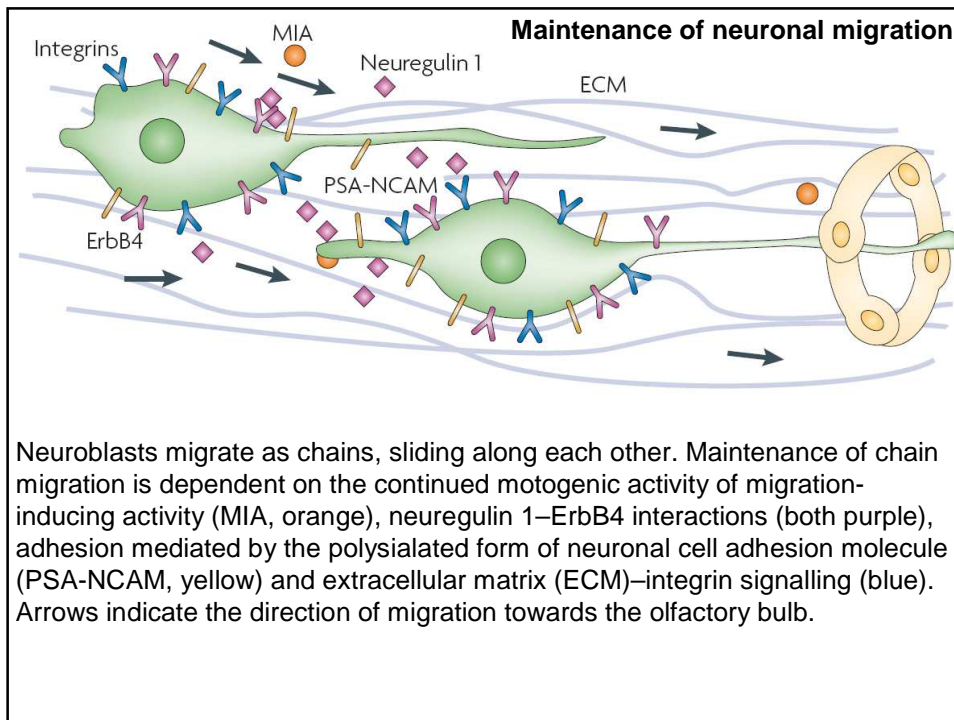
In rodent brains postnatal neuronal migration is evident in three main areas: the cerebellum (CB), the hippocampus (Hipp) and the rostral migratory stream (RMS). A small number of neurons also complete their migration into the hypothalamus (Hyp) at around the time of birth.

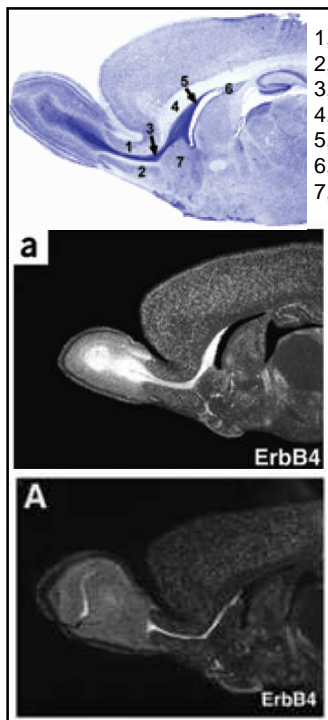
Initiation of neuronal migration



The initiation of neuronal migration is regulated by a combination of motogenic (for example, migration-inducing activity, MIA, secreted by glial tubes surrounding the neuronal chains), chemoattractive (such as netrin and deleted in colorectal carcinoma, DCC) and chemorepulsive (for example, SLIT and ROBO) signals.

Arrows indicate the direction of migration away from the subventricular zone towards the rostral migratory stream.

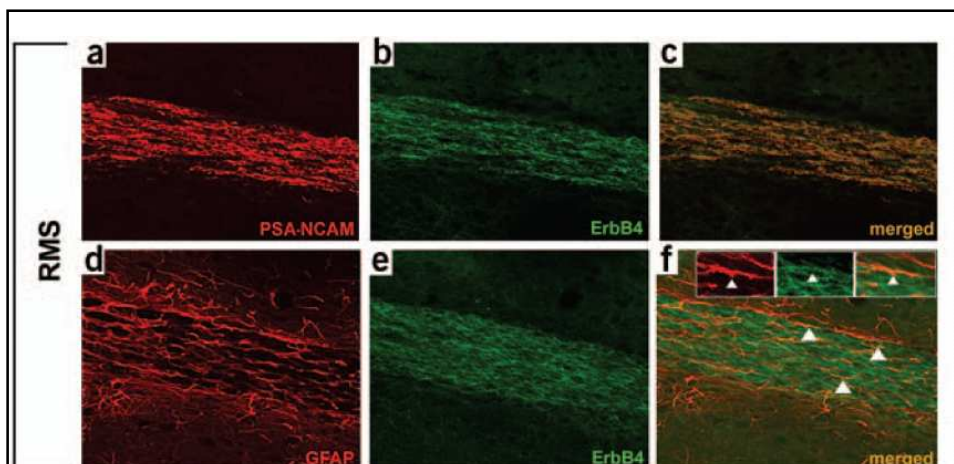




1, anterior olfactory nucleus, dorsal;
 2, anterior olfactory nucleus, ventral;
 3, RMS;
 4, corpus callosum;
 5, SVZ;
 6, lateral ventricle;
 7, striatum

In situ hybridization: quali informazioni ne traggio? Quali altre analisi posso effettuare?

- at P11, ErbB4 is expressed at high levels in the RMS and remains detectable in these cells as they migrate into the OB
- expression persists in granule neurons in the mature OB, but at reduced levels
- ErbB4 is also expressed in scattered cells in the striatum.
- in adults, ErbB4-specific hybridization in the RMS were lower than in P11 rats

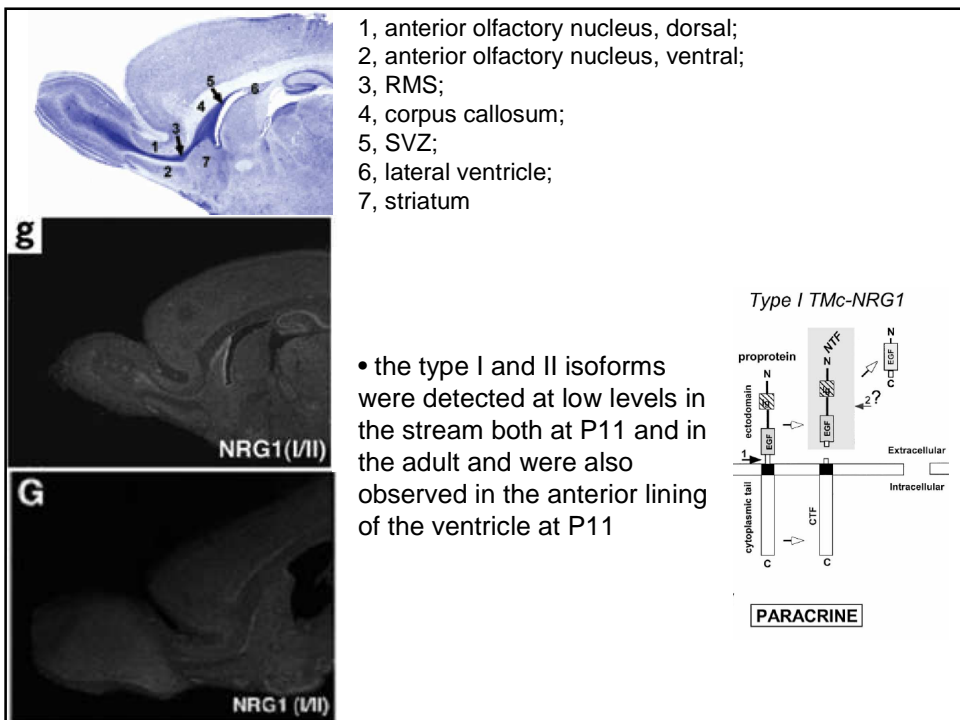
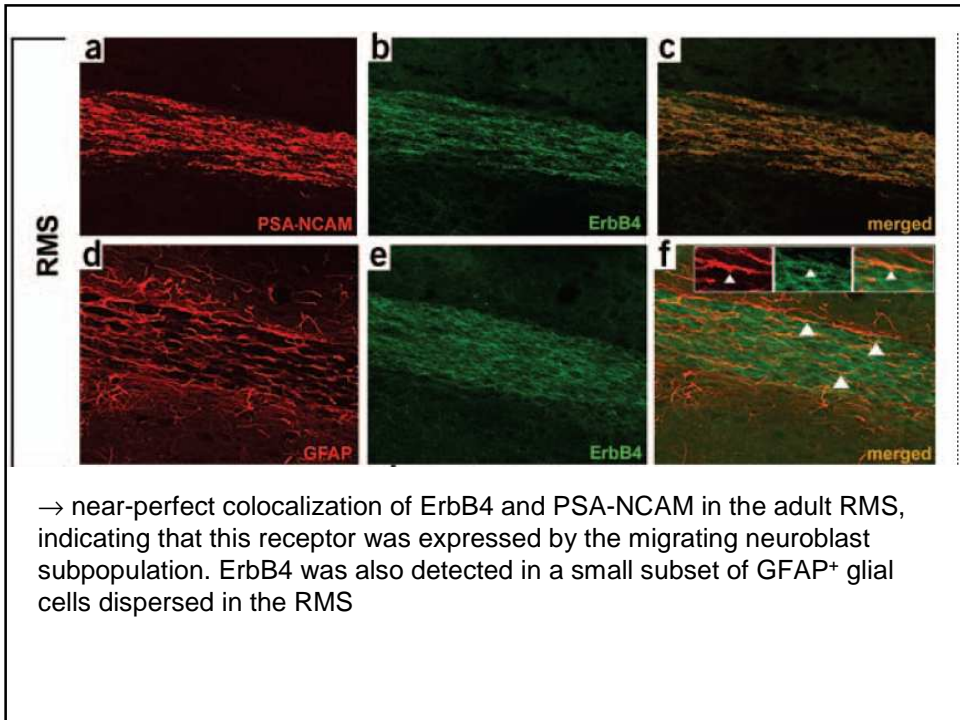


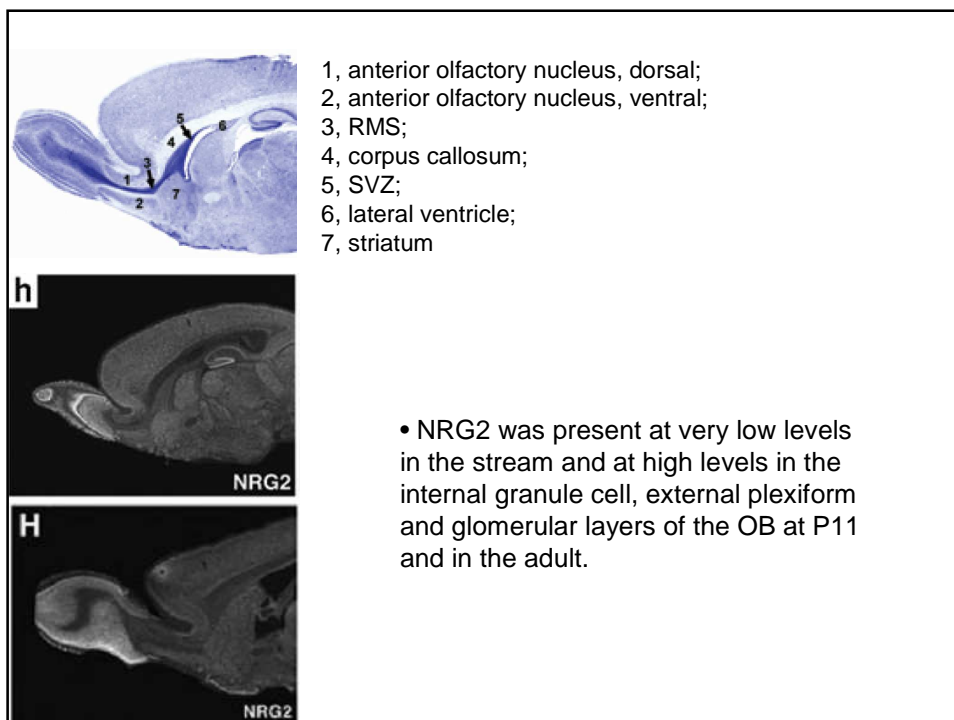
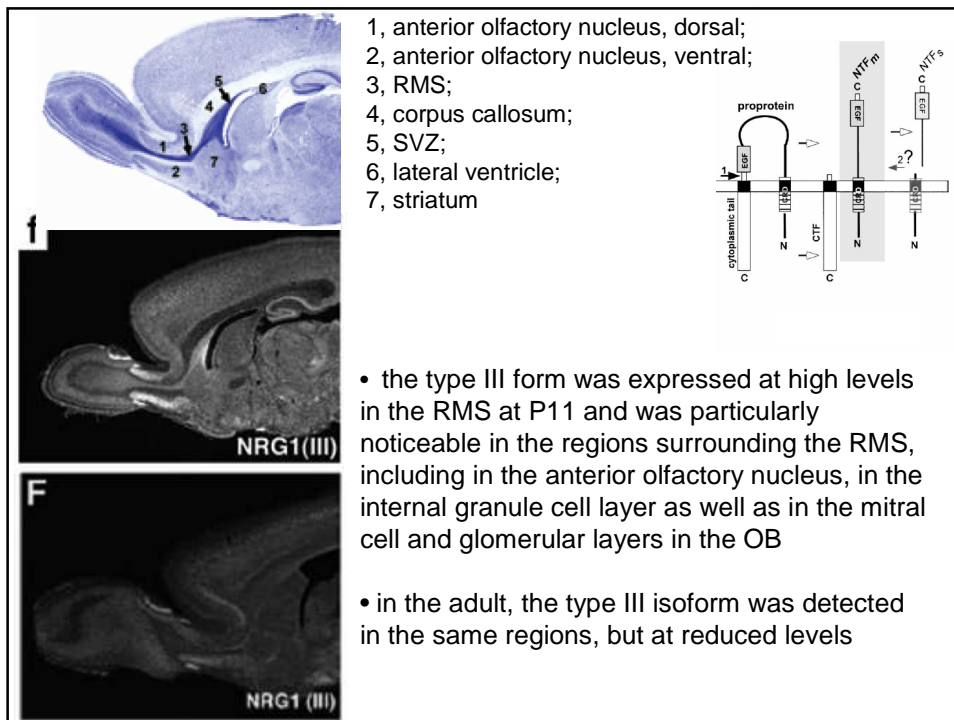
RMS

a PSA-NCAM
 b ErbB4
 c merged
 d GFAP
 e ErbB4
 f merged

PSA-NCAM migrating neuroblast marker
 GFAP⁺ glial cell marker

immunohistochemistry: quali informazioni ne traggio?

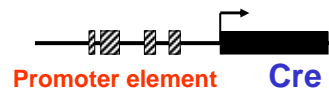




These studies showed that:

- ErbB4 is expressed by the migrating neuroblasts and at least some of the proliferating precursors of the SVZ
- multiple potential ligands are located in the forebrain region, where they may influence neuroblast proliferation, migration and differentiation through ErbB4

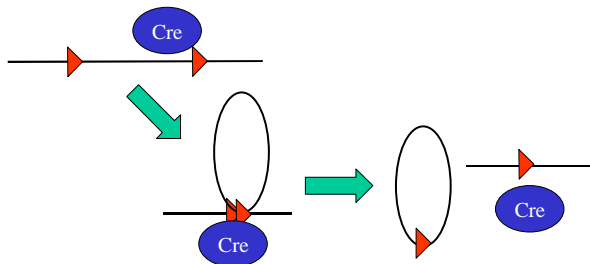
Conditional knock-outs
inactivate a gene only in specific tissues
and at certain times during development and life.



Cre-lox technology

Cre – a site-specific recombinase enzyme from the P1 phage.

Recognises a 34bp DNA sequence *loxP* = 



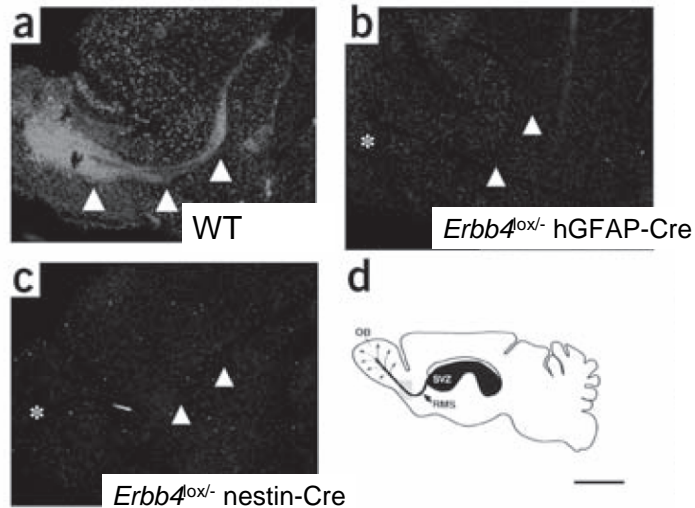
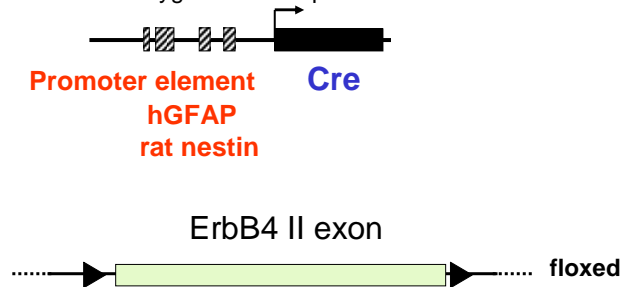
Your gene of interest
is **flanked by 34 bp**
loxP sites (floxed).

Where CRE
recombinase is
expressed at
least once

Gene between loxP
sites is removed

CONDITIONAL DELETION OF ErbB4

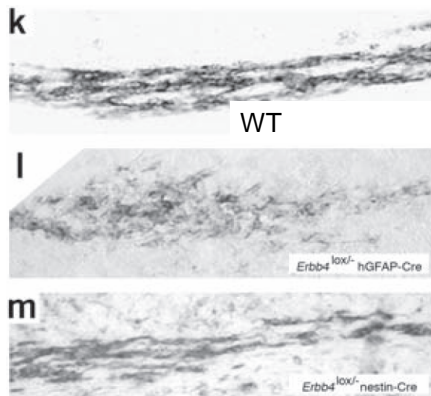
- lines of conditional null mice were generated that lacked ErbB4 expression in the CNS to evaluate the role of this receptor in the SVZ and RMS
- mice in which the second exon of the gene ErbB4 was flanked by *loxP* sites were mated with transgenic mice that expressed Cre recombinase under the control of either the human GFAP (hGFAP) promoter or the rat nestin promoter and enhancer
- to maximize the number of cells with a complete loss of ErbB4 function, they mated the mice carrying *loxP* sites (*ErbB4^{lox}*) with the mice carrying Cre recombinase in a background that is heterozygous with respect to the null allele of ErbB4 (Gassmann).



In situ hybridization using a probe specific to *ErbB4* exon 2 did not detect any cells in either the RMS or the OB of P12 *ErbB4^{lox/-}* nestin-Cre or *ErbB4^{lox/-}* hGFAP-Cre mice

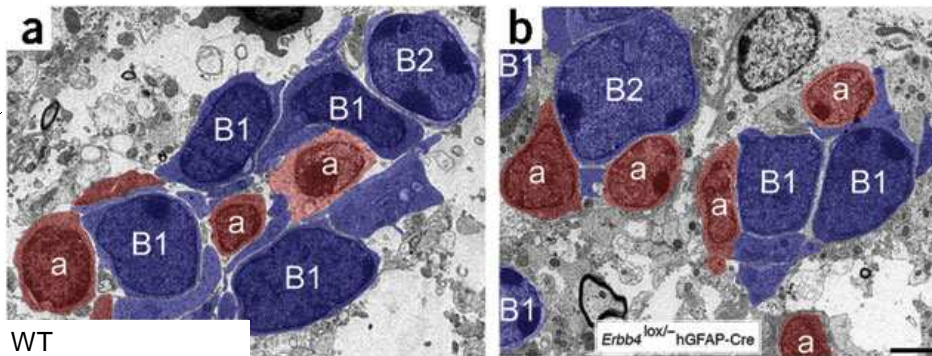
Altered RMS in conditional mutants of ErbB4

The mid-RMS was labeled with antibodies to PSA-NCAM, which mark neuroblasts that are typically organized as clusters of chains

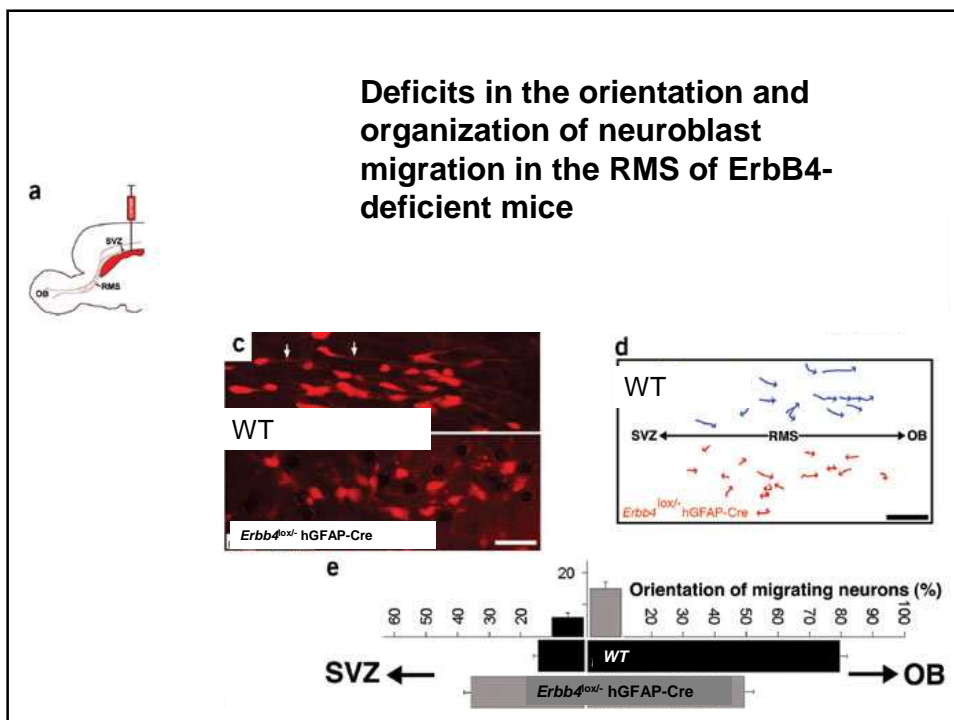
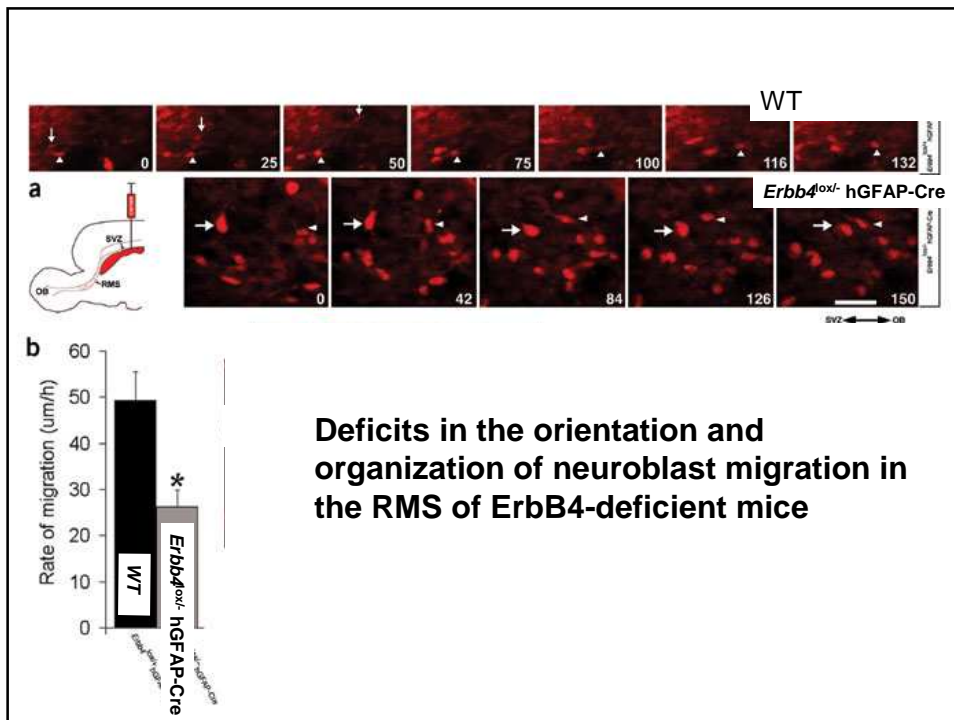


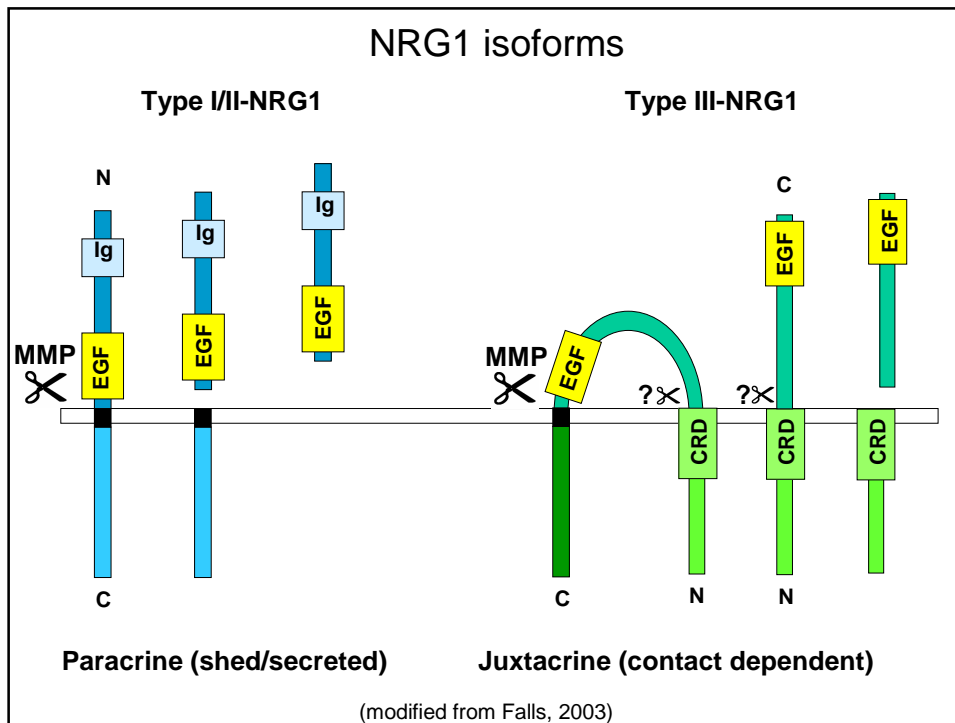
- the PSA-NCAM⁺ cells in the mutant mice formed fragmented chains that did not have the normal interdigitated and contiguous appearance

Integrity of glial tubes is disrupted in the RMS after ErbB4 deletion



- to determine how these gross morphological differences were reflected at the cellular level, electron microscopic ultrastructural analyses was carried out using 1.0- μm -thick sections of the RMS. The close apposition of migrating cells (A cells) and the glial-like cells (B1, B2) that normally ensheath them was greatly reduced in the *ErbB4^{lox/-} hGFAP-Cre* mice
- the loss of ErbB4 seems to disrupt the characteristic 'glial tube' organization found in the normal adult RMS



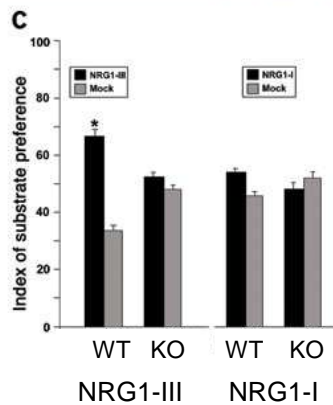
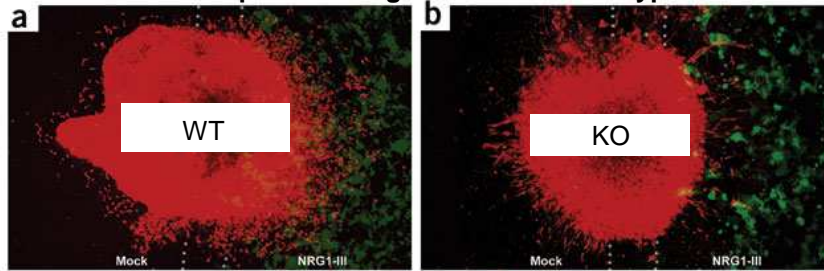


- the expression of types I and type III NRG1 isoforms in the stream suggested that they could modulate neuroblast migration through ErbB4 by potentially serving as permissive guidance cues, chemotropic agents or motogens

Quale saggio si può fare per valutare l'affinità nei confronti di un certo substrato?

- the expression of types I and type III NRG1 isoforms in the stream suggested that they could modulate neuroblast migration through ErbB4 by potentially serving as permissive guidance cues, chemotropic agents or motogens
- to determine if these isoforms provided a permissive substratum for migration, CMTMR-labeled SVZ explants were placed in between adjacent strips of COS cells expressing NRG1 type I and control (mock-transfected) cells or adjacent strips of COS cells expressing NRG1 type III and control cells

Control SVZ cells prefer to migrate on the NRG1 type III substrate



- the substrate preference of the neuroblasts migrating out of the SVZ explant was evaluated
- SVZ cells had a strong preference for COS cells expressing NRG1 type III, but not for mock-transfected cells or COS cells expressing NRG1 type I
- NRG1 type III at the cell surface may provide a permissive, guidance substratum for neuroblast migration towards the OB