Vanessa Jane Hall
Associate Professor

University of Copenhagen,
Faculty of Health Sciences,
Institute for Clinical Veterinary and Animal Sciences,
Group of Stem Cells and Embryology,
Grønnegårdsvej 7,
DK-1870,
Frederiksberg C,
Denmark.

Email: vh@sund.ku.dk
Phone: +45 35 33 25 12

Short presentation

Leader of Group of Brain Development and Disease

BRAINDEV&DIS
GROUP OF BRAIN DEVELOPMENT AND DISEASE

The research group of Brain Development and Disease is driven by a fascination of the mind and its matter. The group focuses on the mechanisms involved in neurodevelopment, systemic inflammation, and neurodegenerative diseases such as dementia and Alzheimer's disease.
We apply methods such as single cell RNA sequencing to understand the cellular diversity of the part of the brain where Alzheimer's disease first strikes called the entorhinal cortex. Single cell RNA sequencing data has enabled us to develop a novel neuron (brain) cell type from pluripotent stem cells using an approach called direct programming. These cells may provide clues as to why some cells in the brain are more vulnerable to disease than others. Uncovering the cellular diversity of the brain provides extraordinary insight into the complexity of this organ and provides us new evidence for the function and origins of brain diseases.
Our lab is also interested in the importance of the systemic immune environment, especially the gut, its microbiota and infections, and the role these have in the onset of neurodegenerative diseases

Current Research Interests:

Modeling Alzheimer's disease in a dish using pluripotent stem cells

Determining the origins of Alzheimer's disease

Understanding the development and evolution of the brain's spatial navigation.

Developing clean meat using animal stem cells

Techniques we perform in the lab

Multiomic technology development

Single cell RNA sequencing

Bioinformatics

Microelectrode array and electrophysiological analyses of neurons

Pluripotent and neural stem cell culture

Histology and Immunohistochemistry

MRI on brains

Current funding sources:

DFF/IRFD

Novo Nordisk Foundation

Lundbeck Foundation

Carlsberg Foundation
Funded projects:
Investigating development and evolution of the entorhinal cortex - ground zero for Alzheimer's disease
(Funded by Lundbeck Foundation) 5.000.000 DKK
Development of a novel technology, spatial connectomics (SpaiCon) for broad biological sciences
(Funded by Novo Nordisk Foundation) 5.000.000 DKK
Optimizing production of clean meat using stem cell technology and proteins extracted from animal waste (CleanMeat)
(Funded by DFF) 2.877.135 DKK

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