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## Short presentation

Leader of 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

## Publications

### **Getting closer to modeling the gut-brain axis using induced pluripotent stem cells**

Hall, Vanessa Jane & Bendtsen, K. M. S., 2023, In: *Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology*. 11, 17 p., 1146062.

### **The Breakthroughs and Caveats of Using Human Pluripotent Stem Cells in Modelling Alzheimer's Disease**

Bendtsen, K. M. S. & Hall, Vanessa Jane, 2023, In: *Cells*. 12, 3, 420.

### **Single cell mapping the evolution of the spatial processing centre within the brain**

Ralbovszki, Dorottya Maria, Bertelsen, Mads Frost, Buchmann, Kurt, Mori, Yuki, Gorodkin, Jan, Hemberg, M., Seemann, Ernst Stefan, Khodosevich, Konstantin & Hall, Vanessa Jane, 1 May 2022.

### **Prenatal development of the human entorhinal cortex**

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### **Production of human entorhinal stellate cell-like cells by forward programming shows an important role of Foxp1 in reprogramming**

Bergmann, T., Liu, Y., Skov, J., Mogus, L., Lee, J., Pfisterer, U., Handfield, L. F., Asenjo-Martinez, A., Lisa-Vargas, I., Seemann, S. E., Lee, J. T. H., Patikas, N., Kornum, B. R., Denham, M., Hyttel, P., Witter, M. P., Gorodkin, J., Pers, T. H., Hemberg, M., Khodosevich, K. & 1 others, Hall, Vanessa Jane, 2022, In: *Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology*. 10, 976549.

### **A comparative assessment of marker expression between cardiomyocyte differentiation of human induced pluripotent stem cells and the developing pig heart**

Lauschke, K., Volpini, L., Liu, Y., Vinggaard, A. M. & Hall, Vanessa Jane, 2021, In: *Stem Cells and Development*. 30, 7, p. 374-385

### **Development of the entorhinal cortex occurs via parallel lamination during neurogenesis**

Liu, Y., Bergmann, T., Mori, Yuki, Peralvo Vidal, Juan Miguel, Pihl, M., Vasistha, Navneet A, Thomsen, Preben Dybdahl, Seemann, Ernst Stefan, Gorodkin, Jan, Hyttel, P., Khodosevich, Konstantin, Witter, M. P. & Hall, Vanessa Jane, 2021, In: *Frontiers in Neuroanatomy*. 15, 19 p., 663667.

### **Human induced pluripotent stem cells (BIONI010-C) generate tight cell monolayers with blood-brain barrier traits and functional expression of large neutral amino acid transporter 1 (SLC7A5)**

Goldeman, C., Andersen, M., Al-Robai, A., Buchholtz, T., Svane, Nana Isabella, Ozgür, Burak, Holst, B., Shusta, E., Hall, Vanessa Jane, Saaby, Lasse, Hyttel, P. & Larsen, Birger Brodin, 2021, In: *European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*. 156, 14 p., 105577.

### **Mammorna tog ansvaret hemma när skolorna stängde**

Leijnse, E. & Hall, Vanessa Jane, 6 Aug 2020

### **A community-based transcriptomics classification and nomenclature of neocortical cell types**

Yuste, R., Hawrylycz, M., Aalling, N., Aguilar-valles, A., Arendt, D., Arnedillo, R. A., Ascoli, G. A., Bielza, C., Bokharaie, V., Bergmann, T. B., Bystron, I., Capogna, M., Chang, Y., Clemens, A., De Kock, C. P. J., Defelipe, J., Dos Santos, S. E., Dunville, K., Feldmeyer, D., Fiáth, R. & 53 others, Fishell, G. J., Foggetti, A., Gao, X., Ghaderi, P., Goriounova, N. A., Güntürkün, O., Hagihara, K., Hall, Vanessa Jane, Helmstaedter, M., Herculano, S., Hilscher, M. M., Hirase, Hajime, Hjerling-leffler, J., Hodge, R., Huang, J., Huda, R., Khodosevich, Konstantin, Kiehn, Ole, Koch, H., Kuebler, E. S., Kühnemund, M., Larrañaga, P., Lelieveldt, B., Louth, E. L., Lui, J. H., Mansvelder, H. D., Marin, O., Martinez-trujillo, J., Moradi Chameh, H., Nath, A., Nedergaard, M., Němec, P., Ofer, N., Pfisterer, U. G., Pontes, S., Redmond, W., Rossier, J., Sanes, J. R., Scheuermann, R., Serrano-saiz, E., Steiger, J. F., Somogyi, P., Tamás, G., Tolia, A. S., Tosches, M. A., García, M. T., Vieira, H. M., Wozny, C., Wuttke, T. V., Yong, L., Yuan, J., Zeng, H. & Lein, E., 2020, In: *Nature Neuroscience*. 23, p. 1456-1468 13 p.

### **How the pandemic could choke gender equity for female researchers in Denmark**

Bendixen, M. & Hall, Vanessa Jane, 2020

### **Ny undersøgelse skal afdække, om kvindelige forskere er hårdere ramt af corona**

Hall, Vanessa Jane & Meehan, Claire Francesca, 2020, 1 p. uniavisen.dk.

### **The developing Entorhinal cortex - a cellular map**

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### **Evidence for nucleolar dysfunction in Alzheimer's disease**

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### **Isolation and culture of porcine primary fetal progenitors and neurons from the developing dorsal telencephalon**

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### **Oocytes, embryos and pluripotent stem cells from a biomedical perspective**

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### **Production of stellate cells from induced pluripotent stem cells to study Alzheimer's disease pathology**

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### **Toward Development of Pluripotent Porcine Stem Cells by Road Mapping Early Embryonic Development**

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### **Identification of SSEA-1 expressing enhanced reprogramming (SEER) cells in porcine embryonic fibroblasts**

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### **Initial Attempts of Development and Characterization of an In Vitro Blood Brain Barrier Model Derived from Human Pluripotent Stem Cells**

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### **Impaired APP activity and altered Tau splicing in embryonic stem cell-derived astrocytes obtained from an APPsw transgenic minipig**

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