

MRC Protein Phosphorylation and Ubiquitylation Unit

Cells, energy control and Parkinson's: the role of PINK1 and Parkin

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"Before concluding these pages, it may be proper to observe once more, that an important object proposed to be obtained by them is, the leading of the attention of those who humanely employ anatomical examination in detecting the causes and nature of the diseases, particularly to this malady. By their benevolent labours, its real nature may be ascertained and appropriate modes of relief, or even of cure pointed out."

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Theodor Schwann – basic unit of all living tissues are cells





Schwann, 'Mikroskopische Untersuchungen', 1839

Pathological insights: Trettiakof 1919



Konstantin Tretiakoff





First to recognise degeneration within substantia nigra

C. Trettiakof. Contribution a l'Etude de la Anatomie Pathologique du Locus Niger. These de Paris. No. 293

Basic components of cells



Energy producers of the cells - mitochondria



Energy production in the mitochondria



Impact of damage on Energy production



Damage to mitochondria can lead to Parkinson's

THE CASE OF THE FROZEN ADDICTS

How the solution of an extraordinary medical mystery spawned a revolution in the understanding and treasment of Barkinson's disease

J. WILLIAM LANGSTON, M.D. AND JON PALFREMAN





Damage to mitochondria can lead to Parkinson's – How?





Genetic Breakthrough in 2004



Genetic Breakthrough in 2004



PINK1 is a sensor of mitochondrial damage



Pathway inactive

PINK1 is a sensor of mitochondrial damage



Pathway Active

PINK1 pathway Active







PINK1 pathway Active



Elimination of bad mitochondria

PINK1 pathway Inactive



Pathway inactive

Showing our findings are important for Parkinson'







Brain cells in a dish

Mouse models

Human Patients

Targeting the PINK1 pathway in Parkinson's



Developing Biomarkers of PINK1 pathway



Cerebrospinal fluid drawn from between two vertebrae







MITOCHONDRIAL STRESS

Parkinson's disease

Antibody Probes





In collaboration with Sandy Chou, Abcam

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Fellow











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