

# Photobiomodulation Therapy and the Glymphatic - Meningeal Lymphatic System: Promising Applications for Improving Brain Drainage

Denis E Bragin, Ph.D., FAHA



ProNeuroLent



*Review*

# Photobiomodulation Therapy and the Glymphatic System: Promising Applications for Augmenting the Brain Lymphatic Drainage System

Farzad Salehpour <sup>1,2</sup> , Mahsa Khademi <sup>3</sup> , Denis E. Bragin <sup>4</sup>  and Joseph O. DiDuro <sup>2,\*</sup>

Salehpour F, Khademi M, Bragin DE, DiDuro JO. Photobiomodulation Therapy and the Glymphatic System: Promising Applications for Augmenting the Brain Lymphatic Drainage System. *Int J Mol Sci*. 2022 Mar 10;23(6):2975. doi: 10.3390/ijms23062975. PMID: 35328396; PMCID: PMC8950470.

## Photostimulation of cerebral and peripheral lymphatic functions

Oxana Semyachkina-Glushkovskaya<sup>1</sup> | Arkady Abdurashitov<sup>1</sup> |  
Maria Klimova<sup>1</sup> | Alexander Dubrovsky<sup>1</sup> | Alexander Shirokov<sup>2</sup> |



Article

### Intranasal Delivery of Liposomes to Glioblastoma by Photostimulation of the Lymphatic System

Oxana Semyachkina-Glushkovskaya<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Alexander Shirokov<sup>2,3</sup>, Inna Blokhina<sup>2</sup>, Valeria Telnova<sup>2</sup>, Elena Vodovozova<sup>4</sup>, Anna Alekseeva<sup>4</sup>, Ivan Boldyrev<sup>4</sup>, Ivan Fedosov<sup>2</sup>, Alexander Dubrovsky<sup>2</sup>, Alexandr Kho Maria Izoy<sup>2</sup>,



Article

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### Sleep as a Novel Biomarker and a Promising Therapeutic Target for Cerebral Small Vessel Disease: A Review Focusing on Alzheimer's Disease and the Blood-Brain Barrier

by Oxana Semyachkina-Glushkovskaya<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Dmitry Postnov<sup>1</sup>,  
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Article

### Night Photostimulation of Clearance of Beta-Amyloid from Mouse Brain: New Strategies in Preventing Alzheimer's Disease

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Adv Exp Med Biol. 2021;1269:57–61. doi: 10.1007/978-3-030-48238-1\_9.

### Transcranial Photobiomodulation of Clearance of Beta-Amyloid from the Mouse Brain: Effects on the Meningeal Lymphatic Drainage and Blood Oxygen Saturation of the Brain

Oxana Semyachkina-Glushkovskaya<sup>1</sup>, M Klimova<sup>2</sup>, T Iskra<sup>2</sup>, D Bragin<sup>3,4</sup>, A Abdurashitov<sup>2</sup>, A Dubrovsky<sup>2</sup>, A Khorovodov<sup>2</sup>, A Terskov<sup>2</sup>, I Blokhina<sup>2</sup>, N Lezhnev<sup>2</sup>, V Vinnik<sup>2</sup>, I Agranovich<sup>2</sup>, A Mamedova<sup>2</sup>, A Shirokov<sup>5</sup>, N Navolokin<sup>6</sup>, B Khelebov<sup>5</sup>, V Tuchin<sup>2</sup>, J Kurths<sup>2,7,8</sup>



1. Introduction
2. Brain Glymphatic and Meningeal Lymphatic Drainage System
  - 2.1. The System, Its Components, and Pathways
  - 2.2. MLVs, Olfactory/Cervical Lymphatic Drainage Route, and their Association with CSF Circulation
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  - 3.4. Intranasal and Systemic PBM Therapies and Their Effects on the Brain Drainage System
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# Introduction

- Transcranial photobiomodulation (tPBM) is the application of low levels of red or near-infrared (NIR) light to stimulate tissues.
- PBM has been demonstrated to be an effective approach for promoting cellular proliferation and microcirculation and for relieving pain and edema in various traumatic, acute, and chronic diseases
- PBM has been also shown to improve brain hemodynamics along with an increase in cerebral oxygenation and metabolic capacity



# Introduction

- There is an increasing body of evidence to support that PBM therapy of the brain can ameliorate neuronal oxidative stress, neuroinflammation, and apoptosis, while promoting neurogenesis and synaptogenesis.
- To date, no serious adverse effects have been reported in for brain PBM therapy; however, caution must be considered with high-power laser sources (class 3B and 4) due to the hazard for macular lesions.

# Introduction

- The glymphatic system is a glial-dependent waste clearance pathway in the brain, devoted to drain away waste metabolic products and soluble proteins such as amyloid-beta.
- The meningeal lymphatics is a network of lymphatic vessels located parallel to the dural venous sinuses and meningeal arteries of the brain, responsible for draining immune cells, blood, small molecules, and excess fluid from the brain into the deep cervical lymph nodes.



# Introduction

- An impaired brain glymphatic system can increase the incidence of neurovascular, neuroinflammatory, and neurodegenerative diseases.
- PBM therapy can serve as a non-invasive neuroprotective strategy for maintaining and optimizing effective brain waste clearance.
- Recent preclinical research in rodents proven the efficiency of PBM for maintaining and optimizing effective brain waste clearance in several models of brain diseases.

# Brain Drainage System

## Glymphatic System

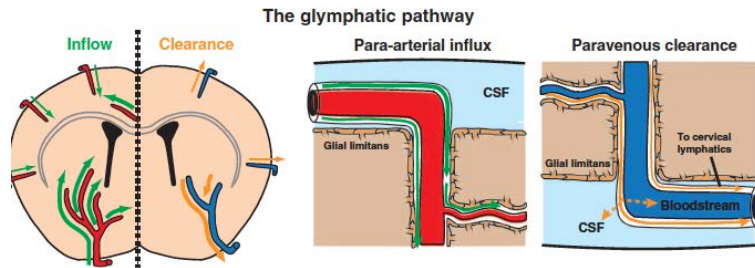
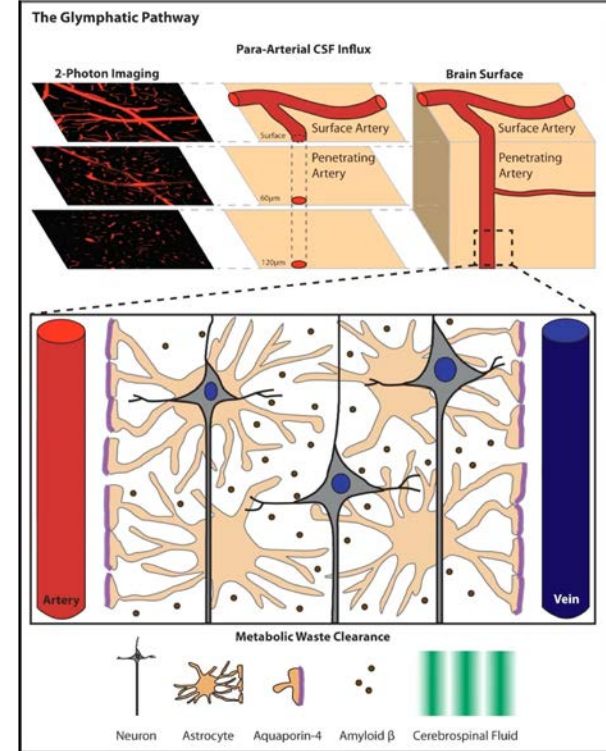
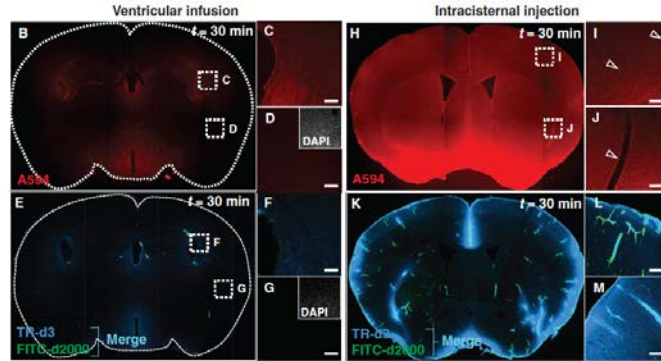
### CEREBROSPINAL FLUID CIRCULATION

## A Paravascular Pathway Facilitates CSF Flow Through the Brain Parenchyma and the Clearance of Interstitial Solutes, Including Amyloid $\beta$

Jeffrey J. Iliff,<sup>1\*</sup> Minghuan Wang,<sup>1,2</sup> Yonghong Liao,<sup>1</sup> Benjamin A. Plogg,<sup>1</sup> Weiguo Peng,<sup>1</sup> Georg A. Gundersen,<sup>3,4</sup> Helene Benveniste,<sup>5,6</sup> G. Edward Vates,<sup>1</sup> Rashid Deane,<sup>1</sup> Steven A. Goldman,<sup>1,7</sup> Erlend A. Nagelhus,<sup>3,4</sup> Maiken Nedergaard<sup>1\*</sup>



Maiken Nedergaard, MD



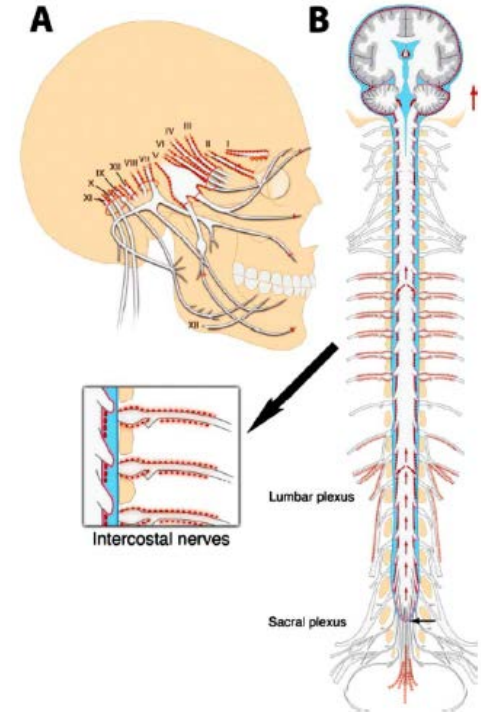
# Brain Drainage System

## Glymphatic System



Heinrich Quincke  
1842 - 1922

- Characterized brain waste removal via CSF in 1872
- Distribution of cinnabar injected into the intrathecal spaces in freely moving animals

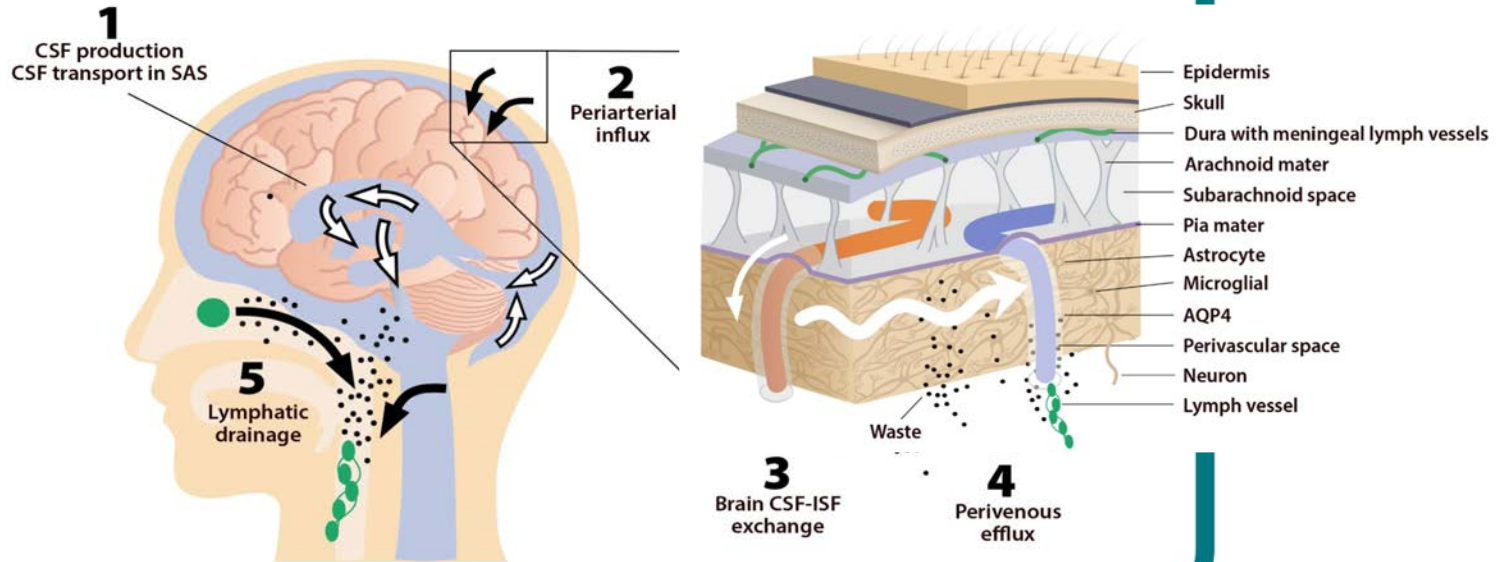


Benveniste H, et al., Modern cerebrospinal fluid flow research and Heinrich Quincke's seminal 1872 article on the distribution of cinnabar in freely moving animals. *J Comp Neurol.* 2015

# Brain Drainage System

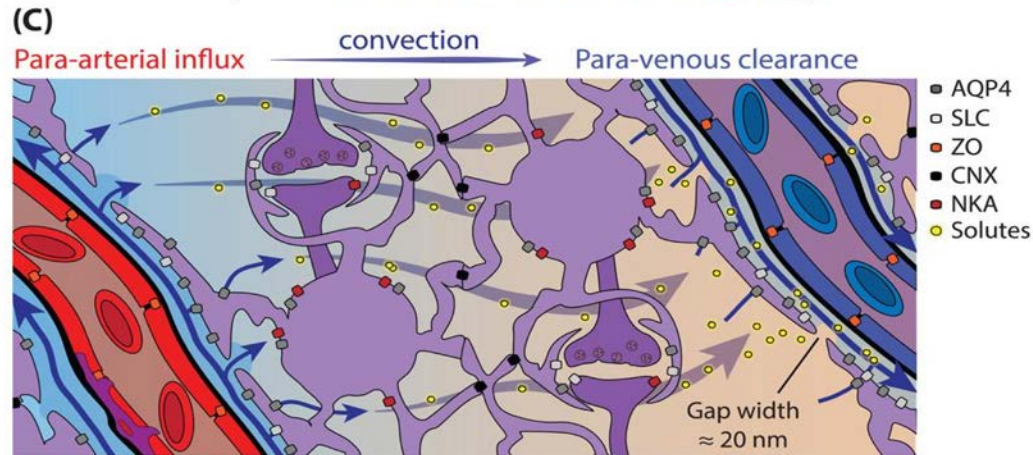
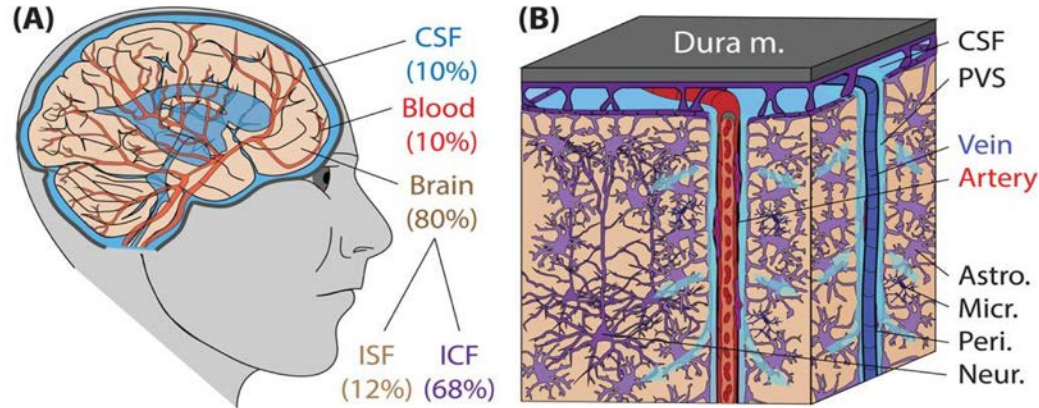
## Glymphatic System

### Glymphatic System



# Brain Drainage System

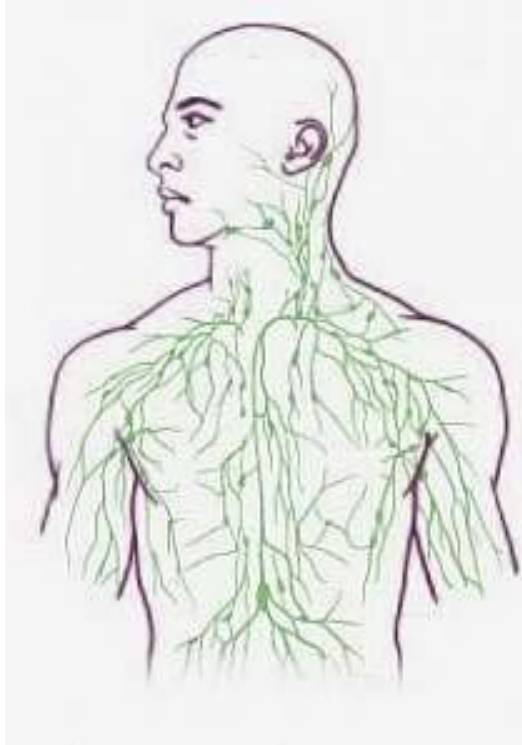
## Glymphatic System





# Brain Drainage System

## Meningeal Lymphatic System



# Brain Drainage System

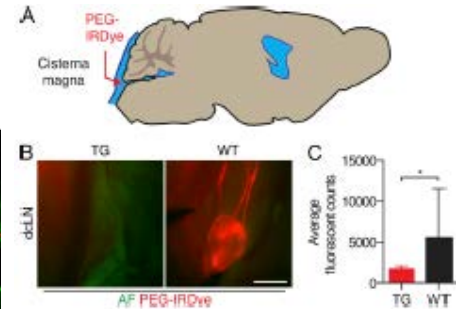
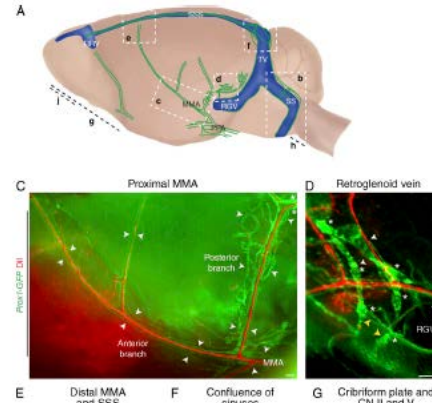
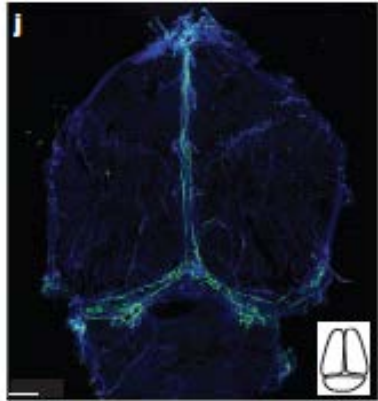
## Meningeal Lymphatic System



Jonathan Kipnis



Kari Alitalo



Louveau, et al., *Nature*. 2015.

Aspelund, et al., *J Exp Med*. 2015.

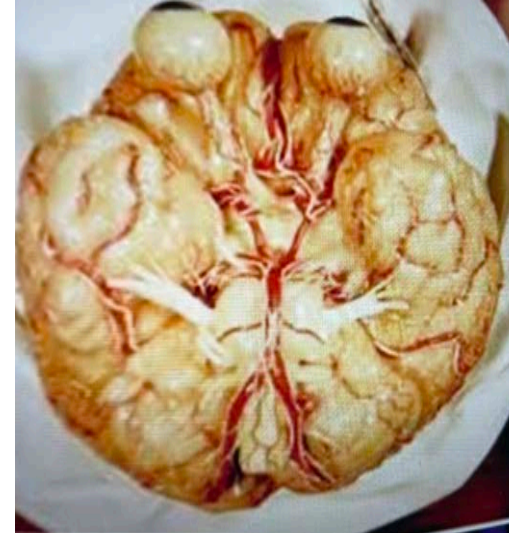
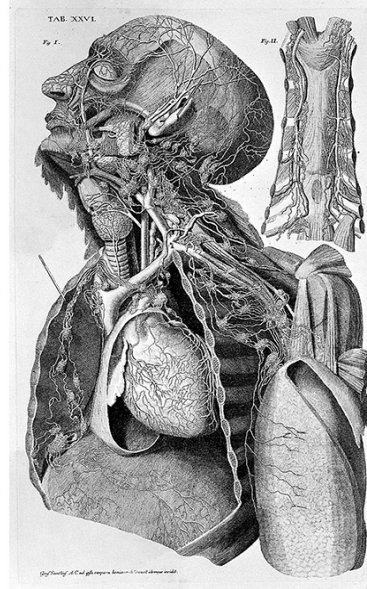


# Brain Drainage System

## Meningeal Lymphatic System



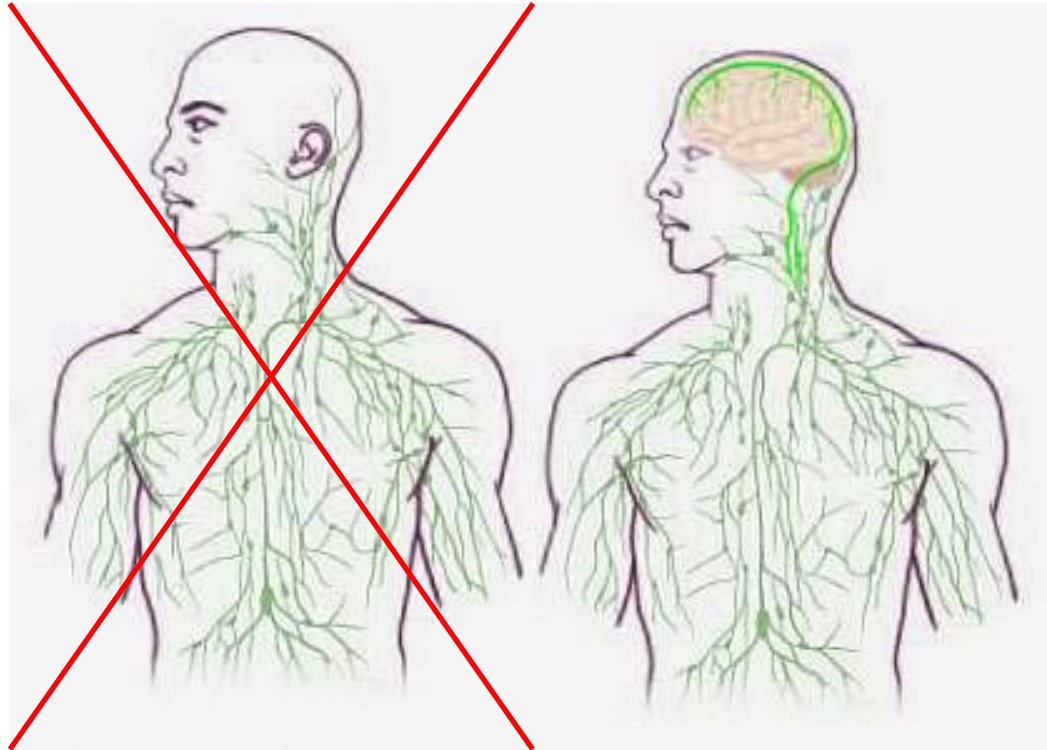
**Paolo Mascagni**  
1755-1815



Mascagni P( ed.) (1787) De lymphaticis profundis capitis et colli. Vasorum lymphaticorum corporis humani historia et ichnographia. Pars Prima Section VII, Art. VI. Siena: PazziniCarli.

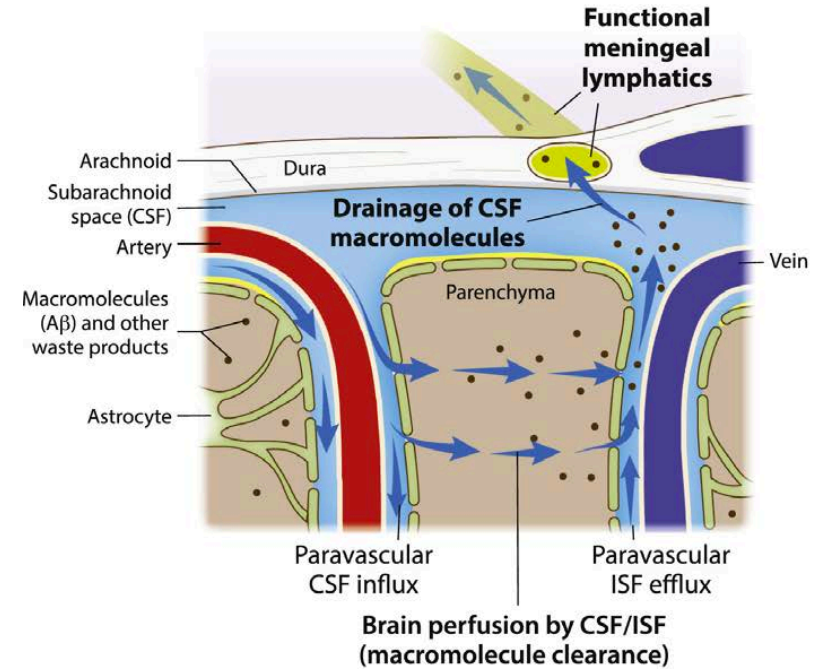
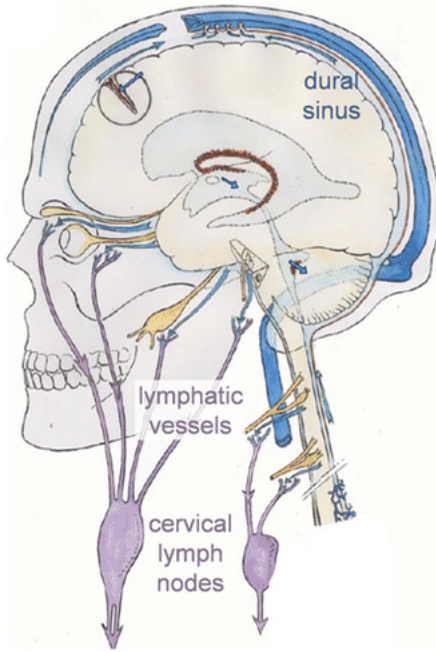
# Brain Drainage System

## Meningeal Lymphatic System



# Brain Drainage System

## Meningeal Lymphatic System



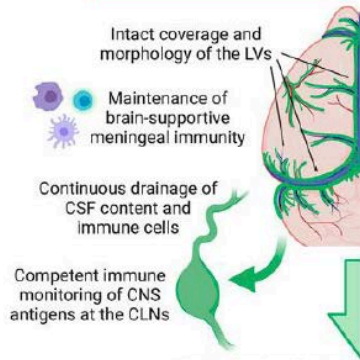
Riba, et al., *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*. 2019

Da Mesquita, et al., *Neuron*. 2018.

# Brain Drainage System

## Meningeal Lymphatic System

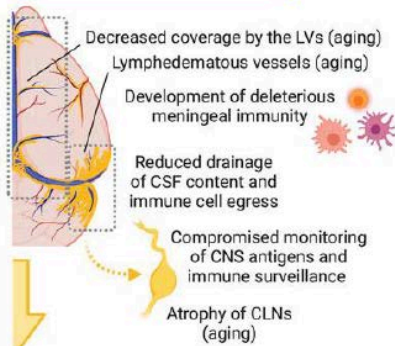
### Functional meningeal lymphatics



### Beneficial effects

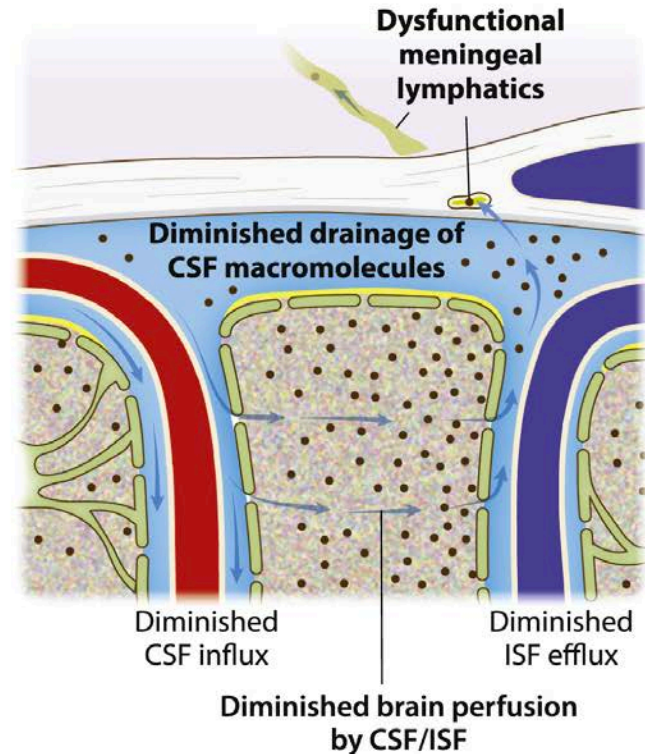
- Clearance of metabolites and macromolecules from the brain ISF and CSF
- Functional crosstalk with the glymphatic system
- Modulation of cognition in adulthood and aging
- Resolution of brain edema and regeneration of cerebrovasculature

### Impaired meningeal lymphatics



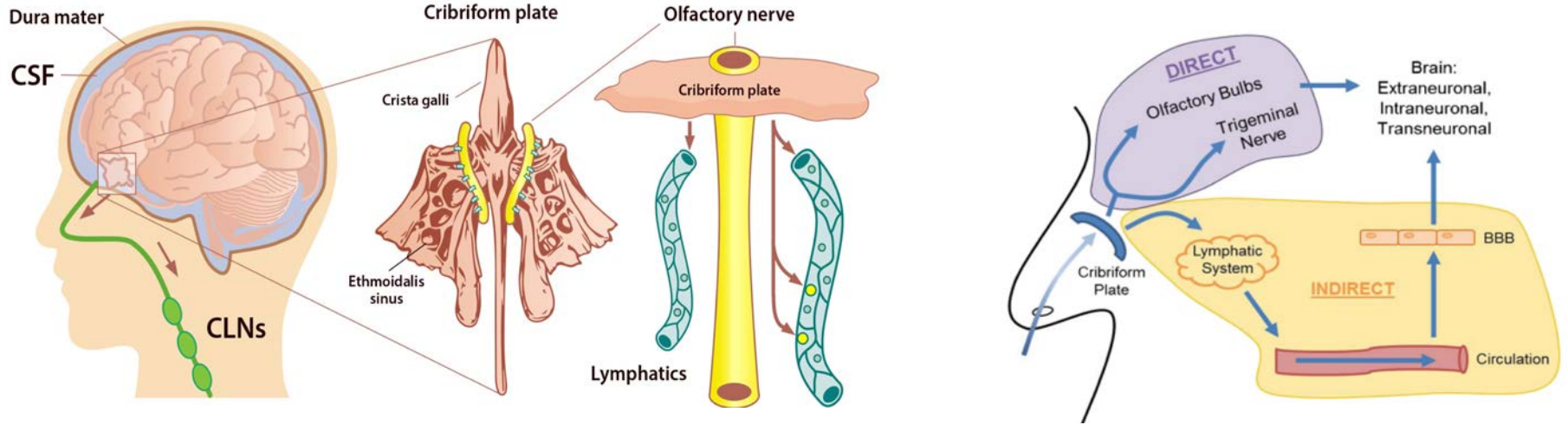
### Deleterious effects

- Accelerated cognitive decline
- Accumulation of toxic proteinaceous aggregates (A $\beta$ , Tau and  $\alpha$ -synuclein)
- Exacerbated neuroinflammation in models of brain injury, AD and PD
- Worse outcome in models of stroke, subarachnoid hemorrhage and hepatic encephalopathy
- Poor immune response against brain tumors

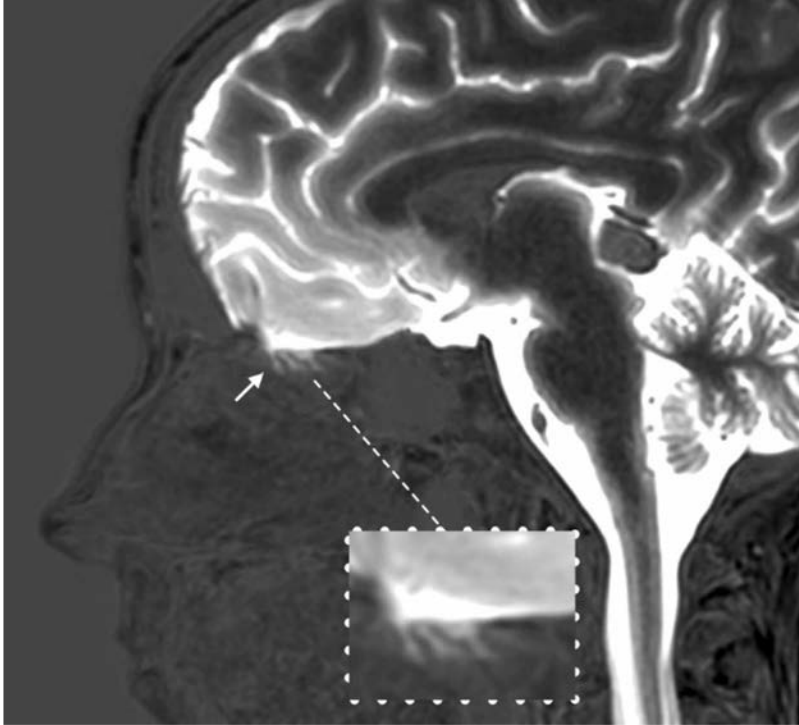




# Brain Drainage System



# Brain Drainage System

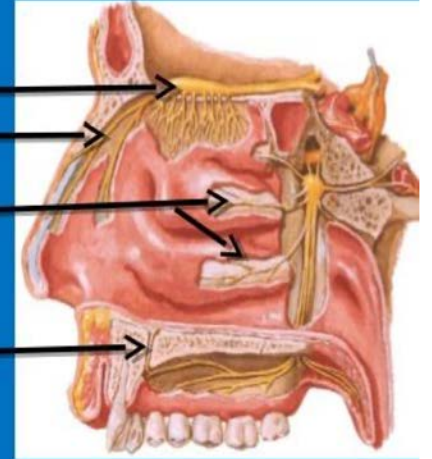


## NERVE SUPPLY

External nose –Infra orbital nerve, Infra trochlear, External nasal nerve.

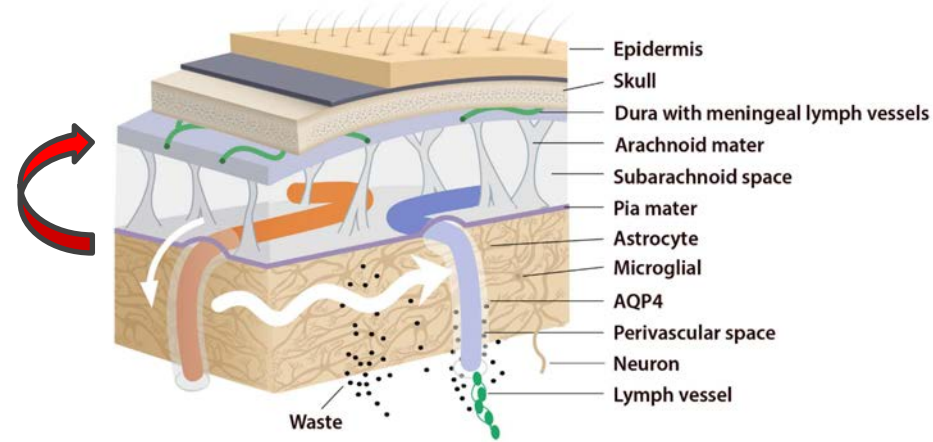
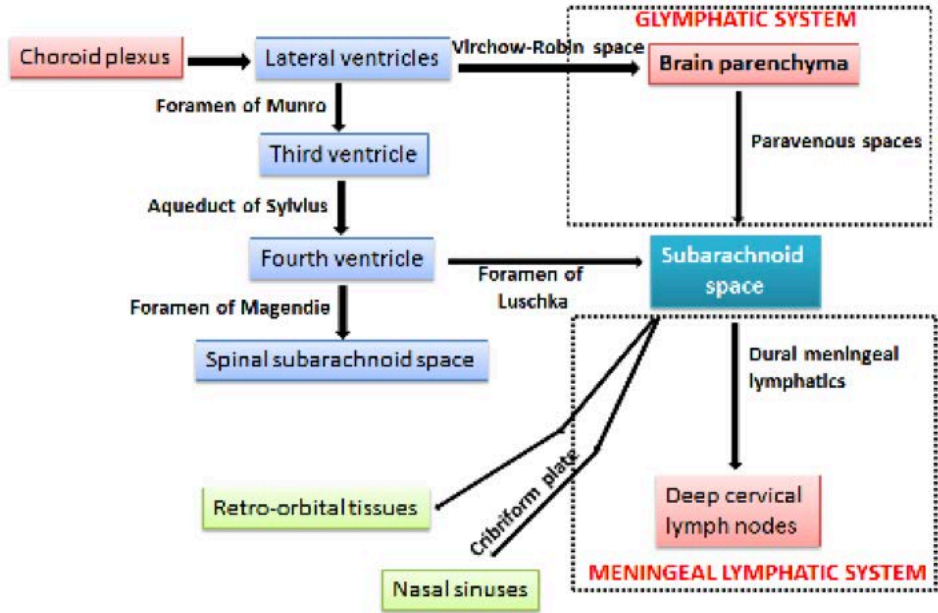
### Nerve Supply of the Nasal Cavity

- ❖ Olfactory nerve
- ❖ Anterior ethmoidal nerve
- ❖ Nasal branches of pterigo palatine ganglion
- ❖ Nasopalatine nerve



# Brain Drainage System

## Connection of the Glymphatic and Meningeal Lymphatic System





# Brain Drainage System

## Connection of the Glymphatic and Meningeal Lymphatic System

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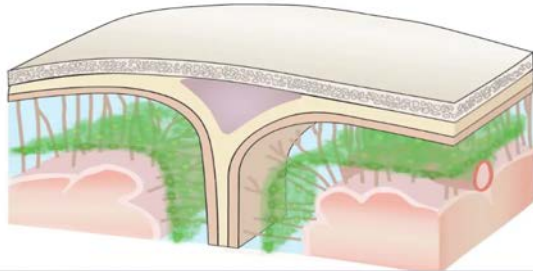
Health

### We've just discovered a new part of the brain's waste disposal system

A thin layer of tissue called the subarachnoid lymphatic-like membrane, or SLYM, keeps fresh cerebrospinal fluid separate from fluid containing waste from brain cells

By Clare Wilson

5 January 2023



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HOME > SCIENCE > VOL. 379, NO. 6627 > A MESOTHELIUM DIVIDES THE SUBARACHNOID SPACE INTO FUNCTIONAL COMPARTMENTS

RESEARCH ARTICLE | BRAIN ANATOMY



## A mesothelium divides the subarachnoid space into functional compartments

KJELD MÖLLGÅRD, FELIX R. M. BRINLICH, PETER KUSK, LEO M. MIYAKOSHI, CHRISTINE DELLE, VIRGINIA PLÅ, NATALIE L. HALLGÜND, TINA ESMAIL, MARTIN K. RASMUSSEN, [...] AND MAIKEN NEDERGAARD +2 authors [Authors Info & Affiliations](#)

SCIENCE • 5 Jan 2023 • Vol 379, Issue 6627 • pp. 84-88 • DOI: 10.1126/science.adc8810

20,326

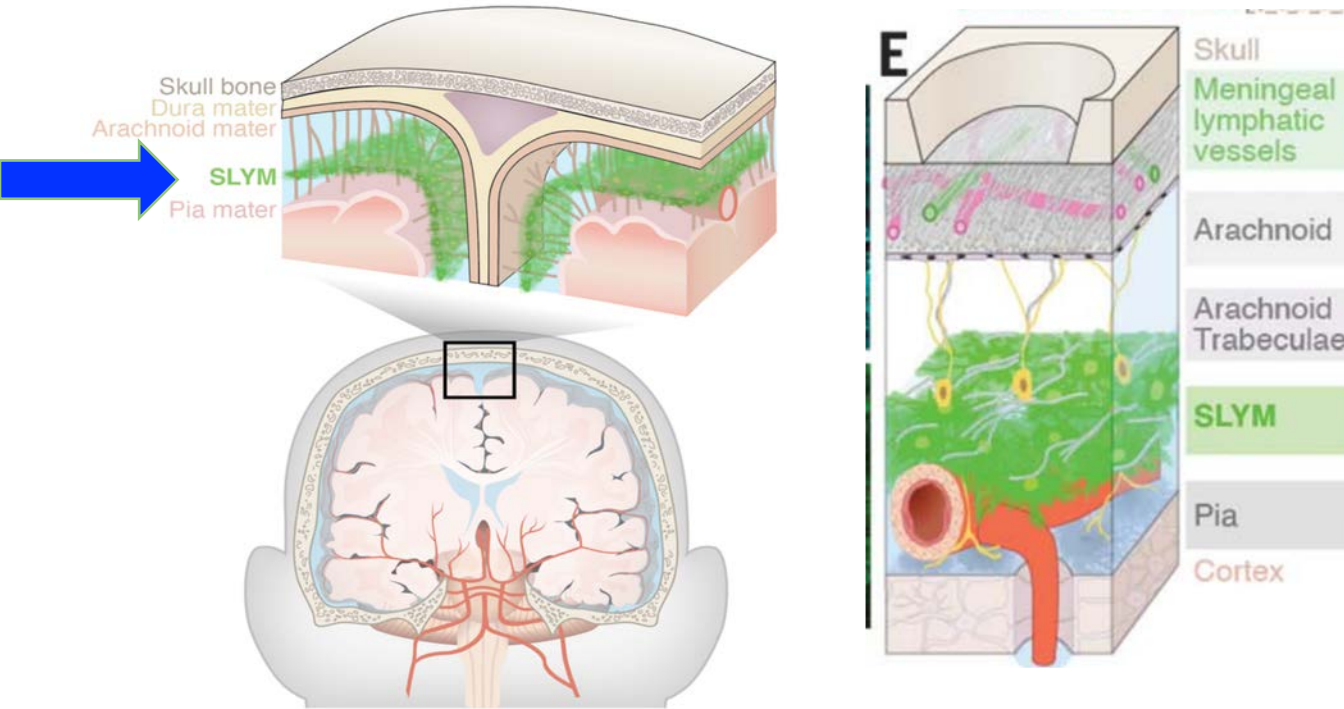


CHECK ACCESS

An extra layer lines the brain

# Brain Drainage System

## Connection of the Glymphatic and Meningeal Lymphatic System



Schematic representations of the immunophenotypical characterization of the meningeal layers, meningeal lymphatic vessels, and arachnoid trabeculations.

# Brain Drainage System

## Conditions Affecting the Brain's Lymphatic Systems

### Lifestyle

Sedentary  
Obesity  
Circadian Disturbance  
Sleep Quality  
Aging  
Stress  
Substance Abuse

### Genetics

AQP4 Expression &  
Localization  
Genetic Phenotypes

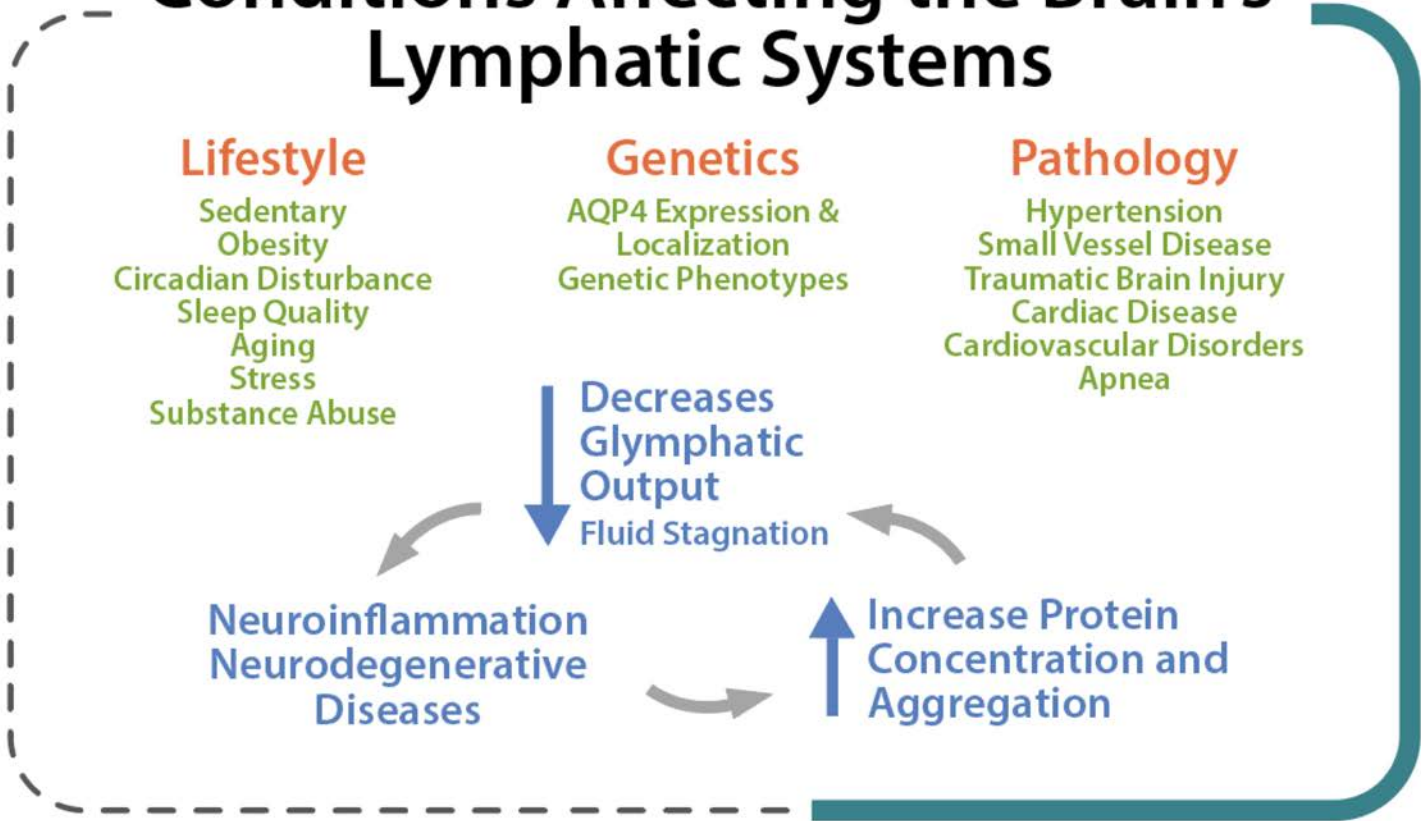
### Pathology

Hypertension  
Small Vessel Disease  
Traumatic Brain Injury  
Cardiac Disease  
Cardiovascular Disorders  
Apnea

Decreases  
Glymphatic  
Output  
Fluid Stagnation

Neuroinflammation  
Neurodegenerative  
Diseases

Increase Protein  
Concentration and  
Aggregation

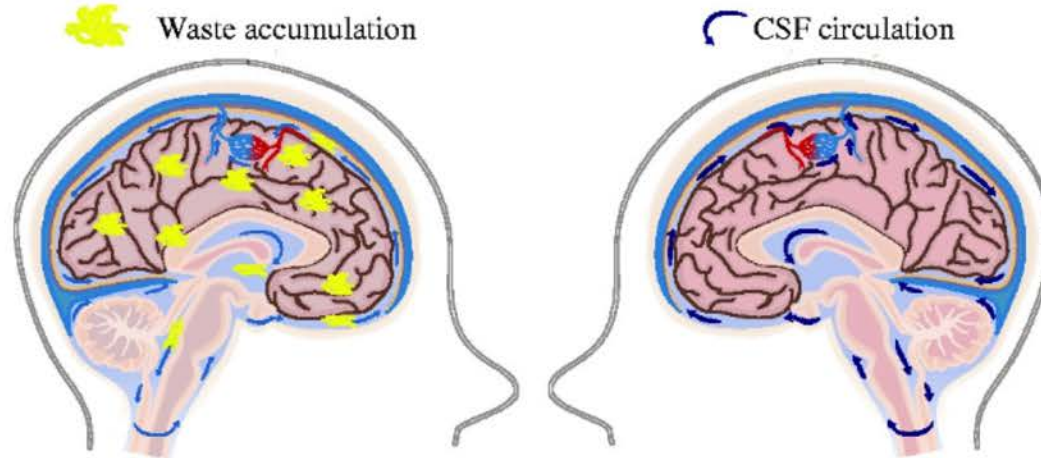


# Brain Drainage System

## Glymphatic System

**Insufficient  
brain clearance**

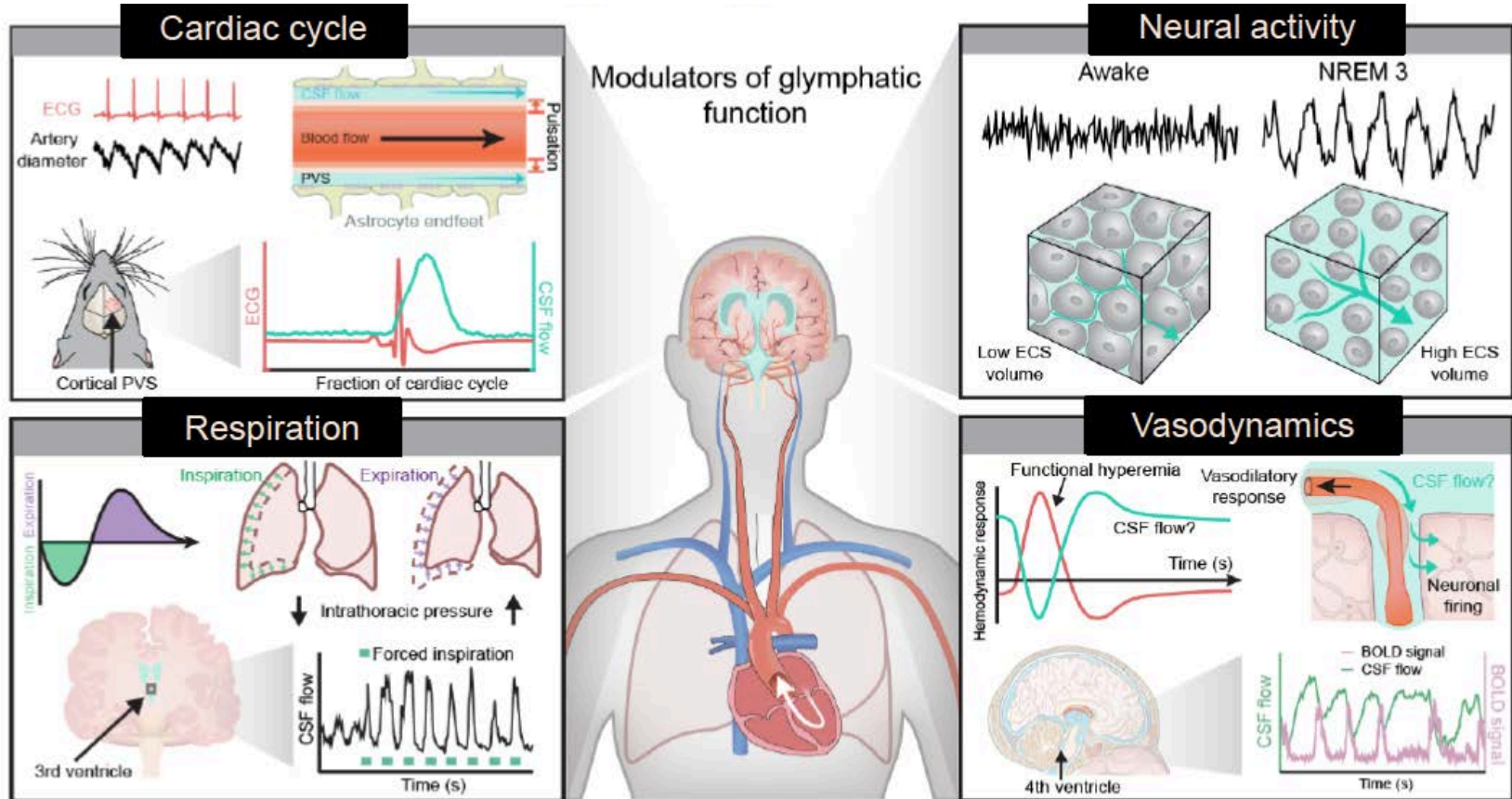
Sleep disturbances  
Stress  
Hypertension  
High levels of alcohol



**Effective  
brain clearance**

Sleep  
Vascular health  
Exercise  
Low levels of alcohol

# Brain Drainage System

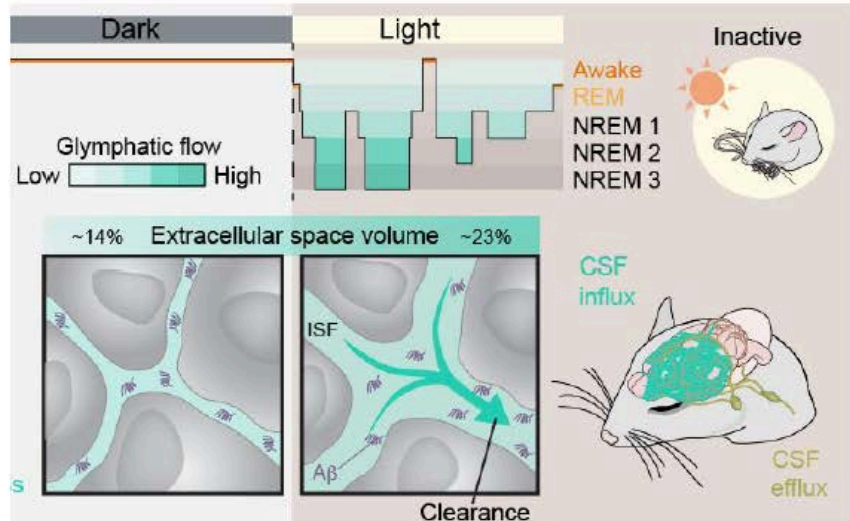




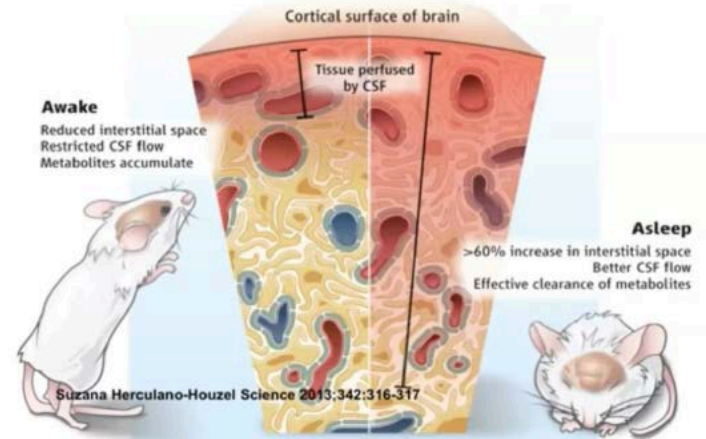
# Brain Drainage System

## Sleep Drives Metabolite Clearance from the Adult Brain

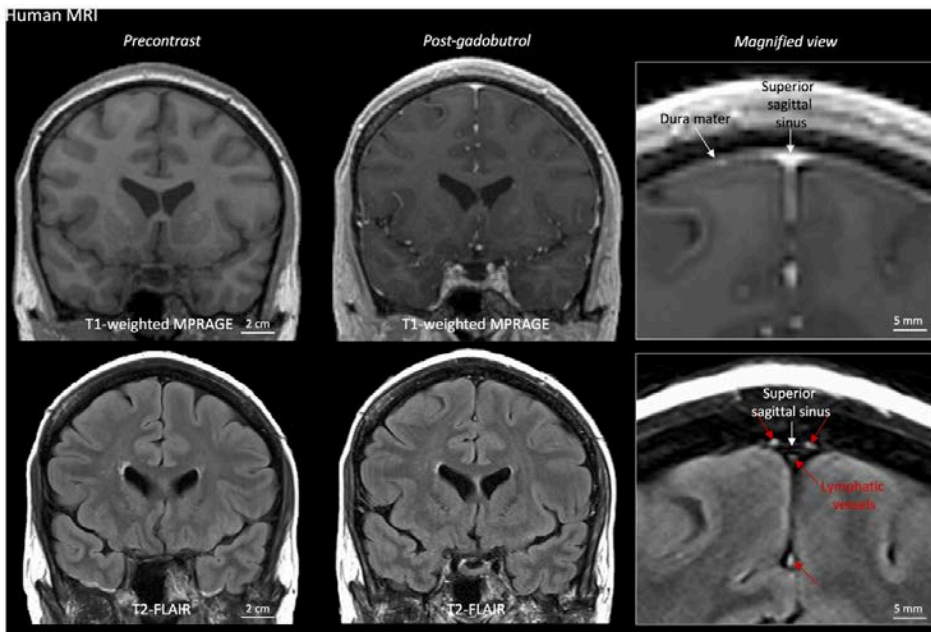
Lulu Xie<sup>1,\*</sup>, Hongyi Kang<sup>1,\*</sup>, Qiwu Xu<sup>1</sup>, Michael J. Chen<sup>1</sup>, Yonghong Liao<sup>1</sup>, Meenakshisundaram Thiagarajan<sup>1</sup>, John O'Donnell<sup>1</sup>, Daniel J. Christensen<sup>1</sup>, Charles Nicholson<sup>2</sup>, Jeffrey J. Iliff<sup>1</sup>, Takahiro Takano<sup>1</sup>, Rashid Deane<sup>1</sup>, and Maiken Nedergaard<sup>1</sup>



**Volume variation.** The extracellular (interstitial) space in the cortex of the mouse brain, through which cerebral spinal fluid moves, increases from 14% in the awake animal to 23% in the sleeping animal, an increase that allows the faster clearance of metabolic waste products and toxins.



# Brain Drainage System





# PBM Therapy

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DOI: 10.1002/tbio.201900036

FULL ARTICLE



## Photostimulation of cerebral and peripheral lymphatic functions



Article

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Article

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Article

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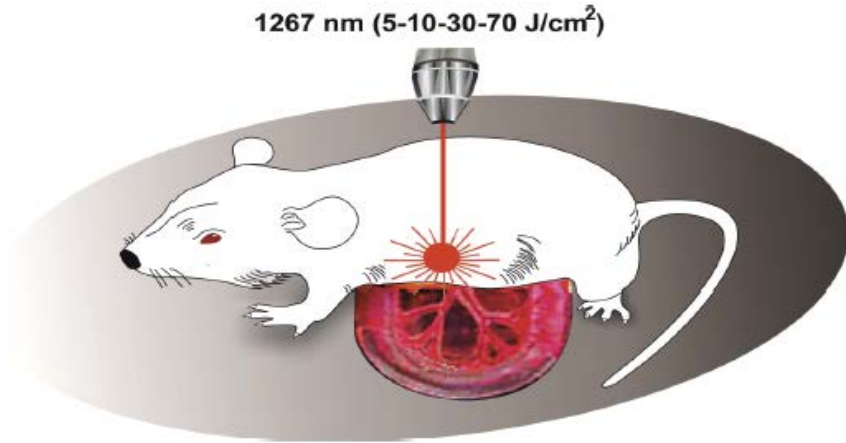


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# PBM Therapy

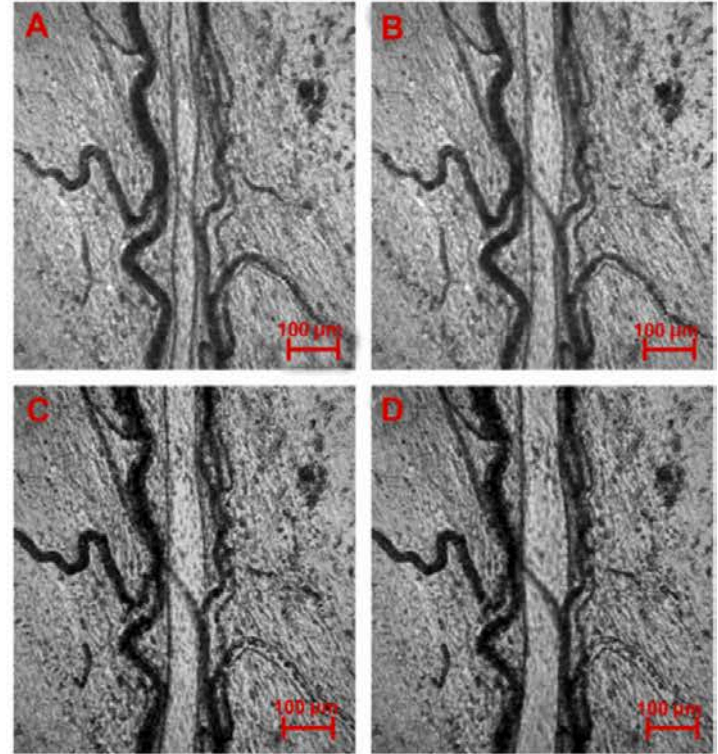


Systole

Diastole

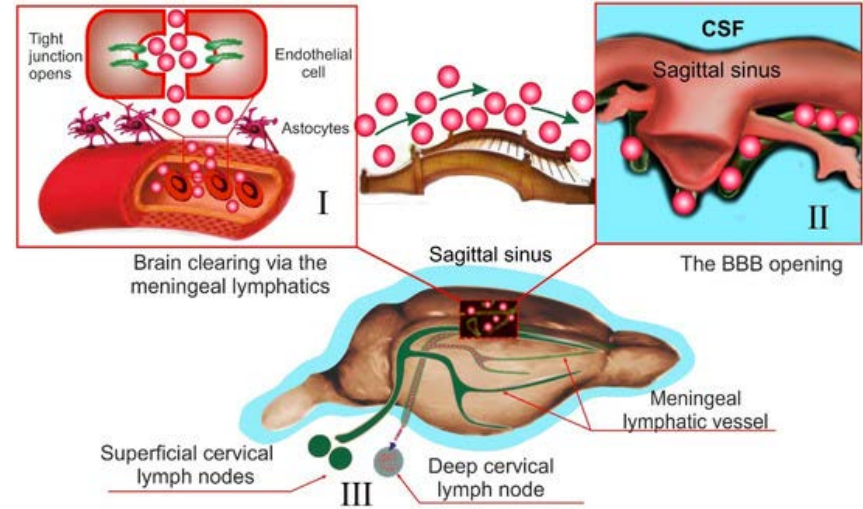
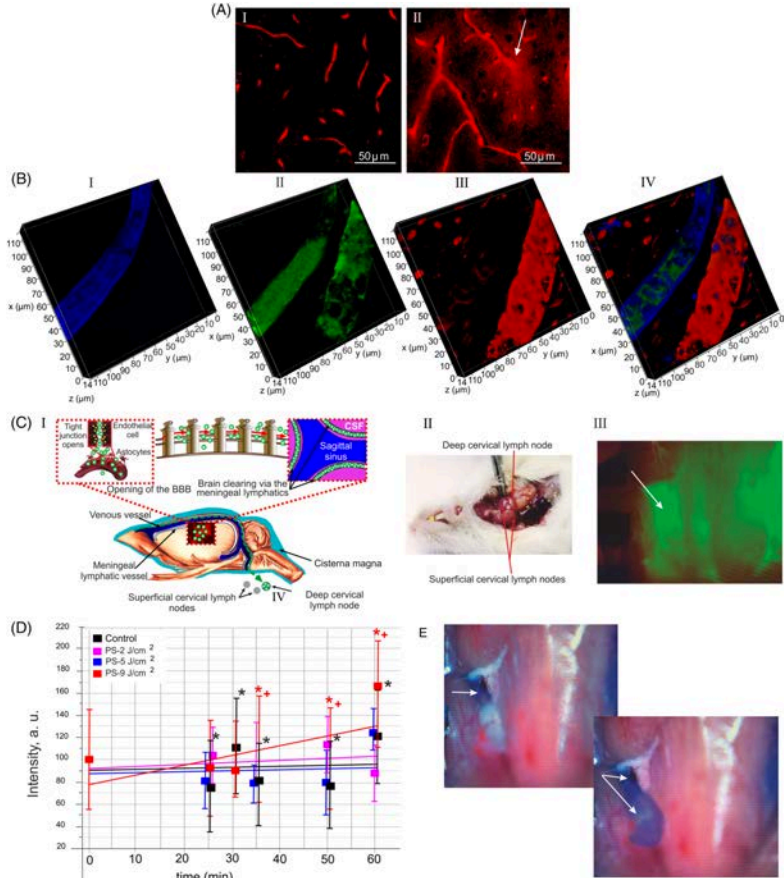
Before PBM

After PBM



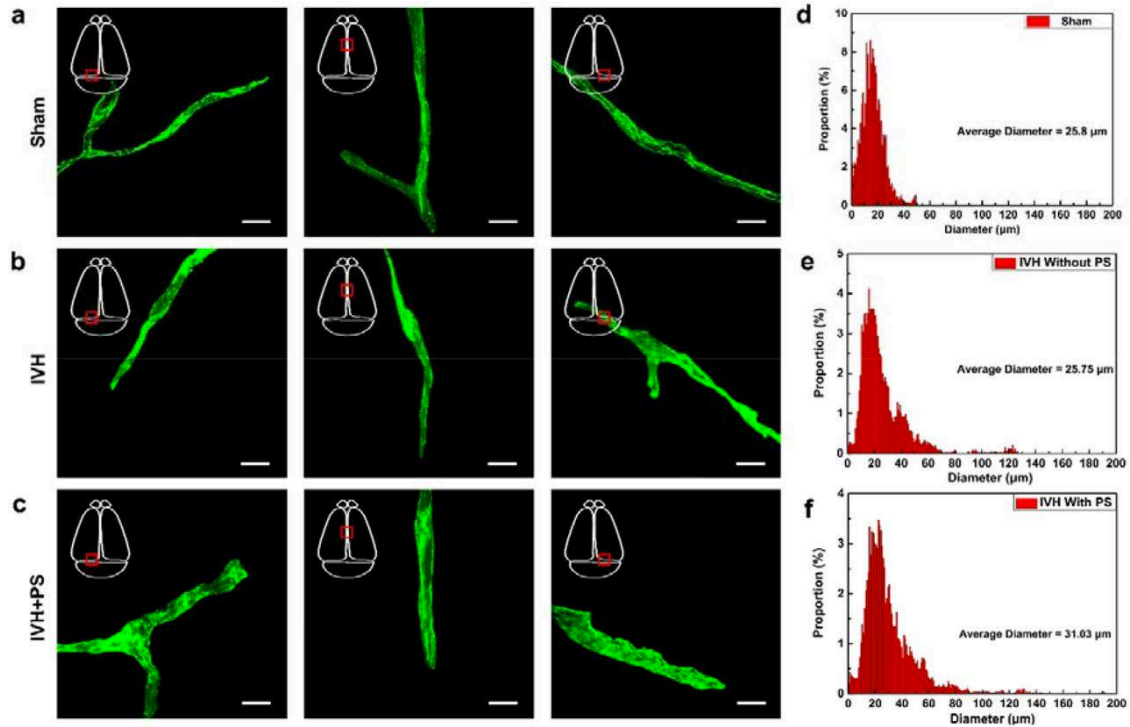
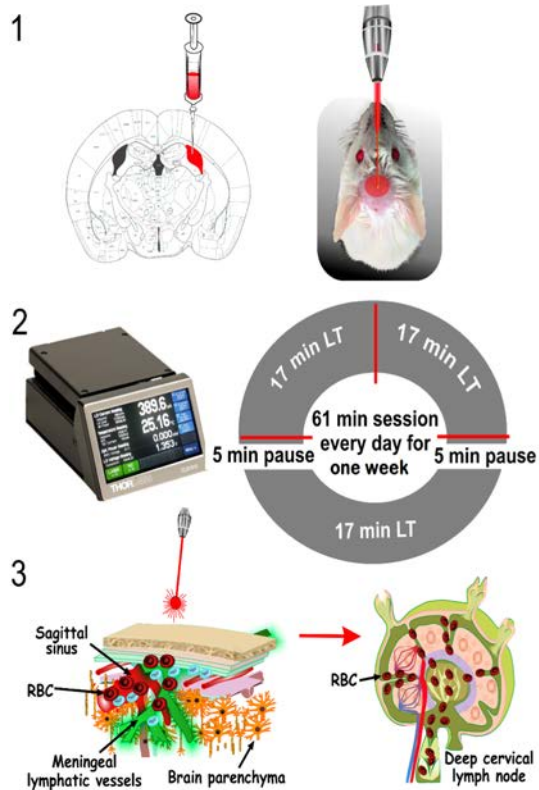
O. Semyachkina-Glushkovskaya, et al., "Photobiomodulation of lymphatic drainage and clearance: perspective strategy for augmentation of meningeal lymphatic functions," *Biomed. Opt. Express*, 2020

# PBM Therapy



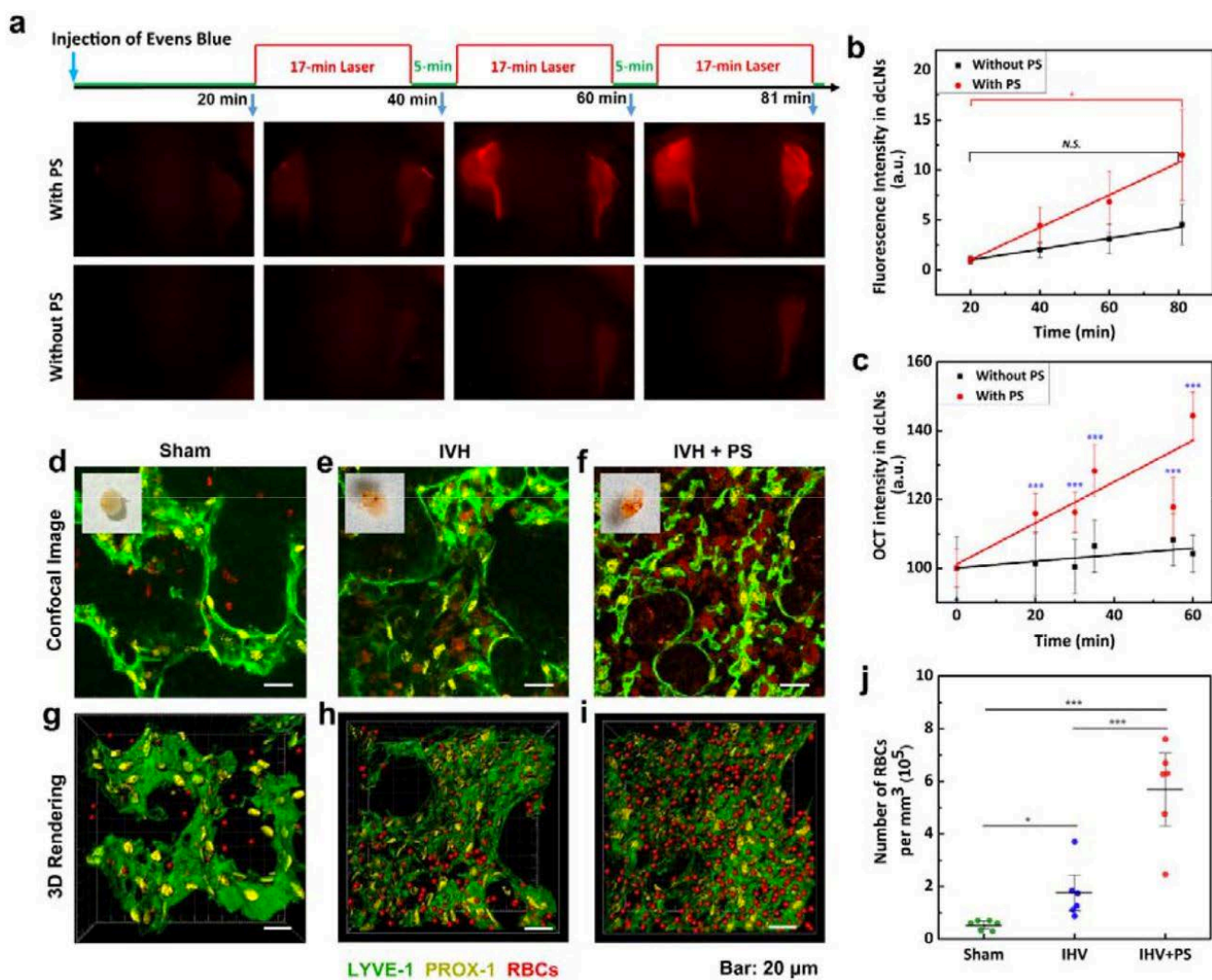
Semyachkina-Glushkovskaya, et al. Photostimulation of cerebral and peripheral lymphatic functions. *Translational Biophotonics*. 2020

# PBM Therapy





# PBM Therapy



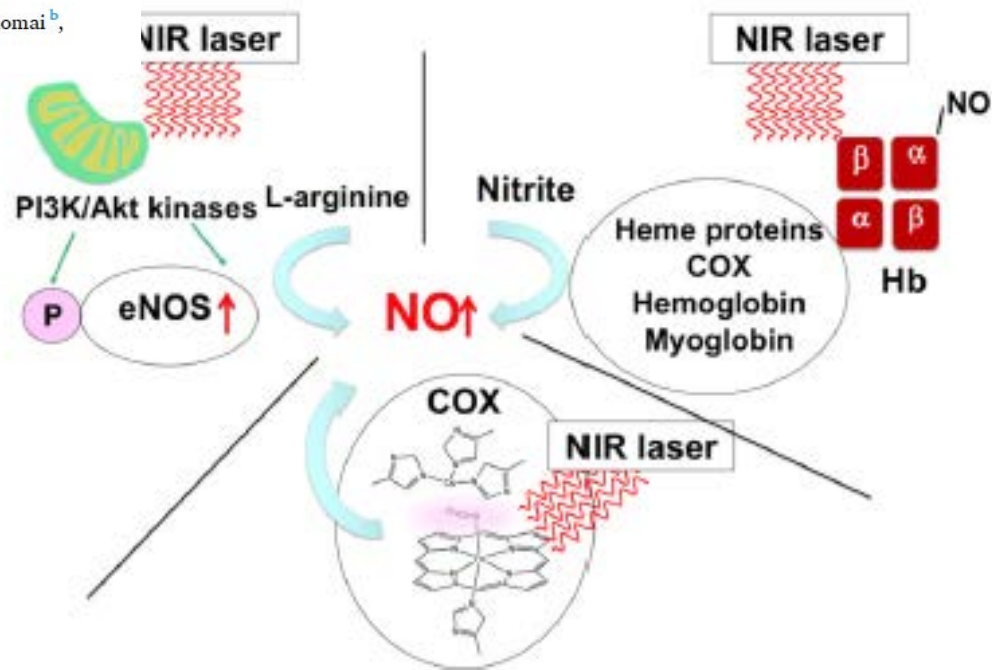
bioRxiv 2020.11.16.384149; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.11.16.384149> (under review in Nature Communications)



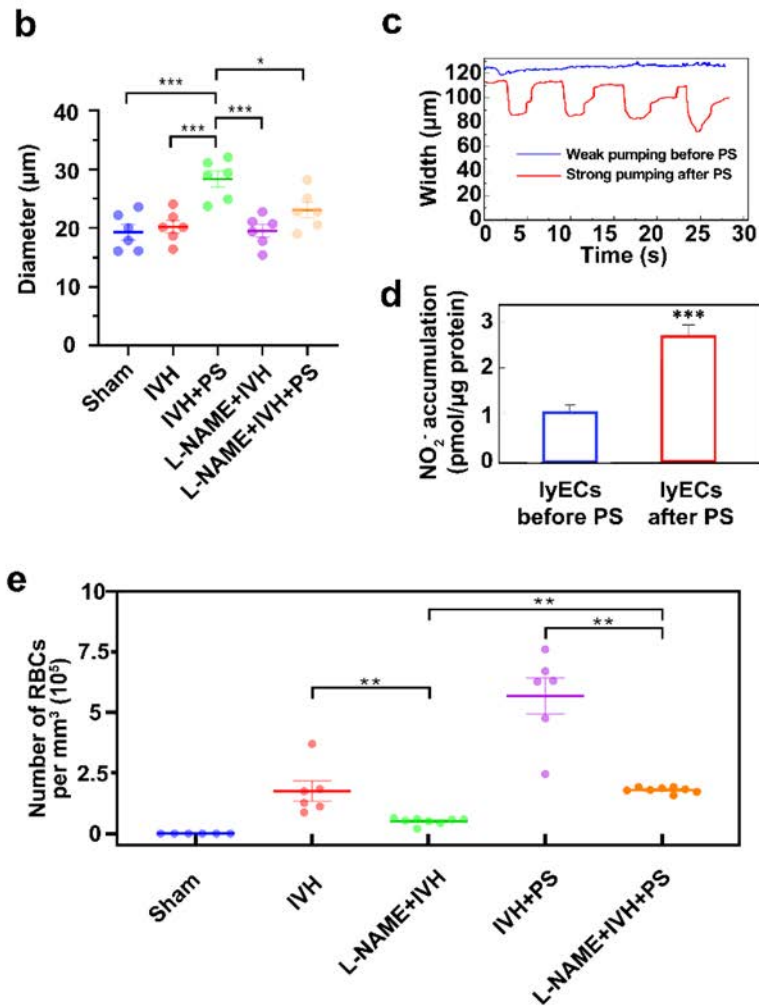
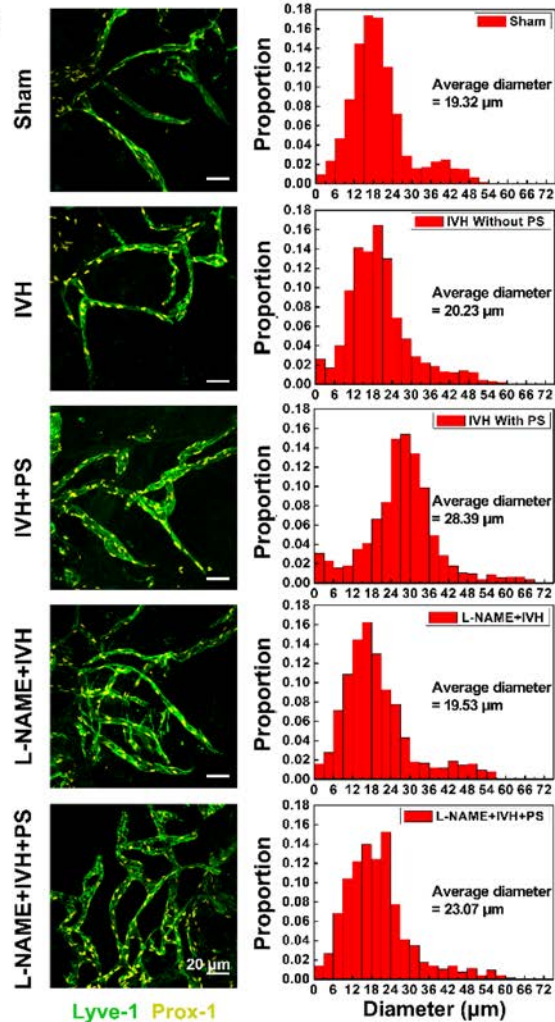
ELSEVIER

## Photobiomodulation and nitric oxide signaling

Satoshi Kashiwagi<sup>a,\*</sup>, Atsuyo Morita<sup>b</sup>, Shinya Yokomizo<sup>a,c</sup>, Emiyu Ogawa<sup>d</sup>, Eri Komai<sup>b</sup>,  
Paul L. Huang<sup>b</sup>, Denis E. Bragin<sup>e,f,g,h,i</sup>, Dmitriy N. Atochin<sup>b,i</sup>

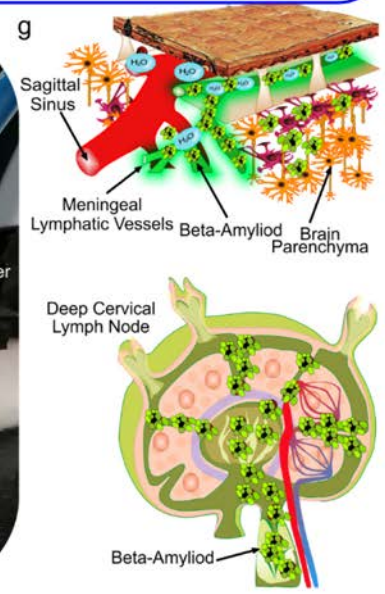
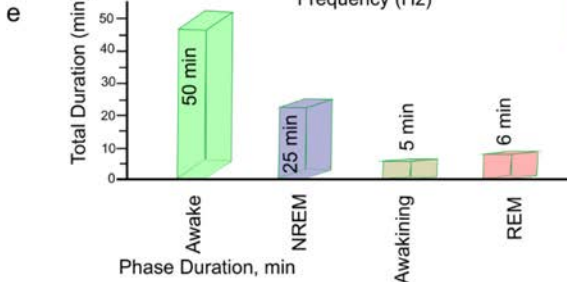
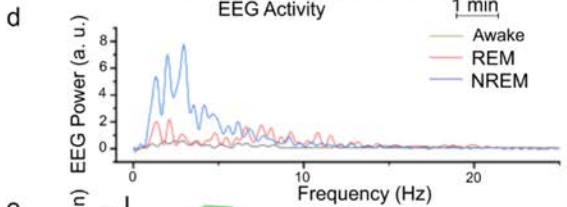
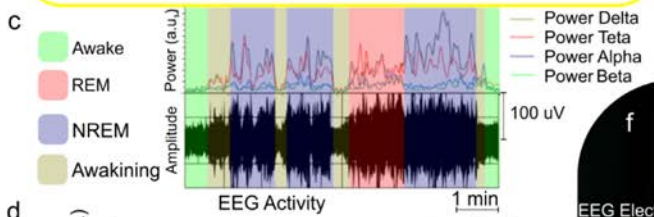
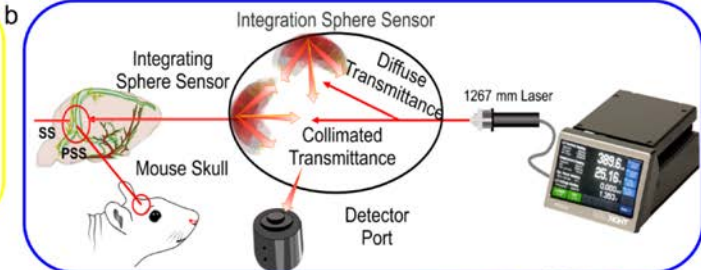
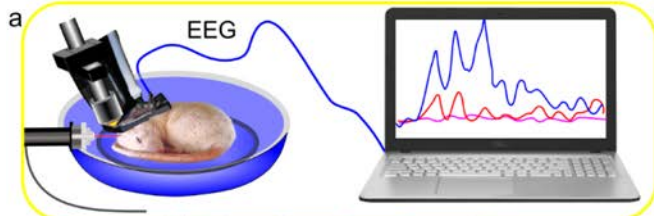


# PBM Therapy <sup>a</sup>

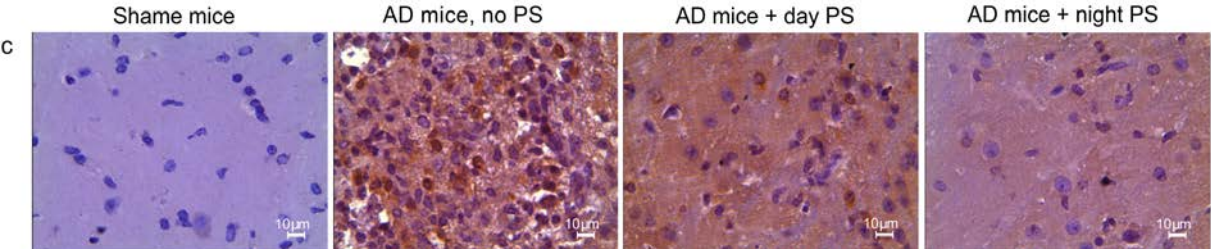
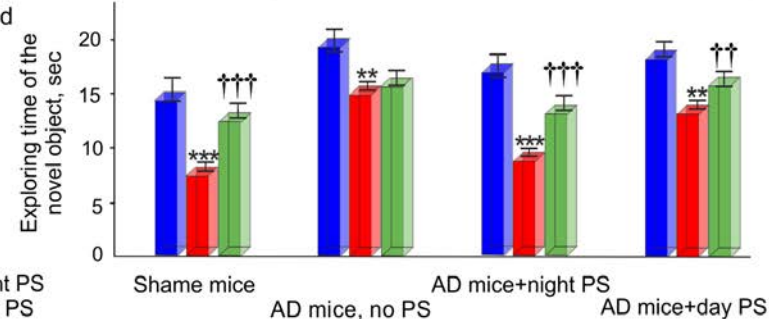
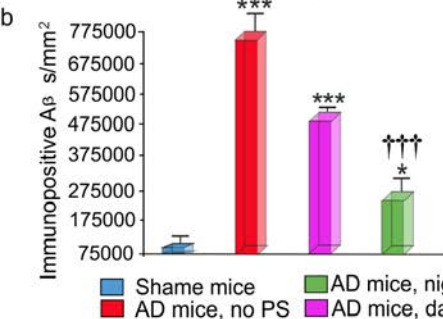
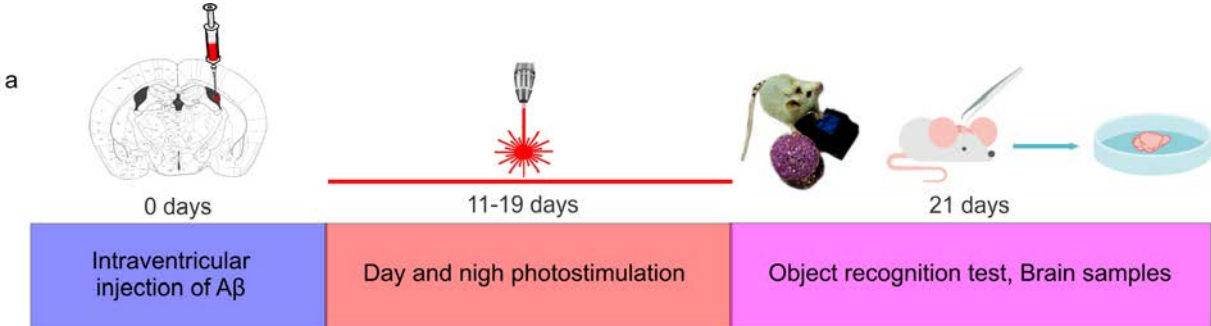


bioRxiv 2020.11.16.3  
84149; doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.11.16.384149> (under review in Nature Communications)

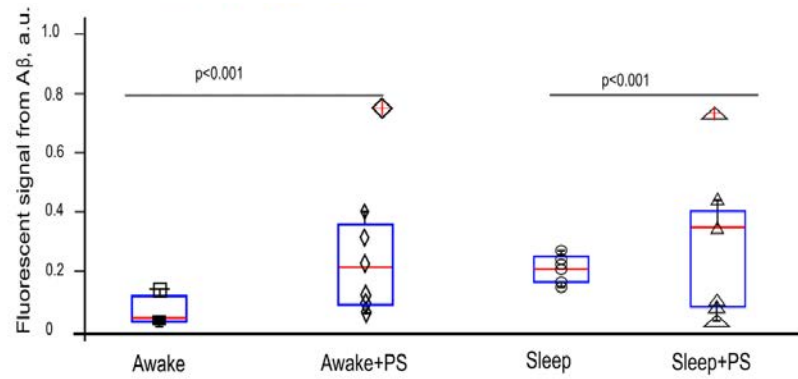
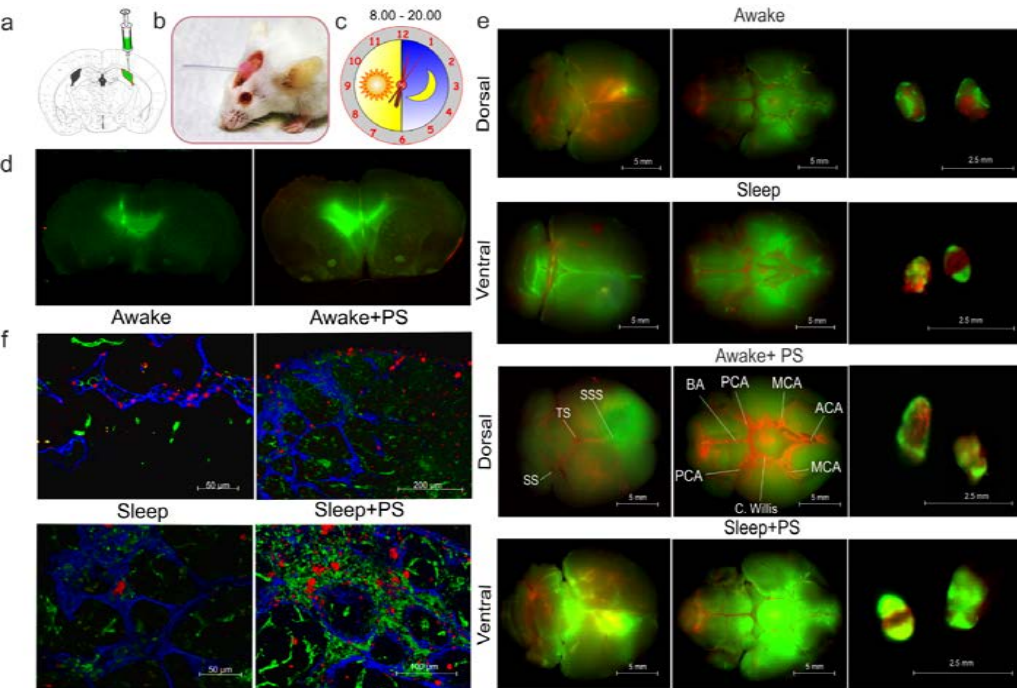




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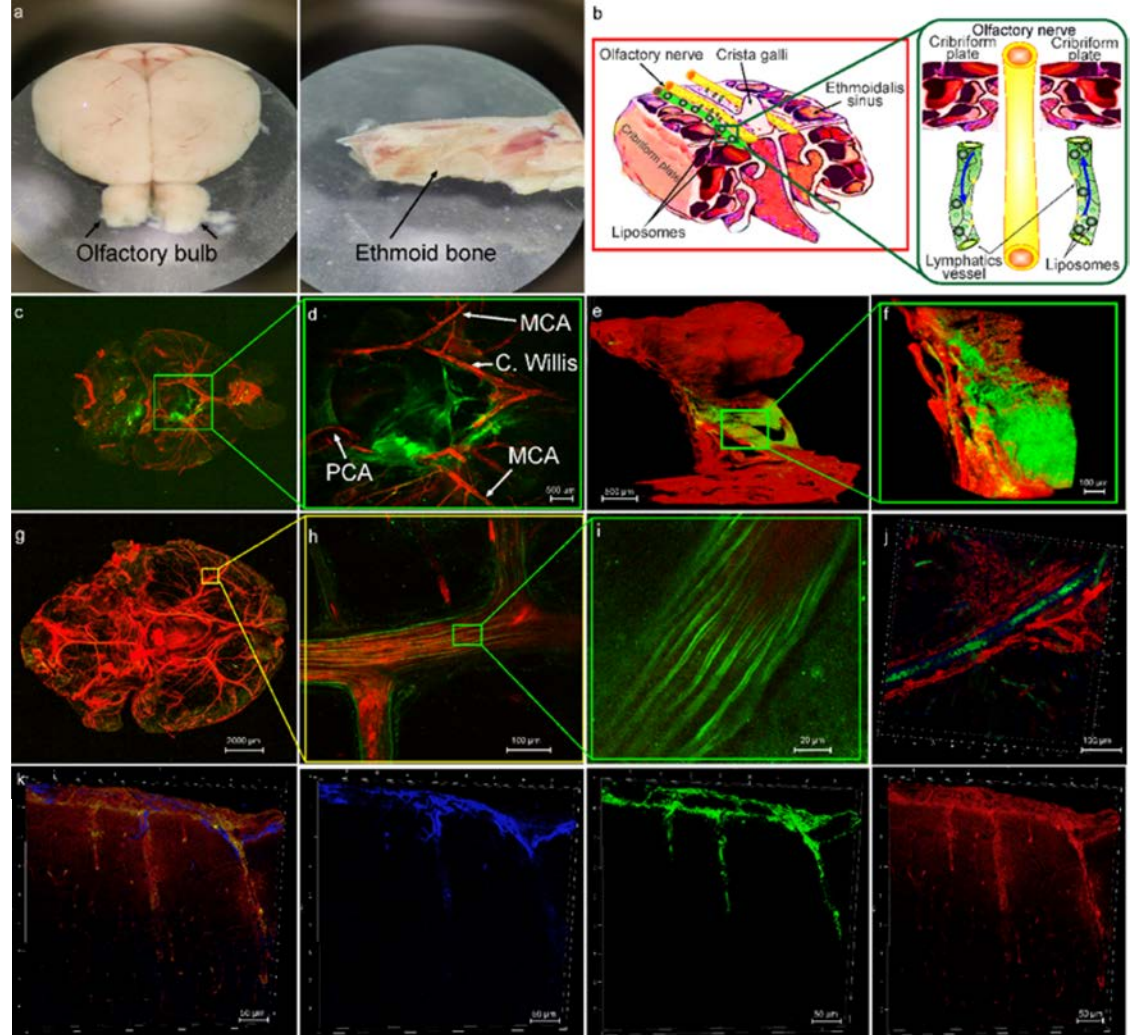


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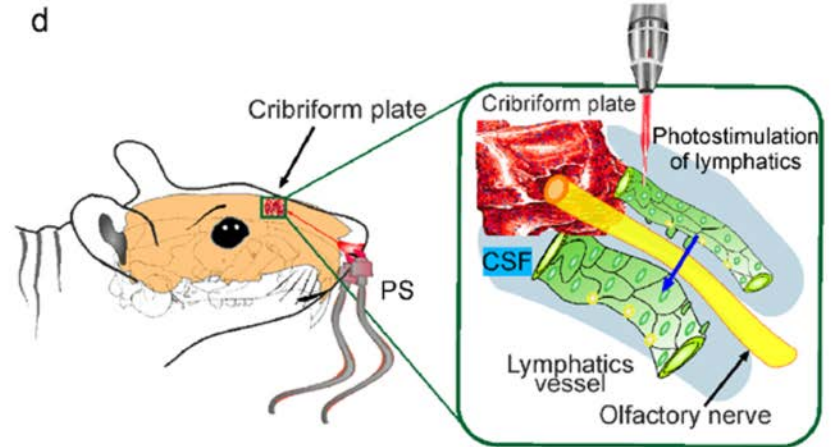
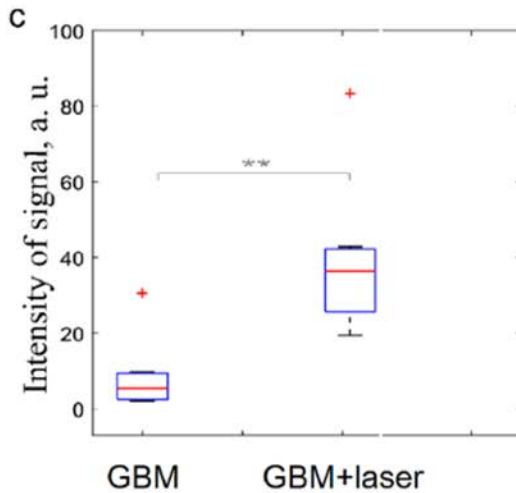
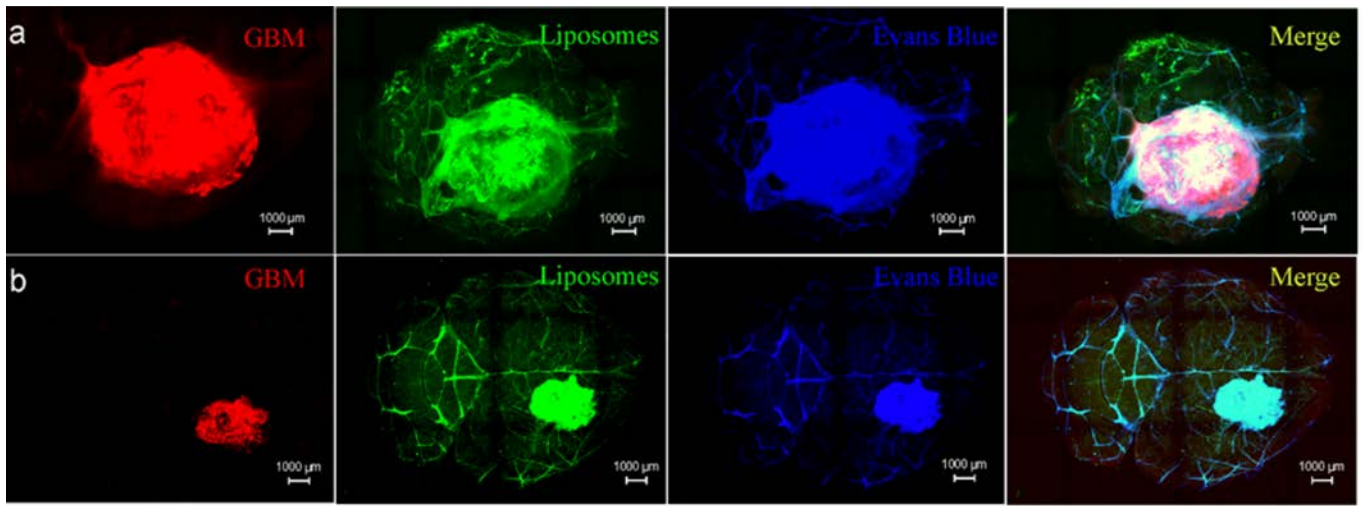




# PBM Therapy



# PBM Therapy





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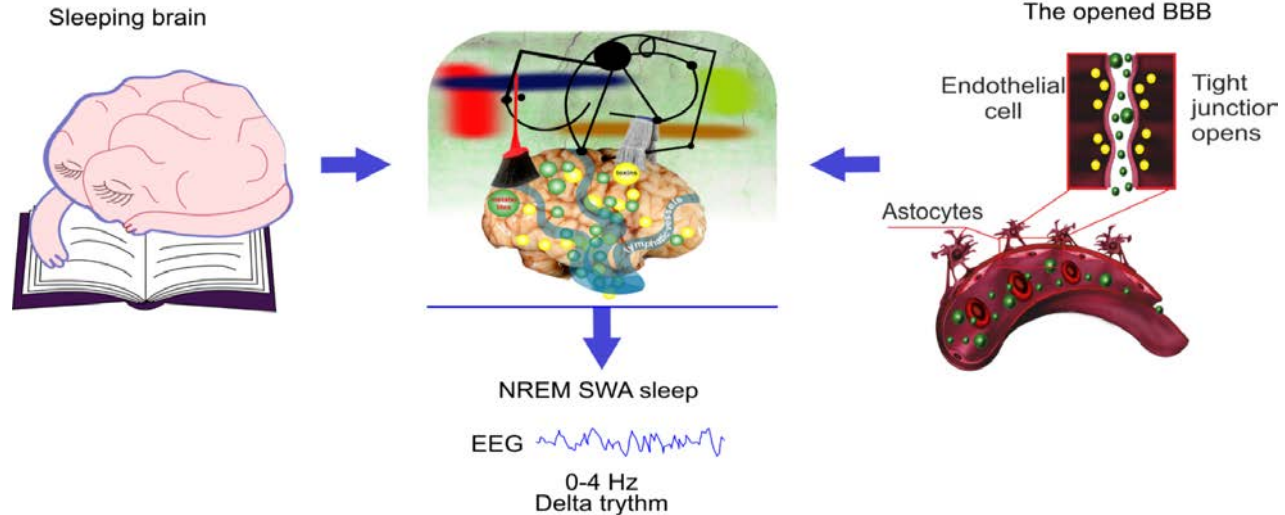
## Article Menu

Open Access **Review**

# Sleep as a Novel Biomarker and a Promising Therapeutic Target for Cerebral Small Vessel Disease: A Review Focusing on Alzheimer's Disease and the Blood-Brain Barrier

by Oxana Semyachkina-Glushkovskaya <sup>1,2,\*</sup> , Dmitry Postnov <sup>1</sup> ,  
 Thomas Penzel <sup>1,3,4</sup> and Jürgen Kurths <sup>1,2,5</sup>

Activation of clearance of metabolites and beta-amyloid from the brain

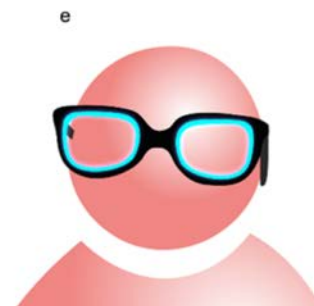
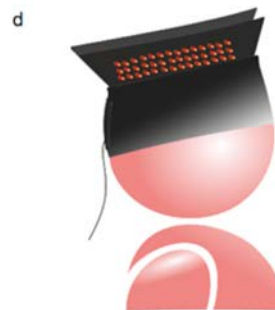
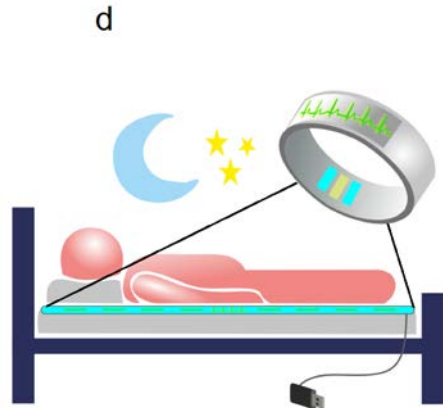
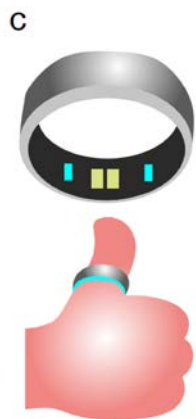
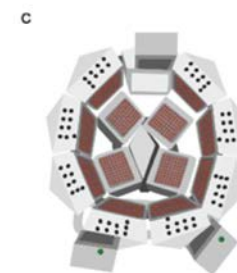
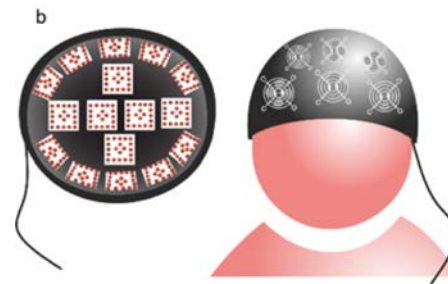
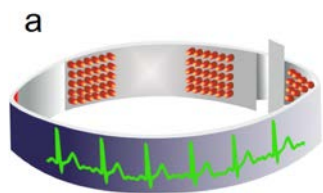


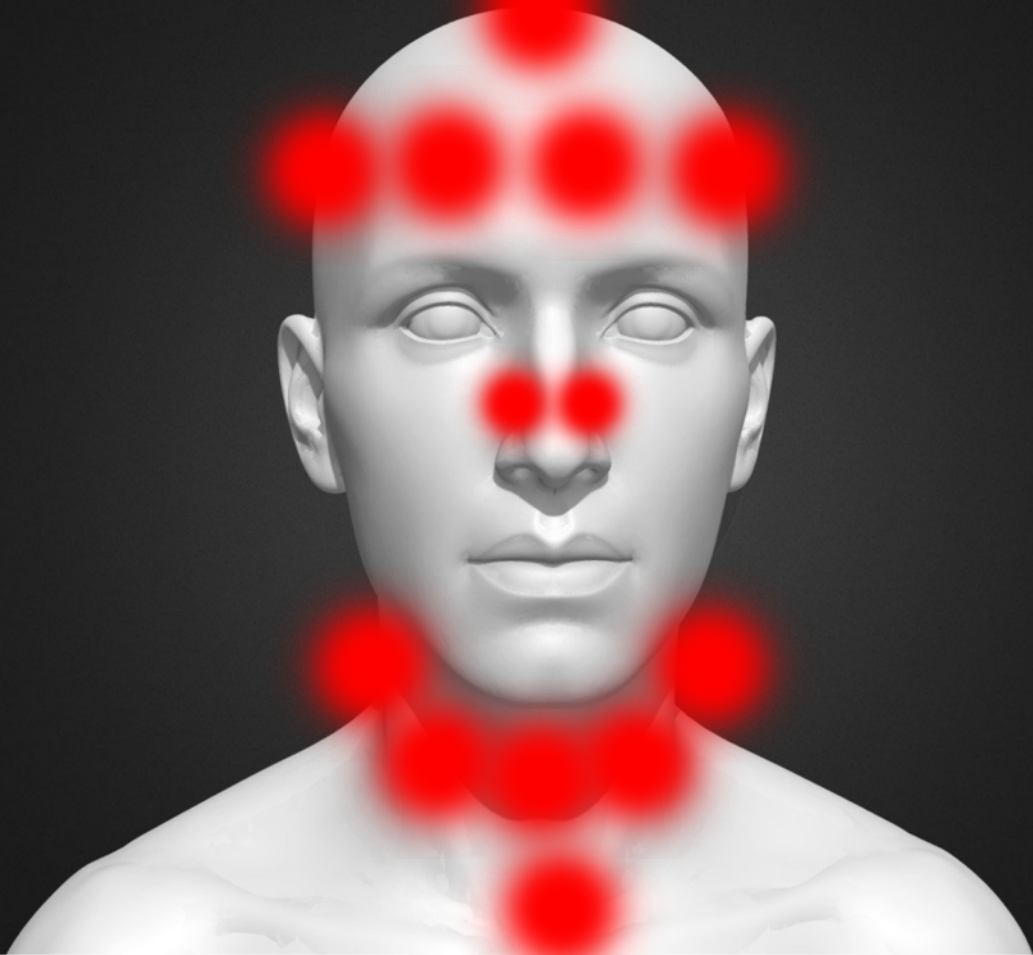


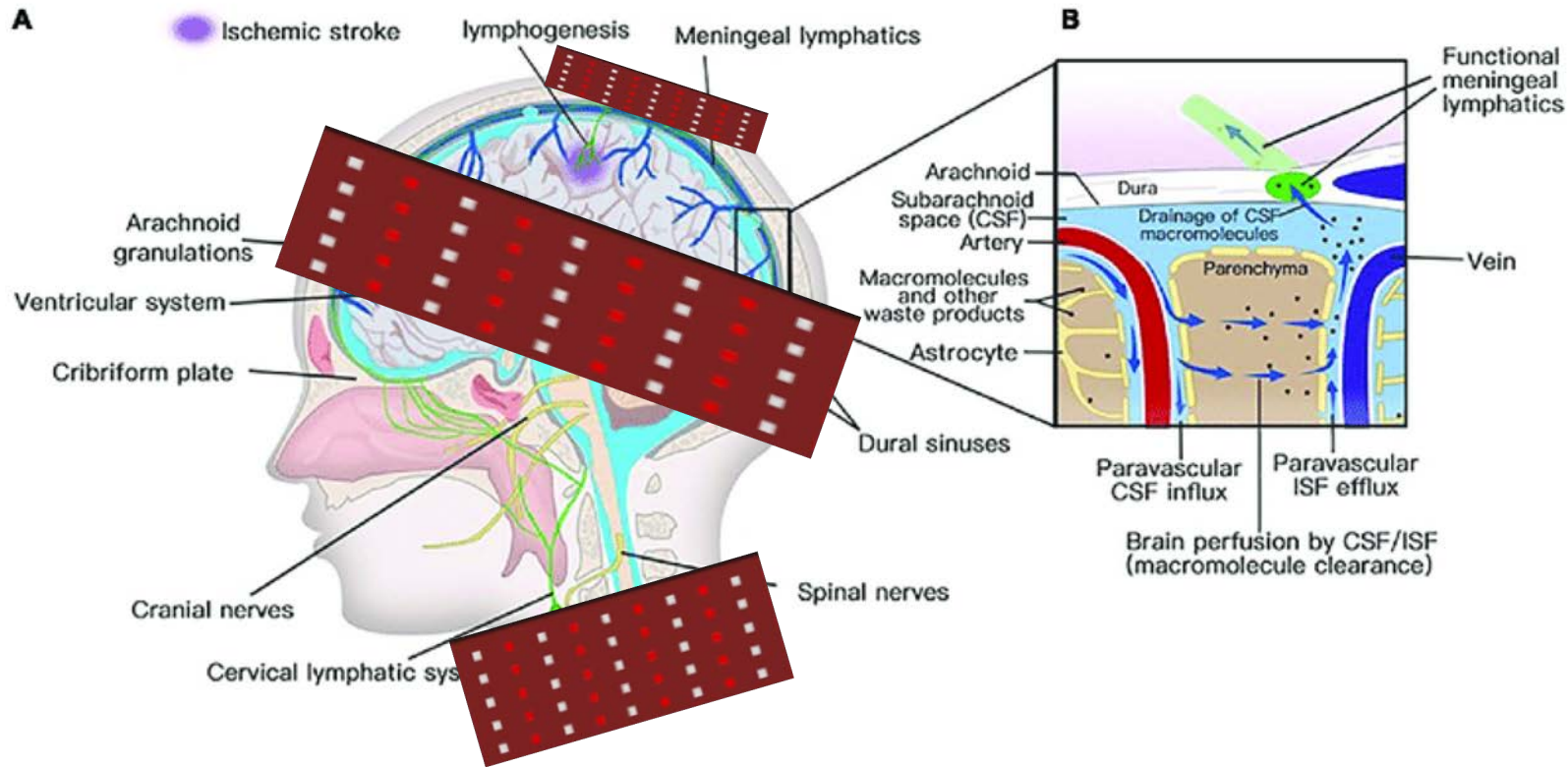
Review

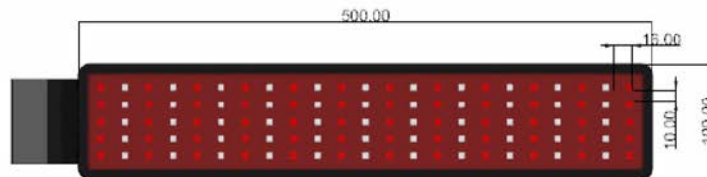
# Brain Waste Removal System and Sleep: Photobiomodulation as an Innovative Strategy for Night Therapy of Brain Diseases

Oxana Semyachkina-Glushkovskaya <sup>1,2\*</sup>, Ivan Fedosov <sup>2</sup>, Thomas Penzel <sup>2,3</sup>, Dongyu Li <sup>4,5</sup>, Tingting Yu <sup>4,6</sup>, Valeria Telnova <sup>2</sup>, Elmira Kaybeleva <sup>2</sup>, Elena Saranceva <sup>2</sup>, Andrey Terskov <sup>2</sup>, Alexander Khorovodov <sup>2</sup>, Inna Blokhina <sup>2</sup>, Jürgen Kurths <sup>1,2,7</sup> and Dan Zhu <sup>4,6</sup>





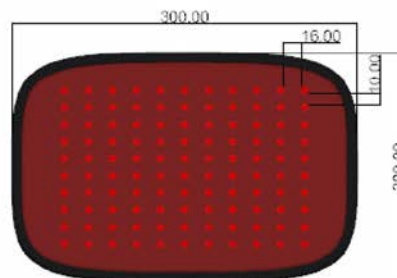




### Neckwrap NW-03B

Size: 500mm x 100mm

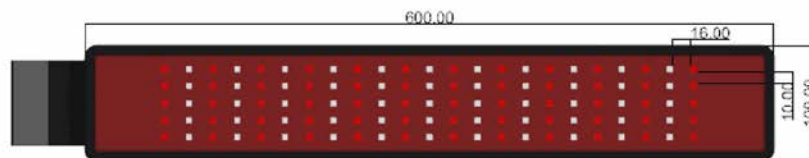
- Dual chip: 635+904nm
- Dual chip: 810+810nm



### Bodywrap LW-03B

Size: 300mm x 200mm

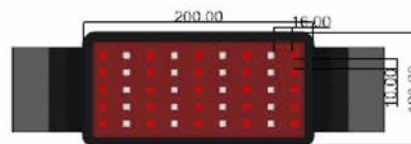
- Dual chip: 635+810nm



### Headwrap BW-03B

Size: 600mm\*100mm

- Dual chip: 635+904nm
- Dual chip: 810+1064nm



### Topwrap TW-03B

Size: 200mm\*100mm

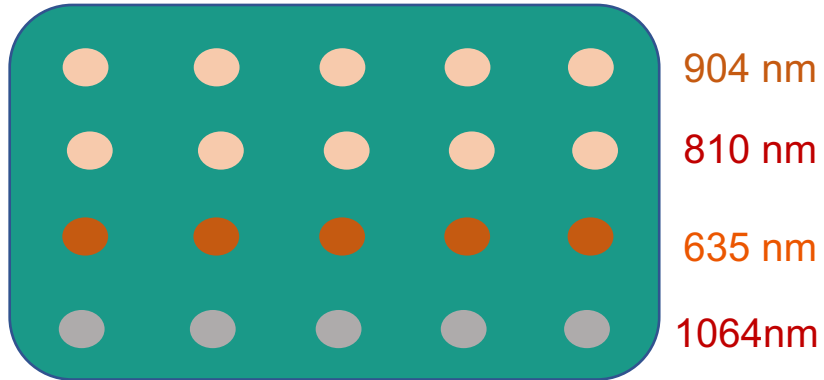
- Dual chip: 635+904nm
- Dual chip: 810+1064nm



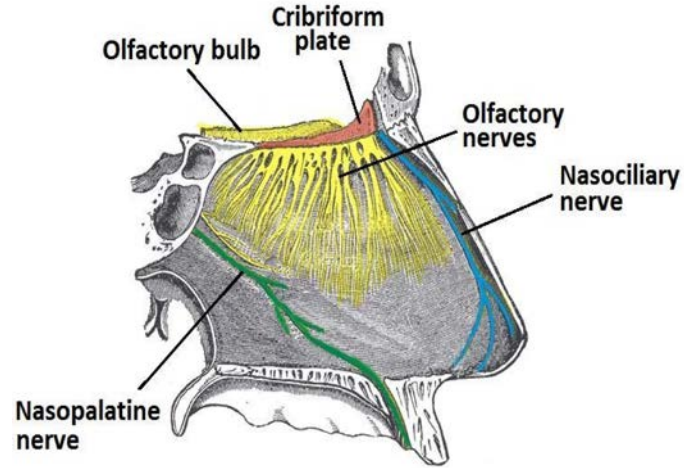
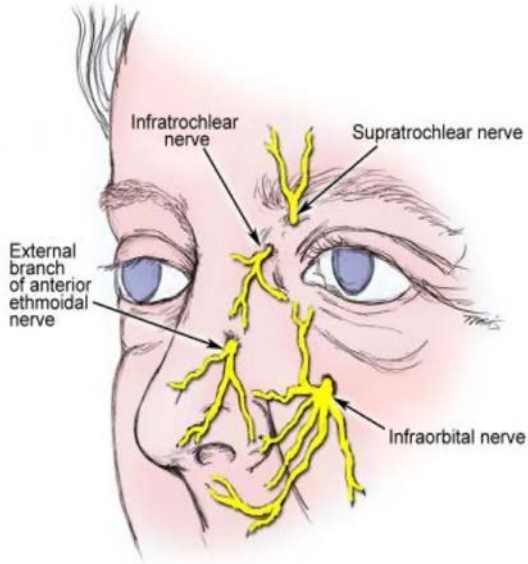
# PBMT set up

Head + Neck + body pads

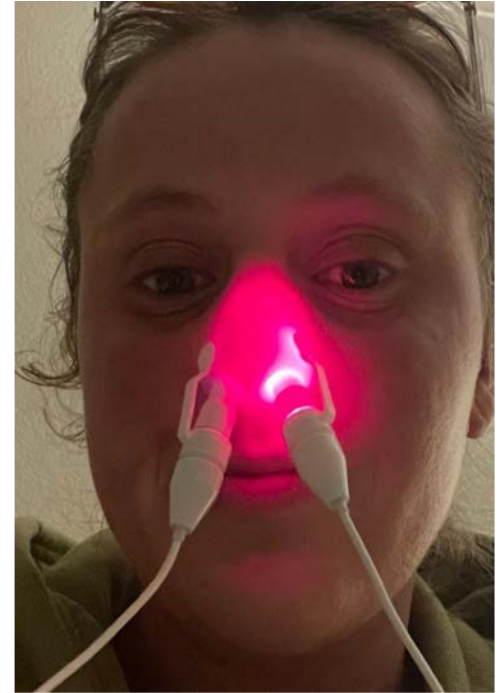
Schematic of a pad with various LEDs



# PBM Therapy



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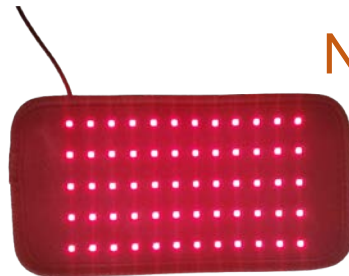
# PBMT SEGMENTAL: Overview



Transcranial  
paradigms

Intranasal  
paradigms

Neck + body  
pads

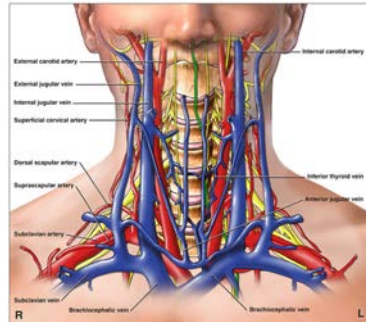


# tPBMT & the Brain fluid homeostasis

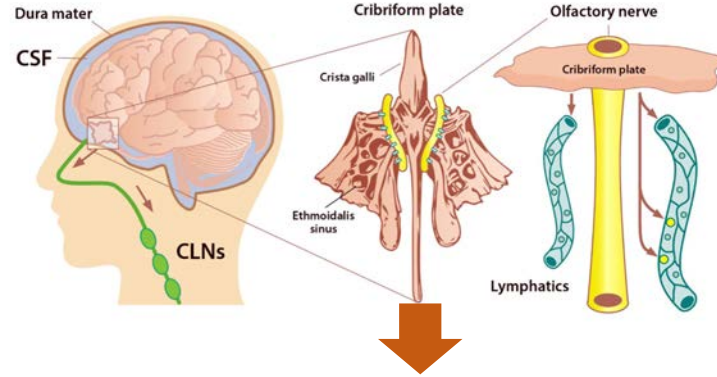
## Head Wrap

## Neck Wrap

## Intranasal probes



Modulation of cerebral autoregulation (e.g., CBF & CSF flow)?



Reduce cerebral edema by enhancing interstitial fluid drainage from CNS to periphery and alleviate imminent neurodegeneration?

# Conclusions

- Brain drainage system (glymphatic and meningeal lymphatic) plays an important role in maintaining water and ion balance of the ISF and CSF, waste clearance, and reabsorption of macromolecular solutes.
- A second physiological function includes communication with the immune system modulating immune surveillance and responses of the brain.
- PBM of the cranial and the extracranial lymphatics may be a promising approach for the treatment of brain disorders.