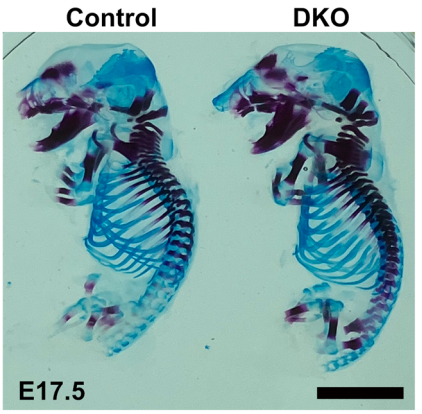
This Week in The Journal

Exploring Scrt1/2 function

Shinya Abe, Hung-Ya Tu, Yuko Sugita, Koki Kobayashi, Atsushi Hayashi, and Takahisa Furukawa

(see article e2101252026)

Scratch 1 and 2 (*Scrt1/2*) are conserved across many species but their function remains unclear. Abe et al. sought to advance understanding about the function of these genes. The authors measured *Scrt1/2* expression in the mouse and found that they are expressed in the mouse retina—in retinal ganglion cells, amacrine cells, and horizontal cells—throughout the lifespan into adulthood. The authors developed mouse lines lacking either *Scrt1* or *Scrt2* and observed no changes. However, mice with double knockout of *Scrt1/2* were smaller and had a lower rate of survival after birth. These mice also had less retinal ganglion cells, thinner optic nerves, and impaired projections from retinal ganglion cells to the accessory optic system. Comparing the retinas of these mice to control mice on embryonic day 17.5 showed increased expression of a gene that promotes cell death. According to the authors, this work suggests that *Scrt1/2* dampen pro-cell death and axon guidance genes to maintain retinal ganglion cell survival and visual function.



Bone (red) and cartilage (blue) staining in control and *Scrt1/2* double-knockout (DKO) mice at embryonic day 17.5. See Abe et al. for more information.

How Do People Quickly Correct Movement Errors?

Toshiki Kobayashi and Daichi Nozaki

(see article e0627262026)

Kobayashi and Nozaki explored how the human body quickly corrects movements despite all the room for error. The authors developed a task in which participants used both hands on a rotating stick to direct a cursor to a visual target. Perturbing the position of either the cursor or the stick's rotation allowed the research team to explore task relevant and task irrelevant errors, respectively. Participants rapidly corrected both types of errors, which was surprising to observe when task irrelevant disturbances occurred. According to the authors, this work suggests that fast, corrective movements involve coordinated patterns of neural activity that make ignoring task irrelevant disturbances more difficult.

This Week in The Journal was written by Paige McKeon
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