

# Candidate cellular and molecular mechanisms of epileptogenesis

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An alternative and accessible version of this presentation is available at 3:10 pm in the [Videocast of Day One](#)

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# Outline

## I. Introduction

Evaluating cellular and molecular mechanisms of epileptogenesis

## II. Stages of epileptogenesis

A. Minutes/hours

B. Days

C. Weeks/months

## III. Translational approaches

A. Laboratory animals  $\longrightarrow$  Human

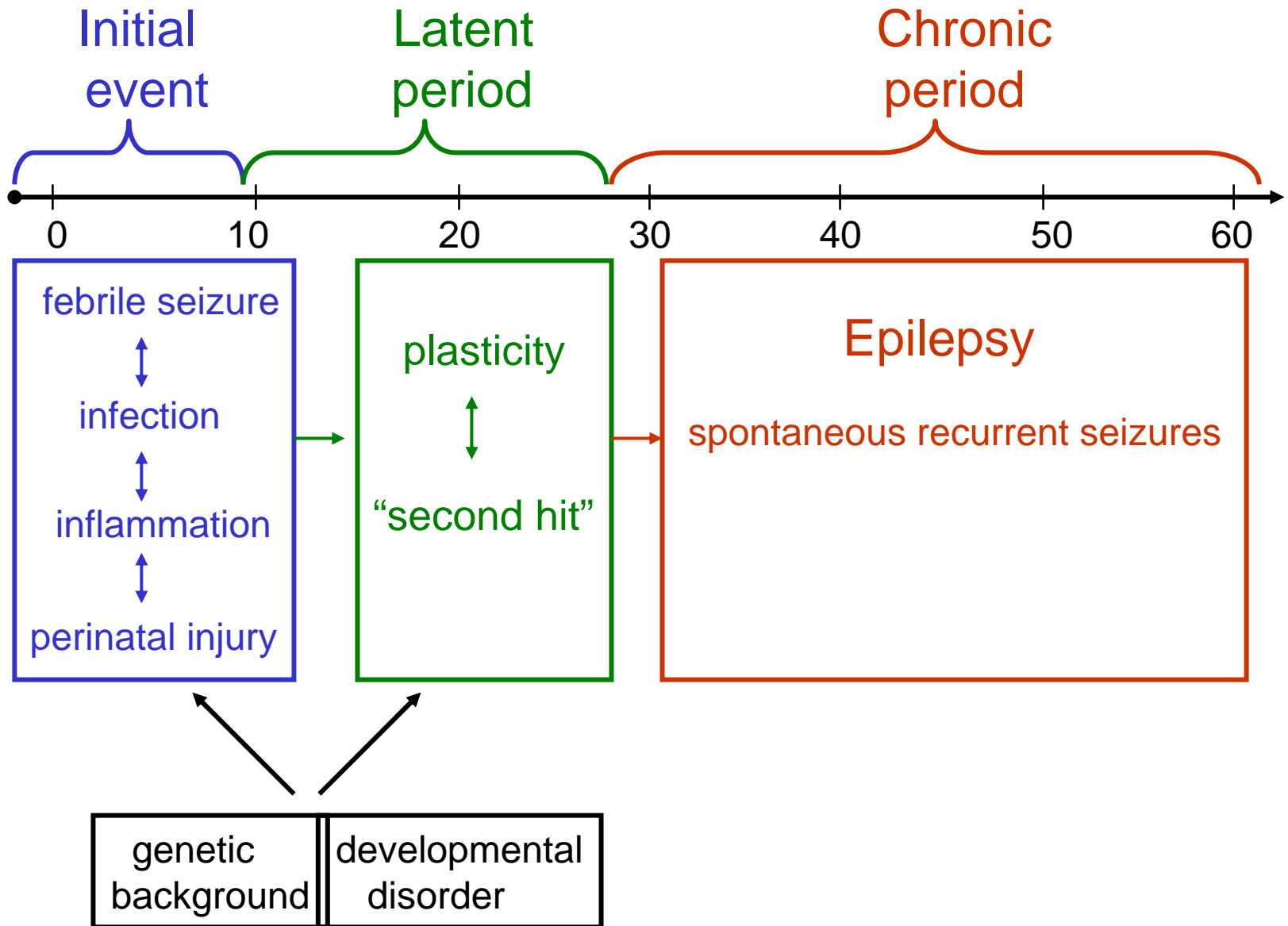
B. Laboratory animals  $\longleftarrow$  Human

## IV. Summary and Conclusions

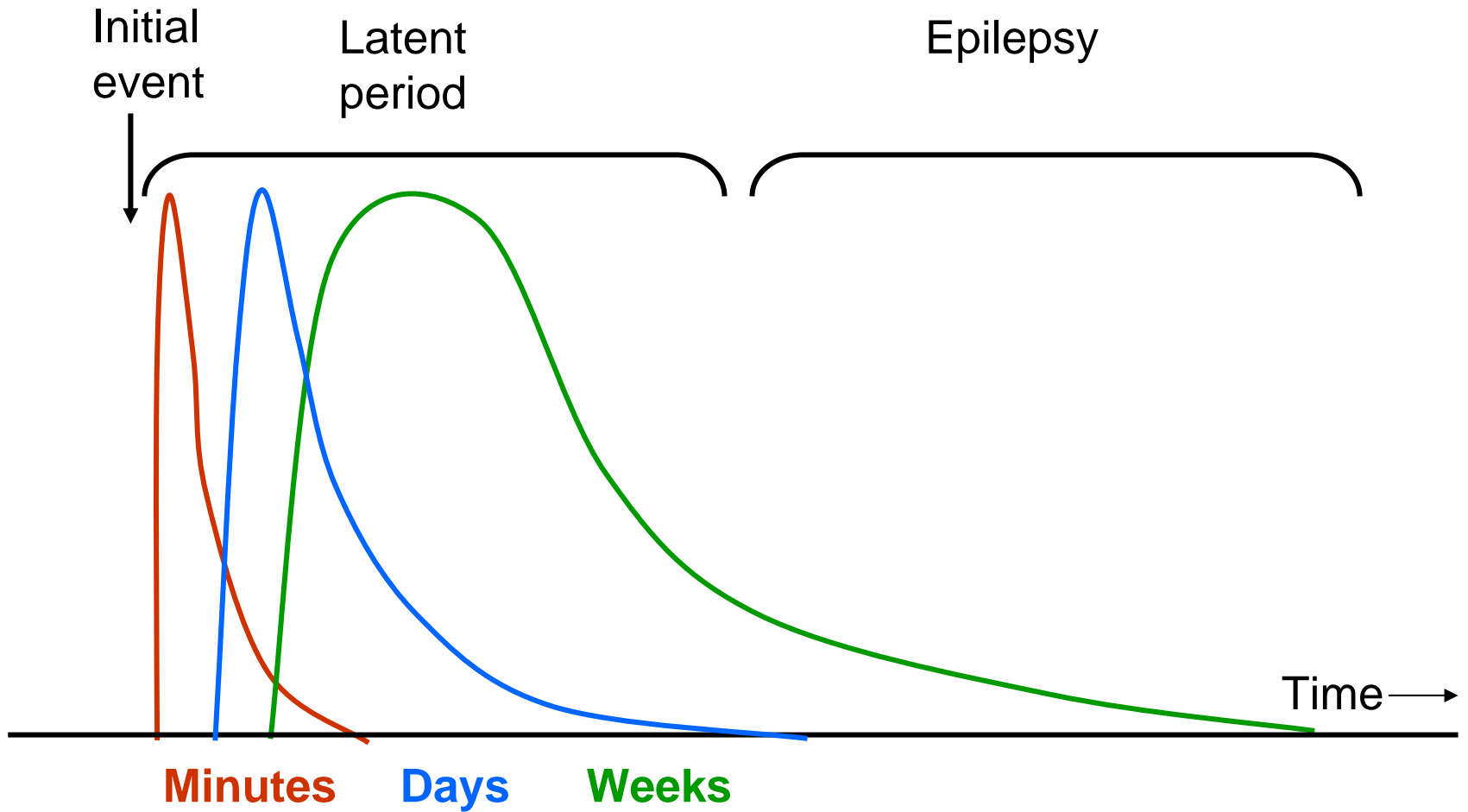
# I. Introduction

Evaluating cellular and  
molecular mechanisms of  
epileptogenesis

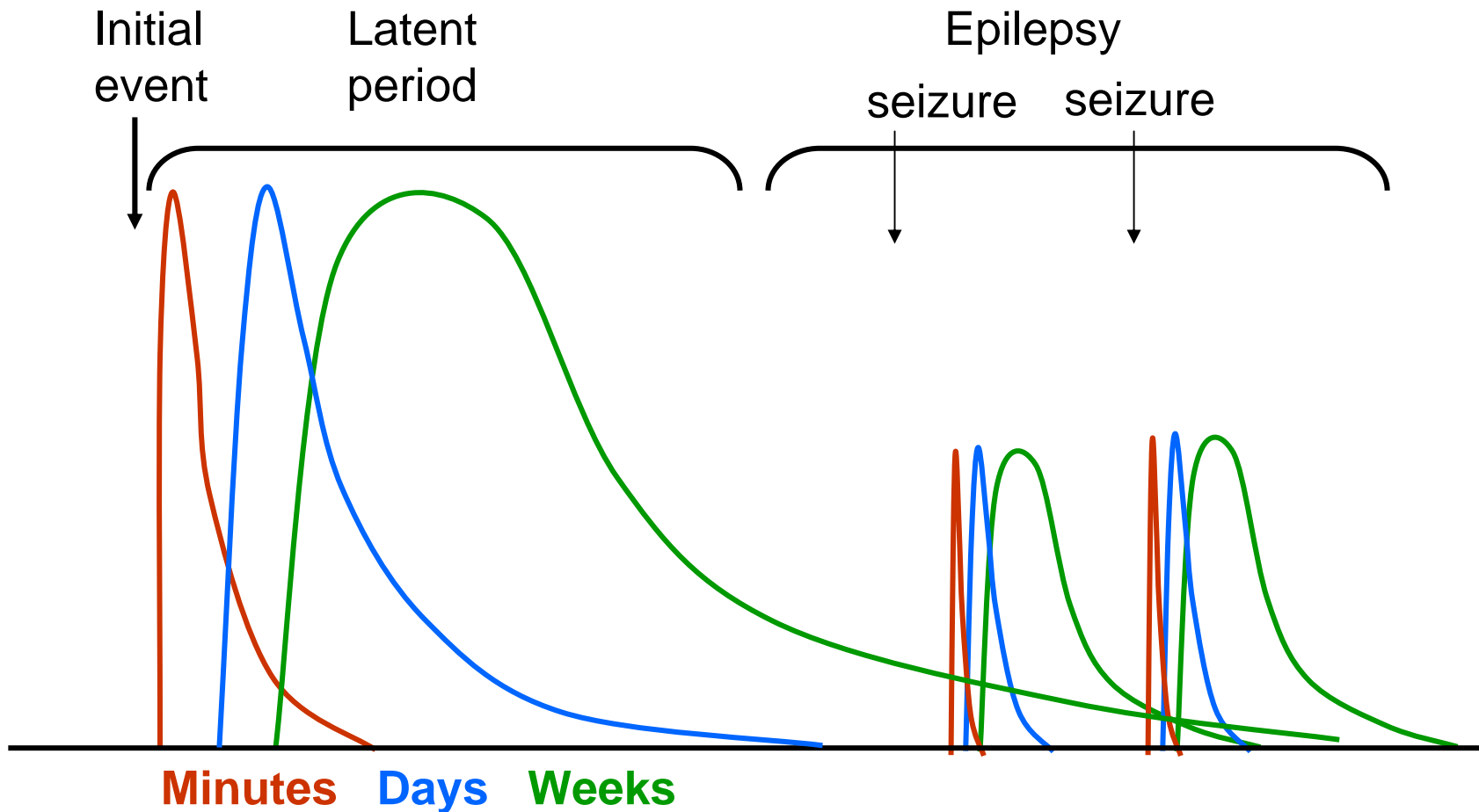
# Timeline of epileptogenesis



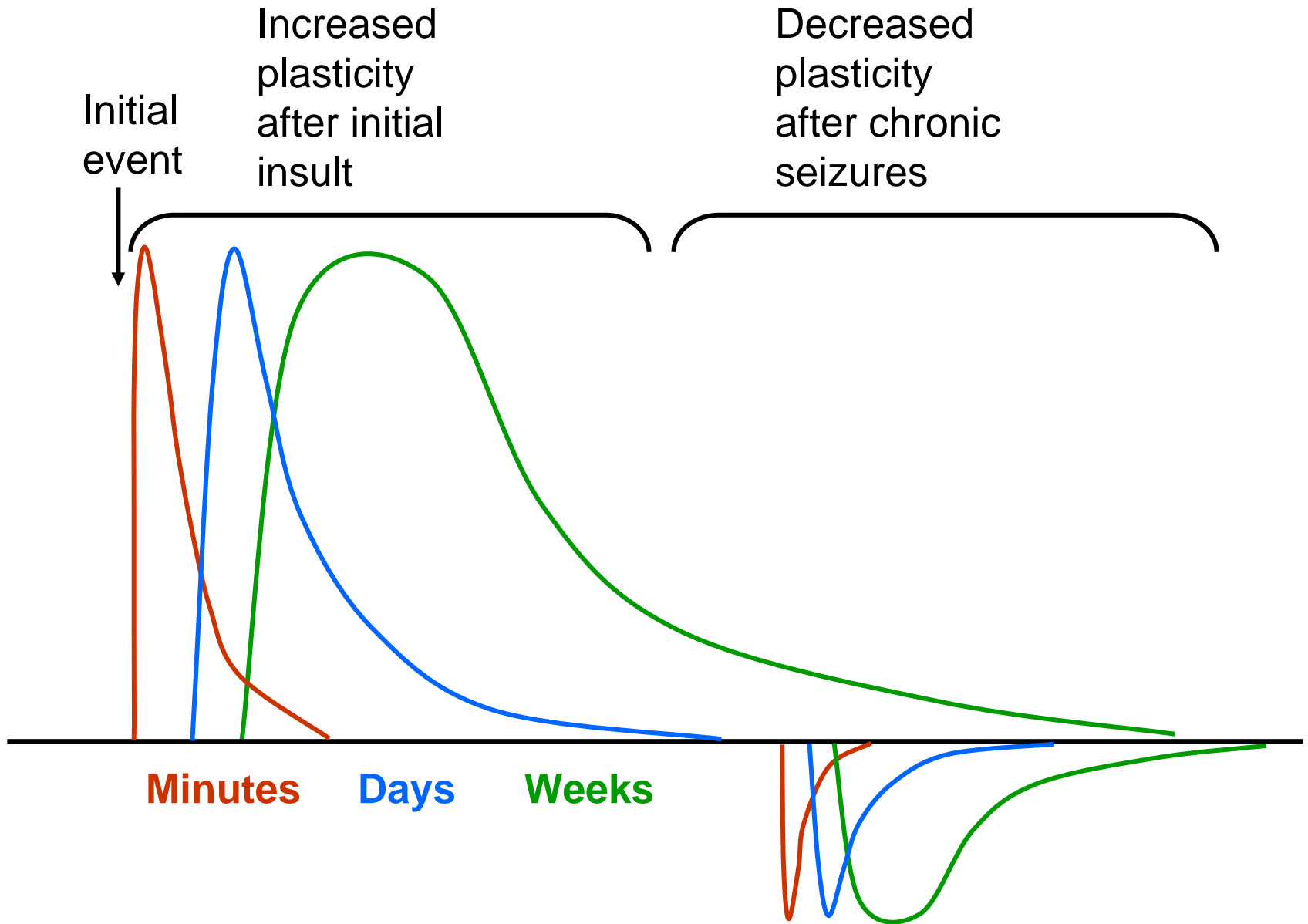
# Timeline of epileptogenesis --simplified --



# Does epileptogenesis “stop” ?



# Is epileptogenesis unidirectional ?



## II. Stages of epileptogenesis

A. Minutes/hours

B. Days

C. Weeks/months



# Initial changes - Minutes/hours

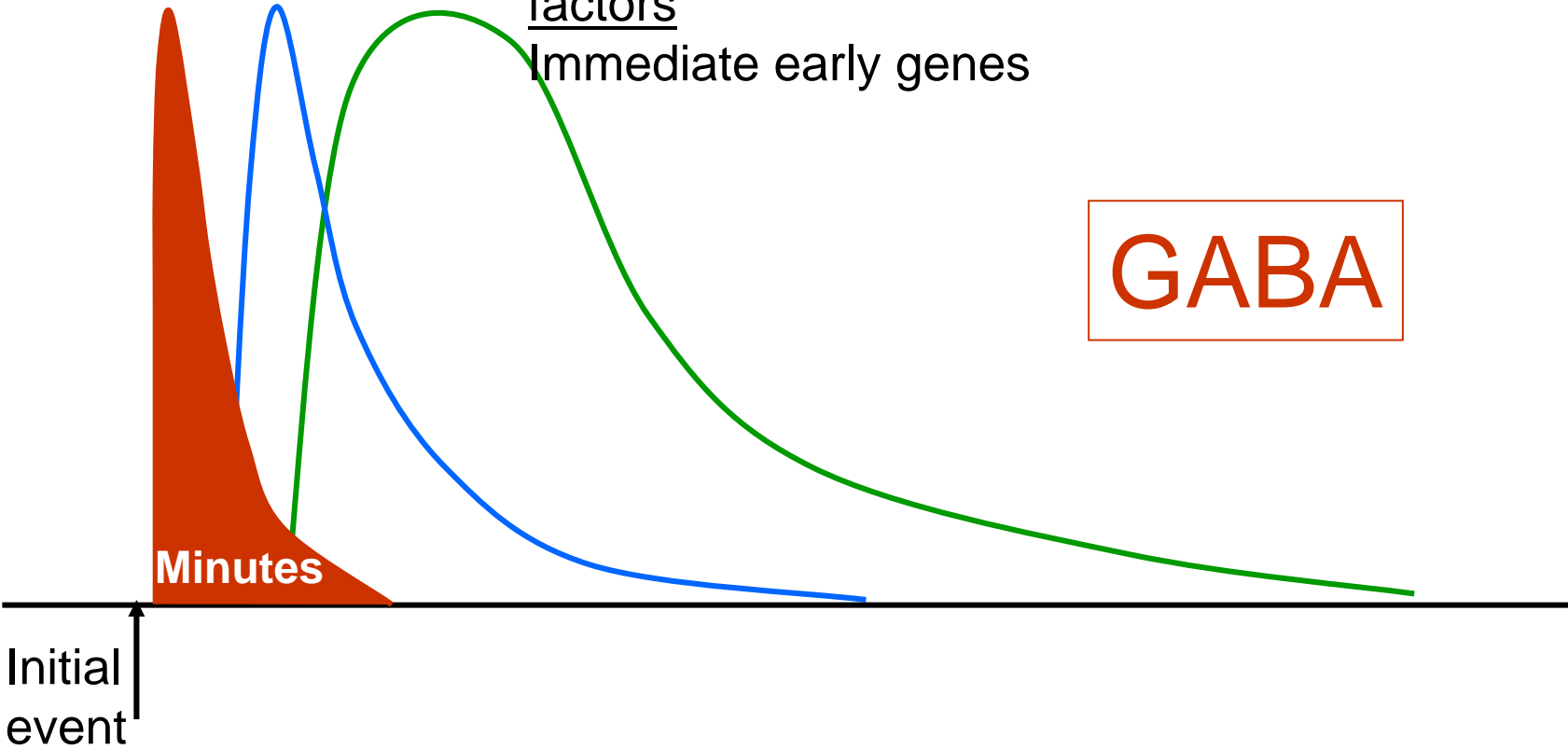
Glutamate - depolarization - Ca<sup>2+</sup> influx

Protein phosphorylation  
ligand and voltage-gated  
ion channels

Excitotoxicity  
Neuronal and glial swelling  
Mitochondrial responses  
Energy depletion

Activation transcription  
factors  
Immediate early genes

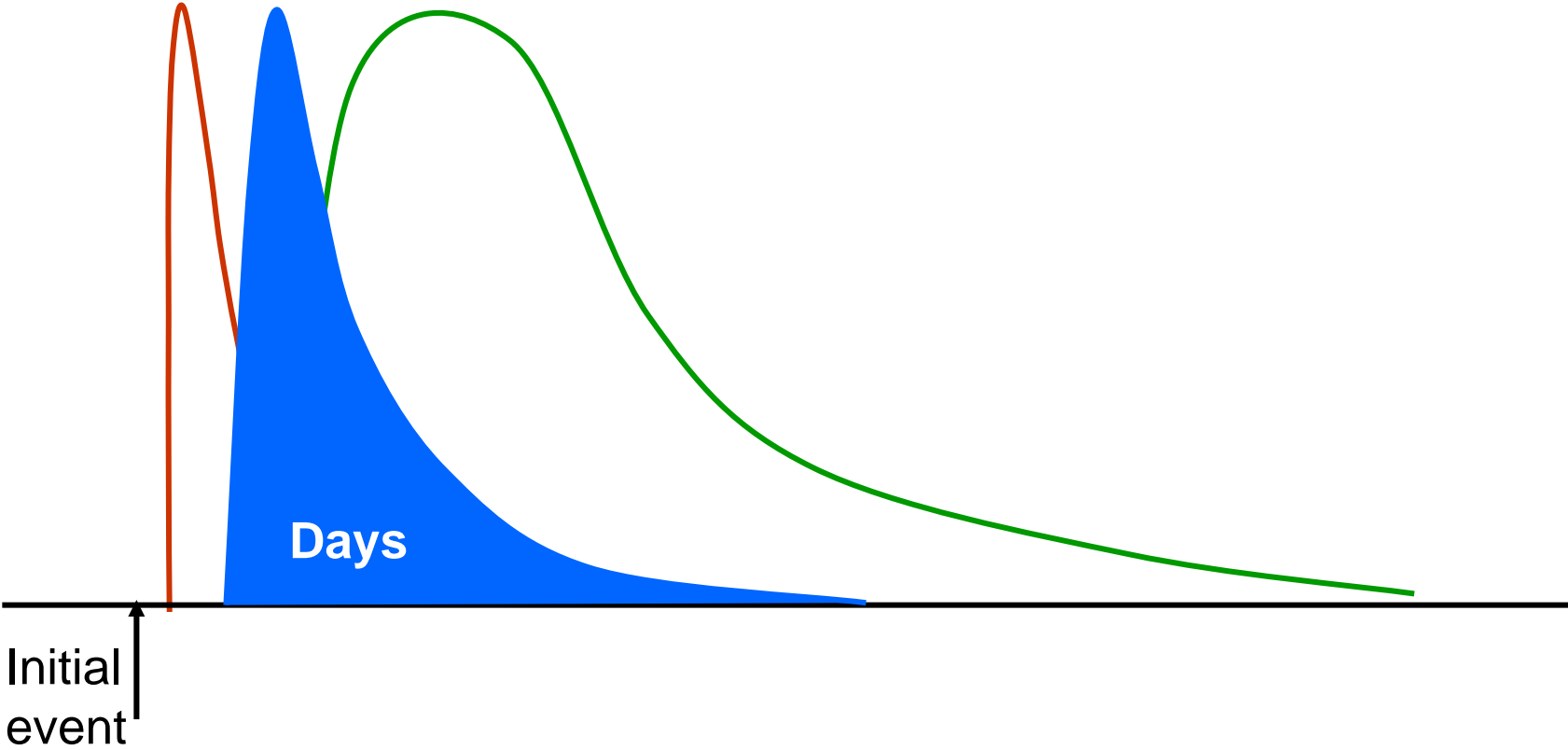
GABA



# Secondary changes - Days

Excitotoxic cell death  
Apoptosis  
↓  
Inflammation  
Glial response  
Vascular response

Seizure induced  
gene expression  
↓  
Growth  
Plasticity  
Compensatory



# Tertiary changes - Weeks

Recapitulation of development

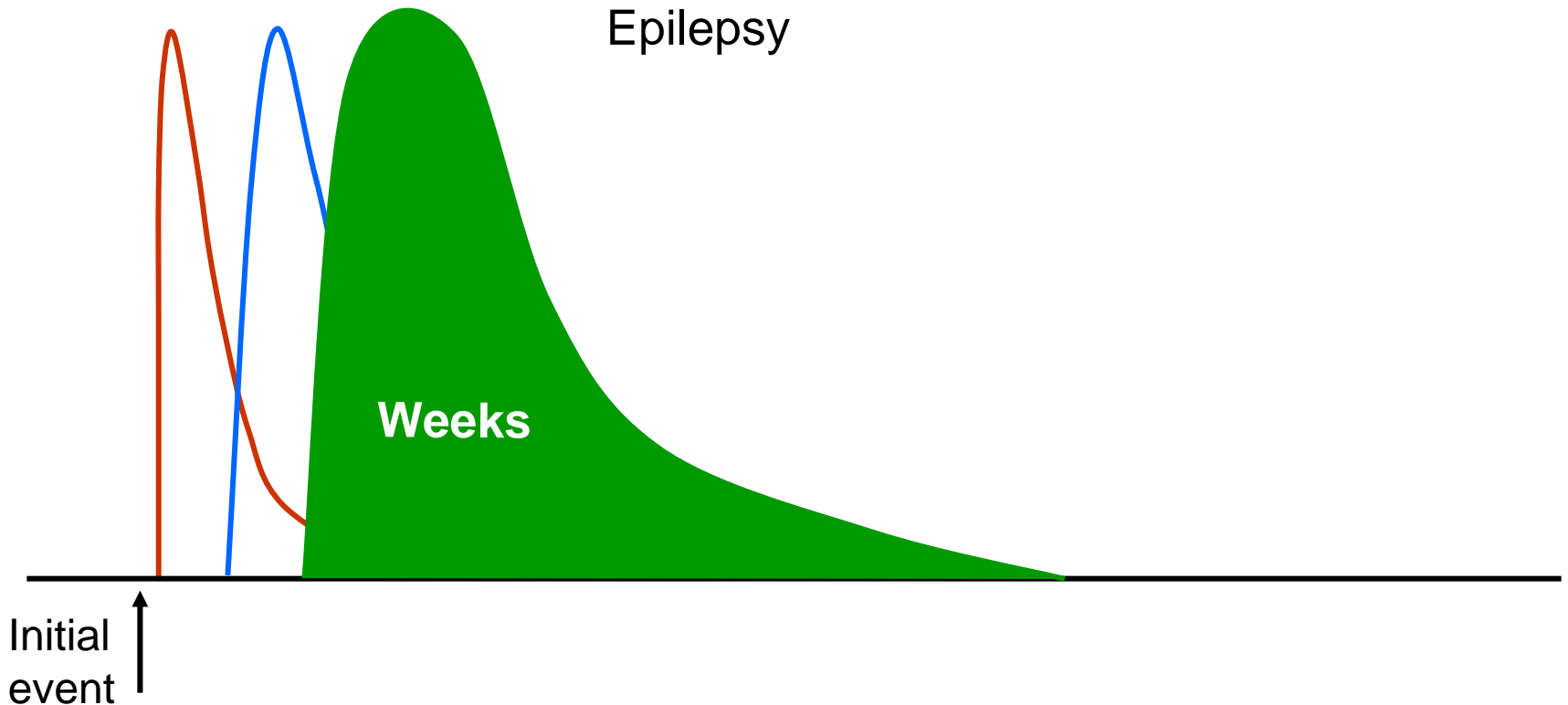
Responses to initial stages

Axon outgrowth  
Synaptogenesis  
Angiogenesis

Homeostatic mechanisms

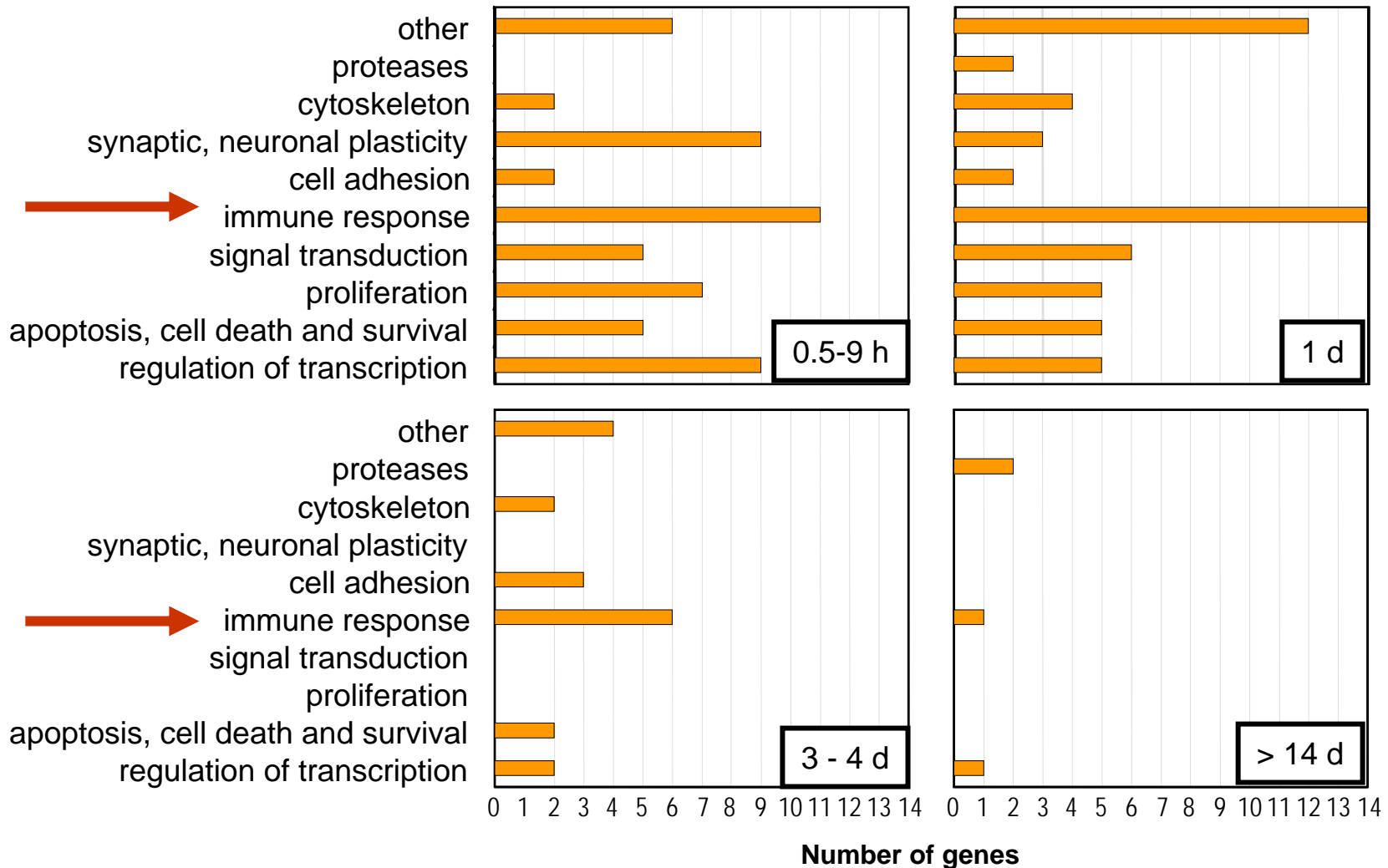
Predisposition for synchronization

Epilepsy



# Functional Classification of Individual Genes

## 16 datasets - TBI and status models



# Changes that are critical to epileptogenesis

## Inflammation

Eicosanoids

membrane lipids

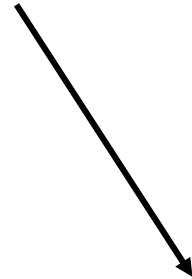


arachidonic acid

cyclooxygenase-2  
(COX-2)



prostaglandins

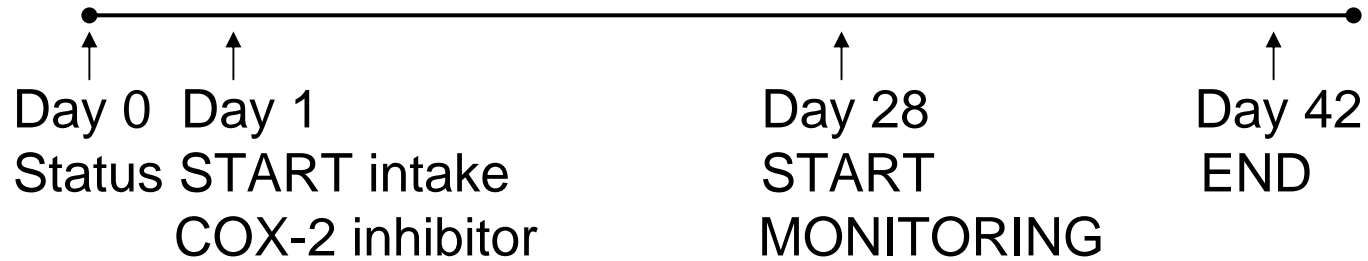


lipoxygenase

leukotrienes

# Changes that are critical to epileptogenesis

## Inflammation



	Vehicle	Celecoxib	
Frequency (seizures/day)	1.92 ± 0.6*	0.68 ± 0.32*	↓
Duration (sec)	14.82 ± 3.50	7.12 ± 2.82	↓
N	9	9	

*Jung et al. (2006) Neurobiol. Dis.*

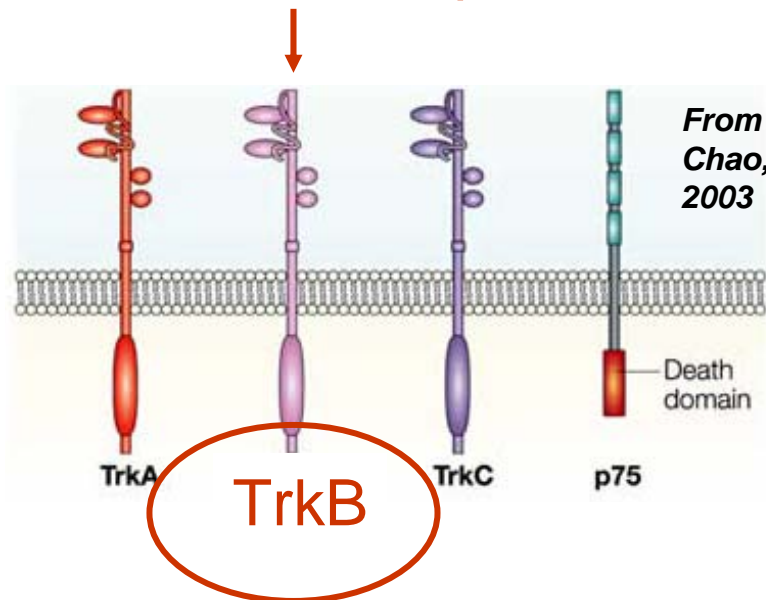
**COX-2 inhibition reduces epileptogenesis**

# Changes that are critical to epileptogenesis

Growth

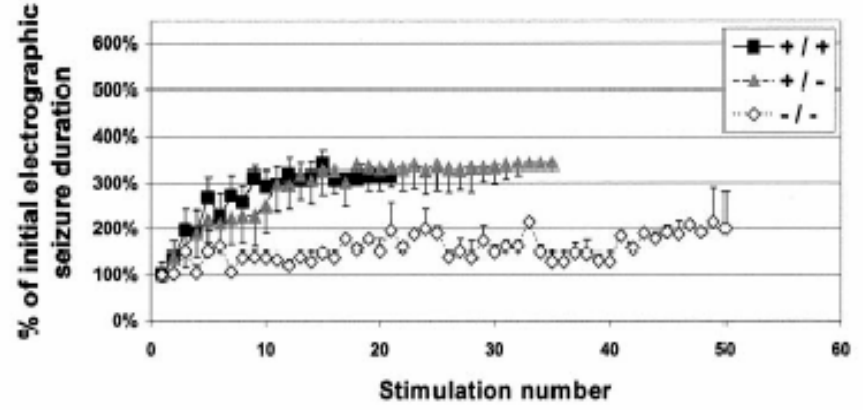
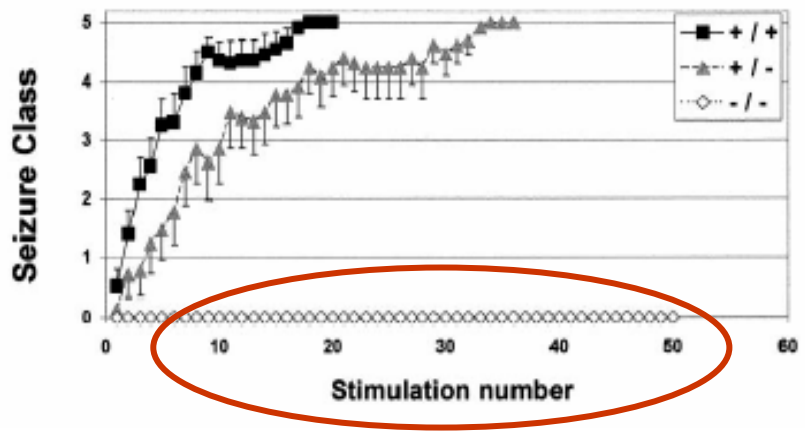
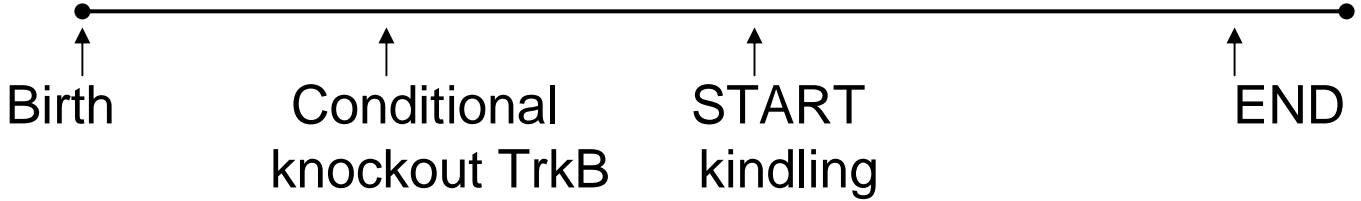
Neurotrophins

Brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF)



# Changes that are critical to epileptogenesis

## Growth



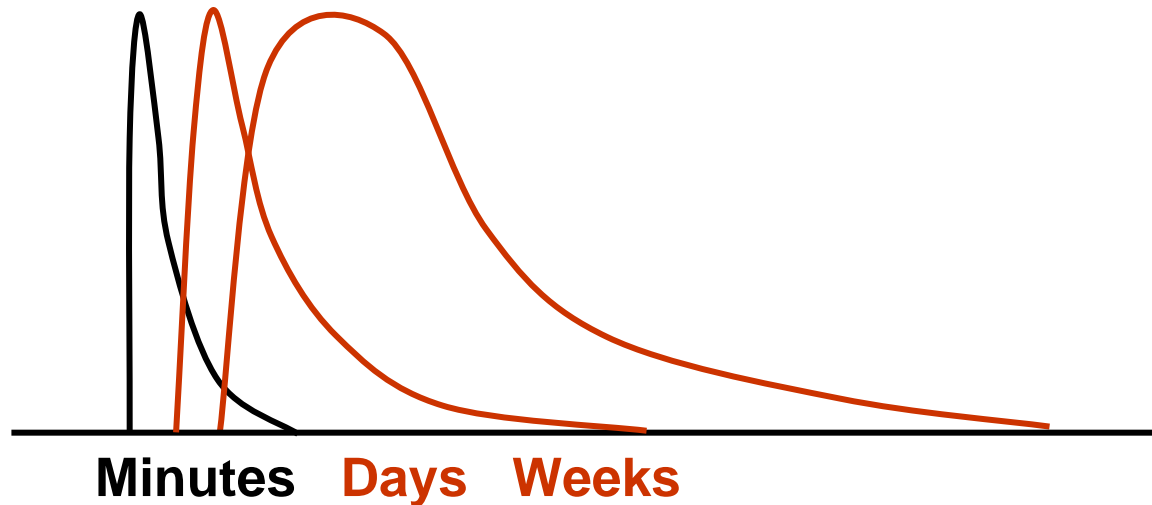
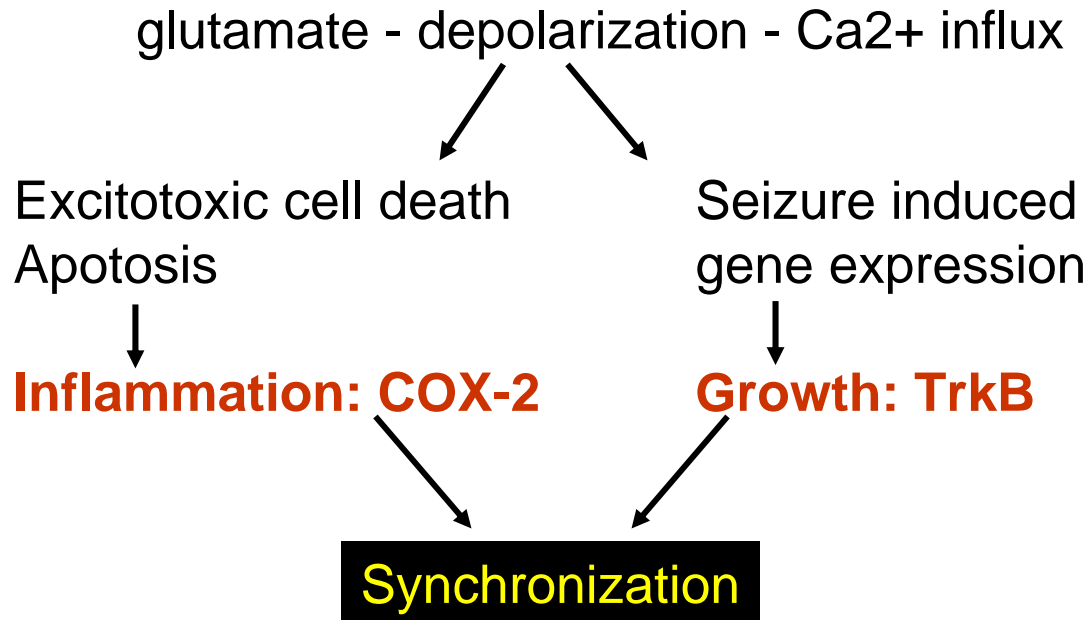
Animals can not kindle

*He et al. (2004) Neuron*

TrkB inhibition reduces epileptogenesis



# Summary- critical changes



### III. Translational approaches

Laboratory animal



Human

## Translational research: Laboratory animal $\longrightarrow$ Human

### Inflammation

Kanemoto et al. Epilepsia (2003)

Increased frequency of **interleukin-1 $\beta$** -511T allele in patients with temporal lobe epilepsy, hippocampal sclerosis, and prolonged febrile convulsion.

Jin et al. Epilepsia (2003)

Association analysis of a polymorphism of **interleukin 1 $\beta$**  gene with temporal lobe epilepsy in a chinese population.

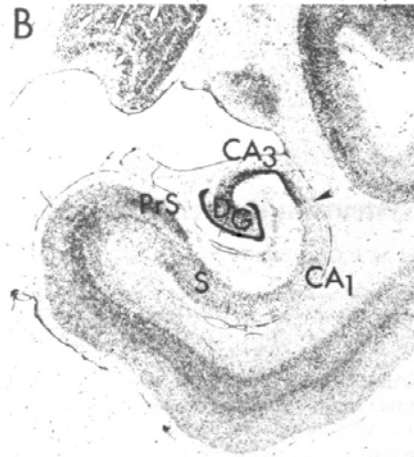
## Translational research: Laboratory animal $\longleftarrow$ Human

Dube et al. Ann. Neurol. (2005)

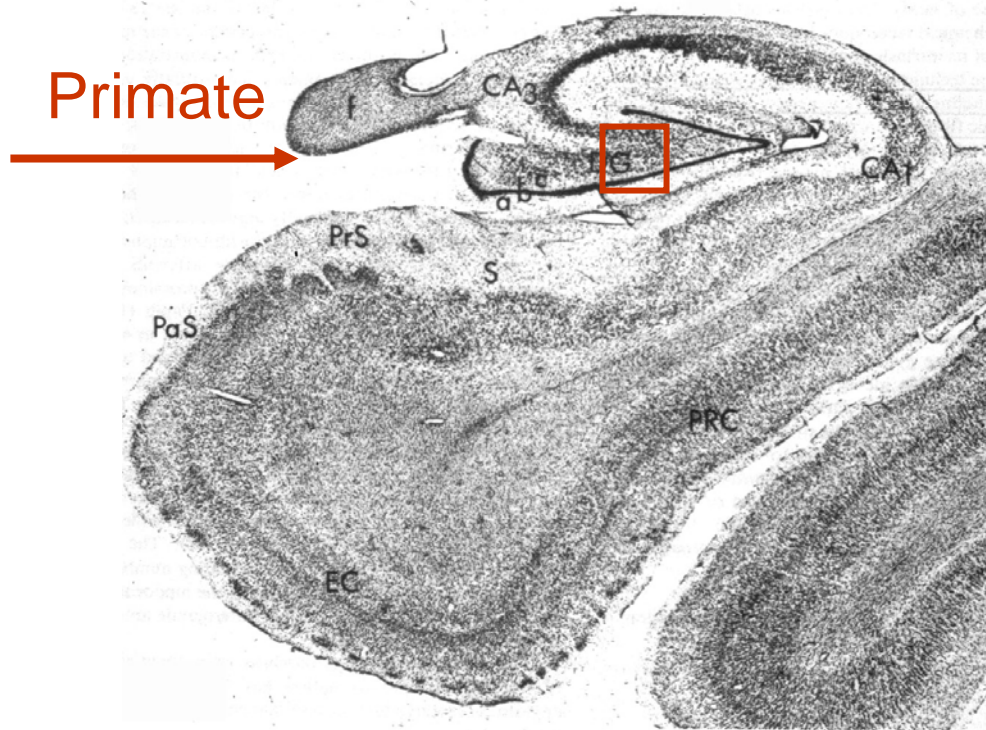
**Interleukin 1 $\beta$**  contributes to the generation of experimental febrile seizures

Dentate gyrus Rodent → Dentate gyrus Human

Rat



Primate



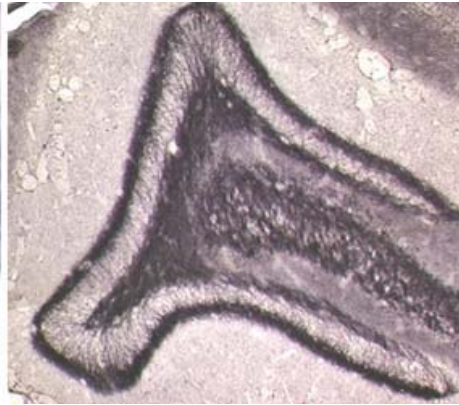
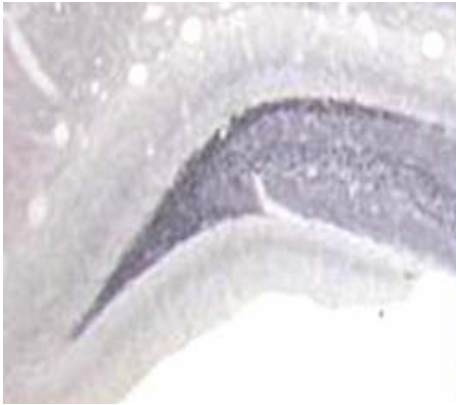
from Amaral, 1981

# Translational research: Laboratory animal $\longleftrightarrow$ Human

## Growth

Control

Epileptic

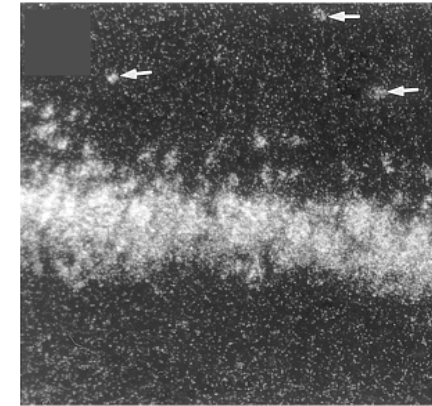
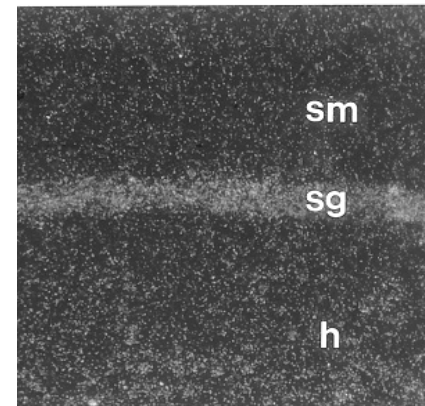


RAT

*Scharfman et al (2002) J Comp Neurol*

Control

Epileptic



HUMAN

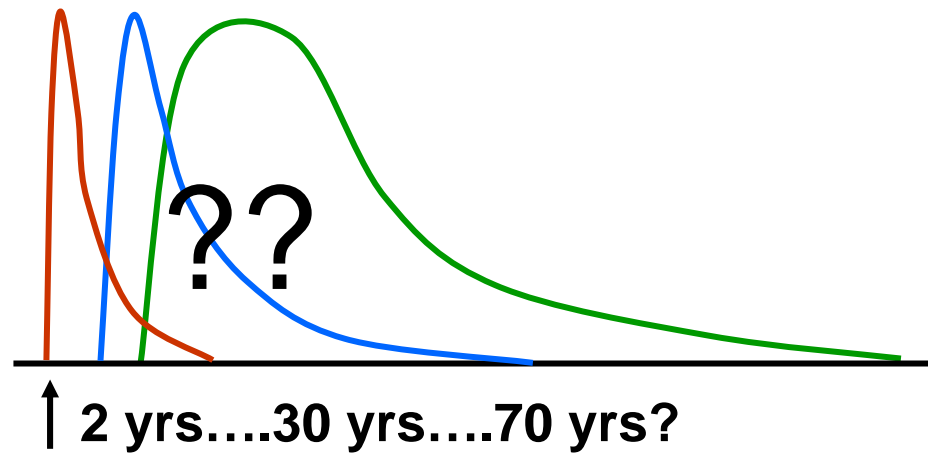
*Murray et al (2000) J Comp Neurol*

Evidence for  $\uparrow$  BDNF in patients with epilepsy

# Translational research: Human ↔ Laboratory animal

Epileptogenesis appears different across **ages**...

↓  
What can animal models tell us?



Insult **early in life**



Less damage  
More plasticity

Insult **after maturity**



More damage  
Less plasticity

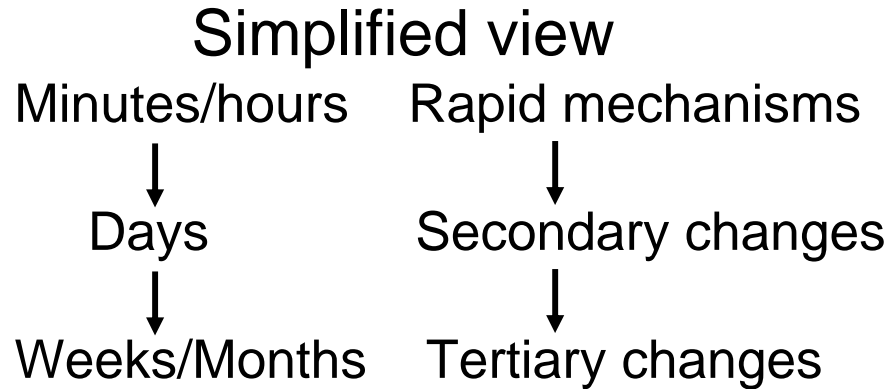
Insult **in old age**



Less epileptogenesis

# Conclusions

## I. Epileptogenesis as a complex process



II. Data from animal models of epileptogenesis provide insight into the clinical condition and vice-versa

III. New opportunities for therapeutic targets for antiepileptogenic agents

A. Immune response, Inflammation - COX-2, interleukin 1 $\beta$

B. Growth - BDNF/trkB

GABA $R_{\alpha 1}$ , Calcineurin, K $^{+}$ Cl $^{-}$  cotransporter, CB1

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