Changes in Timm Staining of the Dentate Molecular Layer

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In a recent article published in *Acta Anatomica* [Hartmann et al., 1994], it is concluded that the observed changes in Timm staining of the dentate molecular layer after experimentally induced reorganization of the fascia dentata represent a redistribution of afferent fiber systems due to temporal differences between experimental animals and controls in the maturation of part of the granule cell population. Although being a coauthor of that paper, I cannot agree with this interpretation of the findings (I performed the Golgi experiments of the study but unfortunately did not have the opportunity to see the final manuscript submitted to *Acta Anatomica*). In contrast to the conclusion drawn in that paper by Hartmann et al., we have recently provided evidence that temporal differences in the arrival of fiber systems are unlikely to cause the characteristic lamination of fibers in the molecular layer of the fascia dentata. In slice cultures, the experimentally induced temporal reversal of ingrowth of entorhinal and commissural afferents did not reverse the termination of these fibers in their adequate zones of the molecular layer [Frotscher and Heimrich, 1993].

References

Hartmann, D., M. Frotscher, J. Sievers (1994) Development of granule cells, and afferent and efferent connections of the dentate gyms after experimentally induced reorganization of the supra- and infrapyramidal blades. *Acta Anat* 150:25-31.

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