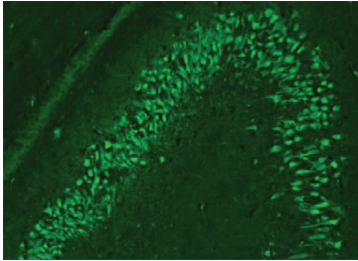
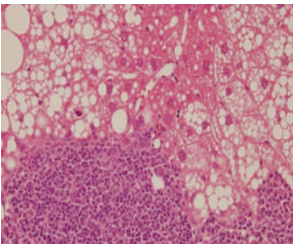


EDITOR'S FOCUS



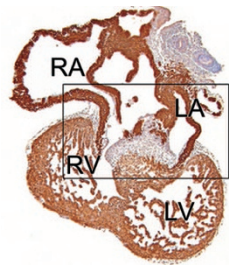
Lipopolysaccharide (LPS)-induced preconditioning seems to be an age-dependent neuroprotective mechanism in the developing brain. The pattern of Toll-Like Receptor 4 expression is likely to be responsible for differences in LPS efficacy.

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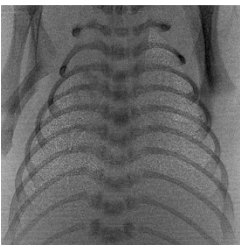
Homozygous mice with a single nucleotide mutation in the intron of the mitochondrial isobutyryl-CoA dehydrogenase (IBD) gene *Acad8* appear to have abnormal mitochondria with crystalline inclusions. This model might provide us with a better understanding of the possible role of IBD deficiency in mitochondriopathy and fatty liver.

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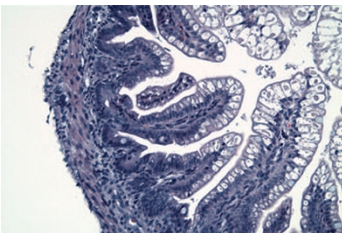
Functional accessory atrioventricular pathways are present during normal mouse heart development and might play a transient role in perinatal atrioventricular reentry tachycardia.

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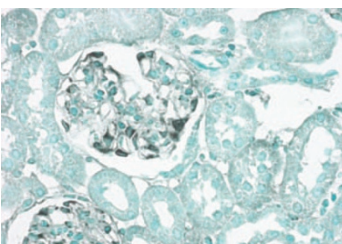
In ventilated preterm newborn rabbits, positive end-expiratory pressure (PEEP) had a greater effect on functional residual capacity than surfactant, although effects were additive. Surfactant markedly improved the uniformity of ventilation irrespective of whether PEEP was applied.

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Nicotinamide treatment protected pups against intestinal injury incurred in a newborn rat model of necrotizing enterocolitis (NEC). The authors speculate that Poly(ADP-ribose) polymerase-1 (PARP-1) over-activation may drive mucosal cell death and might be a novel therapeutic target in NEC.

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In developing mice, podocyte-derived vascular endothelial growth factor provided self-preservation functions, which can rescue the cell following injury and preempt subsequent deterioration of the glomerulus.

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