

Intratympanic EPO for prevention of noise-induced hearing loss

- BL Frederiksen, N Wagner, SP Lund, K Asal, J Thomsen,
- NV Olsen and P Cayé-Thomasen

BACKGROUND

- Erythropoietin (EPO) has neurotrophic and neuroprotective effects in the CNS and in the retina
- These are results of several effects of EPO receptor binding :
 - decrease of glutamate toxicity
 - generation of neuronal anti-apoptotic factors
 - decrease of nitric oxide mediated injury
 - direct anti-oxidation
 - reduction of inflammation

EPO

- Reduces glutamate toxicity
- Anti-apoptosis
- Reduces inflammation
- Diminish NO-mediated toxicity
- Direct anti-oxidation
- Vascular relaxation

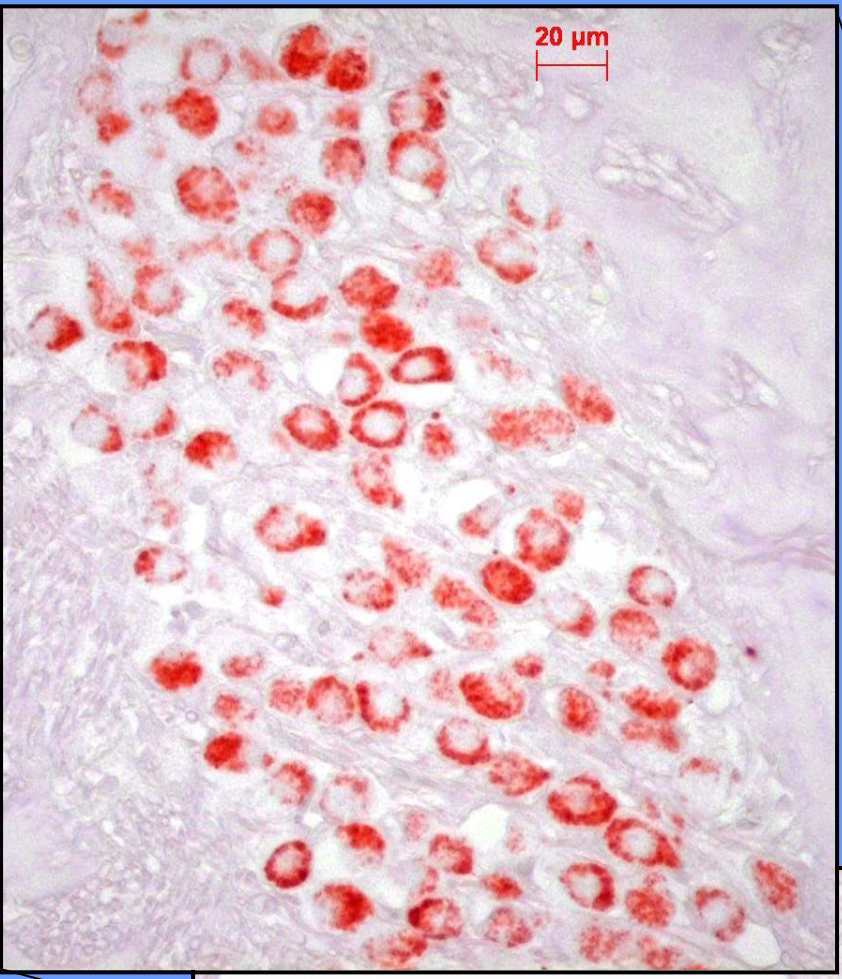
NIHL

- Glutamate increase
- NO increase
- ROS increase

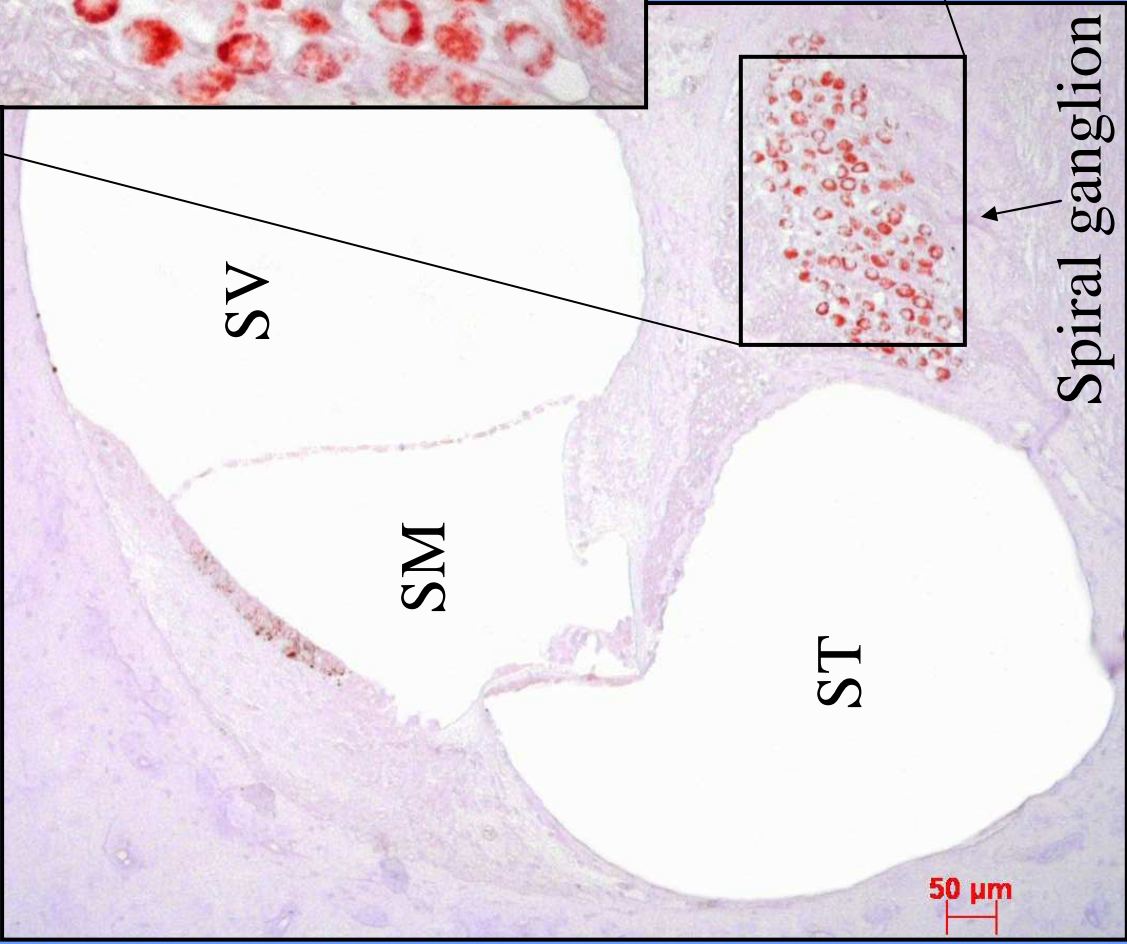
STUDY AIM

- To investigate the expression of EPO and the EPO receptor in the guinea pig inner ear
- To investigate the effect of EPO treatment on noise induced hearing loss (NIHL) in rodents

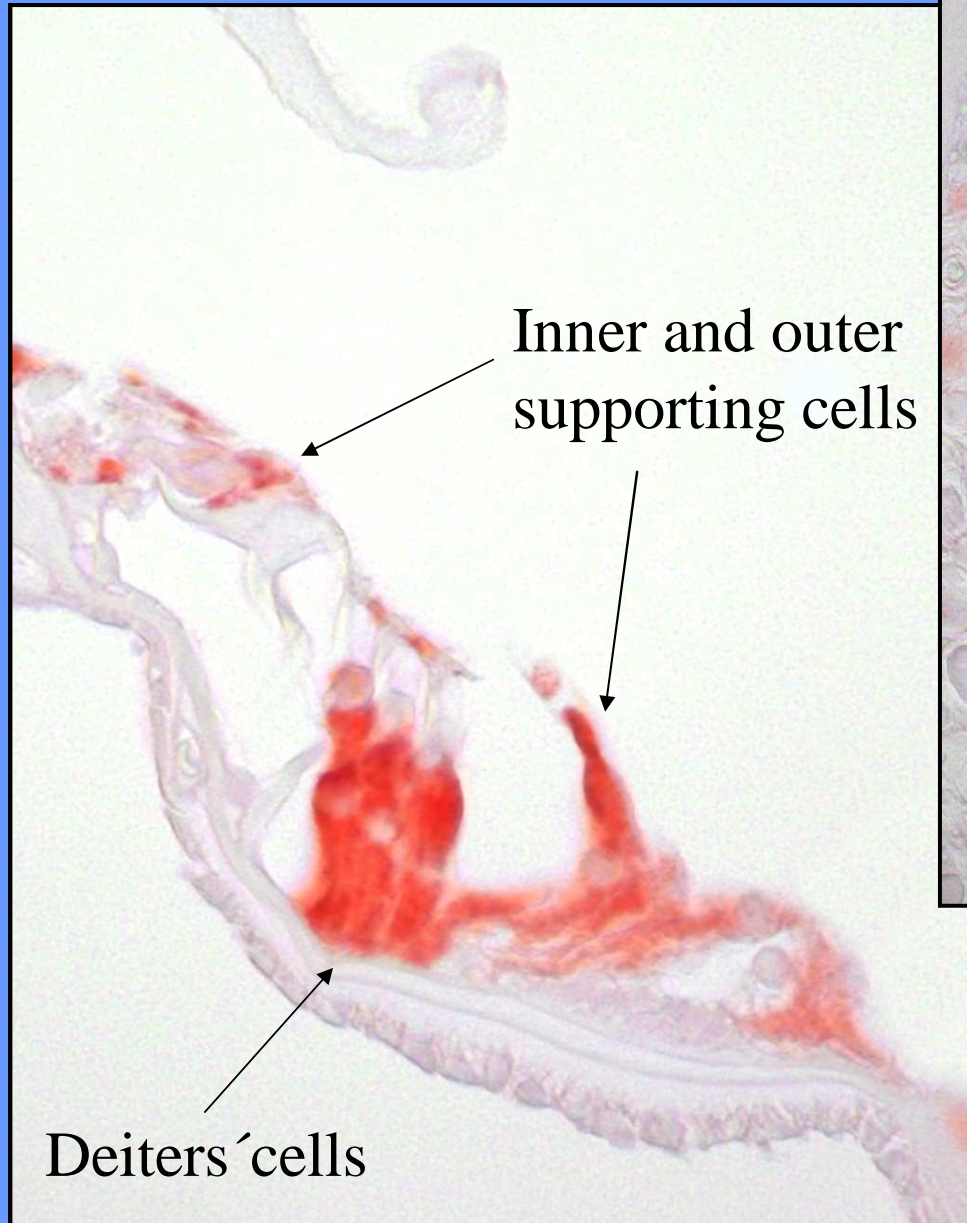
Guinea pig cochlea



EPO EXPRESSION



Guinea pig cochlea



**EPO RECEPTOR
EXPRESSION**

CONCLUSION

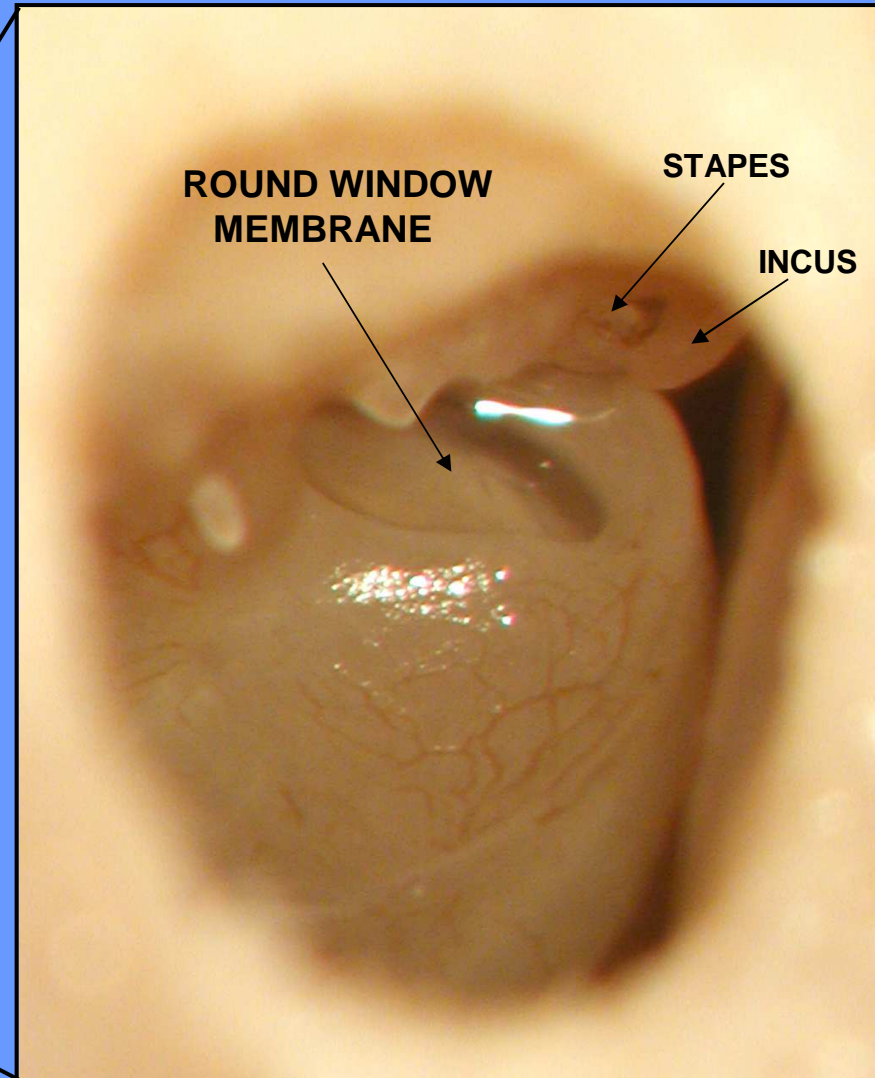
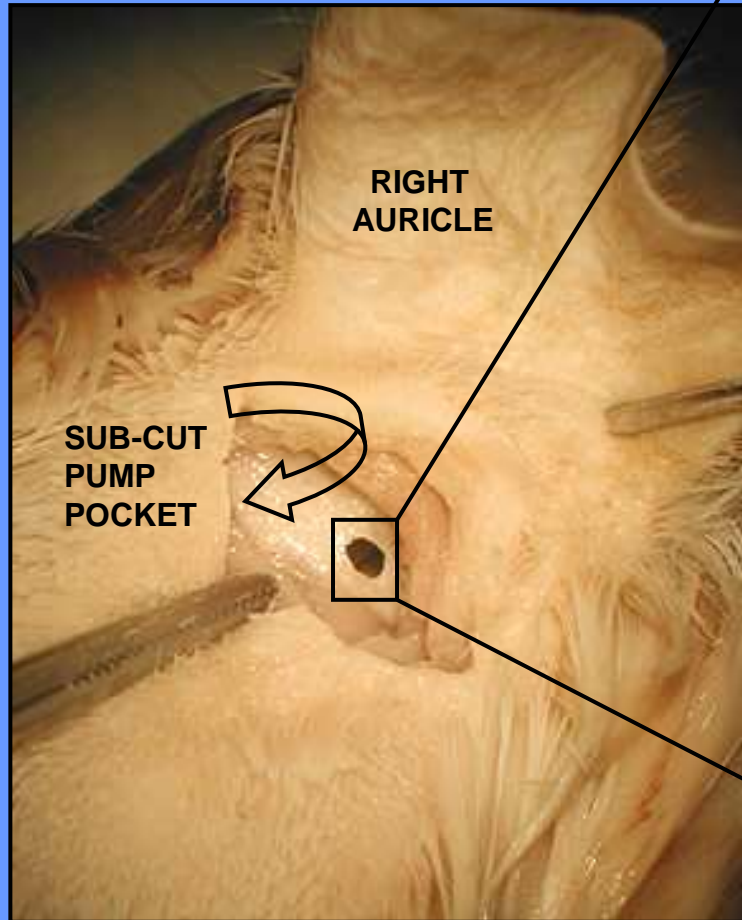
EPO is expressed in spiral ganglion neurons

The EPO receptor is expressed
in a number of inner ear cells

STUDY AIM

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THE ANIMAL MODEL



THE MODEL

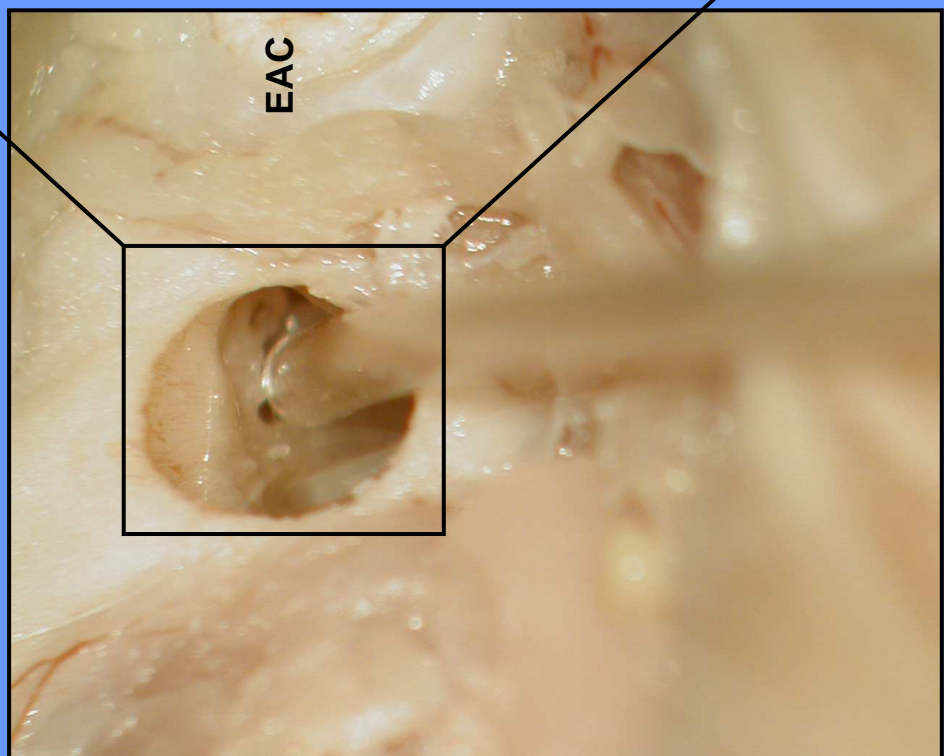
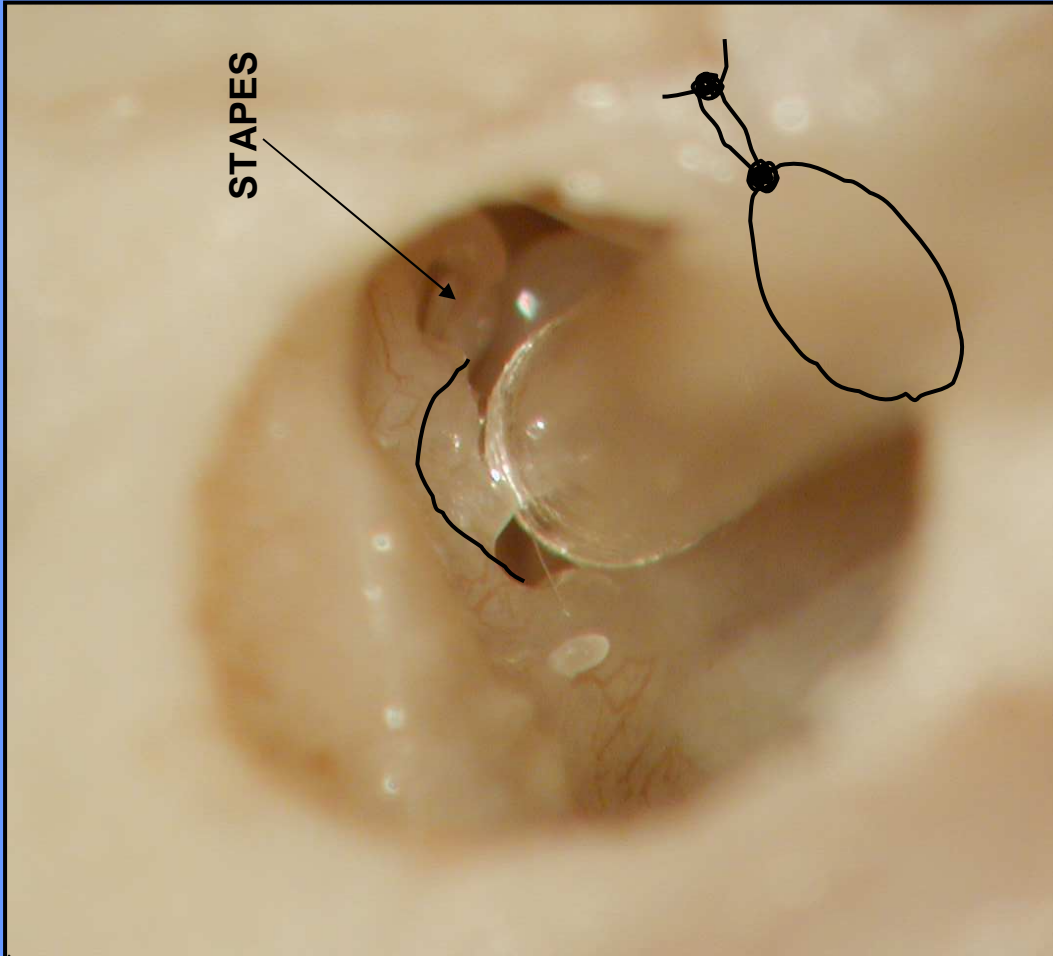


Table 1

Intratympanic EPO

Guinea pigs	Pre-noise measurements Day -1 (dB)		Post-noise measurements Day 8 (dB)		Loss (dB)	
	CDP	ABR	CDP	ABR	CDP	ABR
Treatment (Intratympanic)						
Sustained EPO (n=10)	15.6 ± 4.6	32.5 ± 3.4	-6.9 ± 0.8	85.0 ± 11.2	22.5 ± 4.9	52.5 ± 10.6
Sustained H ₂ O (n=8)	14.3 ± 4.9	30.7 ± 1.4	-6.9 ± 0.4	89.3 ± 8.0	21.2 ± 5.1	58.6 ± 8.9
Instilled EPO (n=8)	14.2 ± 6.5	30.6 ± 2.3	-5.6 ± 1.9	79.4 ± 13.6	19.8 ± 5.8	48.8 ± 12.5

Trial 1. Results (means) of pre- and post-noise measurements of the cubic distortion product (CDP) and auditory brainstem response (ABR) in guinea pigs treated intratympanically with erythropoietin (EPO) or saline (H₂O). The mean loss of hearing is shown to the right. There was no significant effect of EPO treatment. The ± values are the 95% confidence intervals.

Table 2 Intratympanic EPO

Rats	Pre-noise measurements Day -1 (dB)		Post-noise measurements Day 8 (dB)		Loss (dB)	
	Treatment (Intratympanic instillation)	CDP	ABR	CDP	ABR	CDP
EPO 1 h post-noise (n=10)	27.5 ± 1.5	27.5 ± 1.9	0.1 ± 4.3	68.8 ± 13.7	27.4* ± 4.8	41.3 ± 14.0
H ₂ O 1 h post-noise (n=8)	27.5 ± 2.1	25.0 ± 3.2	12.6 ± 9.4	57.0 ± 19.4	14.9* ± 9.1	32.0 ± 21.6
EPO 14 h post-noise (n=10)	26.4 ± 2.4	28.3 ± 1.8	0.4 ± 2.8	64.4 ± 14.5	26.0§ ± 4.2	36.1 ± 14.0
H ₂ O 14 h post-noise (n=8)	27.5 ± 8.5	29.2 ± 1.7	7.3 ± 5.0	54.2 ± 16.2	20.3§ ± 7.0	25.0 ± 16.9
All EPO (n=20)	26.9 ± 1.4	27.9 ± 1.2	0.2 ± 2.4	66.5 ± 9.5	26.7# ± 3.1	38.5¤ ± 9.4
All H ₂ O (n=16)	27.5 ± 1.0	27.3 ± 2.8	9.7 ± 5.6	55.5 ± 16.1	17.8# ± 5.6	28.2¤ ± 17.5

Trial 2. Results (means) of pre- and post-noise measurements of the cubic distortion product (CDP) and auditory brainstem response (ABR) in rats treated by intratympanic instillation of erythropoietin (EPO) or saline (H₂O). The mean loss of hearing is shown to the right. EPO treatment augmented the hearing loss in the early treatment group ($p=0.025$, Students t-test, degrees of freedom: 16)(*) and overall ($p=0.006$, Students t-test, degrees of freedom: 32)(#). § symbolizes a p-value of 0.09 (Students t-test, degrees of freedom: 16) and ¤ symbolizes a p-value of 0.1 (Students t-test, degrees of freedom: 32). The ± values are the 95% confidence intervals.

Table 3

Intraperitoneal EPO

Rats Treatment (Intraperitoneal, day -1)	Pre-noise measurements Day -1 (dB)		Post-noise measurements Day 14 (dB)		Loss (dB)	
	CDP	ABR	CDP	ABR	CDP	ABR
8 h noise + EPO (n=12)	26.3 ± 1.2	30.4 ± 1.9	4.7 ± 4.9	65.4 ± 10.3	21.7 ± 5.3	35.0 ± 10.4
8 h noise + H ₂ O (n=11)	26.2 ± 1.0	31.4 ± 1.4	5.0 ± 5.2	66.4 ± 9.4	21.2 ± 5.8	35.0 ± 9.0
3 x 8 h noise + EPO (n=12)	24.8 ± 4.1	31.7 ± 1.5	2.1 ± 2.8	71.7 ± 4.9	22.7 ± 2.7	40.0 * ± 5.1
3 x 8 h noise + H ₂ O (n=11)	27.0 ± 0.7	31.4 ± 2.4	6.0 ± 4.3	62.3 ± 8.8	21.0 ± 4.1	30.9 * ± 9.0

Trial 3. Results (means) of pre- and post-noise measurements of the cubic distortion product (CDP) and auditory brainstem response (ABR) in rats treated by intraperitoneal injection of erythropoietin (EPO) or saline (H₂O). The mean loss of hearing is shown to the right. EPO treatment in combination with noise for 3 x 8 hours produced a significant increase of the ABR threshold shift (asterisks) (p= 0.048, Students t-test, degrees of freedom: 21). The ± values are the 95% confidence intervals.

CONCLUSION

EPO augments NIHIL
in rodents

Synergy of decreased bloodflow?