

Axon cytoskeleton ultrastructure in chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy

Submitted by Emmanuel Lemoine on Fri, 03/20/2015 - 12:45

Titre	Axon cytoskeleton ultrastructure in chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy
Type de publication	Article de revue
Auteur	Fressinaud, Catherine [1], Dubas, Fr�d�ric [2]
Editeur	Wiley
Type	Article scientifique dans une revue � comit� de lecture
Ann�e	2011
Langue	Anglais
Date	2011/09/01
Num�ro	3
Pagination	332 - 339
Volume	44
Titre de la revue	Muscle & Nerve
ISSN	1097-4598
Mots-cl�s	axonal cytoskeleton [3], CIDP [4], GAP-43 [5], microtubule [6], neurofilament [7]
R�sum� en anglais	<p>Introduction: To detail the extent and pattern of axon cytoskeleton alterations in chronic inflammatory demyelinating polyneuropathy (CIDP).Methods: Nerve biopsies from 7 cases of CIDP, including 4 cases with severe fiber loss, were compared with 5 controls by morphometric transmission electron microscopy (TEM).Results: Despite demyelination of single fibers, myelin ultrastructure was otherwise normal. Contrary to immunolabeling, TEM revealed a decrease in neurofilament (NF) density in every case, although there were pronounced variations among fibers even in the same sample. The NF decrease reached the same extent in large- and small-diameter fibers. It was observed in normally myelinated fibers, suggesting they were demyelinated at a distance from the section. Minimal inter-NF distance increased roughly inversely to NF density. Microtubules increased in 3 cases previously characterized by increased growth-associated protein (GAP-43) immunolabeling.Conclusion:These data demonstrate the severity and constancy of axonal lesions, and especially of NF, in residual fibers in our cases of CIDP. Muscle Nerve 44: 332-339, 2011</p>
URL de la notice	http://okina.univ-angers.fr/publications/ua9017 [8]
DOI	10.1002/mus.22069 [9]
Lien vers le document	http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/mus.22069 [9]
Titre abr�g�	Muscle Nerve

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- [9] <http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/mus.22069>

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