

ZEBRAFISH MODEL OF HYPOXIC BRAIN INJURY AS PLATFORM FOR ISCHEMIC STROKE DRUG DISCOVERY

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INTRODUCTION.

Effective strategies for reducing consequences of stroke largely focus on prevention by modifying behaviors that lead to risk factors. Prevention is the best strategy, however many people are unable to implement behavior changes to reduce risk. Hence, it is imperative that strategies to improve stroke outcomes become available. All currently approved acute stroke therapies (i.e., tPA) are only effective if given within 4 hours of the stroke onset. Due to the delay before the onset of many symptoms and time to hospitalization this effectively excludes almost all mild stroke patients and many severe stroke patients from direct treatment.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES.

Our laboratory's research is focused on developing stroke therapies that improve long-term stroke outcomes and are efficacious outside of the traditional therapeutic window and have created a zebrafish injury model as a platform for testing new therapies quickly and inexpensively.

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