

Antibodies Against Synaptic Proteins

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Technology description

Monoclonal antibodies reactive against a wide range of synaptic proteins.

Description

Most pharmacological approaches to neuropsychiatric disorders involve attempts to block postsynaptic receptors or inhibit presynaptic neurotransmitter uptake. Recent work indicates that families of proteins are involved in the presynaptic mechanisms of neurotransmitter secretion. Antibodies reactive with these proteins can be used to demonstrate alterations in presynaptic mechanisms in a wide range of neuropsychiatric disorders. Certain synaptic proteins are susceptible to the action of neurotoxins. Using anti- synaptic antibodies as probes into mechanisms of illness, and as reagents to permit characterization of presynaptic proteins, may lead to the development of entirely new therapeutic strategies for such illnesses as Alzheimer disease, temporal lobe epilepsy and schizophrenia.

Institution

[The University of British Columbia](#)

联系我们



叶先生

电话 : 021-65679356

手机 : 13414935137

邮箱 : yeyingsheng@zf-ym.com