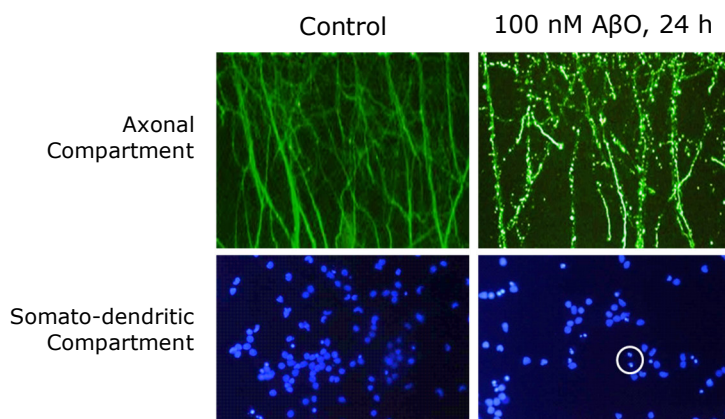
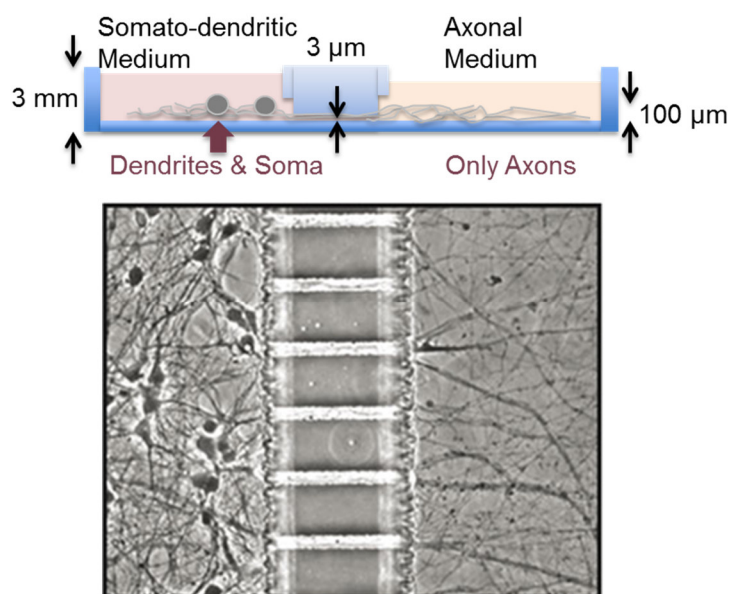


Neurodegeneration and Rescue Model in a Microfluidic Device

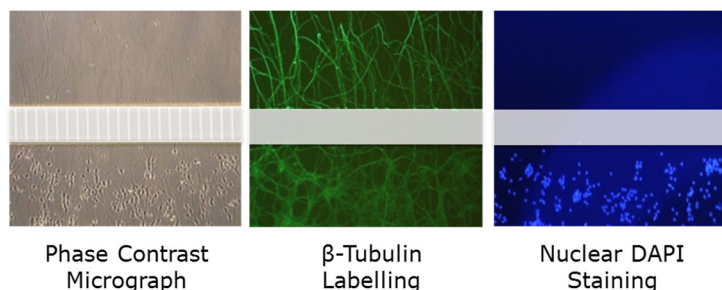
Neurons are grown in a microfluidic chamber as described in Taylor *et al.* (Nature Methods, 2005, 2:599–605) separating soma and dendrites from axons. Both compartments can be treated independently, without interchange of media. This permits investigation of disease mechanisms and compound rescue.

A β oligomers (A β O) are used to induce neurodegeneration, as in Alzheimer's disease. For example, A β O can be exclusively added to the axonal compartment and the effects investigated. Within minutes, changes in the axonal compartment can be observed. Within 24h, the neurodegeneration spreads to the soma, inducing apoptosis, which is visualized by DAPI staining:



The following neurons are available for testing in the microfluidic device at SynAging:

- Hippocampal neurons (rat / mouse)
- Cortical neurons (rat / mouse)
- Striatal neurons (rat / mouse)



Microfluidic device utility:

- Strict separation of axonal and somato-dendritic media
- A β O_s induce axonal and synaptic degeneration upon contact
- Retrograde neuronal signaling results in nuclear apoptosis
- Clear dose-dependent effects of A β O

Applications:

- **Insights into drug candidate mode-of-action**
- **Investigate compound activity following A β O interaction with axons or after retrograde signaling to soma and nucleus**
- **Provide insights regarding target location and engagement**
- **Time course studies of quantifiable phenotypes**
- **Pre-incubation of axonal or somato-dendritic compartments with drug candidates before A β O-induced neurodegeneration, to investigate neuronal protection rather than direct A β O competition**

SynAging SAS: Your partner in naturally induced phenotypic models accelerating drug discovery for proteopathic CNS diseases