

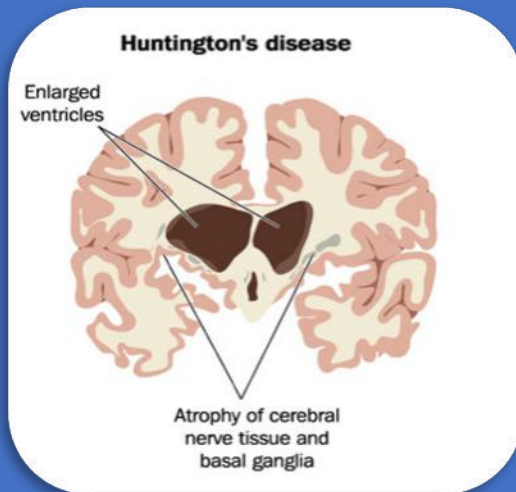
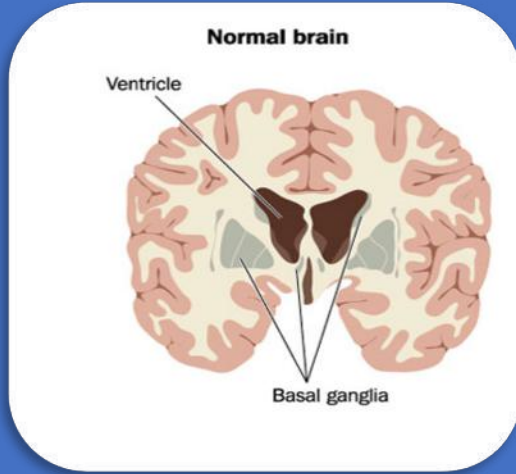
# SAPAP3 scaffolding protein as a regulator of mitochondrial function in Huntington's Disease

Patrícia Coelho<sup>1</sup>, Lígia Fão<sup>1,2</sup>, A. Cristina Rego<sup>1,2</sup>

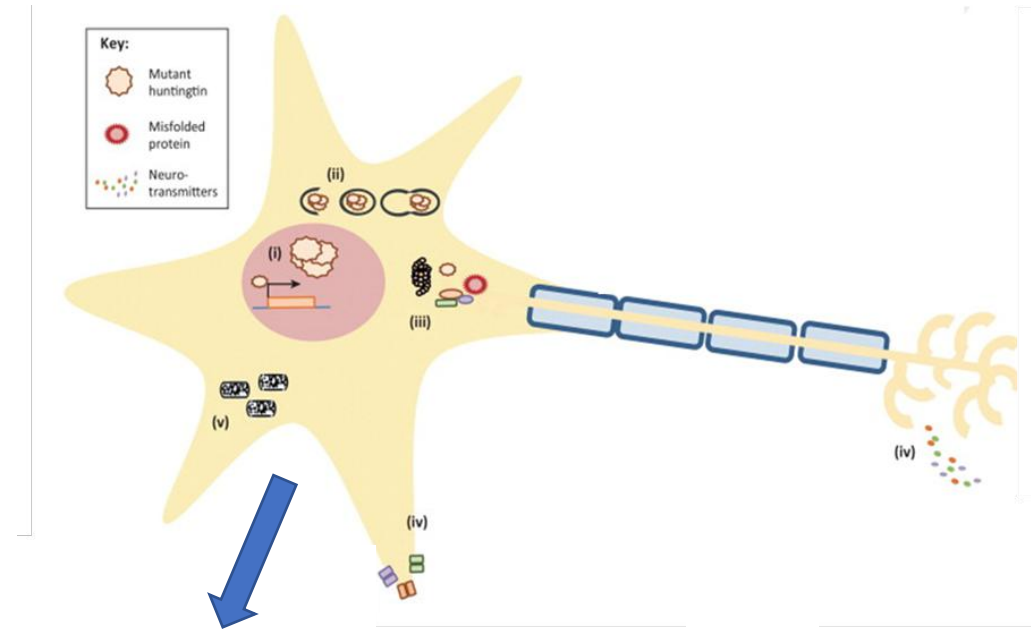
<sup>1</sup>CNC - Center for Neuroscience and Cell Biology, University of Coimbra; <sup>2</sup>FMUC - Faculty of Medicine, University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal

# Huntington's Disease

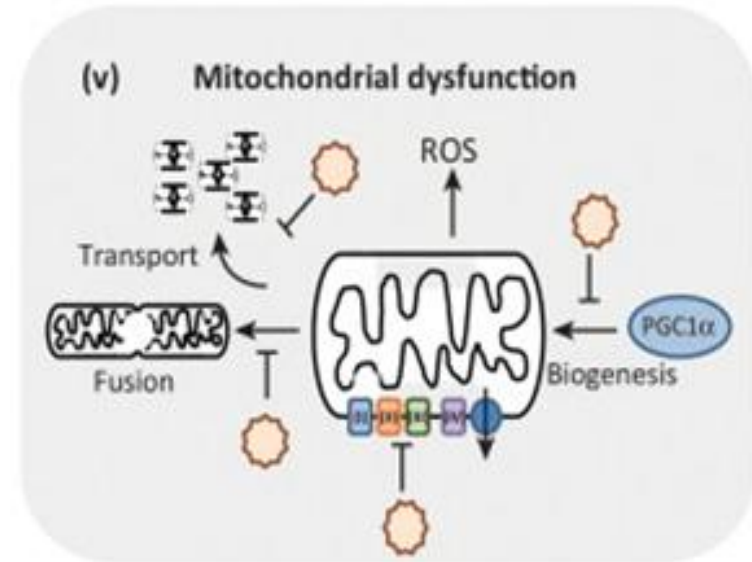
Adapted from: Myers *et al.* (1998)



- Huntington's disease (HD):
  - Autosomal dominant neurodegenerative disorder
  - CAG repeat expansion in the *HTT* gene.
  - Affects the striatum and later the cortex

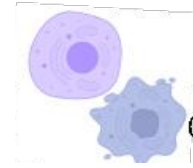


- HD clinical symptoms include:
  - Uncontrolled motor movements
  - Dementia
  - Cognitive dysfunction
  - Psychiatric disturbances

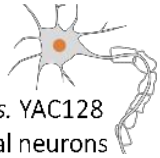


Adapted from: Labbadia *et al.* (2013)

# SAPAP3 is present in mitochondria



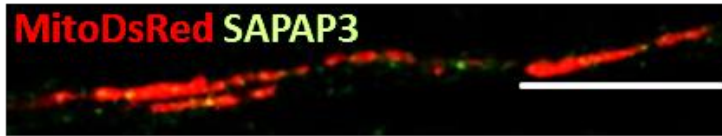
Q7/Q7 vs.  
Q111/Q111 cells



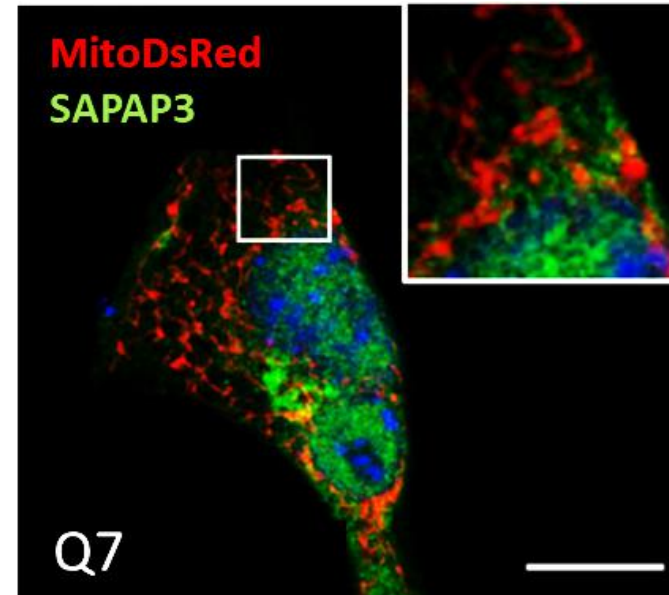
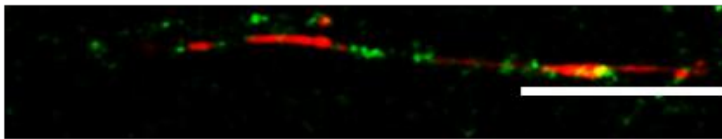
WT vs. YAC128  
striatal neurons

WT

Proximal

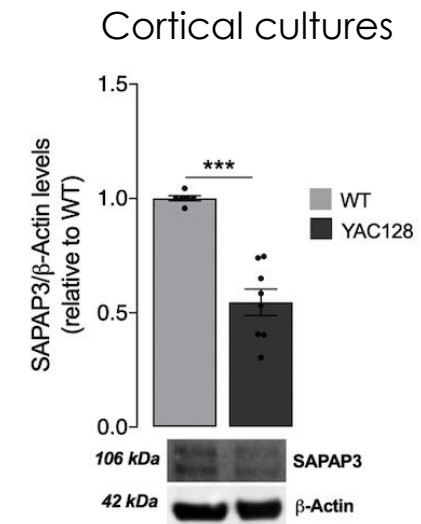
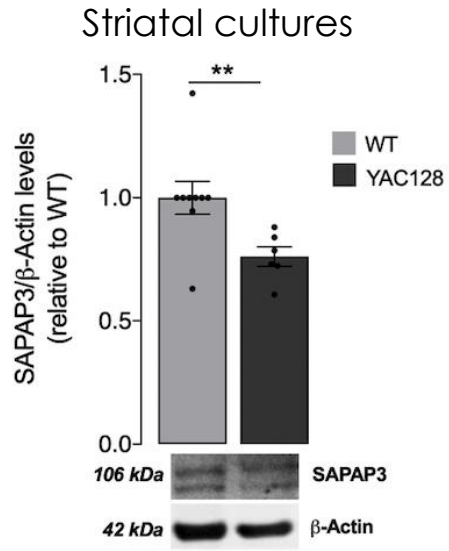


Distal

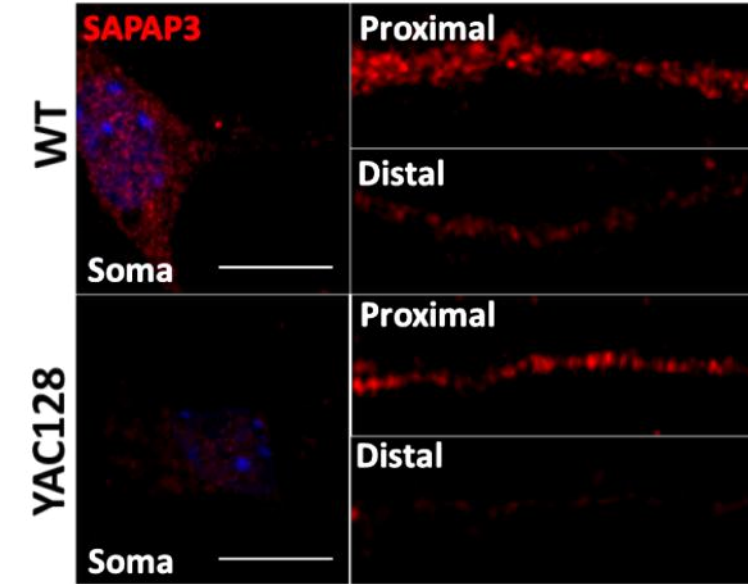


# SAPAP3 is diminished in HD YAC128 neurons

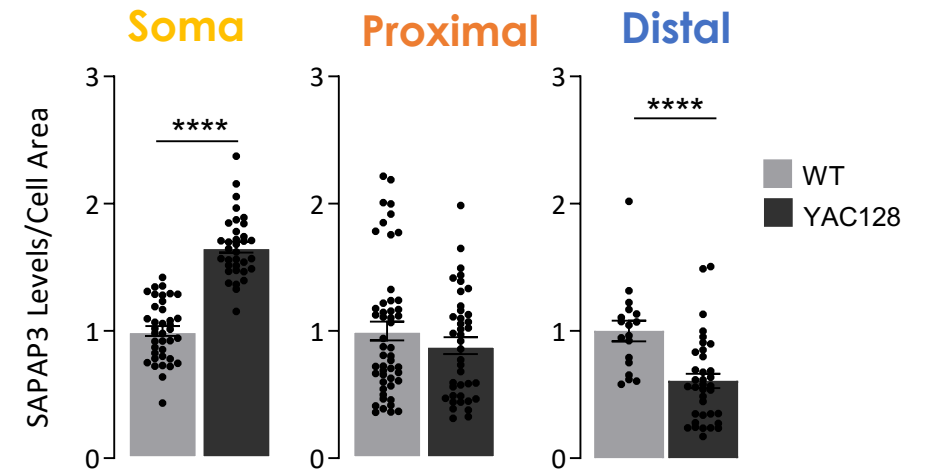
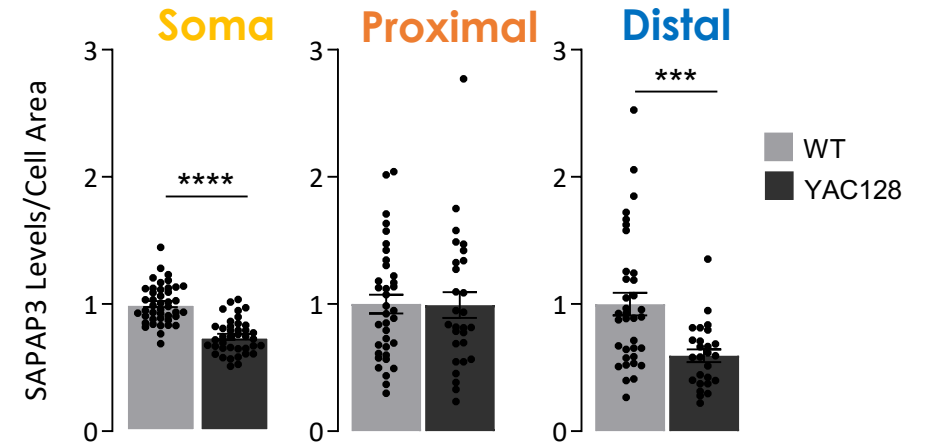
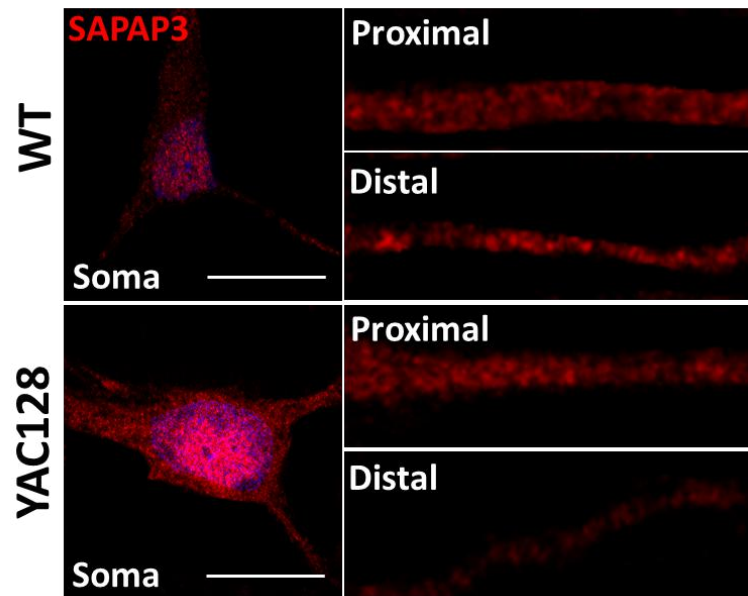
## Primary cultures: Extracts



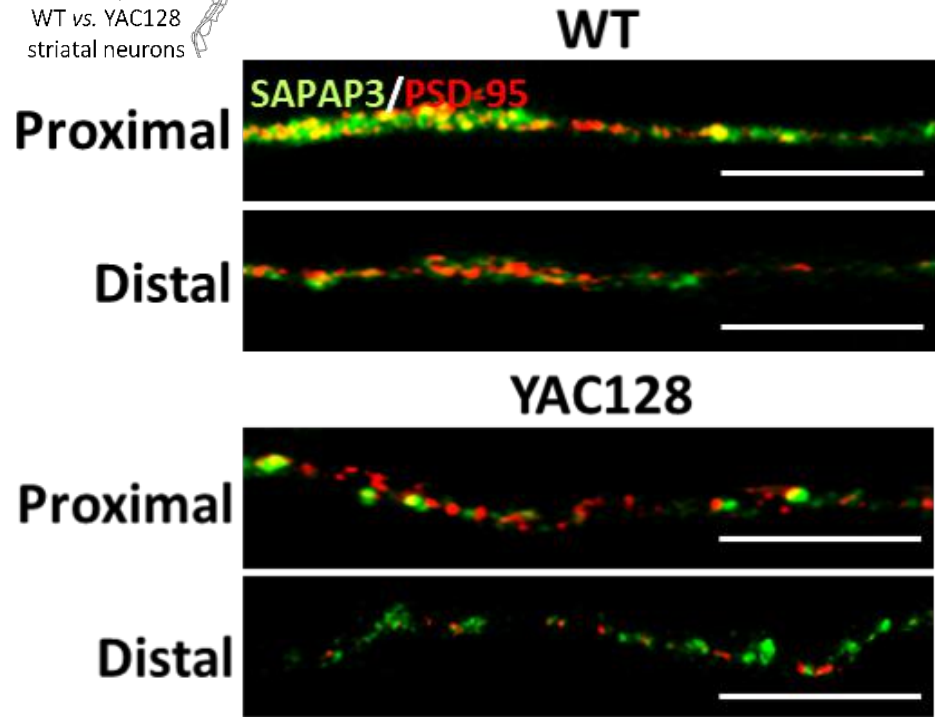
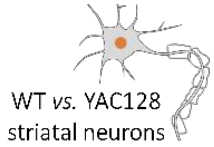
## Striatal cultures



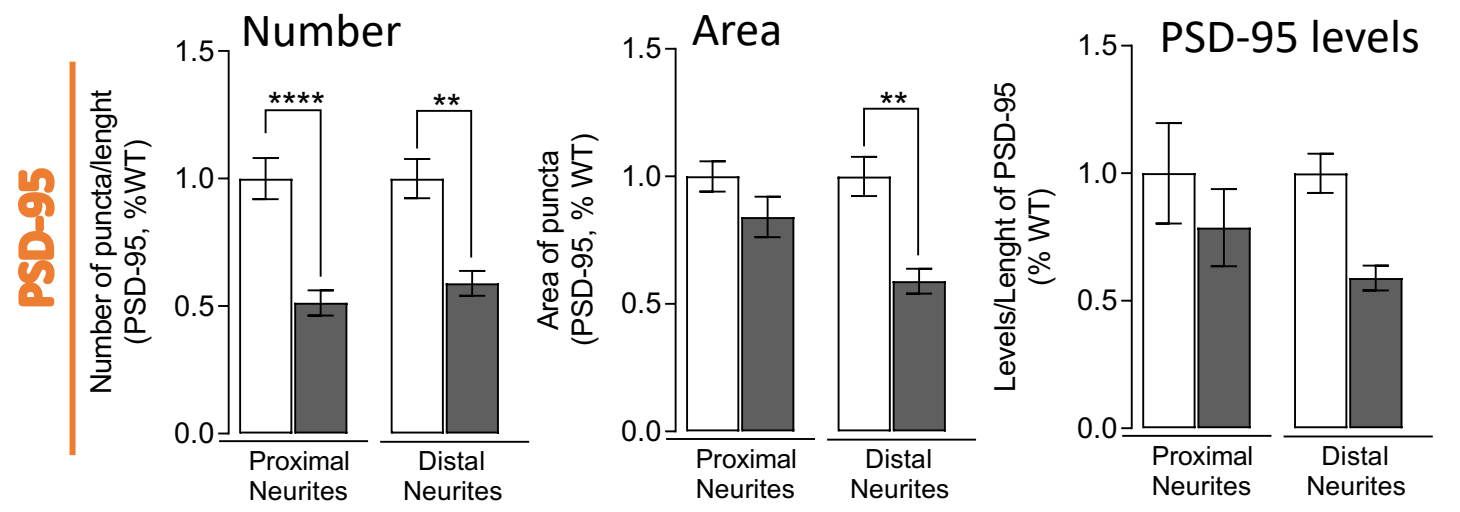
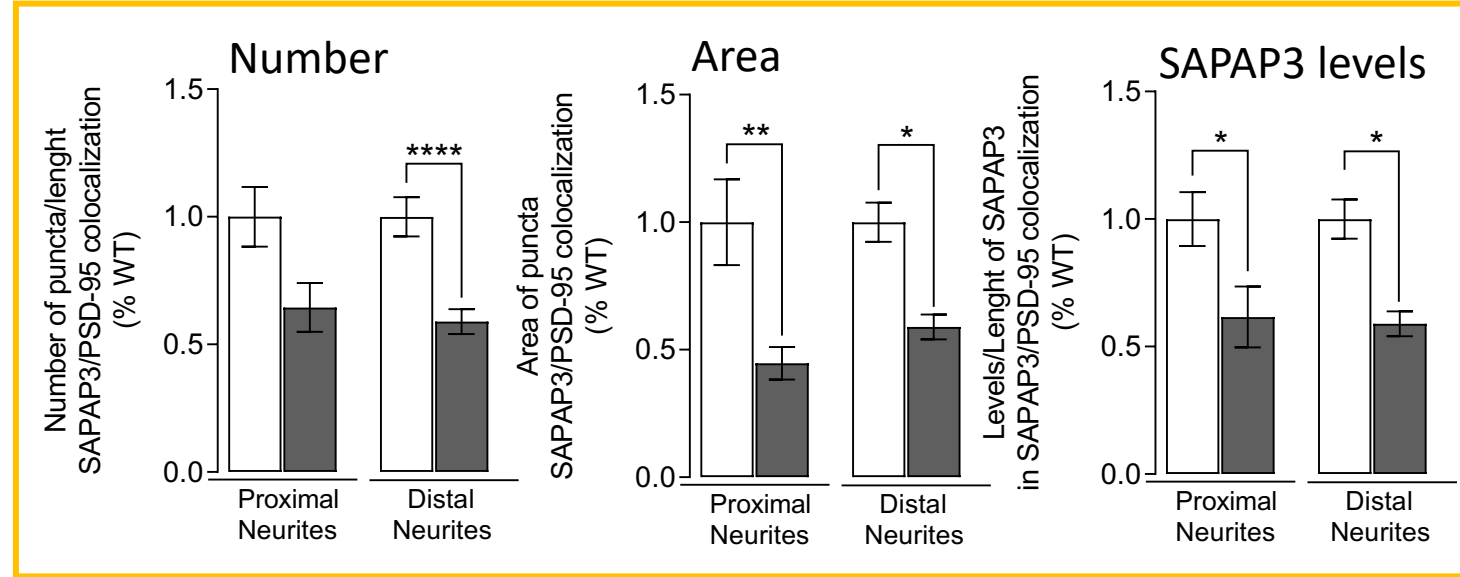
## Cortical cultures



# SAPAP3 distinctly colocalizes with PSD-95 in HD YAC128 striatal neurons



## SAPAP3/PSD-95 colocalization



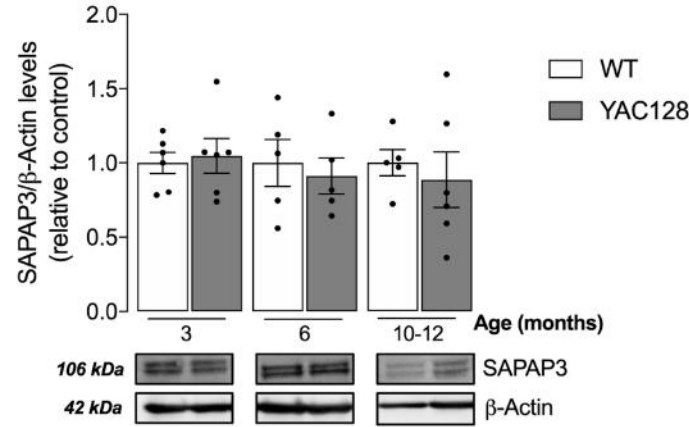
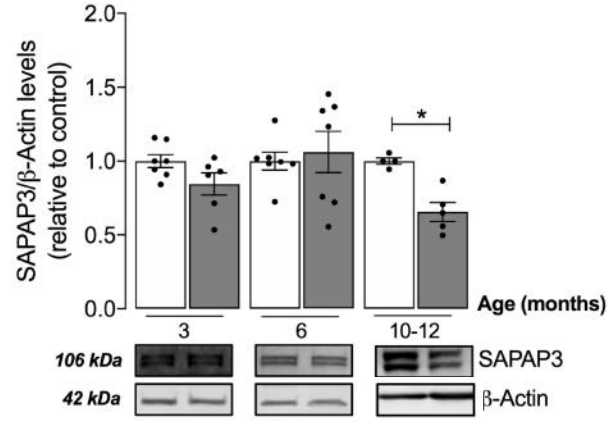


# SAPAP3-mitochondrial colocalization is altered in HD models

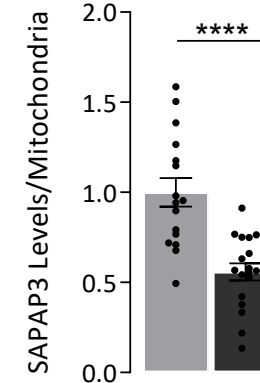
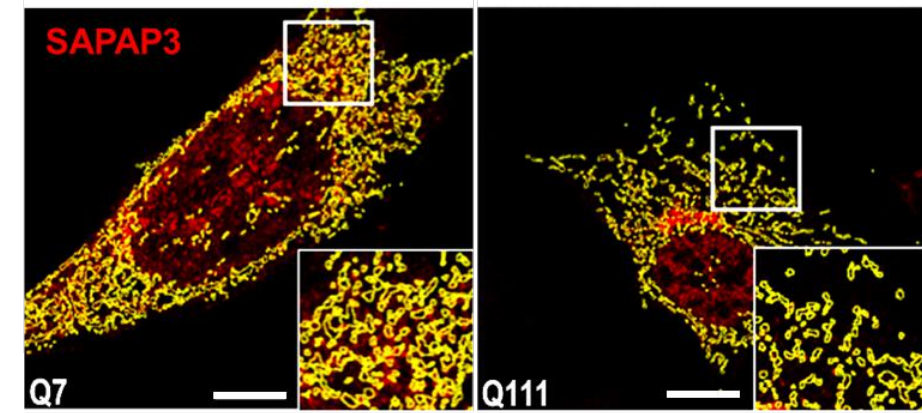
Striatum

Cortex

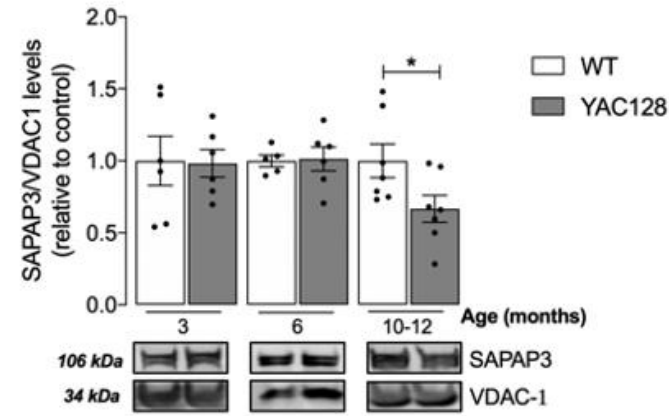
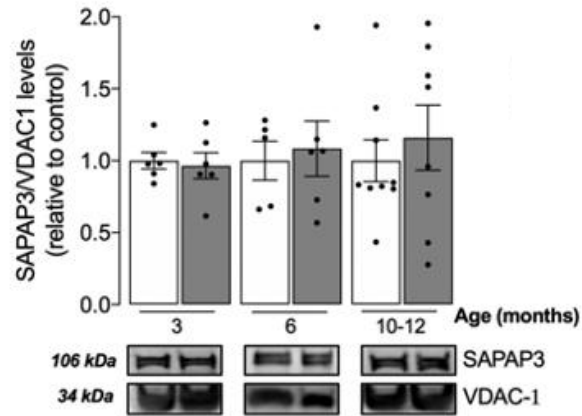
Total Brain



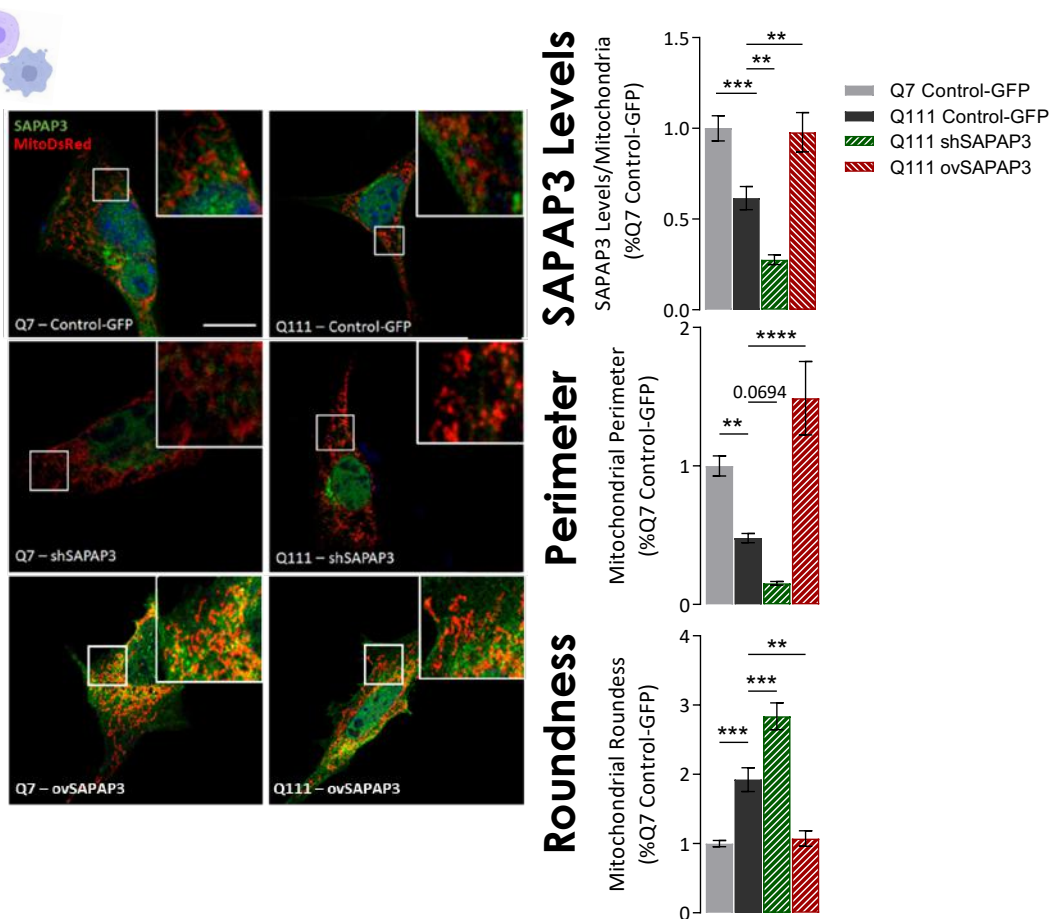
Mitochondrial SAPAP3 levels in Q7/Q7 vs. Q111/Q111 cells



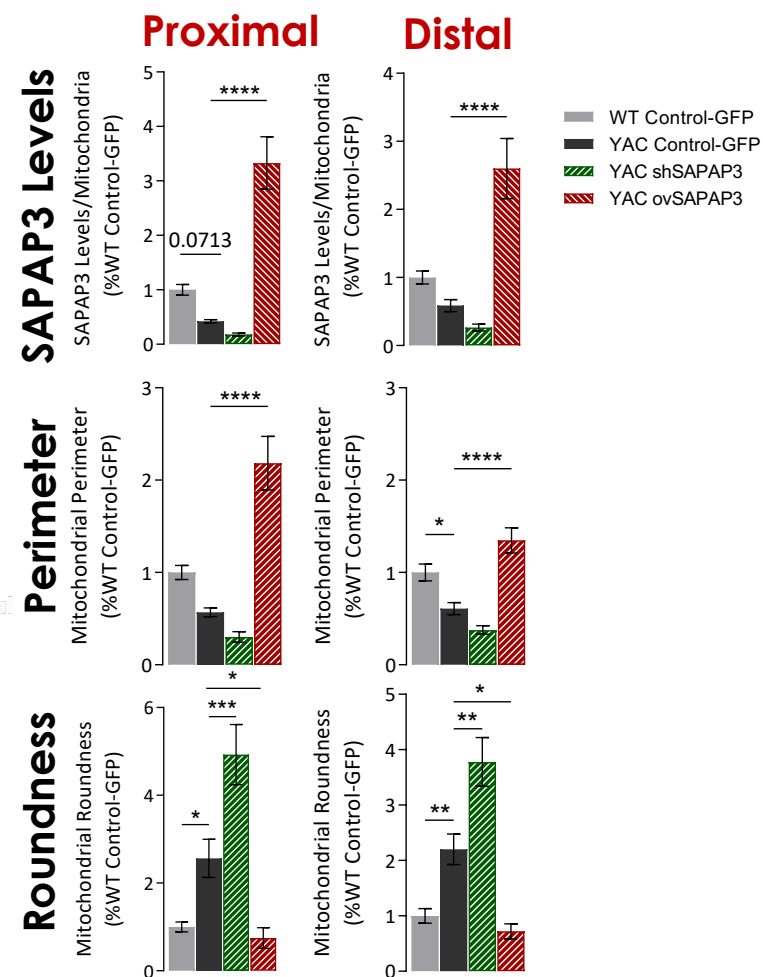
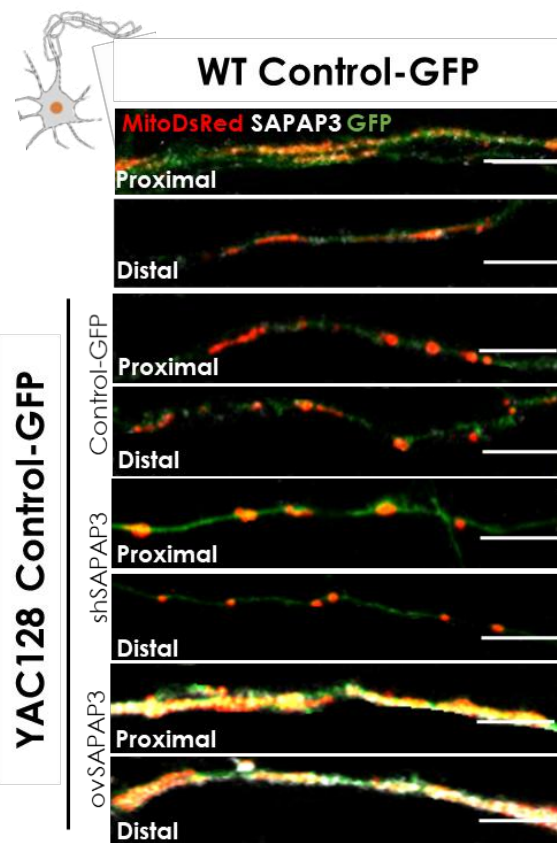
Mitochondrial Brain Isolates



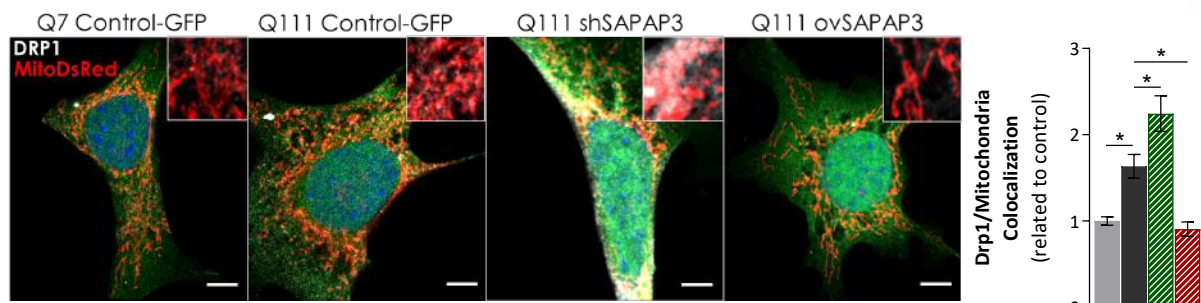
# SAPAP3 modulation alters mitochondrial morphology and fission/fusion events



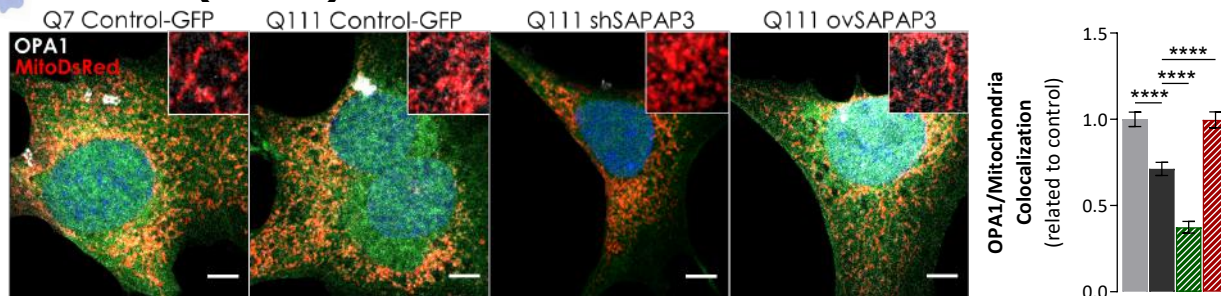
## events



## Fission (Drp1)



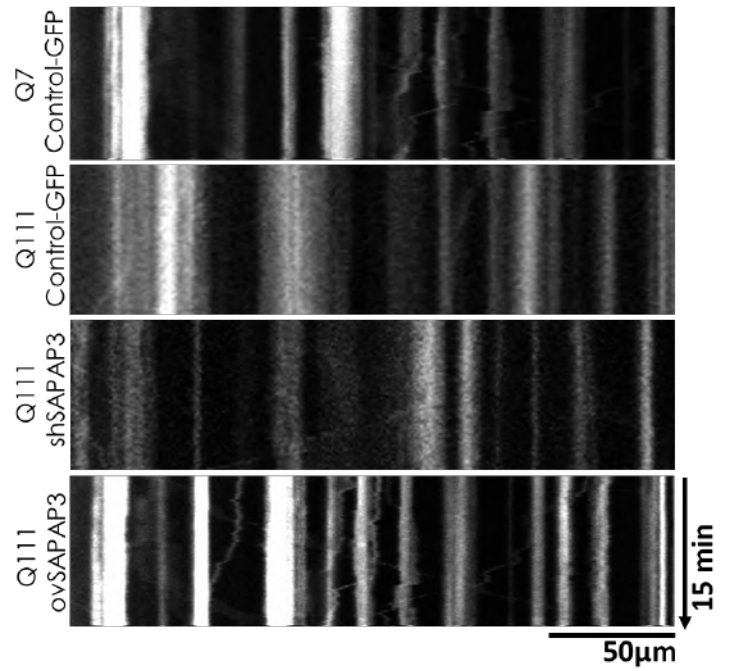
## Fusion (OPA1)





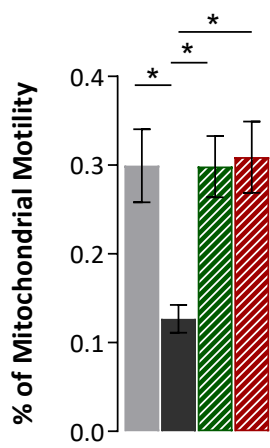
# Mitochondrial Movement

Retrograde ← Anterograde →



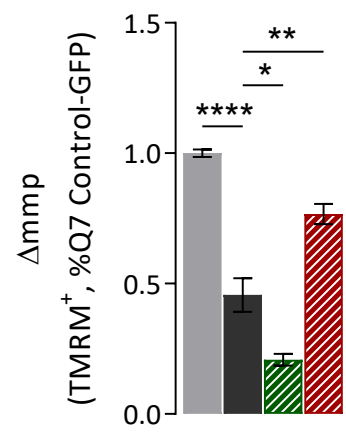
Velocity

## Motility

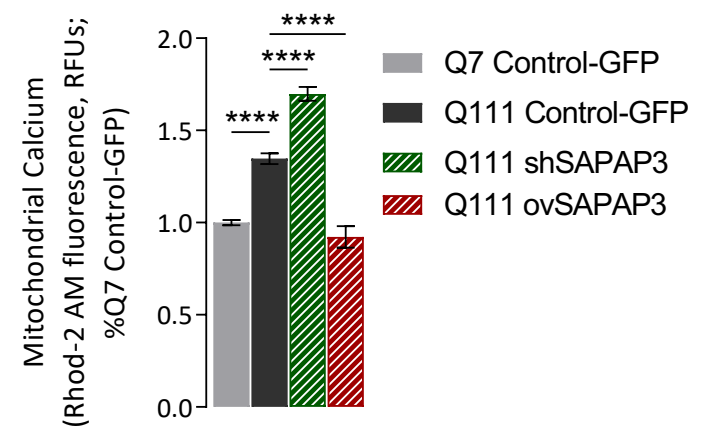


# Mitochondrial Function

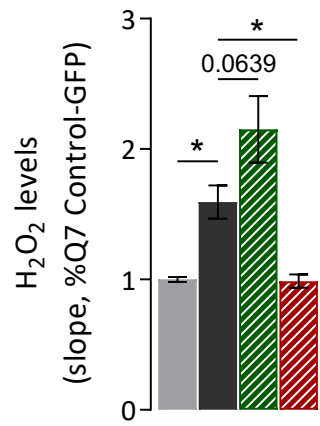
## MMP



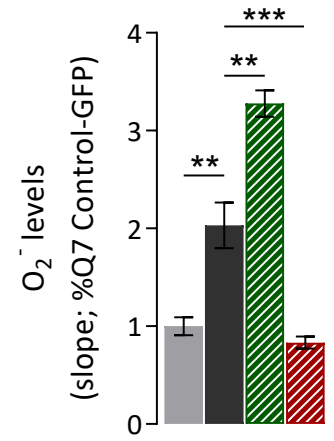
## mitCa<sup>2+</sup>



## Cellular ROS

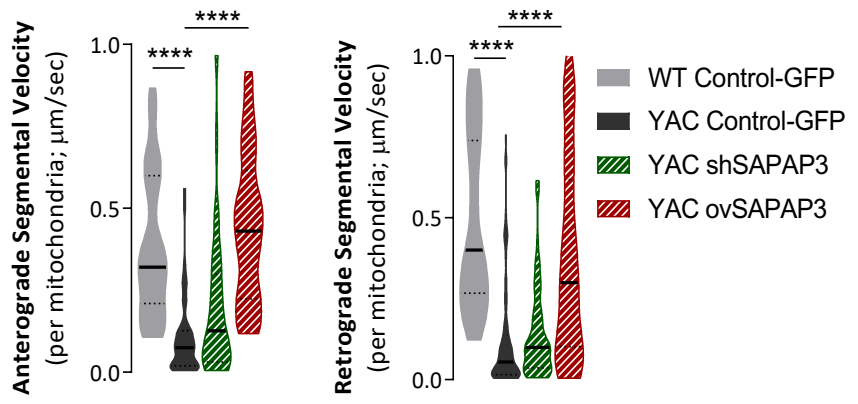


## Mitochondrial ROS



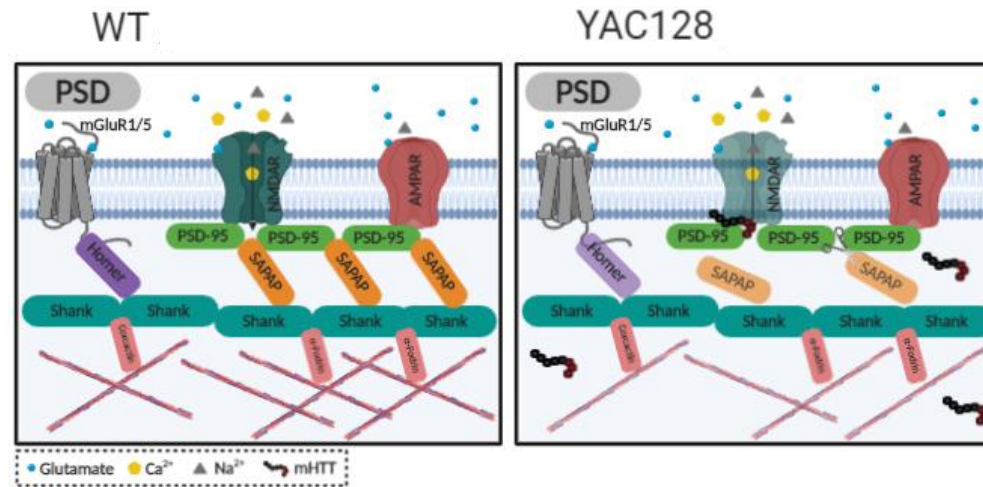
## Anterograde

## Retrograde

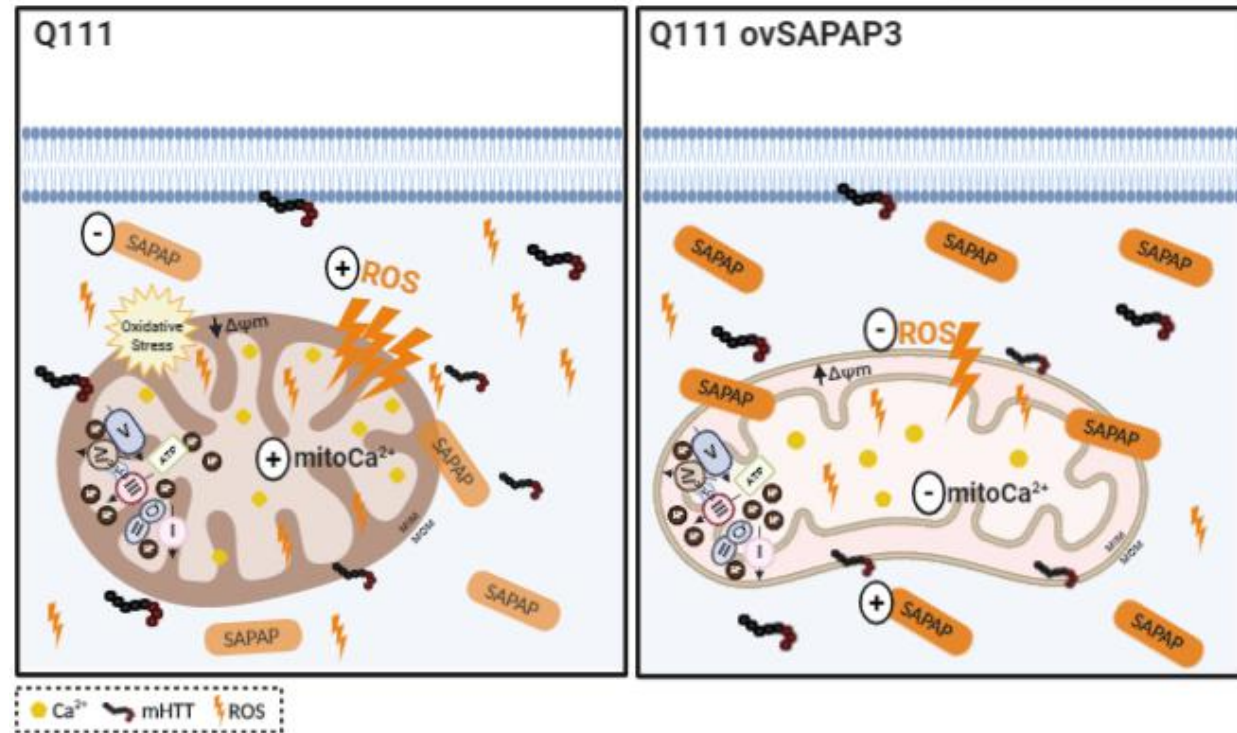




# Conclusions



PSD destabilization in HD might involve SAPAP3 defects



SAPAP3 might have a **protective effect in mitochondrial dysfunction** in HD