

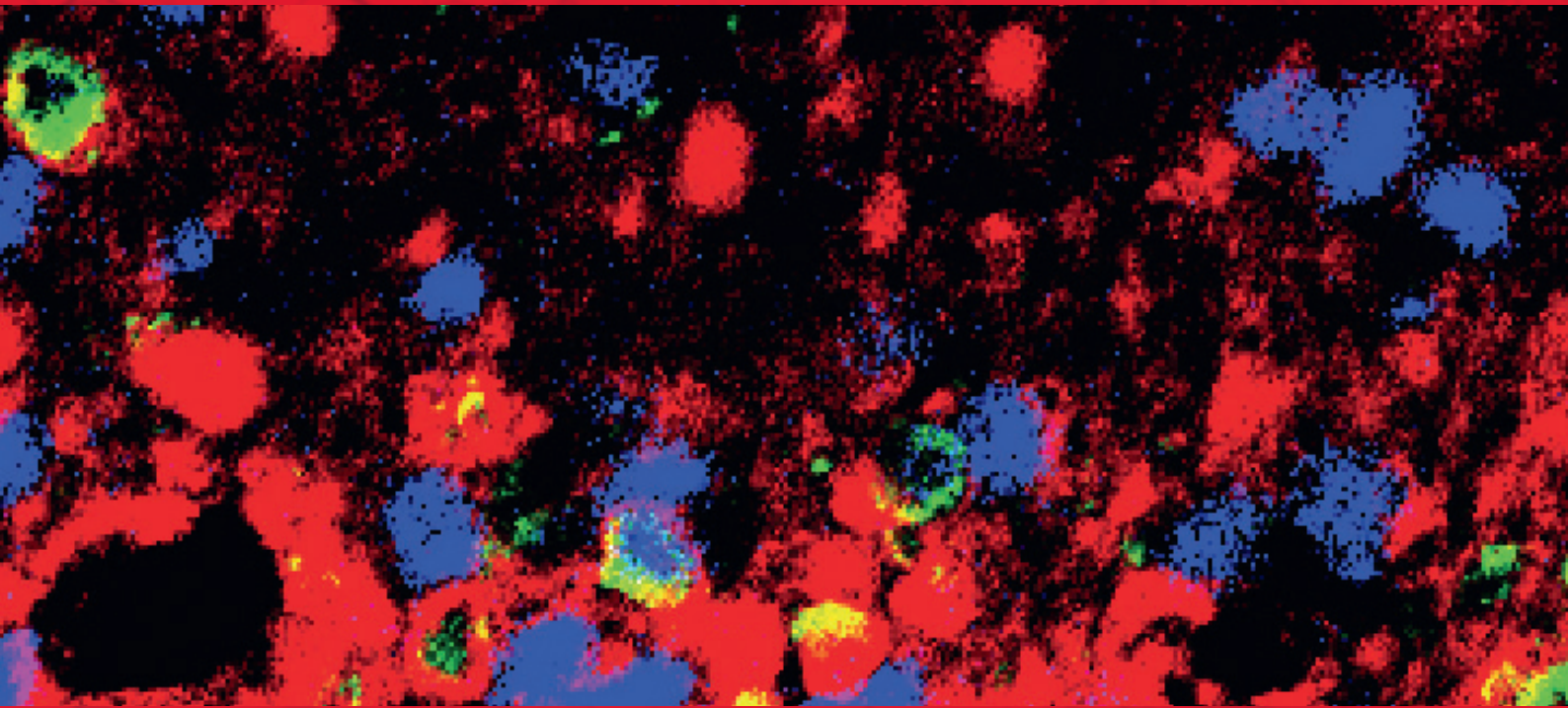
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Front cover:

Background: N-myc downstream-regulated gene 2 (NDRG2) is a differentiation- and stress-associated molecule that is predominantly expressed in astrocytes in the central nervous system.

Main Finding: In this study, we demonstrated that NDRG2 plays pathological roles in experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE) most strongly at the step of neurodegeneration. NDRG2 regulates the expression of glutamate transporters through, at least in part, the PI3K/Akt signaling pathway.

Implication: NDRG2-expressing astrocytes may be a novel target in MS and in other related diseases.

Image Content: The image shows a confocal immunofluorescence microscopy image of SMI32 (damaged axons in the white matter) (green) and myelin basic protein (MBP) (red) in *Ndr2*^{-/-} spinal cord after EAE.

Read the full article ‘*Ndr2* deficiency ameliorates neurodegeneration in experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis’ by T. M. Le, M. Takarada-Iemata, H. M. Ta, J. Roboon, H. Ishii, T. Tamatani, Y. Kitao, T. Hattori, O. Hori (*J. Neurochem.* 2018, vol. 145(2), pp. 139–153) on [doi: 10.1111/jnc.14294](https://doi.org/10.1111/jnc.14294)