



# ***Neurobehavioral Effect of Nanosilver in Adult Male Offsprings***

**Mahmoud Ghazi-Khansari; PhD**

**Department of Pharmacology, School of Medicine  
Tehran University of Medical Sciences**

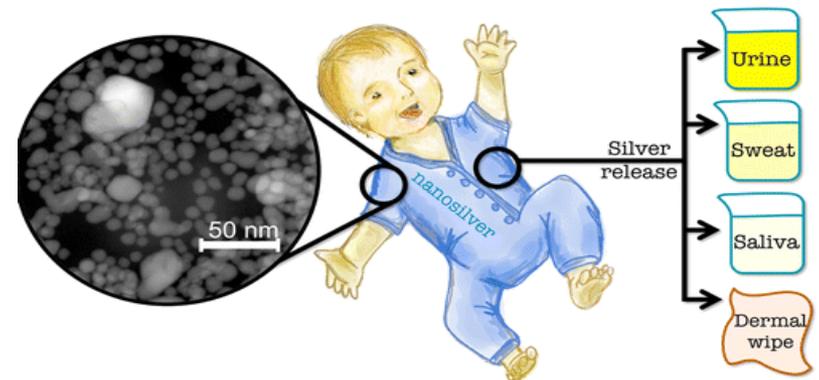


***Technical Workshop for the Asia-Pacific Region on Nanosafety Issues, 10-11 Sept 2015,  
Bangkok, Thailand***

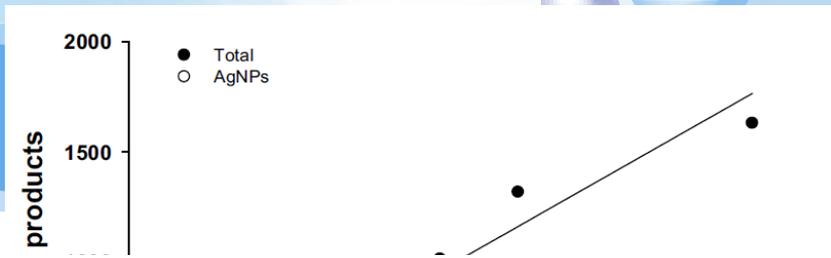
# Why Silver?

- ◆ Effectiveness in killing a wide range of bacteria
  - Including some of the strains that have proven resistant to modern antibiotics
- ◆ Can be readily incorporated into plastics, fabrics and onto surfaces
- ◆ Delivers toxic silver ions (not safe silver metal) in large doses directly to sites where they most effectively attack microbes

- ◆ Cloths (Underwear, Socks)
- ◆ Tooth pastes
- ◆ Washing machines
- ◆ Cosmetic materials  
(nanosilver coated dressings)
- ◆ Baby bottles



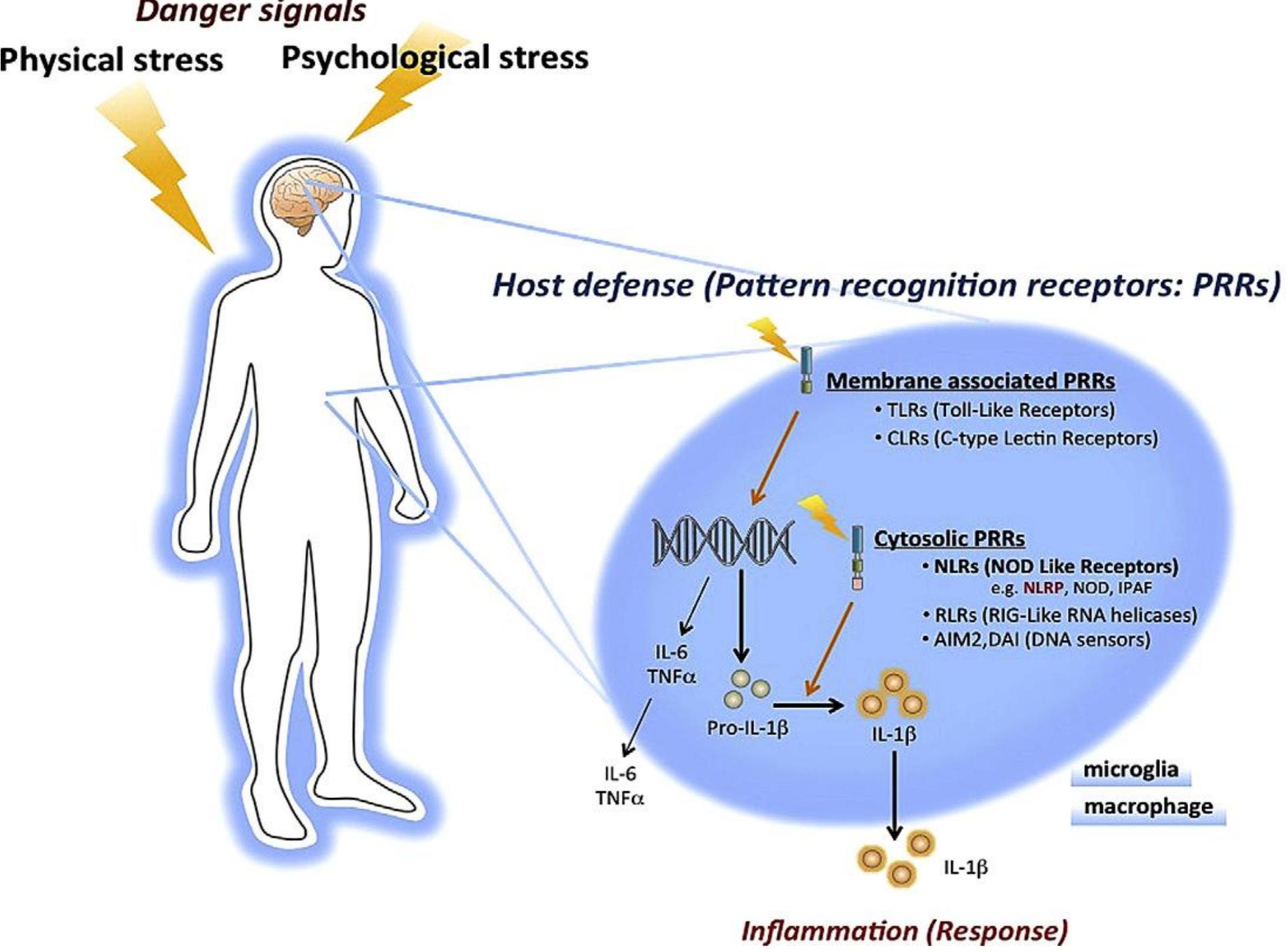
### Major Materials



**Table 1 – Predicted environmental concentrations (PECs) of AgNPs. The PECs in surface water, sediment, and sludge-treated soil are presented by year based on the increase in AgNP-containing consumer products and AgNP production. See footnotes as well as Sections 2 and 3 for more details.**

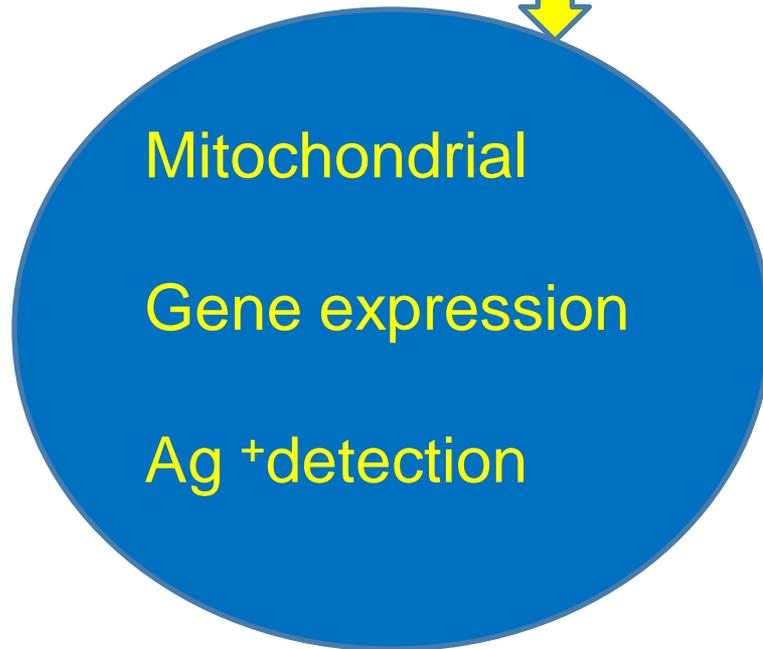
| Year             | Number of products <sup>a</sup> | AgNP production worldwide (t/a) <sup>b</sup> | PEC surface water (ng/L) <sup>c</sup> | PEC sediment (µg/kg/a) <sup>c</sup> | PEC surface water (ng/L) <sup>d</sup> | PEC sediment (mg/kg/a) <sup>d</sup> | Sludge-treated soil (µg/kg/a) <sup>c</sup> |
|------------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 2006             | 25                              | 0.4–46                                       | 0.012–0.35                            | 0.020–1.35                          | 7–59                                  | 0.4–2.6                             | 0.070–0.32                                 |
| 2007             | 84                              | 1.3–133                                      | 0.039–1.17                            | 0.068–4.53                          | 25–197                                | 1.2–8.6                             | 0.234–1.06                                 |
| 2008             | 136                             | 2.2–216                                      | 0.064–1.90                            | 0.111–7.37                          | 40–320                                | 2.0–14.0                            | 0.381–1.72                                 |
| 2009             | 188                             | 3.0–300                                      | 0.088–2.63                            | 0.153–10.18                         | 55–443                                | 2.8–19.4                            | 0.526–2.38                                 |
| 2010             | 241                             | 3.8–383                                      | 0.113–3.37                            | 0.196–13.04                         | 71–567                                | 3.5–24.8                            | 0.674–3.05                                 |
| 2011             | 313                             | 5.0–498                                      | 0.147–4.38                            | 0.255–16.95                         | 92–736                                | 4.6–32.2                            | 0.876–3.96                                 |
| 2012             | 346                             | 5.5–550                                      | 0.162–4.84                            | 0.281–18.71                         | 102–813                               | 5.1–35.6                            | 0.967–4.38                                 |
| 2013             | 383                             | 6.1–609                                      | 0.179–5.36                            | 0.312–20.74                         | 113–901                               | 5.6–39.4                            | 1.072–4.85                                 |
| 2014             | 450                             | 7.2–716                                      | 0.211–6.30                            | 0.367–24.39                         | 132–1060                              | 6.6–46.4                            | 1.260–5.70                                 |
| 2015             | 503                             | 8.0–799                                      | 0.235–7.03                            | 0.409–27.22                         | 148–1183                              | 7.4–51.8                            | 1.407–6.36                                 |
| 2016             | 555                             | 8.8–882                                      | 0.260–7.77                            | 0.452–30.06                         | 163–1306                              | 8.2–57.1                            | 1.553–7.03                                 |
| 2017             | 608                             | 9.7–966                                      | 0.284–8.50                            | 0.452–32.90                         | 179–1430                              | 8.9–62.5                            | 1.700–7.69                                 |
| 2018             | 660                             | 10.5–1049                                    | 0.309–9.23                            | 0.537–35.73                         | 194–1553                              | 9.7–67.9                            | 1.846–8.35                                 |
| 2019             | 712                             | 11.3–1132                                    | 0.333–9.96                            | 0.580–38.57                         | 210–1676                              | 10.5–73.3                           | 1.993–9.02                                 |
| 2020             | 765                             | 12.2–1216                                    | 0.358–10.70                           | 0.622–41.41                         | 225–1799                              | 11.2–78.7                           | 2.140–9.68                                 |
| Sum <sup>e</sup> | na                              | 94.9–9488                                    | na                                    | 4.857–323.16                        | na                                    | 87.8–614.4                          | 16.698–75.55                               |

Number  
Carbon nanotubes  
Fullerenes  
Nano TiO<sub>2</sub>  
Nano TiO<sub>2</sub>  
Nano ZnO  
Nano CuO  
Nano Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>  
Nano SiO<sub>2</sub>  
Nano Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>  
Nano ZnO

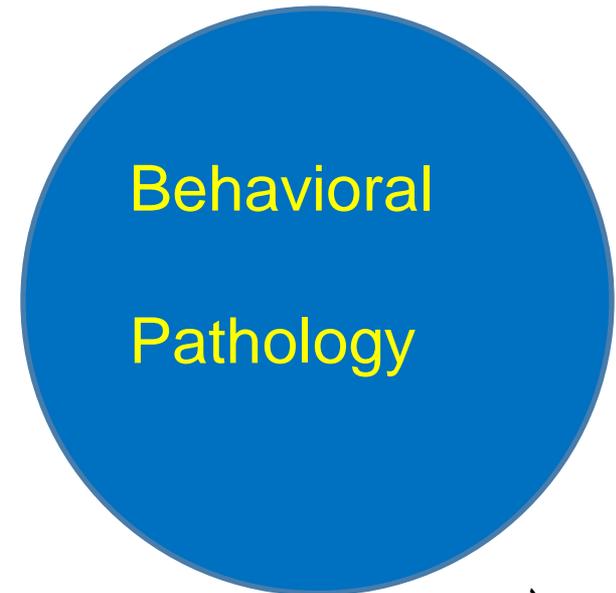
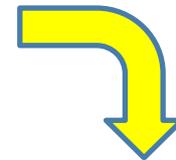




**P1**



**P60**



# Different Experiments and Different Mice Life Cycle

- ◆ Gestation period (19-22 days)
- ◆ Birth (P1)
- ◆ Adulthood (P60)
- ◆ Prenatal **exposure** to Ag-NPs  
(G1 to Birth)
- ◆ Orally (oral gavage)
- ◆ Two size: 10 and 30 nm



P0 (newly-born) - bright red



P1 (one day old) - pink  
♀

# Mitochondrial Function and Gene Expression

◆ ROS formation

◆ MDA levels

◆ GSH levels

◆ ATP levels

◆ Nlrp3

◆ Toll-like receptors (2,4)

◆ MYD88

◆ IL-1 $\beta$

◆ IL-6

◆ TNf- $\alpha$

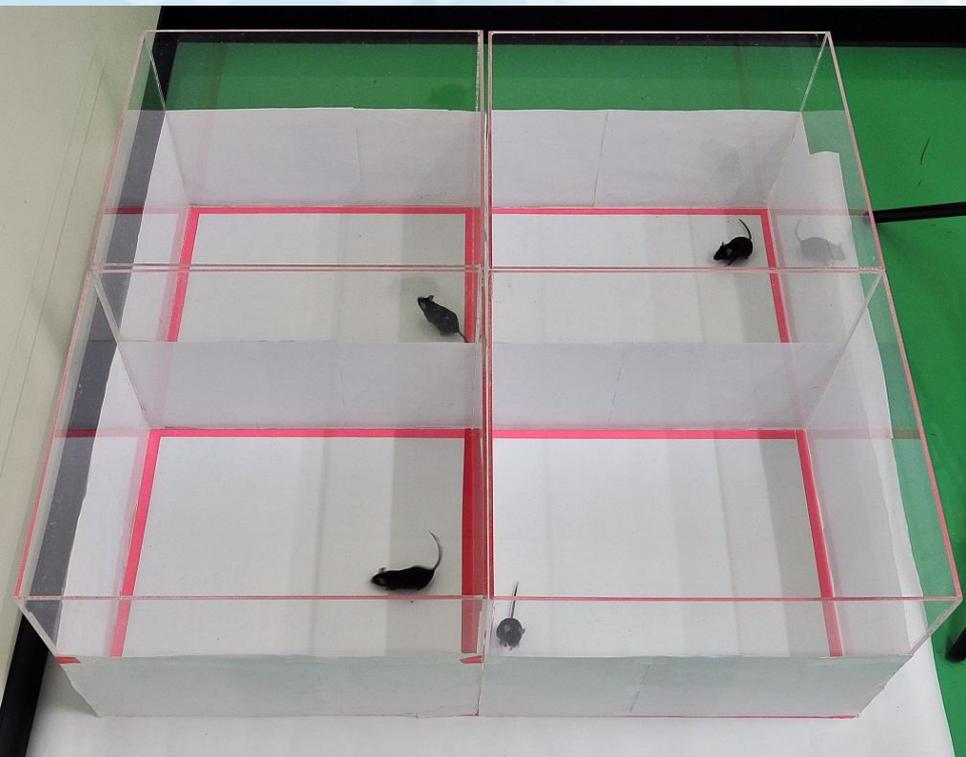
◆ BDNF

# P60 (adulthood)

- ◆ Pathology Assessment
- ◆ Behavioral tests
  - Depressive-like behavioral
  - Anxiety-like behavioral
  - Locomotion
- ◆ Seizure susceptibility
- ◆ Memory

# Pathology Assessment

- ◆ Macroscopic and microscopic study of brain
- ◆ Macroscopic (size, color and etc.)
- ◆ Microscopic(morphology)

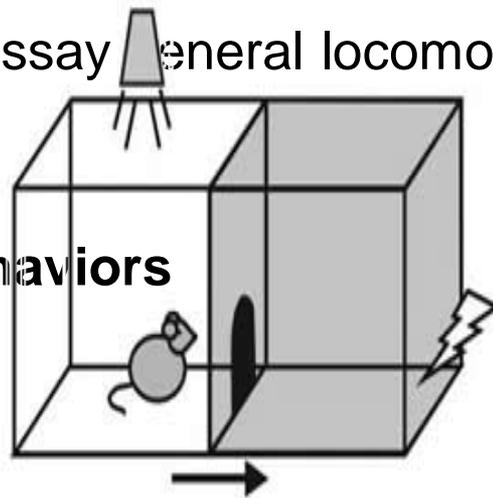


Assessment of anxiety-like behaviors:



Passive Avoidance

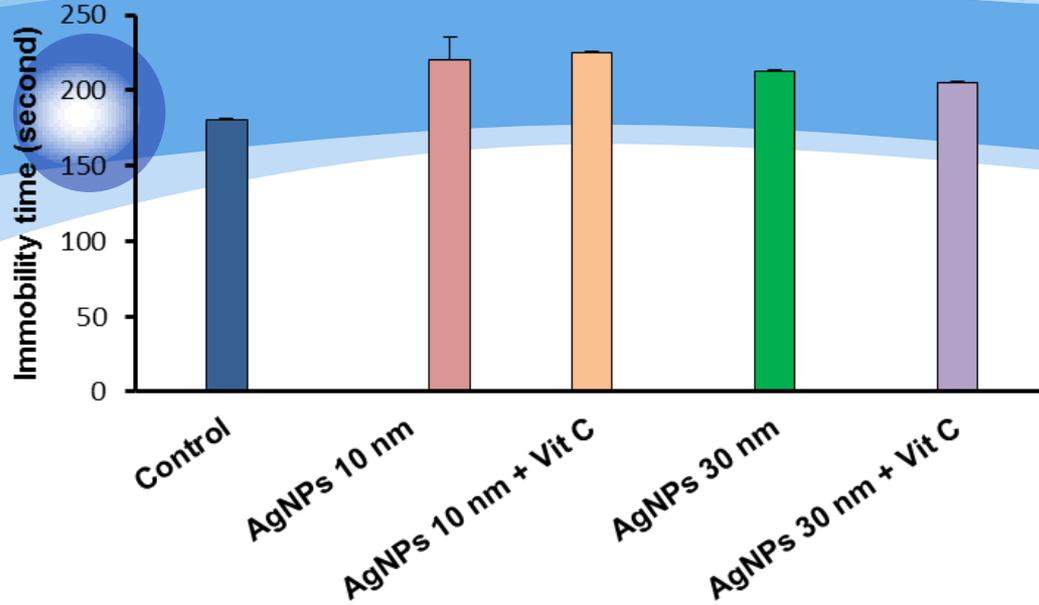
General Locomotor



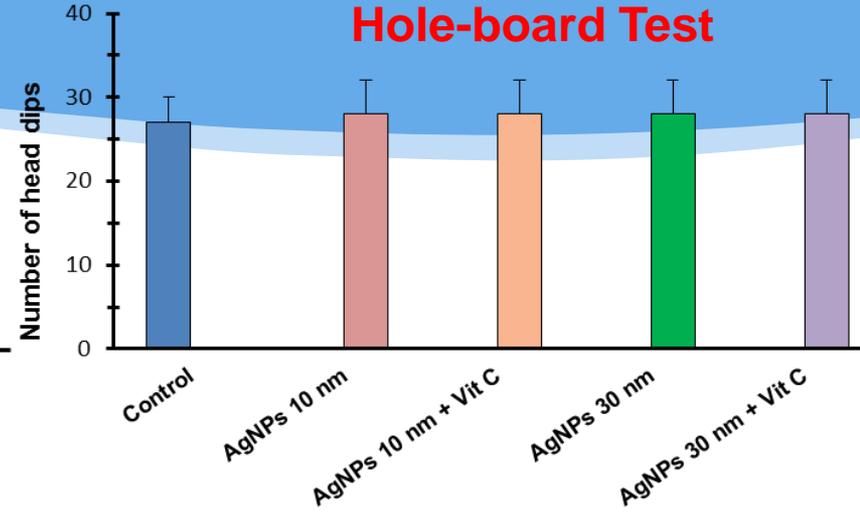
**Passive Avoidance**  
Exploits a natural tendency of mice to enter dark environments.

**Unidirectional:** mouse goes from light to dark chamber.

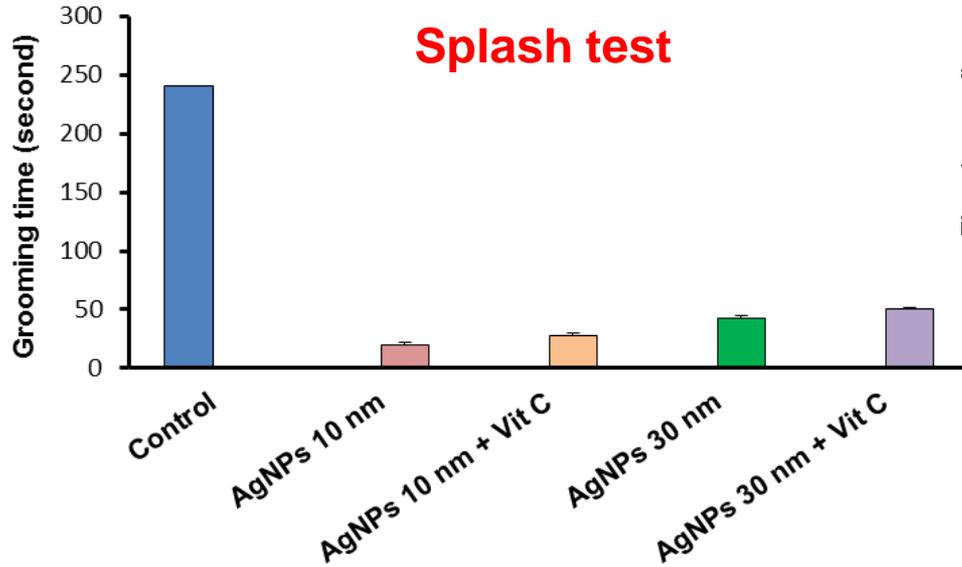
# FST



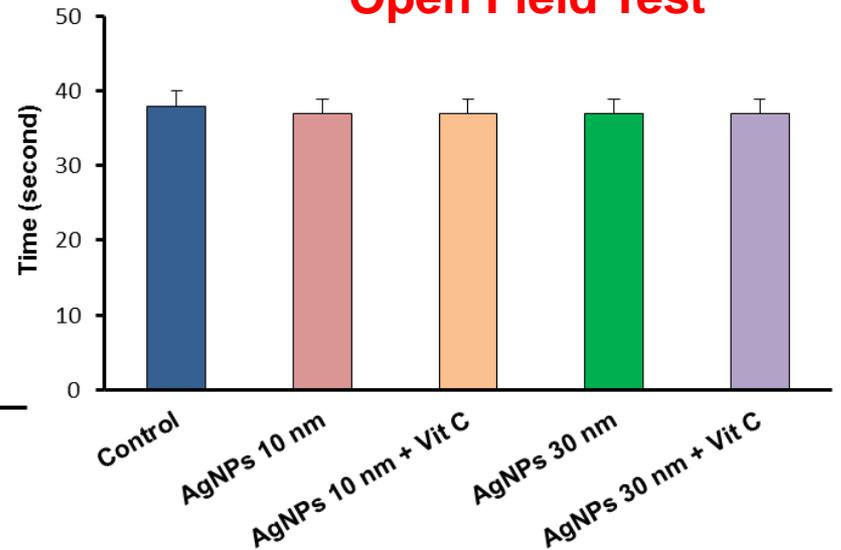
# Hole-board Test



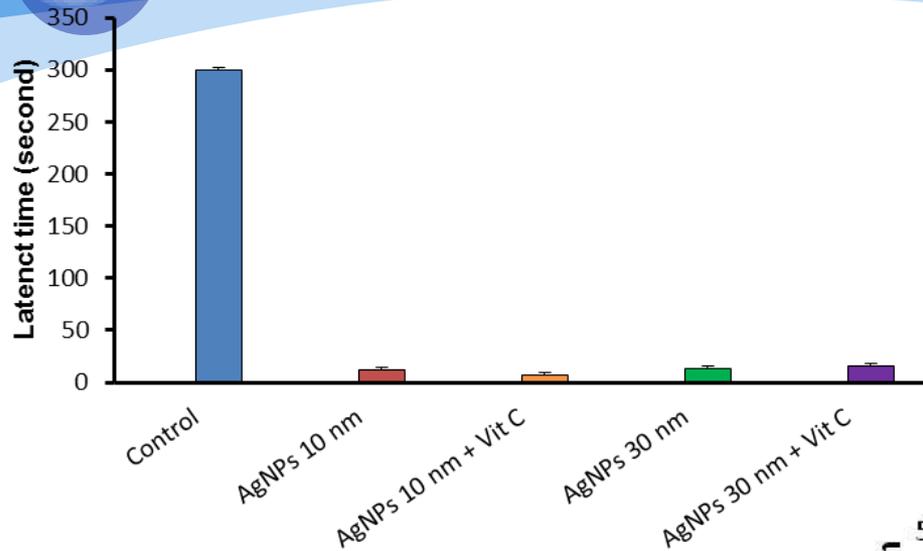
# Splash test



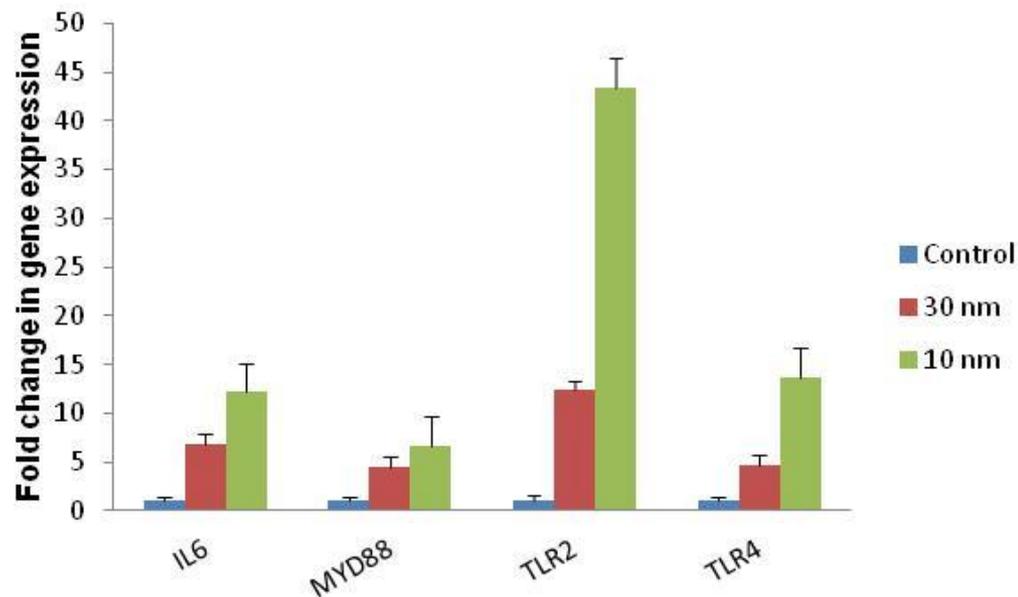
# Open Field Test



# Memory



## Gene expression



# Ag-NPs Detection & Pathology

## ICP-MS analysis

| Sample | Ag (ppb) | SD (ppb) |
|--------|----------|----------|
| 30 nm  | 27       | 0.09     |
| 10 nm  | 120      | 0.03     |

- ◆ Dark neurons ↑
- ◆ Neuronal density ↓
- ◆ Pyramidal layers (thicknesses) ↓
- ◆ Morphological changes
  - plasma membrane integrity, cell shrinkage, nuclei were not in the center of the eosinophilic cells

# Pathology

◆ Dark neurons      ↑

◆ Neuronal density      ↓



◆ pyramidal layers (thicknesses )      ↓

◆ Morphological changes

- plasma membrane integrity, cell shrinkage, nuclei were not in the center of the eosinophilic cells

# Conclusion

- ◆ Prenatal exposure to AgNPs can induce depression like behaviors in the offspring and ascorbic acid can not reverse its toxicity.
- ◆ Toxicity of AgNPs are size dependent.
- ◆ Warning of pregnant women exposure to AgNPs!!!





Thank You

