



# 21° Congresso Nazionale

Società Italiana di Tossicologia

**Pericolo, rischio  
e rapporto  
rischio-beneficio**

**BOLOGNA**

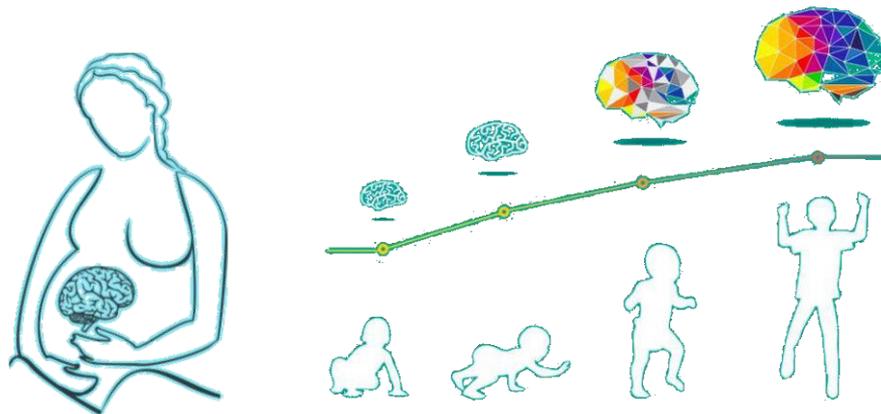
20-22 Febbraio 2023

[www.sitox.org](http://www.sitox.org)

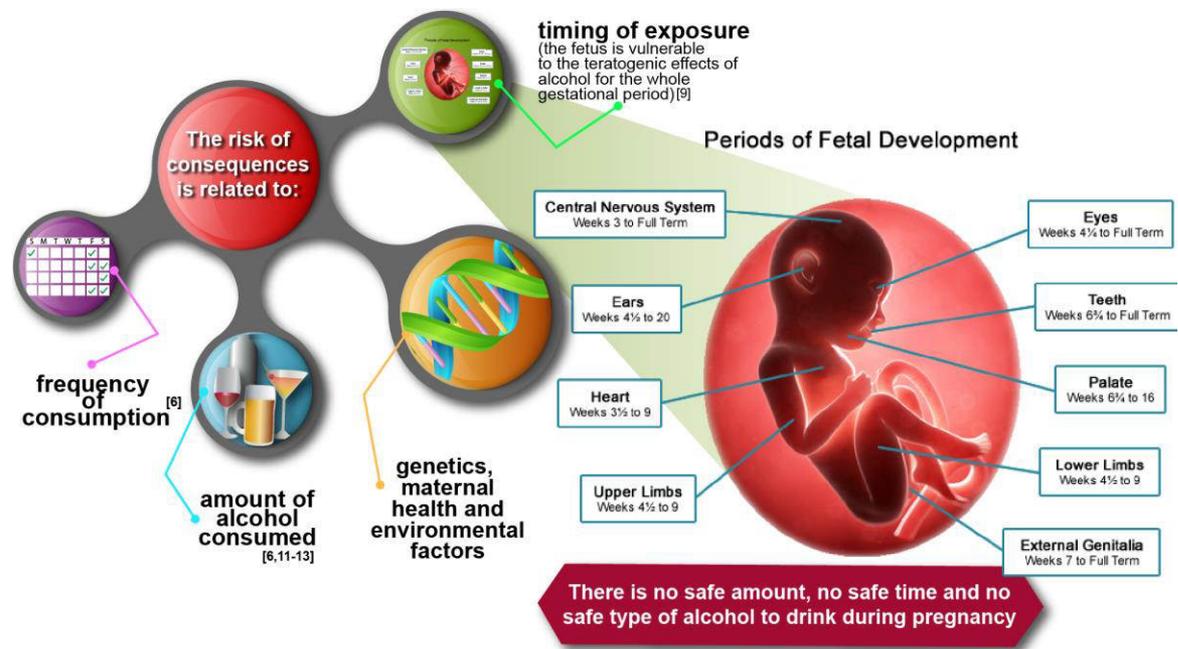
# EFFETTI DELL'ALCOL SULLA TRASMISSIONE SINAPTICA DURANTE IL NEUROSVILUPPO

Elisabetta Gerace PhD

Università degli Studi di Firenze

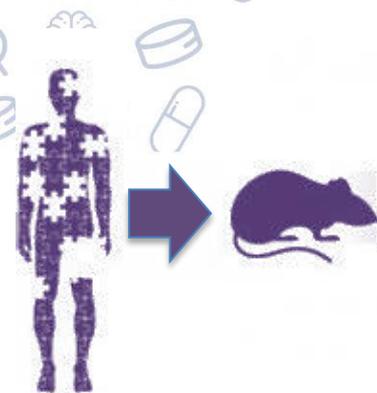


# L'alcol altera il network neuronale e lo sviluppo del sistema nervoso centrale



I meccanismi alla base di questi processi sono ancora poco conosciuti

## SCOPO DELLA RICERCA



Analizzare i meccanismi molecolari e funzionali indotti dall'esposizione all'etanolo durante il neurosviluppo

*In vitro*

Colture organotipiche  
ippocampali di ratto

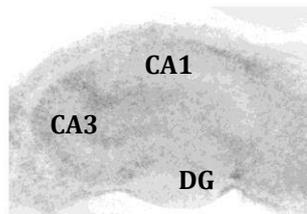


*In vivo*

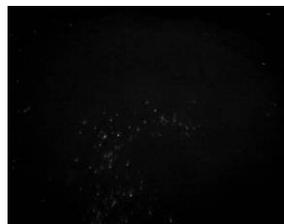
Esposizione prenatale all'alcol  
in topi C57/Bl6



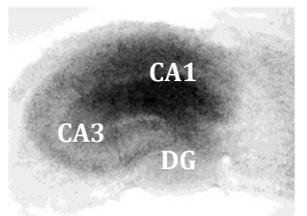
## Colture organotipiche ippocampali di ratto



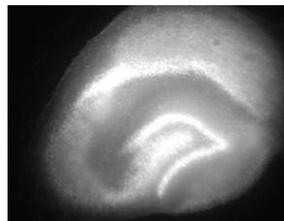
Control



Control



Toxicity

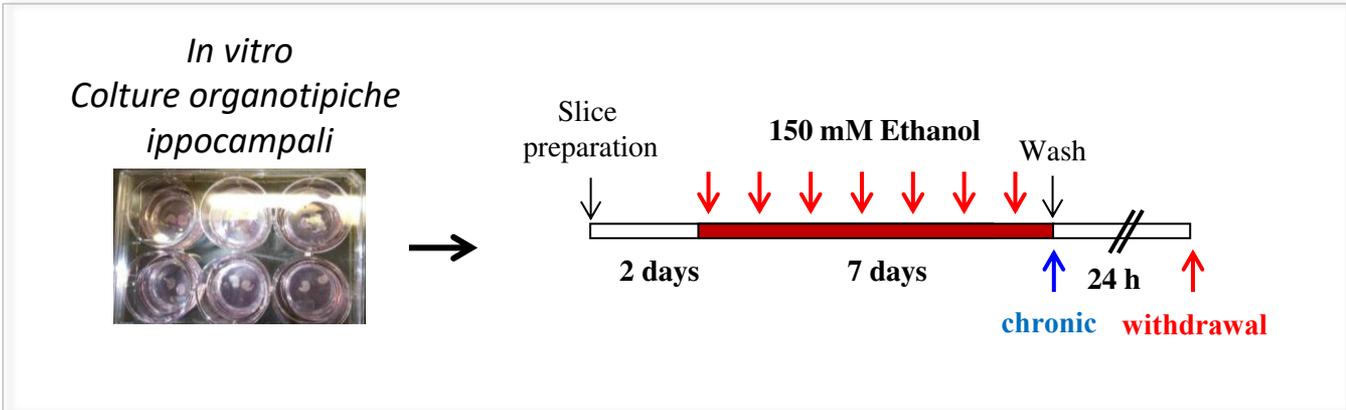
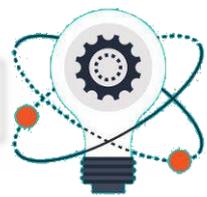


Toxicity

- **Fettine ippocampali** ottenute da ratti di 7-9 giorni e mantenute in coltura in filtri Millicell-CM per 10-15 giorni;
- Modello *in vitro* per applicare stimoli tossici e studiare i meccanismi e gli effetti dei farmaci;
- La **morte cellulare** è quantificata attraverso la misurazione dell'intensità di fluorescenza dello Ioduro di Propidio (PI);

Gerace et al., *Methods Mol Biol.*; (2012) 846:343-54.

# Piano sperimentale



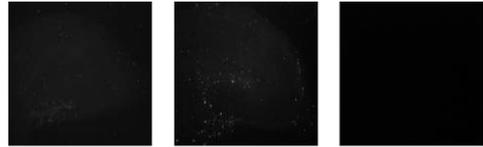
# Background

ALCOHOLISM: CLINICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH

Vol. 40, No. 4  
April 2016

## Ethanol Toxicity During Brain Development: Alterations of Excitatory Synaptic Transmission in Immature Organotypic Hippocampal Slice Cultures

Elisabetta Gerace, Elisa Landucci, Arianna Totti, Daniele Bani, Daniele Guasti, Roberto Baronti, Flavio Moroni, Guido Mannaioni, and Domenico E. Pellegrini-Giampietro

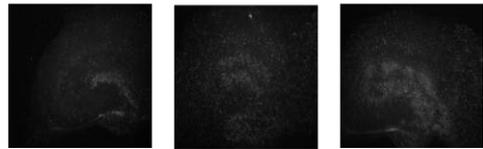


CRL



100 mM ETOH    150 mM ETOH    300 mM ETOH

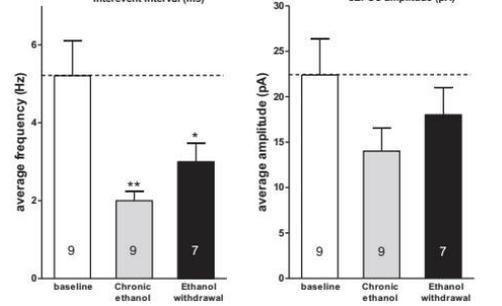
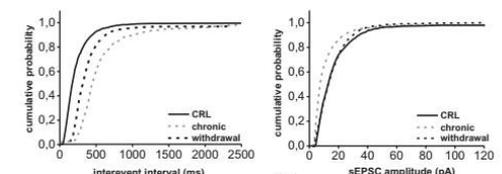
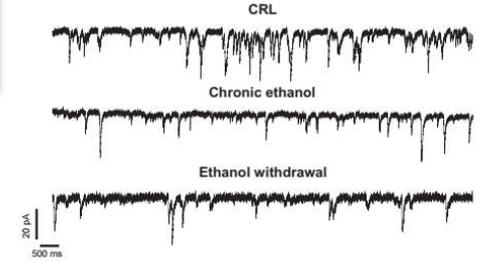
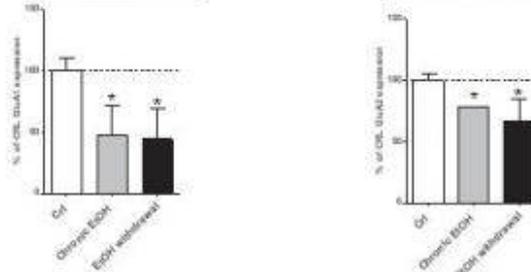
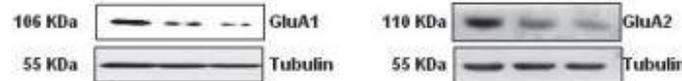
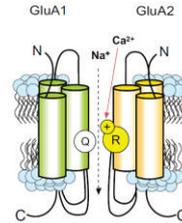
Chronic Ethanol



100 mM ETOH    150 mM ETOH    300 mM ETOH

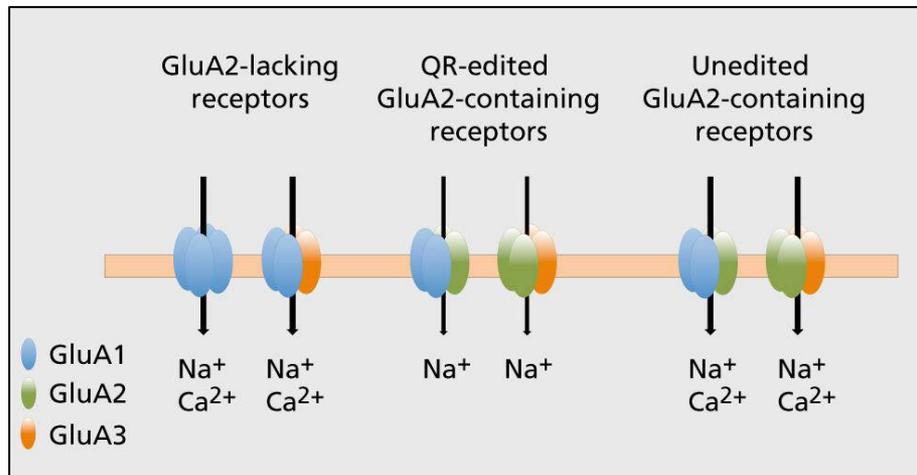
Ethanol withdrawal

### AMPA receptors



## Recettori AMPA

- **Recettore** transmembrana **ionotropi** del glutammato che media la **neurotrasmissione sinaptica veloce**
- Composto da **quattro subunità** (GluA1, GluA2, GluA3 and GluA4) che si combinano per formare tetrameri
- La maggior parte degli AMPAR sono eterotetrameric, costituiti da dimeri 'simmetrici' di GluA2 e GluA1, GluA3 o GluA4



## Ipotesi di lavoro

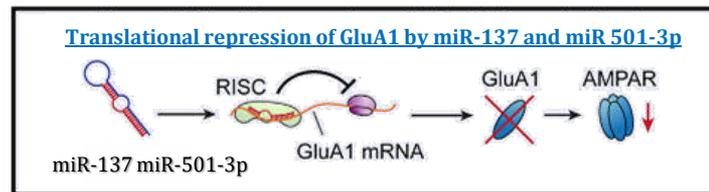
Ruolo dei microRNA e dei recettori mGlu5 nella regolazione della neurotrasmissione mediata dai recettori AMPA

OPEN ACCESS  
CellPress

Cell Reports  
**Report**

### MicroRNA-137 Controls AMPA-Receptor-Mediated Transmission and mGluR-Dependent LTD

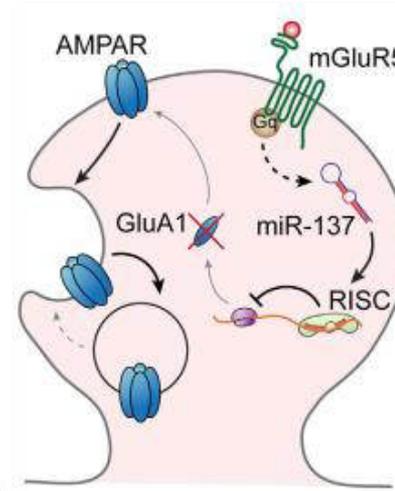
Nikkie F.M. Olde Loohuis,<sup>1,6</sup> Wei Ba,<sup>4,5</sup> Peter H. Stoerchel,<sup>6</sup> Aron Kos,<sup>1,5</sup> Amanda Jager,<sup>1,5</sup> Gerhard Schrott,<sup>6</sup> Gerard J.M. Martens,<sup>3,5</sup> Hans van Bokhoven,<sup>1,4,6</sup> Nael Nadif Kasri,<sup>1,4,5,7,\*</sup> and Amaz Aschraf<sup>1,4,7,\*</sup>



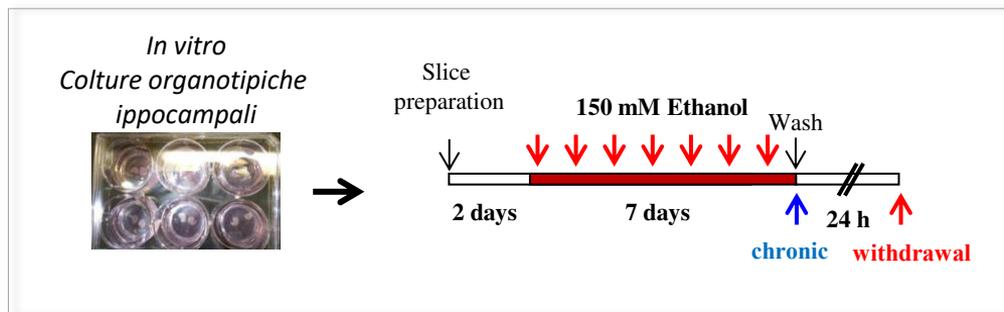
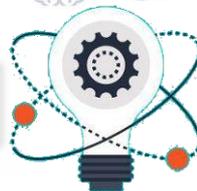
JCB: Article

### miR-501-3p mediates the activity-dependent regulation of the expression of AMPA receptor subunit GluA1

Zhonghua Hu,<sup>1</sup> Jun Zhao,<sup>1</sup> Tianyi Hu,<sup>1</sup> Yan Luo,<sup>2</sup> Jun Zhu,<sup>2</sup> and Zheng Li<sup>1</sup>



## Piano sperimentale



### Analisi:

- Espressione delle subunità AMPA e relative proteine di ancoraggio tramite western blotting
- Dosaggio dei miRNA 137 e 501-3p tramite RT-PCR
- Registrazioni elettrofisiologiche nei neuroni piramidali della CA1 dell'ippocampo tramite patch clamp

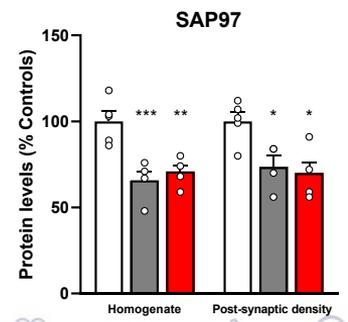
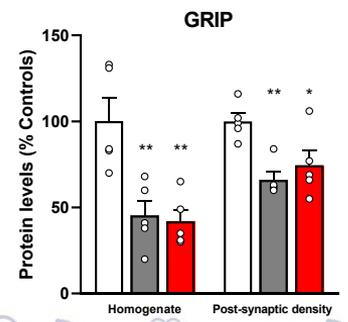
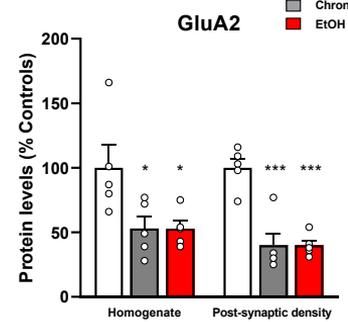
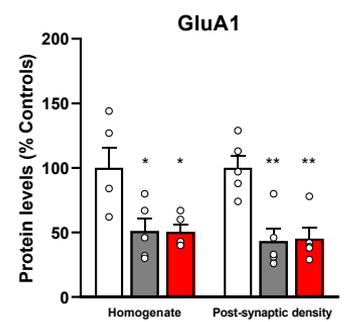
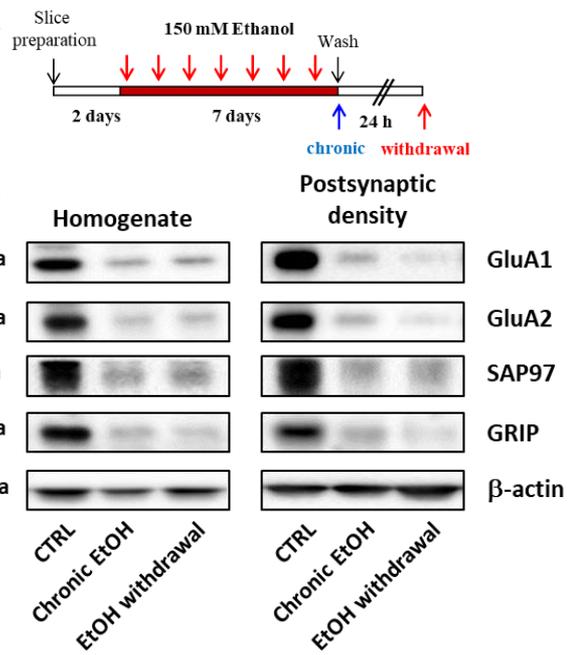
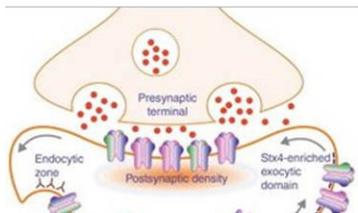


Francesca Mottarlini

# Risultati

## Localizzazione e trafficking dei recettori AMPA nelle densità post sinaptiche

### Post Synaptic Densities



Under review

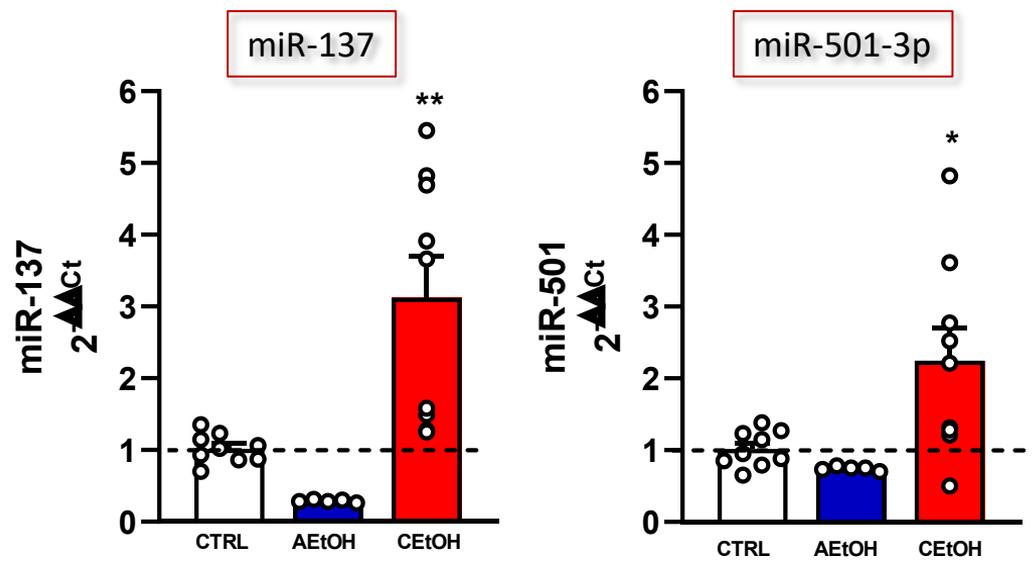


Cristina Luceri

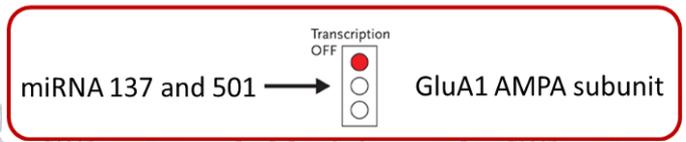
Elisabetta Bigagli

## Risultati

miR-137 e miR-501-3p vengono upregolati dall'esposizione cronica ma non acuta di etanolo

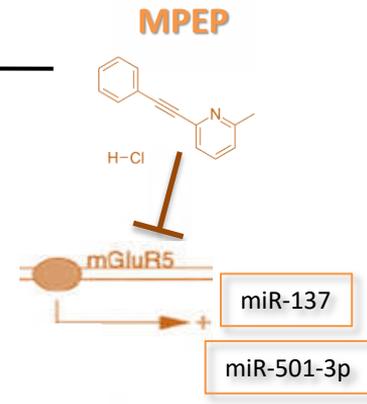
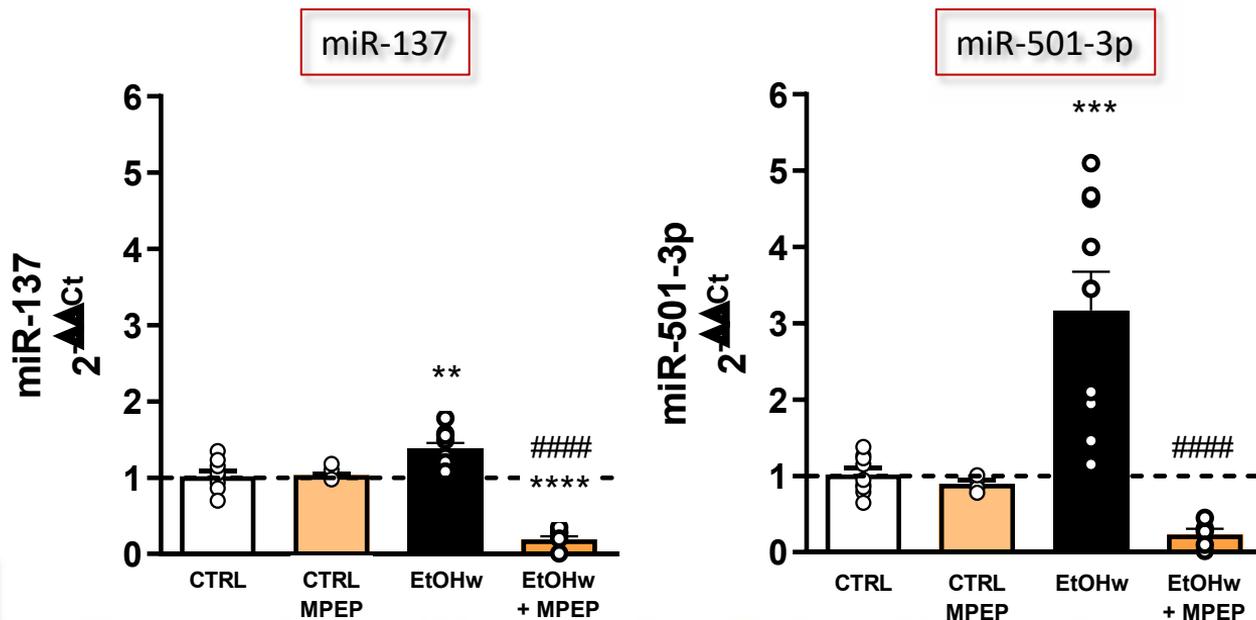


Under review



## Risultati

L'upregolazione dei miR-137 e miR-501-3p indotta dall'Etanolo è prevenuta dall'antagonista mGlu5 MPEP



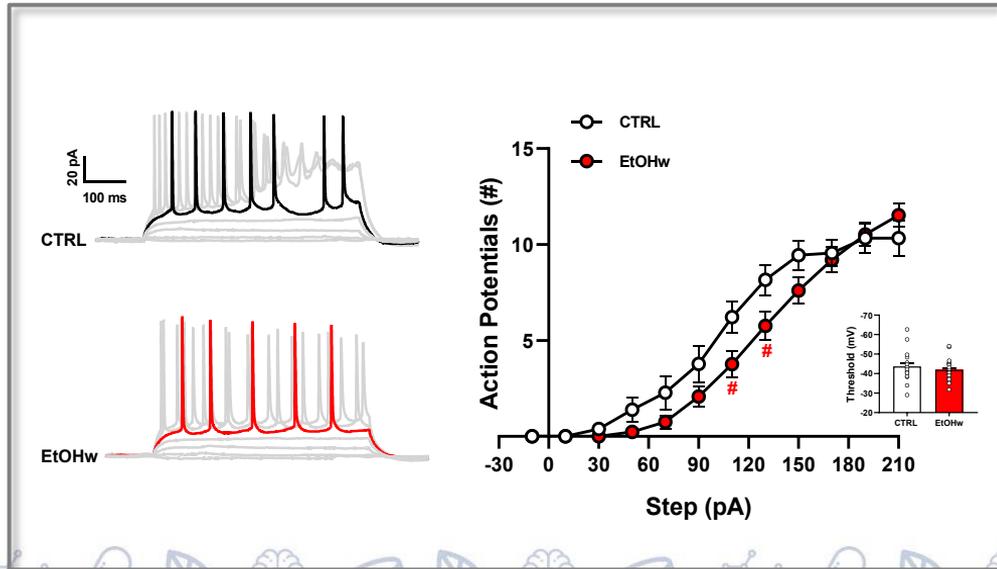
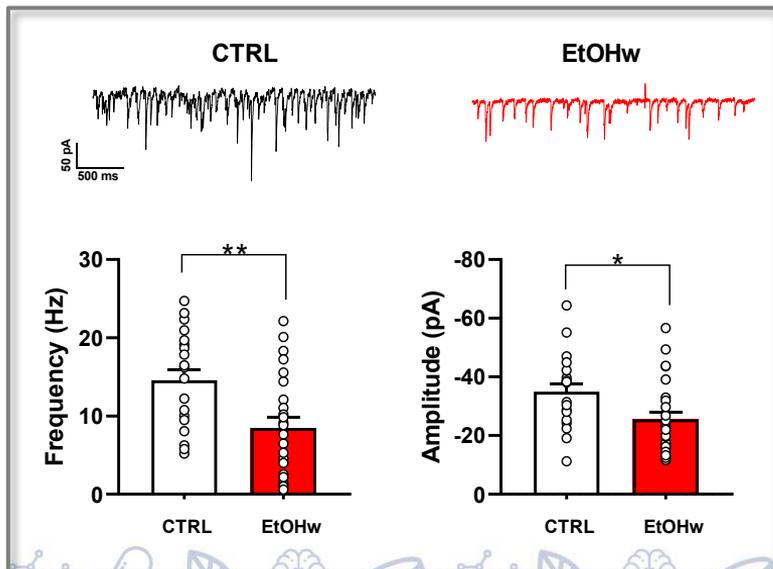
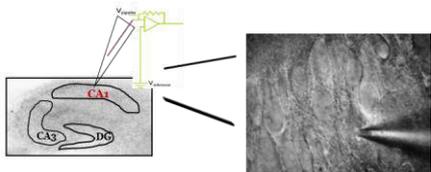
Under review

## Risultati

L'etanolo induce una riduzione delle correnti spontanee eccitatorie e dell'eccitabilità dei neuroni della CA1 dell'ippocampo

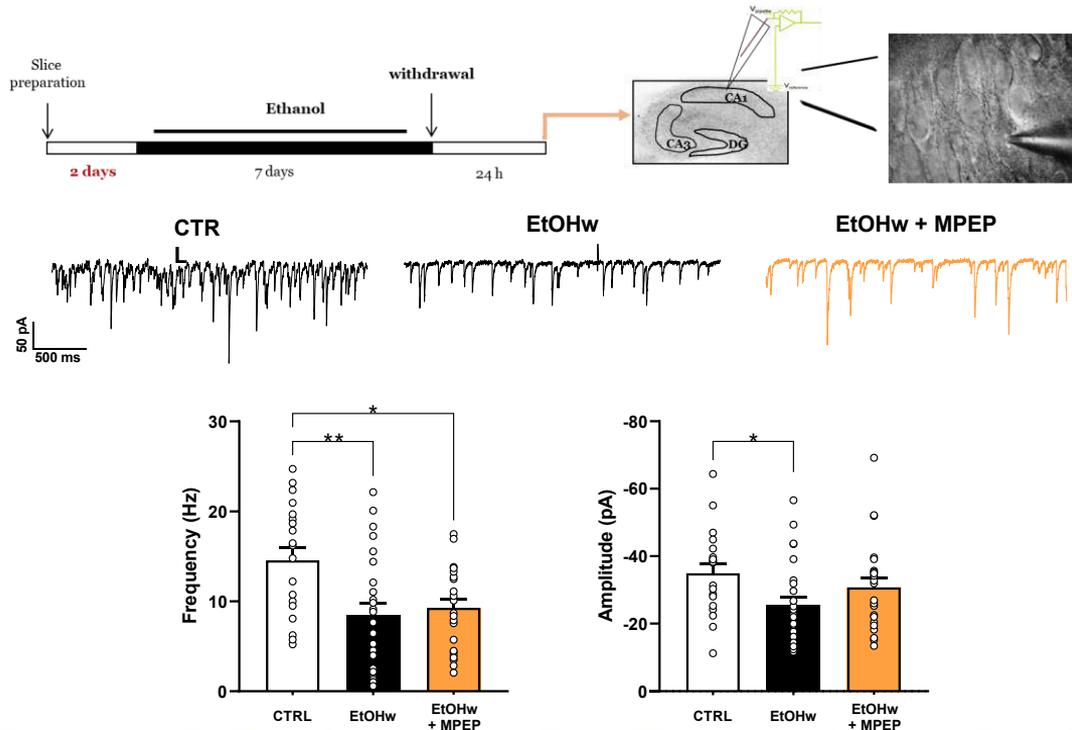


Lorenzo Curti



## Risultati

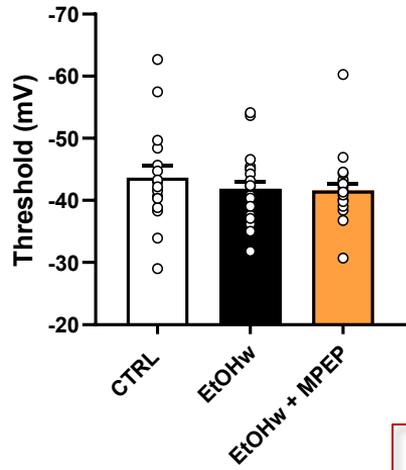
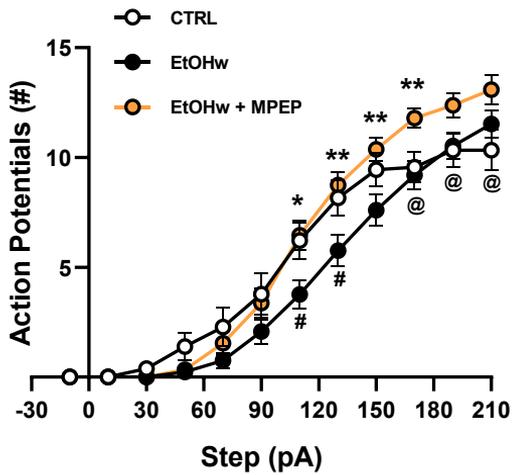
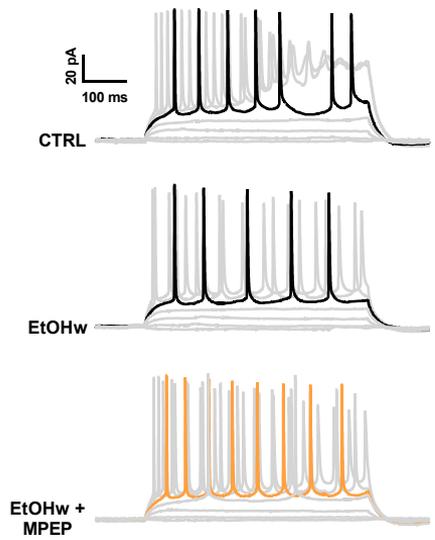
La downregolazione AMPA indotta dall'Etanolo è mediata dai recettori metabotropi mGlu5



Under review

## Risultati

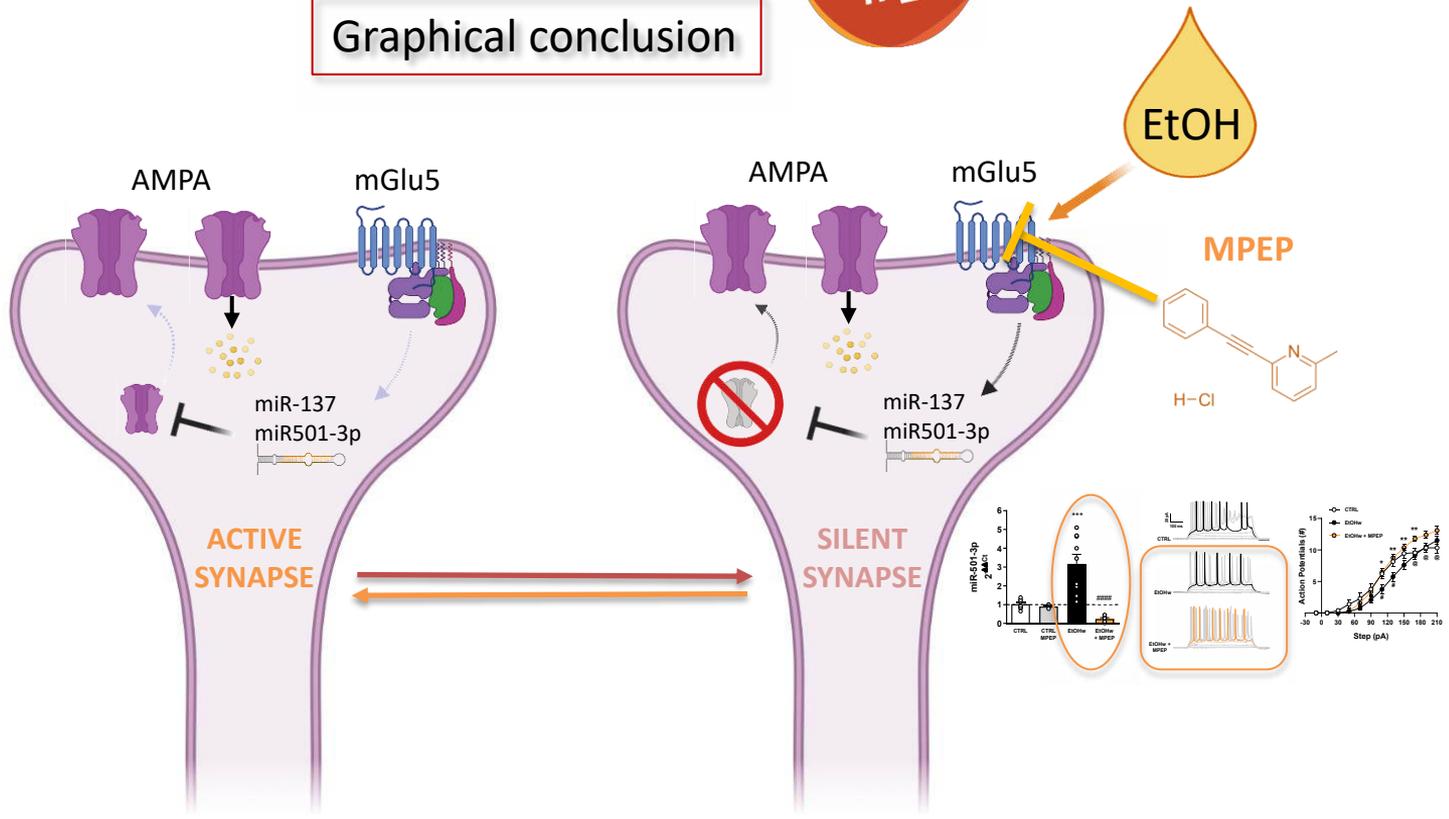
La ridotta eccitabilità dei neuroni piramidali della CA1 dell'ippocampo indotta dall'Etanolo è prevenuta dall'antagonista mGlu5 MPEP



Under review

**PART #1**

**Graphical conclusion**



## SIGNIFICATO E IMPLICAZIONI

Potenziali target terapeutici  
per la FASD



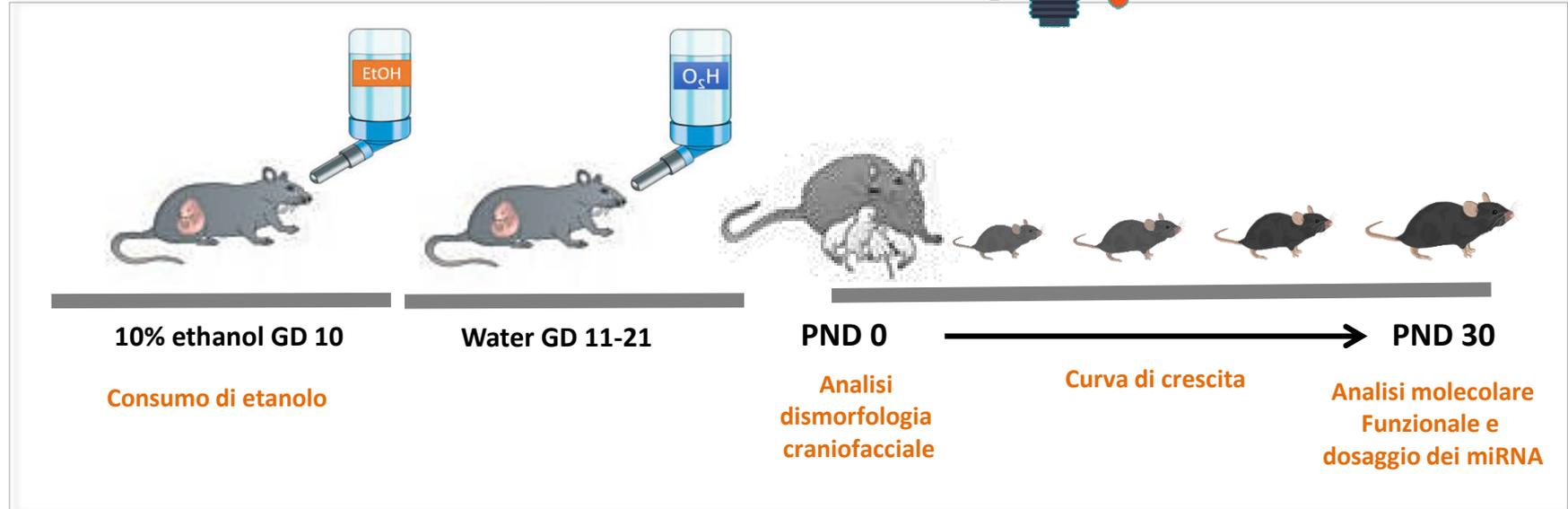
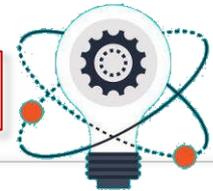
- Recettori AMPA
- miRNA 137 e 501-3p
- Recettori mGlu5



Alice Ilari

Lorenzo Curti

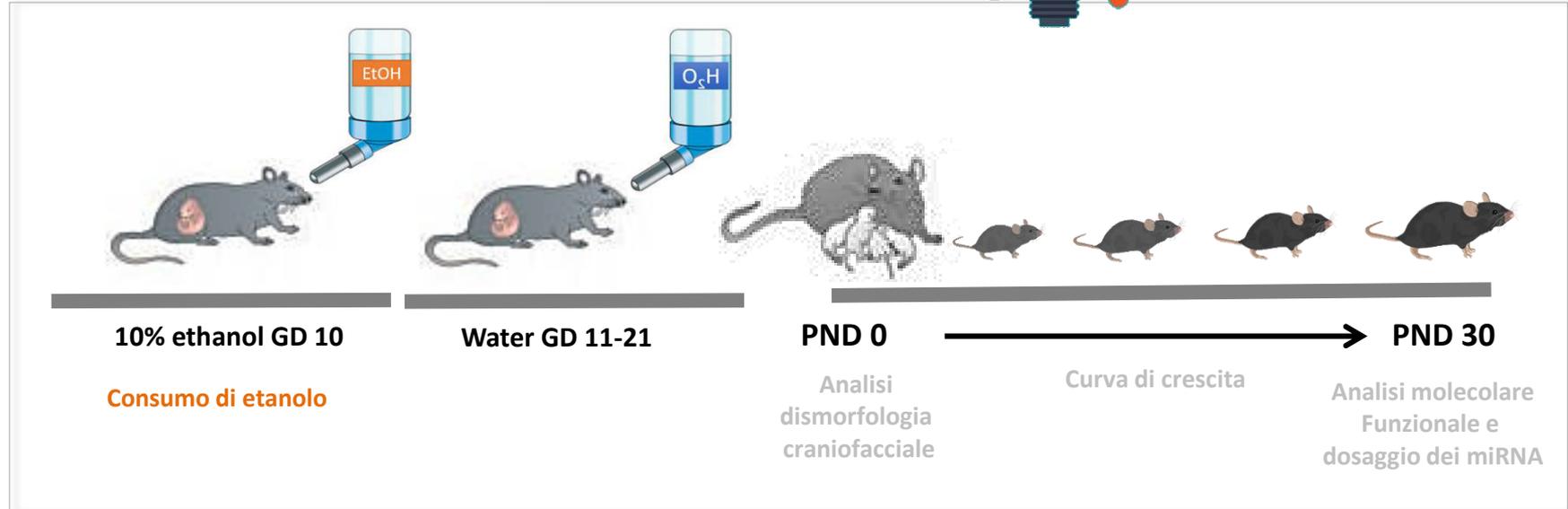
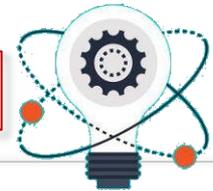
# Piano sperimentale



Adapted from Kaminen-Ahola et al., 2010

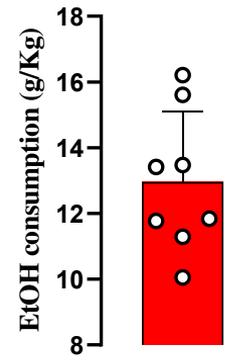
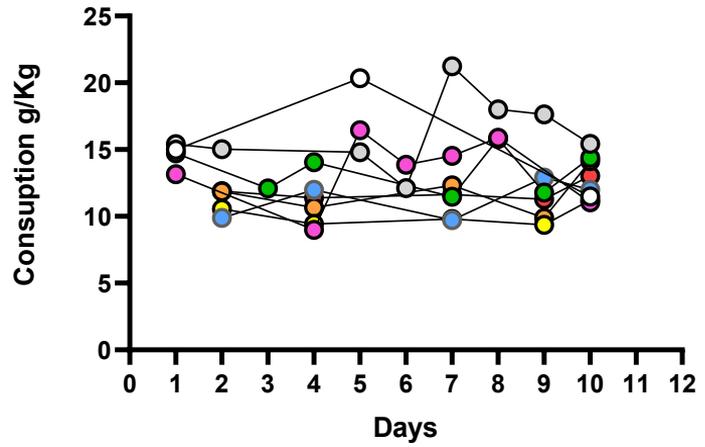
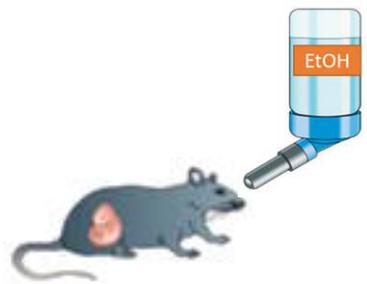
Unpublished

# Piano sperimentale

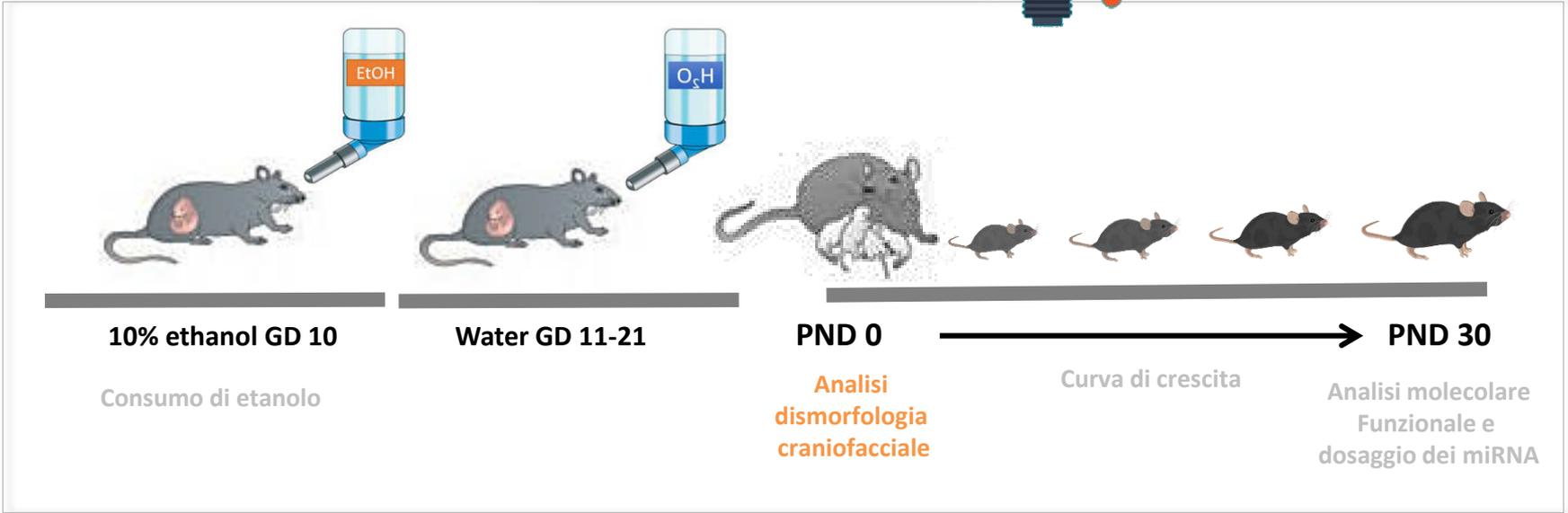
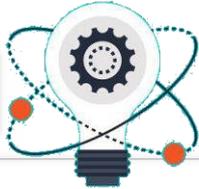


# Risultati

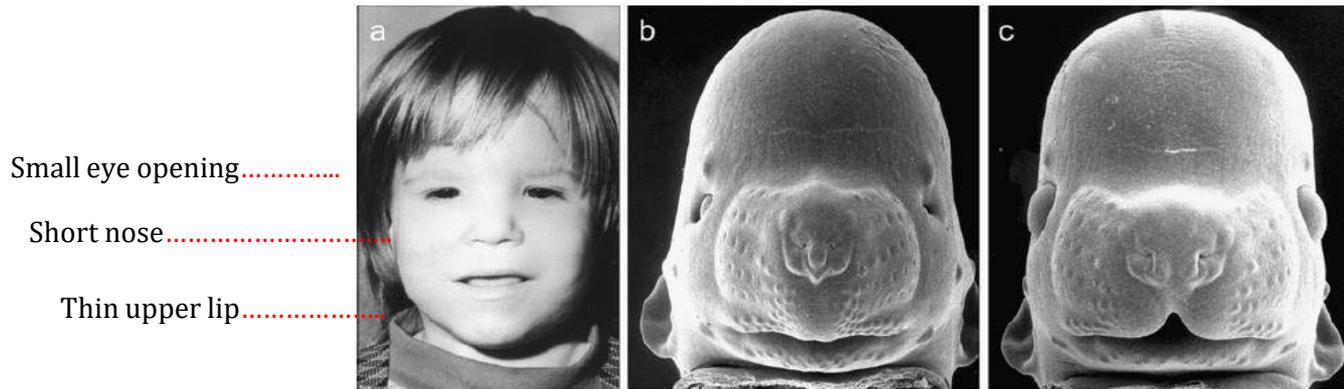
## Consumo di etanolo nei topi femmina durante il primo trimestre di gestazione



# Piano sperimentale



## L'esposizione prenatale all'etanolo causa caratteristiche dismorfiche craniofacciali



Child with FAS Mouse with FAS Normal mouse

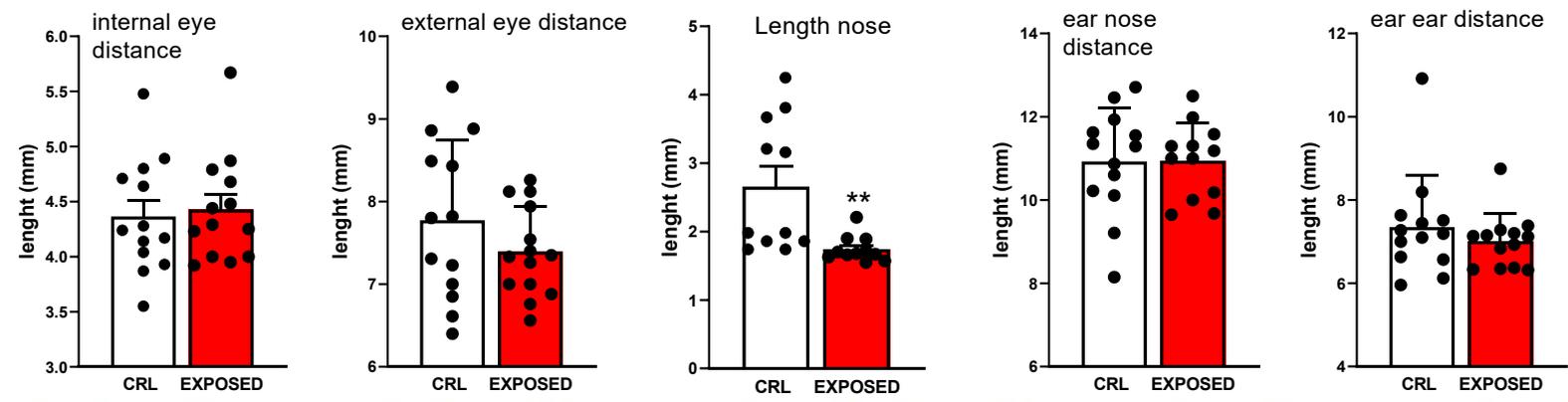
Genesis of Alcohol-Induced Craniofacial Dysmorphism.  
Sulik KK. (2005) *Exp Biol Med* **230**: 366-375



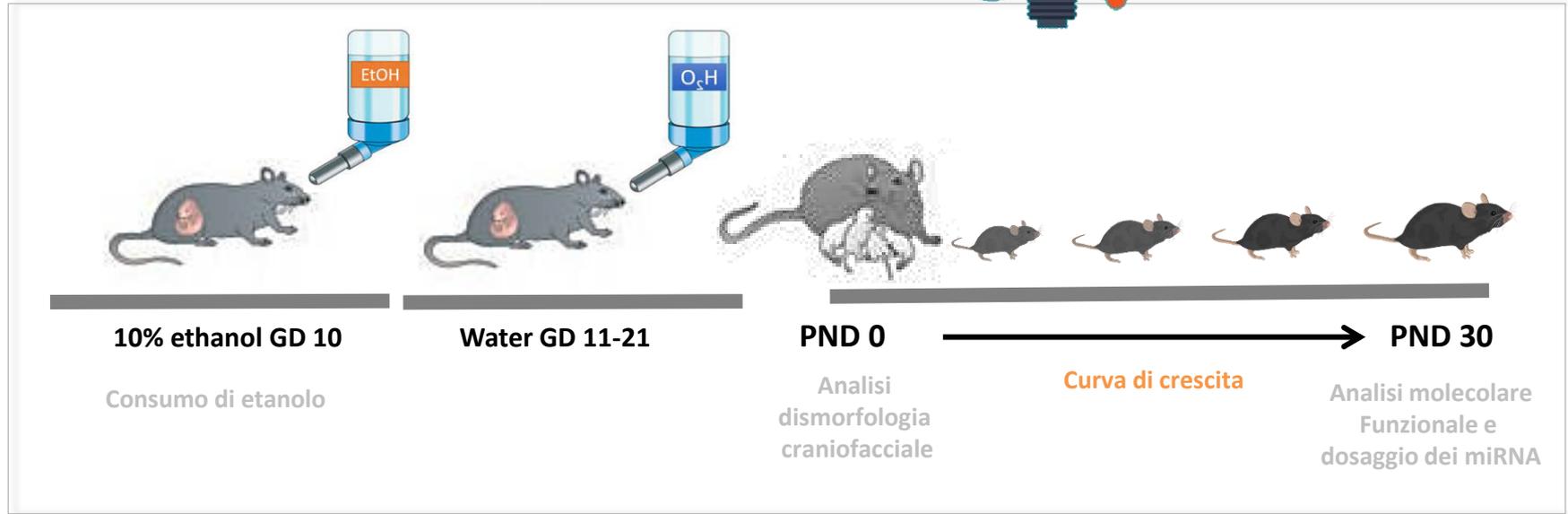
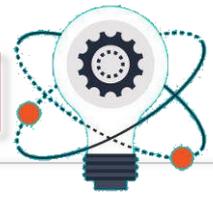
Giuseppe Ranieri

# Risultati

## Caratteristiche dimorfiche craniofacciali in PAE C57/Bl6 mice



# Piano sperimentale

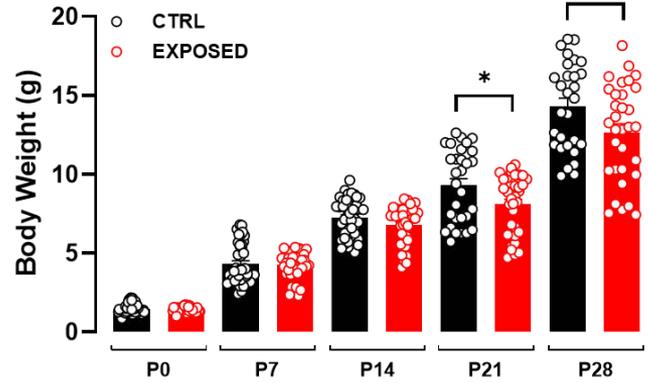
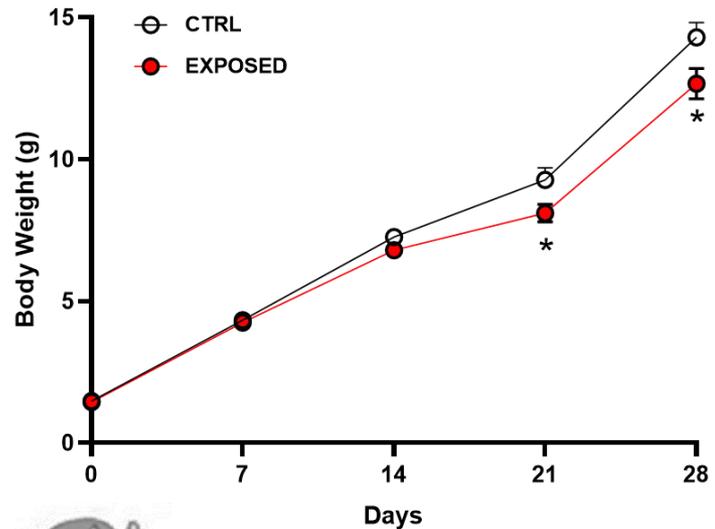




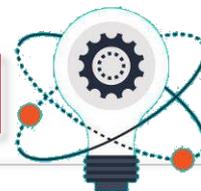
Lorenzo Curti

# Risultati

## Curva di crescita espressa come peso corporeo



## Piano sperimentale

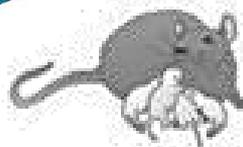


10% ethanol GD 10

Consumo di etanolo



Water GD 11-21



PND 0

Analisi  
dismorfologia  
craniofaciale



Curva di crescita

PND 30

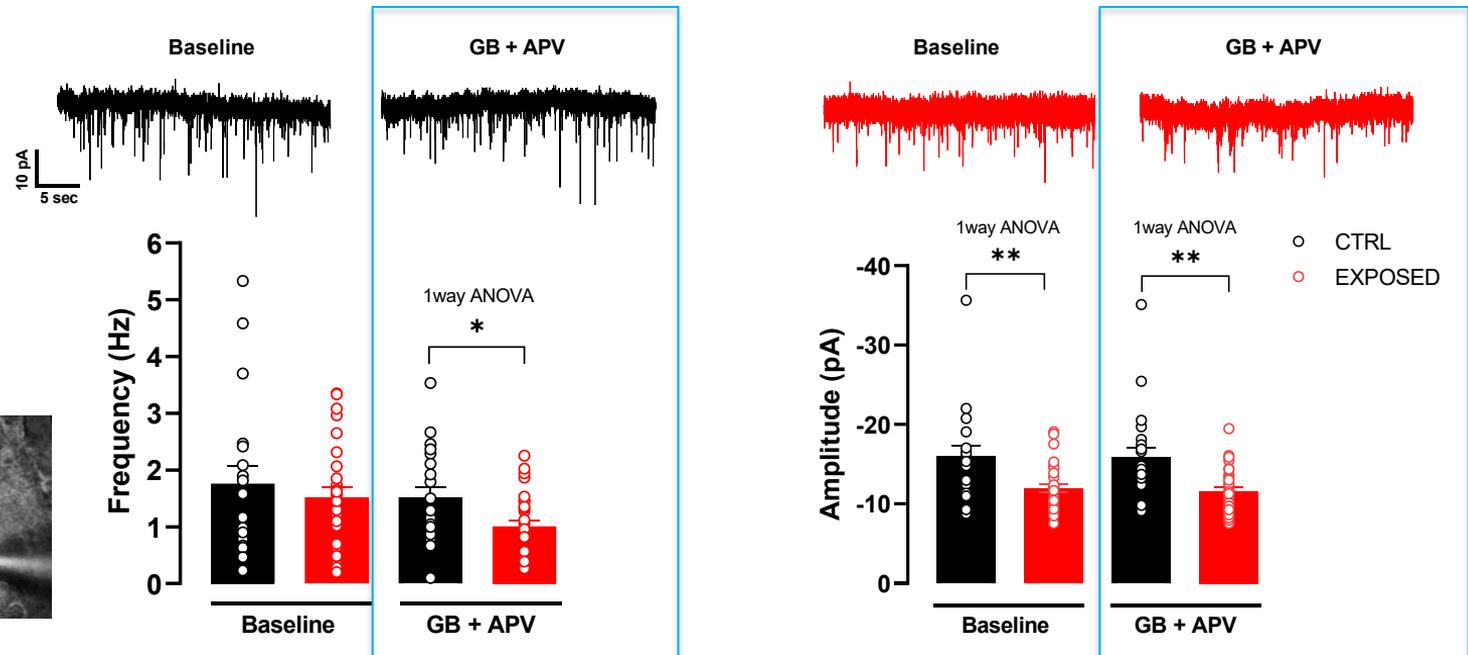
Analisi molecolare  
**Funzionale** e  
dosaggio dei miRNA



Lorenzo Curti

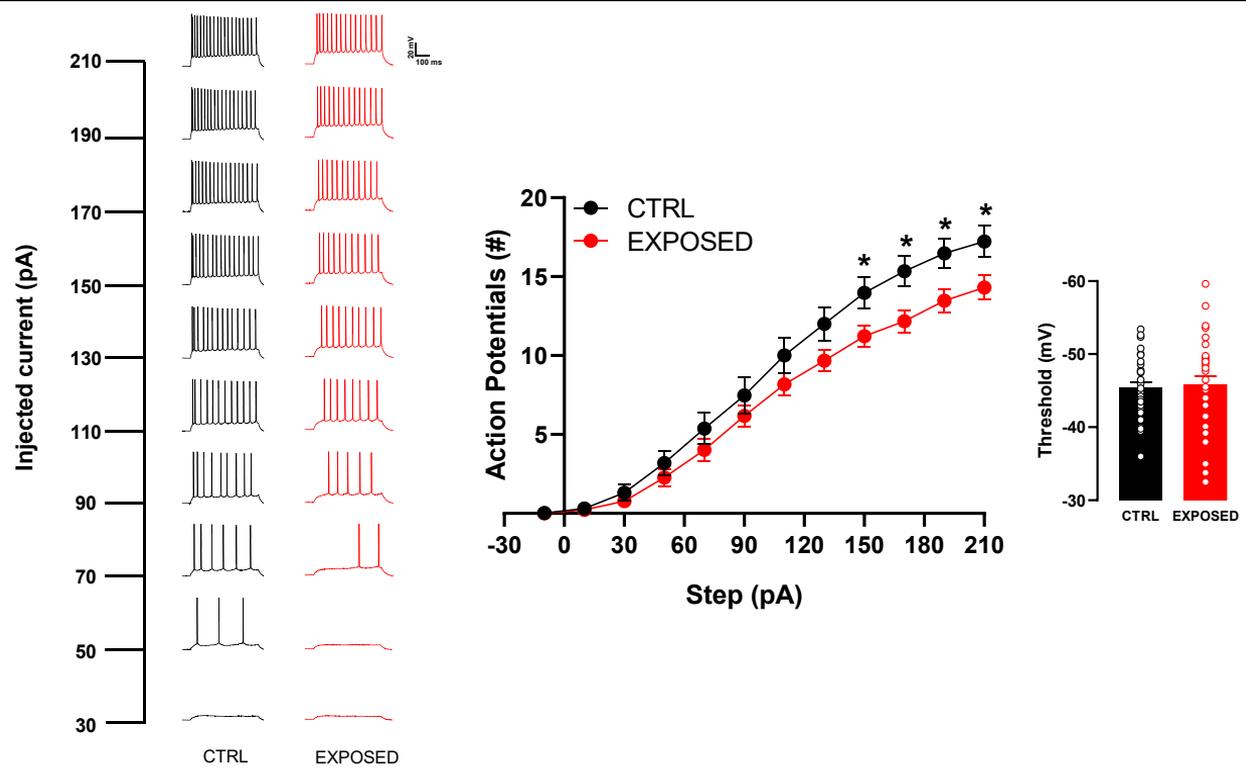
# Risultati

Attività sinaptica eccitatoria dei neuroni piramidali della CA1 dell'ippocampo di topi controllo e PAE

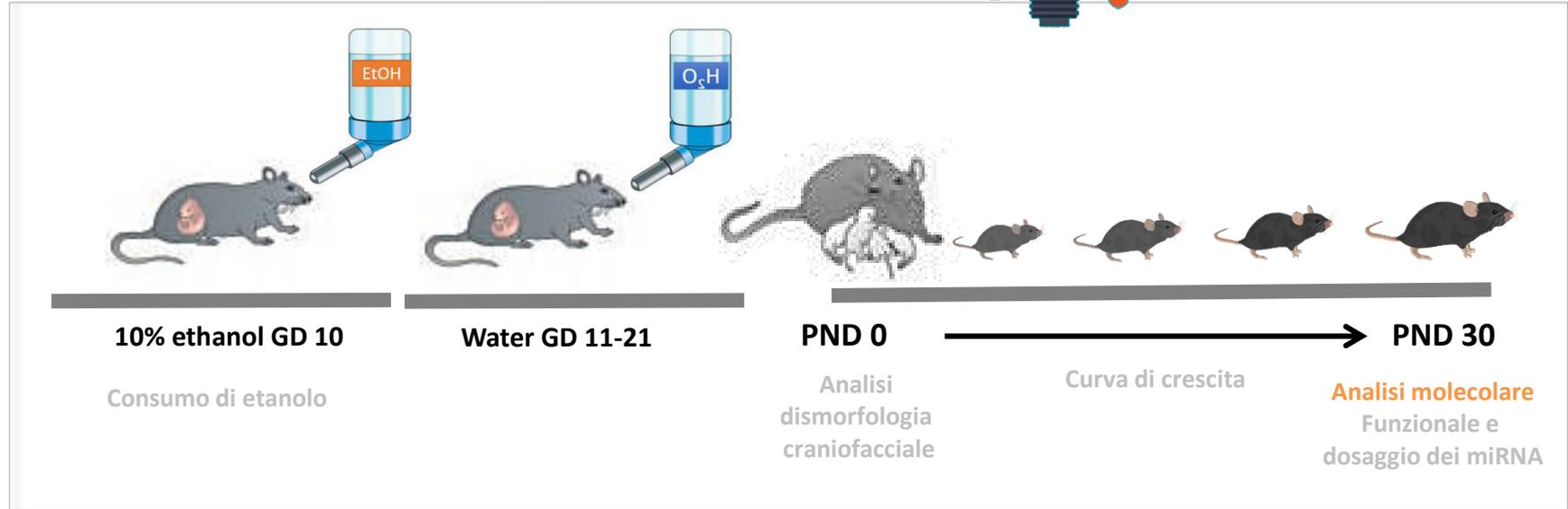
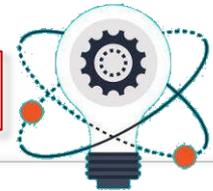


# Risultati

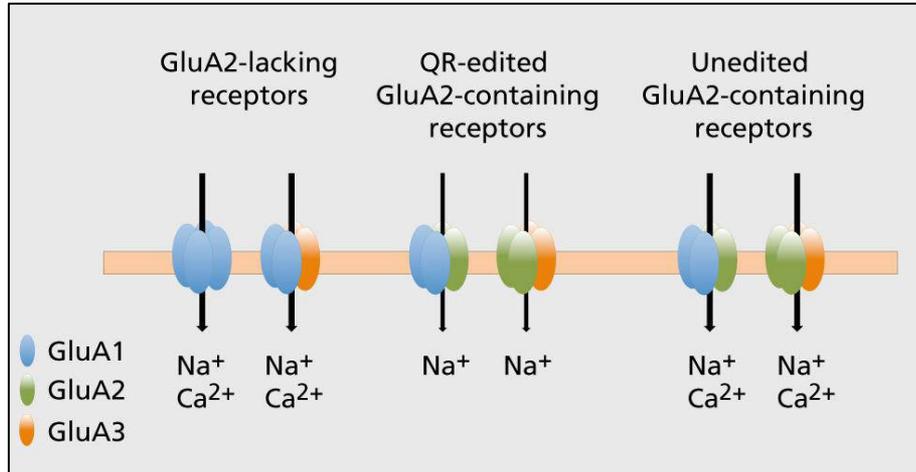
Eccitabilità intrinseca dei neuroni piramidali della CA1 dell'ippocampo di topi controllo e PAE



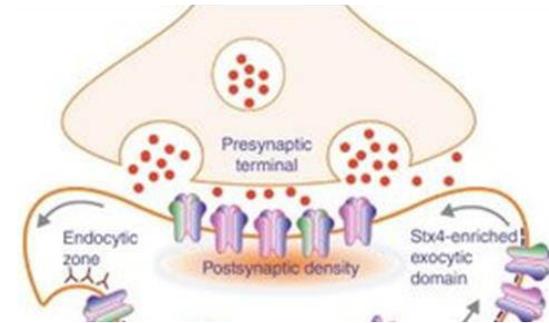
# Piano sperimentale



## Livelli di espressione dei recettori AMPA nell'ippocampo di topi controllo e PAE



## Post Synaptic Densities



# Risultati

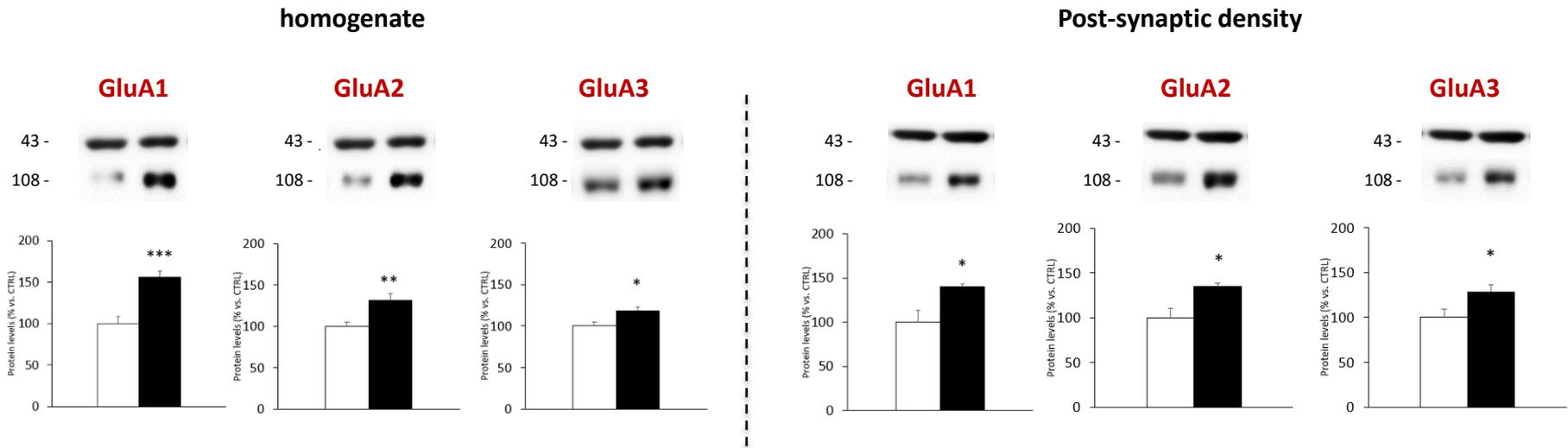


Prof.ssa  
Lucia Caffino



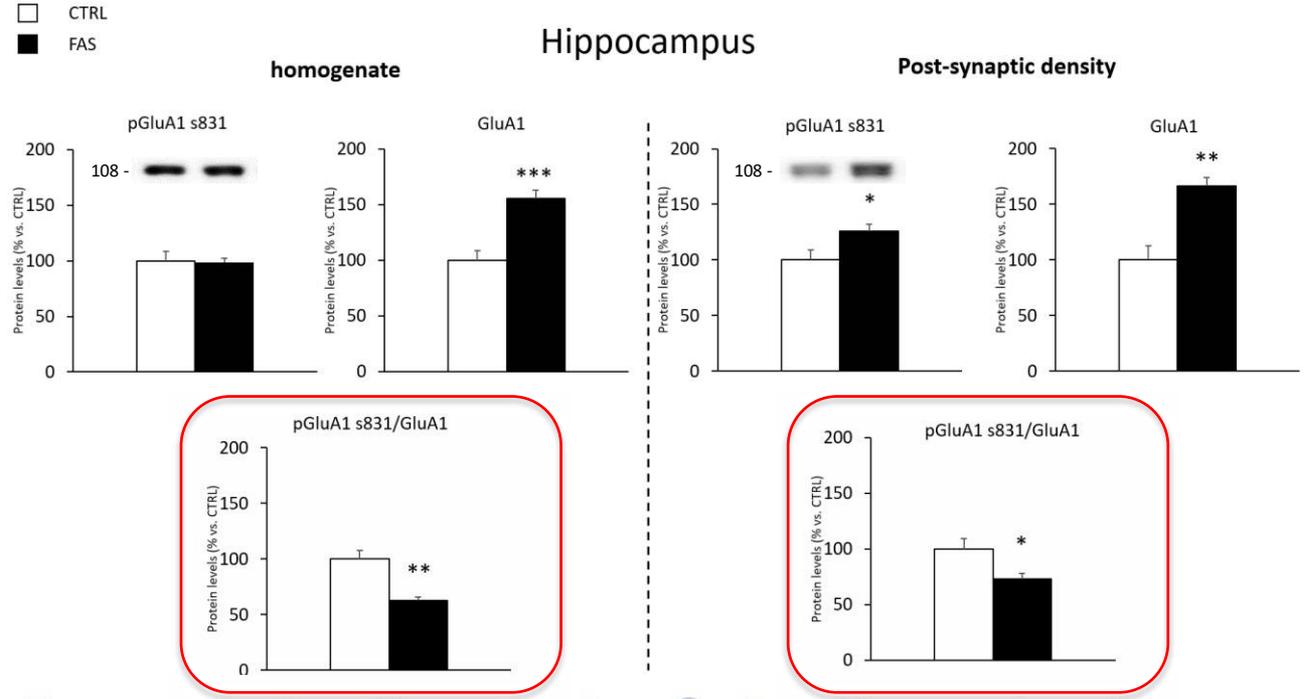
Beatrice Rizzi

Composizione dei recettori AMPA  
nell'ippocampo di topi controllo e PAE



# Risultati

Livelli di fosforilazione (attivazione) della subunità AMPA GluA1 nell'ippocampo di topi controllo e PAE

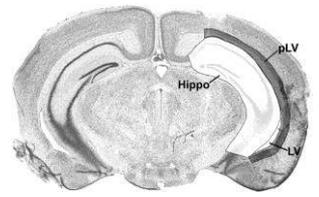


# Risultati

Livelli di miR-137 e miR-501-3p nel plasma e negli ippocampi di topi controllo e PAE



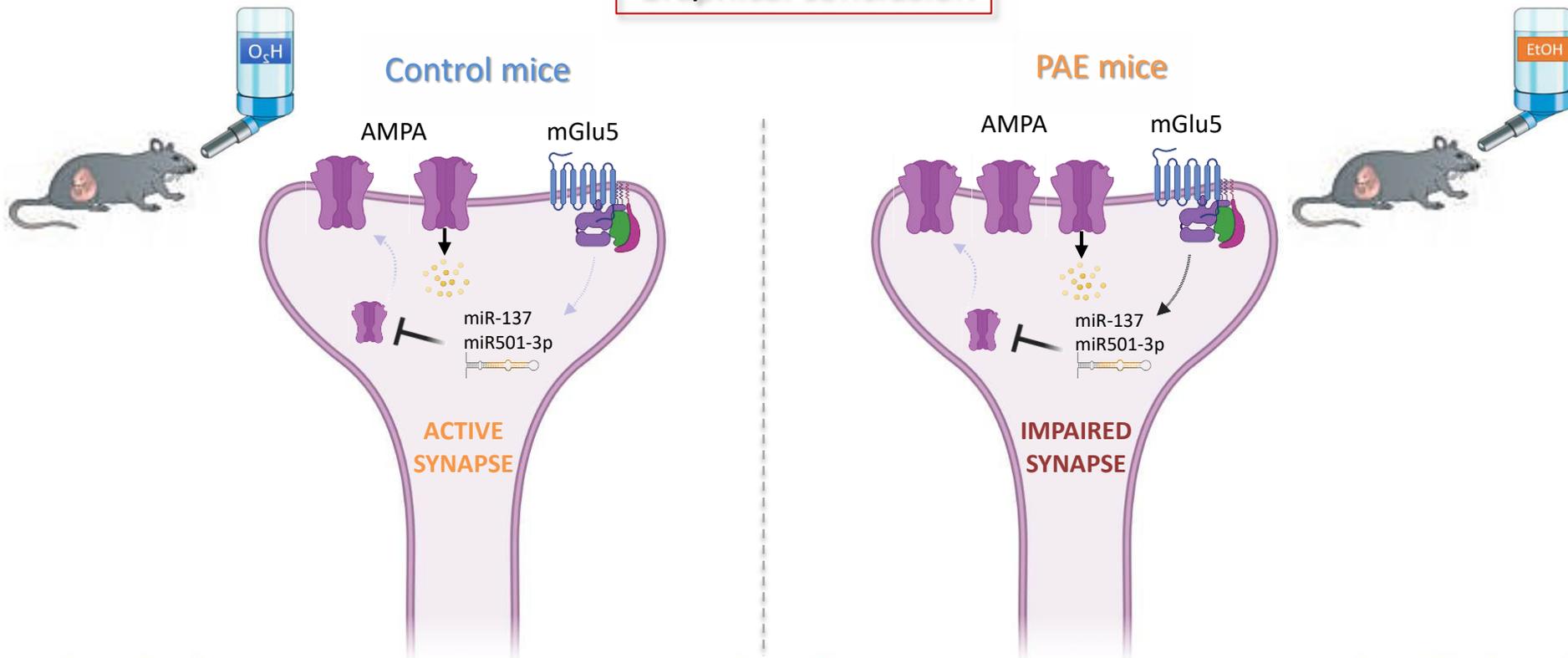
Plasma



Ippocampo



## Graphical conclusion



## Significato e Implicazioni

# Alcohol use during pregnancy can lead to lifelong effects.

People with FASDs can experience a mix of the following problems:

### Physical issues

- low birth weight and growth 
- problems with heart, kidneys, and other organs 
- damage to parts of the brain 

Which leads to...

### Behavioral and intellectual disabilities

- learning disabilities and low IQ 
- hyperactivity 
- difficulty with attention
- poor ability to communicate in social situations
- poor reasoning and judgment skills 

These can lead to...

### Lifelong issues with

- school and social skills 
- living independently
- mental health
- substance use
- keeping a job 
- trouble with the law

Grazie a ....



**Prof. Guido Mannaioni**

**Lorenzo Curti**

**Alice Ilari**

Elisabetta Bigagli

Prof.ssa Cristina Luceri

Giuseppe Ranieri

Alessio Masi

Antonino La Rocca



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO



**Prof. Fabio Fumagalli**

**Prof.ssa Lucia Caffino**

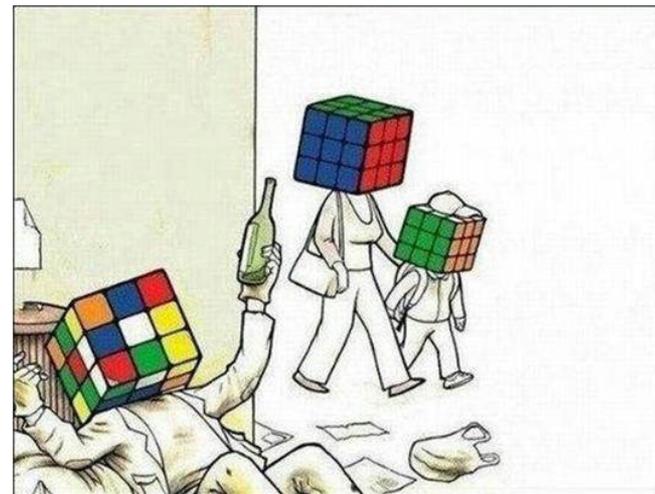
Francesca Mottarlini

Fernando Castillo Díaz

Beatrice Rizzi



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