

HOT TOPICS IN IMMUNOMEDICINE

The myeloid side of the brain

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The immune system of the central nervous system (CNS) consists primarily of innate immune cells. These are highly specialized macrophages found either in the parenchyma, called microglia, or at the CNS interfaces, such as leptomeningeal, perivascular, and choroid plexus macrophages. Brain-resident innate immune cells were found to be plastic, long-lived, and host to an outstanding number of risk genes for multiple pathologies. As a result, they are now considered the most suitable targets for modulating CNS diseases.

Prof. Prinz is a member of the German National Academy of Sciences “Leopoldina” and winner of the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize 2020.

Thursday, 21 November 2024, 4:00 p.m.

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