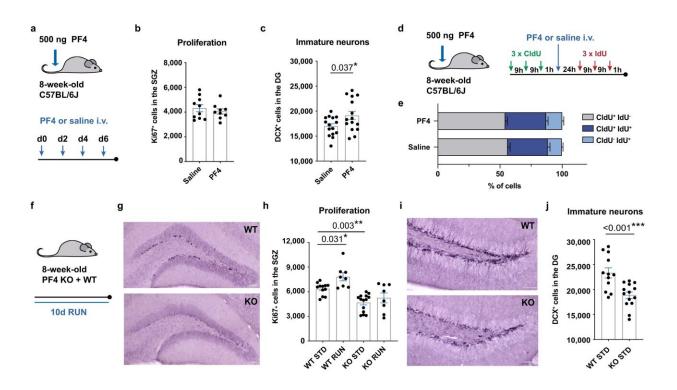


Blood factor can turn back time in the aging brain

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Systemic PF4 enhances adult hippocampal neurogenesis in vivo. **a** Experimental design of PF4 injection paradigm in young mice. **b**, **c** Intravenous (i.v.) PF4 injections for 1 week did not affect neural precursor cell proliferation in the subgranular zone (SGZ; n = 10 mice in saline group; n = 9 mice in PF4 group; counts of one hemisphere), but increased the number of doublecortin⁺ (DCX⁺) cells (n = 15 mice per group; counts of one hemisphere). **d** Experimental design of the double-labeling paradigm with CldU and IdU. **e** Acute administration of PF4 did not affect neural precursor cell proliferation, including the recruitment of cells from quiescence (n = 20 mice per group). **f** Running paradigm of PF4 knockout (KO) mice. **g** Representative images of Ki67⁺ cells in the SGZ of PF4 KO and wildtype (WT) mice. Scale bar: 50 μ m. **h** PF4 KO mice show a



significant reduction in the number of proliferating cells compared to wildtype mice. Physical exercise did not increase neural precursor proliferation in PF4 KO mice (WT STD n = 12; WT RUN n = 8; KO STD n = 14; KO RUN n = 8; counts of one hemisphere). **i** Representative images of DCX⁺ cells in the dentate gyrus (DG) of PF4 KO and wildtype mice. Scale bar: 50 μ m. **j** PF4 KO mice have significantly lower levels of baseline neurogenesis compared to wildtype littermates (WT STD n = 12; KO STD n = 14; counts of one hemisphere). STD standard-housing, RUN 10-day running. Bars are mean \pm SEM. Statistical analysis was performed using unpaired Student's two-tailed t tests in (**c**) and (**j**), and one-way ANOVA with Sidak comparison in (**h**). *p

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