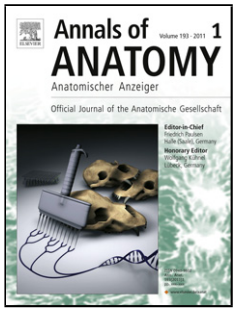

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Authors: M.C. Rusu, V.S. Mănoiu, D. Creţoiu, S.M. Creţoiu, A.D. Vrapciu

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Stromal cells/telocytes and endothelial progenitors in the perivascular niches of the trigeminal ganglion

Running title: **The telocytes of the trigeminal ganglion**

Rusu MC[1]*, Mănoiu VS[2], Creţoiu D[3], Creţoiu SM[4], Vrapciu AD[5]

[1] MD, PhD, Dr.Hab.,Dr.Biol.,Prof., (a) Division of Anatomy, Faculty of Dental Medicine, "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, Romania; (b) MEDCENTER – Center of Excellence in Laboratory Medicine and Pathology

[2] PhD – Department of Cellular and Molecular Biology, National Institute of Research and Development for Biological Sciences, Bucharest, Romania

[3] Division of Cellular and Molecular Biology and Histology, Department 2 Morphological Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, Romania

[4] Division of Cellular and Molecular Biology and Histology, Department 2 Morphological Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, Romania

[5] MD, Ph.D., Lect., Division of Anatomy, Faculty of Dental Medicine, "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, Romania

*Corresponding Author
Work Address: "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, 8 Eroilor Sanitari Blvd., RO-76241, Bucharest, Romania, mugurel.rusu@umfcd.ro

PHONE: +40722363705

E-mail address: anatomon@gmail.com (M.C.Rusu)

ABSTRACT

Stromal cells/telocytes (SCs/TCs) were recently described in the human adult trigeminal ganglion (TG). As some markers are equally expressed in SCs/TCs and endothelial cells, we hypothesized that a subset of the TG SCs/TCs is in fact represented by endothelial progenitor cells of a myelomonocytic origin. This study aimed to evaluate whether the interstitial cells of the human adult TG correlate with the myelomonocytic lineage. We used primary antibodies for c-erbB2/HER-2, CD31, nestin, CD10, CD117/c-kit, von Willebrand factor (vWF), CD34, Stro-1, CD146, α-smooth muscle actin (α-SMA), CD68,