

**The neuropathological study of myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein in the temporal lobe of schizophrenia patients**

Tomoyasu Marui<sup>1</sup>, Youta Torii<sup>1</sup>, Shuji Iritani<sup>1</sup>, Hirotaka Sekiguchi<sup>1</sup>, Chikako Habuchi<sup>1</sup>, Hiroshige Fujishiro<sup>1</sup>, Kenichi Oshima<sup>2</sup>, Kazuhiro Niizato<sup>2</sup>, Shotaro Hayashida<sup>3</sup>, Katsuhisa Masaki<sup>3</sup>, Junichi Kira<sup>3</sup>, Norio Ozaki<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Psychiatry, Graduate School of Medicine, Nagoya University, Showa-ku, Nagoya, Aichi, Japan; <sup>2</sup>Department of Psychiatry, Tokyo Metropolitan Matsuzawa Hospital, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo, Japan; and <sup>3</sup>Department of Neurology, Neurological Institute, Graduate School of Medical Sciences, Kyushu University, Higashi-ku, Fukuoka, Japan

**Running title:** MOG in the temporal lobe of schizophrenia patients

\*Corresponding author:

Tomoyasu Marui, Department of Psychiatry, Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine, Tsurumai 65, Showa, Nagoya, Aichi 466-8550, Japan.

Tel: +81-52-744-2282;

Fax: +81-52-744-2293;

E-mail: Maruchan0529@gmail.com

## **Abstract**

**Objective:** Recent studies based on the neuroimaging analysis, genomic analysis and transcriptome analysis of the postmortem brain suggest that the pathogenesis of schizophrenia is related to myelin-oligodendrocyte abnormalities. However, no serious neuropathological investigation of this protein in the schizophrenic brain has yet been performed. In this study, to confirm the change in neuropathological findings due to the pathogenesis of this disease, we observed the expression of myelin-oligodendrocyte directly in the brain tissue of schizophrenia patients.

**Methods:** Myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein (MOG) was evaluated in the cortex of the superior temporal gyrus (STG) and the hippocampus in 10 schizophrenic and 9 age- and sex-matched normal control postmortem brains.

**Results:** The expression of MOG was significantly lower in the middle layer of the neocortex of the STG and stratum lucidum of CA3 in the hippocampus in the long-term schizophrenic brains (patients with  $\geq 30$  years of illness duration) than in the age-matched controls. Furthermore, the thickness of MOG-positive fiber-like structures was significantly lower in both regions of the long-term schizophrenic brains than in the age-matched controls.

**Conclusion:** These findings suggest that a long duration of illness has a marked effect on the expression of MOG in these regions, and that myelin-oligodendrocyte

abnormalities in these regions may be related to the progressive pathophysiology of schizophrenia.

### **Key words**

Schizophrenia; Postmortem study; Myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein; Superior temporal gyrus; Hippocampus

### **Significant outcomes**

- Morphological alternation of myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein (MOG) was detected neuropathologically in the brain tissue of schizophrenia patients with a long duration of illness.
- Myelin-oligodendrocyte abnormalities might be related to the progressive pathophysiology of schizophrenia.

### **Limitations**

- We focused only on the inferior region of the superior temporal gyrus (STG) and CA3 of the hippocampus.
- Postmortem human brain tissue may be affected by various events throughout the patient's lifetime that might hamper an accurate neuropathological observation.

## **Introduction**

The etiology of schizophrenia has been unclear despite intensive investigations. However, it has been shown in recent neuroimaging and molecular biological studies that schizophrenia is a disease arising from abnormal neural communication (1-3). Dysfunction of myelin-oligodendrocytes has been hypothesized to underlie the pathophysiology of this abnormal neural communication in schizophrenia patients. Myelin-oligodendrocytes are the predominant constituents of white matter (WM) and play an important role in neural transmission under schizophrenic conditions (4,5). This hypothesis was initially supported by a series of postmortem brain studies, neuroimaging studies and genetic evidence (6). Recent diffusion tensor imaging (DTI) studies have repeatedly reported WM abnormalities in schizophrenia patients based on decreases in anisotropy indices in the WM tracts and structures (7,8). Furthermore, studies based on genome analyses have also repeatedly reported mutations of myelin-oligodendrocyte-related genes in schizophrenia patients (9). Postmortem studies of brains with this disease have demonstrated the decreased gene expression of myelin-oligodendrocyte-related proteins (e.g. *MOG*, *CNP*, *MAG*, *PLP1*, *ERBB3*) (10,11). These findings by neuroimaging and genetic studies have indicated

myelin-oligodendrocyte dysfunction in this disease. However, the altered morphology of myelin-oligodendrocyte has not been unequivocally confirmed by direct observation of the brain tissue by microscopy. Therefore, it is important to examine the neuropathological appearance of those myelin-oligodendrocyte-related proteins in the postmortem brain tissues of schizophrenia patients.

With regard to oligodendrocytes, neuropathological abnormalities in oligodendrocytes have been reported not only in the white matter but also in the cortex (12). However, the neuropathological appearance of myelin in the postmortem brain tissues of schizophrenia patients has not yet been examined in detail. Myelin-oligodendrocyte glycoprotein (MOG) is a specific component of the central nervous system localized on the outermost lamellae of mature myelin (13) and its gene may be involved in the development of schizophrenia (11,14).

The superior temporal gyrus (STG) and hippocampus are regions of interest for the etiology of schizophrenia. The STG is involved in auditory processing, including language, but it has also been implicated as a critical structure in social cognition (15,16). Neuroimaging studies have found that patients with schizophrenia have structural abnormalities in their STG (17,18). We have also confirmed the morphological changes in the STG in schizophrenia patients using postmortem brain tissue (19). In the neocortex of the STG, layer III is especially important for

schizophrenia. The mean pyramidal neuron somal volume and the densities of markers of axon boutons and dendritic spines were reported to be reduced in layer III of the STG (20-22). The hippocampus is one of the most intensively studied regions of the brain (23), and CA3, a subfield in the hippocampus, is hypothesized to be involved in abnormal neural connectivity within the hippocampus in schizophrenia patients (24). Progressive morphological changes in the hippocampus (25) and STG (26) have also been shown to correlate with the illness duration (23).

#### *Aims of the study*

We neuropathologically compared the appearance of myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein in the superior temporal gyrus and CA3 in the hippocampus of schizophrenia patients with the findings in control patients to clarify the myelin-oligodendrocyte dysfunction in schizophrenia patients with particular focus on the effects of the duration of illness on myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein appearance.

### **Materials and methods**

#### *Subjects*

Brain specimens from 10 schizophrenia patients and 9 age- and sex-matched normal control subjects among autopsy cases at Tokyo Metropolitan Matsuzawa Hospital were used for this study. The demographic details of the subjects are summarized in Table 1. Patients with  $\geq 30$  years of illness were defined as long-term schizophrenia patients. Control subjects were adjusted to match the long-term schizophrenia with regard to age at death (Table 2).

We confirmed the diagnosis by reviewing the clinical records to verify that the cases satisfied the DSM-IV-TR criteria for schizophrenia and that the control subjects had no evidence of psychiatric or neurological disorders. We also excluded cases with neuropathological changes, such as neurodegenerative disorders (e.g. Alzheimer-type dementia, frontotemporal lobar degeneration, etc.), cerebrovascular diseases, brain invasion of tumors, severe malnutrition, metabolic encephalopathies and inflammatory or traumatic processes based on the records of clinico-pathological conferences with several expert neuropathologists. We additionally excluded any cases with a history of alcohol or substance abuse or convulsions that might affect neuropathological changes, based on the patients' clinical records. We confirmed that all cases had a sufficient social function before onset and had completed compulsory education.

We assessed the subtype of schizophrenia using the DSM-IV-TR criteria. We assessed the clinical severity in the predominant state using the Global Assessment of

Functioning (GAF) scale. We measured the total dosage of antipsychotic medication taken throughout the lifetime (lifetime antipsychotic dosage) by reviewing the clinical records.

This study was approved by the Nagoya University School of Medicine Ethical Review Board.

### *Brain tissue processing*

In all cases, the cadavers were kept at 4 °C before autopsies. All brains were extracted and fixed in 10% formalin within 48 h after death. After fixation, the brains were sectioned in the coronal plane. The brains were embedded in paraffin and cut at a thickness of 10  $\mu$  m. We used each left coronal section at the level where the hippocampus, the STG and the inferior parietal lobule (IPL) were involved.

### *Immunohistochemistry*

The prepared sections were deparaffinized in xylene and rehydrated through an ethanol gradient. Endogenous peroxidase activity was blocked with 0.3% (v/v) H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>/methanol. Sections were then incubated with primary antibody against MOG (rabbit polyclonal, 1:1000, Sigma Aldrich, St. Louis, MO, USA) at 4 °C overnight. After rinsing, the sections were subjected to either a streptavidin–biotin complex or an

enhanced indirect immunoperoxidase method using Envision (DakoCytomation, Glostrup, Denmark). Immunoreactivity was detected using 3,3'-diaminobenzidine, and sections were counterstained with hematoxylin.

#### *Image acquisition and morphometric analysis*

*Equipment and software programs.* The photographs were downloaded to a PC from a digital camera (DP72; Olympus Co., Tokyo, Japan) as digital data. A morphometrical analysis was performed using the Adobe Photoshop 6.0 (Adobe Systems Inc., San Jose, CA, USA) and ImageJ 1.43u (free software developed by the NIH: <http://rsb.info.nih.gov/ij/>) software programs by one of the coauthors blinded to the diagnosis.

*Superior temporal gyrus.* The middle areas of the inferior region of the STG were observed (Fig. 1a). At 100x magnification, we investigated the distribution of MOG in the cortex as follows: We randomly placed a column of the neocortex 424  $\mu$  m wide (from layers I to VI) (Fig. 1c). The column of the neocortex was vertically divided into three equal parts: the upper layer, the middle layer and the lower layer (Fig. 1c). The cytoarchitecture (i.e. a six-layer cortical structure) is assumed to be altered or disorganized in the cortex of the schizophrenic brain (27). Therefore, in this study, we considered it best to estimate the distribution of the MOG in the neocortex of the STG

based on equal partitions of the neocortex independent of the anatomical cortical structure with the six layers. After we removed hematoxylin dye from the image of the STG using the color deconvolution plugin (<http://www.mecourse.com/landinig/software/cdeconv/cdeconv.html>) (Fig. 2A-a,b), in two columns per case, we measured the total area of the MOG-positive structures via certain intensity (pixel value: 0-210) staining with anti-MOG antibody in each layer to determine the expression of MOG in each layer (Fig. 2A-c). The ratio of the expression of MOG in each layer was calculated as follows: [(expression area of MOG in each layer) / (expression area of MOG in the whole layer)].

We next investigated the pathological changes reflecting altered distribution with greater magnification (200x). In two randomly placed 47- $\mu$  m-square areas of layer III of each case (Fig.2C-a), we extracted the MOG-positive fiber-like structures using ImageJ, based on line continuity. We traced the MOG-positive fibers manually. The sum of the length of the MOG-positive fiber-like structures and the area of the MOG-positive structures (pixel value: 0-210) was determined (Fig.2C-c, b). To statistically investigate the morphological differences of myelination, we defined and calculated the thickness of MOG-positive fiber-like structures as follows: the area of MOG-positive structures / the sum of the length of MOG-positive fiber-like structures.

We also observed the IPL using the same procedure to determine whether or not the changes were region-specific in schizophrenic postmortem brains.

*Hippocampus.* We used specimens in which CA3 could be clearly differentiated for the morphometric analysis (Fig.1b). At 100x magnification, in the five randomly placed 212- $\mu$  m-square areas of the stratum oriens and the stratum lucidum of the CA3 of each case (Fig.1d, e), we measured the total area of MOG-positive structures via certain intensity (pixel value: 0-210) staining with anti-MOG antibody to determine the expression of MOG and calculated the occupancy ratio of expression of MOG (Fig.2B). At 200x magnification, using the same methods as in the STG, the thickness of MOG-positive fiber-like structures was calculated.

#### *Statistical analyses*

For the statistical analyses, we performed nonparametric tests because of our small sample size. We used the Mann-Whitney U test to assess the differences in the brain weights, PMI and age at death between the diagnostic groups. We used Fisher's exact test to assess the differences in sex and causes of death between the diagnostic groups. To assess the expression of MOG, we used the Mann-Whitney U test between the diagnostic groups. We used Spearman's rank correlation to assess how age at onset,

PMI, duration of illness, brain weight, GAF scores or lifetime antipsychotic dosage affect the appearance of MOG. A value of  $p < 0.05$  was considered to be statistically significant. All statistical analyses were performed using the SPSS Statistics 17.0 software program (SPSS Inc., Chicago, IL, USA).

## **Results**

### *Basic demographic data*

There were no significant differences in the sex, cause of death, brain weight, postmortem interval (PMI) or age at death between the control and schizophrenia patients (Table 1, 2).

### *MOG in the neocortex of the STG*

MOG-positive structures were observed in all layers of the neocortex of the STG. Those via certain intensity (pixel value: 0-210) were detected as intensely positive structures in myelin (Fig.2A-d, e). In the control group, MOG was observed most abundantly in the middle layer followed by the lower layer. In contrast, in the schizophrenic group, MOG was observed most abundantly in the lower layer followed by the middle layer (total patients; Fig. 3a). However, there were no statistically significant differences in the distribution between the control and schizophrenic groups

(Table 3). In the long-term schizophrenic group, MOG was also observed most abundantly in the lower layer followed by the middle layer. Furthermore, the ratio of expression of MOG in the middle layer was significantly smaller in the long-term schizophrenic group than in the age-matched controls ( $p=0.03$ ; Table 3). In the neocortex of the IPL, there were no significant differences in the distribution between the control and schizophrenic groups or between the long-term schizophrenic groups and controls.

The middle layer was mainly equivalent to layers III and IV. At higher magnification, MOG via certain intensity (pixel value: 0-210) was observed as the myelin sheath, as distinguished from background (Fig.2C-a, b). The thickness of MOG-positive fiber-like structures, determined as 'the area of MOG-positive structures / the sum of the length of MOG-positive fiber-like structures', was significantly smaller in layer III in the long-term schizophrenic group than in the age-matched controls ( $p=0.011$ ; Fig. 4a).

#### *MOG in CA3 of the hippocampus*

MOG-positive structures via certain intensity (pixel value: 0-210) were detected as intensely positive structures of myelin in CA3 of hippocampus (Fig. 2B-d, e). There were no significant differences in the occupancy ratio of expression of MOG in both

the stratum oriens and the stratum lucidum between the schizophrenic and control group (Table 3, Fig. 3b). However, the occupancy ratio of expression of MOG in the stratum lucidum was significantly smaller in the long-term schizophrenic group than in the age-matched controls ( $p=0.03$ ) (Table 3, Fig. 3d).

The thickness of MOG-positive fiber-like structures was significantly smaller in the stratum lucidum of the long-term schizophrenic group than in the age-matched controls ( $p=0.011$ ; Fig. 4b).

#### *Correlation analysis using clinical profile data*

The age at death, PMI, duration of illness, brain weight and lifetime antipsychotic dosage were not correlated with the ratio of expression of MOG in the STG or the occupancy ratio of expression of MOG in the CA3. The GAF scores were positively correlated with the occupancy ratio of expression of MOG in the stratum lucidum of the CA3 ( $r=0.89$ ,  $p=0.001$ ). However, the GAF scores were not correlated with the ratio of expression of MOG of the STG and the occupancy ratio of expression of MOG in the stratum oriens of the CA3.

## **Discussion**

### *MOG in the STG in schizophrenia patients*

In this study, we observed a significant reduction in the distribution of MOG (i.e. the ratio of expression of MOG) in the middle layers of the neocortex of the STG in the long-term schizophrenia patients in comparison to age-matched controls. The cytoarchitecture (i.e. six-layer cortical structure) is assumed to be altered or disorganized in the cortex of the schizophrenic brain. Although the change in the distribution of MOG in our study may be implicated in the cytoarchitectural abnormalities reported in schizophrenia patients (27), this finding might also be associated with the dysfunction of the myelin-oligodendrocytes in this region, since the abundance of MOG-positive fiber-like structures in layer III of the STG of long-term schizophrenia patients was different from that in control patients. We also observed a significant reduction in the thickness in the MOG-positive fiber-like structures in layer III of the STG in long-term schizophrenia patients.

The middle layer in this study corresponded mainly to layers III and IV, which are rich in interneurons. Cerebral cortical interneuron dysfunction has also been hypothesized to be involved in the pathophysiology of schizophrenia (28), especially in layers III and IV (29, 30). In addition, the loss of inhibitory input into the pyramidal neurons of layers II/III has been reported in animal models of schizophrenia (31) and postmortem brains (32). Furthermore, in the STG, the impairment of inhibitory neurotransmission (mainly GABAergic neurotransmission) is considered to play a

critical role in the pathophysiology of schizophrenia (33). It is suspected that the deficit of interneuron myelination might be involved in the pathogenesis of schizophrenia (34). The findings of our study may support these phenomena; however, myelinated axons connected to other brain regions may also be implicated in our findings (35). Although it is unclear what kind of neurons or fibers are actually involved in the decrease in the expression of MOG in the middle layer, this finding was specific to the STG, as we didn't observe a significant reduction in the distribution of MOG in the neocortex of the IPL.

Few neuropathological studies have examined the myelin-oligodendrocytes in the STG of schizophrenia patients. In the cortex, Cotter et al. reported no decreased glial densities, including oligodendrocytes in schizophrenia patients (36). With regard to white matter, decreased populations of glial cells have been reported in schizophrenia patients (37). However, in these investigations, no distinction was made between oligodendrocytes and other glial cells. In contrast, in our present study, we distinguished myelin-oligodendrocyte-related proteins from other components of brain tissue, using an immunohistochemical method. To our knowledge, this is the first neuropathological study that focused on myelin-oligodendrocyte-related proteins and analyzed them digitally in the STG of schizophrenia patients.

### *MOG in the CA3 in schizophrenia patients*

In the stratum lucidum of the CA3 in long-term schizophrenia patients, the occupancy ratio of expression of MOG was lower than that in controls, although no significant differences were observed in the stratum oriens or on comparing total schizophrenia patients and controls. Furthermore, the findings from our microinvestigation of the stratum lucidum suggested that the decreased expression in the region also reflects dysfunction of myelin-oligodendrocytes.

The granule cell mossy fiber pathway projects from the dentate gyrus into the stratum lucidum, which is rich in inhibitory interneurons (38). While mossy fiber is generally thought to be unmyelinated fiber, myelination of interneurons in the hippocampus has been reported (33). Inhibitory neurotransmission impairment in the hippocampus is thought to play a critical role in the pathophysiology of schizophrenia (33). The reduction of MOG in the stratum lucidum in our study may be related to a dysfunction of inhibitory neurotransmission (38, 39).

Oligodendrocyte and myelin damage and degeneration in schizophrenia patients have been shown in electron-microscopy studies of the neocortex and the CA3 of the hippocampus (40). Swelling of the periaxonal oligodendroglial process and atrophy of the inner axons found in thin myelinated fibers are the most frequently cited ultrastructural pathologies in schizophrenia patients (41). Our finding may be

associated with these pathological changes.

### *Effects of long-term of illness*

The reduction in the MOG expression is more obvious in long-term schizophrenia patients than in those with a shorter illness duration. The finding may suggest that altered myelination is related to progressive brain changes in schizophrenia patients.

Progressive volume reductions of STG in schizophrenia patients have been frequently reported (42). In a postmortem study, we previously reported that long-term schizophrenia patients had less WM in the STG than healthy subjects, where myelin-oligodendrocytes are predominant constituents (19). Alterations in myelination might occur in the GM as well as WM in the schizophrenic brain (43). The findings of these previous macroscopic studies might be confirmed by the findings from this microscopic study.

Hippocampal volume reductions have also been reported in schizophrenia patients. Furthermore, such reductions have been assumed to continue after illness onset (44) and correlate with illness duration (25). Reductions in not only the total hippocampal volume but also the CA3 subfield volume have been reported (45). These findings from other reports may support the assumption that altered myelination is related to the progressive brain changes in schizophrenia patients.

### *Effects of antipsychotics and the severity of illness*

In this study, the lifetime antipsychotic dosage did not correlate with the ratio of expression of MOG in the middle layer of the neocortex in the STG or the occupancy ratio of expression of MOG in the stratum lucidum of the CA3. We assessed the equivalent chlorpromazine dose without distinguishing between the different types of antipsychotics. Notably, it has been reported that quetiapine has effects on oligodendrocyte development (46). However, typical antipsychotics—and not atypical antipsychotics— were used for all cases in the present study. On the other hand, it has also been reported that pathological changes in the myelination were not attributed to neuroleptic medication (40). These findings suggest that antipsychotics may not affect our findings.

The severity of illness may more likely affect the expression of MOG in the stratum lucidum than in other areas. Oligodendroglial abnormalities may contribute to altered connectivity with cognitive impairment in schizophrenia patients (41). It is assumed that alteration of myelination in the stratum lucidum may be closely related to the severity of schizophrenia.

### *Limitations*

This study is suggestive, not conclusive, due to several limitations. First, this study had a small sample size because we carefully and rigidly selected brain specimens from autopsy cases that had correct and reliable diagnostic information and case information. It was difficult to use many specimens because of the rarity of such Japanese (mongoloid race) brain specimens, due to the underdeveloped status of the Psychiatric Brain Bank in Asia, including Japan. Second, we focused only on the inferior region of the STG and CA3 of the hippocampus. Therefore, future investigations should examine other regions of interest in which structural abnormalities have been reported in neuroimaging studies of schizophrenia. Third, human brains can be affected by various events throughout the lifetime, and some agonal factors may also have inflicted the tissue damage observed in the postmortem brains. Future studies should investigate brain tissue with evident biological backgrounds (i.e. genetic animal models, rare variants of schizophrenia) in order to confirm the association of the MOG appearance with the pathophysiology. Fourth, we observed morphological changes in the MOG-positive fiber-like structures two-dimensionally on glass slides. Thus, the direction and shape of the fibers may affect the detection and measurement of fibers, and our findings did not directly show the ultrastructure of myelinated fibers. While it would be better to observe these structures three-dimensionally, this currently remains a technical limitation.

### *Conclusion*

We observed a significant decrease in the expressions of MOG in the STG and CA3 of the hippocampus in long-term schizophrenia patients compared to age-matched controls neuropathologically. These findings suggest that a long duration of illness has a marked effect on the expression of MOG in these regions and that myelin-oligodendrocyte abnormalities in these regions may be related to the progressive pathophysiology of schizophrenia.

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Authors' Contributions: the study was conceptualized by YT, SI and NO. The clinical data of the sample were evaluated by CH, HS, KO and KN.

Immunohistochemical staining was conducted by SH, KM and JK. The analyses were designed and conducted by TM and YT. The manuscript was written by TM, YT, HF and SI. All authors have approved the final manuscript.

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**Conflict of interest**

None.

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Table 1. Basic demographic characteristics of the subjects.

	Control	Schizophrenia	P-value
Number	9	10	
Sex (M/F)	6/3	8/2	0.51
Age at death (years)	56.0±13.1	59.4±15.7	0.65
Age at onset (years)	—	26.1±8.0	
Duration of illness (years)	—	33.3±17.8	
Subtype (Paranoid/Disorganized/ Catatonic/Undifferentiated)	—	6/3/0/1	
GAF scores	—	26.0±5.9	
Lifetime antipsychotic dosage <sup>c</sup> (g)	—	7717±5708 <sup>a</sup>	
Cause of death (Cardiac/Respiratory/Other)	1/3/5	1/5/4	0.76
Brain weight (g)	1268±157	1358±179	0.46
PMI (hours)	4.4±4.0 <sup>b</sup>	10.8±14.9 <sup>b</sup>	0.31

(Mean±SD)

GAF, Global Assessment of Functioning; PMI, postmortem interval; SD, standard deviation

a Not known for two schizophrenic subjects.

b Not known for one schizophrenic subject.

c Lifetime antipsychotic dosage are represented as Chlorpromazine-equivalent dose (g).

There were no significant differences between the control and schizophrenic subjects.

Table 2. Basic demographic characteristics of long-term schizophrenic subjects and age-matched controls

	Age-matched Control	Long-term Schizophrenia	P-value
Number	4	6	
Sex (M/F)	3/1	4/2	0.78
Age at death (years)	69.0±2.4	71.3±6.5	0.66
Age at onset (years)	—	24.7±4.9	
Duration of illness (years)	—	46.7±7.7	
Subtype (Paranoid/Disorganized/ Catatonic/Undifferentiated)	—	3/2/0/1	
GAF scores	—	23±5.4	
Lifetime antipsychotic dosage <sup>c</sup> (g)	—	12255±5242 <sup>a</sup>	
Cause of death (Cardiac/Respiratory/Other)	1/2/1	1/3/2	0.93
Brain weight (g)	1208±99	1315±170	0.45
PMI (hours)	5.1±5.3	5.3±5.5 <sup>b</sup>	0.81

(Mean±SD)

GAF, Global Assessment of Functioning; PMI, postmortem interval; SD, standard deviation

a Not known for two schizophrenic subjects.

b Not known for one schizophrenic subject.

c Lifetime antipsychotic dosage are represented as Chlorpromazine-equivalent dose (g).

There were no significant differences between the age-matched control and long-term schizophrenic subjects.

Table 3. The expression of MOG in the STG, IPL and CA3 of hippocampus.

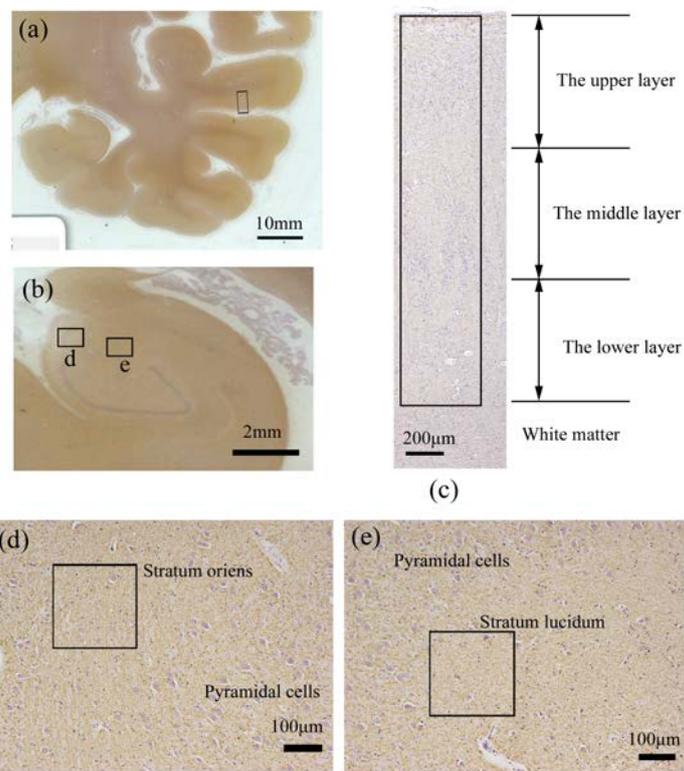
Ratio of expression of MOG in each layer of the neocortex.						
	Control	Schizophrenia	P-value	Age-matched Control	Long-term Schizophrenia	P-value
<b>STG</b>						
Upper layer	0.27±0.11	0.25±0.12	p=0.87	0.26±0.05	0.24±0.16	p=0.83
Middle layer	0.39±0.06	0.35±0.04	p=0.33	0.41±0.01	0.36±0.03	p=0.03
Lower layer	0.32±0.09	0.37±0.09	p=0.41	0.34±0.03	0.38±0.13	p=0.52
<b>IPL</b>						
Upper layer	0.25±0.14	0.24±0.12	p=0.68	0.32±0.10	0.27±0.12	p=0.29
Middle layer	0.39±0.02	0.37±0.04	p=0.51	0.40±0.02	0.36±0.04	p=0.29
Lower layer	0.37±0.14	0.37±0.09	p=0.46	0.26±0.10	0.36±0.09	p=0.09
<b>Occupancy ratio of expression of MOG in CA3 of hippocampus.</b>						
	Control	Schizophrenia	P-value	Age-matched Control	Long-term Schizophrenia	P-value
<b>CA3</b>						
Stratum oriens	0.20±0.07 <sup>a</sup>	0.21±0.03 <sup>b</sup>	p=0.63	0.25±0.10	0.19±0.03	p=0.20
Stratum lucidum	0.17±0.06 <sup>a</sup>	0.17±0.03 <sup>b</sup>	p=0.12	0.23±0.10	0.14±0.02	p=0.03

(median ± QD)

STG, superior temporal gyrus; IPL, inferior parietal lobule; MOG, myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein; QD, quartile deviation

a Not known for two subjects

b Not known for one subject



**Fig.1**

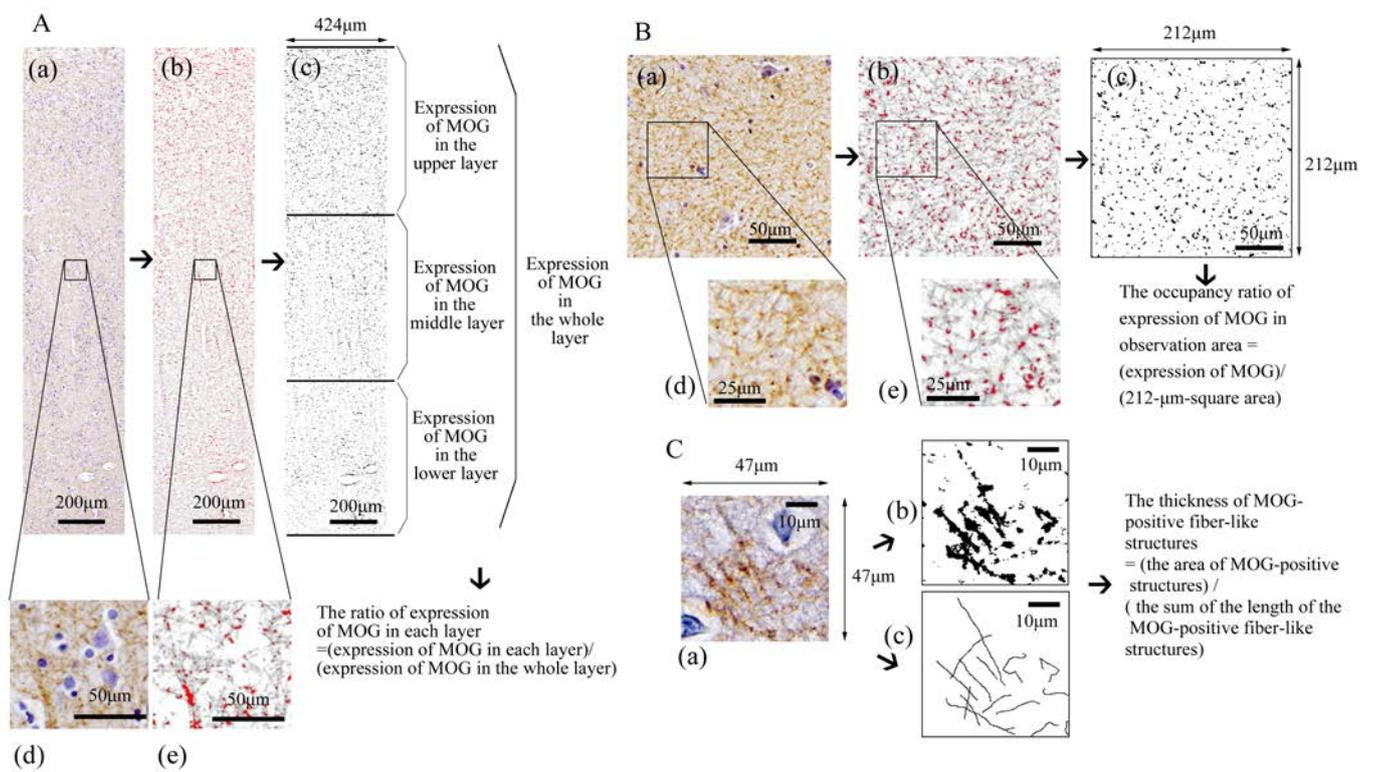


Fig.2

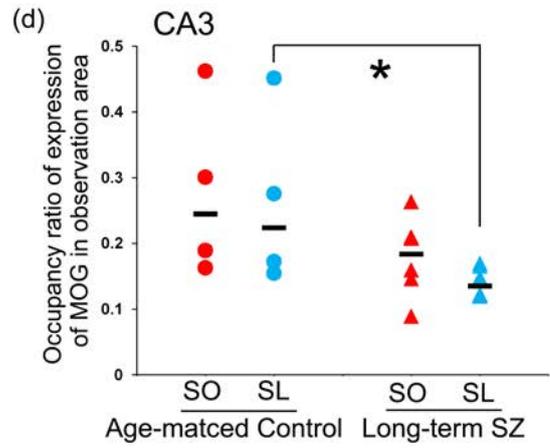
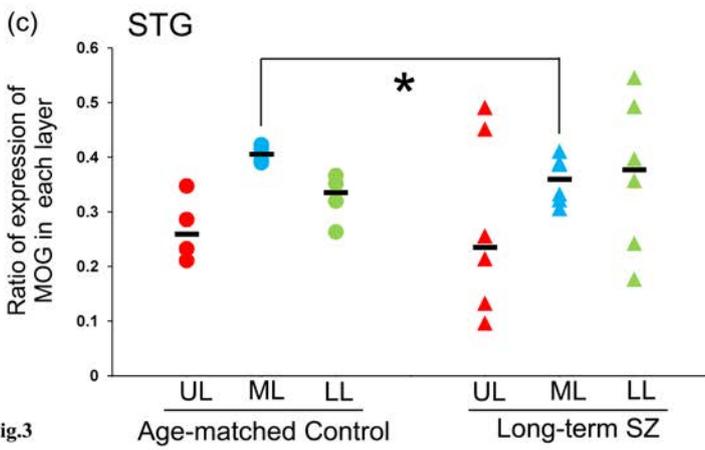
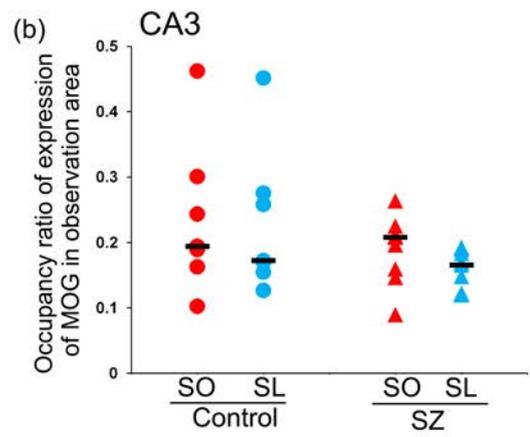
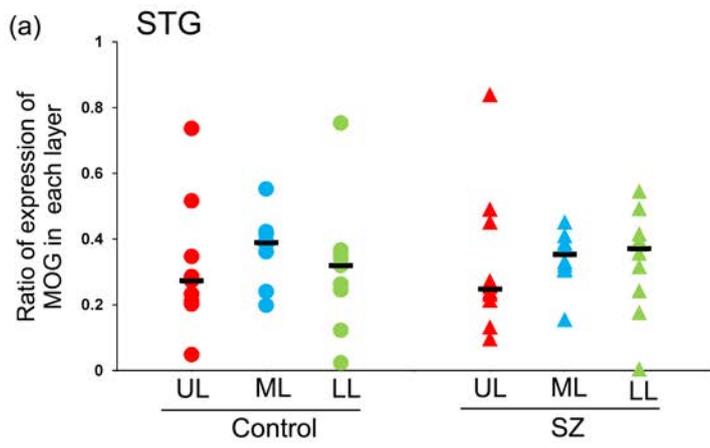


Fig.3

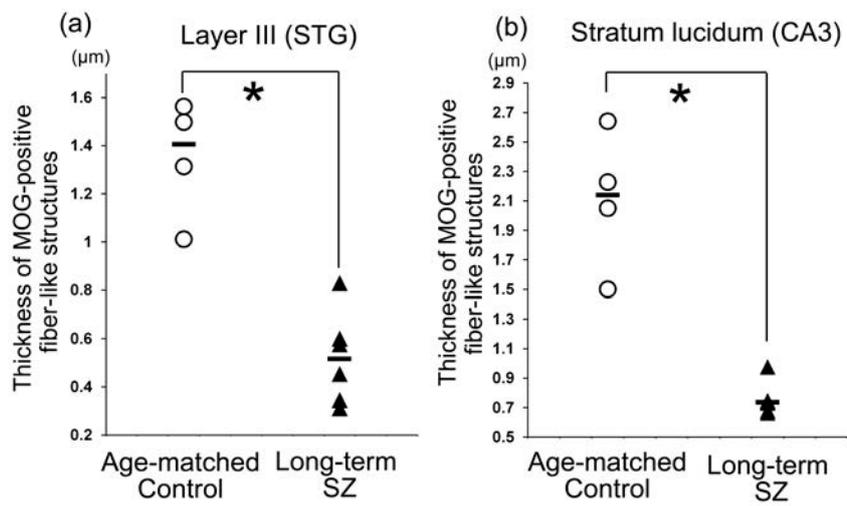


Fig.4

**Fig. 1.** Areas examined in the superior temporal gyrus (STG) and the hippocampus of postmortem brains.

(a) Left coronal section of temporal lobe stained with anti-myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein antibody (MOG). The middle areas of the inferior region of the STG (box) were examined.

(b) Left coronal section of hippocampus stained with anti-MOG antibody. The stratum oriens (d) and stratum lucidum (e) of CA3 in the hippocampus were examined.

(c) The neocortex of the middle areas of the inferior region in the STG stained with anti-MOG antibody. We randomly placed the 424- $\mu$ m-wide column (box) in the neocortex (from layers I to VI). The columns are vertically divided into three equal parts: the upper, the middle and the lower layer.

(d) Stratum oriens of CA3 in the hippocampus stained with anti-MOG antibody. We randomly placed 212- $\mu$ m-square regions of interest (box).

(e) Stratum lucidum of CA3 in the hippocampus stained with anti-MOG antibody. We randomly placed 212- $\mu$ m-square regions of interest (box).

**Fig. 2.** A morphometric analysis of myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein (MOG) in each observation area.

A. A Morphometric analysis of MOG in the superior temporal gyrus (STG). From the observation area (424- $\mu$ m-wide column) of the image of the STG (a, d), we removed hematoxylin dye (b, e) using the ImageJ software program. We measured the total area of the MOG-positive structures via certain intensity (pixel value: 0-210) staining with anti-MOG antibody [red area in (b) and (e), black area in (c)] in each layer to determine the expression of MOG in each layer (c). We calculated the ratio of expression of MOG in each layer to investigate the distribution of MOG.

B. A morphometric analysis of MOG in the CA3 of the hippocampus. From the image of observation area (212- $\mu$ m-square area) of the CA3 (a, d), we removed hematoxylin dye (b, e) using the ImageJ software program. We measured the total area of the MOG-positive structures via certain intensity (pixel value: 0-210) staining with anti-MOG antibody [red area in (b) and (e), black area in (c)] in the 212- $\mu$ m-square area to determine the expression of MOG in the CA3. We calculated the occupancy ratio of expression of MOG.

C. Measurement of the thickness of MOG-positive fiber-like structures in the observation area. In 47- $\mu$ m-square areas of layer III of the neocortex in the STG (a) and stratum lucidum stained with anti-MOG antibody, we extracted the MOG-positive fiber-like structures using the ImageJ software program. The sum of the length of the

MOG-positive fiber-like structures and the area of the MOG-positive structures (pixel value: 0-210) was determined (c, b). We calculated the thickness of MOG-positive fiber-like structures.

**Fig. 3.** The expression of MOG in the neocortex of the superior temporal gyrus (STG) and the CA3 of the hippocampus.

(a) The ratio of expression of MOG in each layer of the STG in schizophrenic and control subjects.

(b) The occupancy ratio of expression of MOG in the CA3 in schizophrenic and control subjects.

(c) The ratio of expression of MOG in each layer of the STG in the long-term schizophrenic and age-matched control subjects. The ratio of expression of MOG in the middle layer was significantly smaller in the long-term schizophrenic group than in the age-matched controls.

(d) The occupancy ratio of expression of MOG in the CA3 in the long-term schizophrenic and age-matched control subjects. The occupancy ratio of expression of MOG in the stratum lucidum was significantly smaller in the long-term schizophrenic group than in the age-matched controls.

The horizontal black lines indicate the median value. \*  $p < 0.05$ .

UL, upper layer; ML, middle layer; LL, lower layer; SZ, schizophrenia; SO, stratum oriens; SL, stratum lucidum

**Fig. 4.** The thickness of MOG-positive fiber-like structures.

(a) The thickness of MOG-positive fiber-like structures in layer III of the neocortex in the STG in long-term schizophrenic subjects and age-matched control subjects. The thickness of MOG-positive fiber-like structures was significantly smaller in layer III of the long-term schizophrenic group than in the age-matched controls.

(b) The thickness of MOG-positive fiber-like structures in the stratum lucidum of the CA3 in long-term schizophrenic subjects and age-matched control subjects. The thickness of MOG-positive fiber-like structures was significantly smaller in the stratum lucidum of the long-term schizophrenic group than in the age-matched controls.

The horizontal black lines indicate the median value. \*  $p < 0.05$ .