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▶ **To cite this version:**

Nanette Schneider, Frédérique Datiche, Gérard G. Coureaud. Correspondence: In reply to the correspondence by Jing-Zhan Wu and Chun-Hai Tang. Journal of Anatomy, 2022, 241 (1), pp.193-193. 10.1111/joa.13633 . hal-03564242v2

HAL Id: hal-03564242
https://hal.inrae.fr/hal-03564242v2

Submitted on 11 Feb 2022

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Received: 16 December 2021 | Revised: 24 December 2021 | Accepted: 6 January 2022

DOI: 10.1111/joa.13633

Journal of Anatomy ANATOMICAL SOCIETY WILEY

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence: In reply to the correspondence by Jing-Zhan Wu and Chun-Hai Tang

In reply to the correspondence "A combination of sectional micro-anatomy and micro-stereoscopic anatomy is an improved micro-dissection method" by Jing-Zhan Wu and Chun-Hai Tang: We agree with the authors that it is important to collect data using diverse techniques (two and three dimensional) for the best possible understanding of a species' brain structure.

The authors speak of "discrepancies," especially concerning the shape and size of cerebral ventricles, between their study (Wu et al. 2021) conducted on 40-day-old (juvenile) rabbits and our study on 4-day-old (newborn) rabbits (Schneider et al. 2018). They also mention differences observed in the brain of adult rabbits studied by Shek et al. (1986). These are differences, not "discrepancies", and they are not surprising because the brain changes shape during development, especially in the size and shape of the ventricles (e.g. Scelsi et al. 2020). These same changes occur in rabbits. Most importantly, shortly after birth, the brain of the newborn rabbit changes very rapidly – indeed, we observed clear differences between neonates (0-day-old) (Schneider et al. 2016) and 4-day-old rabbit pups (Schneider et al. 2018). Therefore, it is important that Wu et al. 2021 compare literature describing brain sections of 40-day-old rabbits, or extend their own studies to the brain of 4-day-old rabbit pups, to get a clear understanding of any differences observed. Such differences might not be due to different techniques.

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