

# Developing *Aplysia californica* as a model for studying susceptibility of the aged to cerebral ischemic reperfusion injury

*Aplysia* are highly tolerant of hypoxia and, consequently, may be predisposed to survive the ischemia/reperfusion injury (IRI) that is often associated with ischemic stroke (cerebral IRI). A major contributing risk factor for ischemic stroke is age, and the elderly do not recover as well or as quickly from cerebral IRI as the young. However, most research investigating IRI has been done using young rodent models. *Aplysia* have a one-year lifespan, allowing for well-controlled aging studies

over a relatively short timeframe.

