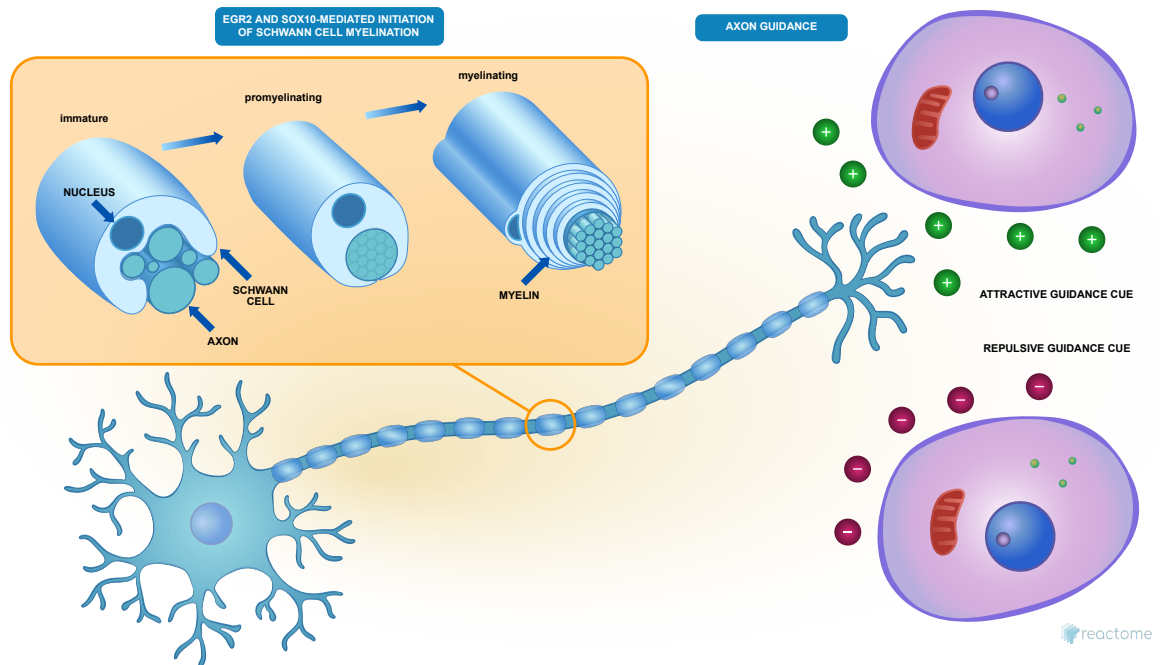


Nervous system development



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This is just an excerpt of a full-length report for this pathway. To access the complete report, please download it at the [Reactome Textbook](https://reactome.org/textbook/).

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Introduction

Reactome is open-source, open access, manually curated and peer-reviewed pathway database. Pathway annotations are authored by expert biologists, in collaboration with Reactome editorial staff and cross-referenced to many bioinformatics databases. A system of evidence tracking ensures that all assertions are backed up by the primary literature. Reactome is used by clinicians, geneticists, genomics researchers, and molecular biologists to interpret the results of high-throughput experimental studies, by bioinformaticians seeking to develop novel algorithms for mining knowledge from genomic studies, and by systems biologists building predictive models of normal and disease variant pathways.

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Literature references

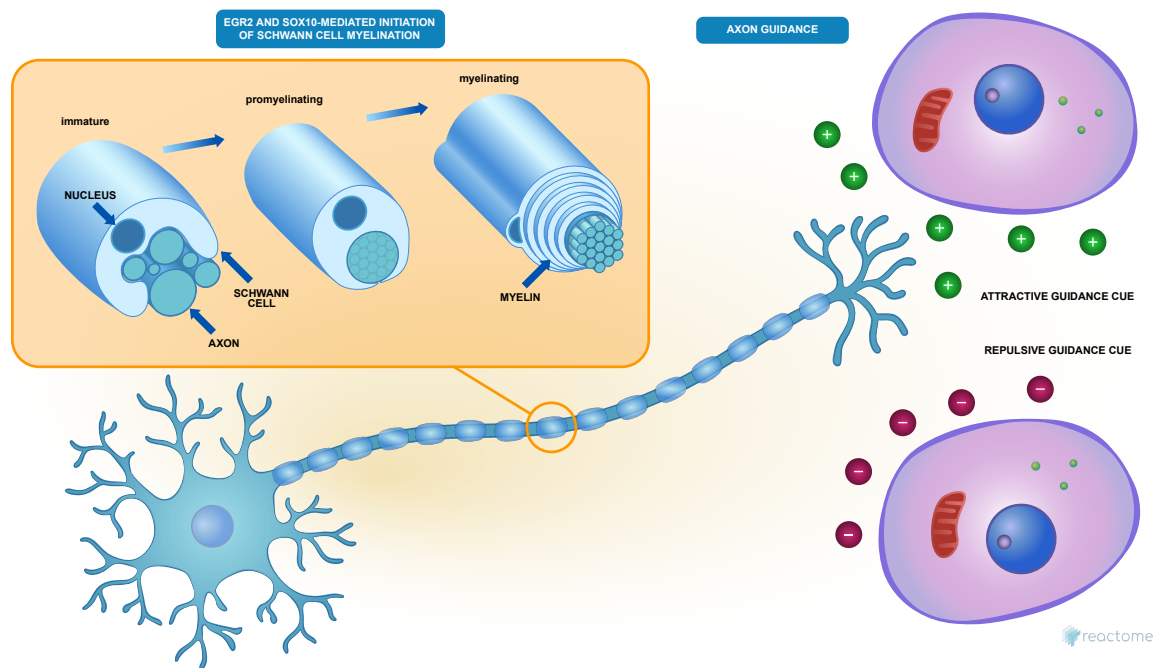
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Reactome database release: 88

This document contains 3 pathways ([see Table of Contents](#))

Nervous system development ↗

Stable identifier: R-HSA-9675108



Neurogenesis is the process by which neural stem cells give rise to neurons, and occurs both during embryonic and perinatal development as well as in specific brain lineages during adult life (reviewed in Gotz and Huttner, 2005; Yao et al, 2016; Kriegstein and Alvarez-Buylla, 2009).

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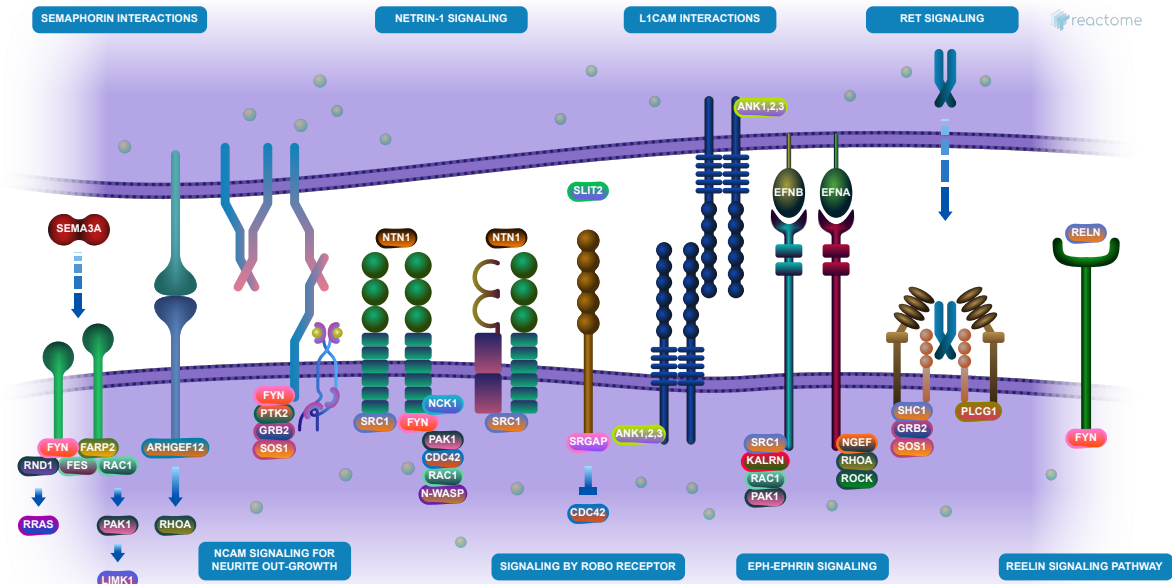
Editions

2020-01-23	Reviewed	Orlic-Milacic, M.
2020-01-31	Authored, Edited	Rothfels, K.

Axon guidance ↗

Location: Nervous system development

Stable identifier: R-HSA-422475



Axon guidance / axon pathfinding is the process by which neurons send out axons to reach the correct targets. Growing axons have a highly motile structure at the growing tip called the growth cone, which senses the guidance cues in the environment through guidance cue receptors and responds by undergoing cytoskeletal changes that determine the direction of axon growth.

Guidance cues present in the surrounding environment provide the necessary directional information for the trip. These extrinsic cues have been divided into attractive or repulsive signals that tell the growth cone where and where not to grow.

Genetic and biochemical studies have led to the identification of highly conserved families of guidance molecules and their receptors that guide axons. These include netrins, Slits, semaphorins, and ephrins, and their cognate receptors, DCC and or uncoordinated-5 (UNC5), roundabouts (Robo), neuropilin and Eph. In addition, many other classes of adhesion molecules are also used by growth cones to navigate properly which include NCAM and L1CAM.

For review of axon guidance, please refer to Russel and Bashaw 2018, Chedotal 2019, Suter and Jaworski 2019).

Axon guidance cues and their receptors are implicated in cancer progression (Biankin et al. 2012), where they likely contribute to cell migration and angiogenesis (reviewed by Mehlen et al. 2011).

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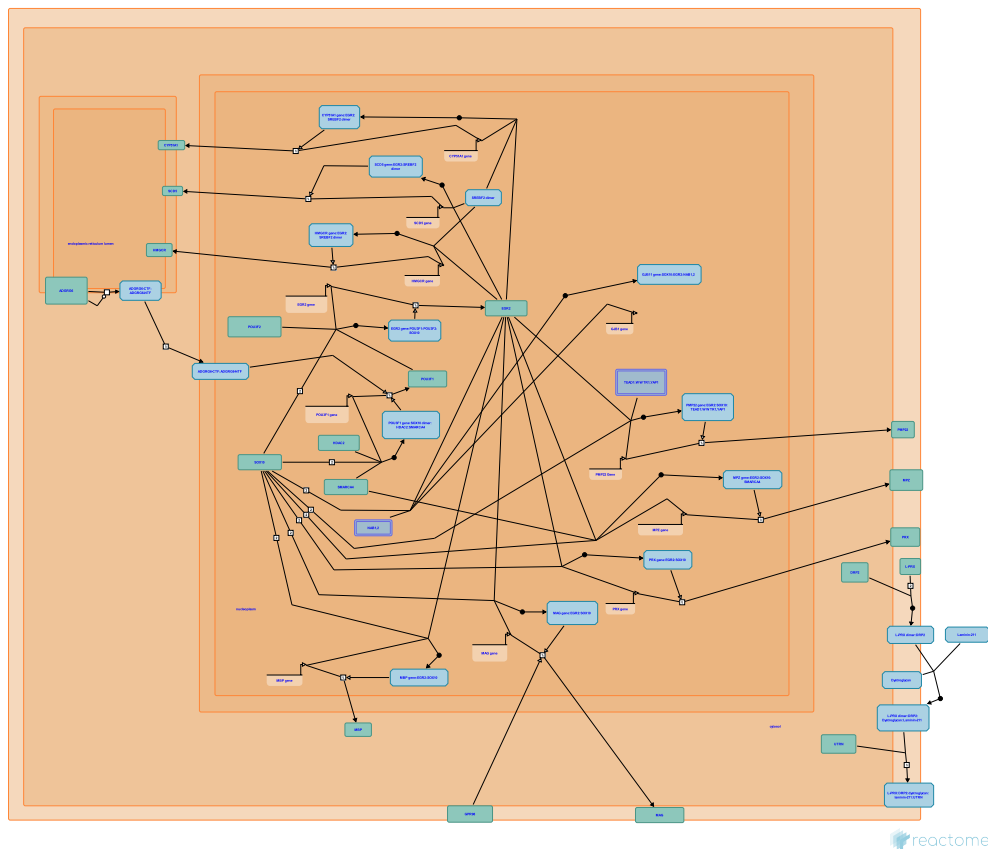
Editions

2009-05-26	Reviewed	Maness, PF., Walmod, PS.
2009-05-28	Authored, Edited	Garapati, P V.

EGR2 and SOX10-mediated initiation of Schwann cell myelination ↗

Location: [Nervous system development](#)

Stable identifier: R-HSA-9619665



Schwann cells are glial cells of the peripheral nervous system that ensheath the peripheral nerves within a compacted lipid-rich myelin structure that is required for optimal transduction of nerve signals in motor and sensory nerves. Schwann cells develop from the neural crest in a differentiation process driven by factors derived from the Schwann cell itself, from the adjacent neuron or from the extracellular matrix (reviewed in Jessen and Mirsky, 2005). Upon peripheral nerve injury, mature Schwann cells can form repair cells that allow peripheral nerve regeneration through myelin phagocytosis and remyelination of the peripheral nerve. This process in some ways recapitulates the maturation of immature Schwann cells during development (reviewed in Jessen and Mirsky, 2016). Mature, fully myelinated Schwann cells exhibit longitudinal and radial polarization. The axon-distal abaxonal membrane interacts with elements of the basal lamina through integrins and lamins and in this way resembles the basolateral domain of polarized epithelial cells. In contrast, the axon-proximal adaxonal membrane resembles the apical domain of an epithelial cell, and is enriched with adhesion molecules and receptors that mediate interaction with ligands from the axon (reviewed in Salzer, 2015).

Schwann cells express a number of Schwann-cell specific proteins, including components of the myelin sheath such as myelin basic protein (MBP) and myelin protein zero (MPZ). In addition, Schwann cells have high lipid content relative to other membranes, and are enriched in galactosphingolipids, cholesterol and saturated long chain fatty acids (reviewed in Garbay et al, 2000). This protein and lipid profile is driven by a Schwann cell myelination transcriptional program controlled by master regulators SOX10, POU3F1 and EGR2, among others (reviewed in Svaren and Meijer, 2008; Stolt and Wegner, 2016).

Literature references

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Editions

2019-08-16	Authored	Rothfels, K.
2020-01-17	Reviewed	Aletta, J M.
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