Consequences of Her9 mutation on photoreceptor ultrastructure

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The vertebrate retina







Immunohistochemistry indicates truncation of the outer segments in *her9* mutant retinas. How does loss of Her9 affect photoreceptor ultrastructure?





TEM on the Talos at UK EM core

Cone Photoreceptors





her9^{+/+} or *her9*^{+/-}



TEM on the Talos at UK EM core

Rod Photoreceptors





her9^{+/+} or *her9*^{+/-}

her9^{-/-}

In conclusion:

It looks like there are defects with the ultrastructure of the disks in the photoreceptors, however....

We ran into several issues with our sample prep:

- Tiny samples (a little bigger than a pin head for a 5-day old zebrafish)
- In order to visualize the cells of the retina, the animals need to be positioned correctly
- First time our lab or prep lab had worked with these methods
- Need to establish the correct thickness and position

For analysis we plan to continue with a collaborator with more experience in the prep/imaging/analysis of these types of samples