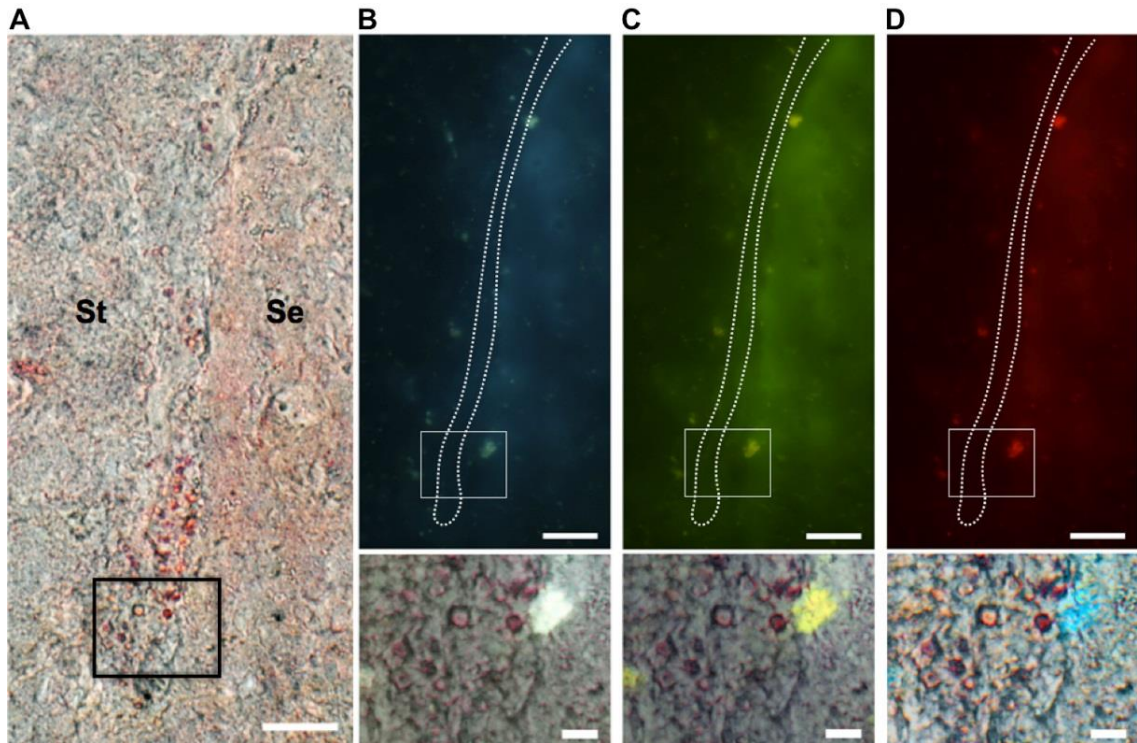


Lipid-laden cells differentially distributed in the aging brain are functionally active and correspond to distinct phenotypes.

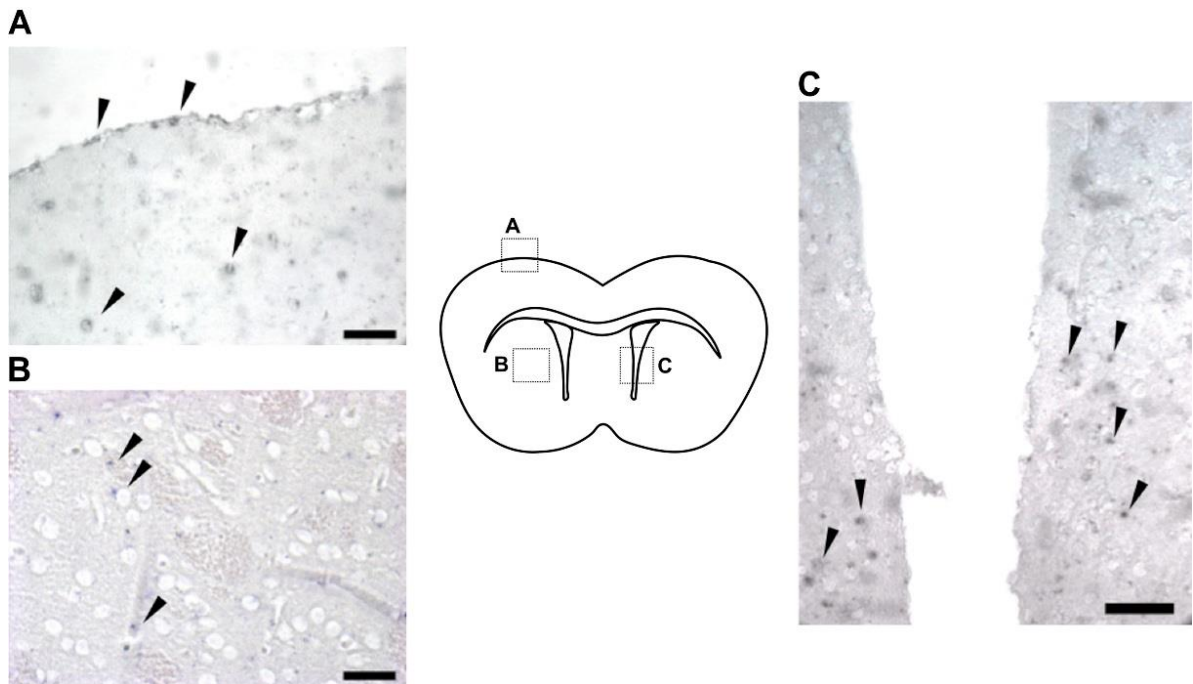
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Supplementary Fig. S1. Oil Red-O⁺ lipid droplets did not co-localize with autofluorescent signals in brain tissue. **A.** Representative photomicrograph showing the ventral portion of the lateral ventricle after Oil Red-O staining. **B-D.** Fluorescence photomicrographs of the same area in (A) showing autofluorescence signals in three different spectra detected before the Oil Red-O staining procedure. In A-D, the black and white defined areas correspond to the same region in the lower panels in (B-D), where Oil Red-O staining is merged with autofluorescence (lipofuscin). In B-D the dotted white lines delineate the lateral ventricle of aged mice. Scale bars: 20 μm (A-D); 5 μm (B, C, D insets).

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Supplementary Fig. S2. TNF- α mRNA expression in the old mouse brain. A-C.

Representative bright field photomicrographs of TNF- α mRNA analyzed by *in situ* hybridization. Positive signals corresponding to TNF- α transcripts are shown in brain cortex and pia mater (A), striatum (B) and lateral ventricle walls (C). Arrowheads indicate some positive signals for TNF- α mRNA. Scale bars: 50 μ m.