SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Sulforhodamine 101, a widely used astrocyte marker, can induce cortical seizure-

like neuronal activity at concentrations commonly used

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Supplementary Figure S1. Power spectral analysis of SR101-evoked seizure-like activity. **(a)** LFP recording in anaesthetized mouse showing development of seizure-like activity in primary sensori-motor cortex following 100 µM SR101 loading (10 min incubation). The grey and blue coloured LFP epochs, period 1 and 2 respectively, was used for for power spectral analysis. **(b)** Frequency-domain power spectra showing change in power distribution between normal LFP activity (Period 1) and SR101-evoked seizure-like activity (Period 2) in anaesthetized mouse. **(c)** LFP recording in awake mouse showing development of seizure-like activity in primary sensori-motor cortex following 100 µM SR101 loading (10 min incubation). The grey and magenta coloured LFP epochs, period 1 and 2 respectively, was used for for power spectral analysis. Note that movement artefacts has not been removed from the LFP. **(d)** Frequency-domain power spectra showing change in power distribution between normal LFP activity (Period 1) and SR101-evoked seizure-like activity (Period 2) in awake mouse. (**e**) Graphs showing close-up differences in frequency-domain power spectra (left, 1-4 Hz and right, 12-30 Hz) during SR101-induced seizure-like activity in anaesthetised and awake mice. (**f**) Relative changes in power density (% of baseline) for 1-4 Hz and 12-30 Hz LFP bands during SR101-induced seizure-like activity in anaesthetised and awake mice. Statistical difference was assessed using a paired Student's *t*-test.

Supplementary Figure S2. Control LFP recording in primary sensori-motor cortex. (**a**) Experimental setup showing LFP recording in primary sensori-motor cortex (S1-M1) and control wash out using Ringer solution. (**b**) Full LFP recording during and following control wash out using Ringer solution in anaesthetized mouse. (**c**) Spectrogram showing frequency power distribution in the LFP recording shown in (**b**).

Supplementary Figure S3. Non-filtered LFP recording showing SR101-evoked seizurelike activity. (**a**) LFP recording in anaesthetized mouse showing development of seizurelike activity in primary sensori-motor cortex following 100 µM SR101 loading (10 min incubation). The LFP trace was not filtered and does thus contain the artefacts from topical SR101 loading and wash out 10 min later using Ringer solution. Please note that the artefacts marked with arrows does not represent SR101 wash out, but two electrical interference artefacts. (**b**) Spectrogram showing frequency power distribution in the nonfiltered LFP recording shown in (**a**).

Supplementary Figure S4. Simultaneous LFP and ENG recording during SR101-evoked cortical seizure-like activity. (**a**) Experimental setup showing LFP recording in primary sensori-motor cortex (S1-M1) and simultaneous electroneurogram (ENG) recording in contra-lateral hindlimb sciatic nerve in anaesthetized mouse. (**b**) Simultaneous LFP recording in S1-M1 and ENG recording from sciatic nerve 20 min following 250 µM SR101 loading (10 min incubation). (**c**) Close up of the LFP and ENG recording shown in (**c**). Note the time-locked relationship between the events in the two voltage signals.

Supplementary Figure S5. 25 µM or 50 µM SR101 does not evoke seizure-like activity in primary sensori-motor cortex. (**a**) Experimental setup showing LFP recording in primary sensori-motor cortex in anaesthetized mouse. Note that only one concentration of SR101 (*i.e.* either 25 µM or 50 µM) was used in each experiments. (**b**) Upper, LFP recording showing loading of 25 µM SR101 and wash out 30 minutes later. Lower, spectrogram showing frequency power distribution in the LFP recording shown above. (**c**) Upper, LFP recording showing loading of 50 µM SR101 and wash out 20 min later. Lower, spectrogram showing frequency power distribution in the LFP recording shown above.

Supplementary Figure S6. Texas Red does not evoke seizure-like activity in primary sensori-motor cortex. (**a**) LFP recording showing loading of 100 µM Texas Red and wash out 15 min later. (**b**) Spectrogram showing frequency power distribution in the LFP recording shown in (**a**). (**c**) LFP recording showing loading of 500 µM Texas Red and wash out 10 min later. (**d**) Spectrogram showing frequency power distribution in the LFP recording shown in (**c**).

Supplementary Figure S7. LFP Frequency power distribution change between anaesthetized and awake mouse. (**a**) LFP recording epochs during ketamine/xylazine (KX) anaesthesia or wakefulness in the same mouse. (**b**) Frequency-domain spectra showing change in power distribution between KX anaesthesia (black) and awake (red) LFP shown in (**a**). Note the drop in power around 2-3 Hz and increase in power around 10-20 Hz in the awake LFP recording compared to the KX LFP. No moving average or moving standard deviation was applied to the traces, in order to show raw frequency-domain power spectra traces. (**c**) Spectrograms showing frequency power distribution in the KX (Left) and awake (Right) LFP recording, respectively, shown in (**a**).

Supplementary Video S1. 100 µM SR101-evoked muscle contractions in contra-lateral hindlimb. Video showing muscle contractions in contra-lateral hindlimb 20 min following 100 µM SR101 topical loading above the left primary sensori-motor cortex in ketamine/ xylazine anaesthetized mouse. Note that the muscle contractions are selectively occurring in the contra-lateral side.

Supplementary Video S2. 250 µM SR101-evoked muscle contractions in contra-lateral hindlimb. Video showing muscle contractions in contra-lateral hindlimb 17 min following 250 µM SR101 topical loading above the left primary sensori-motor cortex in ketamine/ xylazine anaesthetized mouse. Note that the muscle contractions are selectively occurring in the contra-lateral side.

Supplementary Video S3. 250 µM SR101-evoked muscle contractions in contra-lateral hindlimb. Video showing muscle contractions in contra-lateral hindlimb 20 min following 250 µM SR101 topical loading above the right primary sensori-motor cortex in ketamine/ xylazine anaesthetized mouse. Note that the muscle contractions are selectively occurring in the contra-lateral side and that the mouse does not respond to the pinch stimulation on the ipsi-lateral side, proving the depth of the anaesthesia and lack of reflex response in the hindlimb.

Supplementary Table S1 - Overview of SR101 usage *in vivo*

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Supplementary Table 1. Table showing how SR101 is used for *in vivo* experiments. Information include application route (*i.e.* topical or cortical injection), SR101 concentration applied, and when stated, the incubation duration before wash and whether the dura matter was removed (only applies for topical application). Publications were selected from a literature search on PubMed using the key-word "Sulforhodamine 101", and publications using SR101 for *in vivo* cortical labelling were included in the table. We did not include experiments using intra-peritoneal³⁰ or intra-venous³¹ injection of SR101 as this method is less common than the topical and cortical injection routes.

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