

Supplementary Materials: Supplementary materials can be found at <https://www.mdpi.com/article/10.3390/ijms22179153/s1>.

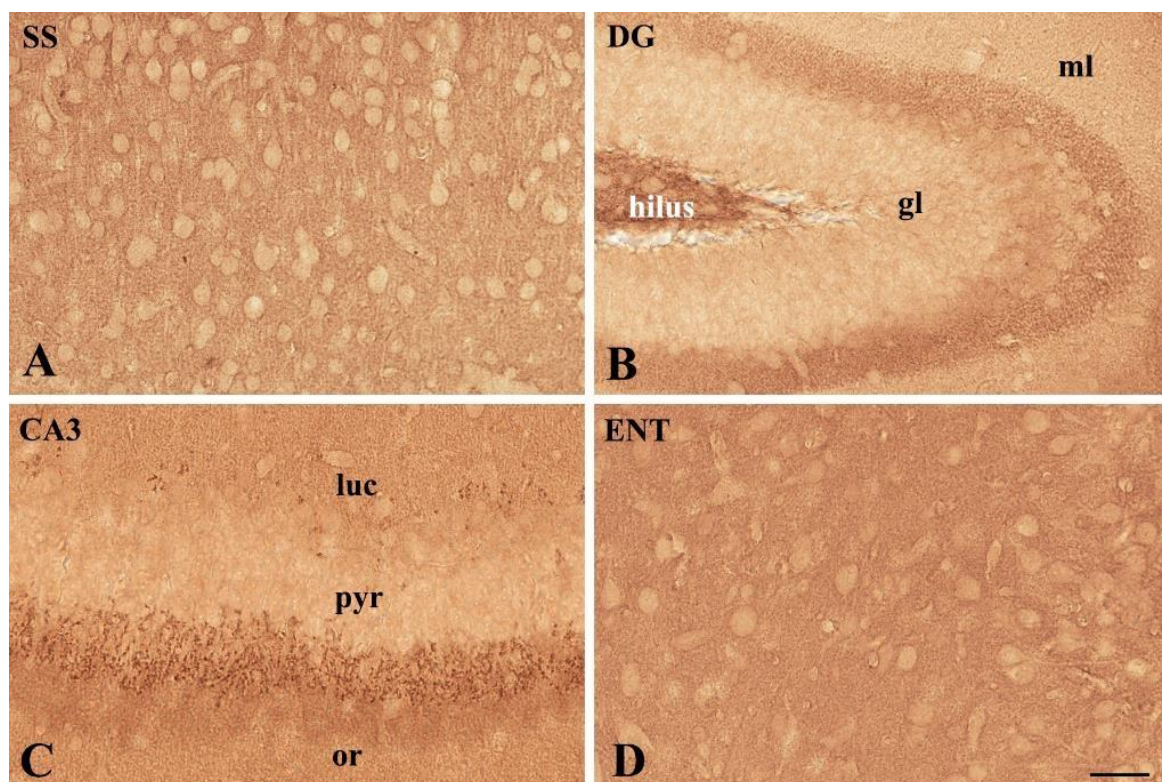


Figure S1. α -Synuclein immunoperoxidase staining in coronal sections of WT mice brain. Light microscope images of α -synuclein immunolabeling in somatosensory cortex (SS; **A**), dentate gyrus (DG; **B**), *Cornu Ammonis* region 3 (CA3; **C**) and entorhinal cortex (ENT; **D**). Several intense immunoreactive puncta were revealed both between granular (gl) and molecular (ml) layers of DG (**B**) and between pyramidal layer (pyr) and *stratum oriens* (or) of CA3 (**C**). luc: *stratum lucidum*. Scale bar: 40 μ m.

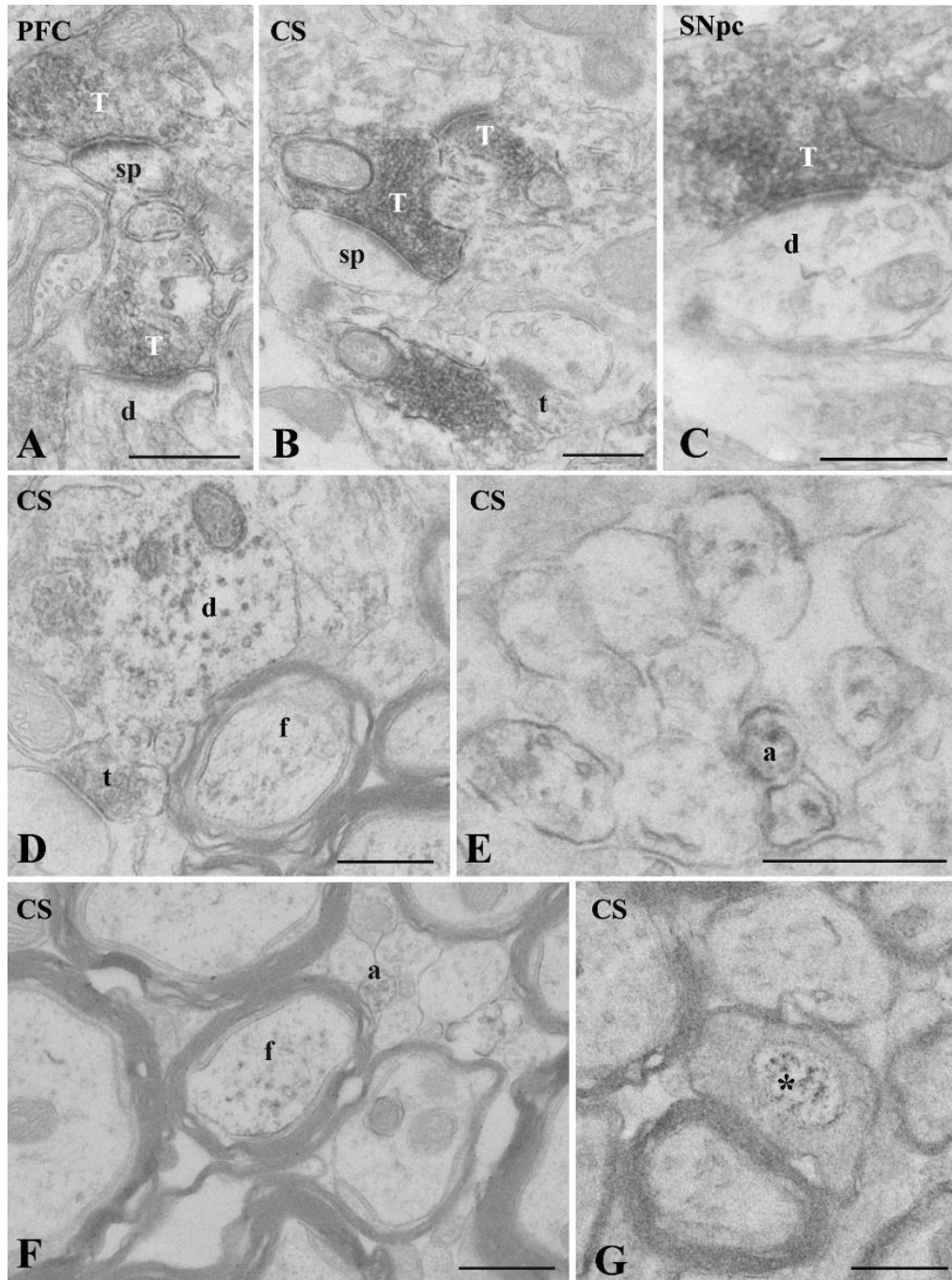


Figure S2. Immunoperoxidase electron microscopy for α -synuclein in WT mice in prefrontal cortex (PFC; A), corpus striatum (CS; B, D, E, F, G) and substantia nigra pars compacta (SNpc; C). Labelling consisted in the pre-embedding immunoperoxidase reaction product that resulted as a diffuse electron dense staining in proximity of the antigen, allowing the discrimination of the cellular compartments containing α -synuclein. In all the studied regions α -synuclein labelling was mainly at presynaptic level in association with synaptic vesicles (white T in A-C), but not all the synaptic boutons (t) appeared to be stained (B, D). α -Synuclein-positive synaptic terminals (white T) contacted mainly dendritic shafts (d) and dendritic spines (sp). In addition, the reaction product was present even in the dendritic (D) and in the axonal (D-G) compartments. In particular, myelinic fibers of large caliber (f in D, F), partially myelinated axons (asterisk in G) and amyelinic fibers of small caliber (a in E, F) displayed a faint immunoperoxidase staining. White T: α -synuclein-positive synaptic terminal; t: unlabeled synaptic terminal; sp: dendritic spine; d: dendrite; f: myelinic fiber; a: amyelinic small caliber axon; *=partially myelinated axon. Scale bars: 500 nm.

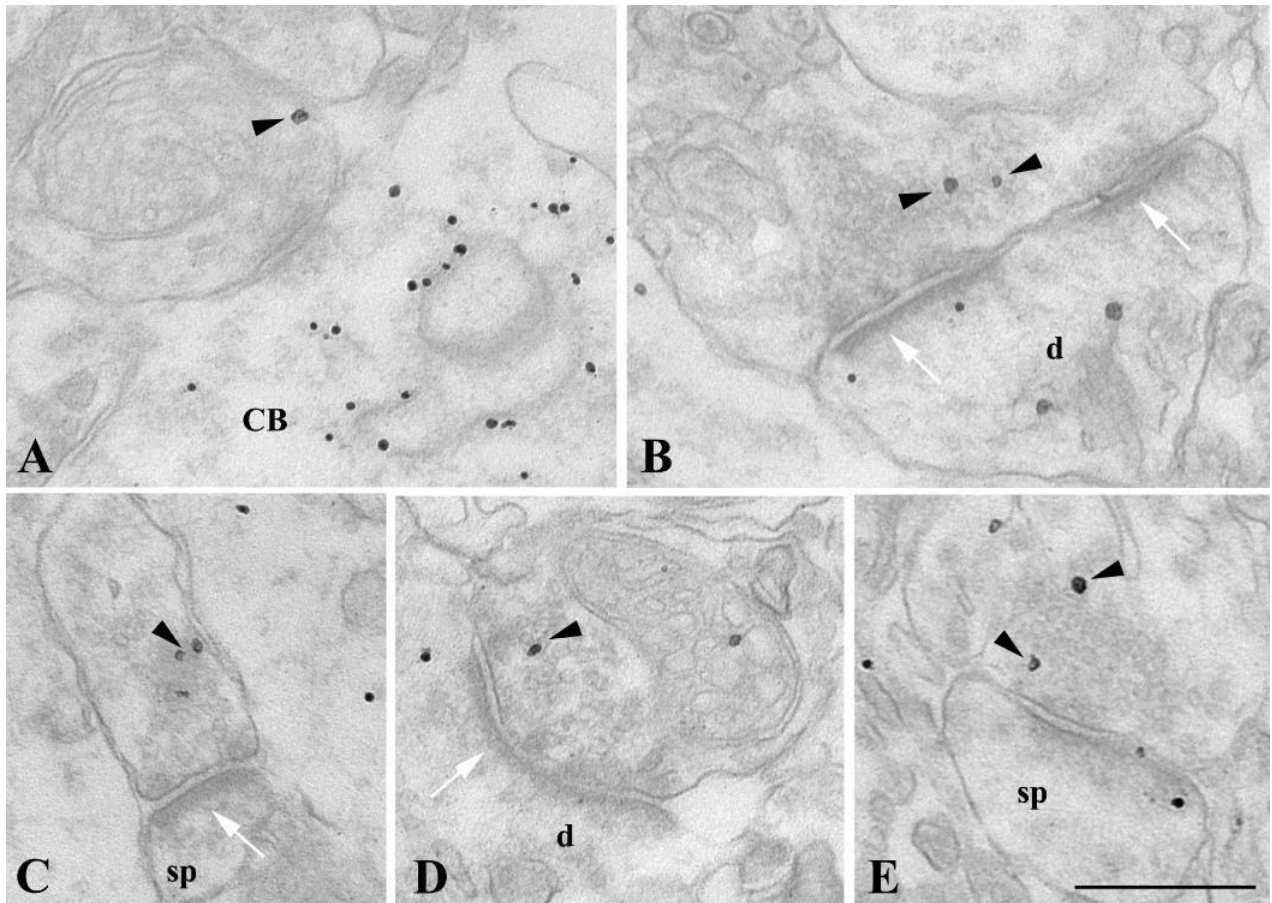


Figure S3. Single α -tubulin pre-embedding silver-intensified immunogold labelling in WT murine *corpus striatum*. A considerable amount of gold particles was observed in a neuronal cell body (CB in **A**), which was contacted by a small synaptic bouton showing one gold particle (arrowhead). In the striatal neuropil different vesicle-rich terminals were poorly immunolabelled (few gold particles, arrowheads) and made asymmetric (white arrows in **B, C, D**) or symmetric (**E**) synaptic contacts on distal dendritic processes (d in **B, D**) and dendritic spines (sp in **C, E**). Scale bar: 500 nm.

PLA -/ α -Tubulin (negative control)

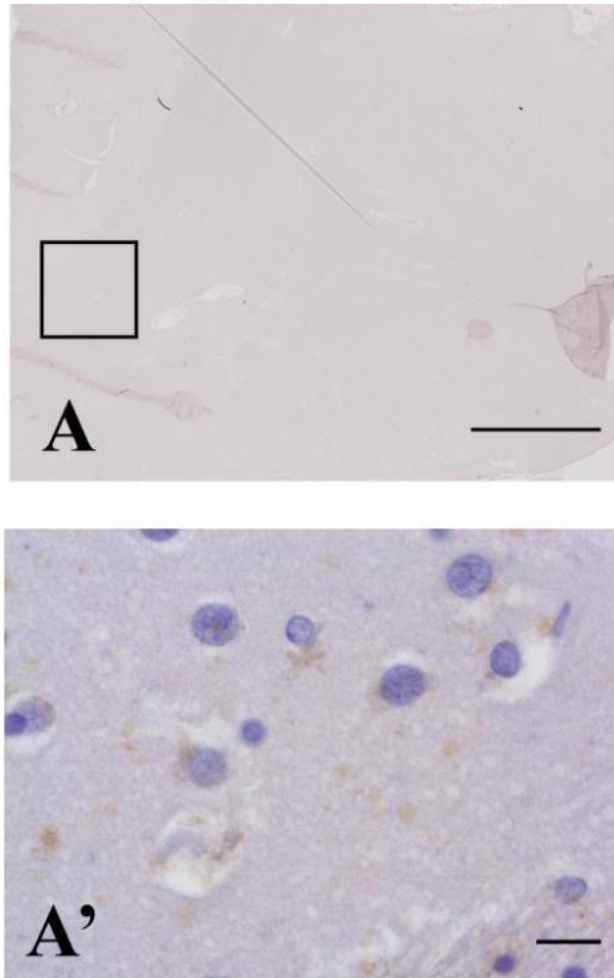


Figure S4. Negative control for brightfield PLA procedure in human *corpus striatum* and cerebral cortex. **A:** low magnification image negative control of PLA staining (brown), in which the primary antibody against α -Synuclein was omitted (-/ α -Tubulin PLA negative control). **A':** photomicrograph of the area selected with the black square in **A** at the level of the putamen. Nuclei are counterstained with hematoxylin (violet). Scale bars: 2.5 mm (**A**), 20 μ m (**A'**).

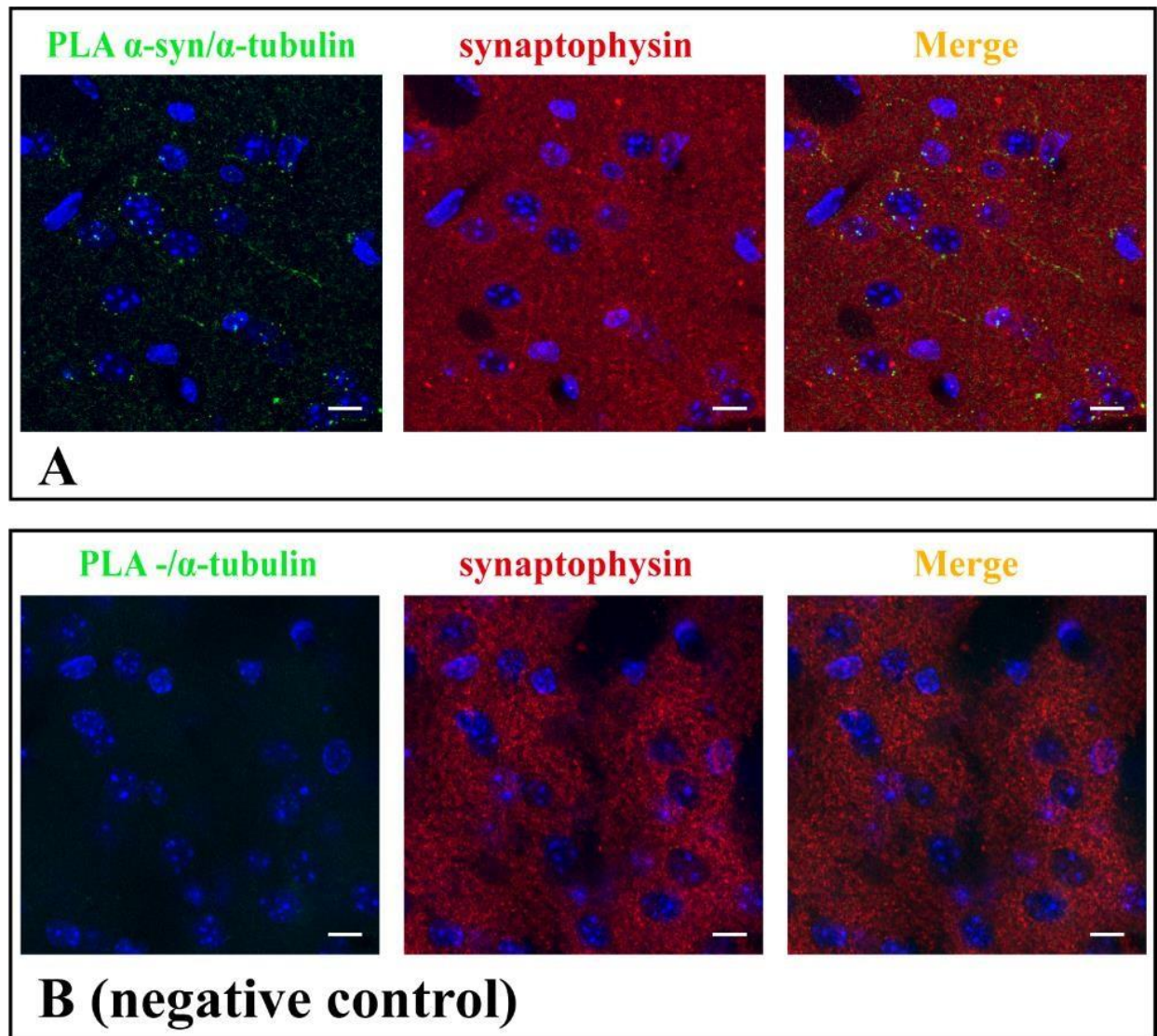
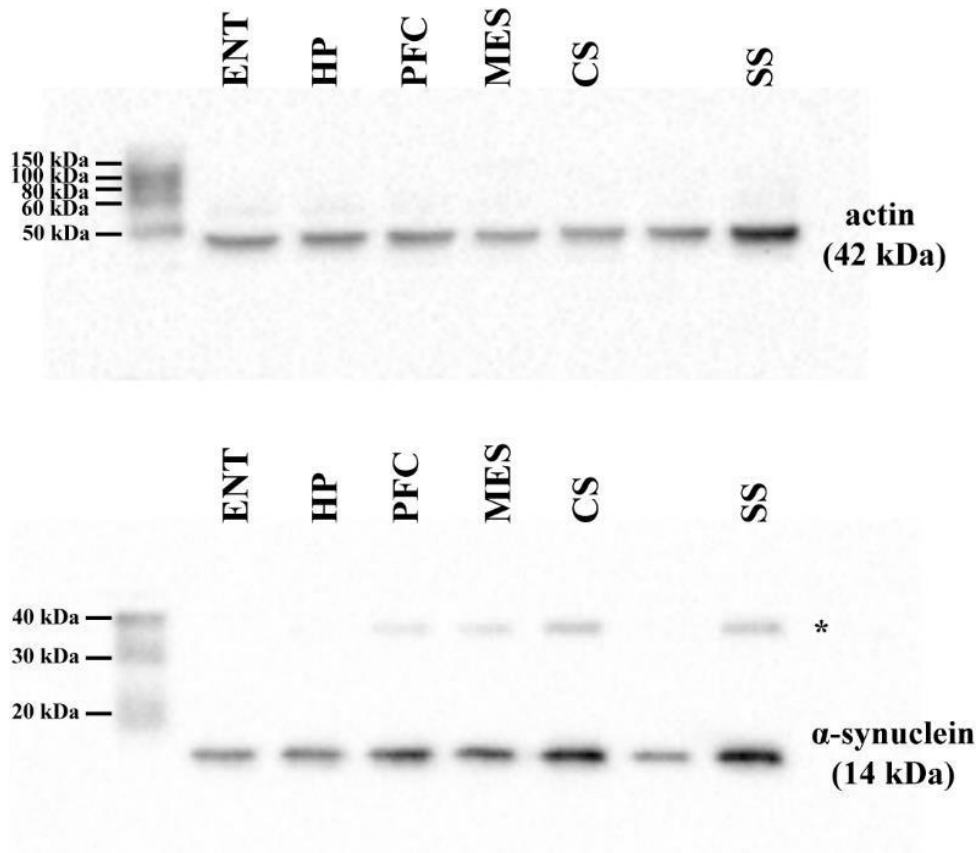


Figure S5. Confocal images of α -synuclein/ α -tubulin PLA staining in mouse corpus striatum. **A:** from left to the right representative maximum projection of α -synuclein/ α -tubulin PLA interaction (green), synaptophysin (red) and merge (all channels). **B:** from left to the right representative maximum projection of the negative control of the PLA staining in panel **A**, in which the primary antibody against α -synuclein was omitted. $-/\alpha$ -tubulin PLA (green), synaptophysin (red) and merge (all channels). Nuclei are counterstained with Hoechst (blue). Scale bars: 10 μ m.

Supporting information



Original uncropped images of western blot analysis of α -synuclein levels in total lysates obtained from different regions of WT mouse brain. Uncropped images of western blot showing α -synuclein levels in total lysates of entorhinal cortex (ENT), *hippocampus* (HP), prefrontal cortex (PFC), ventral *mesencephalon* (MES), *corpus striatum* (CS), and somatosensorial cortex (SS). The whole membrane was cut between 40 kDa and 50 kDa and then separately treated only with anti-actin primary antibody (upper image) and only with anti- α -synuclein primary antibody (lower image). It is indicated with the asterisk (*) an α -synuclein aspecific band between 30 kDa and 40 kDa. Actin was used as loading reference.