

Four skin treatments will be utilized:

1 dermatitis (D) – stimulated by Q-tip application to the back of the ears of dinitrofluorobenzene (DNFB) in a mixture (vehicle) of olive oil and acetone 3:1).

2 vehicle alone (olive oil and acetone) (V) – a control

3 saline alone (S) – a control for the elovanoids

4 no treatment (N) – a control for normal tissue

There are three test conditions (please see diagram below):

curative – following dermatitis

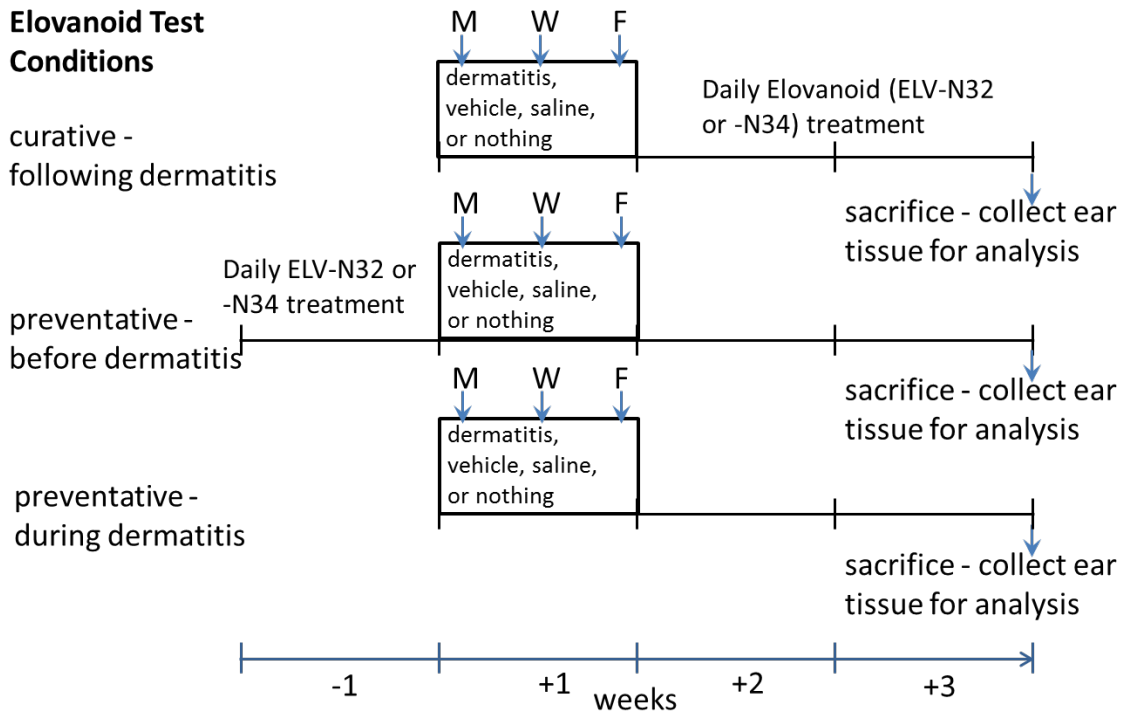
preventative – before dermatitis

preventative – during dermatitis

Each of these test conditions will include stimulation of 22 mice with D, V, S, or N (4x22=88), the application of ELV-N32 or ELV-N34 (2x88=176 mice), and the three test conditions (3x176=528 BalbC mice, total).

Eleven ears are needed for each of four analyses. 22 mice per treatment will produce 44 ears, or 11 ears for each of the 4 procedures.

Summary diagram:



- 1.) Two groups of mice (curative following dermatitis and preventative during dermatitis) will receive stimulation for dermatitis for one week, on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, once each day) by Q-tip application to the backs of both ears with a mixture of dinitrofluorobenzene (DNFB, [0.15%]) in a mixture of olive oil and acetone (3:1).
- 2.) Simultaneously, one group (preventative during dermatitis) will receive Q-tip applications of ELV-N32 or ELV-N34 to the backs of the ears once each day (7 days).
- 3.) The curative following dermatitis group will receive Q-tip applications of ELV-N32 or ELV-N34 to the backs of the ears once each day for the following two weeks.
- 4.) The third group (preventative before dermatitis) will receive Q-tip applications of ELV-N32 or ELV-N34 to the backs of the ears once each day for the week prior to dermatitis stimulation (7 days).
- 5.) For each of the three Test Conditions, parallel control experiments will be conducted in which dermatitis stimulation (DNFB) will be replaced with vehicle alone (olive oil/acetone, 3:1), saline alone, or no treatment (naïve).
- 6.) Mice will be hand held during all applications to the ears.
- 7.) All applications will occur within the Neuroscience animal care facility within a biosafety cabinet.
- 8.) Following each application mice will be immediately returned to their cages.
- 9.) Two weeks after the conclusion of sensitization or control treatment, mice will be anesthetized with ketamine/xylazine and decapitated, and the ears removed for analysis.