



### Short Commentary

## Why Every Year Several New Cancer Drugs Go to Market but There is no Cure Medicine for Alzheimer's? are We Off-Target?

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Alzheimer's disease (AD) commonly used mouse models. Several monoclonal antibodies have since been shown to clear plaques in mouse models but all have failed to provide benefit to people with AD in trials. The amyloid- $\beta$  (A $\beta$ ) peptides aggregate into plaques contribute to the pathogenesis of AD. There are currently more than 400 trials in people of potential treatments for around the world, but almost no drugs have been brought to the market. Common mouse models of Alzheimer disease. Aggregational and conformational changes of human A $\beta$  peptides into unique S-shaped  $\beta$ -sheet misfolded proteins is a pathological hallmark of neurodegenerative diseases such as AD [1]. The formation of a GM1 cluster was suggested to be cholesterol-dependent [2,3]. It was demonstrated by Matsuzaki that a GM1-including membrane not only enhanced the aggregation of A $\beta$  but also converted amyloid peptides into toxic fibrils that showed high hydrophobicity and contained anti-parallel  $\beta$ -sheets [4] (Figure 1). Residue Arg5 (Figure 2) was observed to play a key role for A $\beta$  stable binding to the membrane in the simulations [1]. Three amino acid differences distinguish A $\beta$  from its human homolog (hA $\beta$ ) and mice (mA $\beta$ ) which are located within the N-terminal domain (Figure 1; Arg-5 $\rightarrow$ Gly, Tyr-10 $\rightarrow$ Phe, and His-13 $\rightarrow$ Arg) ; however Arg-5 $\rightarrow$ Gly amino acid

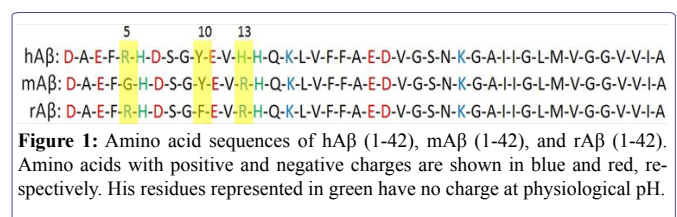
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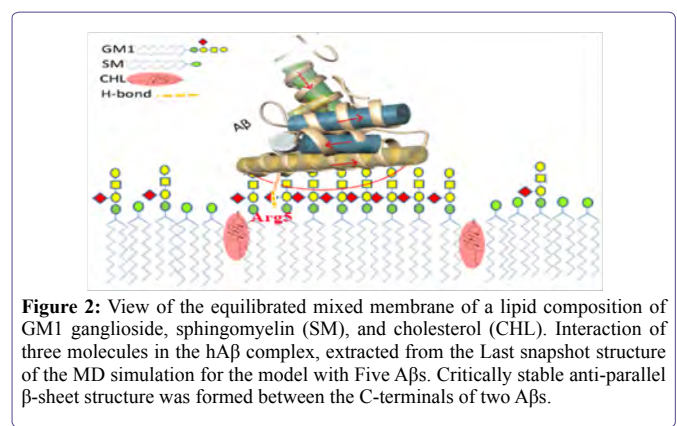
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differences hallmark for A $\beta$  stable binding to the membrane. Furthermore, the residue 13 of mA $\beta$  and rA $\beta$  are Arg rather than His in hA $\beta$ ; these mutations are critical in AD [5].



The principal component of extracellular plaque aggregation in the brain has been reported to be stabilized Fe<sup>2+</sup> and Fe<sup>3+</sup> ions that promote the formation of A $\beta$ s due to free radicals that could cause the death of neurons by apoptosis [6,7]. Interestingly mole-rat brains of around 32 years of age, had levels of rA $\beta$  similar to AD models but not observed any AD symptom [8]. Experimental studies suggest that A $\beta$  fibrillation (main-pathway is known to be more toxic) and amorphous (off-pathway) formations are two competitive pathways influencing by factors such as metal binding, pH and temperature [9]. The hA $\beta$  peptides have a different net charge, which contains 9 polar residues; the hA $\beta$  peptides have 11 polar residues and rA $\beta$ , which contains 10 polar residues [10]. Positive charges substitution of histidine (His13) to Arg13 is represented in mA $\beta$  and rA $\beta$ . Furthermore, in mA $\beta$  with glycine five (Gly5) to Arg5, the replacement has one more positively charged residue. At pH 7, the net charges were -3 for hA $\beta$ , -2 for rA $\beta$ , and -1 for mA $\beta$ . In our previous study, hA $\beta$  and rA $\beta$  have different behaviors in the initial stage of structural transformation of A $\beta$ 42 peptides in the presence of Fe<sup>2+</sup> and Fe<sup>3+</sup>. We reported that the intermolecular an important feature that intramolecular C-terminal  $\beta$ -sheets can play key roles in A $\beta$ s main and off pathway [2]. Fe<sup>2+</sup> and Fe<sup>3+</sup> play key roles in folding A $\beta$ s [5]. Fe<sup>3+</sup> ions stabilized the folding of  $\beta$ -sheets on the C-terminal with the "Intramolecular tailoring approach" by binding iron to the Glu22 and the carboxyl group of Ala42 [5]. Saccharomyces cerevisiae has high similarity in nucleic acid, and amino acid sequencing with mammalian might be a good model for substitutions with mice.



## Conclusion

The most common forms of toxic hA $\beta$  contained anti-parallel  $\beta$ -sheets observed in human which formed on the GM1-including membrane. Arg5 was observed to play a key role for A $\beta$  stable binding to the membrane. Therefore, When compared to hA $\beta$ , mA $\beta$  peptides were found residue 5 of mA $\beta$ 42 is Gly instead of Arg of hA $\beta$  which in the presence of a GM1-containing membrane, hA $\beta$  was aggregated to be a toxic form, but mA $\beta$  developed into a different form and the aggregates was less toxic. This is not surprising, as there are no suitable ligands for the Fe of heme in biology. Imidazoles are representative of the heme group and side chain of histidine amino acids. Therefore, hA $\beta$  with three his residues can mimic heme groups in interaction with Fe ions. Therefore, by binding iron, the conformational flexibility of hA $\beta$  peptides with three His is lesser than mA $\beta$  and rA $\beta$  with two His. To sum it up, the feature of hA $\beta$  is critical in AD, and mA $\beta$  and rA $\beta$  with different properties might not be a good model for AD.

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