β-Amyloid pathogenesis: Chemical properties versus cellular levels - DTU Orbit (08/11/2017)

β-Amyloid pathogenesis: Chemical properties versus cellular levels

Although genetic A β variants cause early-onset Alzheimer's disease, literature reports on A β properties are heterogeneous, obscuring molecular mechanisms, as illustrated by recent failures of A β -level targeting trials. Thus, we combined available data on A β levels and ratios, aggregation propensities, toxicities, and patient data for A β variants and correlated these data to identify heterogeneity, significant relations, and basis for consensus. Despite heterogeneity, age of disease onset correlates to A β levels (R^2 =0.38, P=.018), but not to toxicities, A β_{42} levels, A β_{42} /A β_{40} ratios, or aggregation propensities. Cytotoxicity correlates inversely with total A β_{42} (R^2 =0.65, P=.016) and A β_{42} /A β_{40} ratios (R^2 =0.76, P=.005), i.e., chemical properties that increase A β_{42} also reduce toxicity. The complexity and heterogeneity of data reveal the need to understand these phenotypes better, e.g., by focusing on the chemical properties of the involved A β species.

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