



Review

## THERAPEUTIC ROLES OF ANTIOXIDANT AND NUTRACEUTICALS IN THE PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

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*Alzheimer's disease (AD) has emerged as a serious and challenging neurological disorder in the ageing population worldwide. The progressive decline of mental health in AD patients causes memory loss, cognition decline, and motor impairment, which impacts adversely on the quality of life of afflicted individuals. Health care costs of mental diseases, dementia and AD are escalating globally, because the AD patients need continuous attention either by the family members or by the health care providers. Also, pharmaceutical treatment and hospital cost of AD is very expensive for the society. Therefore, there is an urgent need to develop cost-effective, affordable, and safe alternative remedies for the prevention/mitigation and management of AD. Plant-derived antioxidant/anti-inflammation macromolecules (e.g., curcumin, genistein, melatonin, resveratrol, vanillic acid, caffeic acid, berberine) and nutraceuticals (Gingko Biloba) appear to be the safer and cost-effective promising options for the prevention/progression and management of AD patients. The underlying causes and pathological mechanisms of AD are multiple and complex, which include genetic, epigenetic, non-genetic and environmental risk factors. Lifestyle aspects (e.g., excessive tobacco smoking and alcohol abuse), unhealthy dietary habits, accumulation of heavy metals (arsenic, lead, cobalt, mercury) in CNS, and chronic viral infections are considered some other risk factors in memory loss and AD. Brain has relatively low levels of antioxidants and low repair capacity of neuronal cells. Reduced blood supply and impaired mitochondria promote lesser ATP synthesis and energy support in the brain. Many studies have suggested that excessive oxidative stress in the brain leads to the overproduction of free radicals like reactive oxygen species (ROS) and reactive nitrogen species (RNS) from mitochondrial damage and reduction of ATP synthesis. The unabated over production of ROS/RNS cause insults to brain lipids by initiating lipid peroxidation and damage to cellular molecules, resulting in pathological injury and neuronal death. Antioxidant and anti-inflammation phytochemicals,*

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dietary flavonoids, and nutraceuticals have gained significant importance for scavenging the free radicals and producing neuro-protective and memory-enhancing effects. Systematic searches were done using PUBMED, EMBASE, Scopus, Google Scholar, ResearchGate, and Web of Science databases. Numerous *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies have demonstrated that dietary antioxidant/anti-inflammation flavonoids, micronutrients (vitamins, trace metals, amino acids), and plant-derived polyphenols synergistically exhibit neuroprotective activity in AD animal models by stimulating transcription of the endogenous antioxidant system in the brain. The aims and objectives of this review are to recapitulate the current knowledge about the pathophysiology of AD and to shed light on the therapeutic strategies being used for slowing down the progression of dementia and cognitive decline. We will also provide an overview of the proposed underlying mechanisms of different nutraceuticals and their recommended dosages in the prevention/mitigation of AD along with a summary of the antioxidant/anti-inflammation ingredients present in patented formulations. **Biomed Rev 2021; 32: 1-29**

**Keywords:** Alzheimer's disease, oxidative stress, dementia, cognition decline, nutraceuticals, phytotherapies, polyphenolic nutrients, antioxidant and anti-inflammation diets.

## ABBREVIATIONS

AD = Alzheimer's Disease  
 APP = Amyloid Precursor Protein  
 A $\beta$  = Amyloid Beta  
 BBB = Blood Brain Barrier  
 BACE1 =  $\beta$ -secretase  
 CAT = Catalase  
 CNS = Central Nervous System  
 CVD = Cardiovascular Disease  
 DASH= Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension  
 EGF = Epidermal Growth Factor  
 eIF2 = Eukaryotic initiation factor -2  
 GPx = Glutathione Peroxidase  
 HIF-1 $\alpha$  = Hypoxia-Inducible Factor 1 $\alpha$   
 HK1 = Hexokinase  
 IRE = Iron responsive element  
 IREBP = IRE-binding protein  
 ICB-STZ = Intracerebroventricular streptozotocin  
 iNOS = nitric oxide synthase  
 JNK = c-jun N terminal - kinase  
 LRP1 = Lipoprotein receptor related protein 1  
 LAMP-1 = Lysosomal - associated membrane protein  
 MCP-1 = Monocytes chemoattractant protein -1  
 MED-Diet = Mediterranean diet  
 NCD = Non-communicable Chronic Diseases  
 NSAIDs = non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs  
 NO = Nitric Oxide  
 PPAR $\gamma$  = Proliferators - activated receptor gamma  
 PKR = Double-stranded RNA-dependent protein kinase  
 PS1 = Presenilin1  
 PFKM = Phosphofructokinase  
 ROS = Reactive Oxygen Species

RNS = Reactive Nitrogen Species  
 SOD = Superoxide Dismutase  
 SPI = Specificity protein 1  
 TGF = Transforming Growth Factor  
 TNF = Tumor Necrosis Factor  
 VOO = Virgin Olive Oil  
 5'-UTR = 5' - Untranslated Region

## INTRODUCTION

The word nutraceutical is derived from the combination of nutrient and pharmaceutical, and is defined as naturally occurring dietary substance that promotes health and well-being, and also prevent ailments. Nutraceuticals are derived from fruits, vegetables, and seed products as well as extracted, isolated, and purified from natural foods, bovine colostrum, dietary fibers, and medicinal herbs for physiological health benefits or to protect against non-communicable chronic diseases (NCDs). Besides promoting health and well-being, nutraceuticals possess strong antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, and anticancer properties. Over the last decades, the nutraceutical market has expanded exponentially due to the rise in consumer awareness created by the lay-press, and importance in the prevention and treatment of many NCDs like diabetes, obesity, cancer, cardiovascular and neurodegenerative disorders [1-2]. Nutraceutical preparations, dietary supplements, and herbal remedies are primarily sold in health food stores for promoting health and well-being and the prevention of NCDs. They are marketed in the form of capsules, tablets, pills, liquid formulations, and powders.

From the historical perspective, Alzheimer's disease (AD) is named after Dr. Alois Alzheimer, a German neurologist, who treated a woman Ms. Auguste Deter with memory loss and

language problems. In 1906, Dr. Alzheimer noticed abnormal histopathological changes in the brain tissue of Ms. Deter who had died of unusual mental illness. Thanks to Dr Alzheimer, also Dr Gaetano Perusini, for documenting the symptoms of their patient, who experienced memory loss, paranoia, and psychological problems, now recognized as the most severe cause of dementia among age-related neurodegenerative diseases [3]. Alzheimer's disease patients have latent and progressive stages of cognitive and memory loss, as well as behavioral and communication problems, which eventually affect lifestyle and socialization capacity [4-5]. Severe dementia and AD patients need continuous attention either by the family members or by the health care providers, which results in very high economic burden on the society. There are two forms of AD: the early onset (before 65-years) and the late-onset (after 65-years). The late-onset accounts for 95 % of the total AD population [6]. For the late-onset of AD, the non-modifiable risk factors consist of genetic, old age, and family history [7-12]. In the recent past, the demographic paradigm of AD has shifted towards the ageing and geriatric populations, where the dementia and cognitive decline have emerged as one of the biggest healthcare challenges globally [13]. Unfortunately, there is no effective drug therapy for this chronic and debilitating disease. Basic researchers and pharmaceutical industry are rigorously exploring for the discovery of cost-effective and affordable alternative therapies for the prevention/progression and management of chronic neurodegenerative illnesses, including AD. Post-mortem examinations have revealed that in AD patients the cerebral cortex shrinks dramatically in volume or gets atrophied due to the death of brain cells, and the gross appearance of the AD brain is very different from the normal brain. Among all the neurological diseases, AD is the most prevalent cause of memory loss and cognitive dysfunction. Toxic protein build-ups in the brain tissue, as well as beta-amyloid plaques and neurofibrillary tangles, are all pathological symptoms of the disease, which are caused by the accumulation of amyloid-beta proteins and the deposition of hyperphosphorylated tau, respectively [14]. These two types of oligomers are neurotoxic, and trigger neuronal oxidative stress, mitochondrial dysfunction, ATP depletion, inflammation of neurons, ER stress, synaptic dysfunction, and eventually cause death and failure of neurons [15-16]. The latest conventional therapy for treating AD was aimed to prevent the formation of A $\beta$ -proteins. However, repeated failures have occurred in anti-amyloid therapy clinical trials, suggesting thereby the need to develop sophisticated macromolecules or alternate therapies

that would slow down or prevent AD progression [17- 18]. Growing number of research studies have shown that neuro-inflammation lies at the heart of AD pathogenesis [19-20]. Neuro-inflammation in the CNS is caused by the accumulation of toxic proteins, amyloid plaques, neuro fibrillary tangles, and damaged neurons [21]. Several inflammatory biomarkers have been detected in the AD brain tissue: namely increased inflammatory cytokines and chemokines as well as the aggregation of activated microglia cells in the damaged regions [22]. Microglial dysfunction is becoming more widely accepted feature of neuroinflammation, which is closely related to the development of amyloid-beta proteins as a cause of neuronal degeneration [23]. Microglia are resident immune cells in the brain that play a key role in sustaining brain homeostasis and neural circuit plasticity by facilitating the number of functional synapses under normal physiological conditions [24]. However, the persistent pathological stimulation causes neuronal damage and A $\beta$ -proteins aggregation, resulting in the damage of microglial cells and facilitating the pro-inflammatory reaction in the brain [25-26]. Since the microglia plays a crucial role in controlling neuro-inflammation, there is a great interest in understanding the participation of microglia in Alzheimer's disease [27]. It has been suggested that microglia may have both neuroprotective and/or neurotoxicity roles in AD patients and the distinction between the two roles may change over time in the same person [28-29]. The inflammatory response helps to clear the infected or injured area in the brain, and the reactive microglia-induced neuro-inflammation may be helpful, whereas, if persistent inflammation response causes further damage in the surrounding area, it may lead to harmful sequela [30]. In case, the phagocytic removal of the dead protein and neurons microglia aggregation is curtailed, it could contribute to the accumulation of debris, thus causing pro-inflammatory activation of microglia and production of cytokines as has been proposed by Heppner *et al.* (2015) in the immune system-mediated actions in AD pathogenesis [27]. Since inflammasomes can induce neuroinflammation in the CNS, the inflammasome NLRP3 has been linked with AD pathology [31-32].

It is well known that brain is vulnerable to excessive oxidative insults because of its abundant lipid content, weak antioxidant capacity, and high ATP and energy requirements. Oxidative stress-induced imbalance between pro-oxidant and anti-oxidant milieu has been reported to be associated with many diseases, including cardiovascular diseases, osteoarthritis, cancers, dementia, cognition decline, and AD. A large

number of transcription factors are involved in oxidative stress responses. Oxidative stress induces mitochondrial damage and excessive production of free radicals, such as reactive oxygen species (ROS) and reactive nitrogen species (RNS), which are considered to play an important role in the pathophysiology of AD. The oxidative stress induced redox imbalance in the brain and decline in the capacity of mitochondrial function and energy, as well as higher production of malondialdehyde and carbonyl protein lead to the dysfunction of intracellular calcium signaling mechanism in the brain [33-35]. It has been observed that in the etiology of neurodegenerative diseases, the biochemical and pathophysiological changes are caused by the unabated excessive production of ROS/RNS that dramatically alter the BDNF-TrkB receptor cascade in the brain, and consequently result in the high influx of calcium into the neural cells that in turn causes an excitotoxic neuronal injury [36]. Arguably, an effective intervention to combat oxidative stress in the brain, the intake of strong antioxidant and anti-inflammation diets and nutraceuticals would be one of the most cost-effective strategies to prevent CNS damage and to manage neurological disorders, including AD. Fresh fruits, vegetables, and spices are rich in naturally occurring flavonoids, polyphenols, retinoids, lycopene, and anthocyanin compounds, and have attracted the worldwide attention of basic researchers and nutrition specialists, because they have been found clinically beneficial in curing chronic NCDs, including neurodegeneration disorders [37].

In summary, oxidative stress-induced neuroinflammation and pro-inflammatory activation of microglia, and production of cytokines seem to play a critical role in the pathology of AD. Because of these observations, slowing down the progression of AD and associated disorders like dementia and cognition decline have become important targets for clinically testing antioxidant and anti-inflammation nutraceuticals, dietary supplements, and functional foods. This review focuses on the neuroprotective impacts of dietary supplements and nutraceuticals as therapeutic strategies for combating oxidative stress in the brain and slowing down the progression of dementia and cognition impairment.

## **ROLE OF OXIDATIVE STRESS IN THE PATHOPHYSIOLOGICAL MECHANISMS OF NEURONAL CELL DEATH IN ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE PATIENTS**

### ***Regulation of amyloid- $\beta$ and oxidative stress***

When the steady-state equilibrium between pro-oxidant and

anti-oxidant is disrupted, oxidative stress occurs. Many illnesses, including AD, have been linked to oxidative stress. As previously mentioned, oxidative stress responses are regulated by a wide number of transcription factors. It plays a major role in AD in the creation of proteinopathy associated with A $\beta$  by controlling both transcriptional and translational levels of the amyloid precursor protein (APP) gene. In response to ROS, various transcription elements, such as HSF-1 and NF- $\kappa$ B attach to the APP gene's promoter region thereby increasing the expression of APP [1, 38-39]. Post-mortem examinations of the AD brains have revealed an increased amount of iron (Fe) in the brain tissue, and Fe can serve as a significant catalyst for the production of ROS in the CNS [40]. The post-transcriptional processing of APP and mRNA interacts with the high Fe concentration. The IRE-binding protein (IREBP) binds to the 5'-untranslated region (5'-UTR) in normal circumstances to downregulate translation, and the APP transcript includes type II iron-responsive component (IRE). An excessive number of intracellular iron is generated and when it binds to (5'-UTR) of APP it results in up-regulation of APP mRNA [41]. Fe's detrimental role in the advancement of AD is shown by this incident. BACE1 and gamma-secretase are the primary processing enzymes for simultaneous proteolysis of APP via the amyloidogenic mechanism [42]. BACE1, a trans-membrane aspartyl protease, cleaves APP and excludes sAPP beta at the N-terminal end, releasing a 99-amino-acid APP C-terminal component. Moreover, the  $\gamma$ -secretase's breakdown results in the generation of A $\beta$  peptides [43]. Thus, the breakage of APP by the third alpha-secretase enzyme limits the formation of harmful A $\beta$  peptides [44]. It has been documented that oxidative stress decreases alpha-secretase activity while increasing BACE1 and secretase stimulation [45-47].

The degree of BACE1 expression is influenced by the adhesion of various redox-sensitive transcriptional regulators such as specificity protein 1 (SP1), hypoxia-inducible factor 1 (HIF-1), NF- $\kappa$ B, and peroxisome proliferators-activated receptor-gamma [48]. BACE1 mRNA [49] and its protein concentrations [50] are enhanced by HIF-1, PPAR $\gamma$ , on the other hand, acts as a BACE1 expression repressor. In neuronal cells, NF- $\kappa$ B is indeed a novel transcription factor that controls BACE1 transcription. [51]. It has been documented that NF- $\kappa$ B has a regulatory impact on BACE1 transcription in segregated neuron cultured cells and non-activated glial colonies, but also acts as an activator of BACE1 transcription in astrocytic and Amyloid beta-exposed neuron cultured cells. [52-53]. Apart from these activities, oxidative stress increases

BACE1 activity by stimulating the double-stranded RNA-dependent protein kinase and downstream eIF2 (eukaryotic initiation factor-2) phosphorylation cascades [54-55]. The role of oxidative stress theory in increasing BACE1 activity in Alzheimer's disease is thus demonstrated. Presenilin1 is one of four subunits that make up the gamma-secretase, which generates A42 from APP (PS1). CD1477 nonessential regulator complex with nicastrin, PEN-2, and PH1 catalytic subunits [56]. PS1 and PEN-2 gamma-secretase efficiency are improved by oxidative stress, resulting in a positive feedback loop that contributes to increased BACE1 expression. To cause this positive feedback loop between BACE1 and gamma-secretase, the c-jun N-terminal kinase (JNK) signaling pathway must be triggered to facilitate APP cleavage [57]. Oxidative stress also impairs the management of the brain's toxic-free micro-environment, which is crucial for normal neuronal activity in Alzheimer's patients.

The blood-brain barrier (BBB), which regulates low-density lipoprotein receptor-related protein 1, is the primary regulator for sustaining A protein homeostasis in the CNS (LRP1 transporter). The membrane-bound type of LRP1 is specifically regulated on the abluminal portion of the BBB and controls the transport of A $\beta$  regulated by the primary receptor through the BBB and into the bloodstream, thus removing this from the brain. The soluble LRP1 variant (sLRP1) binds to free plasma Amyloid beta peptides in the peripheral circulation and is excreted as sLRP1-A complexes by the kidneys and liver. [58-59]. The binding of sLRP1 to A is disrupted by oxidation, increasing plasma concentrations of free A40 and A42 [60-61]. With the aid of the AGE receptor (RAGE), the enhanced amount of free s-plasma A crosses the BBB and reemerges the brain. The BBB's primary A $\beta$  influx receptor i.e., RAGE moves blood to A $\beta$  in the brain [62]. As a result of the rising degree of RAGE expression, AD patients' brains and cerebrovascular areas show A $\beta$  buildup [63-64]. An accumulation in the brain is a combined consequence of decreased membrane-bound and soluble LRP1 expression, which leads to A $\beta$  reemerging into the brain as a result of their oxidation and increased RAGE expression [65].

### ***Relationship between tau and oxidative stress***

Tau is a protein correlated with the neuronal microtubule, plays a key role in neuronal polarity production [66-67], The dynamics of microtubules in neurons are influenced by the manipulation of the microtubule assembly and its stabilization [68-69]. The stimulation of numerous tau kinases and tau phosphatases is primarily responsible for the phosphorylation

of Tau. The disruption of this equilibrium triggers Tau's irregular phosphorylation, which contributes to the formation of neurofibrillary tangles. The phosphorylation of such a Tau protein is mainly caused by the stimulation of various tau kinases and tau phosphatases. Tau's irregular phosphorylation is triggered when this equilibrium is disrupted, which leads to the formation of neurofibrillary tangles [70].

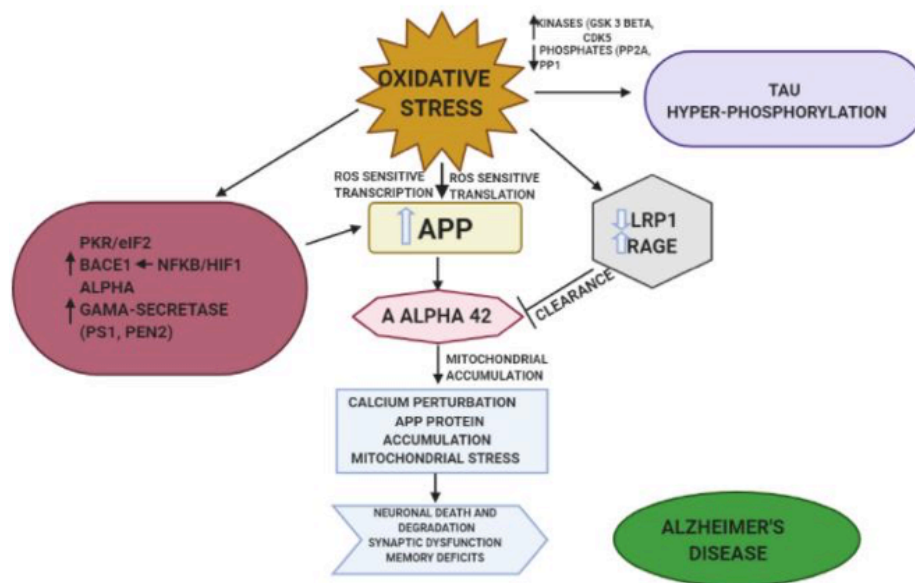
### ***Oxidative stress-mediated formation of amyloid-beta (a $\beta$ ) peptides and trace metal dyshomeostasis in the brain of AD patients***

The hallmark of AD is the oxidative stress-mediated accumulation of irregular amyloid-beta (a $\beta$ ) peptides and the formation of neurofibrillary tangles in the brain. The dyshomeostasis of trace metals like zinc (Zn) and copper (Cu) is considered to play a significant role in the neurodegeneration and accumulation of a $\beta$  peptides [71]. Both Cu and Zn are involved in the synaptic modulation and synthesis of neurotransmitters in the brain. Since these trace metals are antioxidants and play critical roles in neural functions, their abnormal homeostasis can lead to the production of neurotoxic free-radical [72].

### ***Brain inflammation in Alzheimer's disease***

Since the 1980s, immune-related proteins and cells have been found near beta-amyloid plaques [73-74]. Several major epidemiological and observational studies conducted in the 1990s indicate that anti-inflammatory medications used to treat diseases like arthritis have protective effects against the development of AD, with a fifty percent decrease in the fear of advancing the disease in people who have taken non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs for a long time (NSAIDs) [75-76]. Such study has led to studies using animal transgenic AD models that show that NSAIDs can reduce the severity of AD pathology [77]. These numerous epidemiological and observational studies lay the groundwork for neuroinflammation support, which plays a key role in the progression of

Neuroinflammation, unlike other risk factors and genetic causes of AD, is usually not considered to be causal on its own, but instead the outcome of one or more or risk factors for AD, and it is thought to exacerbate the disease by alleviating beta-amyloid and tau pathophysiology [78,79]. Inflammation in the brain can be neuroprotective in an acute-phase reaction, but it can also be harmful when a chronic response is activated [80]. Several proinflammatory and toxic products, including reactive oxygen species, nitric oxide, and cytokines, release chronically activated microglia. Increased levels of interleukin 1 (IL-1) are responsible for increased development of APP and load of A $\beta$



**Figure 1.** Diagrammatic representation of Alzheimer's disease pathophysiology.

in deceased patients with recent head trauma, and increased levels of IL-1 are responsible for increased development of APP and load of A $\beta$  in deceased patients with recent head trauma [81,82]. Increased levels of IL-1b have been linked to the development of other cytokines including IL-6, which has been linked to the activation of CDK5, a kinase that promotes tau hyperphosphorylation [83]. The inflammation of neurons seen in AD tends to play a central role in reducing the burden of Amyloid-beta and tau hyperphosphorylation, implying that this dual role may be a central link between these unrelated AD phenotypes. The immune response mounted through the resident macrophage (microglia) of the brain has become a central tenant of AD's investigation [84].

### **NLRP3 inflammasome**

Many inflammatory mechanisms are linked to the innate immune response and play a key role in the early and late stages of viral and bacterial infections [85-86]. The innate immune response can be activated and sustained by Inflammasome, a cytoplasmic polyprotein complex [87-88]. Several inflammasomes have been discovered recently, including NLRP1, NLRP3, NLRP6, NLRP7, NLRC4, and AIM2 [89-87]. The NLRP3 inflammasome is the most well-studied, with a sensor, an ASC adaptor protein, and an effector protein [90]. The conversion of procaspase-1 to active caspase-1 occurs when the NLRP3 inflammasome is activated, resulting in the formation of pro-inflammatory cytokines IL-18 and IL-1 [91-92]. The cleavage of gasdermin D by active caspase-1 can cause

pyroptosis, or inflammatory cell death [93].

Inflammasome NLRP3 activation is regulated by the activation of two canonical stages, along with the first phase of priming and the second phase of activation. Numerous endogenous or microbial molecules activate the priming mechanism by upregulating the levels of NLRP3, pro-IL-18, and pro-IL-1 through the NF- $\kappa$ B signaling cascade [94]. The second activation stage is activated by various triggers, such as viral RNA, pore-forming toxins, ATP, or particulate matter, and contributes to the assembly of the Inflammasome NLRP3 [89-87]. Three key upstream pathways trigger the NLRP3 inflammasome: K<sup>+</sup> efflux, mitochondrial reactive oxygen species (ROS), and lysosomal membrane degradation [95]. Furthermore, the noncanonical activation manner inflammasome for NLRP3 contains murine caspase-11, which can specifically recognize toxins and lipopolysaccharides before cleaving GSDMD to induce pyroptosis [89-87].

Lately, various novel regulatory mechanisms were thought to be effective in NLRP3 inflammasome activation. The recruitment of NLRP3 to the distributed trans-Golgi network in response to various stimuli is thought to be a generalized and early process that contributes to the accumulation and stimulation of NLRP3 [96,87]. The stress granule protein DDX3X can associate with NLRP3 to cause the formation of the inflammasome [97]. By forming bipartite interactions between adjacent NLRP3 subunits, NIMA-related kinase 7 (NEK7) also plays an important role in facilitating NLRP3 inflammasome activation [98].

A recent study identified several NLRP3 inflammasome negative regulatory mechanisms that may help to improve therapeutic strategies for the treatment of autoimmune and inflammatory diseases [99]. Deacetylation of the inflammasome NLRP3 can also help prevent chronic inflammation and insulin resistance as people get older [100]. As a result, it's critical to look into the NLRP3 function in AD [101].

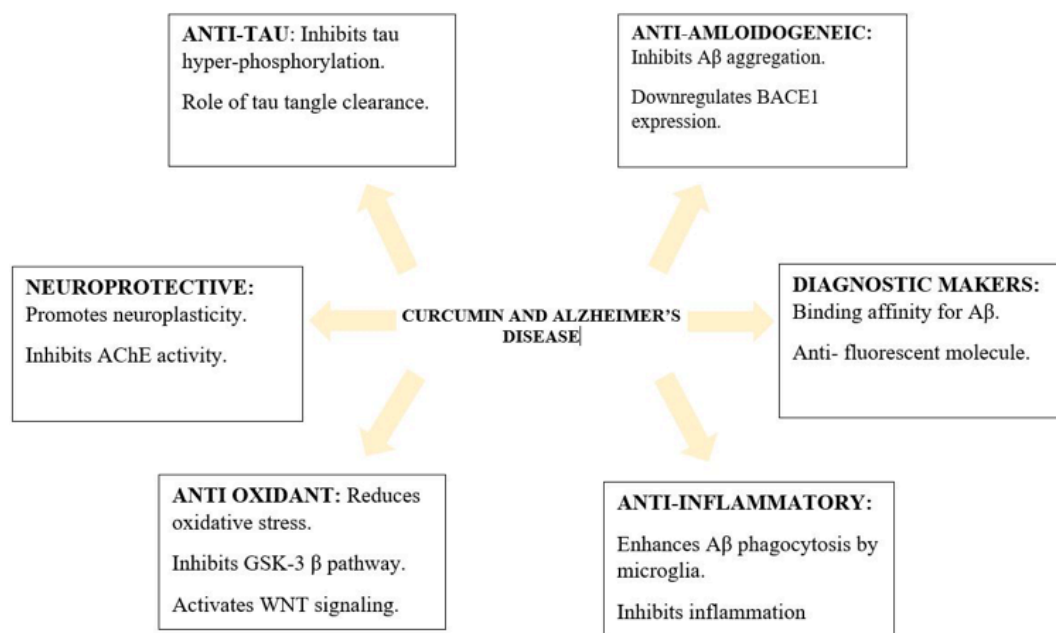
## THERAPEUTIC APPLICATIONS OF NUTRACEUTICALS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

### *Turmeric and curcumin*

Turmeric is a yellow color spicy herbal product isolated from the tuber of *Curcuma longa*, which is a part of the ginger family (*Zingiberaceae*). Since ancient times, turmeric has been used as a culinary spice or traditional drug for curing various diseases and may help in slowing the progression of dementia and AD. Dried turmeric roots have been employed in Chinese and Ayurvedic Indian medicines to treat a wide variety of disease conditions such as skin disorders, wounds, rheumatism, asthma, allergies, sinusitis, hepatic disorders, intestinal worms, general inflammation, and oxidative stress-related diseases [102]. The major bioactive ingredient of turmeric is curcumin with the chemical formula - 1,7-bis[4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl]-1,6-heptadiene-3,5-dione. Presently, curcumin is one of the 10 most widely used plant products worldwide, especially for its antioxidant and anti-

inflammatory activity, either alone or in combination with other herbal drug preparations. The other biologically active components responsible for most of the medicinal properties of turmeric are curcuminoids, which are comprised of a combination of curcumin (75-80%), demethoxycurcumin (15-20%), and bisdemethoxycurcumin (3-5%), and they are marketed as dietary supplements and nutraceuticals [103- 104].

Curcumin's potential actions for the prevention of AD are related to its anti-inflammatory [105-108], and antioxidant properties [109-111]. Curcumin binds to Amyloid Beta in vitro, causing peptide aggregation and inhibiting the formation and elongation of AD fibrils [112]. In addition, curcumin can increase A $\beta$  cellular intake [113], prevent plaque accumulation, and prevent peptide-induced cellular insults [114], and consequently can decrease amyloid-beta production through BACE1 (beta-site APP-cleaving enzyme) expression [115]. Curcumin can repair distorted neuritic morphology around amyloid-beta plaques in vivo [116]. In the AD mouse models, curcumin lowered the levels of Amyloid Beta serum and Amyloid Beta strain in the brain, mainly in the neocortex and hippocampus regions, as well as reduced inflammation and microglia activation [117]. Curcumin can also modulate the processing and phosphorylation of tau protein to prevent the development of NFTs [118-119]. Due to its fluorescent properties and amyloid-beta binding capacity, curcumin has also been proposed as a detection agent for the early diagnosis of plaque deposition in the brain [23].



**Figure 2.** Antioxidant and anti-inflammation roles of curcumin in neuroprotection and treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

The function of curcumin and erythropoietin in an ICV-STZ rat model was recently investigated by Samy et al. (2016). The animals are injected with either STZ or saline. For three months, the latter group received either vehicle, curcumin (80 mg/kg/day, p.o.), erythropoietin (500 IU/kg every other day, i.p.), or a mixture of curcumin and erythropoietin. Curcumin and erythropoietin treatment reversed the behavioral, histological, and biochemical changes induced by ICVSTZ. Curcumin, on the other hand, was chosen over erythropoietin because of its less long-term side effects [120].

According to Rainey-Smith *et al.* (2016) participants between 40 and 90 years old without a cognitive disability were assessed on a clinical and cognitive test battery after 12 months of 1500 Biocurcumax<sup>TM</sup> or placebo administration. The results of the Montreal cognitive assessment study, which is useful to measure basic cognitive functioning, showed that the placebo group's cognitive function deteriorated after 6 months, whereas the curcumin group's cognitive function remained stable. After a year of follow-up, there was no evidence of this difference in cognitive assessment in the Montreal study. No variations between groups over time were revealed by other cognitive and clinical tests. It was concluded that curcumin does not improve cognition, but slows down its decline. Twenty-three subjects were excluded from the study due to gastrointestinal complications, two of whom were in the placebo group. It appears that the large dosage of Biocurcumax<sup>TM</sup> adversely affected the tolerability of this drug [121].

Novel derivatives of curcumin have been synthesized by linking it with a 2-amino-4-phenylpyran-3-carbonitrile system and tested in vitro for their antitumor activities against a panel of three human cancer cell lines (MCF-7, A2780, and U-87MG). Bioassay results demonstrated that L6 (para-Bromo), L9 (para-Nitro), and L12 (meta-Methoxy) analogues had the most potent cytotoxic and apoptosis-inducing activities against A2780 cancer cells [122].

Efforts are being made to enhance the solubility of curcumin with nanotechnology methods and to increase its absorption from the gut. Micronized nanoparticles of curcumin and its encapsulated compounds are being developed to increase curcumin's dissolution rate in the gut and enhance bioavailability for multiple biomedical applications [123].

### **Tannic acid**

A polyphenolic element Tannic acid is extracted from herbs present in various plants, such as legumes, sorghum, banana trees, berries, and tea leaves. Tannic acid has been shown

in clinical trials to have anti-oxidative, anti-inflammatory, antiviral, and antibacterial activity. It also prevents BACE1 protein activation, as well as tannic acid's anti-oxidative and anti-inflammatory activity. The main enzyme for generating and depositing A $\beta$  peptides in the brain is BACE1. Tannic acid has been found in an in vitro study to decrease neurotoxic fibrils of A $\beta$  [124-125].

Tannic acid, when taken orally, helps to reduce mental impairment by reducing cerebral amyloidosis and promoting non-amyloidogenic APP development. The accumulation of A peptides in the cerebral parenchyma and cerebral vascular brain region of PSAAP mice is reduced at a dose of 30 mg/kg BW/day. Tannic acid inhibits BACE1 transmission while not affecting mRNA<sup>BACE1</sup> levels. Tannic acid has been shown to inhibit the growth of A $\beta$ 1-40 and A $\beta$ 1-42 and prevent  $\beta$ -CTF cleavage in human APP-overexpressing murine neuron-like cells (SweAPP N2a cells) in the in vitro study [126] It also works by inhibiting the expression of proinflammatory cytokines (such as TNF- $\alpha$  and IL-1) and is active towards plaque-coupled gliosis in the presence of A $\beta$  [127-128, 37].

### **Genistein**

Genistein is a simple isoflavonoid present in the Leguminosae family of plants, especially soy plants. It acts against a broad variety of pathophysiological disorders, including cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and postmenopausal symptoms. It can inhibit DNA topoisomerase and tyrosine-protein kinase operation, as well as having epidermal growth factor (EGF) receptor specificity, a transmembrane regulatory protein that binds to EGF and transforming growth factor (TGF- $\alpha$ ) It exhibits strong anti-oxidant properties due to the presence of various phenolic molecules in its composition [129-131]. Most studies have shown that supplementing this biologically active molecule helps enhance learning and memory. This molecule has been shown to have a neuroprotective role in ovariectomized rats by altering cholinergic and dopaminergic functions [132].

Genistein may reduce the synthesis of Amyloid beta by down-regulating BACE1 while concurrently activating the alpha-secretase enzyme, according to an in vitro study of hippocampal neuronal cells. Furthermore, genistein (0.375 g/mL) stimulates the PKC signaling pathway while decreasing the development of Presenilin, which is responsible for APP cleavage [133].

Intracellular ROS levels can be reduced, and mitochondrial dysfunction and an increase in anti-oxidative intracellular



enzymes can be avoided. The negative effects of nucleic acids can be significantly reduced. Activation of the estrogen receptor (ER), estrogen hormone (17-estradiol), receptive intracellular or membrane-bound proteins, which are also G-protein-bound receptors, can down-regulate and control the caspase-dependent intrinsically and extrinsically apoptotic pathways [134-136]. Genistein also regulates pro-survival pathways by triggering Nrf-2 and HO-1-1 [137]. Via calcium influx modulation, genistein can prevent hyperphosphorylation of tau at physiological conditions [138].

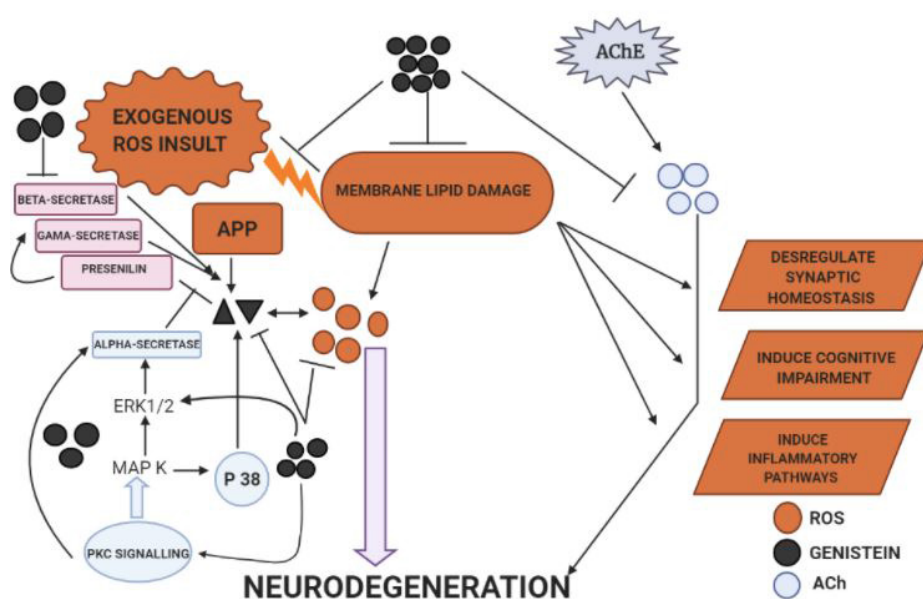
The formation of many cytokines and reactive organisms, such as RNS and ROS, is a major cause of AD-related neuro inflammation, and the researchers concluded that genistein has an advantageous part in decreasing A $\beta$ -induced cytotoxicity [139]. Another significant advantage of genistein is that it may act as an estrogen inhibitor and has a neuro protective activity that doesn't conflict against proliferative mechanisms in uterine endometrial cells, unlike hormone replacement therapy, which is currently useful to treat Alzheimer's disease in postmenopausal women [140].

A study revealed that genistein at a dose of 10 mg/kg would prevent the A $\beta$  development in the brain in A $\beta$ -intoxicated rats and boost memory and learning deficits by modulating the estrogenic signaling cascade. Related beneficial effects on brief spatial recognition memory were found in the Y maze and passive voidance tasks.

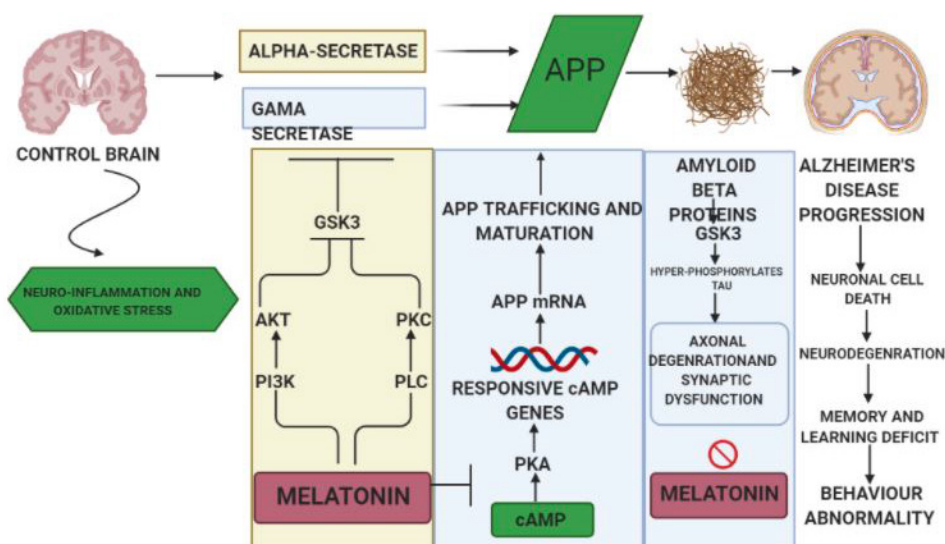
### Melatonin

Melatonin (N-acetyl-5-methoxy-tryptamine) is extensively metabolized in the pineal gland in the brain of vertebrates. It exhibits many functions, such as free radical scavenging, bio-oxidation attenuation, circadian rhythm maintenance, and others. Many other functional features, such as A $\beta$  growth limitation, peptides, amyloid fibril, tau hyperphosphorylation, and neuronal cell apoptosis, make the molecule a major drug product for AD and other treatments [141-144]. In AD patients, there is a lower degree of melatonin in the serum blood samples and cerebrospinal fluid, as well as an abnormal circadian rhythm [145-146]. The direct association of melatonin with, and subsequent clearance of, the A $\beta$  plaques was verified in biophysical research utilizing the thioflavin T fluorescence assay.

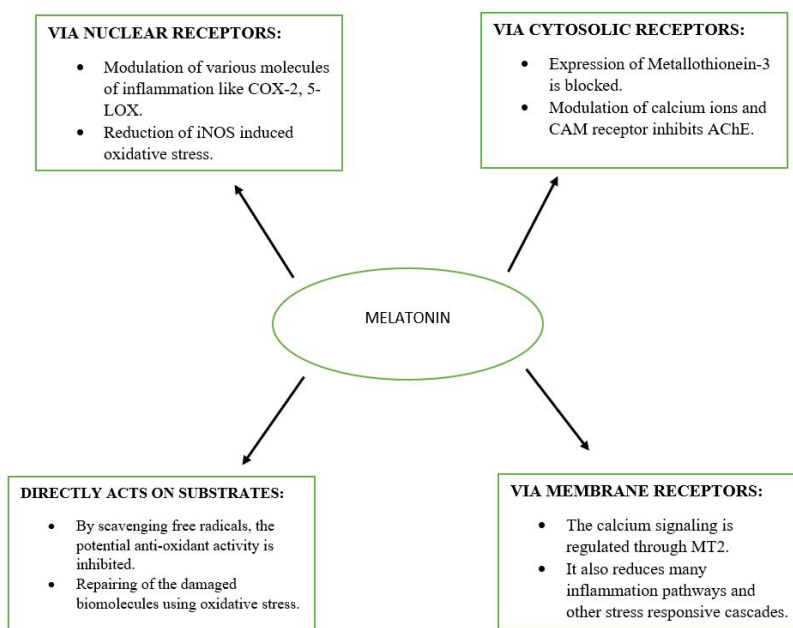
Melatonin has a high affinity for A $\beta$  preventing the development of amyloid fibrils [147-148]. Analysis findings indicate that A $\beta$  peptide clearance is not due to its anti-oxidant function increase in anti-oxidative intracellular enzymes can be avoided. The negative effects of nucleic [144]. Melatonin is said to affect the synthesis of APP and COX-2/PGE, as well as other neuro inflammatory and degenerative neural cell pathways, by influencing the role of cAMP [149-150]. Melatonin's anti-AD effect is mediated by MT2 (melatonin receptor 2) signaling pathways. Melatonin may activate protein kinase C also may stimulate phospholipase C via diacylglycerol. As a result, GSK-3's function is diminished, and it



**Figure 3.** Schematic representation of the protective role of genistein against Alzheimer's disease.



**Figure 4.** Schematic representation of the dual role of melatonin in the activation and receptor-mediation of signaling pathways in Alzheimer's disease.



**Figure 5.** Schematic illustration about the mechanism of action of melatonin for slowing down the progression of Alzheimer's disease.

interfaces indirectly with APP synthesis [151-152,58].

Melatonin could also trigger the molecular pathway based on PI3K and Phosphorylates Akt, which can aim at reducing GSK-3 phosphorylation again and can, in turn, modify A $\beta$  aggregation formation through down - regulation of APP [153] and hyper-phosphorylation of the tau is decreased [7]. Melatonin inhibits the expression of HIF-1 $\alpha$  and BACE-1 in

Alzheimer's micro vessels, which can significantly minimize Amyloid-beta cytotoxicity. [154]. Melatonin can help preserve homeostasis in the cholinergic binding site in AD, in addition to reducing A $\beta$  toxicity. As the disease progresses, acetylcholine activity starts to deteriorate, affecting enzymes such as choline acetyltransferase and acetylcholinesterase [155]. Melatonin significantly reduced Amyloid-beta driven

peroxynitrite-induced disruptive activity in choline and choline acetyltransferase synaptosomes and synaptic vesicles, as well as other neuronal proteins [156].

Long-term melatonin administration improved behavioral skill and biochemical improvements in Tg2576 transgenic mice with Amyloid-beta aggregation. The role of choline acetyltransferase throughout the hippocampus and frontal cortex could be significantly improved, while memory learning and loss can be restored [157]. Melatonin was reported to help reduce immunosenescence as well as cognitive function loss in a mouse transgenic model of AD that expressed Amyloid-beta and tau pathology, similar to that seen in AD patients. In a more nuanced situation, melatonin will effectively prevent Amyloid beta from having a prooxidant effect in the hippocampus in aluminum lactate-fed mice [158]. All of these findings indicated that melatonin could preserve neuron as well as glial cells from oxidative stress-prompt damage via a survival mechanism. It can also reduce Amyloid-beta-mediated oxidative harm in cultured neuroblastoma in models of Alzheimer's. Along with these results, several clinical trials have yielded interesting findings on the therapeutic efficacy of melatonin. The oral administration of 3 mg of melatonin a day improved the behavioral disturbances of 10 AD patients with sleep-wake syndrome in a report [159-162]. Melatonin treatment of three to nine mg a day for nine to eighteen months was found successful in improving patients' behavioral and learning deficits in a study of 25 people undergoing MCI in Argentina [163].

### **Resveratrol**

Resveratrol is a polyphenolic phytoalexin found in grapes and wine. The amounts of resveratrol differ significantly in wine but are present more in red grapes and red wine [164]. Resveratrol diminishes oxidative stress by mopping free radicals and subsequently decreases the risk of heart disease, stroke, dementia, and cognitive decline. It can improve the condition in AD patients by interacting in many metabolic pathways and could delay the onset of this disease [165]. It plays a significant role in preventing the accumulation of A $\beta$  by reducing the aggregation of A $\beta$ . Resveratrol not only protects the loading of lower molecular weight oligomers to higher molecular weight oligomers but also directly interferes with the A $\beta$  aggregation [166-167], as well as indirect reduction effect on A $\beta$  [168]. In addition, resveratrol's inhibitory effect on platelet aggregation has been observed in the medial cortex, hypothalamus, and striatum.

Senile plaques in the brain of people suffering from AD

can be stained because it connects to both fibrillary and monomeric amyloid (MA) (1-42) types [169]. Resveratrol's binding energy and specificity in various Amyloid-beta fragments, on the other hand, differs [169-170]. Resveratrol converts soluble oligomers, fibrillary intermediates, and amyloid fibrils into non-toxic aggregate compounds, but not the anti-toxic equivalents, including A $\beta$ -monomer [170]. This resveratrol-specificity for MA plaques can be used to create a resveratrol complex with fluorogenic molecules and graphene oxide for rapid and less expensive A $\beta$  plaque detection in AD tissues [171]. Anti-tauopathy efficacy in AD has also been displayed by Resveratrol. The removal of accumulated tau requires 2 endogenous proteins, lysosomal-associated membrane protein 1 (LAMP-1) and BAG family molecular chaperone regulator 2 (BAG2) [172]. Resveratrol has a strong memory-enhancing influence. By increasing BDNF, it improves the development of eternal memory as well as the power of capacity [173]. The accumulation of formaldehyde increases with age has a significant effect on memory, but resveratrol, a natural formaldehyde scavenger, reverses this deposition as well as reinstates memory [174]. It enhances memory and learning by strengthening damaged hippocampal structures [175].

Inflammatory responses including those mediated by the accumulation of A $\beta$  in AD can be avoided because of the prevention of multiple proinflammatory by Resveratrol. Interleukins, ROS, IL like IL-1, IL-6, IL-12, and IL-23, nitric oxide (NO), and protein-1 monocyte chemoattractant are among the molecules involved (MCP-1) [176-177] as well as nuclear factor-B (NF-B). It inhibits the development of prostaglandin E2, a powerful pro-inflammatory molecule [178]. It prevents AlCl<sub>3</sub>-produced pro-inflammatory reactions in the brain of rats, including tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF alpha) expression as well as inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) activity, by controlling NF- $\kappa$ B alpha expression [179]. It also blocks the effects of the subunits of NADPH oxidase and microglia proliferation, most of which are caused by oligomeric A $\beta$  [180]. In addition, an accumulation increases the activity of another inflammatory enzyme, inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS), which causes toxicity of neurons as well as apoptosis. Resveratrol can be used to protect against the damage by lowering the levels of cellular iNOS in a dose-dependent manner [181-182].

A $\beta$ -induced toxicity in the brain is caused by oxidative stress induction. The antioxidant properties of resveratrol, rather than its association with amyloid aggregates, may be the primary reason for its neuroprotective effects [183]. In many other forms, resveratrol also exhibits antioxidant effects on

neurons. It potentially prevents the destruction of the mitochondrial membrane, decreases the development of ROS, and preserves the cells from neurotoxicity induced by A $\beta$ 1-42 by retaining levels of imbalanced enzymes like malondialdehyde and glutathione [184]. A $\beta$  induces substantial development of ROS and cellular transition towards apoptosis induced by oxidative stress. It protects cells from the toxicity of neurons as well as cell death [185-186]. It also decreases oxidative stress as well as boosts the number of memory-related proteins.

**Table 1.** Purported mechanism of action of resveratrol for treating Alzheimer's disease.

FUNCTION	MECHANISM	REFERENCES
Tauopathy retardation	BAG2 Upregulation	[178]
Long-term memory formation enhancement	BDNF level increases also see 232, 233]	[172;
Brain proinflammatory Responses inhibited	NF- $\kappa$ B expression decreased Cellular iNOS levels decreases	[183,184]
Inactivation of astrocyte	GFAP level reduced	[184]
Antioxidative activity	The amount of reactive oxygen species (ROS) in the body has decreased. Glutathione (a free radical scavenger) levels have increased. Downregulation of pro-oxidative stress proteins	[187]

Resveratrol and grape seed extract improved cognitive issues as well as damaged memory linked with Amyloid-beta deposit in animals with Tg2576 (AD experimental mouse model) [188-189]. Resveratrol in two hundred mg/kg bw reduces oxidative stress and inflammation of neural cells in HFD-fed C67BL/6J mice thereby down-regulating TNF- $\alpha$  also stimulating macrophage penetration in the adipose. [190]. Oral resveratrol has been shown to enhance impaired spatial orientation and memory functioning in C57Bl/6 mice by growing microvascular density in the hippocampus region and decreasing vascular defects in the cortical microvascular and hippocampal endothelial cells [191]. It was also shown, in line with the previous results, that HFD fed in both muscular and adipose tissues, can effectively reduce the outpatient locomotor activity and the number of rears in C57Bl/6J mice. This outcome suggests that resveratrol may have the ability

to boost mitochondrial function, leading to an improvement in energy metabolism, sensorimotor function, and aerobic capability [191].

### Vanillic acid

Vanillic acid is used as a flavoring agent in a variety of foods and medicines. It emerges from the herb *Angelica Sinensis* (Oliv.) Diels (Apiaceae). By reducing oxidative stress, vanillic acid has been found to enhance memory and spatial learning deficiency. The memory of habit is also significantly restored by lowering AChE, corticosterone, and TNF-alpha levels while increasing antioxidant levels [192].

In A $\beta$ 1-42 expressing transgenic mice, intraperitoneal administration of vanillic acid at a dosage of thirty mg/kg BW reduces A $\beta$ 1-42-mediated ROS initiation, neuro-inflammation, degeneration of neurons, synaptic deficiency, and memory problems. Vanillic acid is the most possible antioxidant that could be useful in AD because of this advanced mechanism. In vitro experiments on neuronal HT22 cells revealed that it protects against A $\beta$ 1-42-induced neuronal damage [193].

Vanillic acid is a central component of virgin olive oil (VOO), which is derived from hydroxycinnamic acid (Hc acids). Virgin olive oil and Hydroxycinnamic acids, both of which can reduce the amount of intracellular ROS in SH-SY5Y cells, were used to assess their neuroprotective effects against AD. Virgin olive oil and Hydroxycinnamic acid inhibit pERK1/2 and p-p38 activation while not affecting JNK levels. Furthermore, Virgin olive oil and Hydroxycinnamic stimulate the expression of many glycolytic enzyme genes, including hexokinase (HK1) and phosphofructokinase (PFKM). Virgin olive oil and Hydroxycinnamic acid help protect neurotypical cells from cytotoxicity caused by the Amyloid beta peptide by improving their energy metabolism. Virgin olive oil and Hydroxycinnamic acid are alternative therapeutic routes to improving oxidative stress associated with neuronal disorders such as Alzheimer's disease.

### Caffeic acid

Various plant products contain caffeic acid (3,4-dihydroxycinnamic acid). Various pharmaceutical efficiencies are reported to be exhibited by caffeic acids, such as anti-inflammatory, antiviral, anticancer, antihypertensive, antithrombosis, and other therapeutic applications. In an A $\beta$ 25-35 injected Alzheimer's disease mouse model, oral administration of caffeic acid recovers spatial, cognitive, and memory capacities It effectively reduces lipid peroxidation and NO production in the kidney, brain as well as liver [194].

If administered, around a 100 mg/kg BW/day, it reduces AChE activity and nitrite generation in Alzheimer's-affected research animals. Caffeic acid has also been shown to reduce caspase-3, p53, phosphorylated MAPK, and NF- $\kappa$ B cleavage in Alzheimer's rats, as well as it shows anti-inflammation effect and reduce oxidative stress [195]. Alzheimer's Tacrine-3-caffeic Acid, a novel multifunctional anti-dimer, protects neurons (HT22 cells) from oxidative stress-induced death of cells by stimulating Nrf2/ARE/HO-1 modulation, an intrinsic anti-oxidative pathway [196].

### **Berberine**

Berberine has a bitter taste and is a yellow alkaloid found in *Hydrastis canadensis*, *Berberis aquifolium*, *Coptis chinensis*, *Berberis aristata* and *Berberis vulgaris* stems, barks, roots, and rhizomes [197]. Berberine has been shown to modulate the expression of monocyte chemoattractant protein-1 and interleukin-6 induced by A $\beta$  and A $\beta$  generation in recent studies. In BV-2 and microglial primary cells. It down-regulates the NOS (nitric oxide synthase) as well as COX-2 by down-regulating the PI3K/PKB and MAPK signaling cascades. Berberine prevents the expression of A $\beta$  peptides and reduces gliosis and cognitive mutilation in neuroglioma H4 cells by regulating APP processing and BACE-1 activity. In pharmacology, berberine is said to be able to pass through the BBB and protect the neurons and neurotrophic effects.

Its administration shows a significant reduction in calyculin A $\beta$ -induced tau hyperphosphorylation at Thr205, Thr231, and Ser198/199/202, Ser396, and Ser404 residues. Because of its phosphorylation at Tyr216 and Ser9, it can also inhibit GSK-3 activation and restore the role of protein phosphatase 2A [198]. Death in the experimental model of intracerebroventricular streptozotocin-induced intermittent AD-like dementia, memory loss, upregulated degree of AChE, and attenuated level of neuronal cells Berberine protects against angiogenic acts, memory loss, upregulated degree of AChE, and attenuated level of neuronal cells (ICV-STZ) [199]. Berberine reduces memory failure in the AD impaired mouse model by facilitating autophagic clearance of A $\beta$  via the PI3K/beclin-III class. By downregulating BACE1 protein expression in the 3  $\times$  Tg-AD mouse brain and primary hippocampal neurons, Berberine also inhibits A $\beta$  production [200].

## **NUTRACEUTICALS MARKETED FOR THE PREVENTION OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE**

Continuing vigorous efforts are going on by the basic research-

ers and pharmaceutical industry to discover blockbuster therapies for curing AD, which would benefit millions of people around the world [201]. Innovation is the main component that characterizes the achievement of the pharmaceutical industry, but the costs associated with identifying a drug, converting this disclosure into an effective drug, and presenting it have increased significantly [202]. Insurance is therefore needed in this way, which can provide pharmaceutical organizations with satisfactory protection for future development and production of innovative medications. A patent is a legal document that enables an innovator to demonstrate selectiveness over another product or drug. Market restrictiveness will give the patent holder cash prizes as it gives the innovator a monopoly over the 20-year patent term growth. Patent security and business investment guarantee for new drug discovery are becoming increasingly common in the pharmaceutical industry [203].

Alzheimer's disease is an elderly brain disorder with a rising incidence due to the high rate of growth in the aging population, especially in developing countries. Due to indirect and direct costs resulting from AD, the economic effect of this disease is rising [204]. Nevertheless, the lack of successful treatment for this debilitating disease has driven pharmaceutical firms to raise their R&D budgets to find a suitable solution. However, given recent clinical trials, several molecules that have been selected as potential AD treatment targets have yielded negative results [205-206]. On the other hand, the use of natural products like nutraceutical products has a promising future [207]. Several reports of cognitive function and behavioral activity in experimental murine suggest that nutraceutical administration can significantly attenuate various prevailing AD biomarkers [208]. Nutraceuticals can also be used to avoid or slow down the worsening of cognitive and behavioral activities in laboratory animals, according to these findings [209].

## **SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS**

Global incidences of AD are increasing in the aging populations. As opposed to men, women have an increased risk of AD, depression, and stress-related illnesses. The pathophysiological mechanisms involved in causing neurotransmitter deficiency, neuronal and glial abnormalities, apoptosis/necrosis, and cell death remain largely unknown. The AD-associated progressive decline in mental health not only causes memory loss and motor impairment but also adversely impacts the quality of life of elderly subjects and makes them dysfunctional from making important decisions in their daily life activities.

**Table 2.** Summary of patented nutraceuticals marketed for the prevention and management of Alzheimer's disease.

Serial number	Application year	Patent number	Product title	Inventors' name	Product ingredients and indications	Reference
1	2017-12-21	WO2017215791A1	Resveratrol solubilization product for pharmaceutical purposes	Dariush et al.	Consists of resveratrol, polysorbate 80, and polysorbate 20, plus at least one medium-chain triglyceride and tocopherol. Useful in the prevention of Alzheimer's disease (AD). Dose: 2,000 mg/day	[210]
2	2017-06-20	US9682048B1	Multi-component formulations for the treatment of cognitive decline including Alzheimer's disease	Gene Rosen	A multi-component formulation containing one embodiment methylsulfonylmethane, one energy source i.e., fructose 1,6-diphosphate, and herbal component turmeric for the treatment and prevention of AD. Dose- Combination of 250 mg/kg resveratrol, 70 mg/kg curcumin, 10 mg/kg <i>Ningxia gouqizi</i> , 500 mg/kg blueberry, 250 mg/kg cinnamon, 500 mg/kg DHA, 250 mg/kg DMSO, and 170 mg/kg F6P.	[211]
3	2014-12-18	CA2914767A1	A marine oil formulation comprising resveratrol or derivatives thereof for use in treating, delaying, and/or preventing AD.	Janne et al.	Drink formulation containing resveratrol and other derivatives along with marine oil for treating, delaying, and/or preventing AD. Dose: 50-300 ml	[212]
4	2014-07-22	US20120269794A1	Nutraceutical composition that comprises an extract of shilajit, folic acid, vitamin B12, and vitamin B6 and the use thereof for preventing and/or treating neurodegenerative diseases and/or the cognitive deterioration associated with cerebral aging	Ricardo et al.	Nutraceutical composition containing Shilajit, folic acid along a small amount of vitamins B6 and B12 which are useful in preventing AD. Dose: 350 mg capsule 1 every 12 hours.	[213]
5	2011-03-15	US7906643B2	Methylene blue-curcumin analog for the treatment of AD	Thomas & DiMauro	For AD treatment with a methylene blue-curcumin blend. Dose: < 4000 mg/day.	[214]
6	2010-07-01	WO2010074971A1	Use of nitrogen-containing curcumin analogs for the treatment of AD.	Thomas & DiMauro	Natural curcumin was modified with an amino acid moiety to improve the analog's transport through the blood-brain barrier by the LAT1 transporter, which was used to treat AD. Dose: < 4000 mg/day.	[215]

Serial number	Application year	Patent number	Product title	Inventors' name	Product ingredients and indications	Reference
7	2016-07-19	US9393198B2	Intravenous curcumin derivatives for treatment of neurodegenerative and stress disorders	Lawrence et al.	Curcumin crosses the blood-brain barrier and localizes in the hippocampus and striata, preventing stress-induced neuronal cell damage and stimulating neurogenesis and the repair of impaired neural circuits. The parenteral administration of liposomal formulations and polymer conjugates of curcumin, curcumin analogs, and derivatives are used for curing AD. Dose: 50 nM/kg	[216]
8	2017-08-01	US20150031653A1	Useful for treating, delaying, and/or preventing AD.	Janne et al.	A liquid formulation comprising fresh marine omega-3 oil and resveratrol for treating/delaying and/or preventing AD. Dose: 50-300ml	[217]
9	2015-03-05	US20150065449A1	Treating amyloidoses with vitamin B12, plus the composition includes melatonin, resveratrol, and EGCG	Ewa et al.	Composition containing melatonin, resveratrol, EGCG, and vitamin B12 for the treatment of AD.	[218]
10	2017-08-22	US9738605B2	Hybrid compounds of curcumin and melatonin as neuroprotectants and for neurodegenerative disorders	Shijun Zhang	Curcumin and the melatonin-based hybrid compound are considered useful in the prevention of AD. Dose: 1-20 mg/kg	[219]
11	2012-02-09	WO2012017451A1	A bio-stabilized resveratrol formulation	Khandelwal et al.	Bio-stabilized resveratrol formulation containing virtus resveratrol, lotus seed powder, grape seed extract, sesame seed, sunflower seed, pumpkin seed, kelp, carrot seed powder, onion seed, <i>Medicago sativa</i> , <i>Amaranthus spinosus</i> , and mulberry for the treatment of AD.	[220]
12	2012-08-01	CN102617465A	Tacrine-caffeic acid hetero-blends are used for the preparation method and medicinal compositions	Rongbiao et al.	Tacrine-caffeic acid hetero-blends and derivatives can be used in appropriate dosage form for the treatment of AD. Dose: 80 mg/day	[221]
13	2013-09-12	US20130237556A1	Berberine alkaloid is used as a medicament for the prevention and treatment of neural diseases.	Li et al.	Oral administration of berberine inhibits the accumulation of $\beta$ -amyloid- plaque, phospho-amyloid precursor protein (p-APP), and tau hyperphosphorylation in a mammalian brain and hence is useful in the treatment of AD. Dose: 25-100mg/kg	[222]
14	2014-07-24	WO2014111028A1	Genistein alkylamine compound is used for the preparation and used thereof for AD treatment	Yong et al.	Genistein alkylamine compound and its pharmaceutically acceptable salt is useful in the treatment and delay of AD. Dose: 2.5-5 mg/kg	[223]

Serial number	Application year	Patent number	Product title	Inventors' name	Product ingredients and indications	Reference
15	2020-09-02	EP3174874A1	Berberine salts, ursodeoxycholic salts, and combinations, methods of preparation, and application thereof	Liping Liu	Berberine in combination with pharmacologically active organic acids helps in the treatment of AD. Dose: Combination of berberine (150 mg/kg) and UA (150 mg/kg) Combination of berberine (150 mg/kg) , EPA (75 mg/kg) and DHA (75mg/kg)	[224]
16	2013-05-09	US20130115202A1	Anti-inflammatory compositions for treating neuro-inflammation	Theoharis Theoharides	The composition of berberine, a flavonoid, olive kernel extract, hydroxytyrosol is useful in the treatment and prevention of AD. Dose: Berberine- 50-500 mg, Olive kernel extract – 100-1000 mg, Hydroxytyrosol- 200-2000 mg	[225]
17	2020-10-07	EP3057437A1	Protective effects of oil palm composition on Alzheimer's disease	Weinberg et al.	Palm oil preparation is useful in impending and making the neurotoxic peptides and thus can be used for the treatment of AD. Dose: 0.9 mg/mL	[226]
18	2015-11-24	US9192644B2	Bioavailable curcuminoid formulations for treating AD and other age-related neurological disorders.	Frautschy and Cole	Curcuminoid preparation with enhanced bioavailability comprising of an antioxidant curcuminoid, glucuronidation inhibitor, and water-soluble, and pharmaceutically acceptable inhibitor is useful for the treatment of AD. Dose: 33.3 mg/kg	[227]
19	2014-10-07	US8853261B2	Nutraceutical composition made from <i>Garcinia mangostana</i>	Gokaraju et al.	Nutraceutical and dietary preparations of <i>Garcinia mangostana</i> are rich in $\gamma$ -mangostin or other demethylated xanthenes and they exhibit potent antioxidative activity and reduce inflammation, which helps in the treatment/prevention of AD. Dose: 50 mg/kg/day	[228]
20	2011-09-20	US8021701B1	The intended composition retards the onset of AD.	Stephen Perry	A preparation containing curcumin, piperine, oleic acid, oleanolic acid, ursolic acid, galantamine, and huperzine A is useful for the delay of AD. Dose: Combination of 10.0-40.0 mg curcumin; 5.0-10.0 mg piperine; 40.0 mg oleic acid 40.0 mg oleanolic acid; 40.0 mg ursolic acid; 16.0-24.0 mg galantamine; 50.0-100 ug huperzine A; 20.0-50.0 mg choline; and 50.0-100.00 mg vitamin B	[229]



It is well documented that men are at higher risk of Parkinson's disease, autism, and schizophrenia, whereas women have an increased risk of AD, depression, and stress-related illnesses. The incidences of chronic neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, depression, schizophrenia, and anxiety associated disorders are greater in postmenopausal women. The gender differences are attributed to sex hormone effects (testosterone, estrogens) on the CNS. Androgens and estrogens have neuroprotective actions on neuronal and glial cell viability. Neuroprotection caused by sex hormones is decreased in elderly men and women. Oxidative stress is also enhanced in aged men and women, and sex hormones protect against oxidative stress in both genders [230].

NoguchiShinohara *et al.* performed a randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind 24-week trial in a group of 23 patients to evaluate the safety and efficacy of *Melissa officinalis* extract containing 500 mg rosmarinic acid for the prevention of dementia and AD progression. No significant differences were observed in disease-related biomarkers between the two groups. However, the results suggested that *M. Officinalis* extract containing 500 mg taken daily may help to prevent the worsening of AD-related neuropsychiatric symptoms [231].

Although the clinical histopathological findings and animal models research has contributed a great deal in enhancing our understanding of the underlying cellular and molecular mechanisms involved in the development of dementia and AD, yet there remain several gaps in our knowledge regarding the impact of genetic/epigenetic and environmental factors causing neurodegenerative abnormalities in the aging population. Recently, scholarly review articles have suggested that bioactive proteins produced by adipose and muscle tissue (adipokines and myokines respectively) may be involved in the pathogenesis and therapy of cardiometabolic and neurodegenerative diseases, including AD [232, 233]. For slowing the onset, progression, and prevention of chronic CNS disorders, it is generally recommended that people should make lifestyle changes, eat wholesome foods rich in antioxidant and anti-inflammatory flavonoids and polyphenols, retinoids, do physical exercise, reduce excessive use of alcohol, and avoid tobacco smoking, including E-cigarettes. Consumption of various diets, such as the Med-diet, Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH), and the Mediterranean-DASH Interventions for Neurodegenerative Delay (MIND) diet have proven useful for the primary prevention of cardiovascular diseases (CVDs), and to delay the onset of neurodegenerative disorders. Genetic/epigenetic factors, exposure to environmental toxicants, socio-economic conditions, mental stress,

and neuronal inflammation are considered to be the triggers for initiating chronic old-age-related brain diseases. The consumption of anti-inflammation and antioxidant wholesome diets and lifestyle modifications appear to be the most cost-effective strategies for delaying the onset and prevention of chronic brain diseases in the aging population. Natural health products, functional foods, and antioxidants present in fresh vegetables and fruits, and medicinal herbs prevent oxidative stress and lipid peroxidation in the brain, and prevent neuronal/glial injury by scavenging free radicals in the CNS, and consequently protect against neuronal impairment. Recently, numerous medicinal herbs, plant products, nutraceuticals with strong antioxidant/anti-inflammation abilities, such as *Ginkgo Biloba*, curcumin, resveratrol, epigallocateic acid, tannic acid, berberine, vanillic acid, caffeic acid have proven helpful in the prevention and management of Alzheimer's disease.

In this review, we have addressed several antioxidants and anti-inflammation macromolecules to prevent oxidative stress-induced injury by scavenging free radicals in the brain. The phytochemicals present in dietary products and nutraceuticals discussed in this review may not only promote the resolution of existing cerebral A $\beta$ -plaques but also chelate the metals like copper and iron implicated in causing AD. In addition, we have attempted to provide current information about the recent patents filed regarding the usefulness of nutraceuticals in the prevention/mitigation and management of AD and other neurological diseases.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

The authors declare that the study was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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## AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS STATEMENT

GK and HSB visualized the idea for this review paper and contributed to manuscript writing. GK also supervised the project. SG, VC, and AS contributed to doing literature searches and preparing the draft manuscript. GK revised and approved the manuscript. GK, HSB, MB, MC, and SW corrected, revised, and approved the manuscript.

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