

Title

Elevated levels of Secreted-Frizzled-Related-Protein 1 contribute to Alzheimer's disease

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Abstract

The deposition of aggregated amyloid- β peptides derived from the pro-amyloidogenic precursor protein (APP) into characteristic amyloid plaques (APs) is distinctive of Alzheimer's disease (AD). Alternative APP processing via the metalloprotease ADAM10 prevents amyloid- β accumulation. Downregulation of ADAM10 activity by its secreted endogenous inhibitor secreted-frizzled-related protein 1 (SFRP1) is a common trait of sporadic AD. We demonstrate that SFRP1 is significantly increased in the brain and cerebrospinal fluid of patients with AD, accumulates in APs and binds to amyloid- β , hindering its clearance. Overexpression in an AD-like mouse model anticipates the appearance of APs and dystrophic neurites, whereas its genetic inactivation or the infusion of \pm -SFRP1-neutralizing antibodies favors neuronal survival. Decreased Sfrp1 function lowers AP accumulation, improves AD-related histopathological traits and prevents long-term potentiation loss and cognitive deficits. Our study unveils SFRP1 as a crucial player in AD pathogenesis.

and a promising AD therapeutic target.

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