

Novel Approaches for the Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease

Literature Seminar

2020/06/17

M1 Atsushi Iwai

Contents

1. Introduction

2. AD pathology

3. AD pathology-based therapeutic target

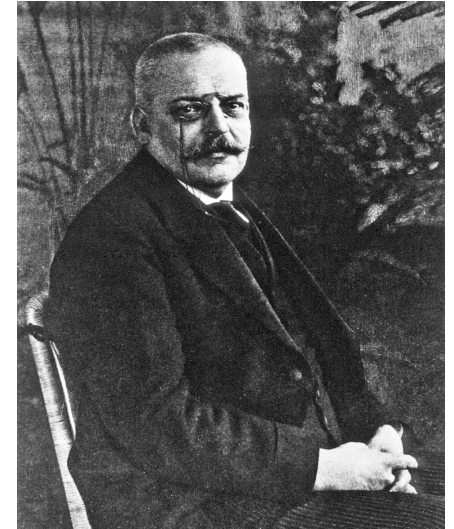
4. Summary

Introduction

Alzheimer's Disease

- **Symptoms**

- Impairment of life functioning
- Disorientation
- Memory impairment
- Speech impediment
- Visuospatial cognitive impairment
- Executive dysfunction
- Psychological symptoms



Aloysius Alois Alzheimer

- **Pathology**

- Degenerative loss of neurons and associated cerebral atrophy
- Multiple senile plaques
- Multiple neurofibrillary tangles

Introduction

Social issues of Alzheimer's disease

- **Number of patients**
 - 47.5 million (2015)
 - Over 9.9 million new cases of AD-related dementia are diagnosed every year.
- **Social costs**
 - Direct medical costs (e.g. nursing home care)
 - Direct nonmedical costs (e.g. in-home day care)
 - Indirect costs (e.g. lost productivity of both patient and caregiver)
 - Dementia costs worldwide have been calculated around \$818 billion (2015)
 - The most costly diseases for society in developed countries

Introduction

Three main hypothesis

- **Cholinergic hypothesis**

AD is caused by reduced synthesis of the neurotransmitter acetylcholine.

- **Amyloid hypothesis**

Extracellular amyloid beta ($A\beta$) deposits are the fundamental cause of the disease.

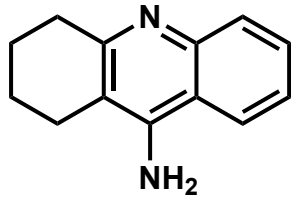
- **Tau hypothesis**

Tau protein abnormalities initiate the disease cascade.

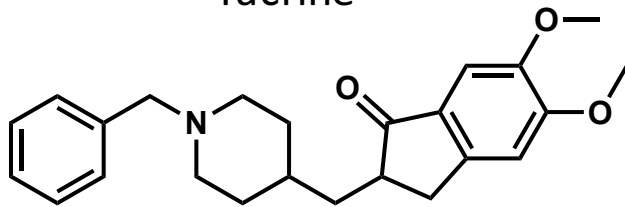
Introduction

Existing drugs

- acetylcholinesterase inhibitor

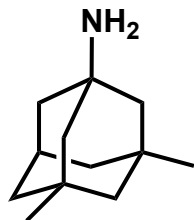


Tacrine

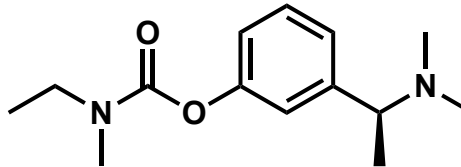


Donepezil

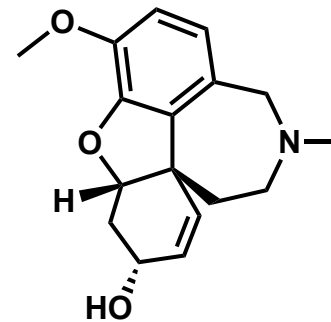
- NMDAR antagonist



Memantine



Rivastigmine



Galantamine

Introduction

Examples of failed clinical trials of anti-Ab drugs

Name	Mode of Action	Sponsor Involved in the Clinical Trials
Solanezumab	Monoclonal antibody	Eli Lilly
Crenezumab	Monoclonal antibody	Roche- Genetech
Gantenerumab	Monoclonal antibody	Roche- Genetech
Aducanumab	Monoclonal antibody	Biogen
Verubecestat	BACE1 inhibitor	Merck
Lanabecestat	BACE1 inhibitor	Astra, Eli Lilly
Atabecestat	BACE1 inhibitor	Janssen

Nurul Husna Ibrahim, Mohamad Fairuz Yahaya, Wael Mohamed, Seong Lin Teoh, Chua Kien and Jaya Kumar, *Front. Pharmacol.*, **2020**, *11*, 261.

Contents

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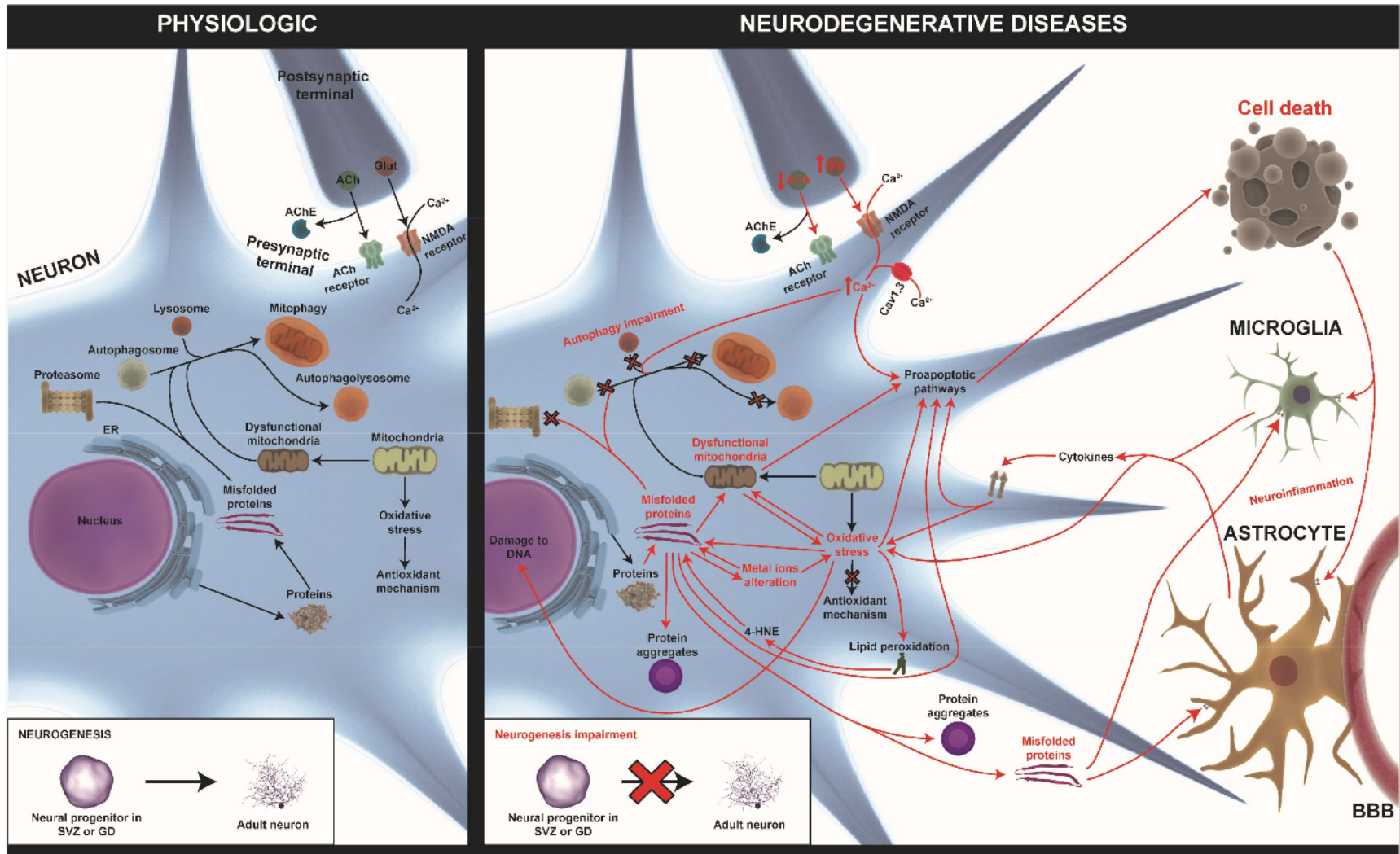
2. AD pathology

3. AD pathology-based therapeutic target

4. Summary

AD pathology

The general pathways involved in neurodegenerative diseases



Van Bulck M, Sierra-Magro A, Alarcon-Gil J, Perez-Castillo A, Morales-Garcia JA, *Int. J. Mol. Sci.*, 2019, 20, 719.

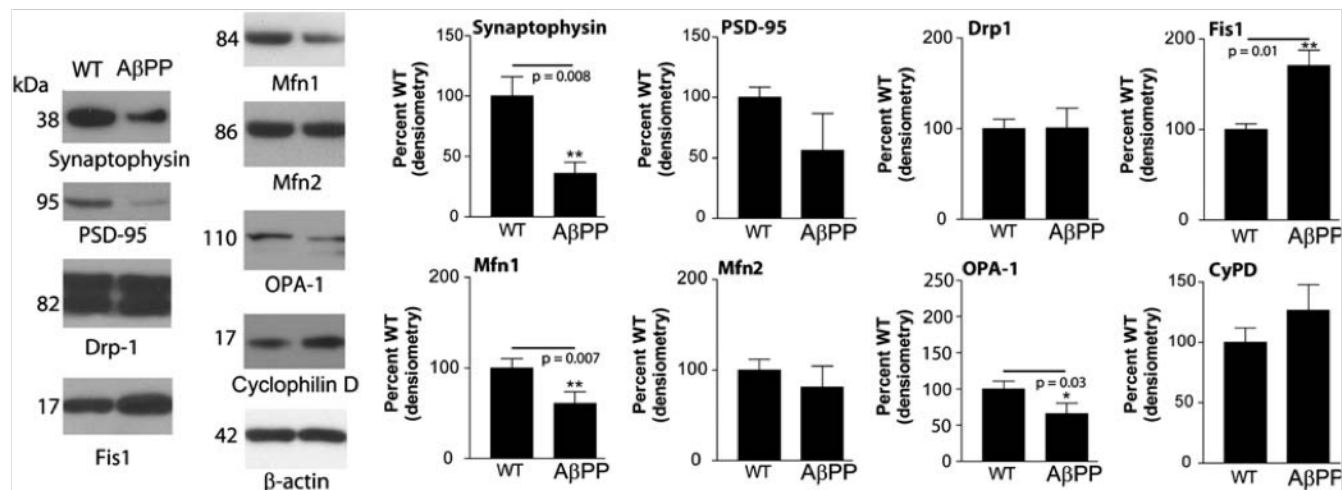
AD pathology

A β changes expression level of mRNA and proteins

- mRNA**

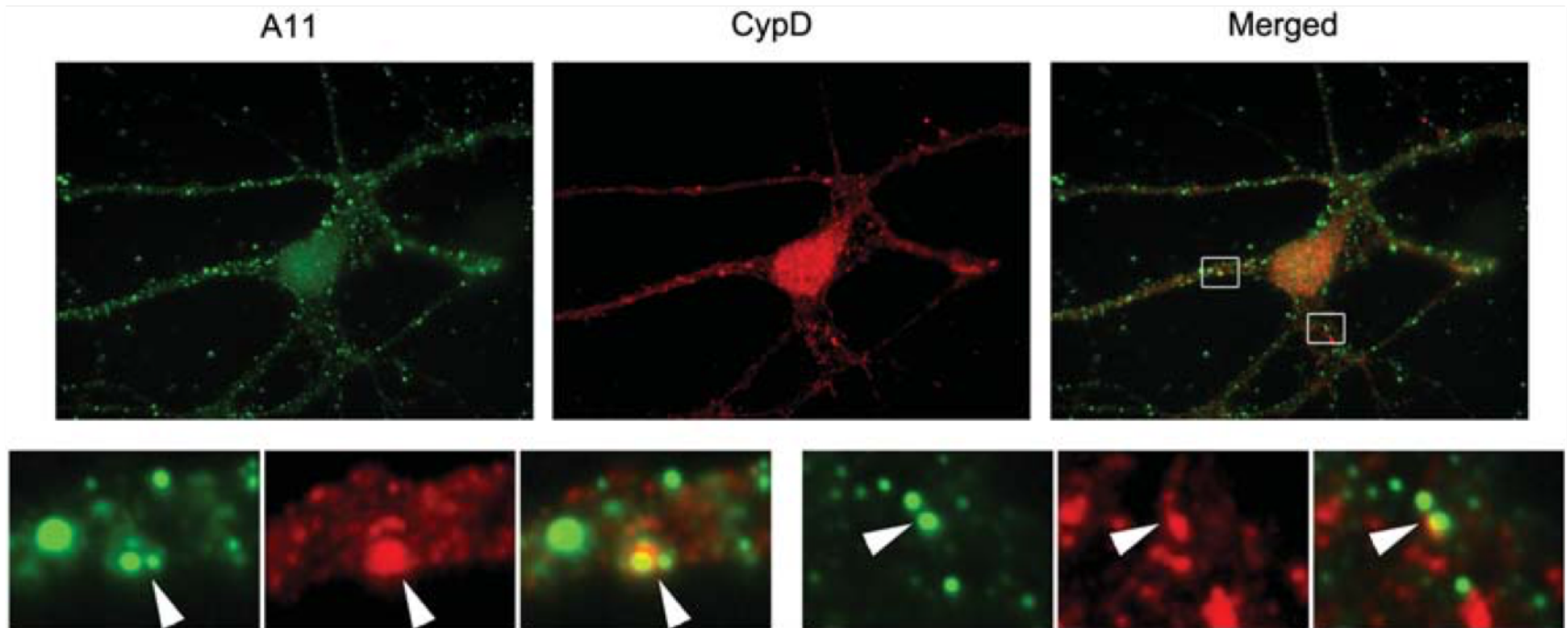
Synaptic		Peroxyredoxins		Mitochondrial dynamics/matrix	
PSD-95	-1.5*	Prx1	-1.3	Fis1	1.5*
Synaptophysin	-2.0*	Prx2	-1.1	Drp1	1.1
Synapsin1	-1.5**	Prx3	-1.3	Mfn1	-1.6*
Synapsin2	-1.4**	Prx4	-1.2	Mfn2	-1.1
Synaptobrevin1	-1.3*	Prx5	-1.1	OPA-1	-1.3
Synaptobrevin2	-1.3*	Prx6	1.0	CypD	1.6**
GAP43	-1.2**				
Neurogranin	1.0				
Synaptopodin	-1.1				

- Proteins**



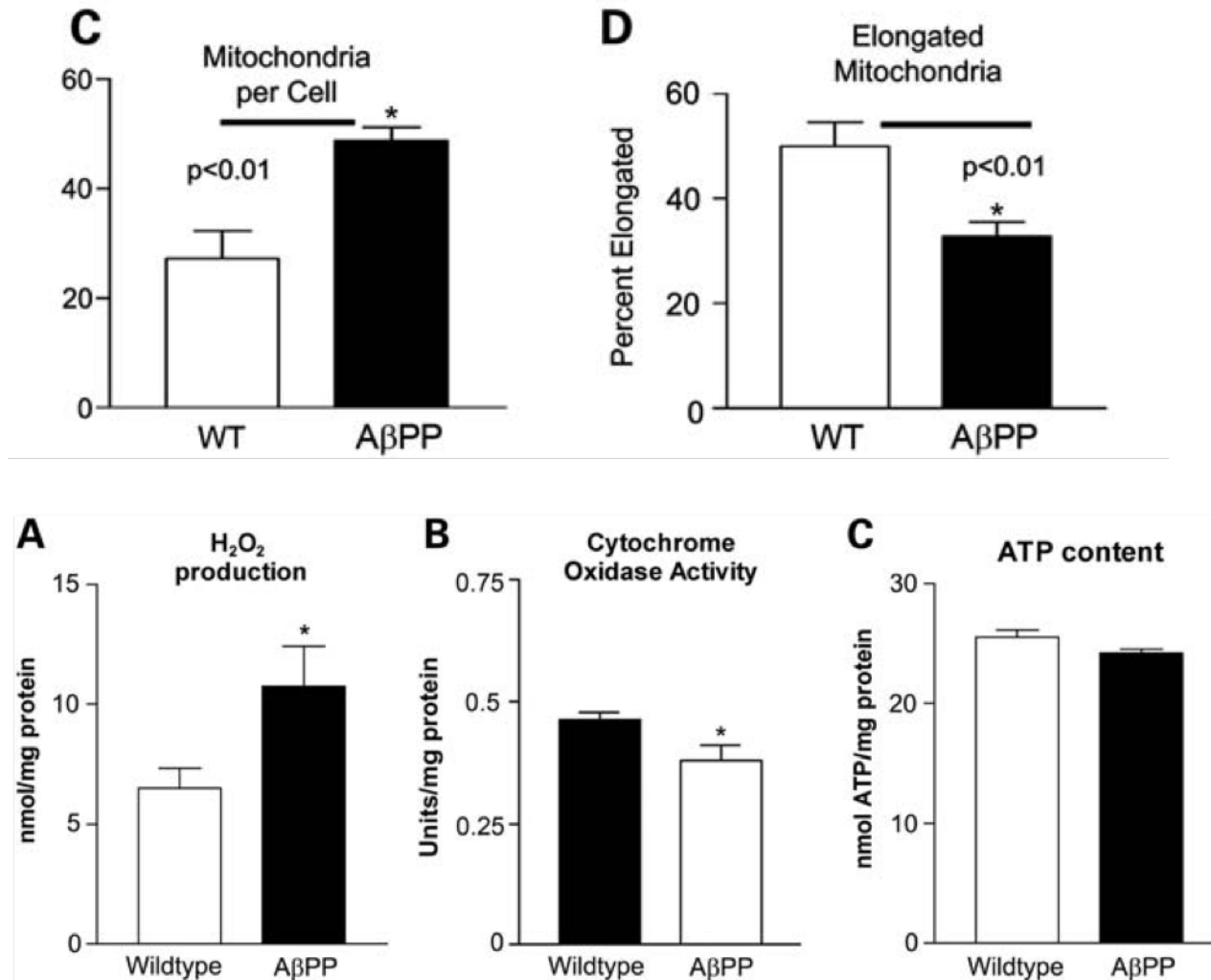
AD pathology

A β oligomer localizes in mitochondria



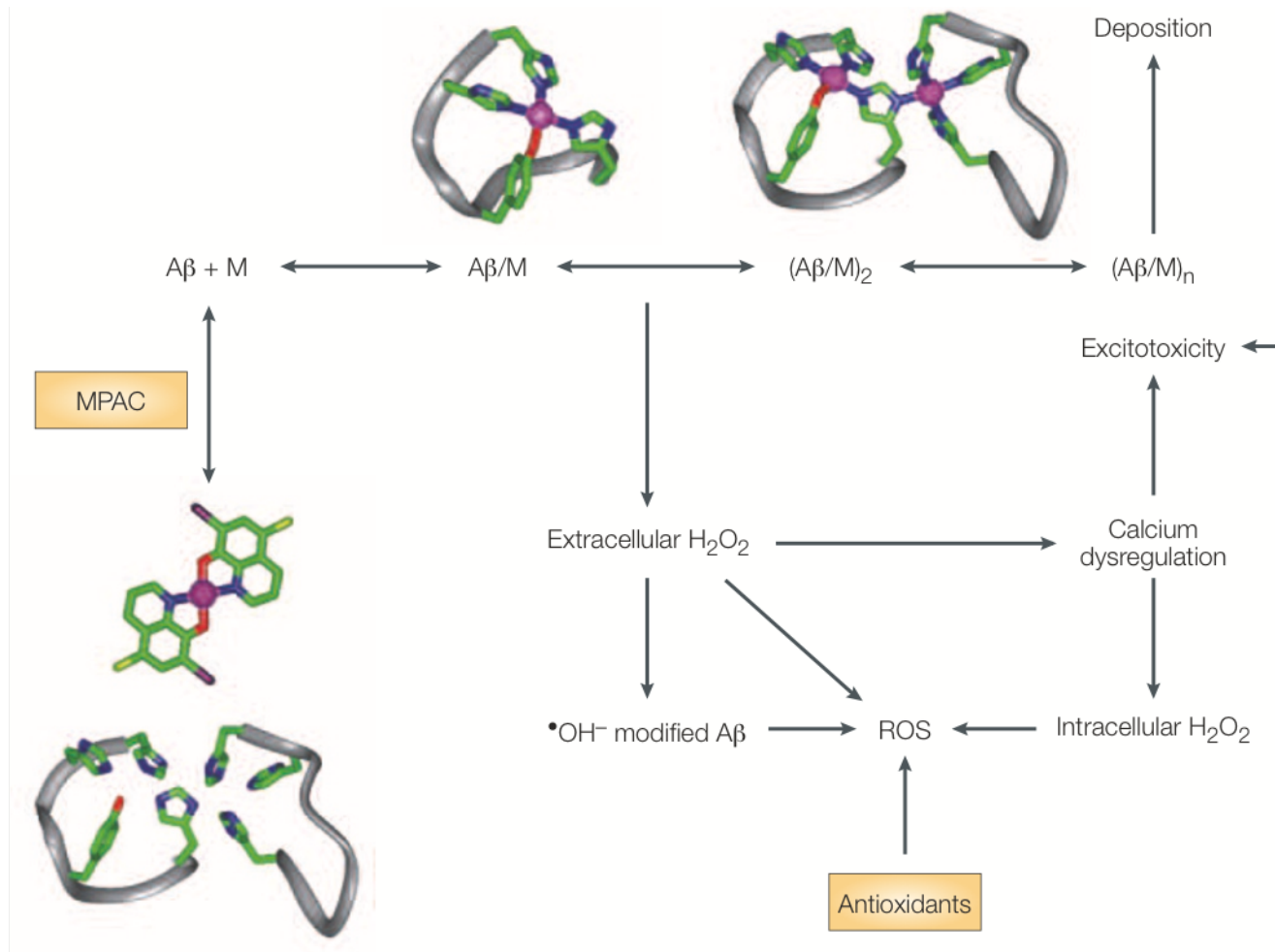
AD pathology

Effects on mitochondria



AD pathology

A β coordinates metal ions



AD pathology

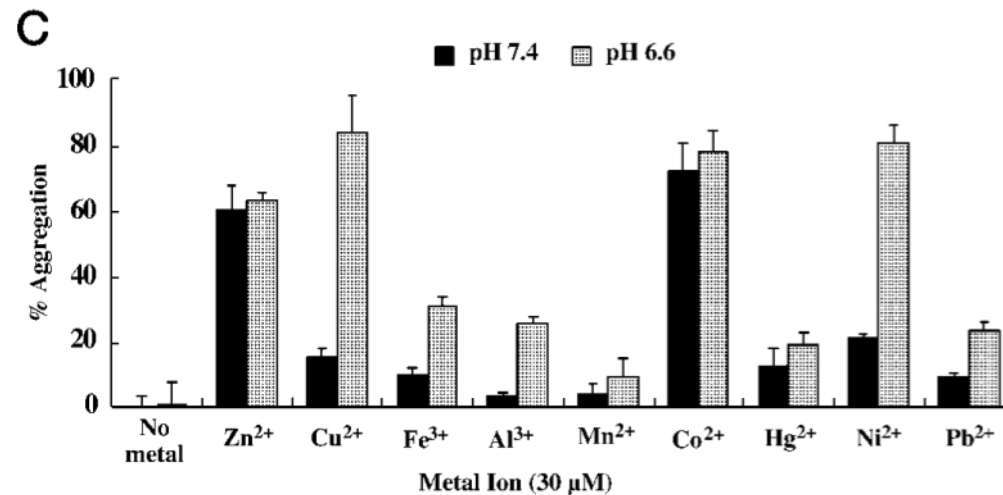
Metal ions promote A β aggregation

	Copper ($\mu\text{g/g}$) Mean \pm S.E.M.	Iron ($\mu\text{g/g}$) Mean \pm S.E.M.	Zinc ($\mu\text{g/g}$) Mean \pm S.E.M.
SP Rim	22.7 \pm 6.5 ^a	52.4 \pm 14.5 ^a	67.0 \pm 13.0 ^a
SP Core	30.1 \pm 11.0 ^b	53.1 \pm 13.7 ^a	86.8 \pm 21.0 ^a
Total SP	25.0 \pm 7.8 ^a	52.5 \pm 13.7 ^a	69.0 \pm 18.4 ^a
AD Neuropil	19.3 \pm 6.3 ^b	38.8 \pm 9.4 ^b	51.4 \pm 11.0 ^c
Control Neuropil	4.4 \pm 1.5	18.9 \pm 5.3	22.6 \pm 2.8

^a $P < 0.05$ (Plaque values vs. AD neuropil).

^b $P \leq 0.08$ (AD Neuropil vs. control neuropil).

^c $P < 0.05$ (AD Neuropil vs. control neuropil).

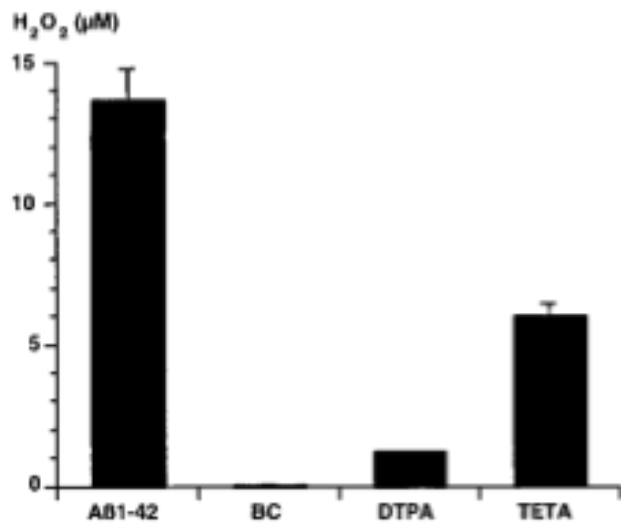
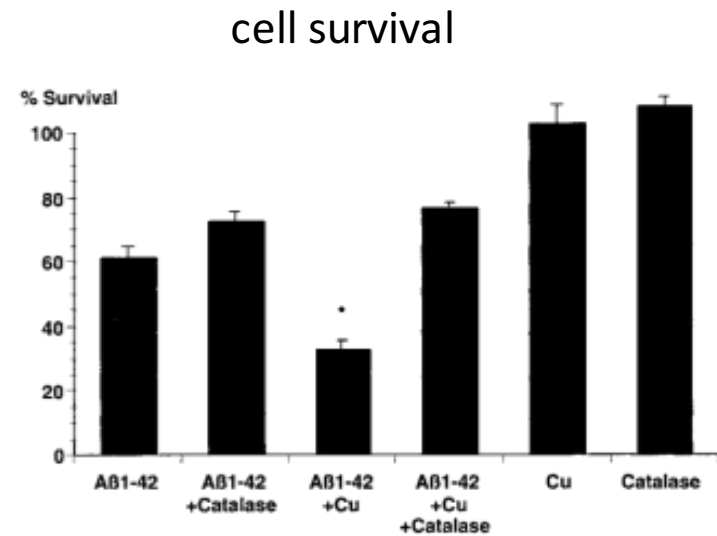
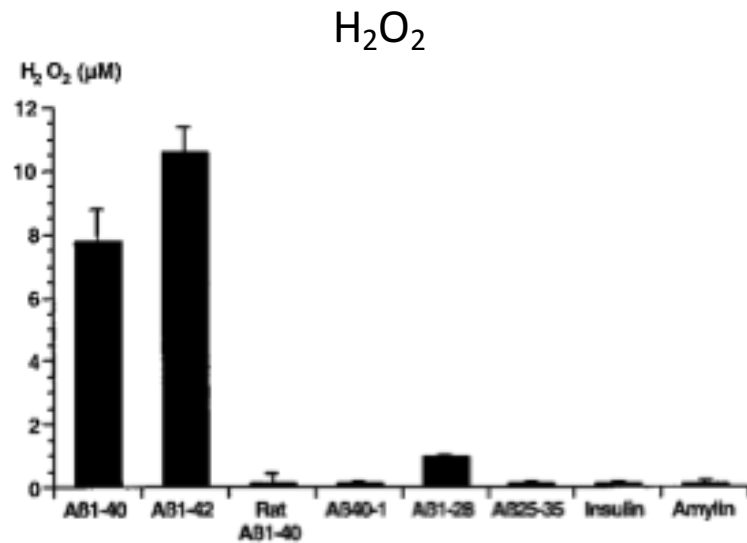


Lovell, M. A., Robertson, J. D., Teesdale, W. J., Campbell, J. L. & Markesbery, W. R., *J. Neurol. Sci.*, **1998**, 158, 47.

Atwood, C. S., Moir, R. D., Huang, X., Scarpa, R. C., Bacarra, N. M. E., Romano, D. M., Hartshorn, M. A., Tanzi, R. E., Bush, A. I., *J. Biol. Chem.*, **1998**, 273, 12817. 14

Appendix

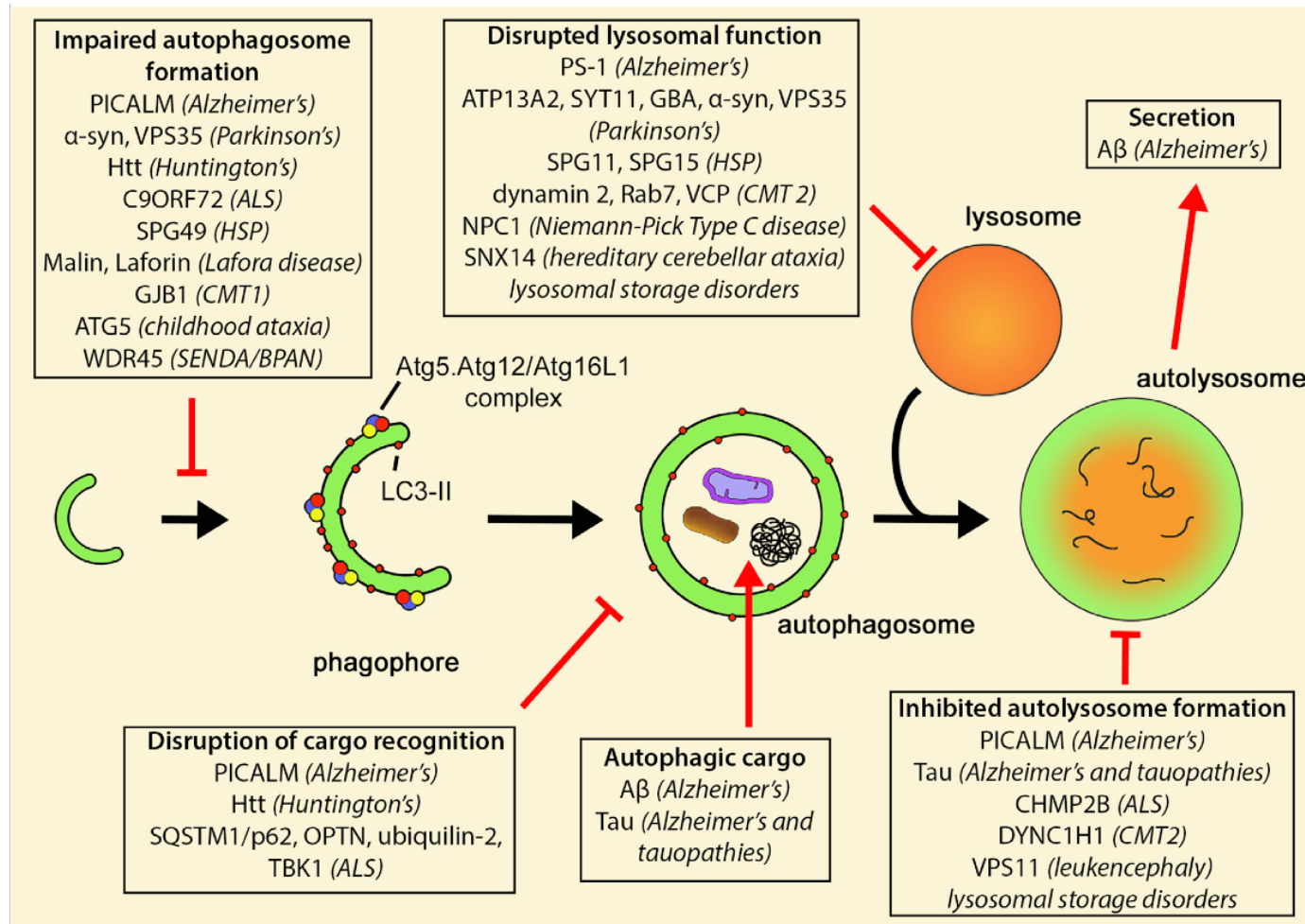
Cu & A β promote H₂O₂ production



Bush A. I. *et al.*, *J. Biol. Chem.*, **1999**, 274, 37111.

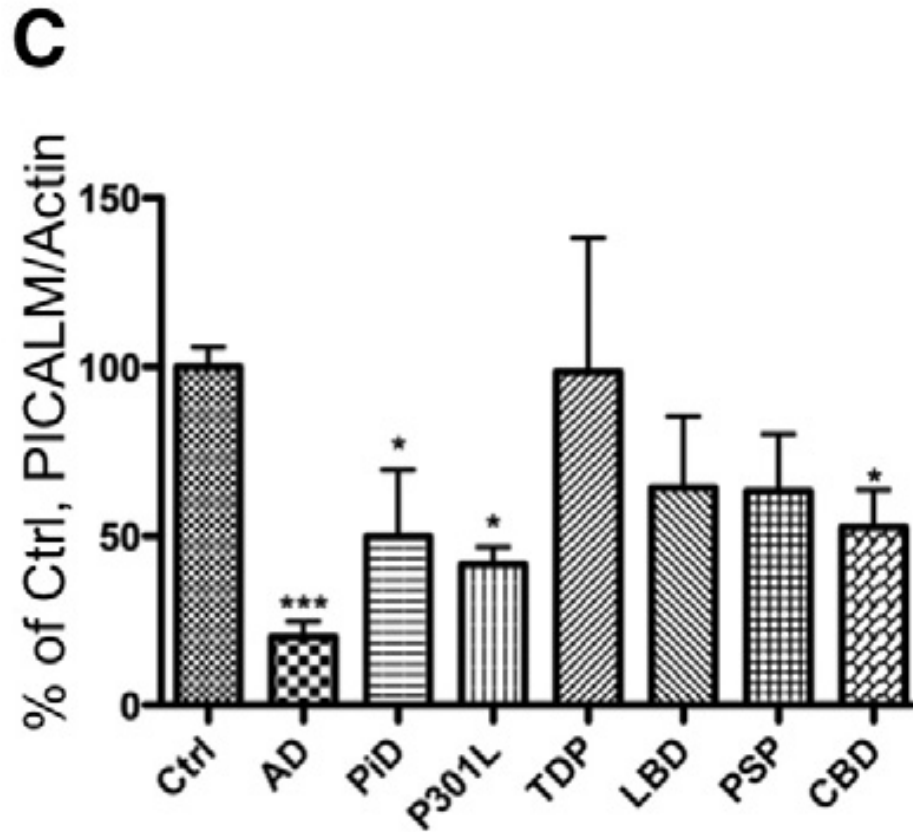
AD pathology

A β inhibits autophagy



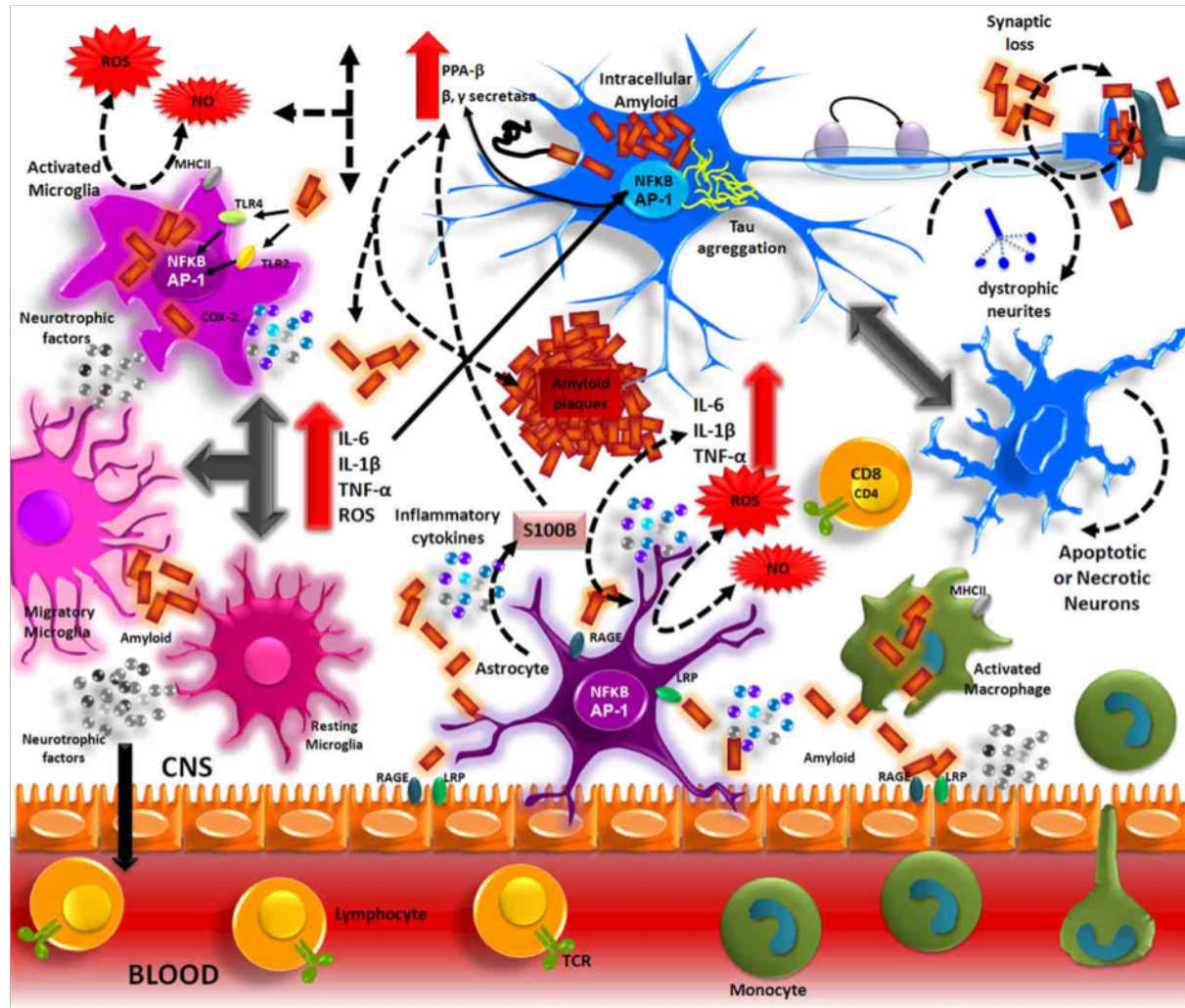
AD pathology

PICALM is low in AD patients



AD pathology

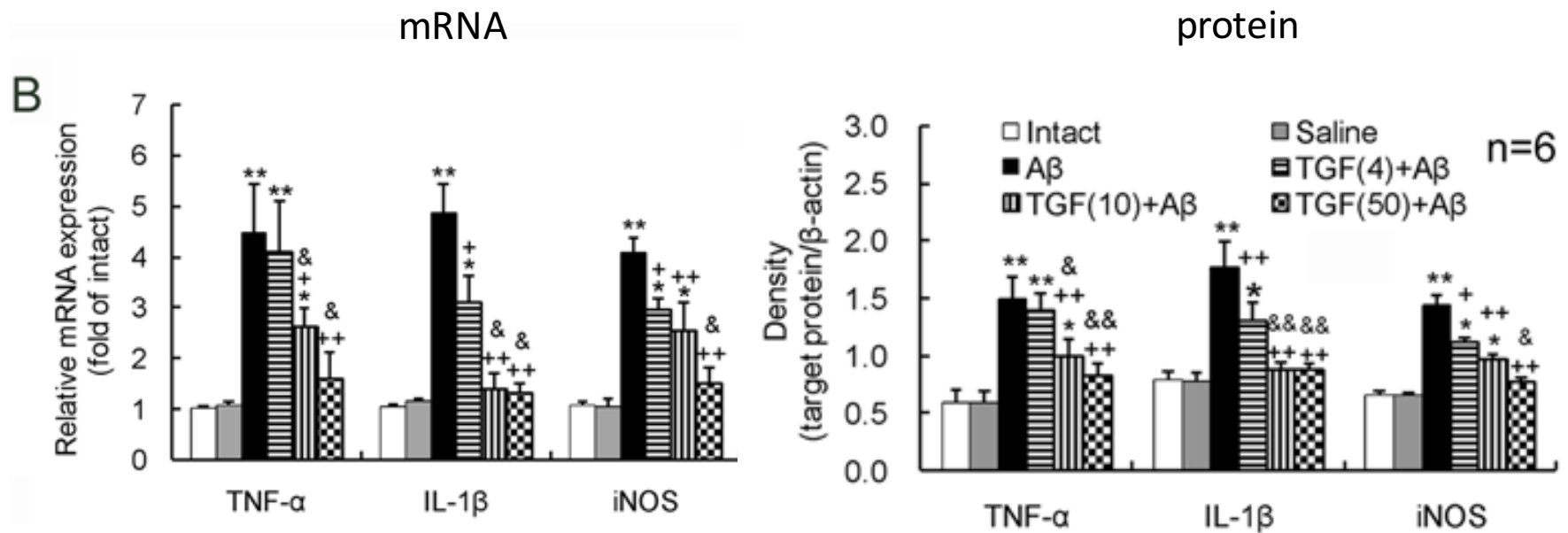
Neuro-inflammation



Meraz-Ríos, M. A., Toral-Rios, D., Franco-Bocanegra, D., Villeda-Hernández, J., Campos-Peña, V., *Front. Integr. Neurosci.*, 2013, 7, 59.

AD pathology

A β increases levels of TNF- α & IL-1 β



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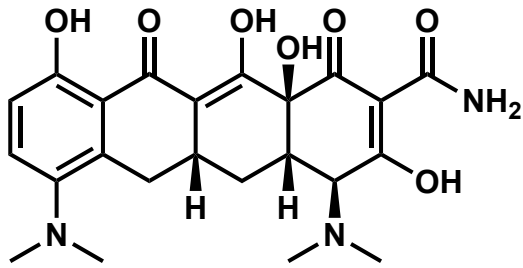
AD pathology-based therapeutic target

Novel treatment strategies for AD

1. Minocycline
2. 4-(1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)thiosemicarbazone
3. Diethyl (3,4-dihydroxyphenethylamino) (quinolin-4-yl)methylphosphonate
4. Oligomannate

Targeting Neuroinflammation

Minocycline



Minocycline

Tetracycline antibiotics



In animal models

- Alzheimer's disease (Garcez et al. 2017)
- Traumatic brain injury (Hanlon et al. 2016)
- Multiple sclerosis (Giuliani et al. 2005)
- Cerebral ischemia (Yrjänheikki et al. 1999)
- Huntington's disease (Chen et al. 2000)
- Parkinson's disease (Du et al. 2001)
- Stroke (Lampl et al. 2007)
- Anxiety-related behaviors (Majidi et al. 2016)
- Schizophrenia (Chaudhry et al. 2012)
- Anti-depressant effect (Amorim et al. 2017)

Targeting Neuroinflammation

Clinical trial of minocycline

Success example of depression

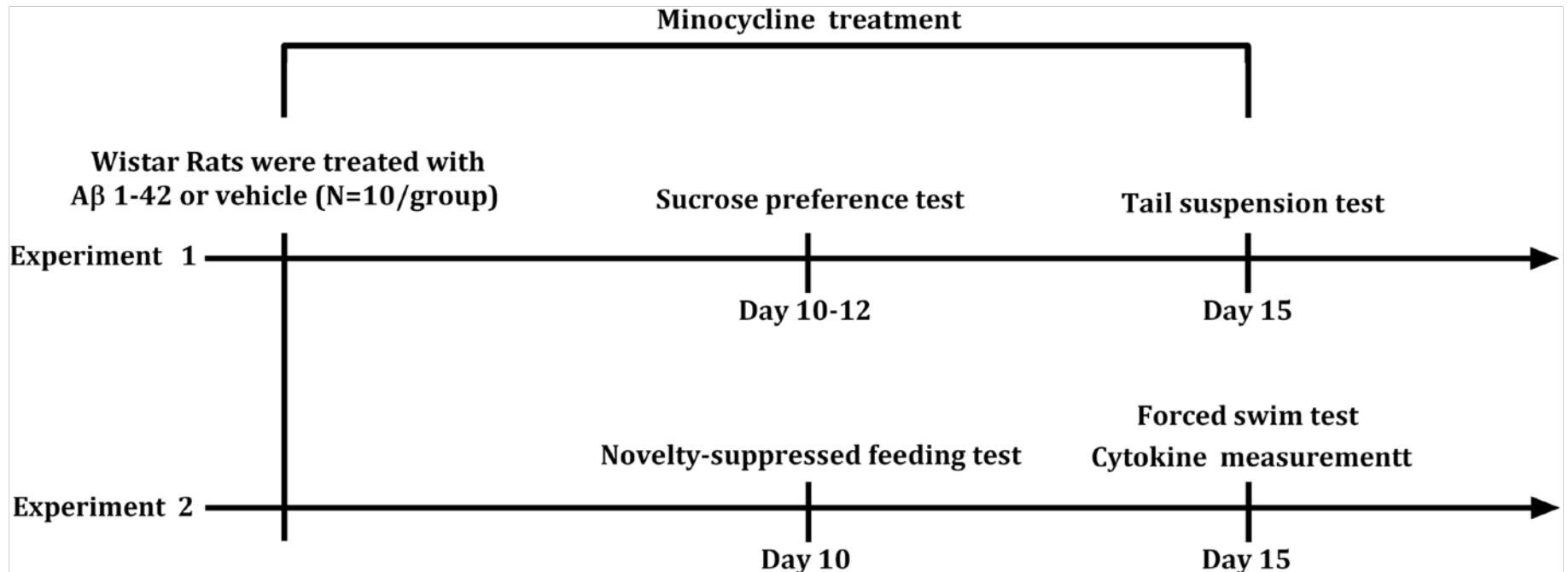
- Mild-to-moderate depression in HIV patients (Emadi-Kouchak et al. 2016)
- Major depressive disorder (Dean et al. 2017)
- Bipolar depression (Soczynska et al. 2017)

In Alzheimer's disease

- “Minocycline did not delay the progress of cognitive or functional impairment in people with mild AD during a 2-year period.” (Howard et al. 2020)

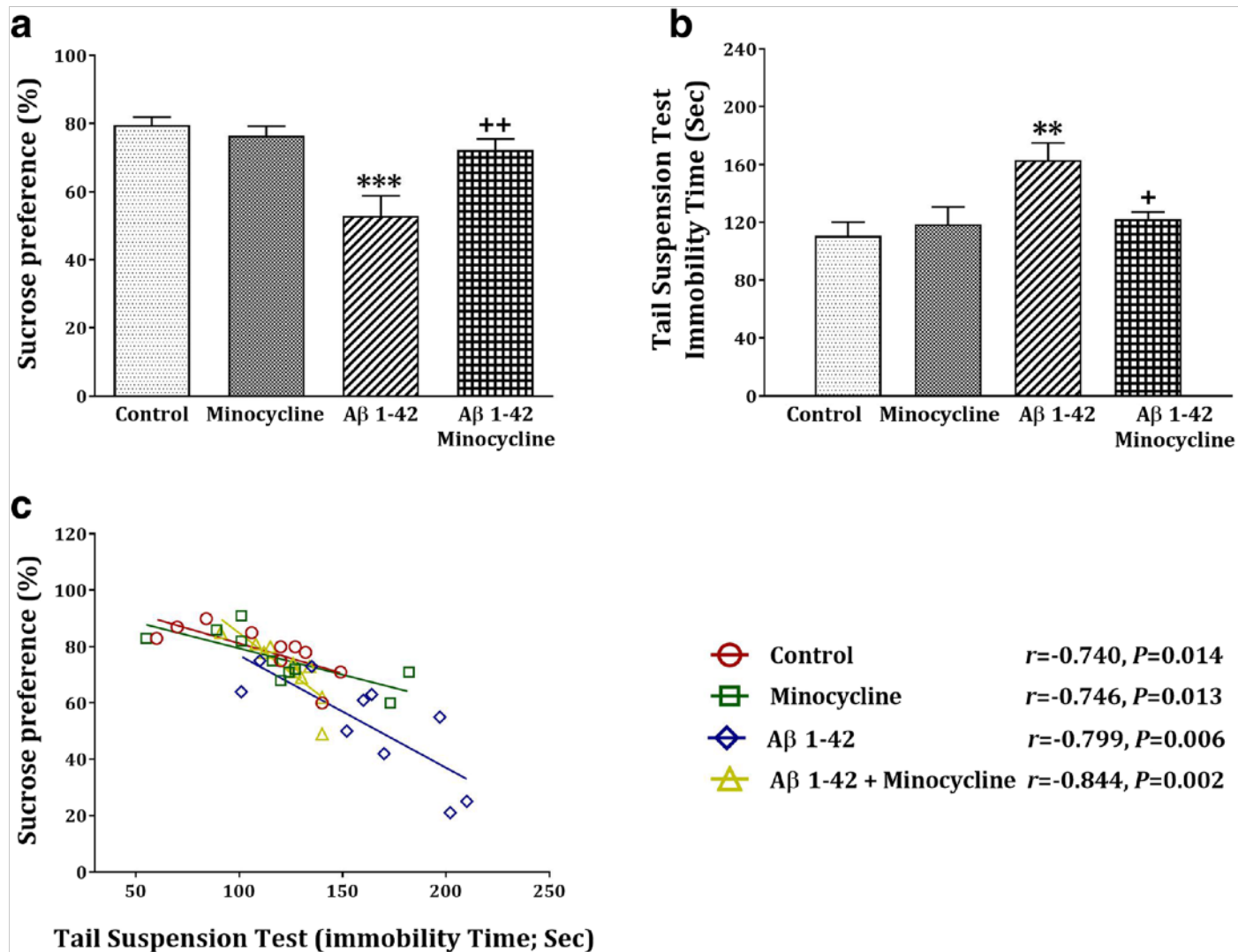
Targeting Neuroinflammation

Experimental design of minocycline treatment



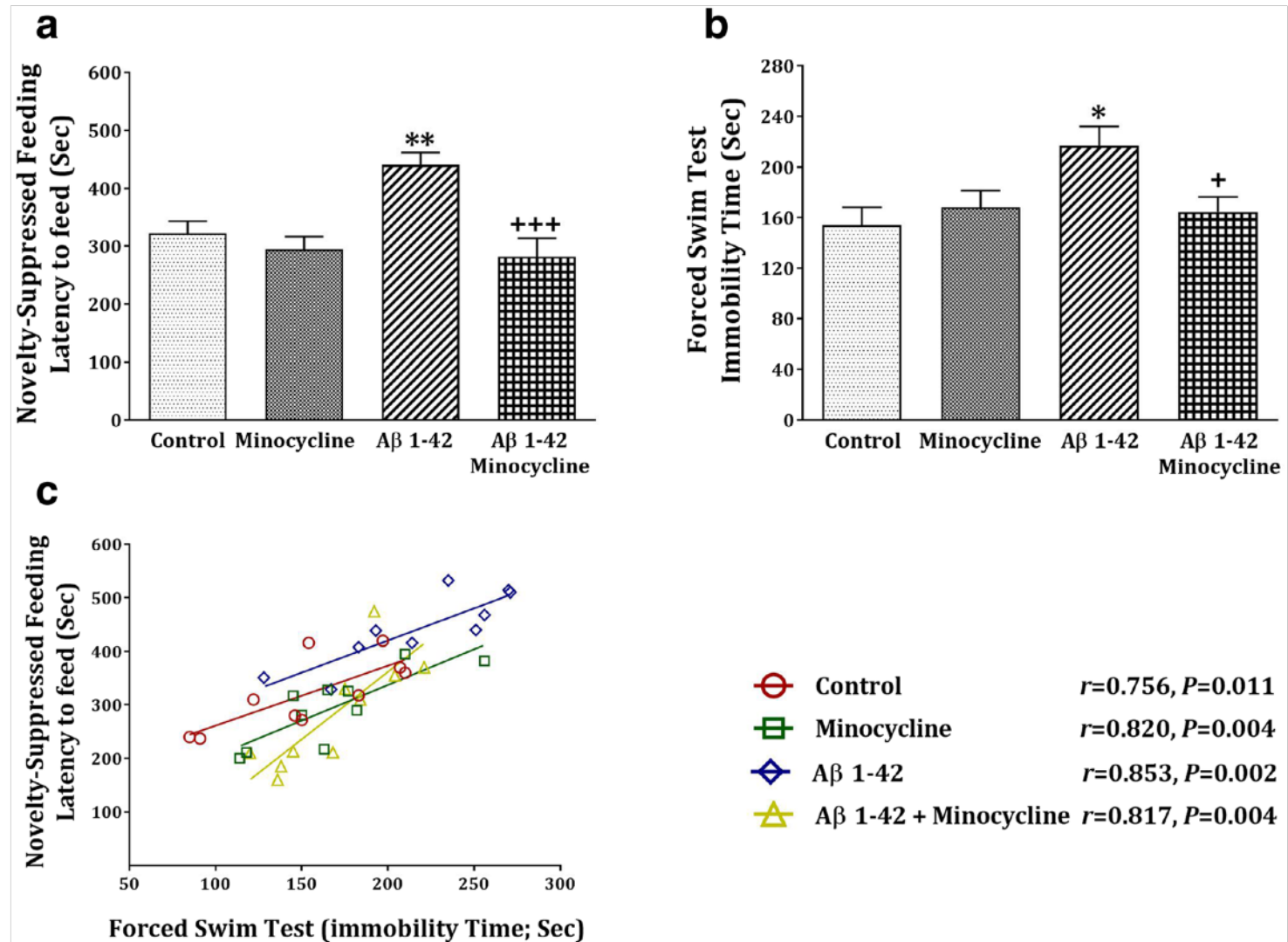
Targeting Neuroinflammation

Result of experiment 1



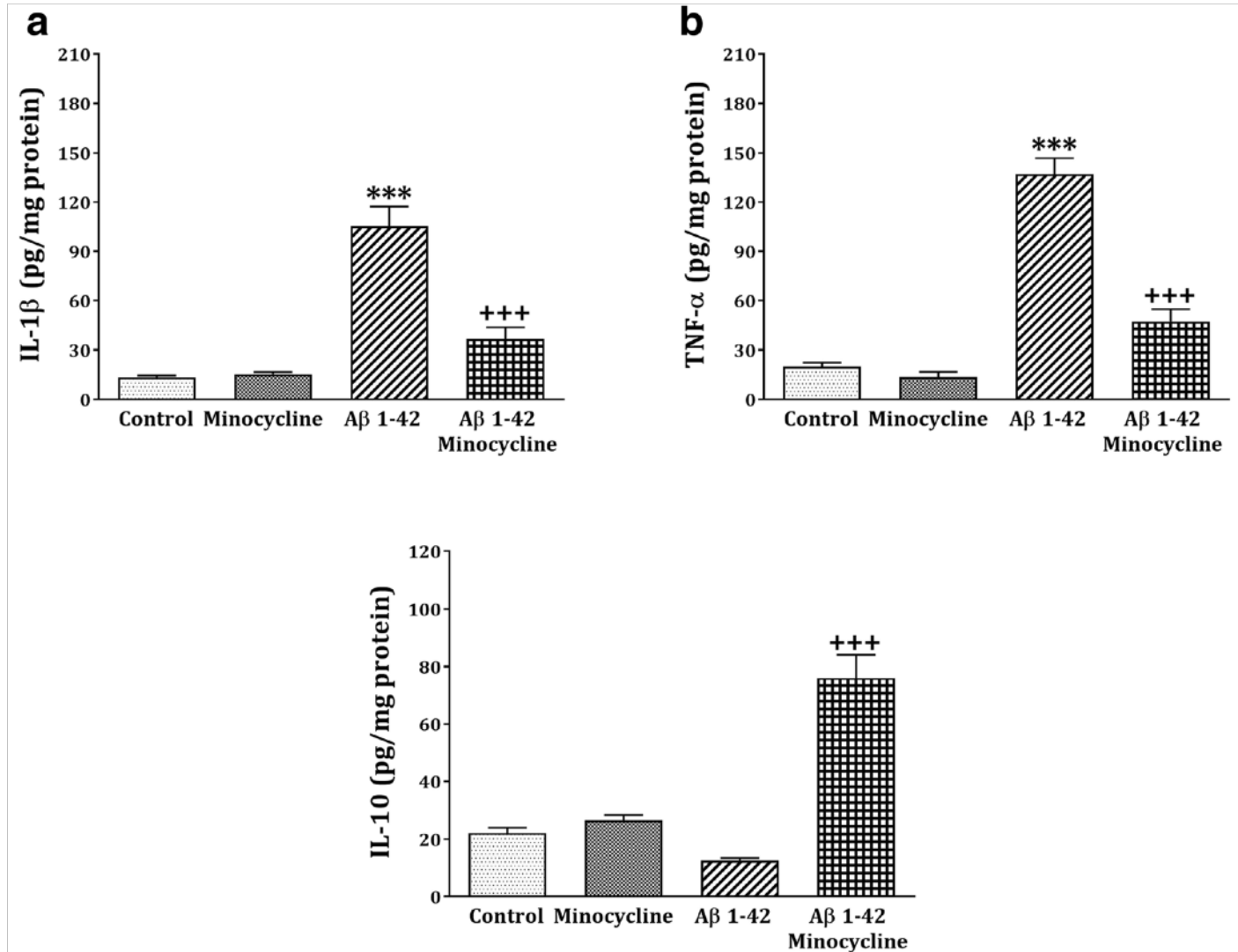
Targeting Neuroinflammation

Result of experiment 2



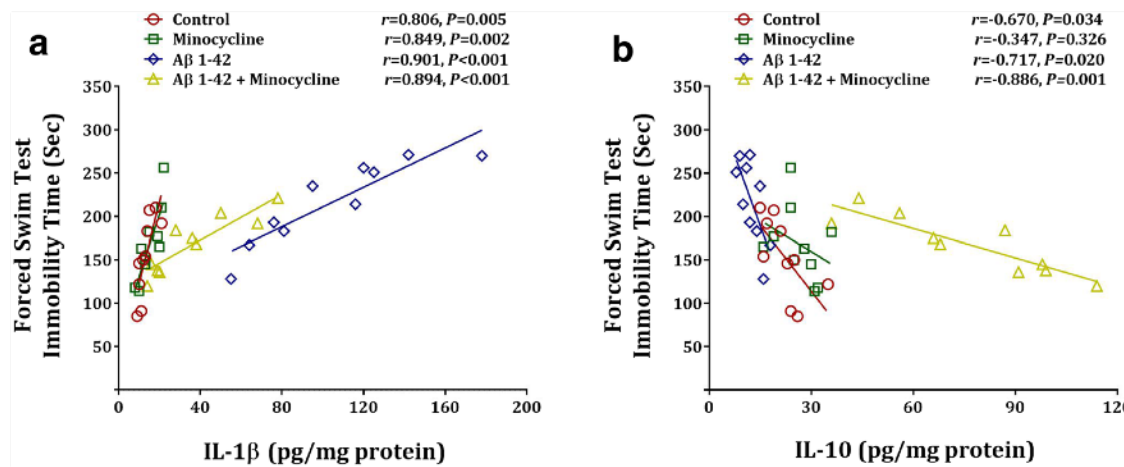
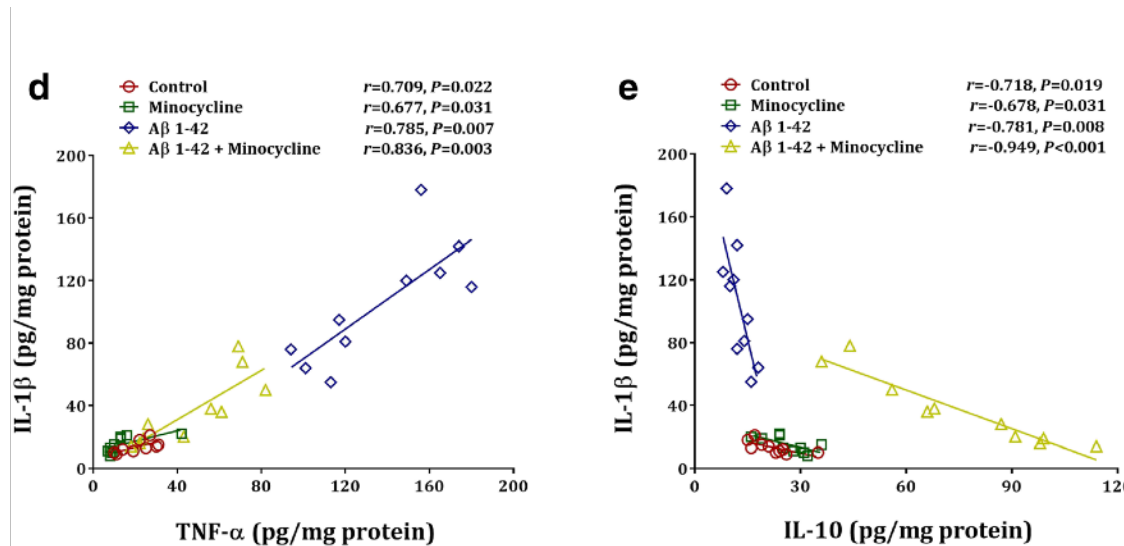
Targeting Neuroinflammation

The level of Cytokines



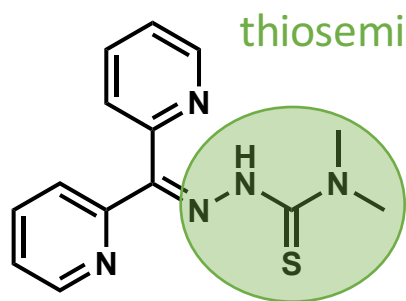
Targeting Neuroinflammation

The level of Cytokines



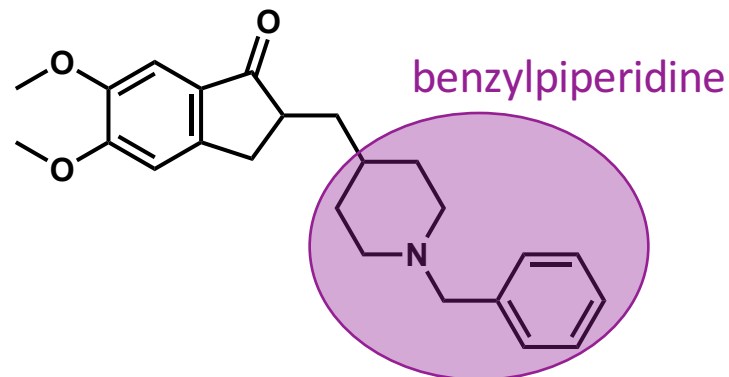
Multi-target drug BPT

Design strategy of multi-target drug



Dp44mT

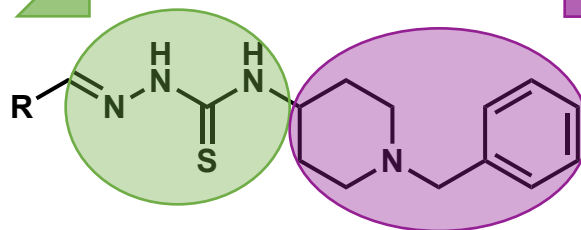
- Chelation of redox-active metals
- Induction of autophagy



Donepezil

- Inhibition of AChE activity

combine pharmacophores

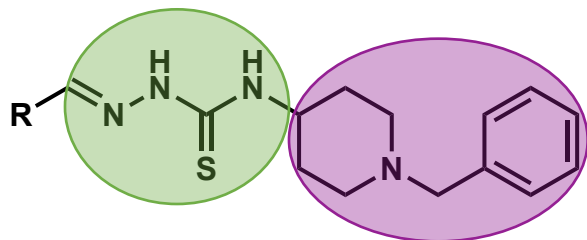


4-(1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)thiosemicarbazone (BPT)

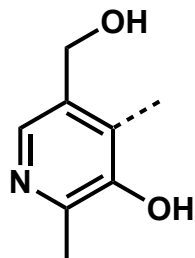
Multi-target drug BPT

BPT series

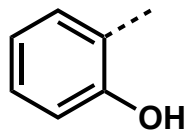
4-(1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)thiosemicarbazone (BPT)



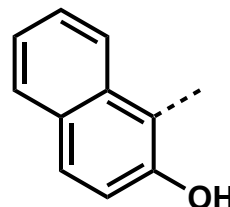
1. Cytotoxicity
2. Inhibition of AChE activity
3. Chelation of redox-active metals
4. Induction of autophagy
5. BBB permeability



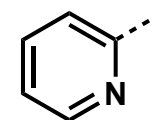
PBPT



SBPT

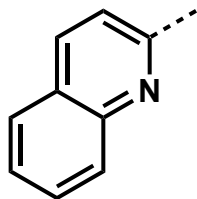


NBPT

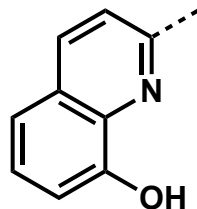


PCBT

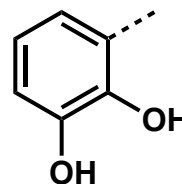
R=



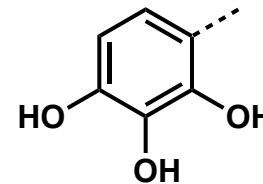
QBPT



8-OH-QBPT



2,3-OH-BBPT



2,3,4-OH-BBPT

Multi-target drug BPT

Anti-proliferative activity

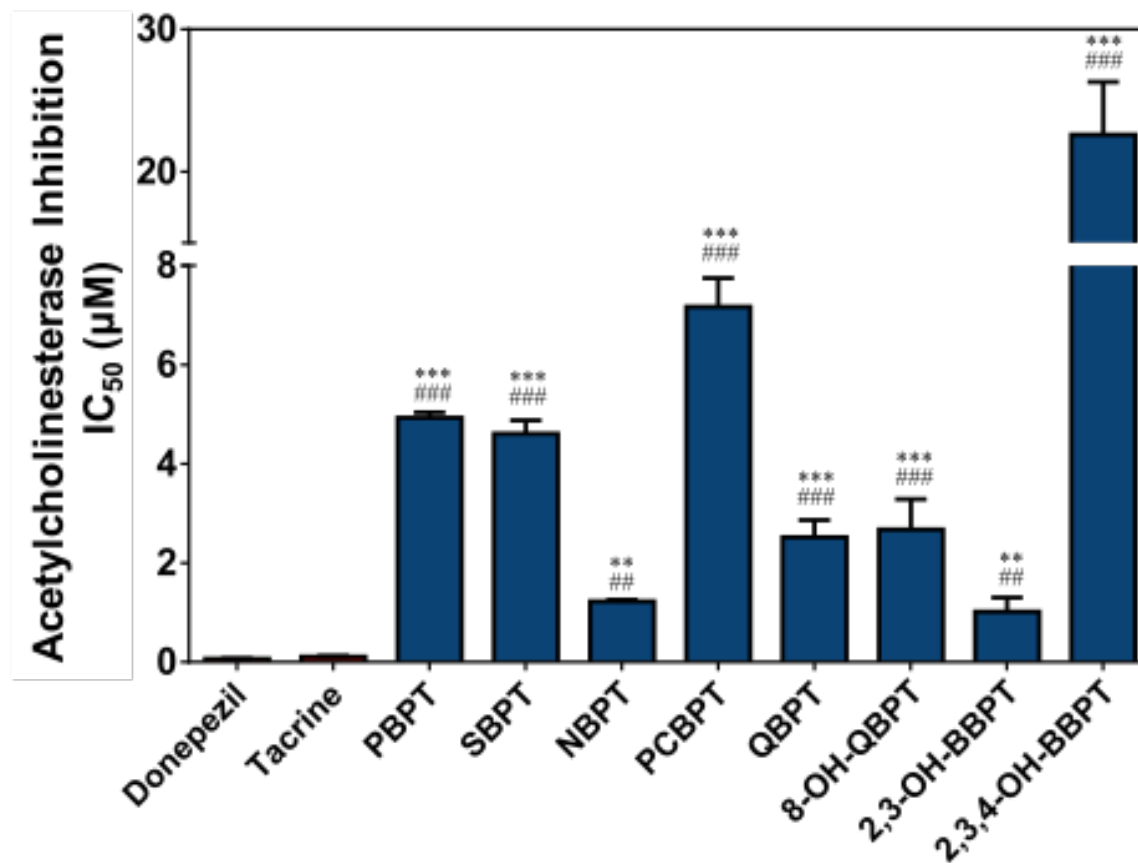
- The anti-proliferative activity against SK-N-MC neuroepithelioma cells

IC₅₀ (μM)

Compound	Ligand (L)	Cu ^{II} (L)	Fe ^{III} (L ₂)
DFO	16.81 ± 3.87	9.83 ± 0.38	>25 ^b
Dp44mT	0.013 ± 0.01	0.014 ± 0.01	2.00 ± 0.49
Donepezil	>100	83.33 ± 7.60	>100
PBPT	>100	46.18 ± 7.97	>100
SBPT	34.41 ± 1.24	1.30 ± 0.14	77.99 ± 11.58
NBPT	8.86 ± 0.10	1.81 ± 0.53	52.90 ± 8.34
PCBPT	4.23 ± 1.41	0.43 ± 0.02	1.33 ± 0.11
QBPT	17.71 ± 0.70	3.86 ± 1.28	1.20 ± 0.26
8-OH-QBPT	36.14 ± 3.24	1.87 ± 0.50	>100
2,3-OH-BBPT	16.85 ± 0.96	0.40 ± 0.09	23.99 ± 4.85
2,3,4-OH-BBPT	79.14 ± 0.36	12.22 ± 0.09	80.06 ± 13.57

Multi-target drug BPT

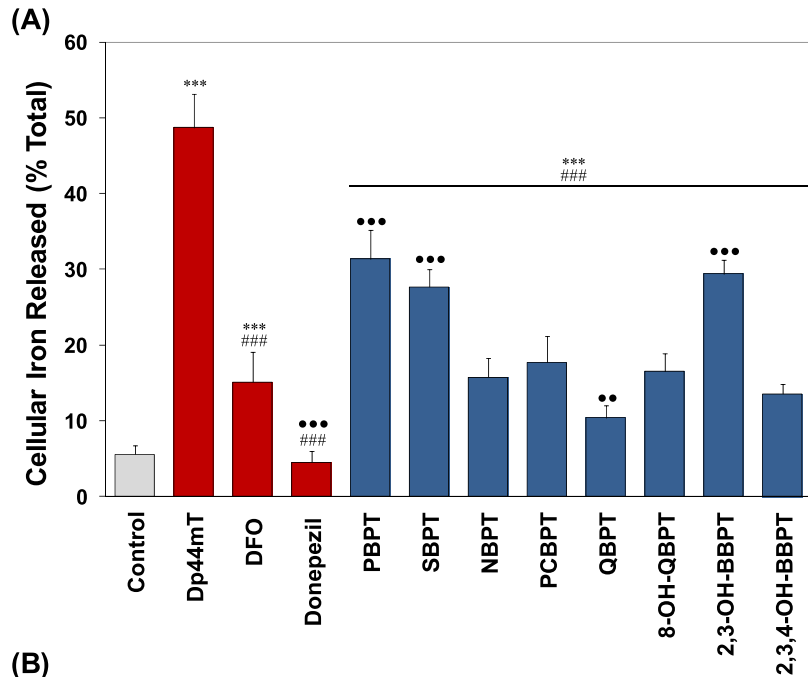
Inhibition of AChE activity



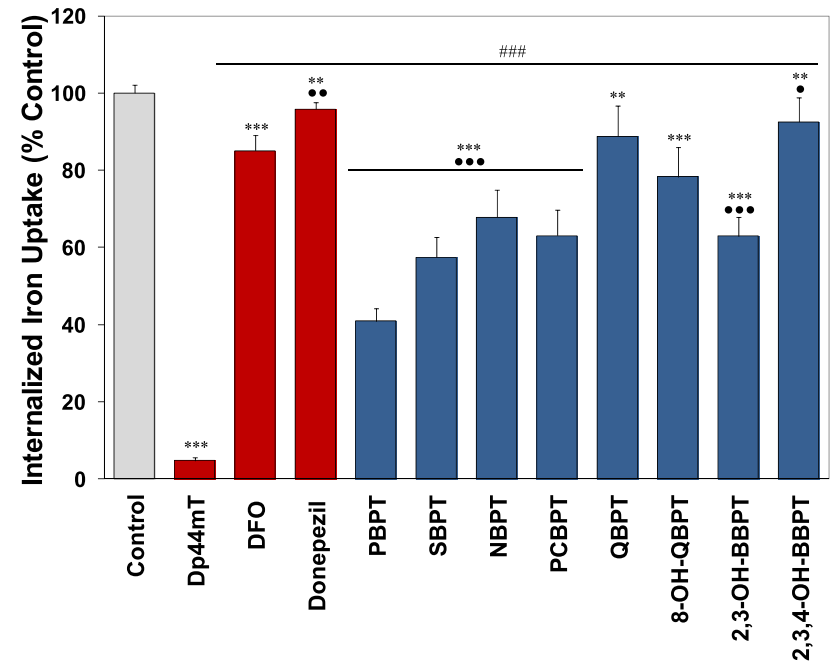
Multi-target drug BPT

Chelation of redox-active metals

- ^{59}Fe release from prelabeled cells



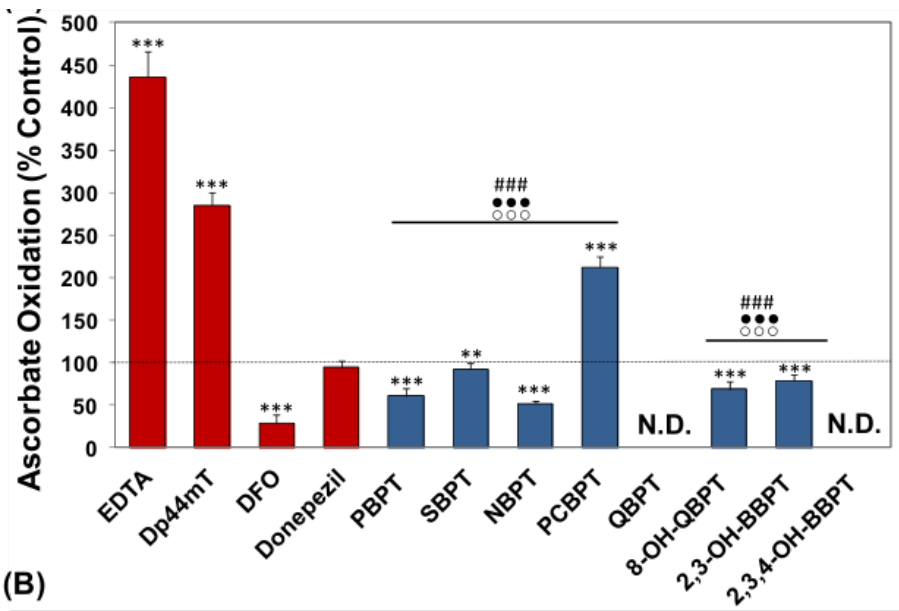
- Inhibiting ^{59}Fe uptake from ^{59}Fe -Transferrin



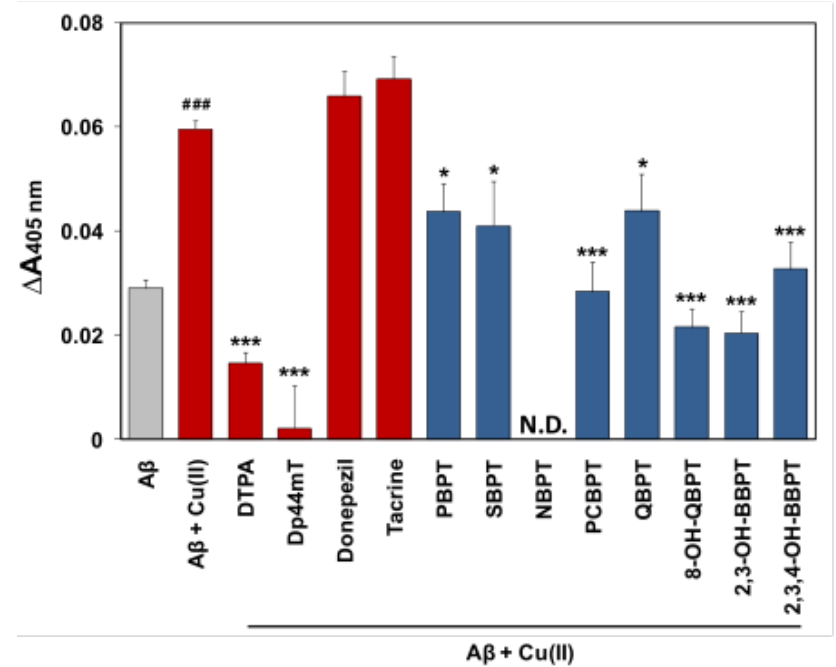
Multi-target drug BPT

Chelation of redox-active metals

- The effect on ascorbate oxidation

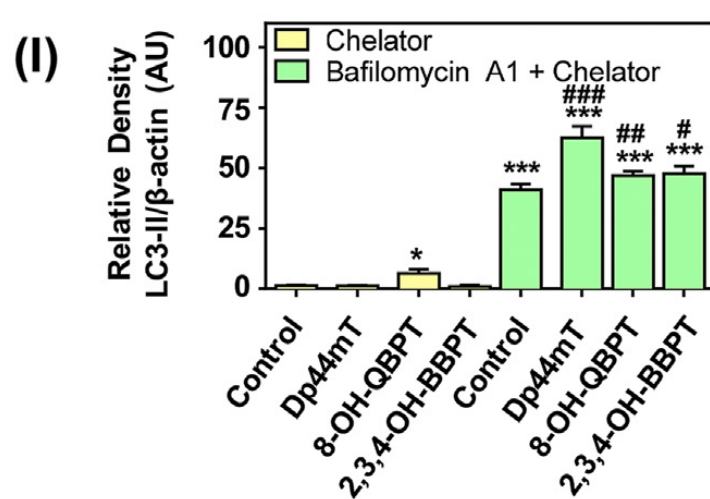
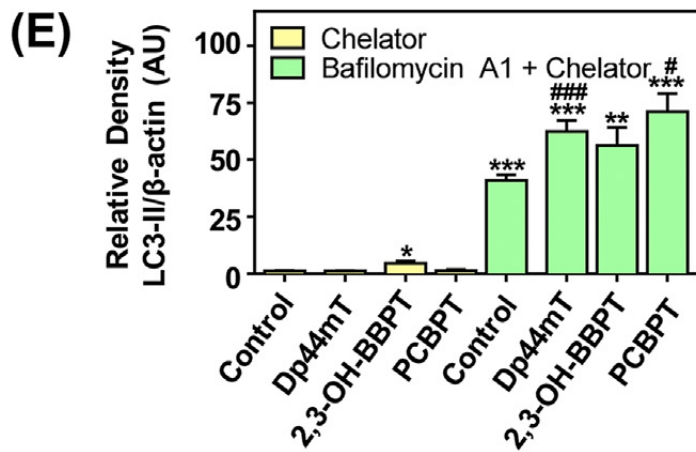
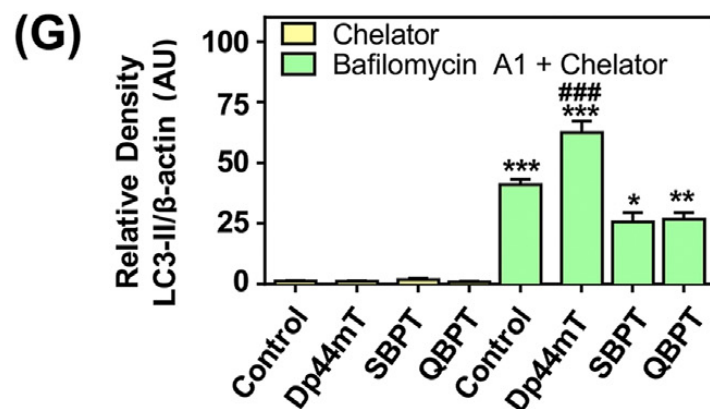
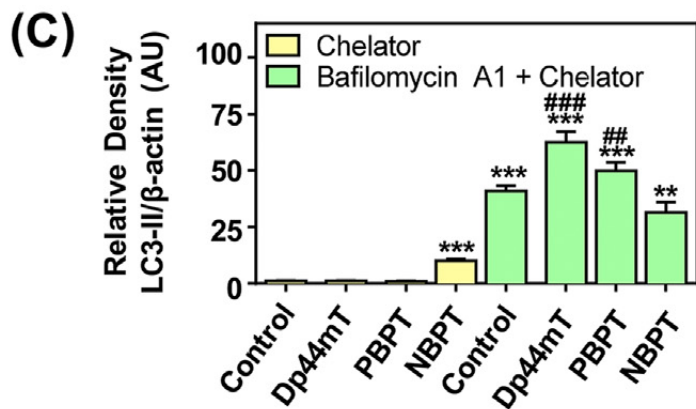


- Inhibiting copper-mediated Ab1-40 aggregation



Multi-target drug BPT

Induction of autophagy



Multi-target drug BPT

BBB permeability

- Evaluation of physicochemical parameters to cross the blood brain barrier (BBB)
 1. Lipinski's Rule of Five (Oral bioavailability)
 - Hydrogen bond donors (OH and NH) ≤ 5
 - Hydrogen bond acceptors (N and O) ≤ 10
 - Molecular weight ≤ 500
 - LogP ≤ 5
 2. Successful CNS agents
 - Topological polar surface area $< 90 \text{ \AA}^2$
 - $2 < \text{cLogP} < 5$
 - LogBB > -1 (LogBB = $-0.0148 \times \text{TPSA} + 0.152 \times \text{cLogP} + 0.139$)

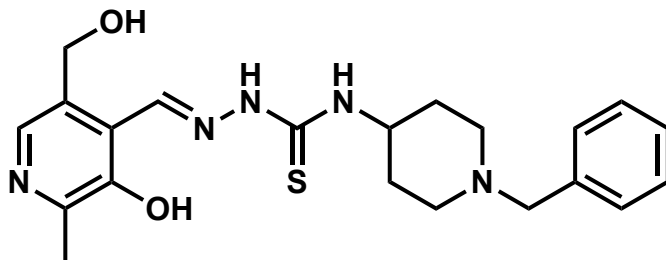
Compound	M.W ^a	LogP ^a	HBA (N+O)	HBD (NH+OH)	Rot. bonds ^b	TPSA ^a	cLogP ^a	LogBB ^c
Tacrine	198.27	2.91	2	2	0	38.38	3.27	0.07
Donepezil	379.50	4.01	4	0	6	38.77	4.60	0.26
PBPT	413.54	2.30	7	4	8	92.48	2.69	-0.82
SBPT	368.50	3.51	5	3	7	59.89	3.79	-0.17
NBPT	418.56	4.51	5	3	7	59.89	4.97	0.01
PCBPT	353.49	2.98	5	2	7	52.02	2.43	-0.26
QBPT	403.55	4.41	5	2	7	52.02	3.81	-0.05
8-OH-QBPT	419.55	4.02	6	3	7	72.25	3.91	-0.34
2,3-OH-BBPT	384.50	3.12	6	4	7	80.12	3.42	-0.53
2,3,4-OH-BBPT	400.50	2.73	7	5	7	100.35	2.82	-0.92
Required Parameters ^d	≤ 500	≤ 5	≤ 10	≤ 5	≤ 10	< 90	2-5	> -1

Palanimuthu, D.; Poon, R.; Sahni, S.; Anjum, R.; Hibbs, D.; Lin, H.Y.; Bernhardt, P.V.; Kalinowski, D.S.; Richardson, D.R., *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* **2017**, *139*, 612.

D.E. Clark, *J. Pharm. Sci.*, **1999**, *88*, 815.

Multi-target drug BPT

Summary of Multi-Target Drug Therapy



pyridoxal 4-(1-benzylpiperidin-4-yl)thiosemicarbazone (PBPT)

- PBPT is best of the 8 compounds.
- Low anti-proliferative activity.
- Moderate AChE inhibitory activity.
- Favorable iron chelation properties.
- The inhibition of Fe(III)-mediated ascorbate oxidation.
- The inhibition of Cu(II)-mediated aggregation of Ab1-40.
- Increase autophagic initiation.
- The physicochemical properties of PBPT are favorable for CNS permeation.

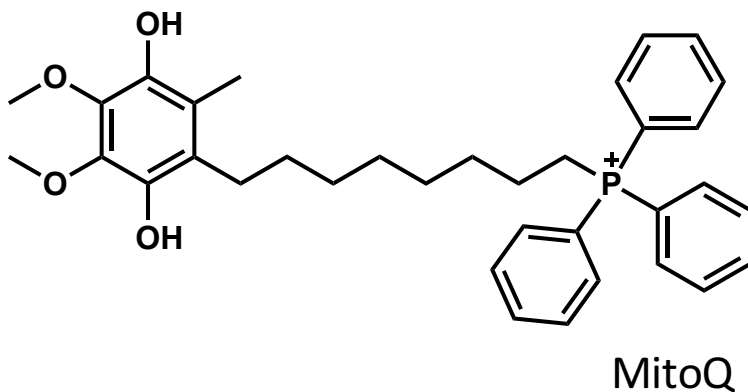
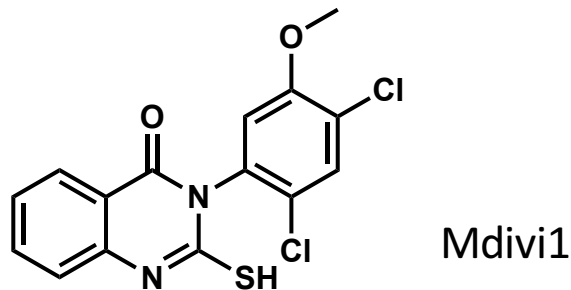
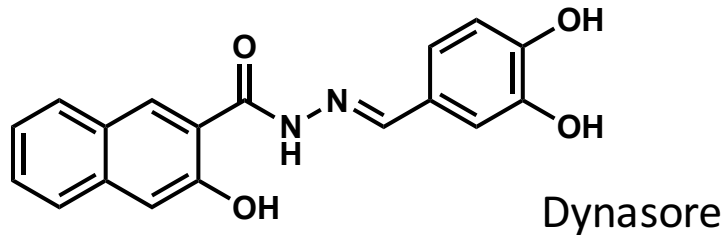


Lead compound with promising multi-functional activity to treat the complex pathology associated with AD.

Mitochondrial dysfunction target drug DDQ

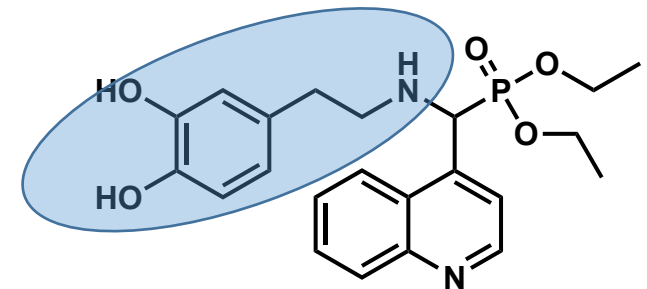
Design strategy of Mitochondrial dysfunction target drug

- Existing Drp1 inhibiting drugs



- New Drp1 inhibiting drugs

Dopamine based structure

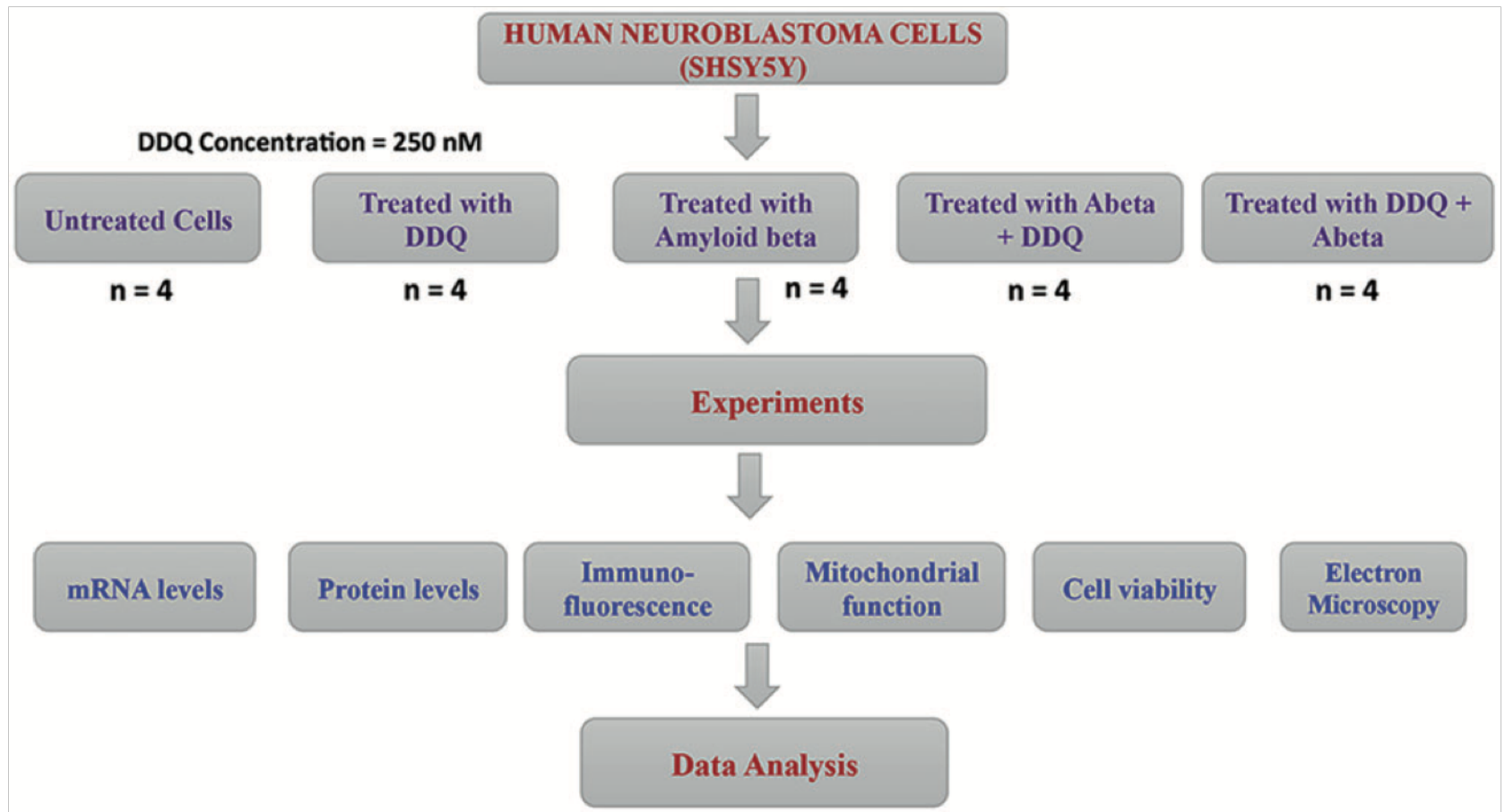


Diethyl (3,4-dihydroxyphenethylamino) (quinolin-4-yl)methylphosphonate (DDQ)

Ligand	Docking Score (Kcal/mol)
DDQ	-10.8462
MitoQ	-9.8205
Dynasore	-9.0080
Midvi1	-7.0117

Mitochondrial dysfunction target drug DDQ

Experimental design



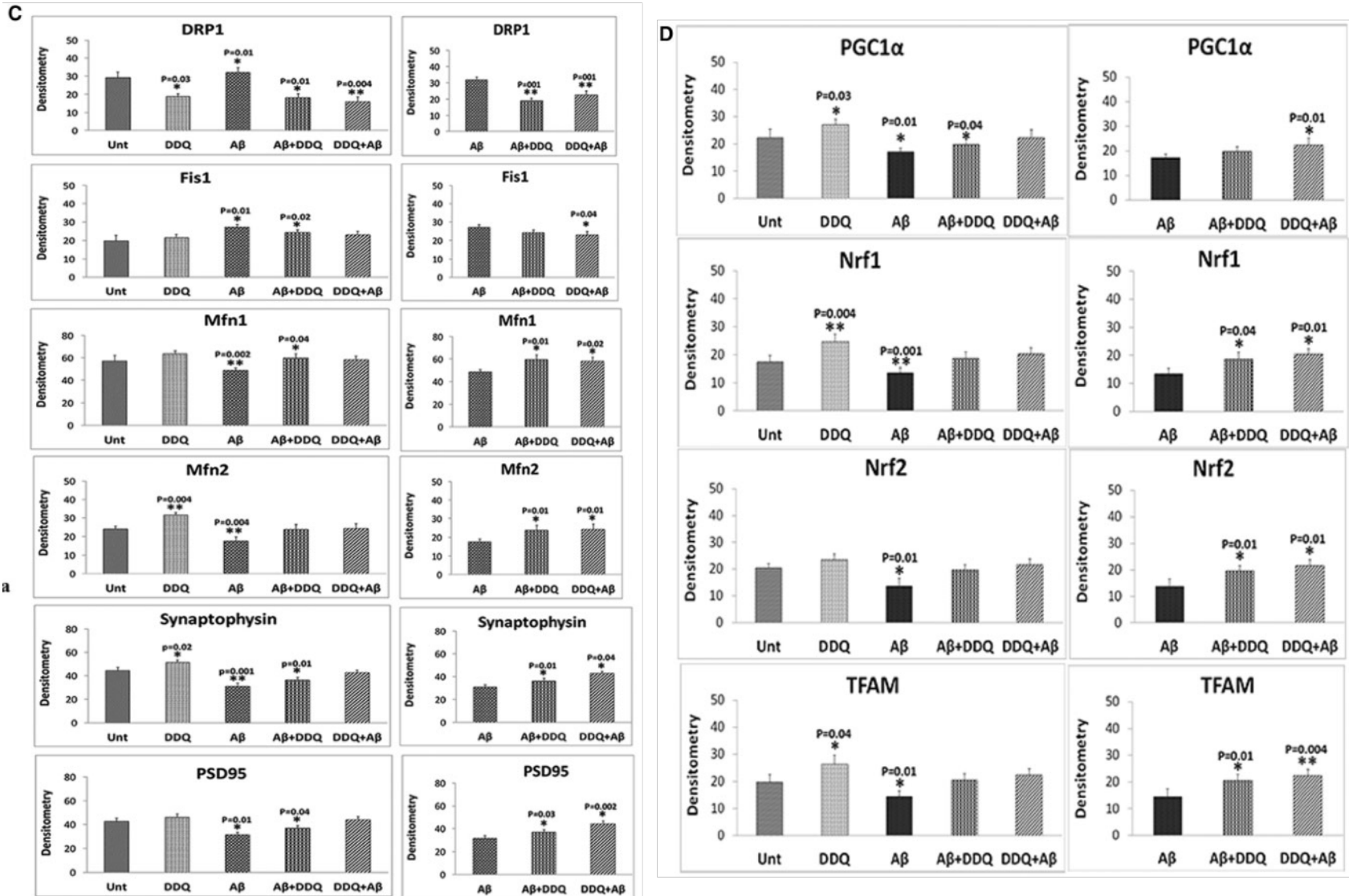
Mitochondrial dysfunction target drug DDQ

mRNA levels

Genes	mRNA fold changes compare with untreated cells				mRNA fold changes compare with A β -treated cells	
	DDQ	A β	A β +DDQ	DDQ+A β	A β +DDQ	DDQ+A β
Mitochondrial Structural genes						
Drp1	-2.2*	2.2**	1.9*	-2.1*	-1.7*	-4.6***
Fis1	-4.4***	1.7*	-1.2	-1.3	-2.0*	-2.5*
Mfn1	1.7*	-2.3**	1.4	1.2	3.3**	2.9**
Mfn2	2.3**	-2.6**	1.3	1.1	3.4**	2.9**
Synaptic genes						
Synaptophysin	1.4*	-3.7***	-2.4*	-1.6*	1.6*	2.4*
PSD95	1.4*	-2.5**	-1.4*	-1.2	1.8*	2.1*
Synapsin1	1.0	-1.9*	1.1	1.3	2.1*	2.5*
Synapsin2	1.7*	-1.4*	1.1	1.8*	2.4*	2.9**
Synaptobrevin1	1.0	-2.4**	-1.1	-1.4	2.0*	1.7*
Synaptobrevin2	1.3	-2.3*	1.0	1.0	2.1*	2.3*
Synaptopodin	1.0	-2.3**	-1.1	-1.1	2.0*	2.1*
GAP43	1.2	-1.9**	1.1	1.1	1.7*	1.7*
Mitochondrial Biogenesis genes						
PGC1a	1.5*	-4.4**	-1.8*	-1.1	2.5*	3.9**
Nrf1	1.9*	-4.1**	-1.7*	1.1	2.6**	4.9***
Nrf2	2.7*	-2.8*	-1.3	-1.1	2.1*	2.6*
TFAM	1.7*	-4.6***	-2.0*	-1.5*	2.3*	3.2**

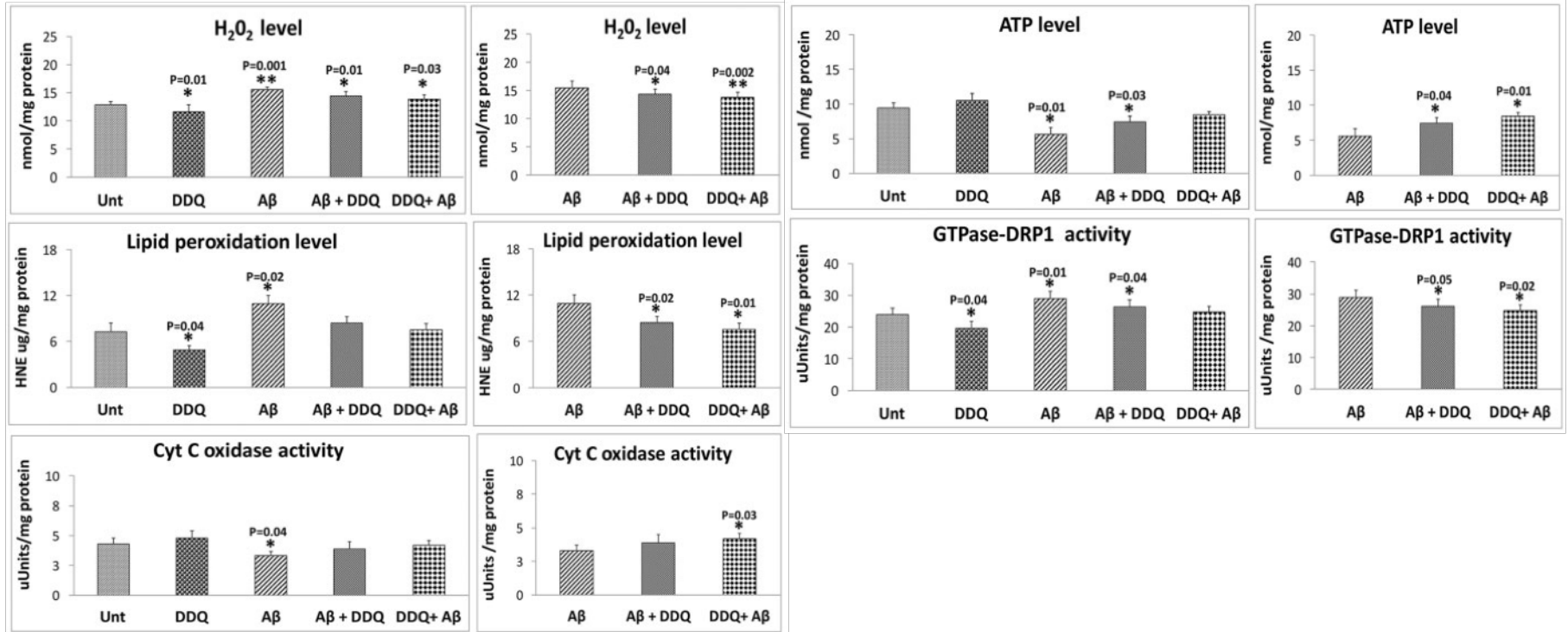
Mitochondrial dysfunction target drug DDQ

Protein levels



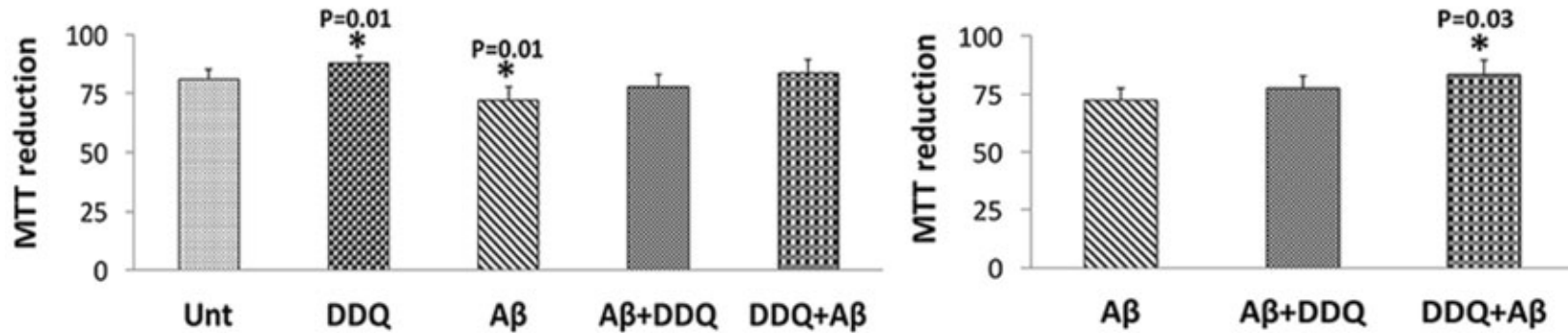
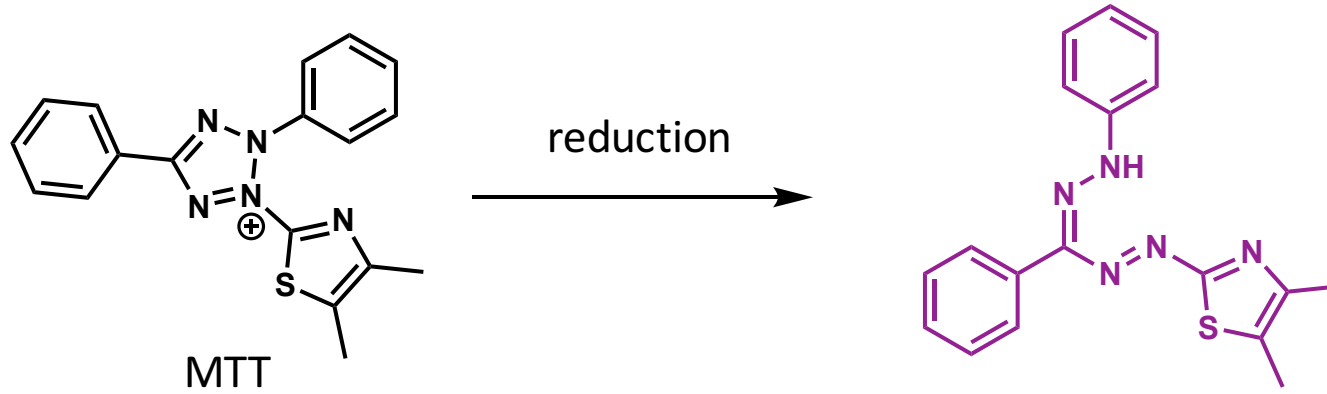
Mitochondrial dysfunction target drug DDQ

Mitochondrial functional assays



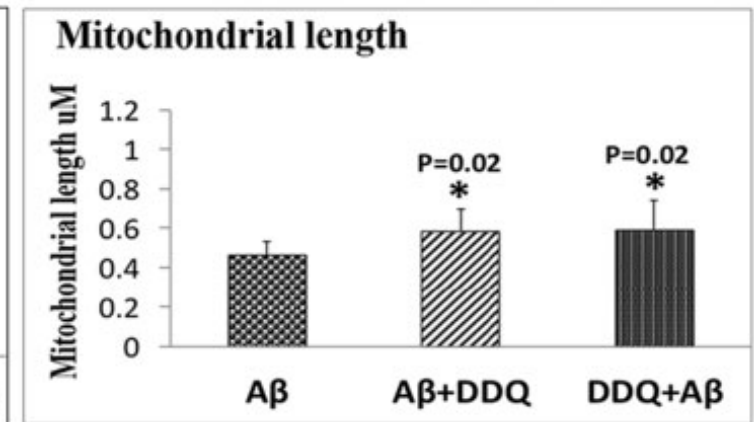
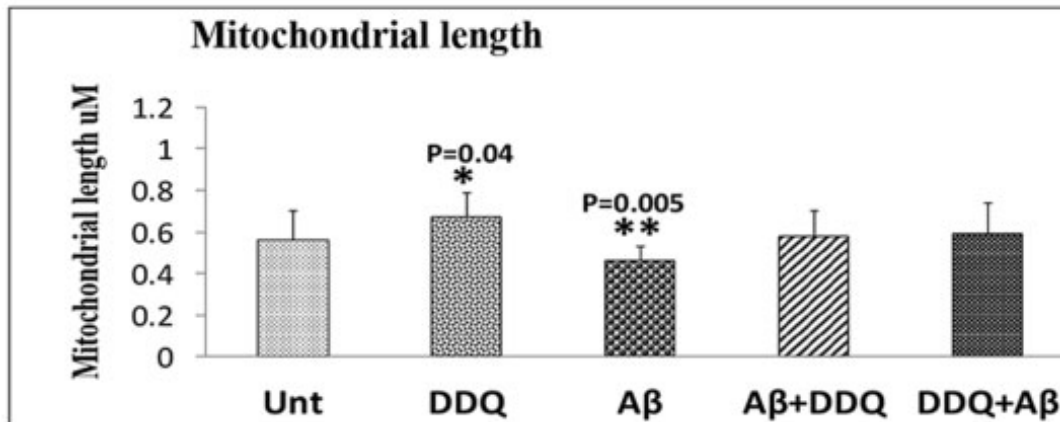
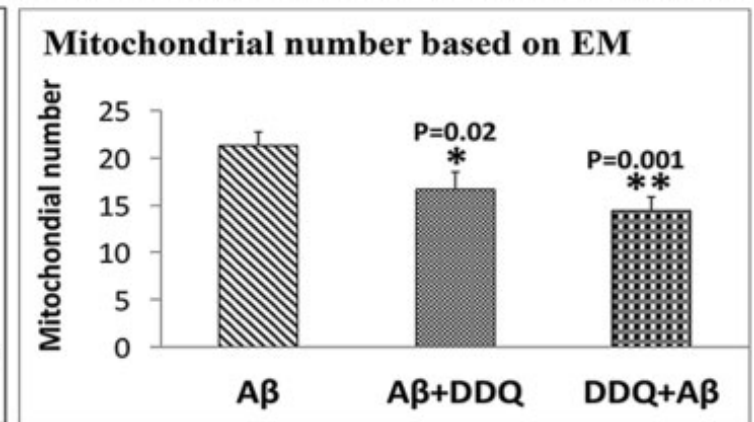
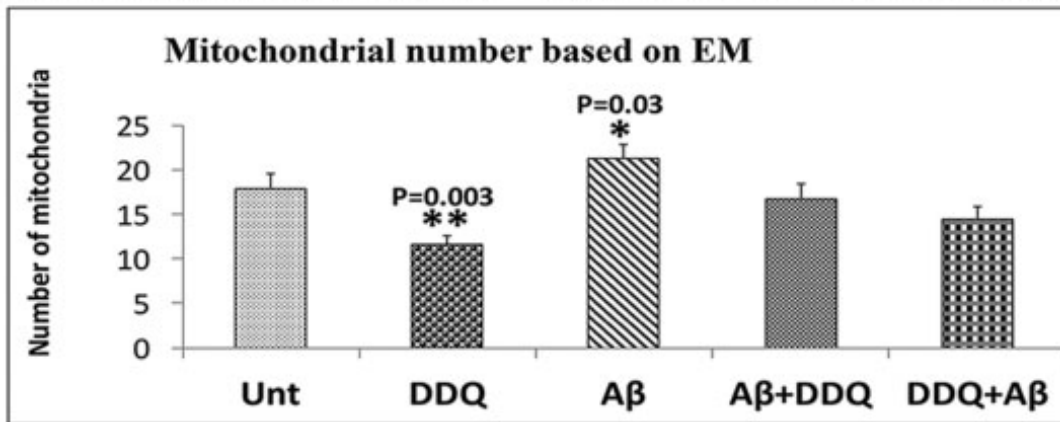
Mitochondrial dysfunction target drug DDQ

Cell viability analysis



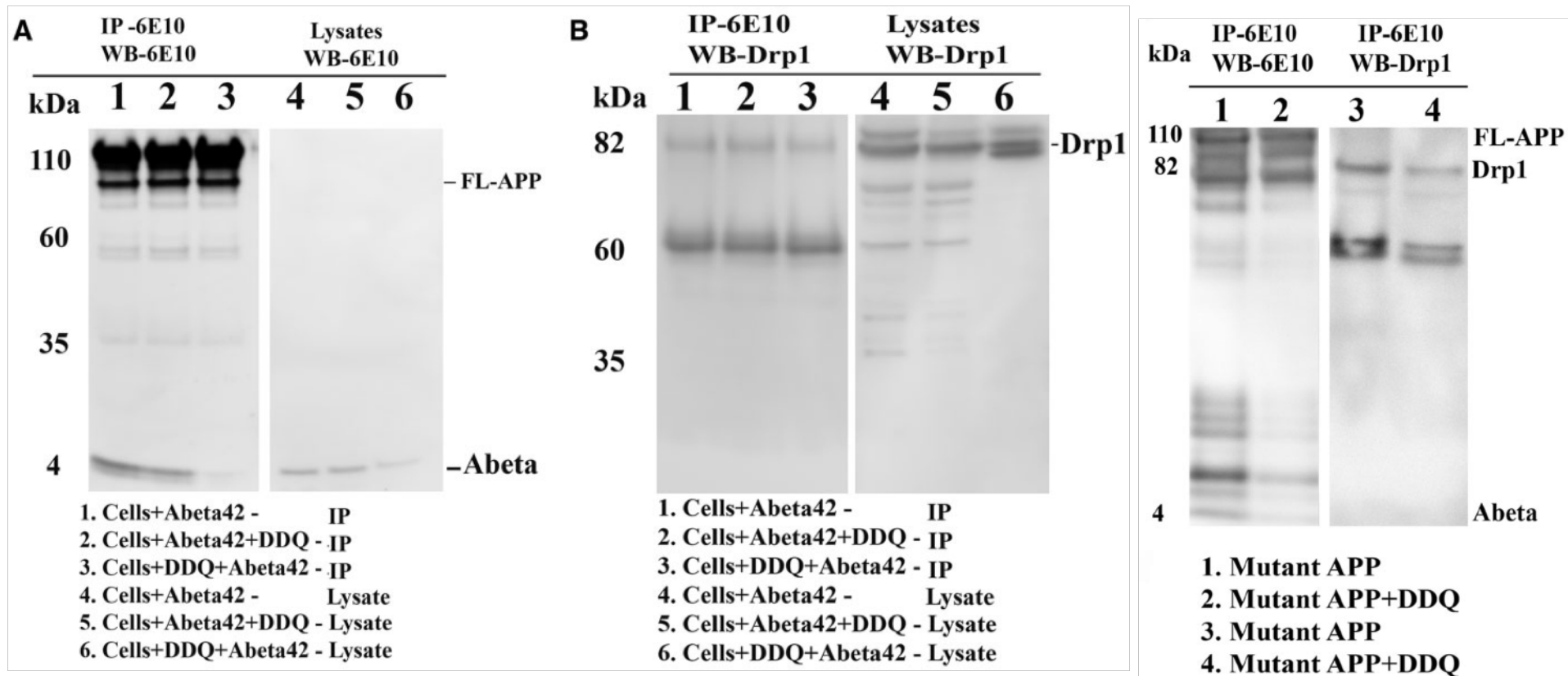
Mitochondrial dysfunction target drug DDQ

Transmission electron microscopy



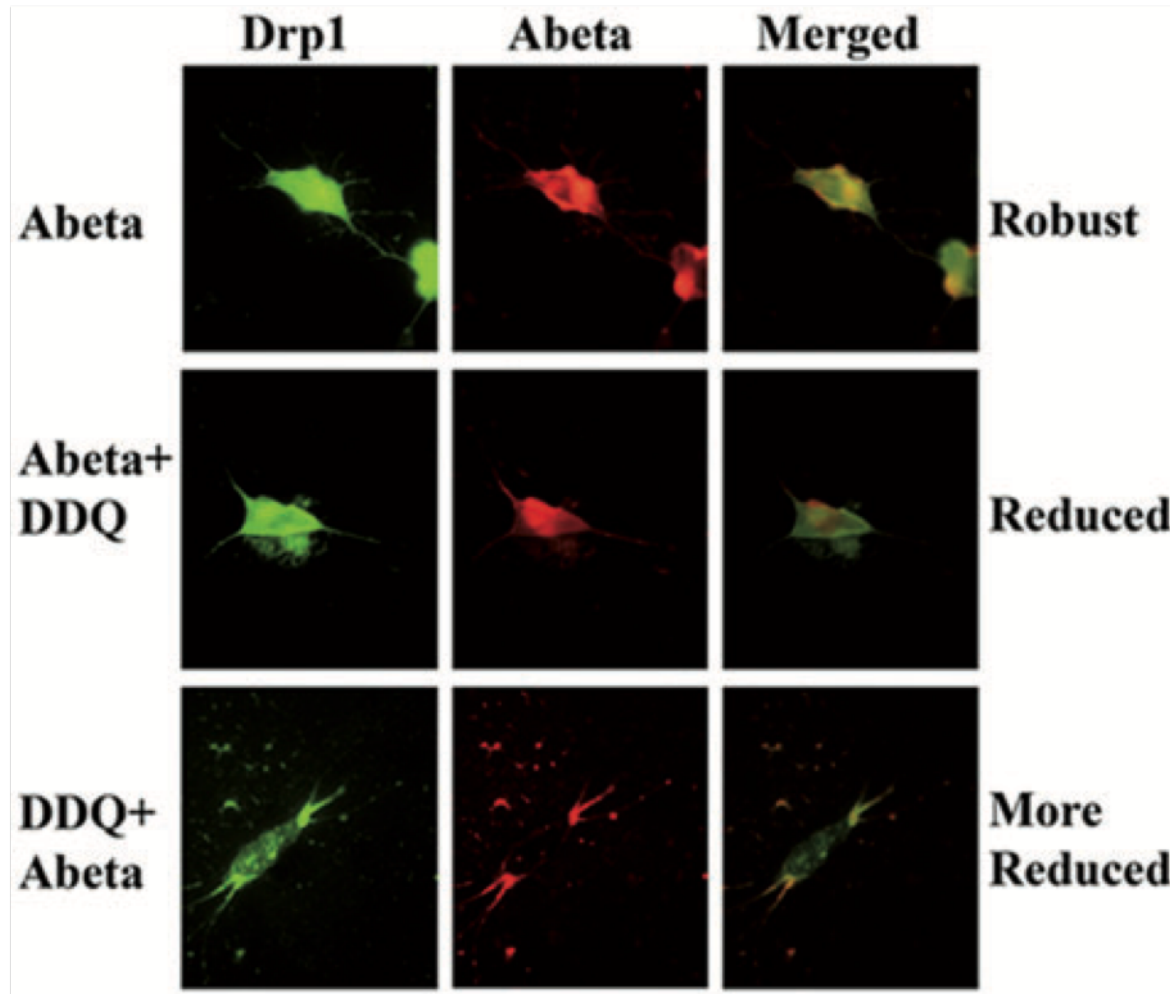
Mitochondrial dysfunction target drug DDQ

Interaction between A β and Drp1



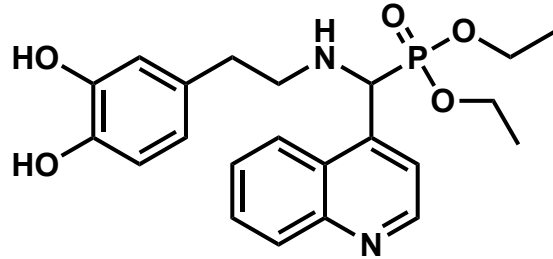
Mitochondrial dysfunction target drug DDQ

The localization of Drp1 and A β



Mitochondrial dysfunction target drug DDQ

Summary of DDQ



Diethyl (3,4-dihydroxyphenethylamino)
(quinolin-4-yl)methylphosphonate (DDQ)

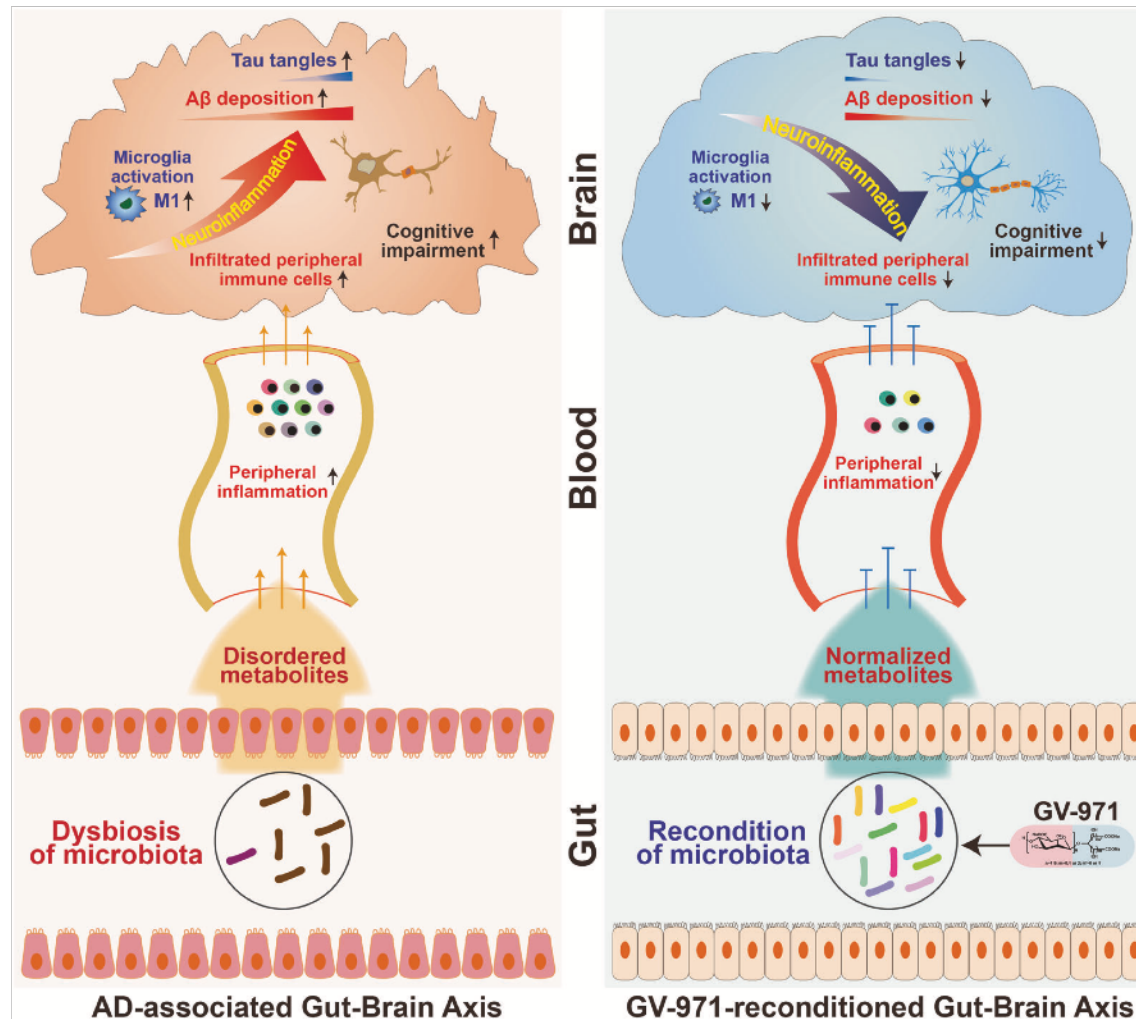
- Bound at Ab and Drp1 interacting sites to Inhibit Ab and Drp1 complex formation
- showed better docking score.
- Enhanced fusion activity, reduced fission machinery, and increased mitochondrial biogenesis and synaptic activities.
- Reduces the levels of Ab and Drp1 and interaction between Ab and Drp1.
- Maintains mitochondrial function and cell viability.
- DDQ can reduce the negative effects of A β
- Prevention is better than treatment.



Promising molecule to treat AD neurons.

Approved novel AD treatment

AD & gut microbiota

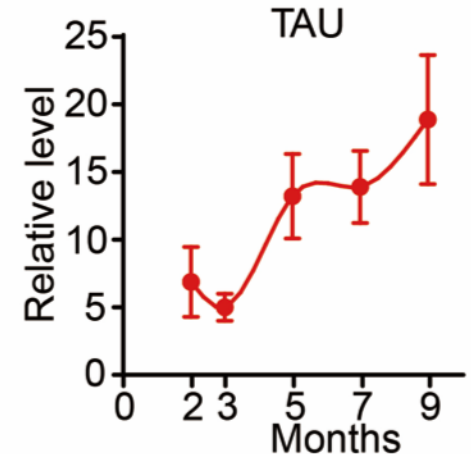
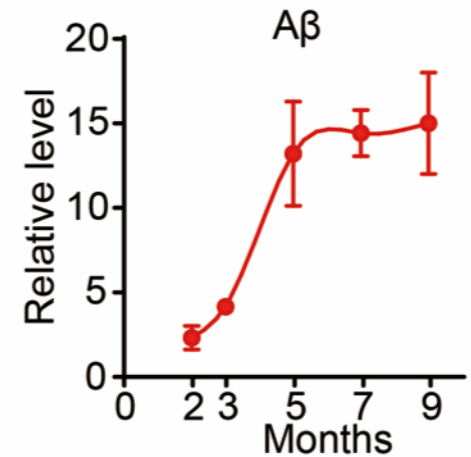
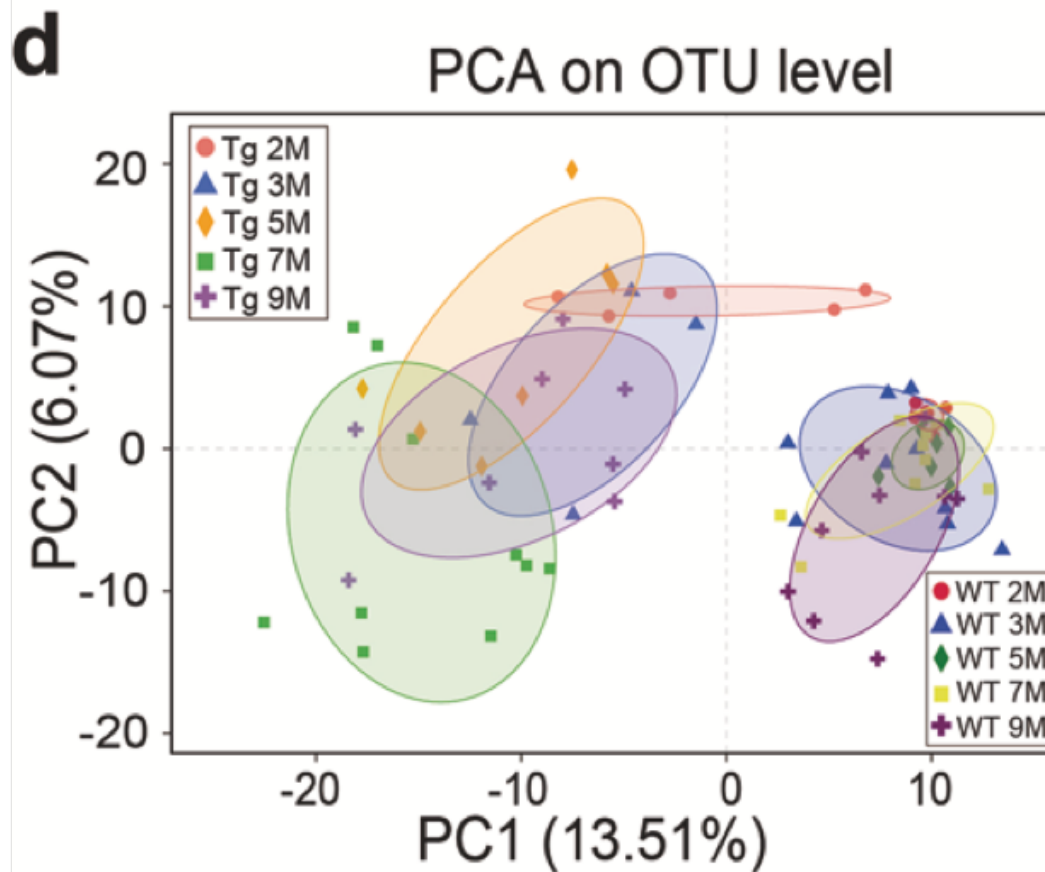


Approved novel AD treatment

AD progression is associated with the alteration of gut microbiota

- The gut microbiome composition of WT and Tg mice

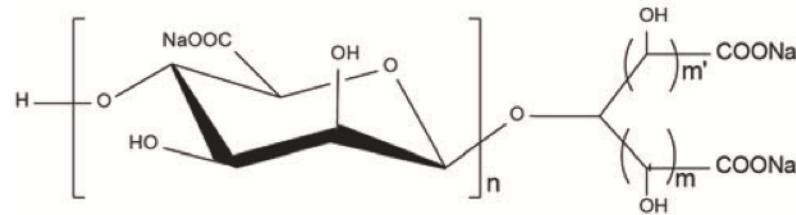
- A β & Tau level of Tg mice



Approved novel AD treatment

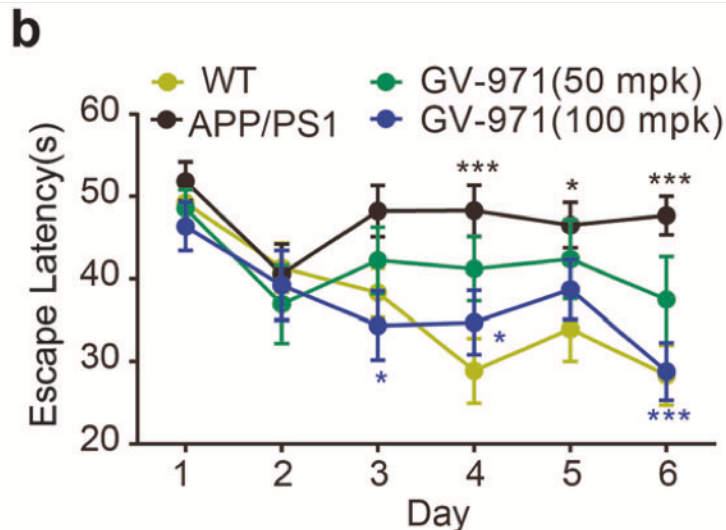
GV-971 exhibits ameliorative effects on cognitive impairment

Structure of GV-971

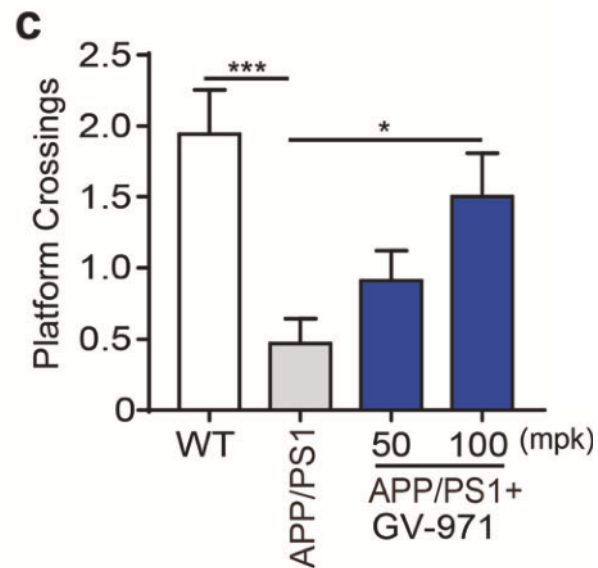


$n=1-9$; $m=0,1$ or 2 ; $m'=0$ or 1

The escape latency time results of the Morris Water Maze



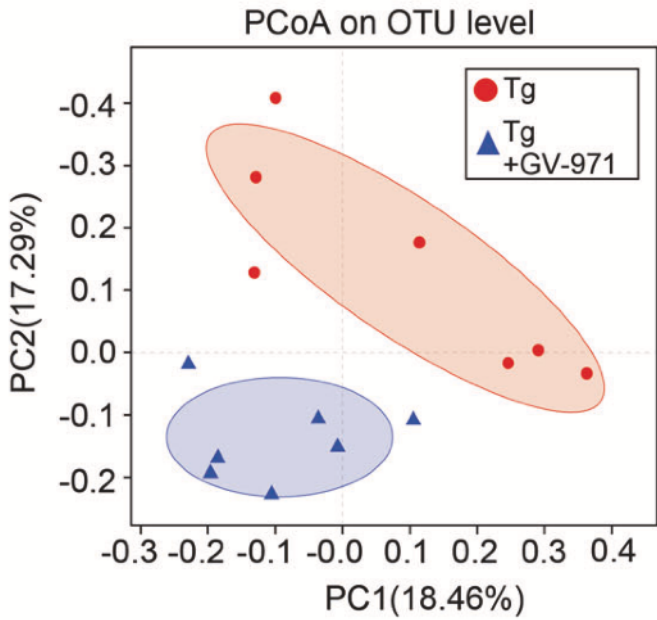
The number of platform-site crossovers in MWM test



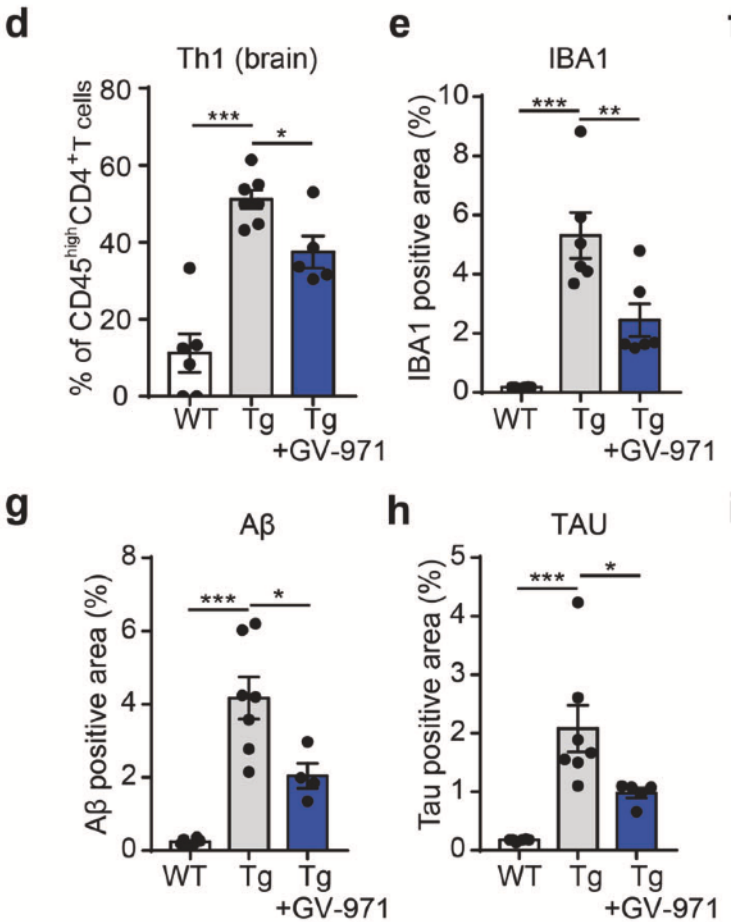
Approved novel AD treatment

GV-971 alleviates neuroinflammation by shaping the gut microbiota

gut microbiota

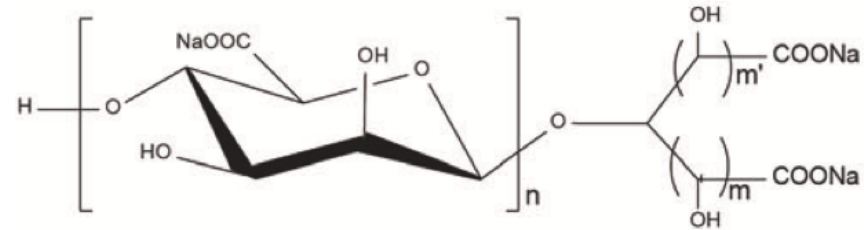


brain



Approved novel AD treatment

oligomannate



$n=1-9$; $m=0,1$ or 2 ; $m'=0$ or 1

(Shanghai Green Valley Pharmaceuticals)

2003 Memantine was approved



2019 Oligomannate was approved in China

2020 The Phase 3 clinical trial in U.S.A & Europe

Contents

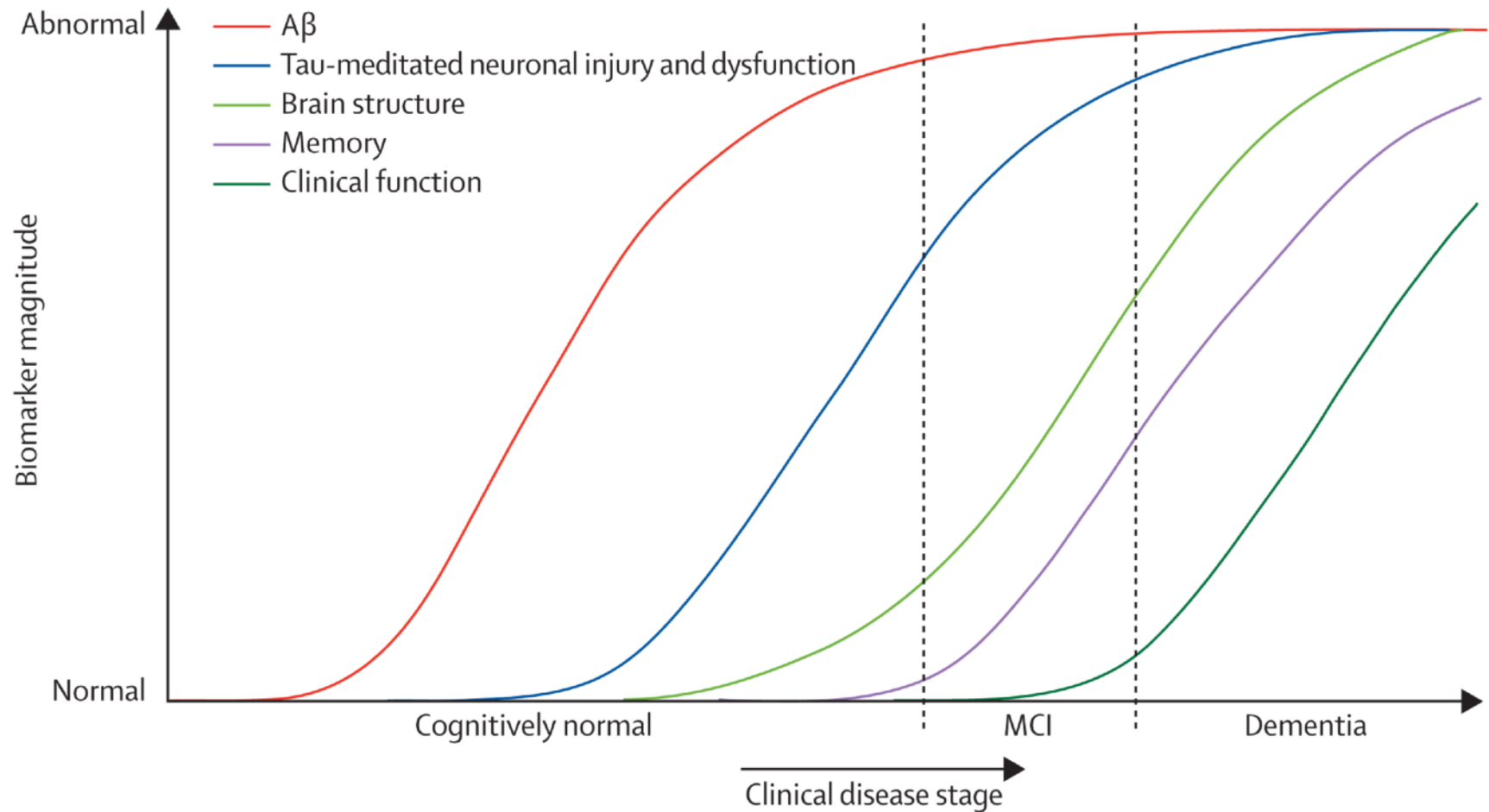
1. Introduction
2. AD pathology
3. AD pathology-based therapeutic target
4. Summary

Summary

- In addition to A β and tau, multiple factors are involved in Alzheimer's disease.
- Drug discovery research on various causative factors of Alzheimer's disease is being conducted.

Appendix

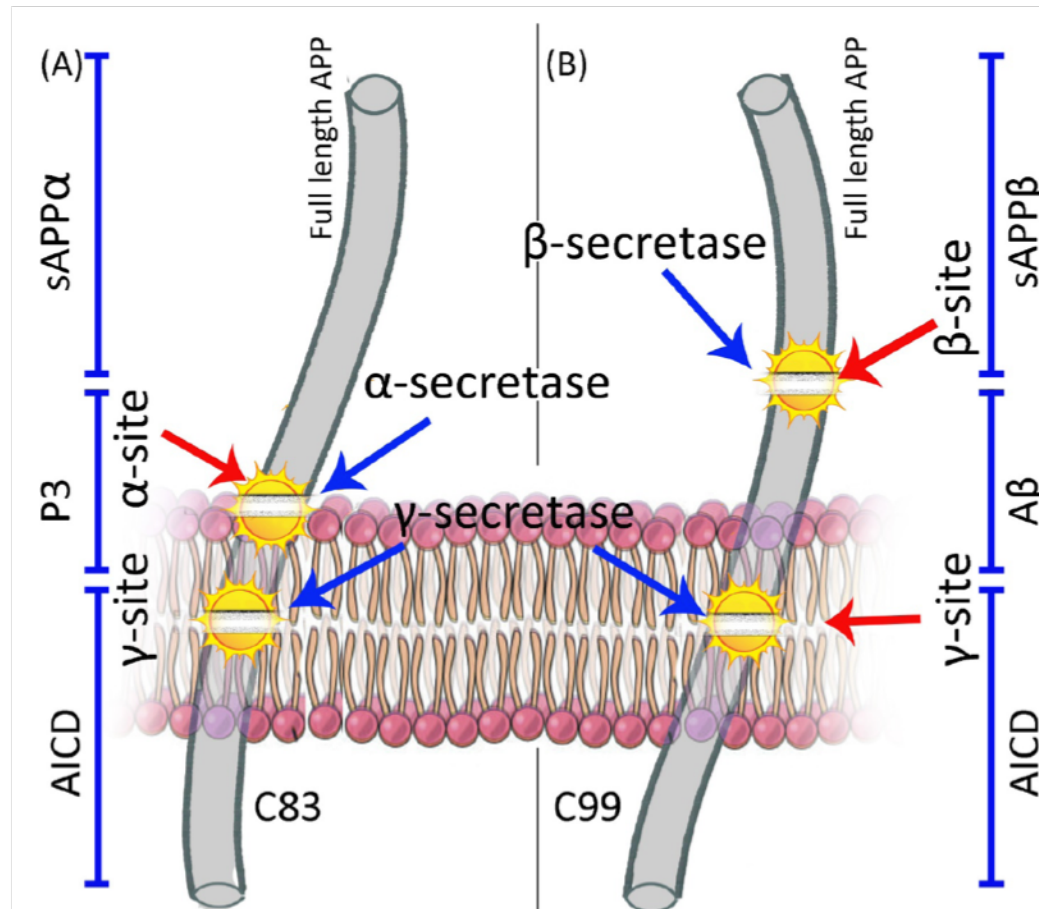
Dynamic biomarkers of the Alzheimer's pathological cascade



John Q Trojanowski, *et al.*, *Lancet Neurol.*, **2010**, *9*, 119.

Appendix

Proteolytic cleavage of APP



Dileep K. Vijayan, and Remya C, *Current Drug Targets*, **2019**, 20, 148.

PJ Ward, *et al.*, *Science*, **1990**, 248, 1122.

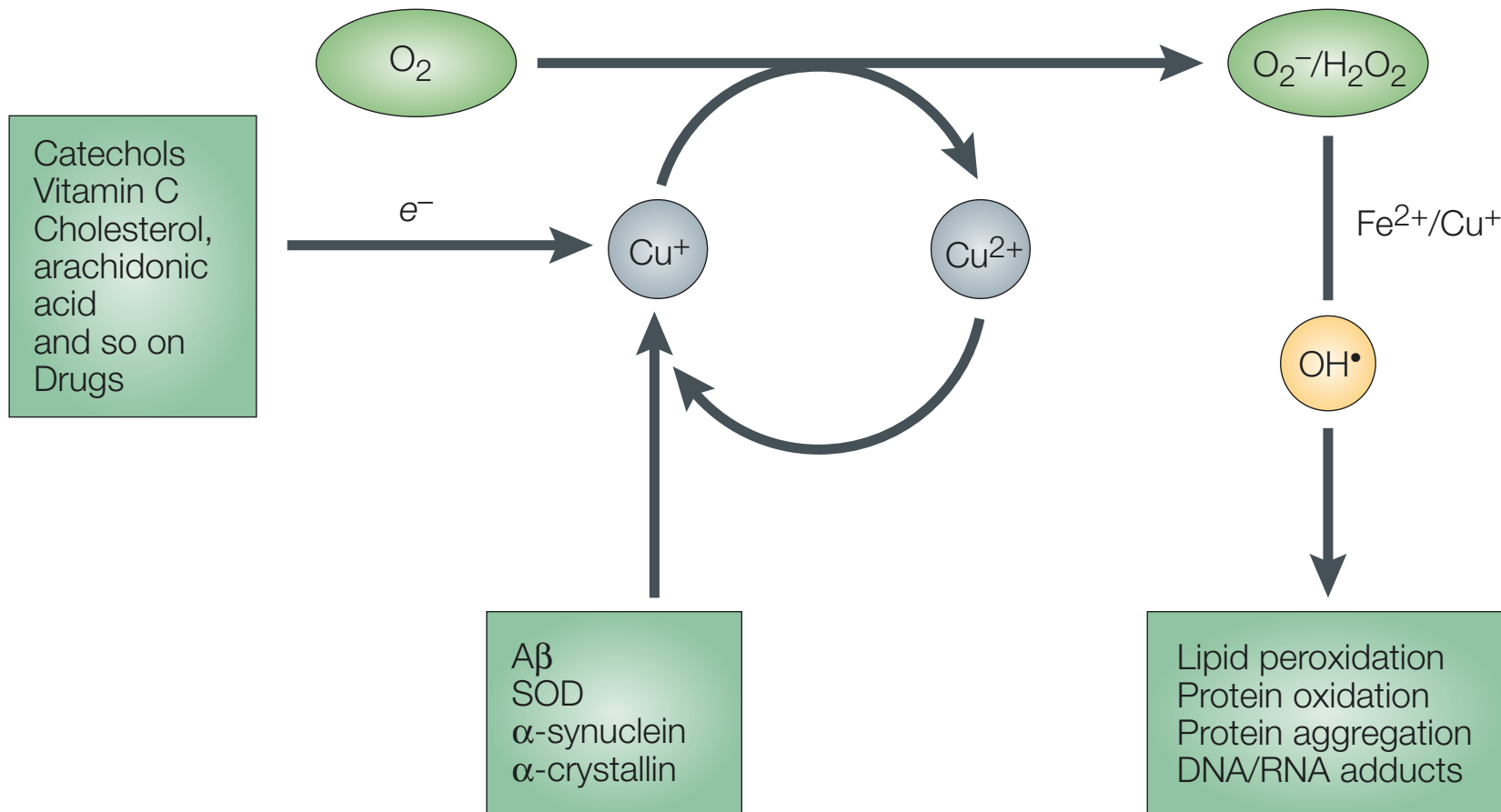
BA Yankner, *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.*, **1999**, 96, 6959.

BA Yankner, *et al.*, *Nat. Natl. Cell Biol.*, **2000**, 2, 463.

W Song, *et al.*, *FASEB J.*, **2006**, 20, 285.

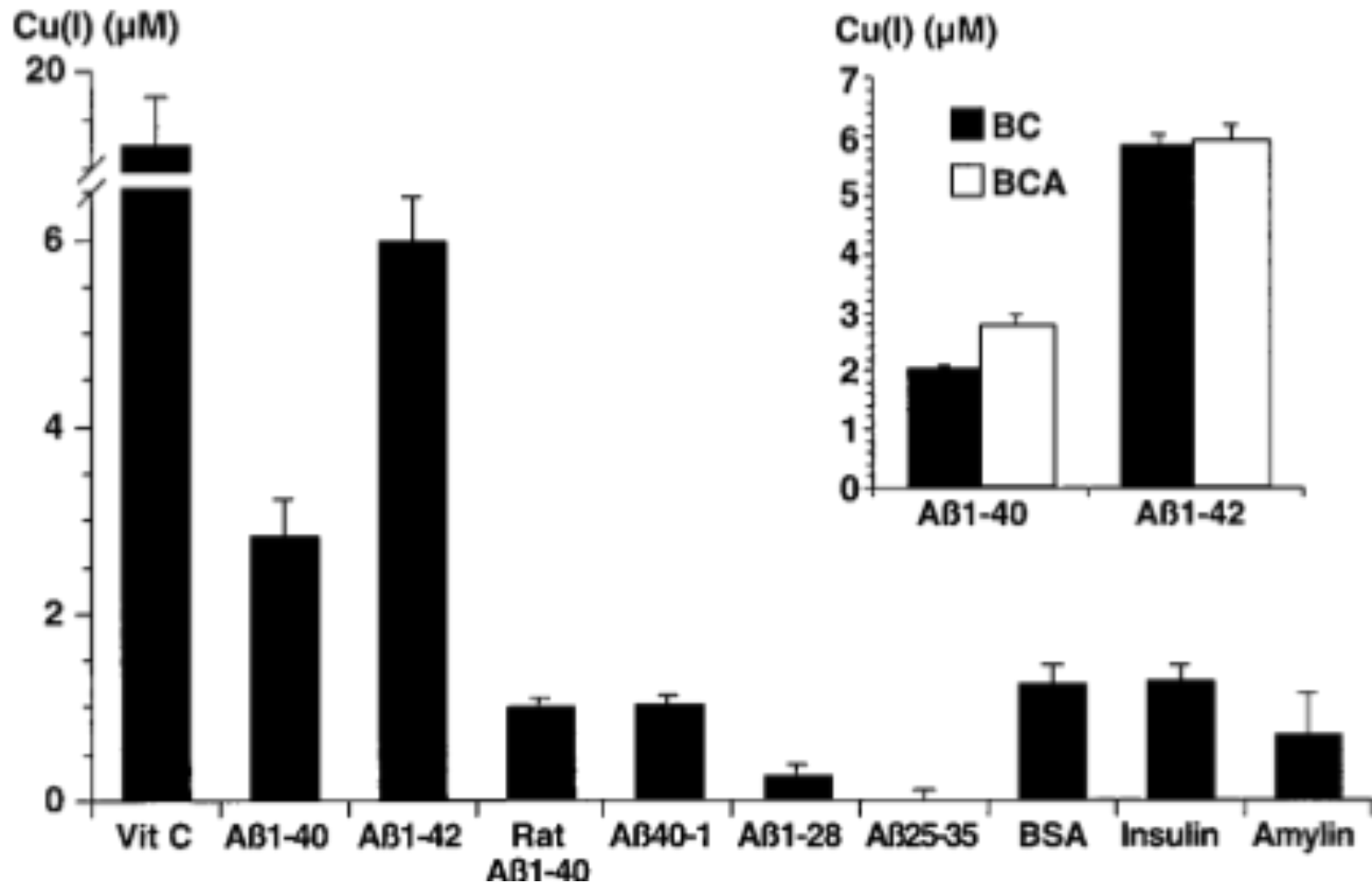
Appendix

Cu & A β generate H₂O₂



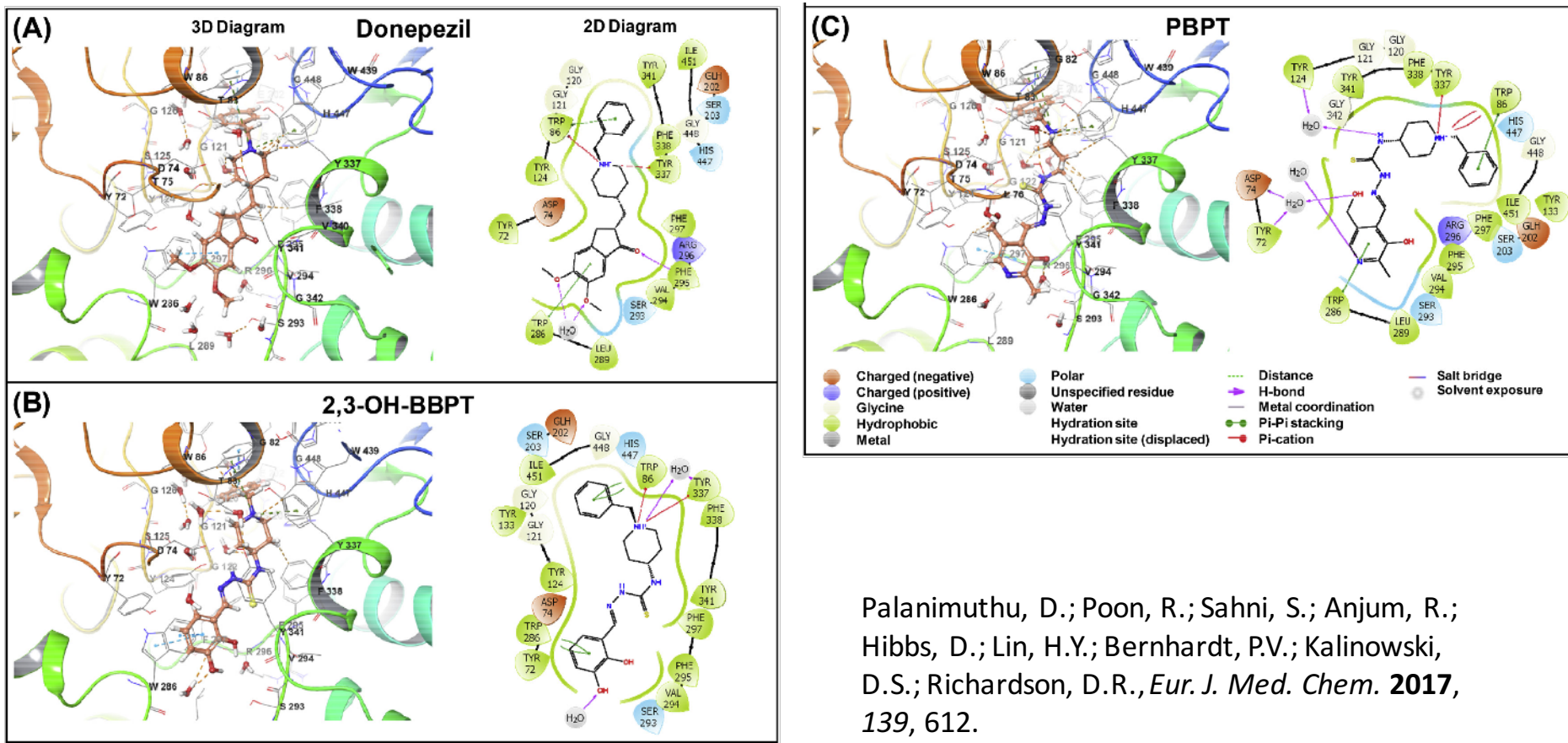
Appendix

A β Reduces Cu(II)



Appendix

3D and 2D docking diagrams showing the binding mode

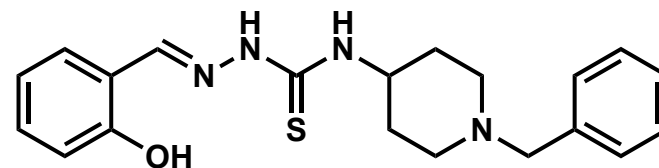
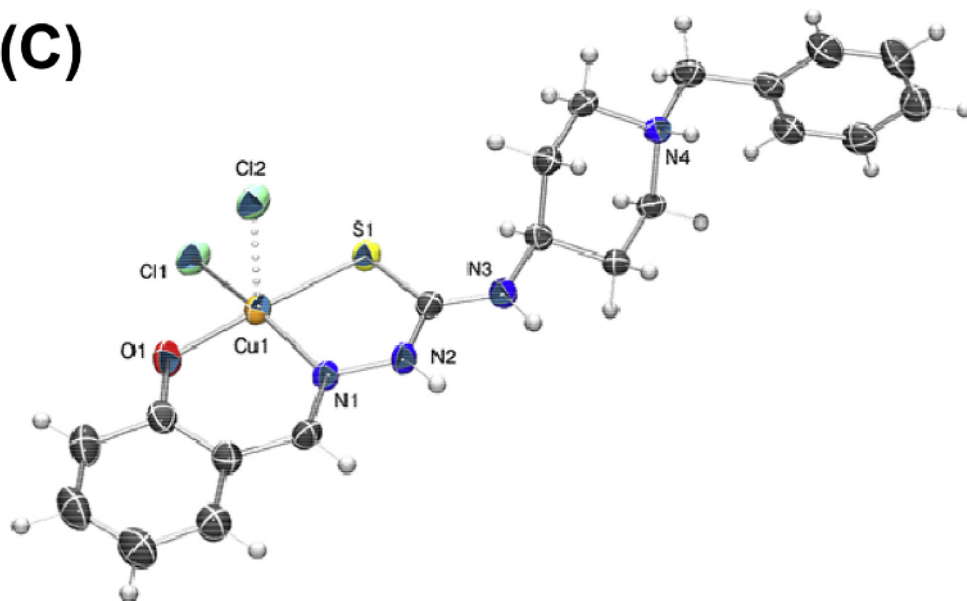


Palanimuthu, D.; Poon, R.; Sahni, S.; Anjum, R.; Hibbs, D.; Lin, H.Y.; Bernhardt, P.V.; Kalinowski, D.S.; Richardson, D.R., *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* **2017**, *139*, 612.

Appendix

X-ray crystal structures of [Cu(SBPT)Cl₂]

(C)

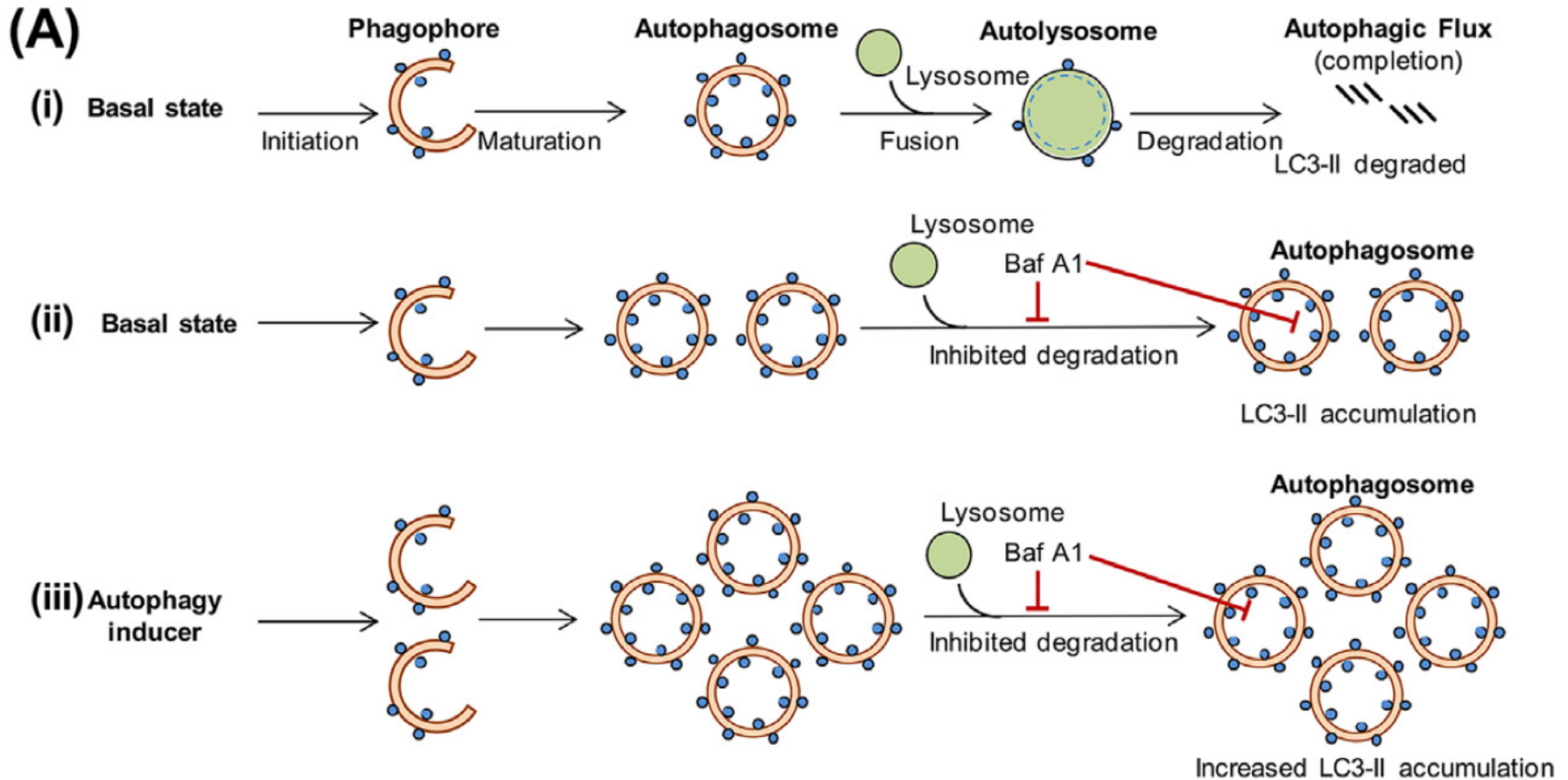


SBPT

Palanimuthu, D.; Poon, R.; Sahni, S.; Anjum, R.; Hibbs, D.; Lin, H.Y.; Bernhardt, P.V.; Kalinowski, D.S.; Richardson, D.R., *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* **2017**, *139*, 612.

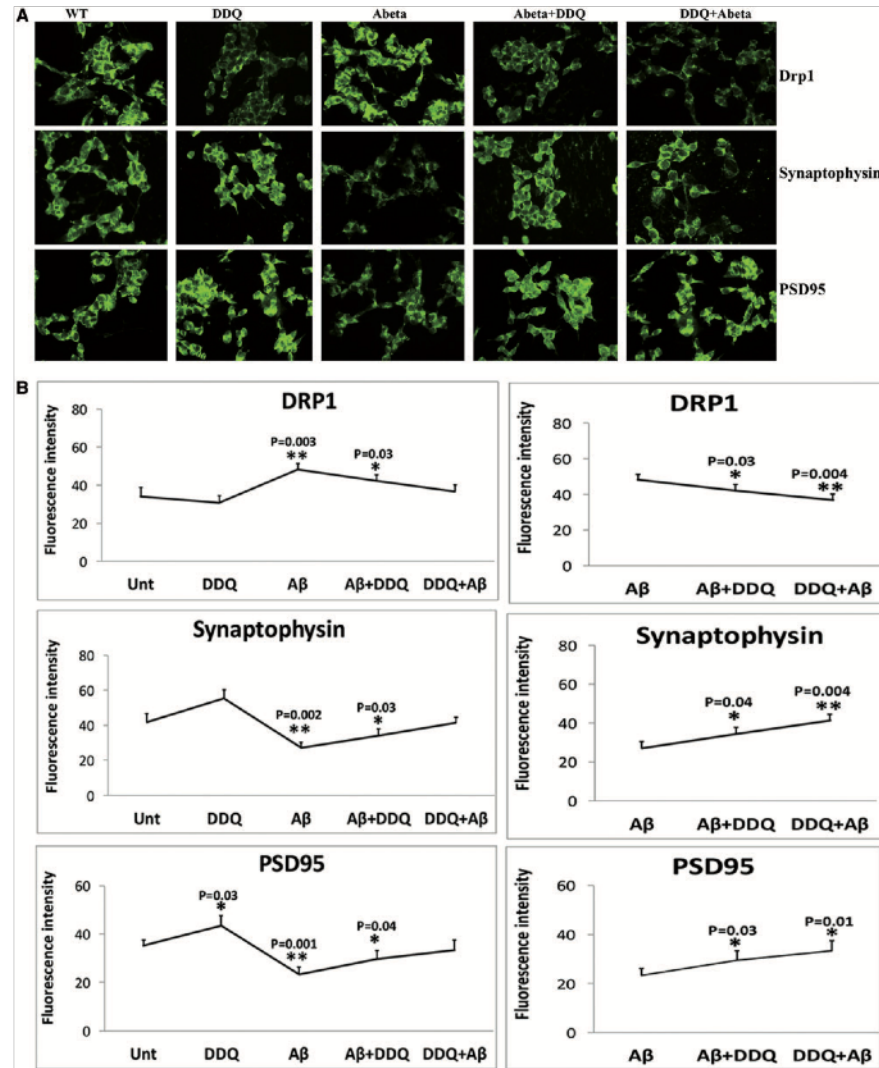
Appendix

Bafilomycin's effect



Appendix

Immunofluorescence analysis (DDQ)

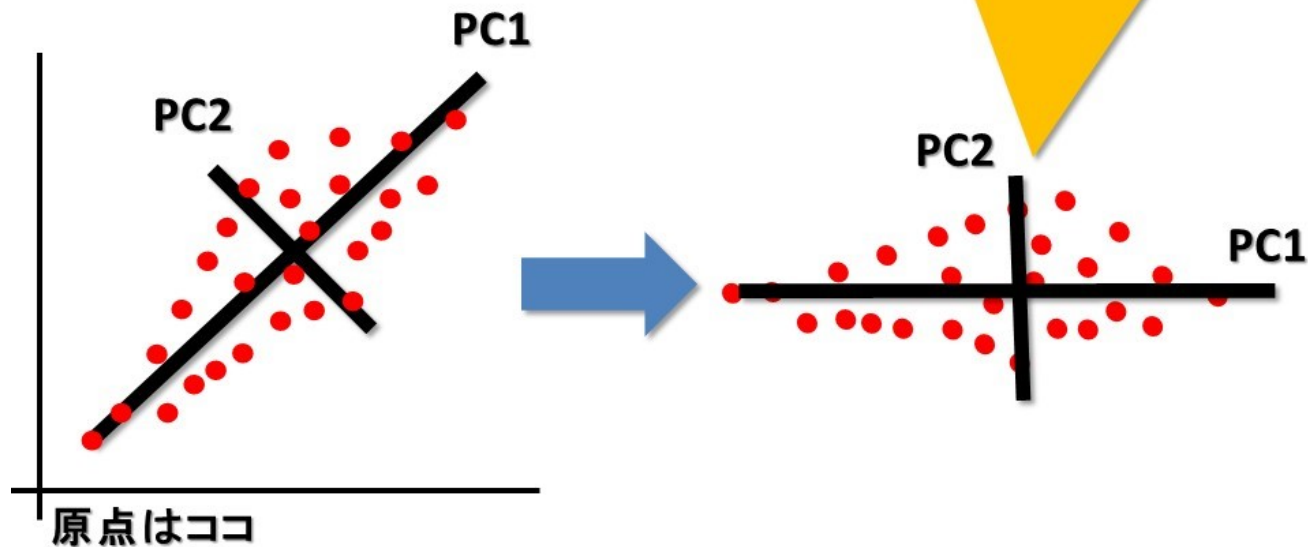


Appendix

Principal component analysis

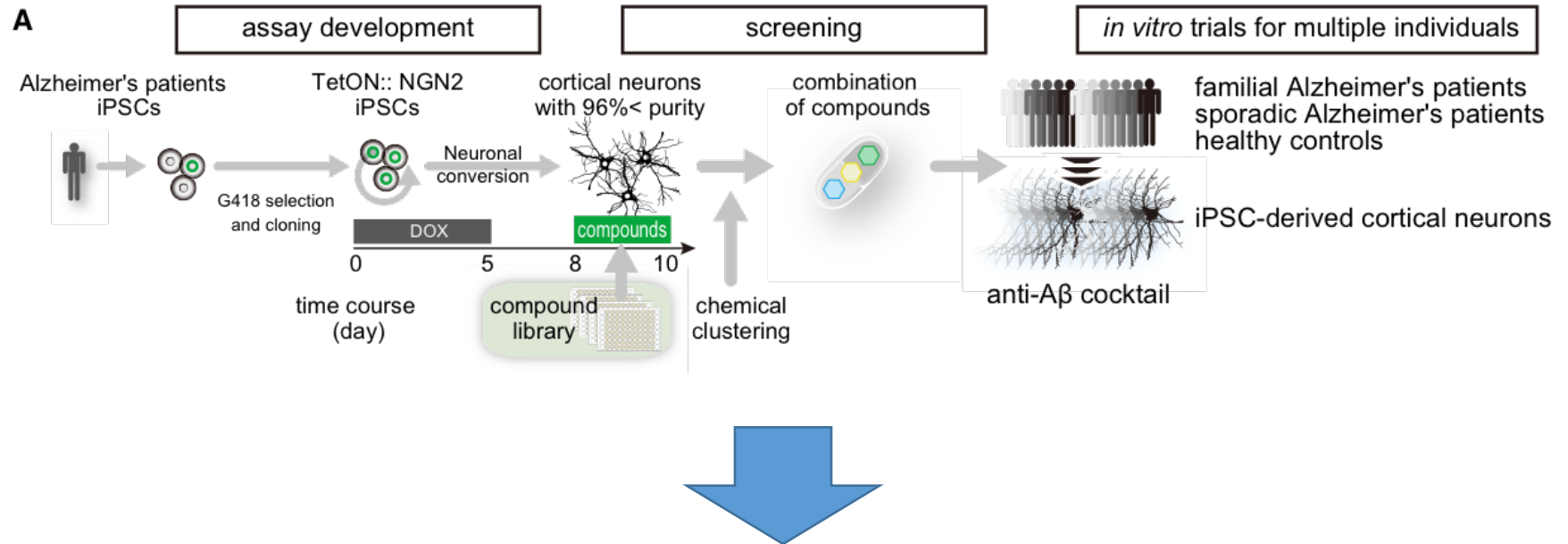
主成分得点

横軸にPC1
縦軸にPC2を置いた時の
X座標 = 第一主成分得点
Y座標 = 第二主成分得点



Appendix

iPSC-Based Compound Screening



Anti-A β Cocktail of BCroT (bromocriptine, cromolyn, topiramate)