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Development of new models and analysis methods/seeding and spreading of proteinopathies

# Effect of Alzheimer's disease-related $\beta$ -amyloid peptide conformations in transgenic mouse models of $\beta$ -amyloidosis

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#### Abstract

**Background:** Alzheimer's disease (AD) brain dysfunctions are not exclusively related to amyloid plaques occurence, but are thought to start much earlier, presumably due to soluble pathological forms of b-amyloid peptide (A $\beta$ ). Indeed A $\beta$  oligomers induce synaptic dysfunctions that cause cognitive decline, exacerbate tau pathology[1] and influence neuronal networks[2]. Although mutation-induced phenotypes are identified in AD patients, the *in vivo* effects of different A $\beta$  variants are poorly understood. Here we characterized the effects of different A $\beta$  variants in a transgenic mouse model to provide deeper insight of transconformational processes and the subsequent alterations. Deciphering Ab profiles would help in developing new diagnostic and therapeutic approaches.

**Method:** We developed well-characterized amyloid variants:  $A\beta 1-42$ ,  $A\beta$  bearing the icelandic mutation (A2T),  $A\beta$  bearing the Osaka mutation (E22D[1]) and  $A\beta$  bearing the mutation F19S/L34P. First, these variants were overexpressed in cortical neuron cultures. Then, two-month-old APP/PS1dE9 mice were inoculated with these variants in the dentate gyrus (n = 5/per group). We assessed  $A\beta$  oligomerization profiles, cerebral amyloid load and synaptic health in neuron and mouse (4 months post-inoculation) models by biochemistry and histology.

**Result:** The different amyloid forms exhibit distinct aggregation profiles and synaptotoxicity in vitro (Figure 1). They did not have the same effect on mouse survival. Osaka-A $\beta$  induced the highest mortality. Then, we focused on the local reorganization of amyloid. Osaka-A $\beta$  led to increased 6-mer and 12-mer amyloid forms at inoculation site (Figure 2) but also at distance in the cortex. This suggests that A $\beta$  variants differently modulate A $\beta$  metabolism and aggregation. Amyloid plaque assessment showed

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an Osaka-A $\beta$ -induced increase in amyloid load in the hippocampus (Figure 3) and its connected regions.

**Conclusion:** A single inoculation of different  $A\beta$  variants in APP/PS1dE9 mice expressing wild-type  $A\beta$  is sufficient to differentially modulate  $A\beta$  metabolism, amyloid load and mouse mortality. This suggests that  $A\beta$  variants differentially interact with the biochemical/biophysical cerebral environments to differentially induce toxic downstream events that are crucial for better AD physiopathology understanding. References: (1) Delacourte et al., Experimental Gerontology, 2002. (2) Bero et al., Journal of Neuroscience, 2012. (3) Tomiyama et al., Ann Neurol, 2008.

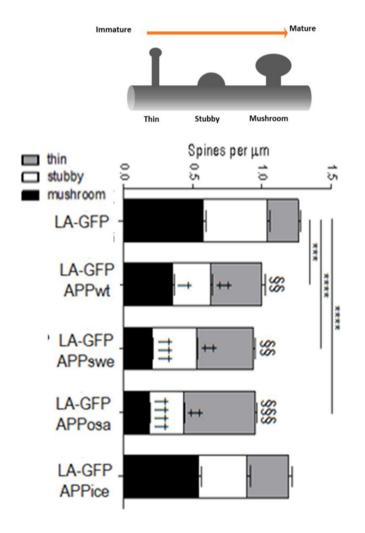
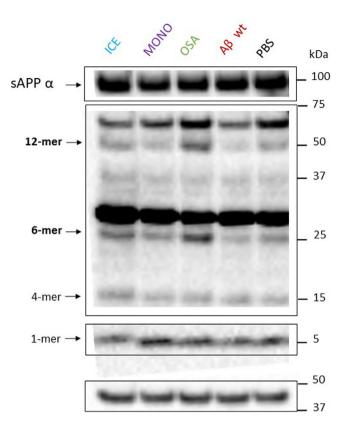


FIGURE 1

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### Hippocampus

**FIGURE 2** 

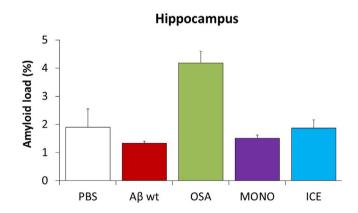


FIGURE 3