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Alzheimer's Disease –
From Basic Research to
Clinical Applications

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Preface

As human longevity continues to be extended, so will the impact of age-associated dementia on individual lives and society. Alzheimer's disease as the most common cause of dementia in the elderly remains a seminal problem and its underlying pathology is still poorly understood. Available therapeutic strategies require considerable refinement and the development of new therapeutic strategies need input from basic research. Thus continued efforts are necessary both to understand basic mechanisms of the condition and to achieve more powerful therapies.

From June 5 to 7, 1997 the international conference "Alzheimer's Disease – From Basic Research to Clinical Applications" was held in Leipzig. This conference brought together experts from clinical and basic science fields. Their contributions are collected in this volume. The issue bridges the gap between laboratory work in basic science and the development of urgently needed therapeutic strategies. Areas presented are the molecular and cellular biology of the disease, pathogenetic mechanisms and potential therapeutic targets, genetics, risk factors, strategies of prevention and treatment as well as practical aspects of medical and social care for patients with Alzheimer's disease.

Leipzig, August 1998

H.-J. Gertz
Th. Arendt

Contents

Förstl, H.: Alzheimer's disease: the size of the problem, clinical manifestation and heterogeneity	1
Reisberg, B., Franssen, E. H., Souren, L. E. M., Auer, S., Kenowsky, S.: Progression of Alzheimer's disease: variability and consistency: ontogenic models, their applicability and relevance	9
Almkvist, O., Basun, H., Bäckman, L., Herlitz, A., Lannfelt, L., Small, B., Viitanen, M., Wahlund, L. O., Winblad B.: Mild cognitive impairment – an early stage of Alzheimer's disease?	21
Wolf, H., Grunwald, M., Ecke, G. M., Zedlick, D., Bettin, S., Dannenberg, C., Dietrich, J., Eschrich, K., Arendt, T., Gertz, H.-J.: The prognosis of mild cognitive impairment in the elderly	31
Schröder, J., Kratz, B., Pantel, J., Minnemann, E., Lehr, U., Sauer, H.: Prevalence of mild cognitive impairment in an elderly community sample	51
Weber, B., Frölich, L., Helbing, N., Simminger, D., Fritze, J., Maurer, K.: Increase of optical illusion in demented patients	61
Reischies, F. M., Felsenberg, D., Geßner, R., Kage, A., Rossius, W., Schlattmann, P.: Age and dementia effect on neuropsychological test performance in very old age – influence of risk factors for dementia	69
Jellinger, K. A., Bancher, C.: Neuropathology of Alzheimer's disease: a critical update	77
Braak, H., Braak, E., Bohl, J., Bratzke, H.: Evolution of Alzheimer's disease related cortical lesions	97
McKeith, I. G., Ince, P., Jaros, E. B., Fairbairn, A., Ballard, C., Grace, J., Morris, C. M., Perry, R. H.: What are the relations between Lewy body disease and AD?	107
Pasquier, F., Leys, D., Scheltens, P.: The influence of coincidental vascular pathology on symptomatology and course of Alzheimer's disease	117
Pantel, J., Schröder, J., Essig, M., Minakaran, R., Schad, L. R., Friedlinger, M., Jauss, M., Knopp, M. V.: Corpus callosum in Alzheimer's disease and vascular dementia – a quantitative magnetic resonance study	129
Haass, C., Baumeister, R.: What do we learn from a few familial Alzheimer's disease cases?	137
Arendt, T., Holzer, M., Gärtner, U., Brückner, M. K.: Aberrancies in signal transduction and cell cycle related events in Alzheimer's disease	147
McGeer, P. L., McGeer, E. G.: Mechanisms of cell death in Alzheimer's disease – immunopathology	159
Schubert, P., Ogata, T., Miyazaki, H., Marchini, C., Ferroni, S., Rudolphi, K.: Pathological immuno-reactions of glial cells in Alzheimer's disease and possible sites of interference	167
Möller, H.-J.: Therapeutic strategies based on immunological hypotheses of Alzheimer's disease	175

Hoyer, S.: Risk factors for Alzheimer's disease during aging. Impacts of glucose/energy metabolism	187
Kanowski, S.: Aging, dementia and calcium metabolism	195
Eckert, A., Förstl, H., Zerfass, R., Oster, M., Hennerici, M., Müller, W. E.: Changes of intracellular calcium regulation in Alzheimer's disease and vascular dementia ..	201
Rösler, M., Retz, W., Thome, J., Riederer, P.: Free radicals in Alzheimer's dementia: currently available therapeutic strategies	211
Retz, W., Gsell, W., Münch, G., Rösler, M., Riederer, P.: Free radicals in Alzheimer's disease	221
Bigl, V., Schliebs, R.: Simulation of cortical cholinergic deficits – a novel experimental approach to study pathogenetic aspects of Alzheimer's disease	237
Bosman, G. J. C. G. M., Renkawek, K., Van Workum, F. P. A., Bartholomeus, I. G. P., Marini, S., De Grip, W. J.: Neuronal anion exchange proteins in Alzheimer's disease pathology	249
Eckert, A., Cotman, C. W., Zerfass, R., Hennerici, M., Müller, W. E.: Lymphocytes as cell model to study apoptosis in Alzheimer's disease: vulnerability to programmed cell death appears to be altered	259
Fiebich, B. L., Hüll, M., Lieb, K., Schumann, G., Berger, M., Bauer, J.: Potential link between interleukin-6 and arachidonic acid metabolism in Alzheimer's disease ..	269
Roßner, S., Ueberham, U., Schliebs, R., Perez-Polo, J. R., Bigl, V.: Neurotrophin binding to the p75 neurotrophin receptor is necessary but not sufficient to mediate NGF-effects on APP secretion in PC-12 cells	279
Uhr, M., Moosmann, B., Behl, C.: Aromatic alcohols as neuroprotectants	287
Kurz, A.: The therapeutic potential of tacrine	295
Gutzmann, H., Hadler, D.: Sustained efficacy and safety of idebenone in the treatment of Alzheimer's disease: update on a 2-year double-blind multicentre study	301
Wilkinson, D.: Clinical experience with donepezil (Aricept™) in the UK	311

Listed in Current Contents / Life Sciences