A short trip to the role of metal ions in Alzheimer’s disease.

Esmieu Charlène, ,a Emilie Mathieu,a Geneviève Ptraivel and Christelle Hureau.a,*

a. Laboratoire de Chimie de Coordination, 205 Route de Narbonne, 31077 Toulouse cedex 04, France

* Correspondance : christelle.hureau@lcc-toulouse.fr

Résumé:

Alzheimer (AD) is a multifactorial disease where two key events have been linked to the etiology of the disease: (i) the self-assembly process of the Alzheimer-related amyloid-β (Aβ) peptides leading to the deposits of Aβ amyloids in the senile plaques detected in AD patients [1] and (ii) oxidative stress.[2] Metal ions (copper, zinc and iron) have been found in the senile plaques in abnormally high level. They can modulate the self-assembly of the Aβ peptides and Aβ-bound copper ions can catalyze the production of Reactive Oxygen Species. They are thus key players in the pathology.

During the talk, I will give an overview of the approaches we have devoppd in the last years to (i) first understand at the molecular level how metal ions are linked to the fate of the disease [1-3] and to (ii) overcome their deleterious effects by new copper-targeting molecules.[3]


Keywords: Copper ; Zinc; Amyloid-forming peptides; ROS; drug design.

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