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Alzheimer's disease: Metal toxicity and metal chelation therapy

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Plaques are highly associated to Alzheimer's disease, formed by the aggregation of amyloid in the brain. The aggregation of amyloid can be induced by the presence of mis-regulated metals. The interaction between mis-regulated metal and amyloid leads to generation of reactive oxygen species. In our study, molecular modelling was performed to understand the behavior of cyclen compounds with E2 domain of APP (amyloid precursor protein) in its interaction with Cu and Zn (PDB: 3UMI and 3UMK). After that cyclen compounds with pendant arms were synthesized to chelate the mis-regulated metal ions by the cyclen cage and to increase the lipophilicity and reduce the oxidative stress by the pendant arm. We synthesized Cu, Zn and Ni complexes to show the ability of our compounds to chelate AD mis-regulated metals. X-ray study was performed for some of the complexes and the effect of cyclen compounds on A β 40 deaggregation was tested by using turbidometry, solubility of A β 40 and mass spectrometric analysis. The antioxidant of cyclen compounds was tested by using DPPH scavenging assay. Pharmacokinetics parameters were performed to investigate the ability of cyclen compounds to arrive at its target and to see its side effect in the body. Our results show that cyclen compounds have ability for A β 40 de-aggregation by chelation of the mis-regulated metals and may decrease the oxidative stress in the brain and can thus be considered as neuroprotective agent for treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

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