



# NICO

Neuroscience Institute Cavalieri Ottolenghi



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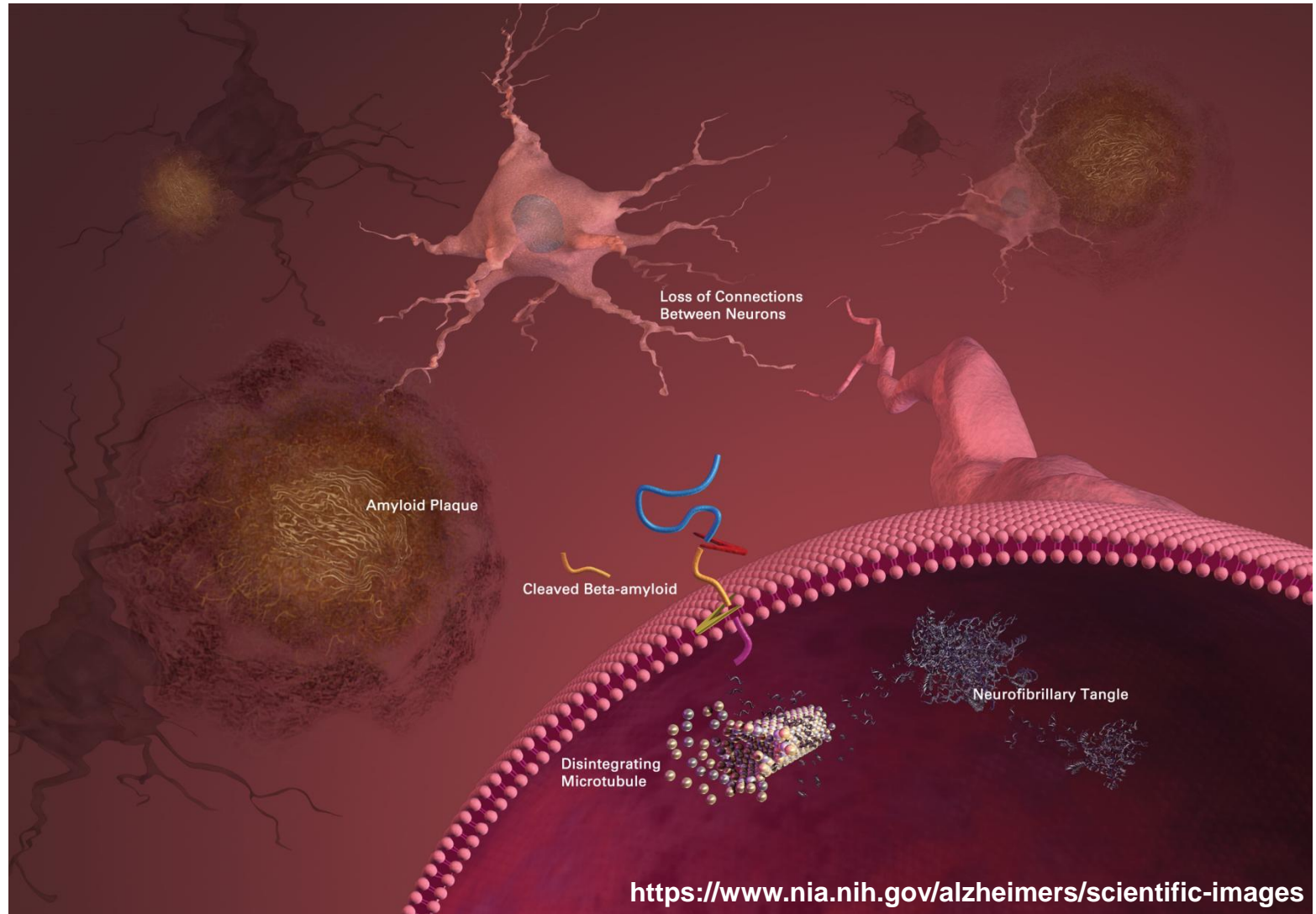
FONDAZIONE  
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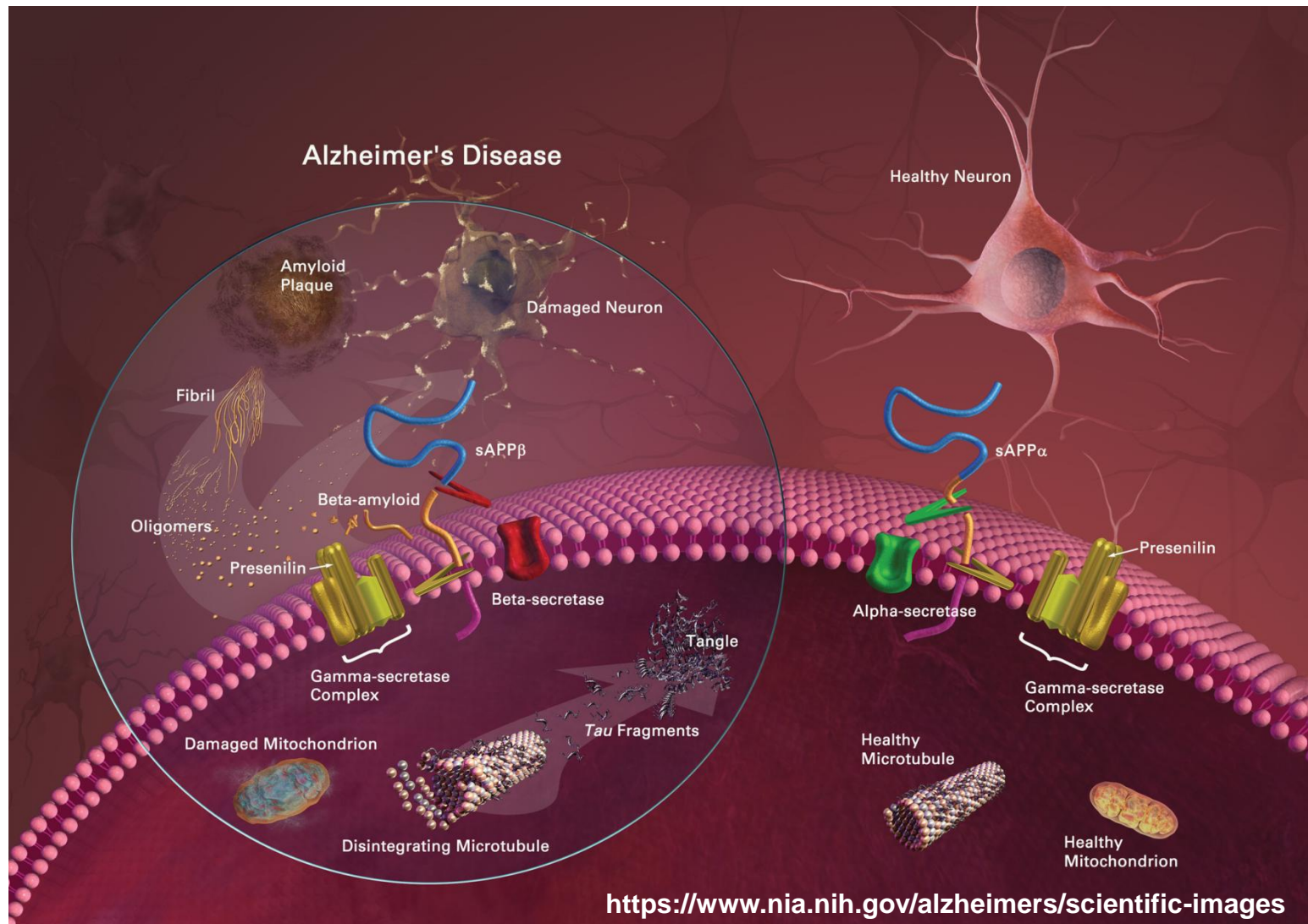
Prof.ssa Elena Tamagno

NICO, metti la firma  
[www.nico.ottolenghi.unito.it](http://www.nico.ottolenghi.unito.it) 

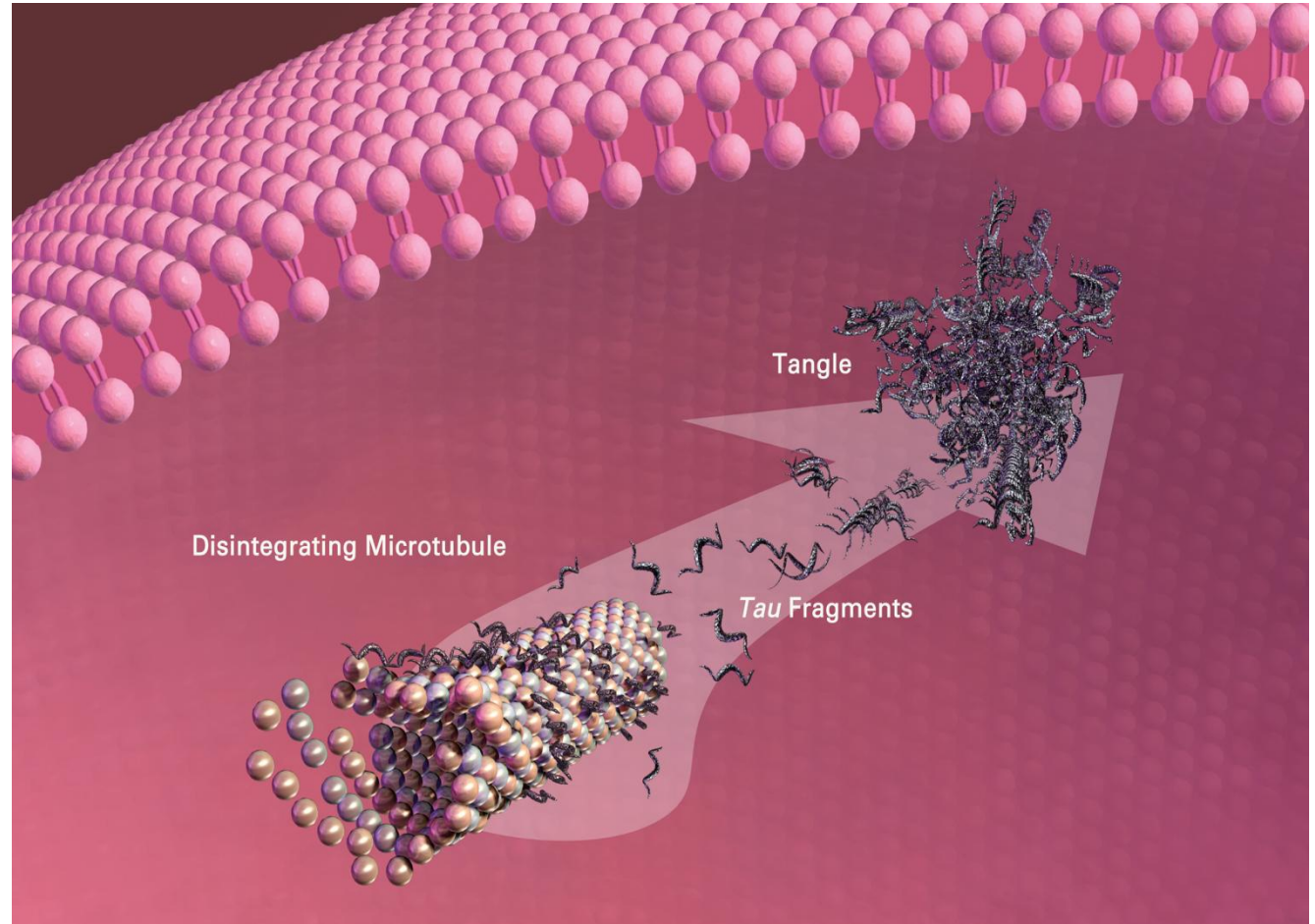
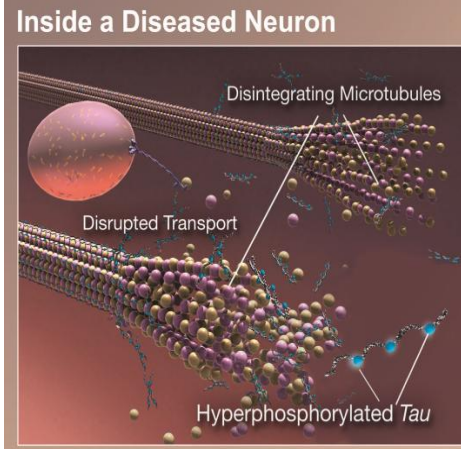
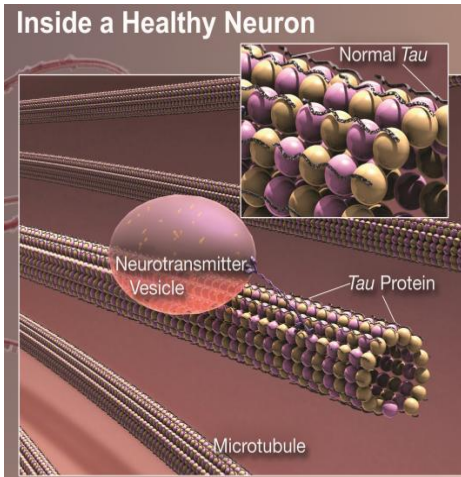
# Alzheimer's Disease



# Amyloidogenic vs NON-Amyloidogenic pathways



# Formation of Tau tangles

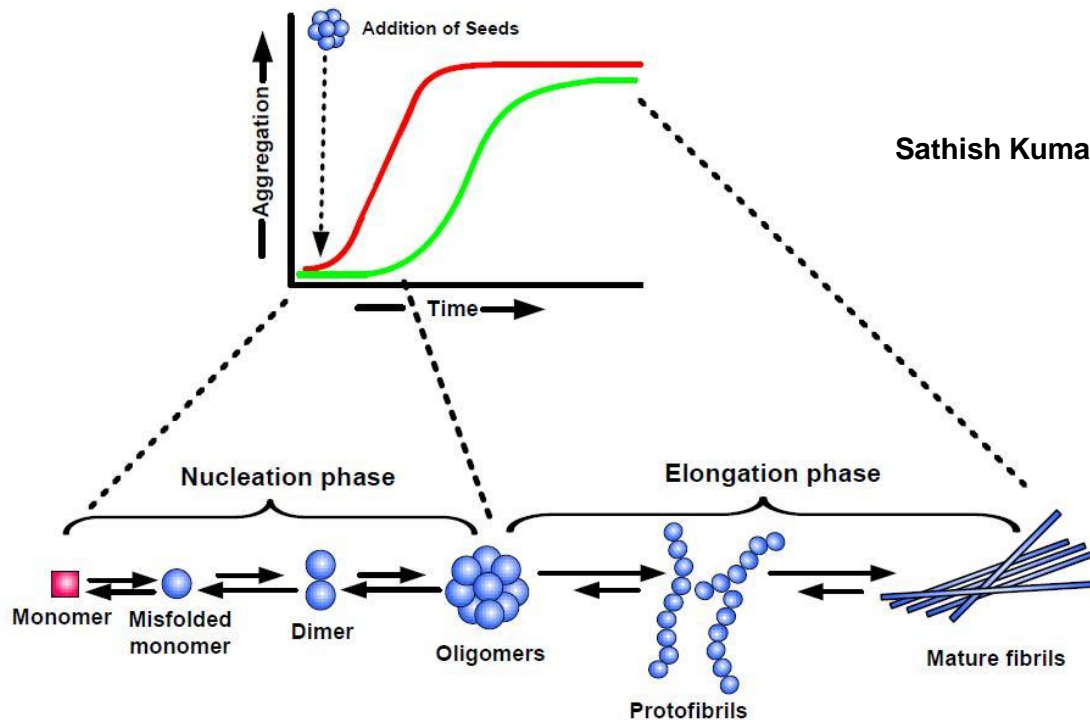


<https://www.nia.nih.gov/alzheimers/scientific-images>

# A $\beta$ aggregation - routes to neurotoxic assemblies

A $\beta$  is a proteolytically processed fragment that occurs in different length variants:

- 40 amino acid residues (A $\beta$ 40)
- 42 amino acid residues (**A $\beta$ 42**)



In the nucleation phase/lag phase, **monomers undergo conformational change /misfolding and associate to form oligomeric nuclei.**

In elongation phase/growth phase, nuclei rapidly grow by further addition of monomers and form larger polymers/fibrils until saturation.

# Alzheimer's Disease

## Therapy

symptomatic

pathogenetic



depressive symptoms  
psychotic-like symptoms

- Pathogenetic therapy-Block accumulation of  $A\beta$
- < production
- > disposal  $A\beta$ -42
- < aggregation

# UBIQUITIN C-TERMINAL HYDROLASE-L1

Cell

## Uch-L1

## Ubiquitin Hydrolase Uch-L1 Rescues $\beta$ -Amyloid-Induced Decreases in Synaptic Function and Contextual Memory

Bing Gong,<sup>1</sup> Zixuan Cao,<sup>1</sup> Ping Zheng,<sup>2</sup> Ottavio V. Vitolo,<sup>1</sup> Shumin Liu,<sup>1</sup> Agnieszka Staniszewski,<sup>1</sup> Donna Moolman,<sup>1</sup> Hong Zhang,<sup>1</sup> Michael Shelanski,<sup>1,\*</sup> and Ottavio Arancio<sup>1,\*</sup>

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DOI 10.1016/j.cell.2006.06.046



NEUROCHEMISTRY  
International  
www.elsevier.com/locate/neuint

Review

The functions of UCH-L1 and its relation to neurodegenerative diseases

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National Center of Neurology and Psychiatry, Kodaira, Tokyo 187-8502, Japan

<sup>b</sup> Japan Health Sciences Foundation, Kyodo Building, 13-4 Kodenmacho, Nishinabashi, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 102-0001, Japan

Received 31 March 2007; received in revised form 7 May 2007; accepted 9 May 2007  
Available online 24 May 2007

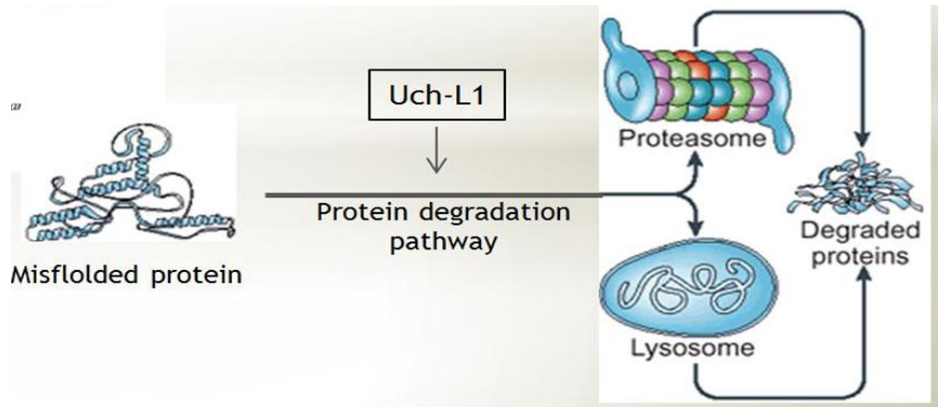
The Journal of Biological Chemistry  
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Vol. 279, No. 13, Issue of March 24, pp. 12255–12264, 2004  
Printed in U.S.A.

Oxidative Modifications and Down-regulation of Ubiquitin  
Carboxyl-terminal Hydrolase L1 Associated with Idiopathic  
Parkinson's and Alzheimer's Diseases<sup>\*</sup>

Received for publication, December 23, 2003  
Published, JBC Papers in Press, January 13, 2004, DOI 10.1074/jbc.M314124200

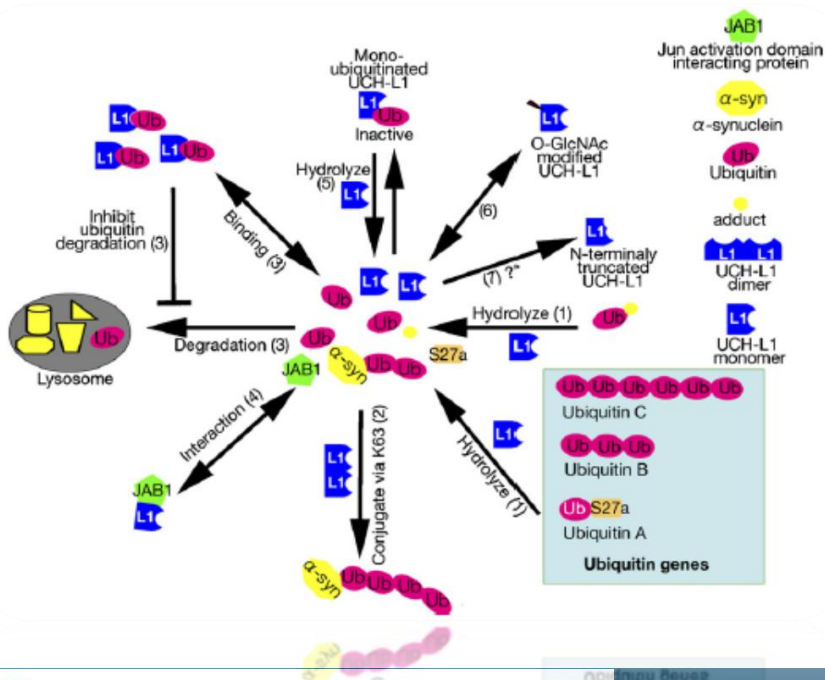
Joungil Choi<sup>§</sup>, Allan I. Levey<sup>§§</sup>, Susan T. Weintraub<sup>¶</sup>, Howard D. Rees<sup>§</sup>, Marla Gearing<sup>§§</sup>,  
Lib-Shen Chin<sup>†</sup>, and Lian Li<sup>††\*</sup>





# Uch-L1

- Uch-L1 is an enzyme highly expressed in neuron, known to decrease in the brain of Alzheimer's patients.
- Several lines of evidence suggest that Uch-L1 function is impaired in AD and that this enzyme might be involved in the pathogenesis of AD.
- Uch-L1 is responsible for the protein ubiquitination and for directing them to degradation by proteasome or by lysosomes.

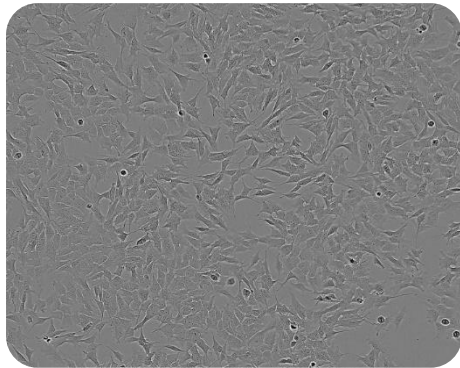


*Uch-L1 have three activities:*

- Hydrolase;
- Ligase;
- Mono-Ub stabilizer.

# EXPERIMENTAL MODEL

SH-SY-5Y



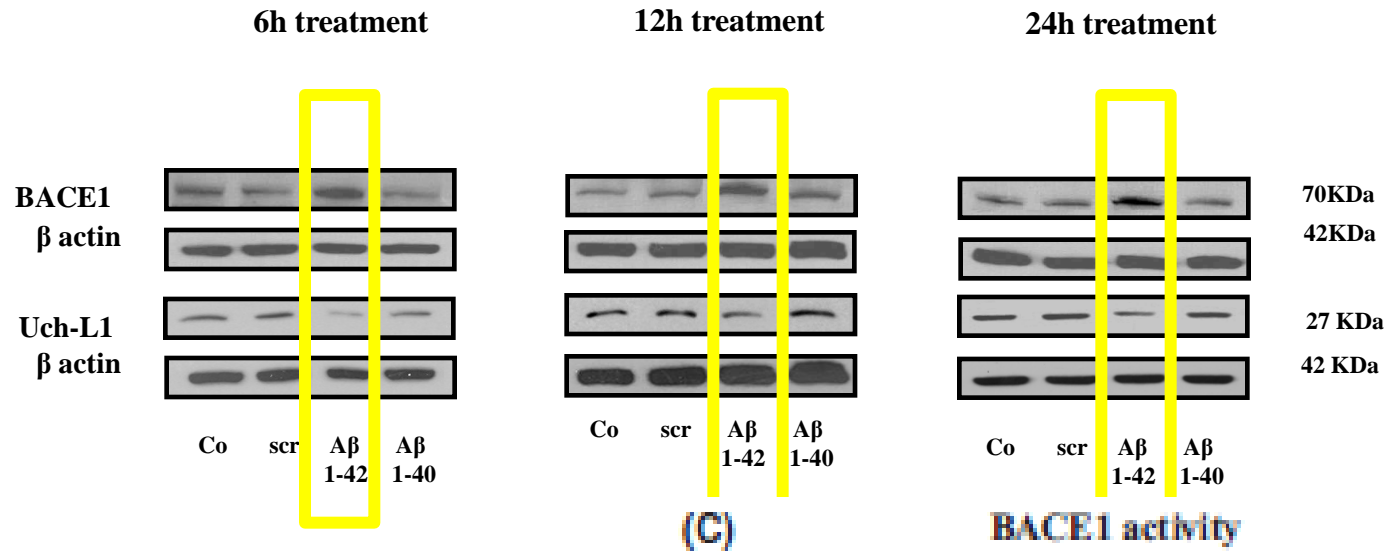
Monomeric

Aβ 1-42

Aβ 1-40

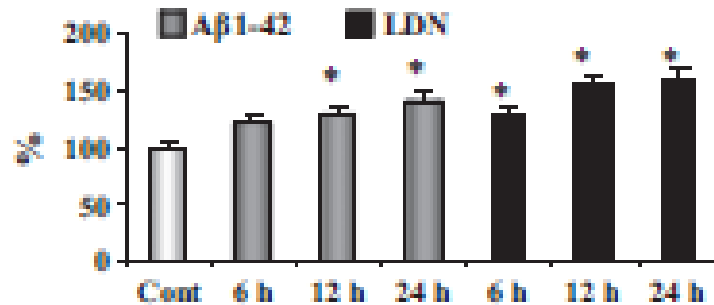
scramble

# A $\beta$ 1-42-MEDIATED INCREASE OF BACE1 AND DECREASE OF Uch-L1 ARE RELATED EVENTS



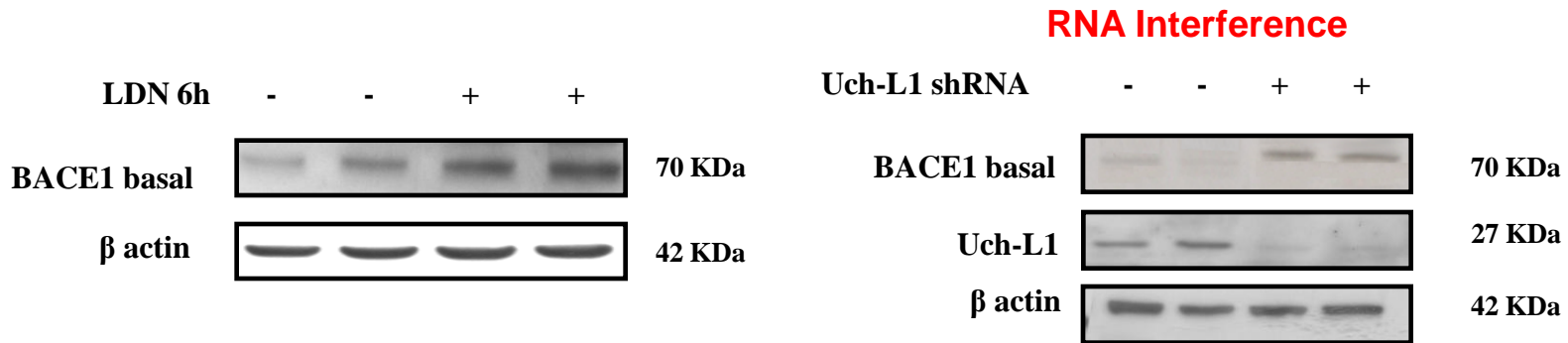
(C)

BACE1 activity was significantly higher in cells exposed to A $\beta$ 1-42 and to LDN compared to control cells.



Guglielmotto M. et al., Aging Cell, 2012

# $\beta$ 1-42-MEDIATED INCREASE OF BACE1 AND DECREASE OF Uch-L1 ARE RELATED EVENTS



Guglielmotto M. et al., Aging Cell, 2012

# BACKGROUND

THE JOURNAL OF BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY VOL. 281, NO. 15, PP. 10037–10047, APRIL 11, 2006  
 © 2006 by The American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Inc. Printed in the U.S.A.

## NF $\kappa$ B-dependent Control of *BACE1* Promoter Transactivation by A $\beta$ 42\*

Received for publication, August 8, 2007, and in revised form, January 24, 2008. Published, JBC Papers in Press, February 8, 2008, DOI 10.1074/jbc.M706579200

Virginie Buggia-Prevot<sup>1</sup>\*, Jean Sevalle<sup>1</sup>, Steffen Rossner<sup>2</sup>, and Frédéric Checler<sup>1,2</sup>

From the <sup>1</sup>Institut de Pharmacologie Moléculaire et Cellulaire, UMR6097 CNRS/UNSA, Equipe Labellisée Fondation pour la Recherche Médicale, 06560 Valbonne, France and the <sup>2</sup>Department of Neurochemistry, University of Leipzig, 04109 Leipzig, Germany

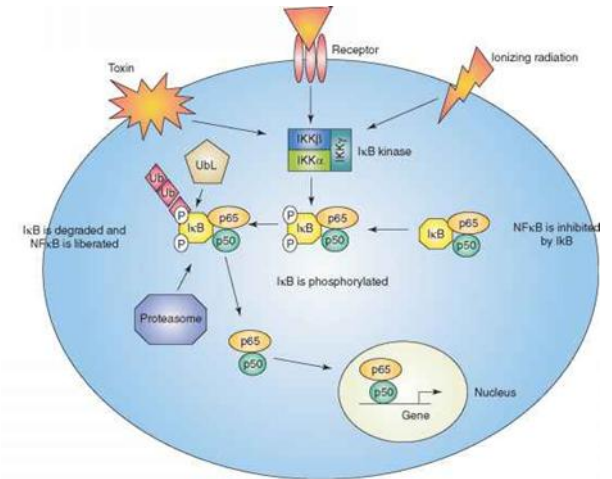


Figure 4 Regulation of proinflammatory cell-signaling pathways.

- A $\beta$ 42 is able to modulate BACE1 through the NF- $\kappa$ B pathway

Journal of  
Neurochemistry

● JOURNAL OF NEUROCHEMISTRY | 2011 | 116 | 1160–1170

JNC

doi: 10.1111/j.1471-4159.2011.07172.x

### NF- $\kappa$ B signaling inhibits ubiquitin carboxyl-terminal hydrolase L1 gene expression

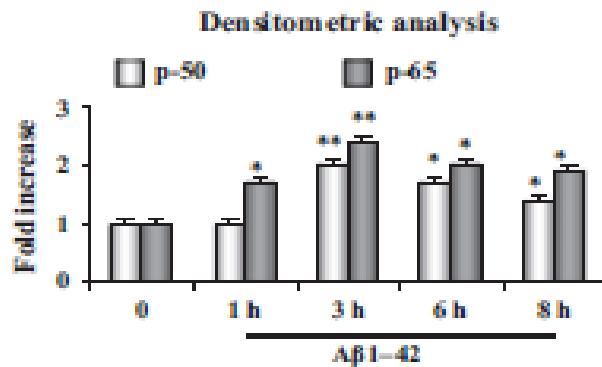
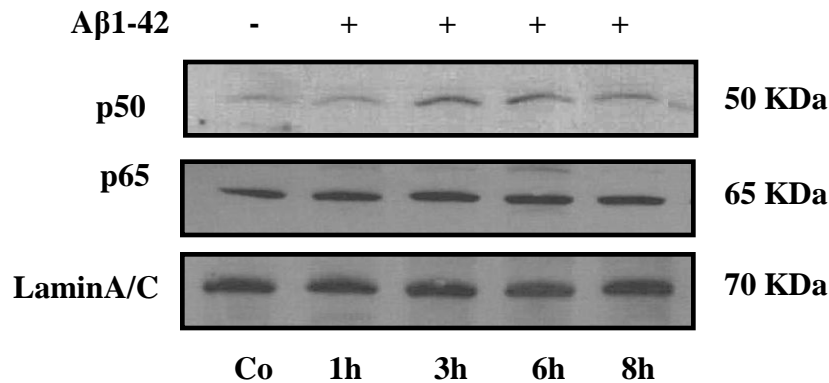
Ruitao Wang,\*†<sup>1</sup> Mingming Zhang,\*<sup>1</sup> Weihui Zhou,\* Philip T. T. Ly,\* Fang Cai\* and Weihong Song\*

\*Townsend Family Laboratories, Department of Psychiatry, Brain Research Center, Graduate Program in Neuroscience, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

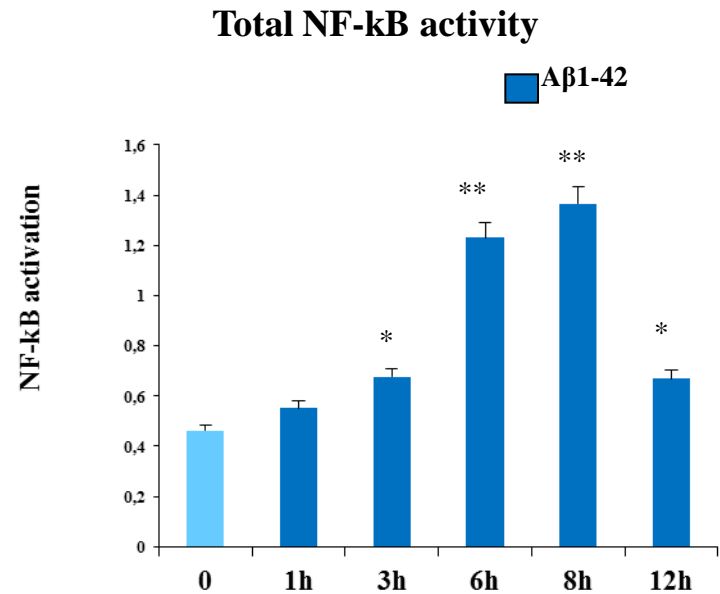
†Department of Geriatrics, The Second Affiliated Hospital, Harbin Medical University, Harbin, Heilongjiang, China

- NF- $\kappa$ B has its responsive element identified in the promoter region of Uch-L1 gene and therefore the expression of NF- $\kappa$ B suppresses Uch-L1 gene transcription.

# THESE EVENTS ARE DEPENDENT ON NF- $\kappa$ B PATHWAY



Guglielmotto M. et al., Aging Cell, 2012



# BACKGROUND

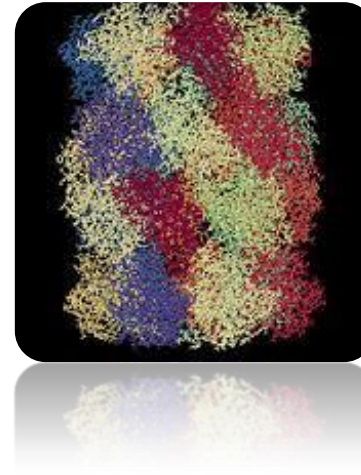
*The FASEB Journal* express article 10.1096/fj.04-1994fje. Published online August 2, 2004.

## Degradation of BACE by the ubiquitin-proteasome pathway

Hong Qing,\* Weihui Zhou,\* Michelle A. Christensen,\* Xiulian Sun,<sup>†,\*</sup> Yigang Tong,\* and Weihong Song,<sup>†,\*</sup>

\*Department of Psychiatry, Brain Research Center, <sup>†</sup>Graduate Program in Neuroscience, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. <sup>‡</sup>Holder of Canada Research Chair in Alzheimer's Disease.

Corresponding author: Weihong Song, Department of Psychiatry, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3, Canada. E-mail: weihong@interchange.ubc.ca



THE JOURNAL OF BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY VOL. 280, NO. 37, pp. 32469–32504, September 16, 2005  
© 2005 by The American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Inc. Printed in the U.S.A.

## BACE Is Degraded via the Lysosomal Pathway\*

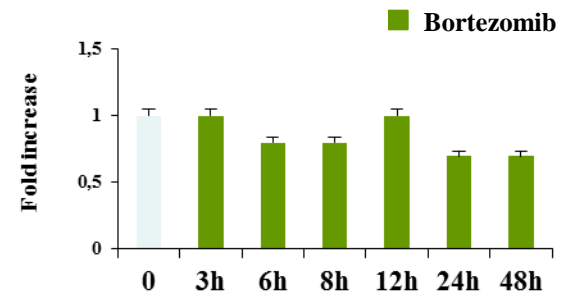
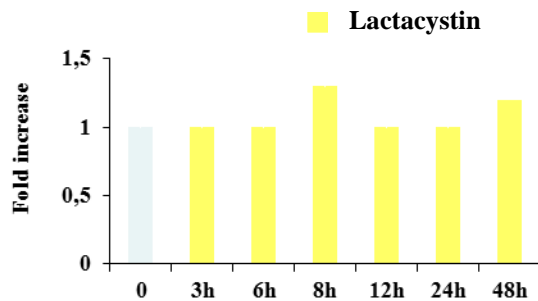
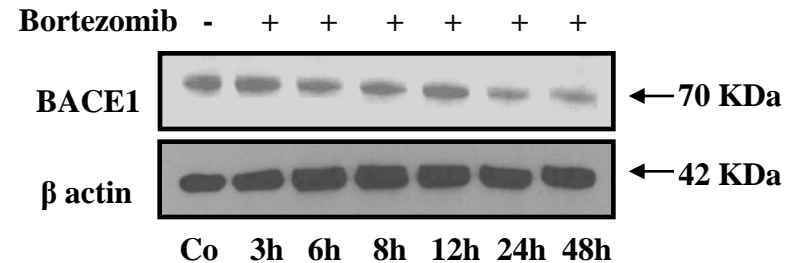
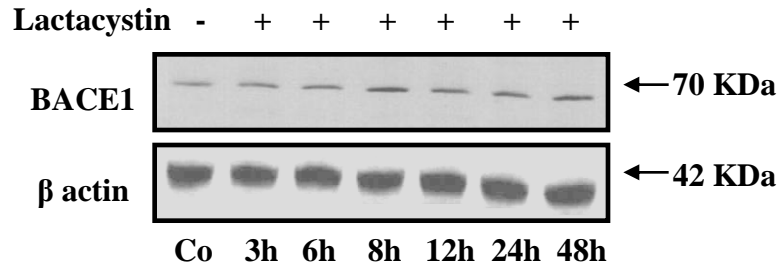
Received for publication, June 7, 2005, and in revised form, July 19, 2005. Published, JBC Papers in Press, July 20, 2005, DOI 10.1074/jbc.M506199200

Young Ho Koh<sup>†</sup>, Christine A. F. von Arnim<sup>§</sup>, Bradley T. Hyman<sup>§</sup>, Rudolph E. Tanzi<sup>†1</sup>, and Gluseppina Tesco<sup>†1</sup>

From the <sup>†</sup>Genetics and Aging Research Unit and the <sup>§</sup>Alzheimer Disease Research Laboratory, MassGeneral Institute for Neurodegenerative Disease, Massachusetts General Hospital, Charlestown, Massachusetts 02129

# THE TURNOVER OF BACE1 PROTEIN IS NOT MEDIATED BY UBIQUITIN-PROTEASOME SYSTEM

Guglielmotto M. et al., Aging Cell, 2012

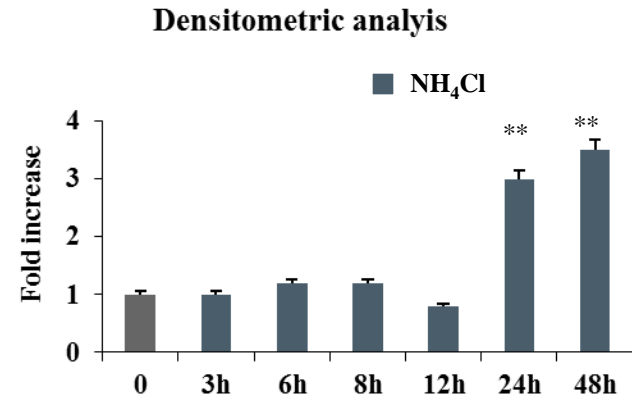
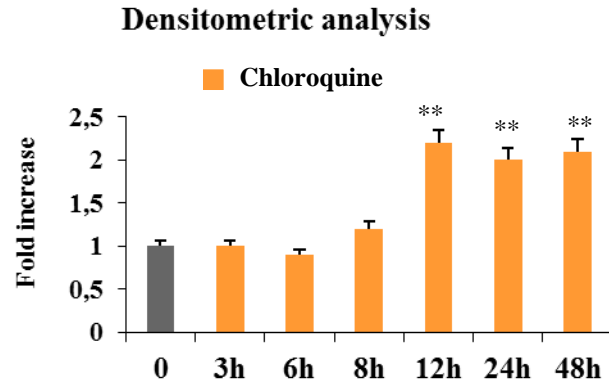
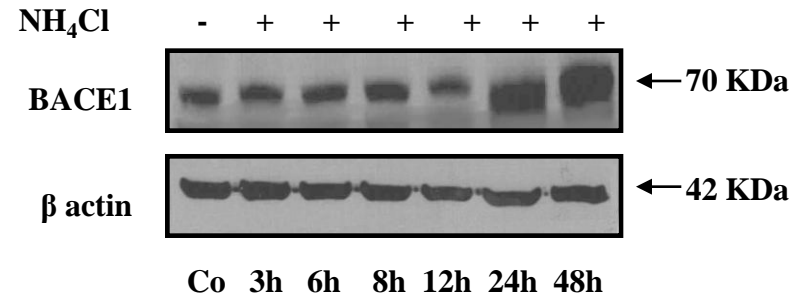
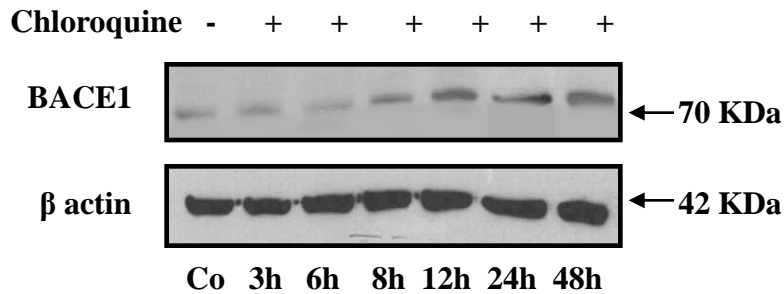


The proteasome inhibitors have no effect on BACE1 protein levels.



# THE TURNOVER OF BACE1 PROTEIN IS MEDIATED BY LYSOSOMAL SYSTEM

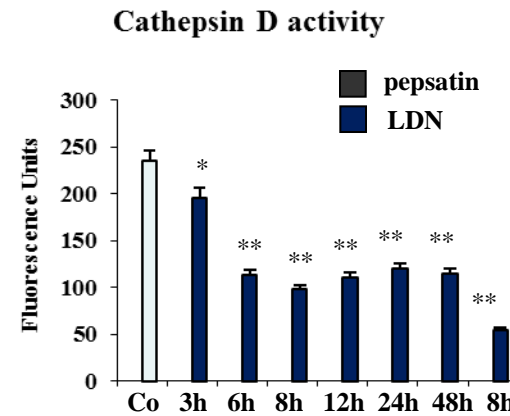
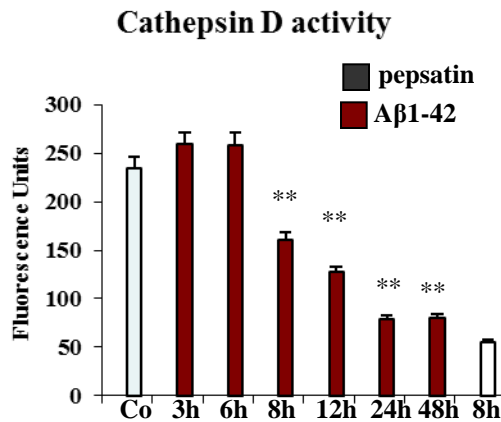
Guglielmotto M. et al., Aging Cell, 2012



Chloroquine and NH<sub>4</sub>Cl inhibit lysosomal hydrolases by reducing the acidification of endosomal/lysosomal compartments

# $A\beta_{1-42}$ -MEDIATED DECREASE OF Uch-L1 INTERFERES WITH BACE1 LYSSOMAL DEGRADATION

Guglielmotto M. et al., Aging Cell, 2012



**CATHEPSIN D  
ACTIVITY**

# CONCLUSION 1

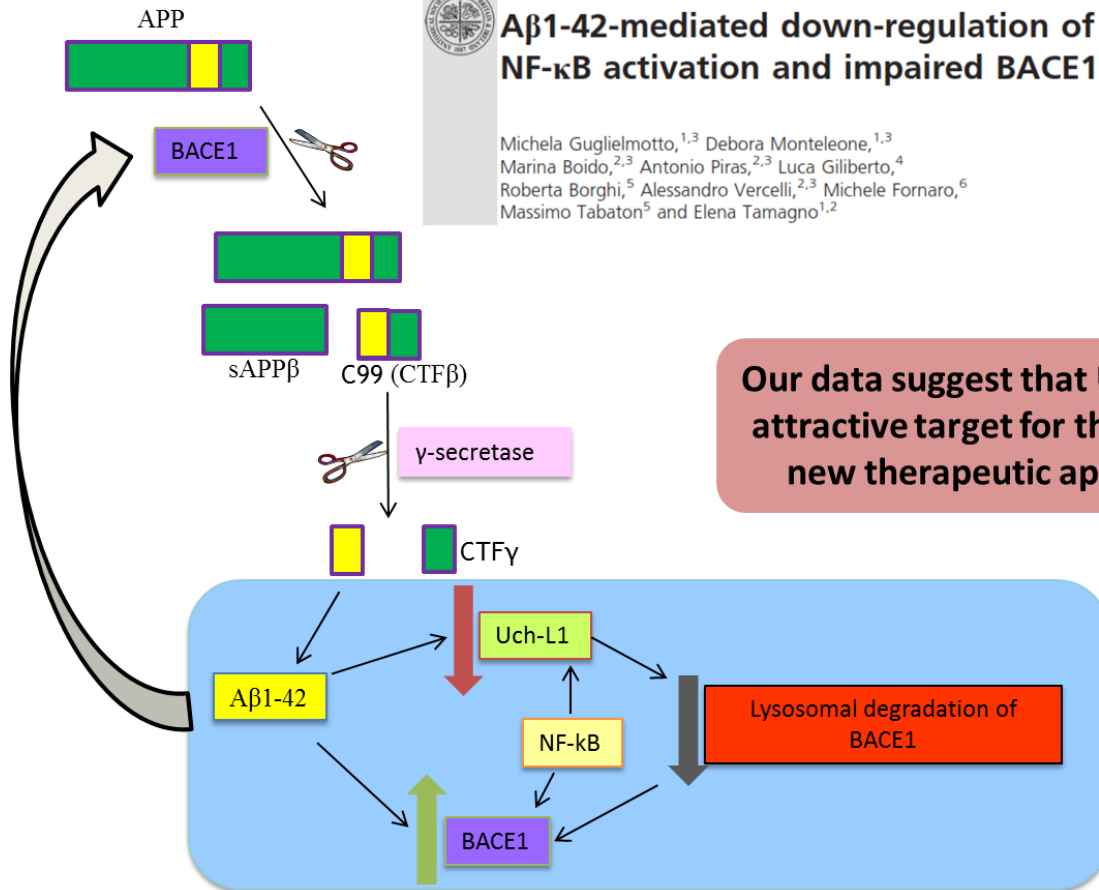
*Aging Cell* (2012) 11, pp834–844

Doi: 10.1111/j.1474-9726.2012.00854.x



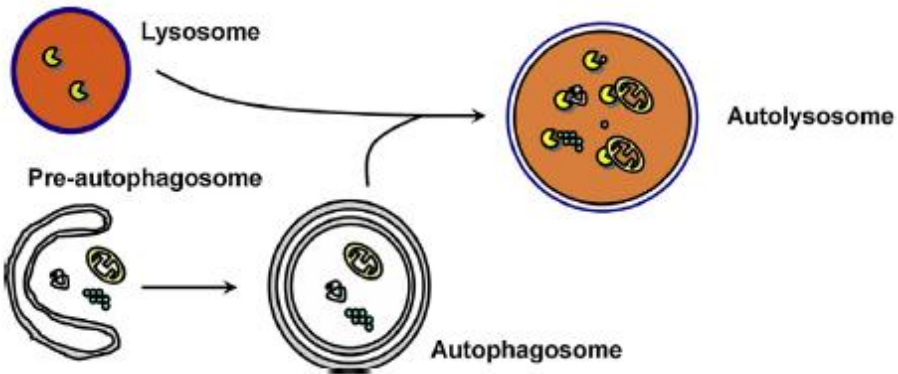
## A $\beta$ 1-42-mediated down-regulation of Uch-L1 is dependent on NF- $\kappa$ B activation and impaired BACE1 lysosomal degradation

Michela Guglielmotto,<sup>1,3</sup> Debora Monteleone,<sup>1,3</sup>  
Marina Boido,<sup>2,3</sup> Antonio Piras,<sup>2,3</sup> Luca Giliberto,<sup>4</sup>  
Roberta Borghi,<sup>5</sup> Alessandro Vercelli,<sup>2,3</sup> Michele Fornaro,<sup>6</sup>  
Massimo Tabaton<sup>5</sup> and Elena Tamagno<sup>1,2</sup>



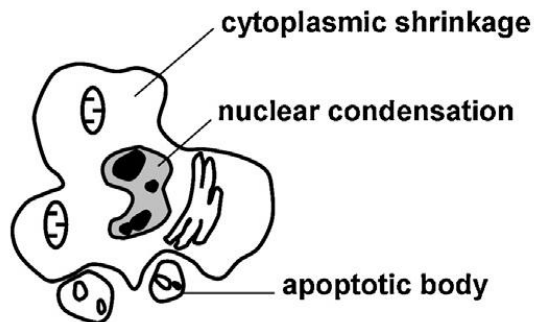
Our data suggest that Uch-L1 could be an attractive target for the development of new therapeutic approaches for AD

# Autophagy



**Autophagy involves sequestration of portions of the cytoplasm and intracellular organelles within autophagic vacuoles that are sent to lysosomes for degradation**

# Apoptosis



**Apoptosis is the best-known form of programmed cell death and involves the activation of catabolic pathways that lead to the rapid destruction of cellular organelles.**

# Autophagy and Apoptosis are likely to be connected with each other in Alzheimer disease

Commentary

4081

## Autophagy, amyloidogenesis and Alzheimer disease

Ralph A. Nixon

Center for Dementia Research, Nathan Kline Institute for Psychiatric Research, Orangeburg, NY 10962, Departments of Psychiatry and Cell Biology, NYU School of Medicine, New York, NY 10016, USA

**Disruption of autophagy leads to A $\beta$  accumulation in vacuoles and cell death...**

Macroautophagy—a novel  $\beta$ -amyloid peptide-generating pathway activated in Alzheimer's disease

W. Haung Yu,<sup>1,2</sup> Ana Maria Cuervo,<sup>4</sup> Asok Kumar,<sup>1</sup> Corrinne M. Peterhoff,<sup>1</sup> Stephen D. Schmidt,<sup>1</sup> Ju-Hyun Lee,<sup>1,2</sup> Panaiyur S. Mohan,<sup>1,2</sup> Marc Mercken,<sup>5</sup> Mark R. Farmery,<sup>6</sup> Lars O. Tjernberg,<sup>6</sup> Ying Jiang,<sup>1,2</sup> Karen Duff,<sup>1,2</sup> Yasuo Uchiyama,<sup>7</sup> Jan Näslund,<sup>6</sup> Paul M. Mathews,<sup>1,2</sup> Anne M. Cataldo,<sup>8</sup> and Ralph A. Nixon<sup>1,2,3</sup>

JCB: ARTICLE

Journal of  
Neurochemistry

JNC

JOURNAL OF NEUROCHEMISTRY | 2011 | 118 | 317-325

doi: 10.1111/j.1471-4159.2011.07314.x

REVIEW

Autophagy deregulation in neurodegenerative diseases – recent advances and future perspectives

Zelda H. Cheung and Nancy Y. Ip

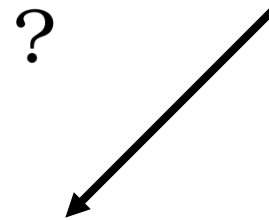
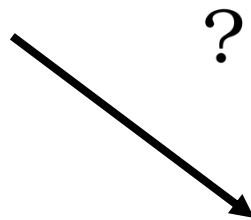
Division of Life Science, Molecular Neuroscience Center and State Key Laboratory of Molecular Neuroscience, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong, China

**... in turn A $\beta$  has been shown to affect autophagy**



**NICO**  
Neuroscience Institute Cavalieri Ottolenghi

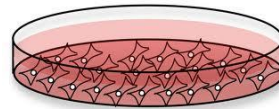
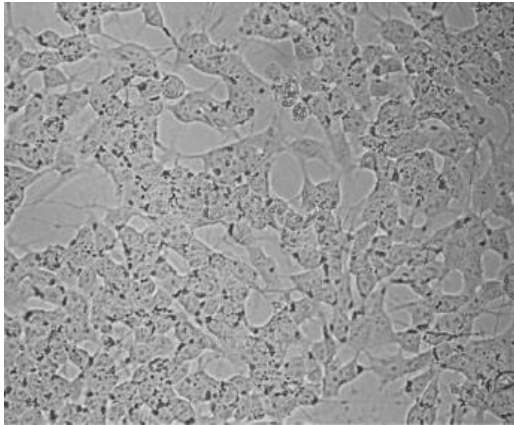
Given the relevance of soluble A $\beta$  peptides



**Autophagy  
Apoptosis**

# in vitro experimental model

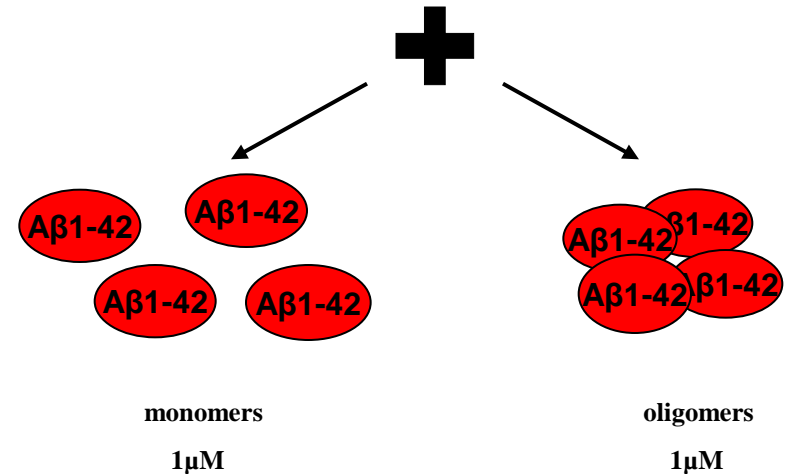
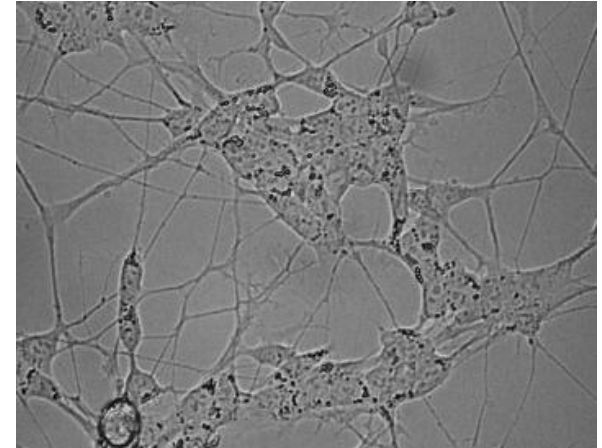
**SK-N-BE**



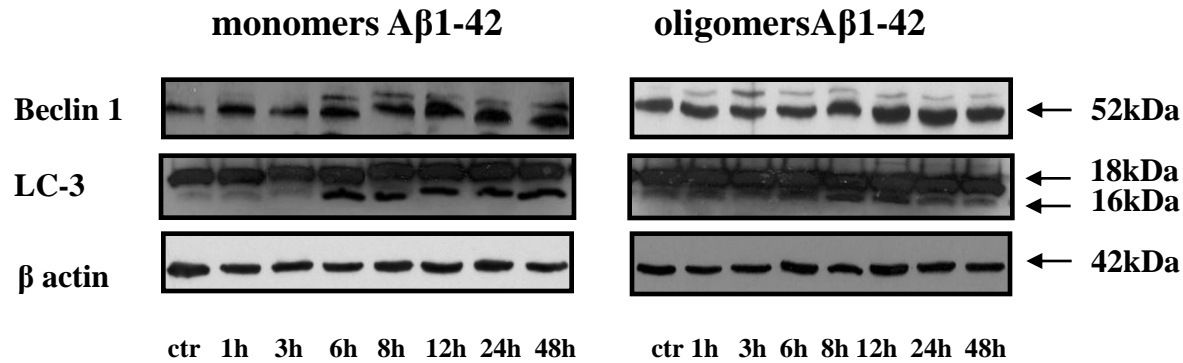
Retinoic Acid  
10 $\mu$ M for 10 days



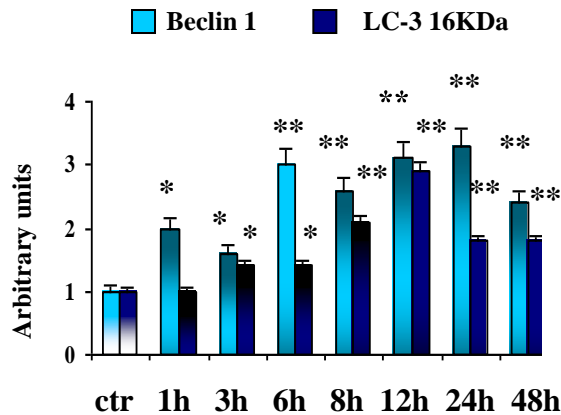
**Differentiated SK-N-BE**



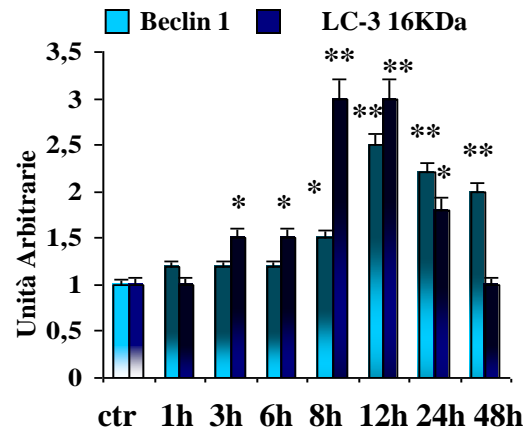
# A $\beta$ 1-42 Monomers and oligomers affected autophagy



densitometric analysis



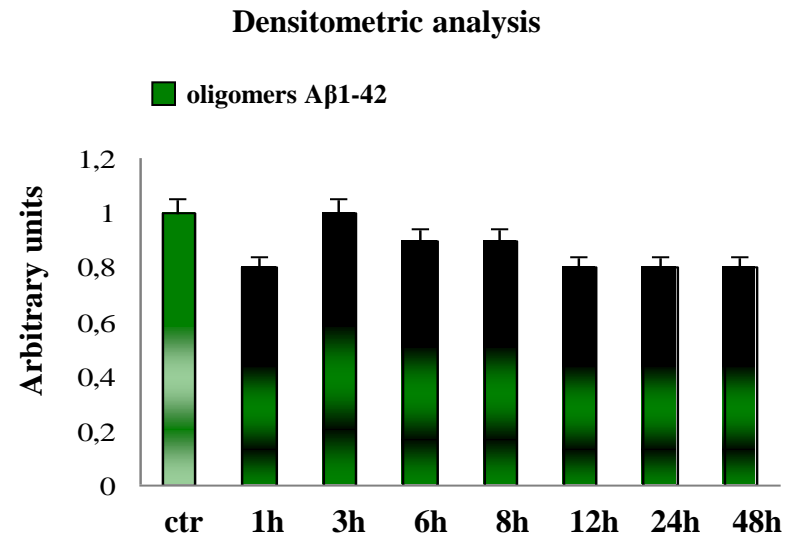
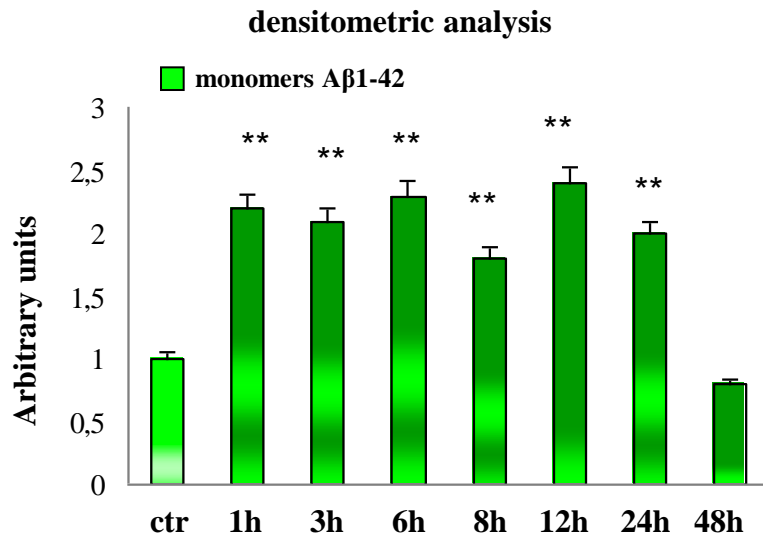
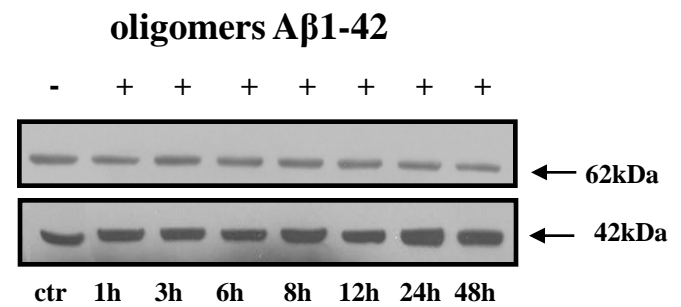
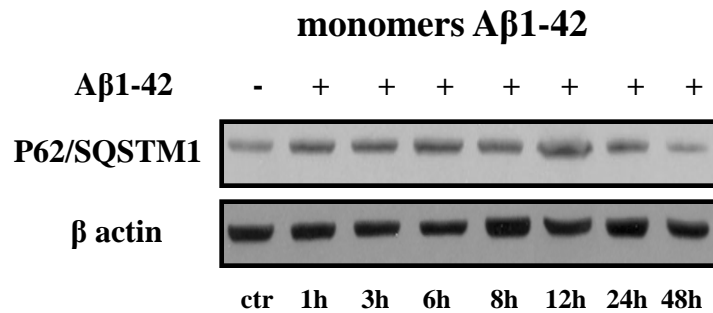
Densitometric analysis





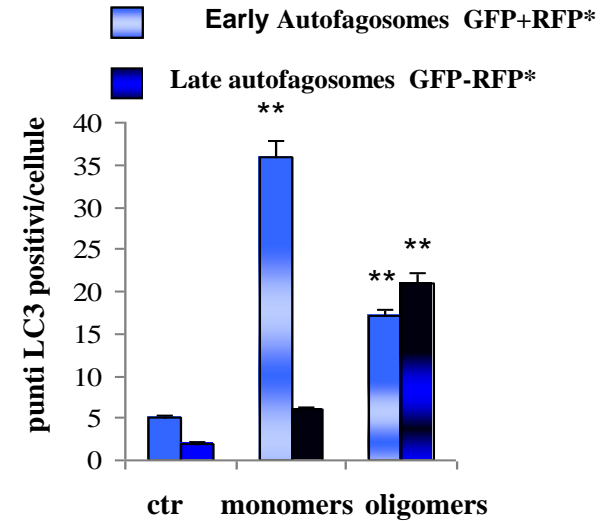
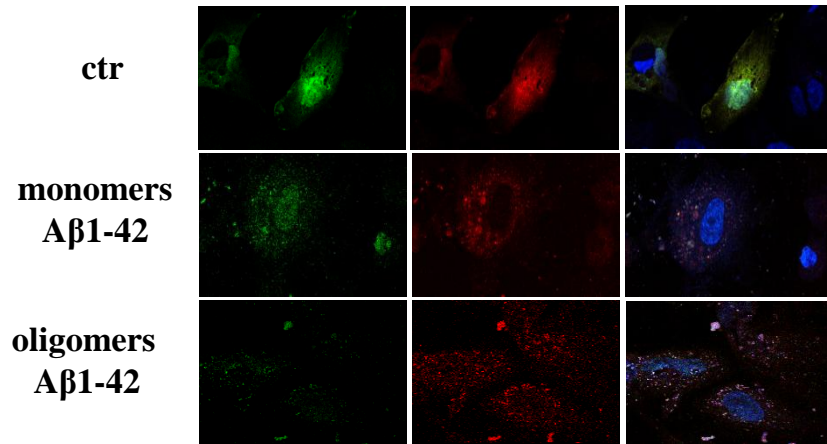
# A $\beta$ 1-42 monomers and oligomers affected autophagy

Guglielmotto M. et al., Autophagy 2014

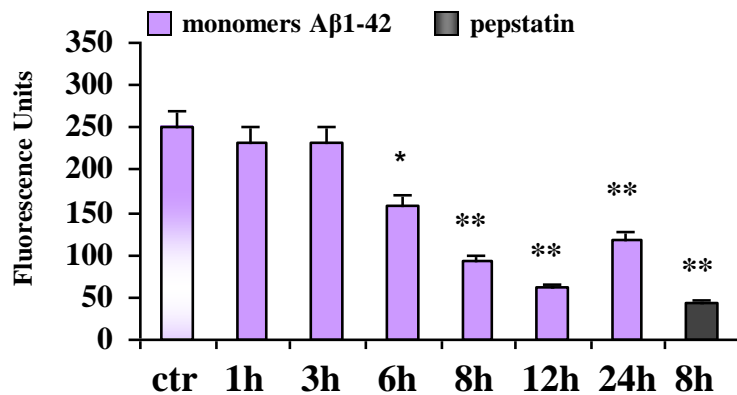


# A $\beta$ 1-42 Monomers and oligomers affected autophagic flux

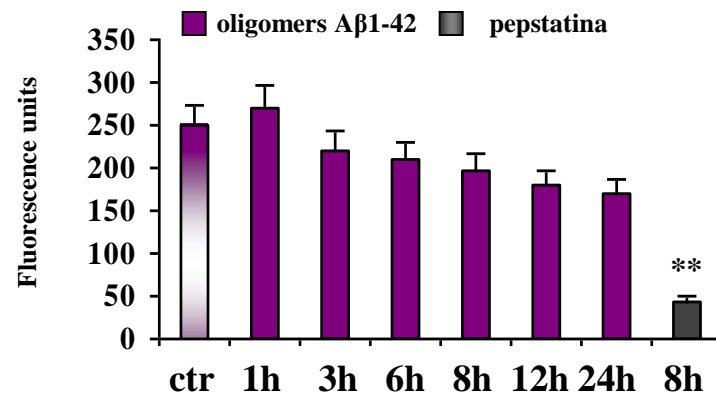
Guglielmotto M. et al., Autophagy 2014



Cathepsin D activity

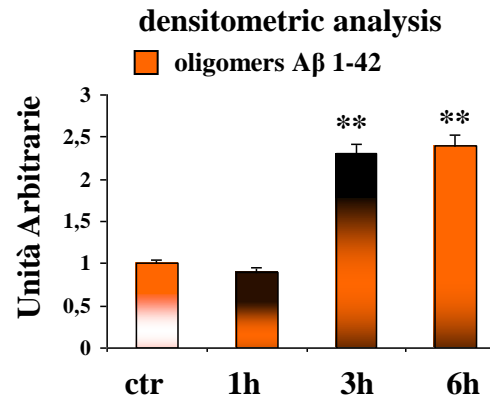
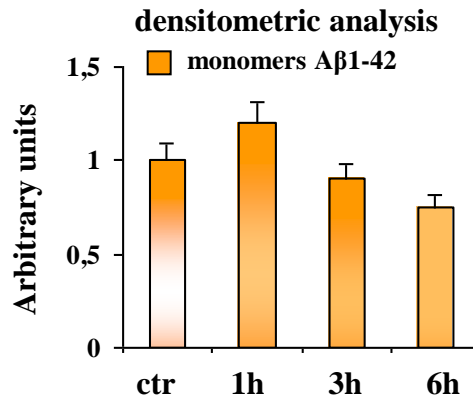
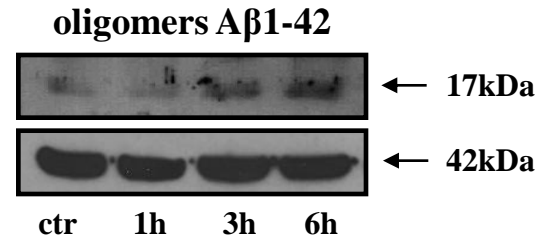
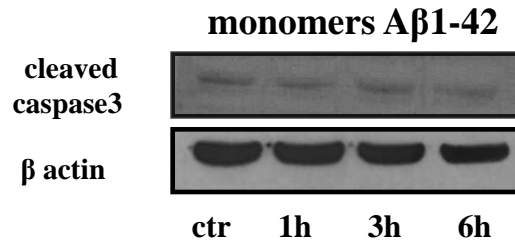


Cathepsin D activity



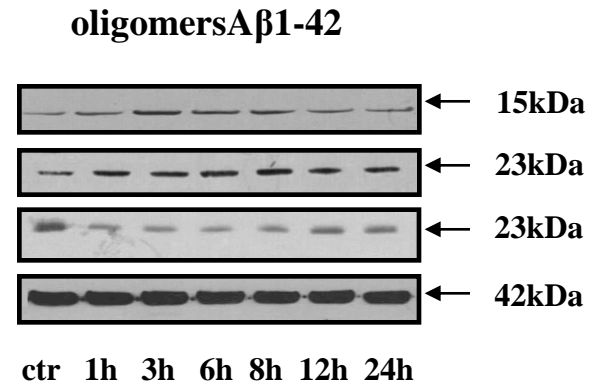
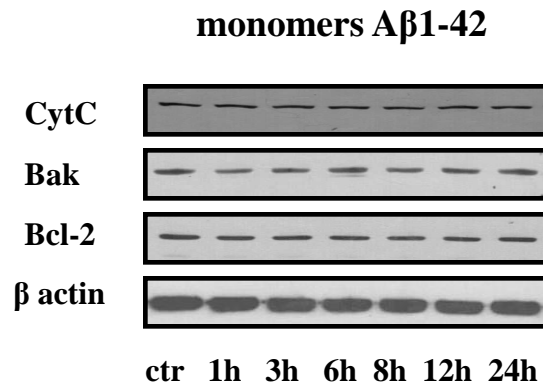
# A $\beta$ 1-42 oligomers affect apoptotic intrinsic way

Guglielmotto M. et al., Autophagy 2014

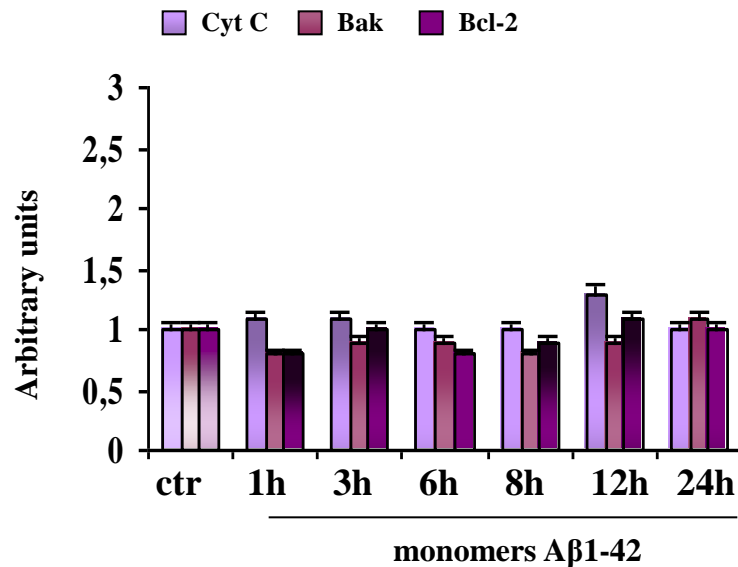


# A $\beta$ 1-42 oligomers affects apoptotic intrinsic way

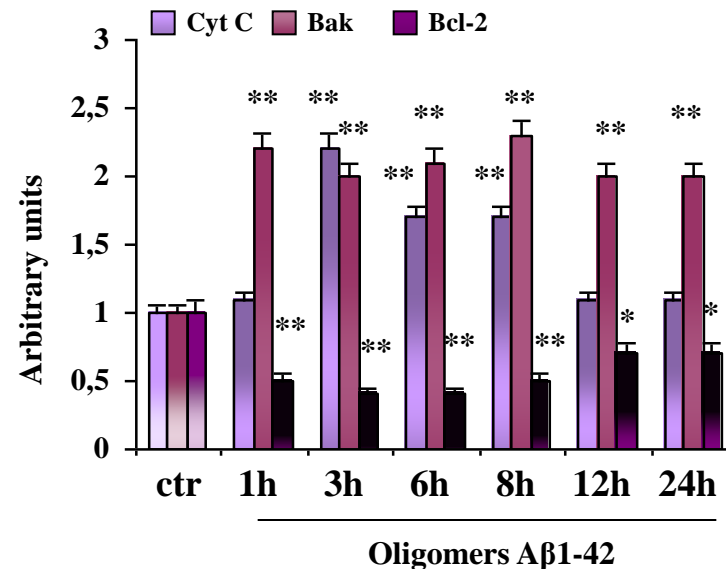
Guglielmotto M. et al., Autophagy 2014



**densitometric analysis**



**densitometric analysis**



# Bcl-2 /Beclin 1 complex



Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)



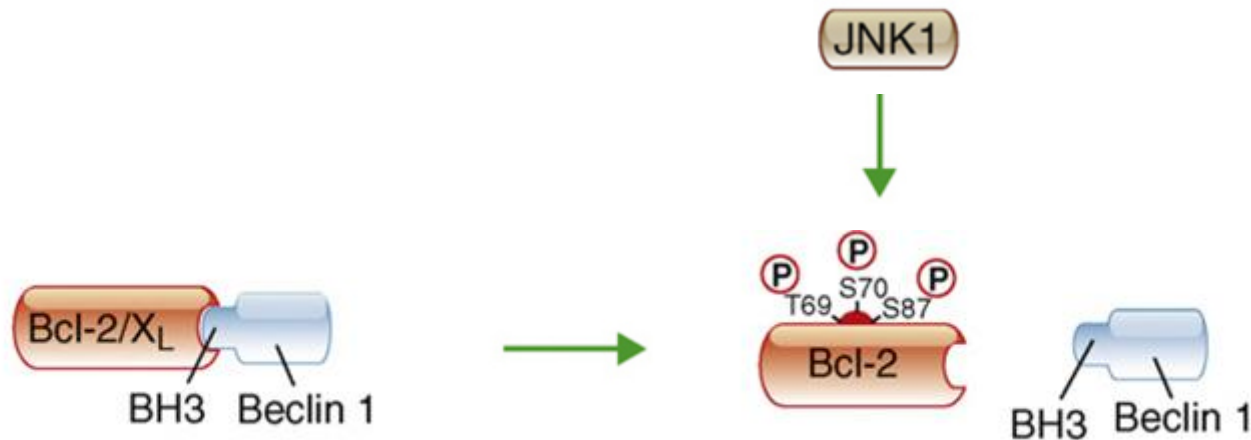
Current Opinion in  
Cell Biology

## The Beclin 1 interactome

Congcong He<sup>1,2</sup> and Beth Levine<sup>1,2,3</sup>

## Self-eating and self-killing: crosstalk between autophagy and apoptosis

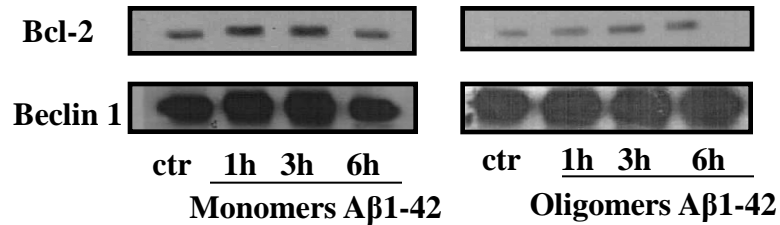
*M. Chiara Maiuri\*<sup>‡||</sup>, Einat Zalckvar<sup>¶</sup>, Adi Kimchi<sup>¶</sup> and Guido Kroemer\*<sup>‡§</sup>*



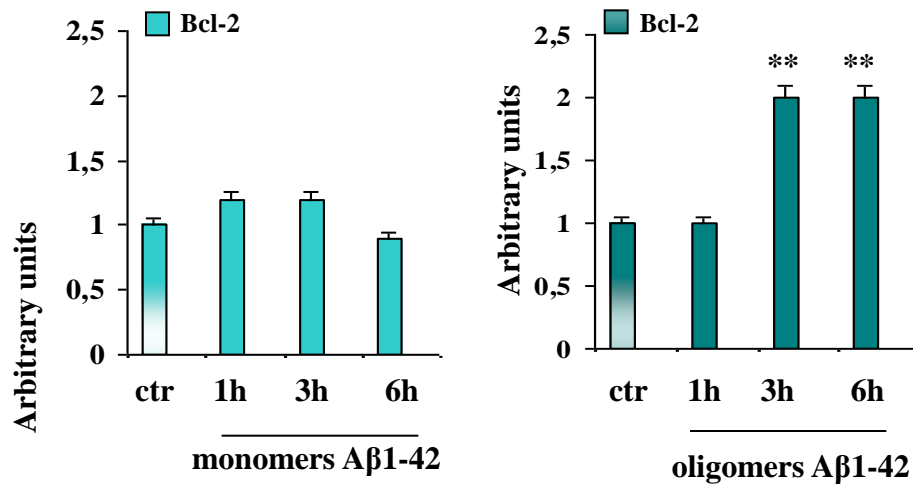
# Oligomers of A $\beta$ 1-42 favour Bcl-2/Beclin 1 complex

Guglielmotto M. et al., Autophagy 2014

IP: Beclin 1

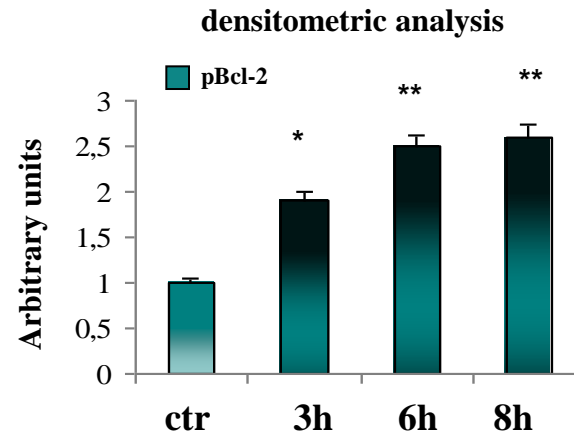
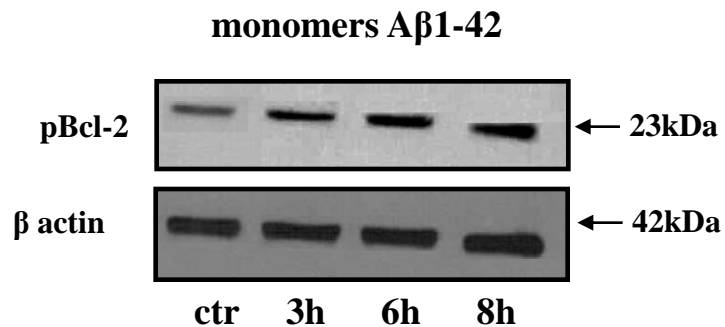
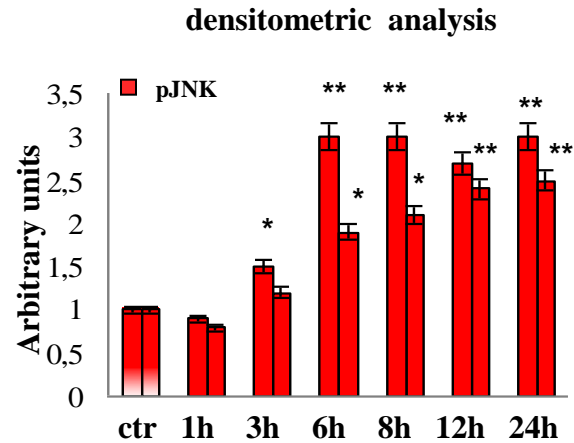
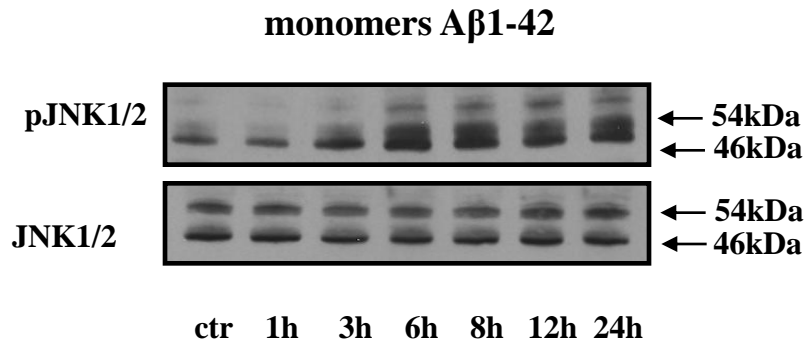


densitometric analysis



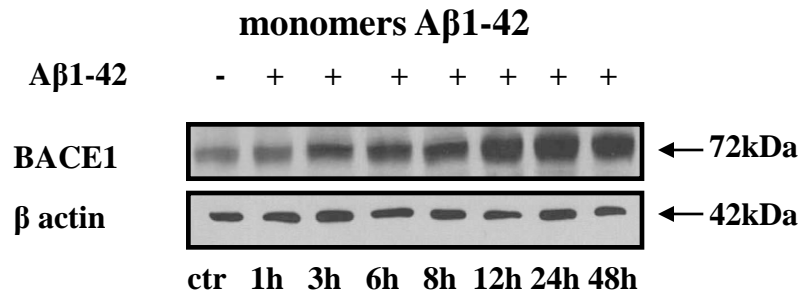
# Monomers of A $\beta$ 1-42 activate JNK pathway

Guglielmotto M. et al., Autophagy 2014

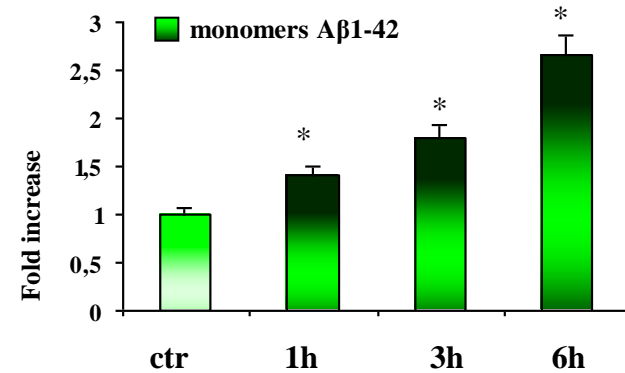


# Monomers of A $\beta$ 1-42 induce an over-expression of BACE1

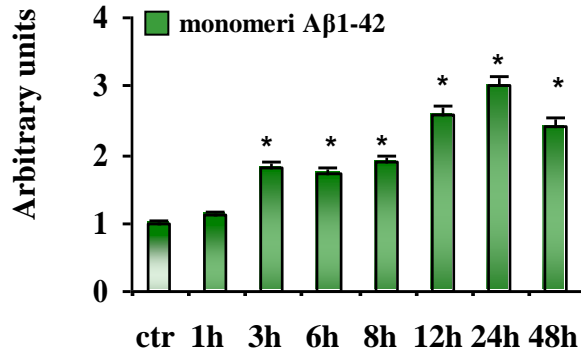
Guglielmotto M. et al., Autophagy 2014



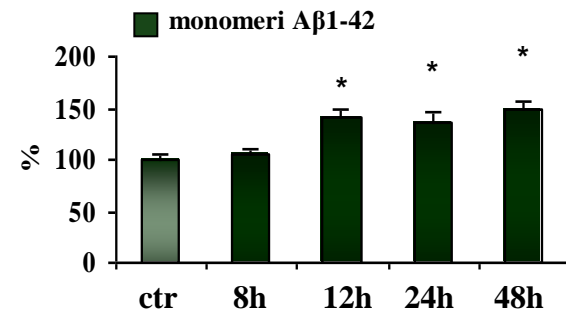
## Real Time BACE1



## Densitometric analysis

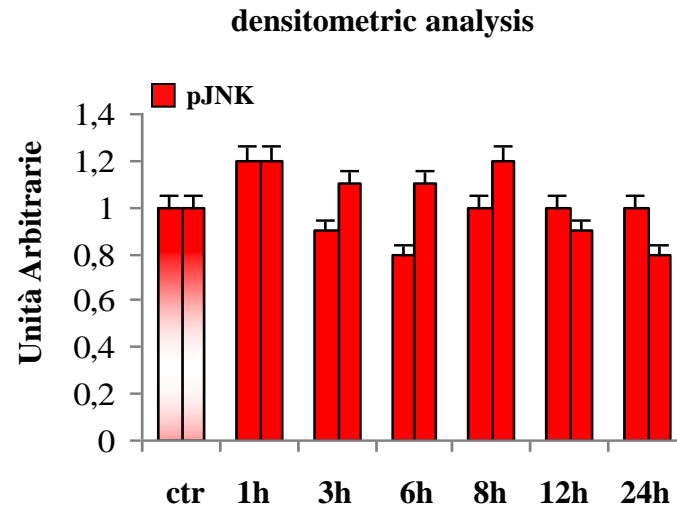
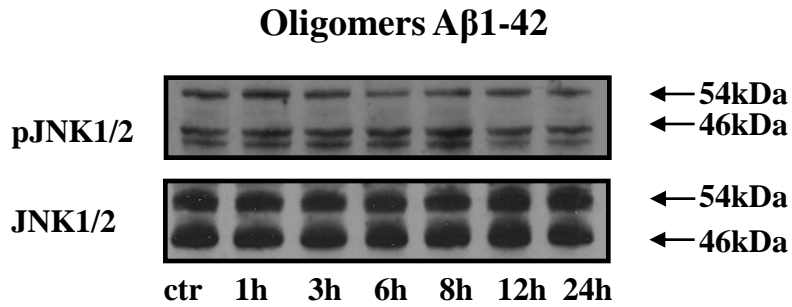


## BACE1 activity





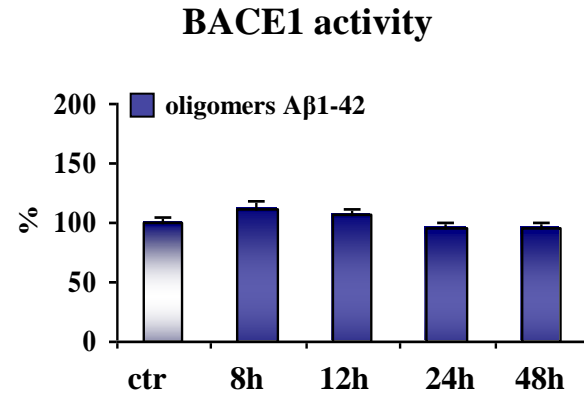
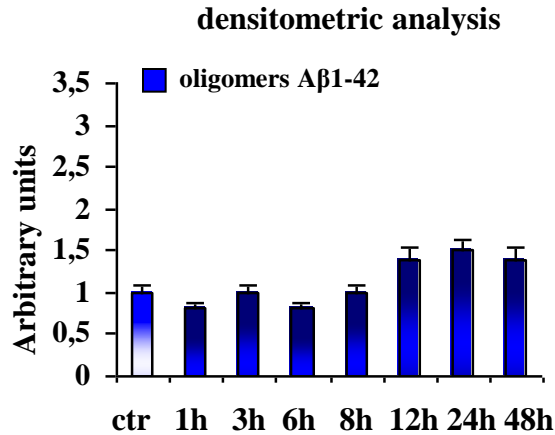
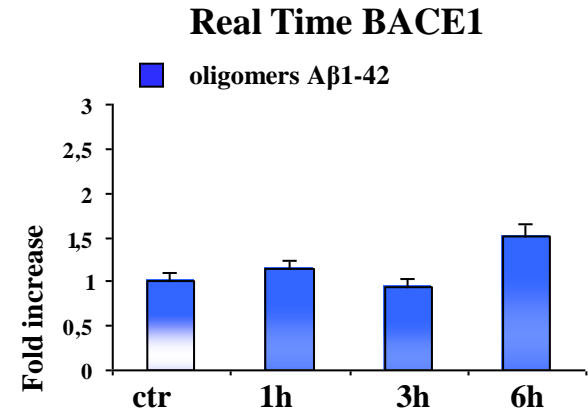
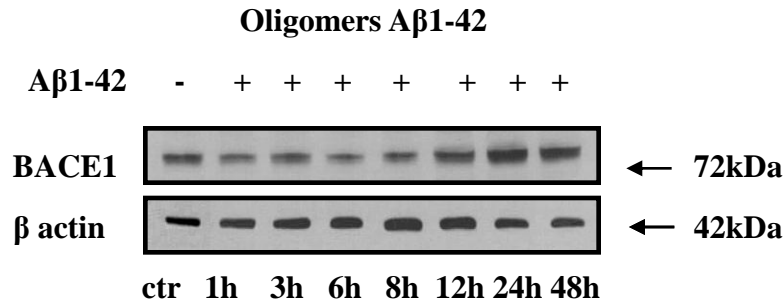
# Oligomers of A $\beta$ 1-42 do not activate JNK pathway



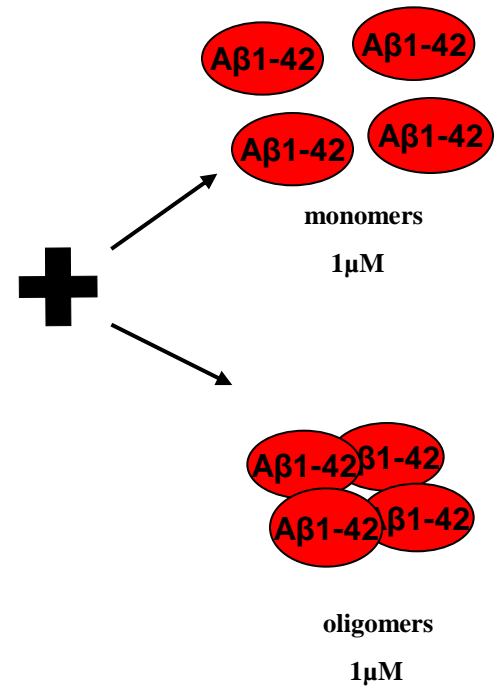
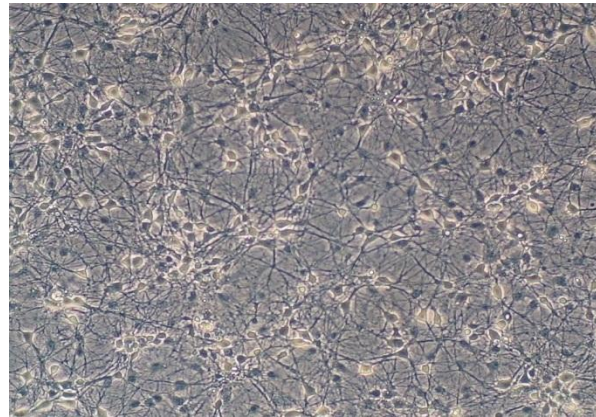
Guglielmotto M. et al., Autophagy 2014

# Oligomers of A $\beta$ 1-42 do not induce BACE1 over-expression

Guglielmotto M. et al., Autophagy 2014



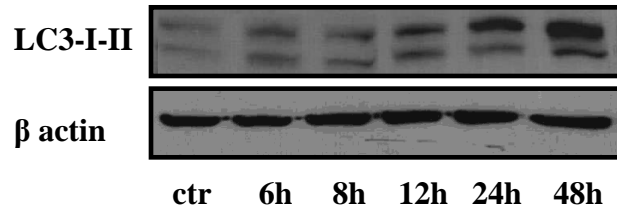
# Experimental model in vitro



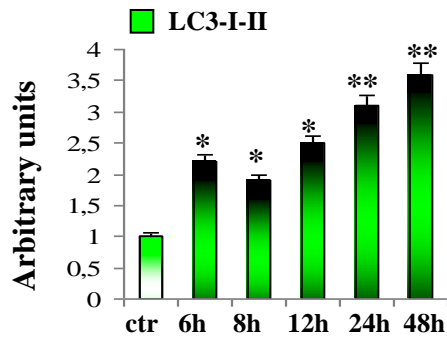
# Primary cortical neuron cultures confirm data on autophagy...

Guglielmotto M. et al., Autophagy 2014

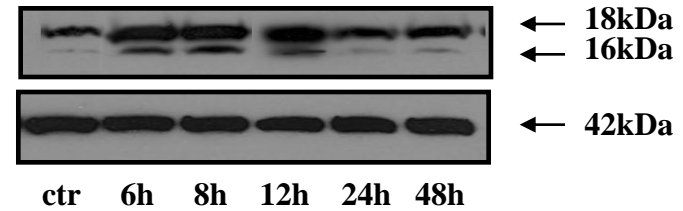
## Monomers A $\beta$ 1-42



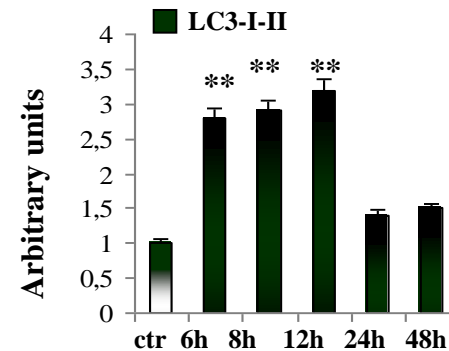
### densitometric analysis



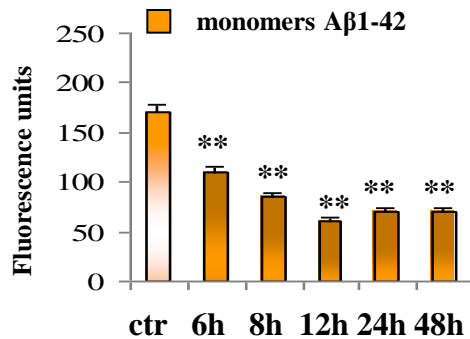
## oligomers A $\beta$ 1-42



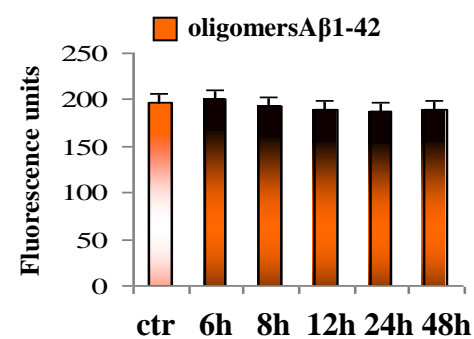
### densitometric analysis



## Catepsina D activity



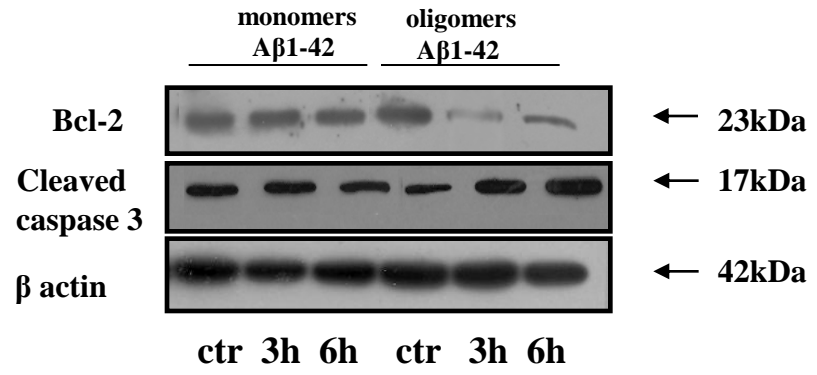
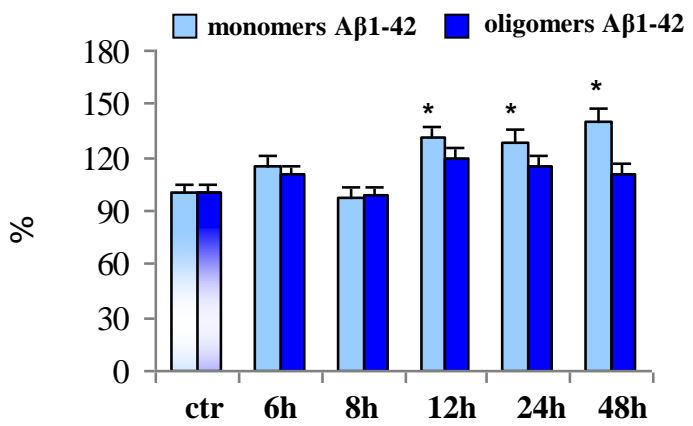
## Catepsina D activity



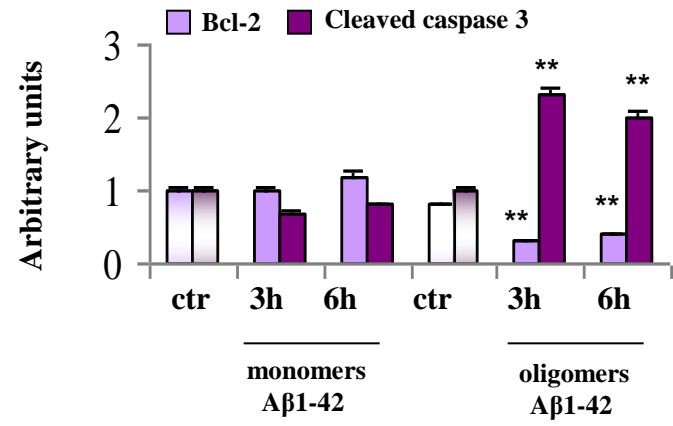
# ... and on BACE1 over-expression and apoptosis

Guglielmotto M. et al., Autophagy 2014

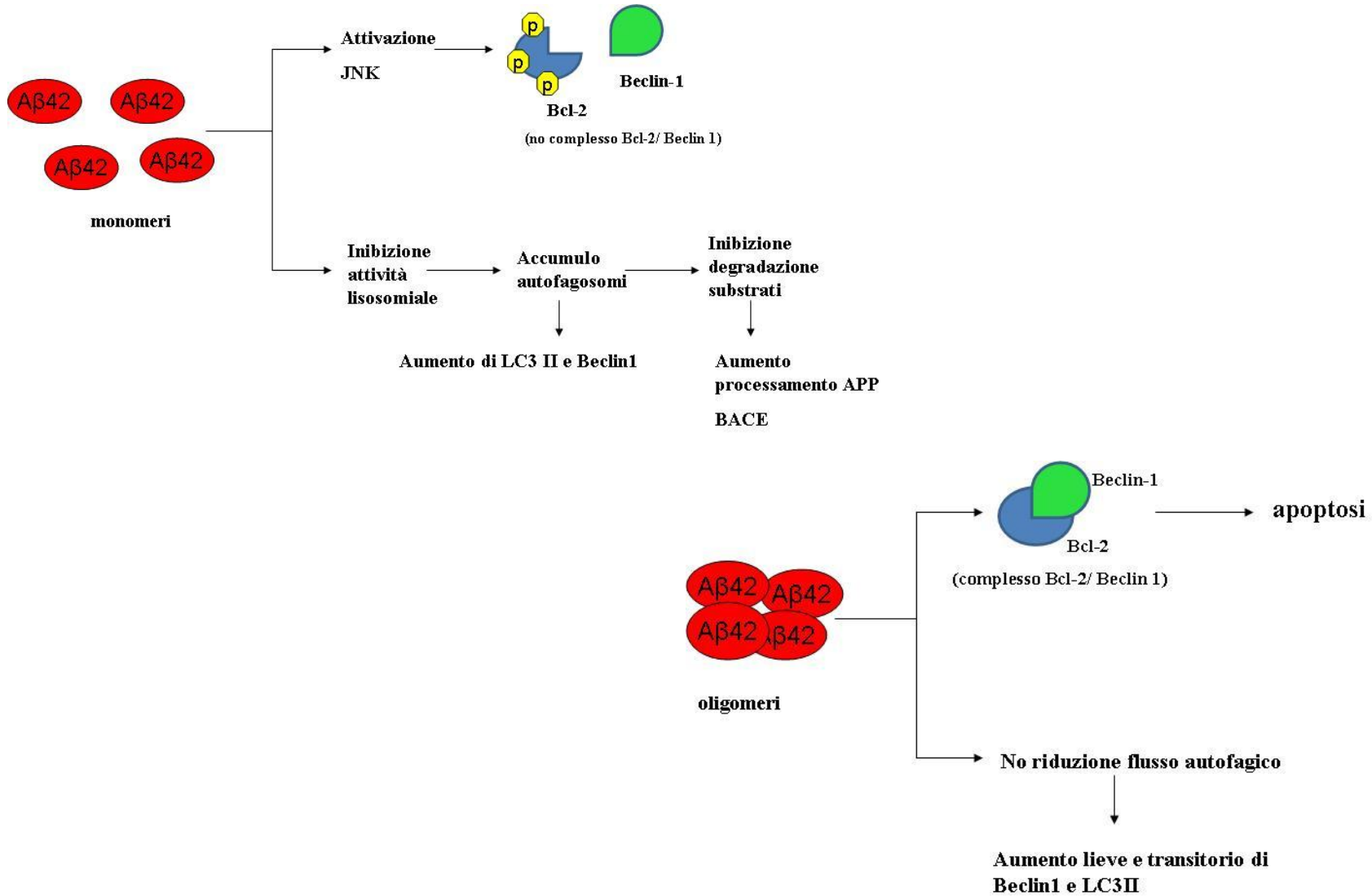
BACE1 activity



densitometric analysis



# Conclusions



***Several evidences indicate that, in AD, accumulation and aggregation of A $\beta$  peptides in the brain are the primary events that induce degeneration, the latter characterized by Tau pathology.***

***How A $\beta$  peptides induces Tau alteration and aggregation remains uncertain***

***Three major mechanisms have been proposed:***

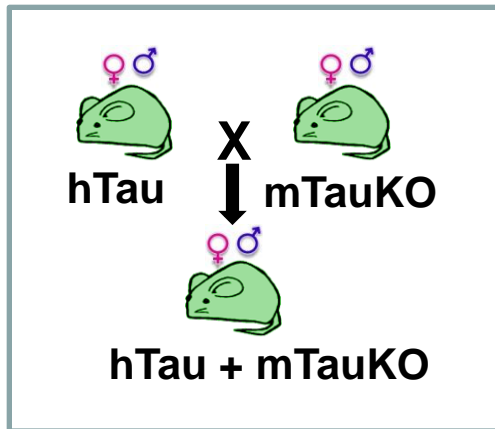
***A $\beta$  ACTIVATES KINASES THAT PHOSPHORYLATE TAU***

***A $\beta$  ALTERS THE PROTEOSOMAL DEGRADATION OF TAU***

***INTRACELLULAR A $\beta$  HAVE A NUCLEATION EFFECT ON TAU***

# EXPERIMENTAL PLAN

2 month-old



## In vivo



After  
3h or  
4days



### GROUPS

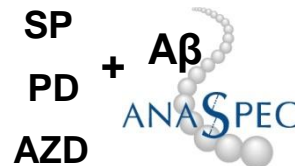
- ctr (saline)
- oligomeric A $\beta$ 42
- monomeric A $\beta$ 42



- ctr (saline)
- oligomeric A $\beta$ 42
- monomeric A $\beta$ 42

A $\beta$  DEPSI

- ctr (saline)
- monomeric A $\beta$ 42



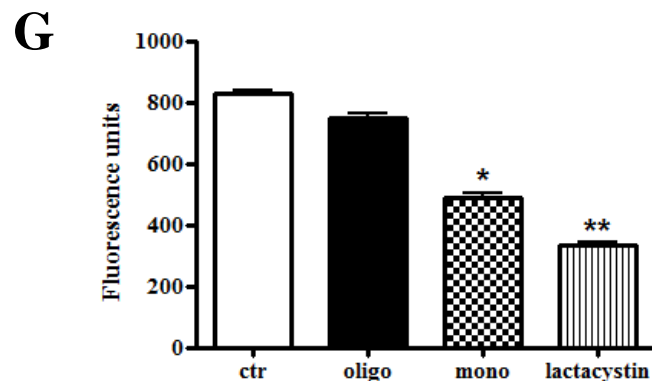
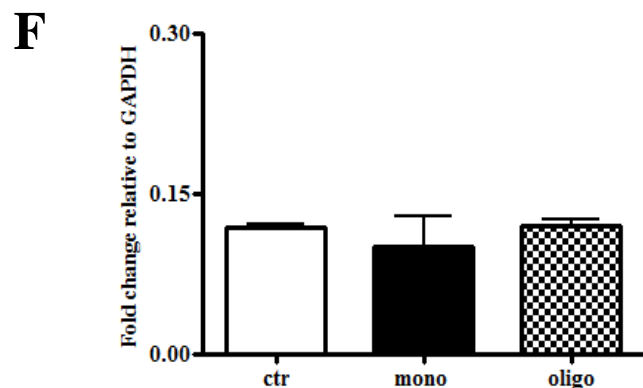
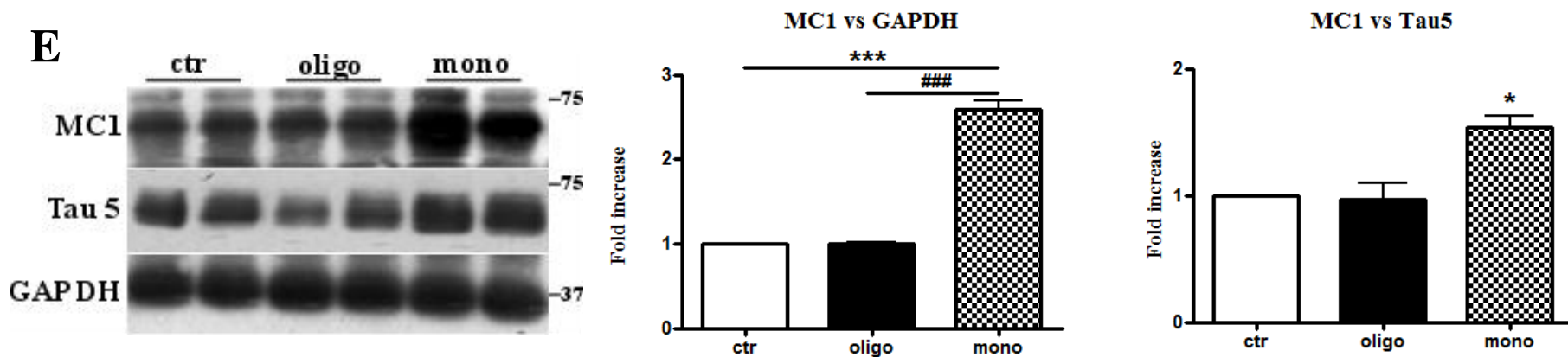
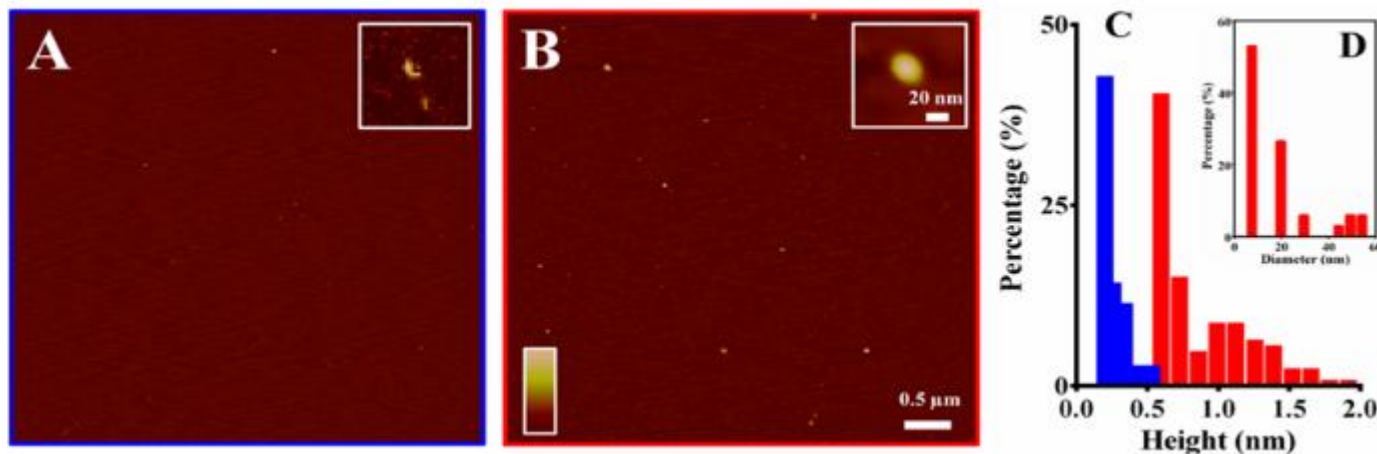
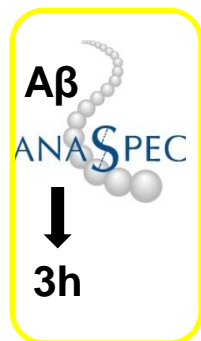
- ◆ atomic force microscopy
- ◆ WESTERN BLOT
- ◆ qPCR
- ◆ IF
- ◆ proteasome assay



- Tau conformation
- Tau phosphorylation

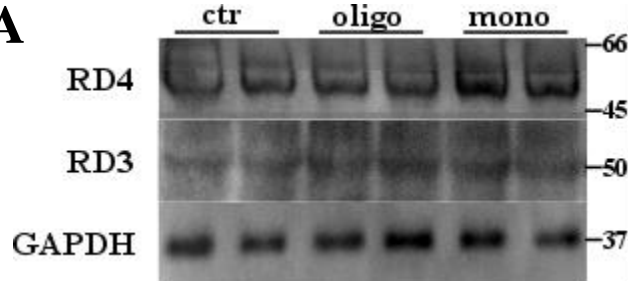


# A $\beta$ 42 monomers induce a conformational change of Tau protein

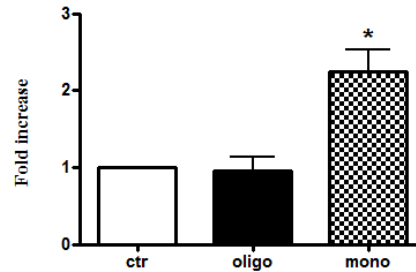


# A $\beta$ 42 monomers produce alternative splicing, insoluble Tau aggregates and hyper-phosphorylation of Tau protein

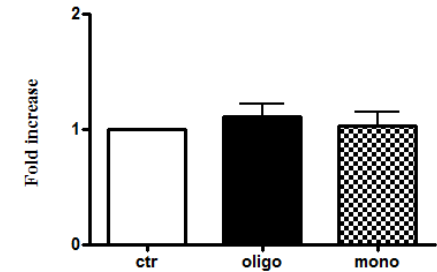
**A**



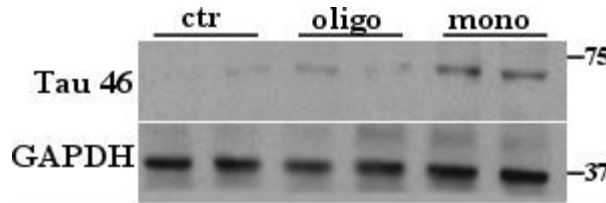
RD4 vs GAPDH



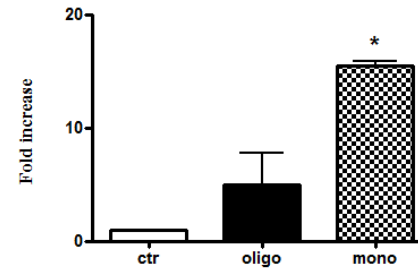
RD3 vs GAPDH



**B**

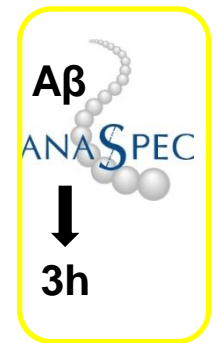
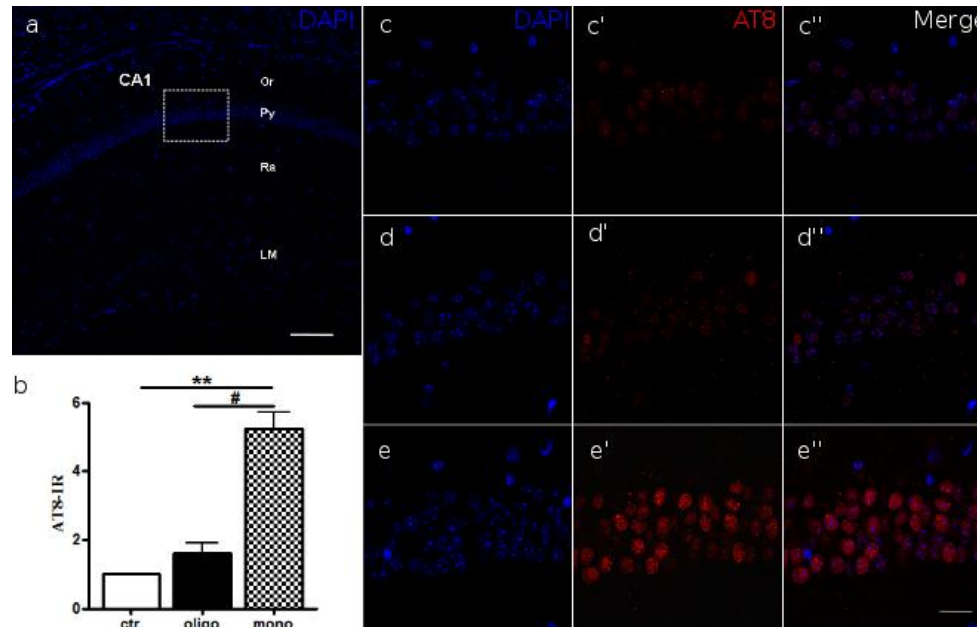


Tau46 vs GAPDH



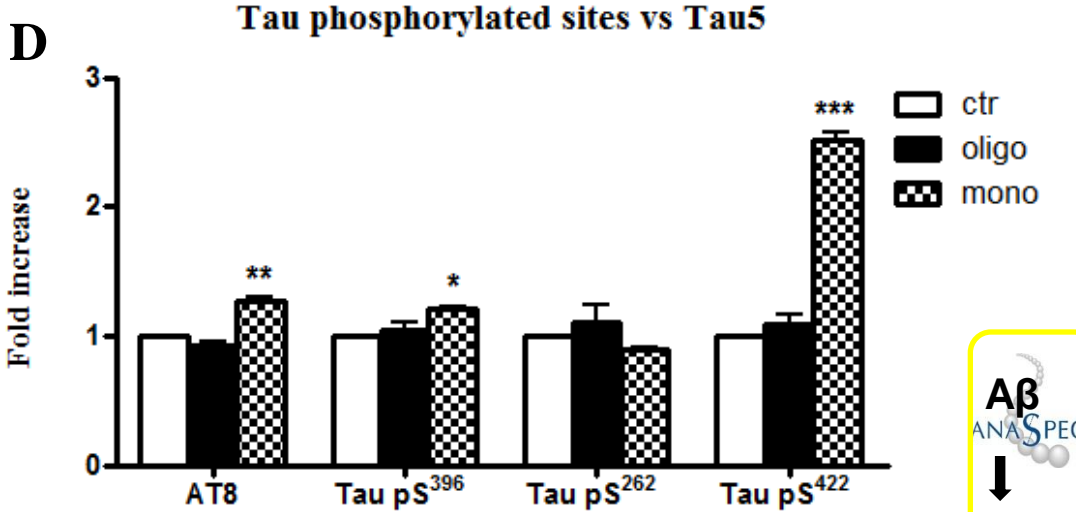
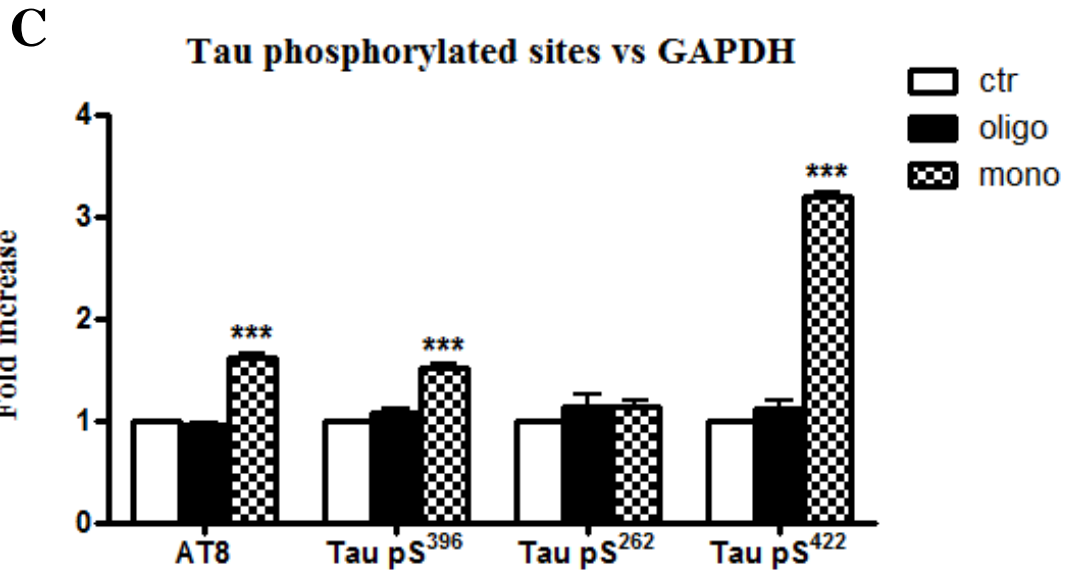
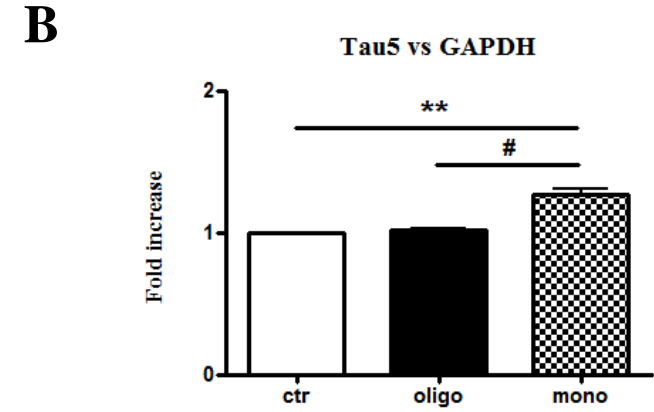
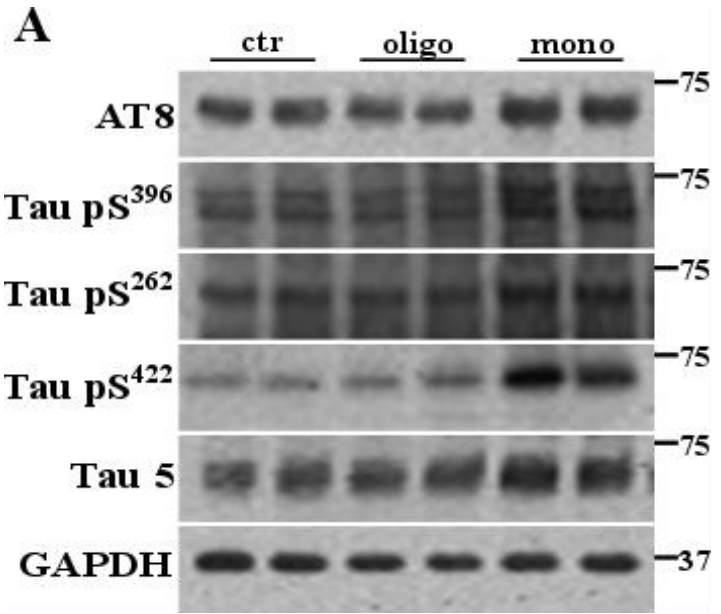
Manassero G. et al., Aging Cell 2016

**C**



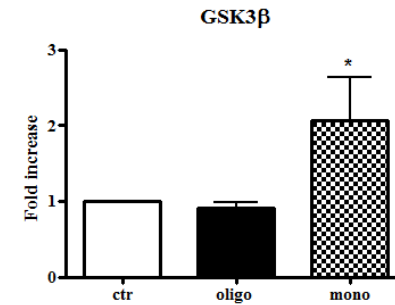
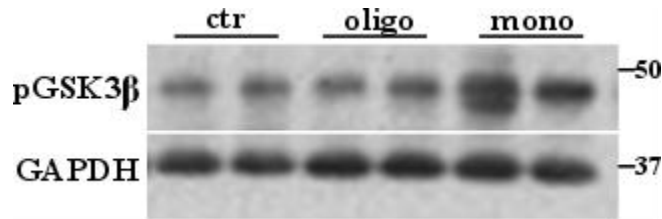
# Aβ42 monomers promote phosphorylation at particular sites that have been related to AD progression

Manassero G. et al., Aging Cell 2016

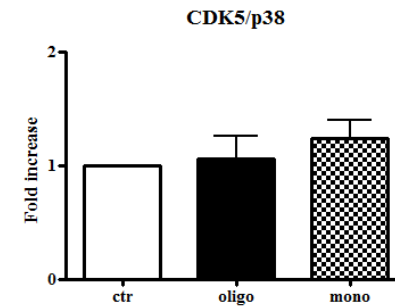
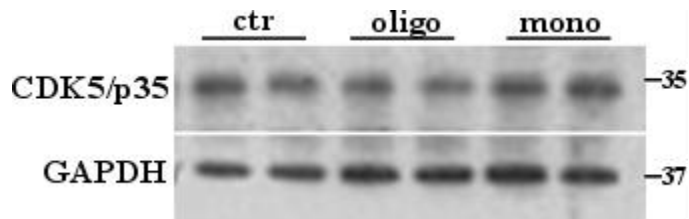


# A $\beta$ 42 monomers affect Tau phosphorylation through GSK3 $\beta$ , ERK1/2 and JNK kinases activation

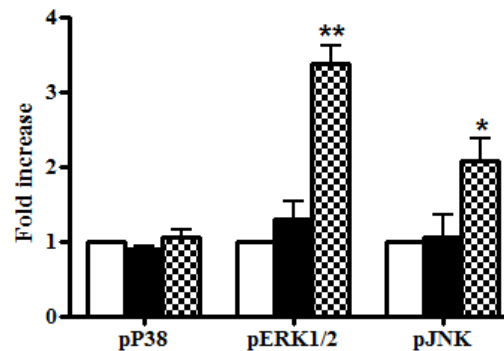
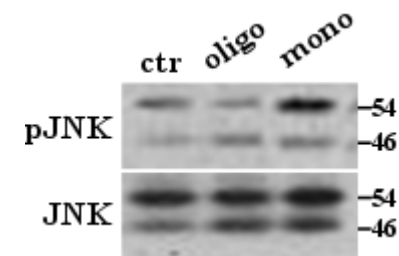
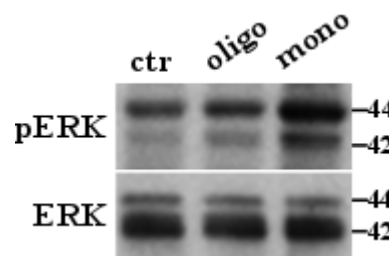
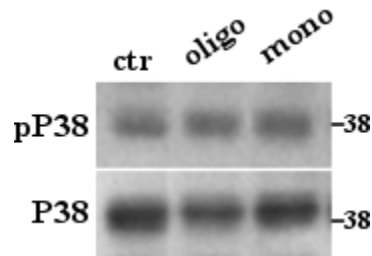
**A**



**B**

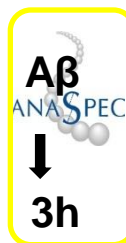


**C**



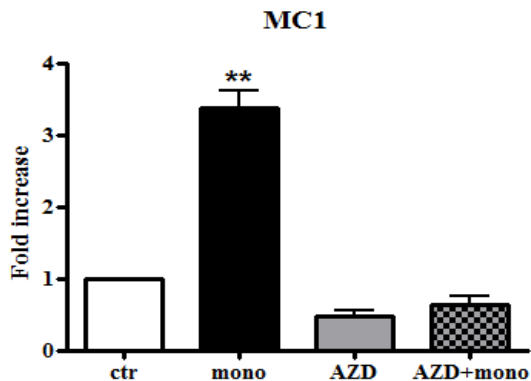
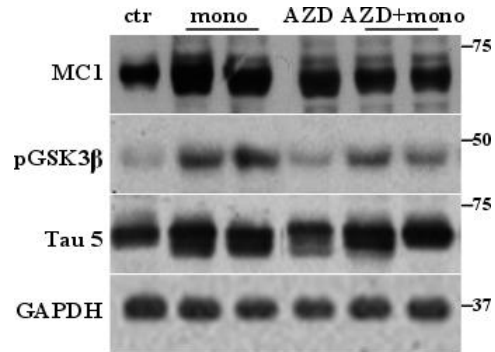
□ ctr  
 ■ oligo  
 ▨ mono

Manassero G. et al., Aging Cell 2016

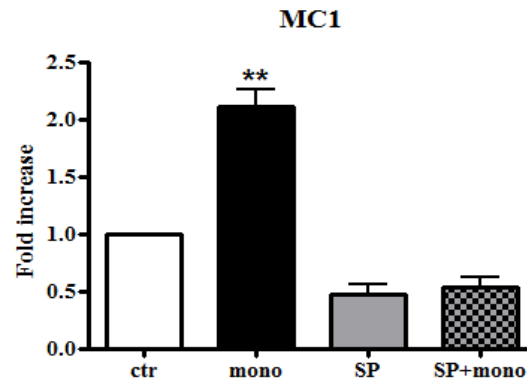
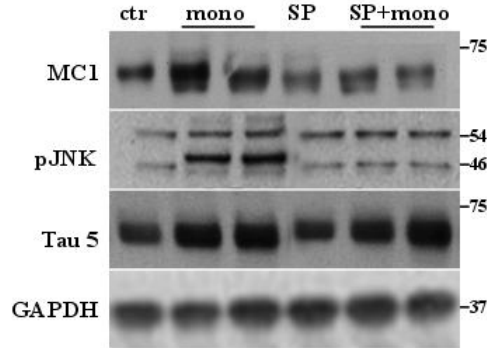


# The activation of JNK, ERK1/2 and GSK $\beta$ is required to mediate the conformational change of Tau protein induced by A $\beta$ 42 monomers

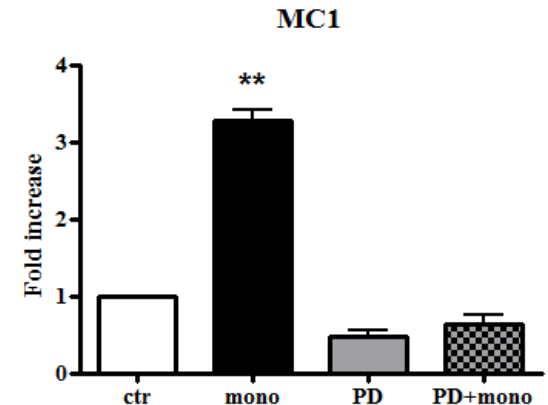
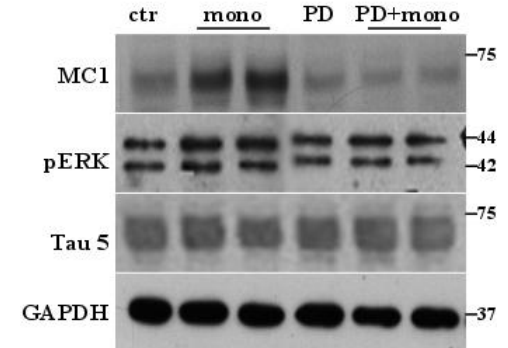
**A**



**B**



**C**



Manassero G. et al., Aging Cell 2016



# CONCLUSIONS

- ❖ **A $\beta$ 42 monomers alter Tau conformation through two mechanisms: hyperphosphorylation and increase of total Tau levels.**
- ❖ **A $\beta$ 42 does not have a direct nucleation effect on Tau.**
- ❖ **Our results have practical implications; currently the major efforts of Alzheimer's disease therapy are focused on removal of A $\beta$  oligomers, and not monomers.**



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