The 2013 Discovery Award from the Society for Free Radical Biology and Medicine: Selected Discoveries from the Butterfield Laboratory of Oxidative Stress and Its Sequelae in Brain in Cognitive Disorders Exemplified by Alzheimer Disease and Chemotherapy Induced Cognitive Impairment

D. Allan Butterfield[*]

Department of Chemistry, Center of Membrane Sciences, Free Radical Biology in Cancer Shared Resource Facility of the Markey Cancer Center, Spinal Cord and Brain Injury Research Center, and Sanders-Brown Center on Aging, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506 USA

Abstract

This retrospective review on discoveries of the roles of oxidative stress in brain of subjects with Alzheimer disease (AD) and animal models thereof as well as brain from animal models of chemotherapy induced cognitive impairment (CICI) results from the author receiving the 2013 Discovery Award from the Society for Free Radical Biology and Medicine. The paper reviews our laboratory's discovery of: protein oxidation and lipid peroxidation in AD brain regions rich in amyloid β-peptide (Aβ) but not in Aβ-poor cerebellum; redox proteomics as a means to identify oxidatively modified brain proteins in AD and its earlier forms that are consistent with the pathology, biochemistry, and clinical presentation of these disorders; how Aβ in *in vivo*, *ex vivo*, and *in vitro* studies can lead to oxidative modification of key proteins that also are oxidatively modified in AD brain; the role of the single methionine residue of Aβ(1-42) in these processes; and some of the potential mechanisms in the pathogenesis and progression of AD.

CICI affects a significant fraction of the 14 million American cancer survivors, and due to diminished cognitive function, reduced quality of life of the persons with CICI (called "chemobrain" by patients) often results. A proposed mechanism for CICI employed the prototypical ROS-generating and non-blood brain barrier (BBB)-penetrating chemotherapeutic agent doxorubicin (Dox, also called adriamycin, ADR). Because of the quinone moiety within the structure of Dox, this agent undergoes redox cycling to produce superoxide free radical peripherally. This, in turn, leads to oxidative modification of the key plasma protein, Apolipoprotein A1 (ApoA1). Oxidized ApoA1 leads to elevated peripheral TNFα, a pro-inflammatory cytokine that crosses the BBB to induce oxidative stress in brain parenchyma that

[*]Address correspondence to: Prof. D. Allan Butterfield, Department of Chemistry, Center of Membrane Sciences, Markey Cancer Center, SCoBRIC, and Sanders-Brown Center on Aging, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506 USA, Ph: 859-257-3184, dabcns@uky.edu.

affects negatively brain mitochondria. This subsequently leads to apoptotic cell death resulting in CICI. This review outlines aspects of CICI consistent with the clinical presentation, biochemistry, and pathology of this disorder. To the author's knowledge this is the only plausible and self-consistent mechanism to explain CICI.

These two different disorders of the CNS affect millions of persons worldwide. Both AD and CICI share free radical-mediated oxidative stress in brain, but the source of oxidative stress is not the same.

Continued research is necessary to better understand both AD and CICI. The discoveries about these disorders from the Butterfield laboratory that led to the 2013 Discovery Award from the Society of Free Radical and Medicine provides a significant foundation from which this future research can be launched.

Keywords

2013 SFRBM Discovery Award; Alzheimer disease (AD) and its earlier forms (amnestic MCI and preclinical AD); Aβ(1-42) associated oxidative stress; redox proteomics; chemotherapy induced cognitive impairment ("chemobrain"); plasma derived elevated TNFα and its sequela in brain

1. Introduction

Being presented the 2013 Discovery Award from the Society for Free Radical Biology & Medicine at its annual national meeting in San Antonio, TX in November 2013 ranks as one of the significant highlights of my academic career along with my being awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring by President Clinton in the White House in 1998, being elected a Fellow of SFRBM in 2012, and receiving the Alkmeon International Prize for Progress in Science from the European Brain Research Institute in 2014 in Rome, Italy.

Counting my three years as a Ph.D. student and two years as a NIH Postdoctoral Fellow at Duke University or Duke University School of Medicine in Physical Chemistry and Neuroscience, respectively, I have been involved in academic biomedical research for nearly 44 years, with most of this time at the University of Kentucky. Highly talented graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, visiting scientists, and undergraduate students, along with outstanding University of Kentucky collaborators and collaborators worldwide, have contributed greatly to the research that led to the Discovery Award and that has led to over 580 refereed scientific publications from my laboratory. I trained more than 60 Ph.D. and M.S. students, over 150 undergraduates, 30 postdoctoral scholars and visiting scientists, and all have been critical to the success of the laboratory in making discoveries about oxidative stress in brain in subjects with neurodegenerative disorders and in patients following certain chemotherapy regimens. So, to this outstanding group of scientists, including University of Kentucky and worldwide collaborators, this grateful scientist is highly appreciative and dedicates this review to each of you.

Our laboratory has been involved in the beginning with discovering oxidative stress in brains from subjects with aged related neurodegenerative disorders, especially Alzheimer

disease (AD) through all its stages, but also in model systems of AD, Parkinson disease (PD), Huntington disease (HD), and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). In addition, we have investigated oxidative stress in various tissues from patients with chemotherapy induced cognitive impairment (CICI, often called "chemobrain" by patients) and models thereof. The organization of this review will highlight some significant discoveries and achievements from humans and model systems related first to AD and then to CICI.

Since the Discovery Award was presented to me based on research in our laboratory, I will focus this review on mostly our own work. Other laboratories have made highly important contributions related to oxidative stress in AD, and omission of citation of references of such work is not meant to convey any message other than this review focuses on aspects of our own laboratory's work related to AD associated with the 2013 Discovery Award from SFRBM. Therefore, with any unintended hubris, I respectfully ask the indulgence of all appropriate researchers.

2. Oxidative Stress Indices and Redox Proteomics Employed in Our Laboratory

Oxidative stress is a condition that arises when free radical production exceeds biochemical means of scavenging these free radicals, and is manifested, among other ways, by protein oxidation and lipid peroxidation [1]. For markers for protein oxidation, protein carbonyls [2] and 3-nitrotyrosine [3] are the most prominently used, and while several markers of lipid peroxidation are available [4], protein-bound HNE (4-hydroxy-2-nonenal) [5] is most often used in our laboratory (Table I). Protein carbonyls arise as a consequence of at least four processes involving free radical reactions [2]: (a) Cleavage of the peptide backbone to produce carbon-centered radicals that combine rapidly with paramagnetic oxygen; (b) Oxidation of specific protein side chains, for example, Lys, His, Thr, etc. (c) Covalent modification by reactive products of lipid peroxidation, e.g., alkenals like HNE via Michael addition; and (d) Glycoxidation of oligosaccharide chains. HNE is produced from a lipid acyl chain hydroperoxide, particularly that from arachidonic acid. The hydroperoxide is formed following free radical attack on allylic H atoms of these acyl chains and subsequent chain reaction involving oxygen reaction with carbon-centered free radicals and further attack on allylic H atoms on acyl chains of lipids [1]. 3-Nitrotyrosine is formed by reaction of tyrosine with peroxynitrite ($ONOO^-$), the latter, in turn, formed following reaction of nitric oxide and superoxide free radical and subsequent involvement of carbon dioxide [3].

Redox proteomics, pioneered in the Butterfield laboratory [6], is that branch of the field of proteomics used to identify proteins oxidatively modified by one or more of the processes noted above. Detailed methodology for protein identification and caveats of the methods are given in recent reviews [6-8] (see Fig. 1).

3. Alzheimer Disease

3.1 Brief Background of AD

The cause of the largest fraction (about 70-75 percent) of dementia in the USA, AD is an age-dependent progressive neurodegenerative disorder characterized by loss of cognition,

including reasoning and memory. Approximately 5.5 million Americans currently are diagnosed with AD, and recent studies suggest that with proper coding of the actual cause of death of AD patients would rank AD as the 3rd or 4th leading cause of death in the USA [9]. Pathology may occur at least 20 years before the onset of symptoms, so diagnostic biomarkers are clearly needed for this devastating disease. The three major characteristic neuropathological hallmarks of AD include the presence of senile plaques (SP, composed of a core of amyloid β-peptide (Aβ) surrounded by dystrophic neuritis with several associated proteins), neurofibrillary tangles (NFT, composed of hyperphosphorylated tau protein) [10] and the loss of synapses in brain parenchyma [11]. Aβ, a 39-43 amino acid peptide (Fig. 2) is formed by proteolytic cleavage of amyloid precursor protein (APP) by β-secretase and γ-secretase (Fig. 3).

Mild cognitive impairment [12]; [13], particularly amnestic MCI, is arguably a prodromal form of AD. Patients with amnestic MCI have memory loss but normal activities of daily living. Preclinical AD (PCAD) is gaining acceptance as the earliest form of AD [14]. Patients with PCAD have normal indices of cognition but significant AD-relevant pathology in their brains.

The amyloid cascade hypothesis, suitably updated, has provided a framework for understanding clinical presentation and pathology of AD [15]. Although SP density does not correlate with performance on instruments of cognition, Aβ(1-42) oligomer density does [15]. Oligomers of Aβ(1-42) injected into mice brain significantly diminish long-term potentiation (LTP), which is needed for learning and memory [16]. Many other detrimental biological effects of Aβ(1-42) oligomers are known, and most researchers in the AD field accept that oligomers are the toxic species of Aβ(1-42) [17].

Our laboratory along with the late William R. Markesbery developed the notion of another complementary component of AD pathogenesis, namely, the involvement of free radical oxidative stress in the pathogenesis and progression of AD [18, 19], with our laboratory emphasizing the role of Aβ(1-42) oligomers in this oxidative stress [20, 21].

This part of this invited review associated with the 2013 Discovery Award from the Society for Free Radical Biology and Medicine will highlight some discoveries from our laboratory of the role of Aβ(1-42)-associated oxidative stress in the pathogenesis and progression of AD.

3.2. Studies of Oxidative Stress in Brain of Subjects of AD and Its Earliest Stages from the Butterfield Laboratory

We demonstrated for the first time that protein oxidation indexed by elevated protein carbonyls was localized to brain regions of subjects with AD that were rich in Aβ(1-42), viz, hippocampus and inferior parietal lobule, but not in brain regions poor in Aβ, e.g., cerebellum [22]. Subsequently, we, showed that elevated protein-bound HNE was observed in AD brain [4, 23-25], complementing research by Markesbery and colleagues, who showed that free HNE was elevated in AD brain [26]. We also demonstrated that 3-NT was elevated in AD brain in the same regions in which protein carbonyls were elevated [27, 28]. Similar studies in brain of subjects with amnestic MCI demonstrated elevated levels of

protein carbonyls [29, 30], protein-bound HNE [31, 32], and 3-NT [33]. Similar studies in early AD revealed elevated protein-bound HNE [34]. The inferior parietal lobule region from subjects with PCAD in our hands did not show evidence of oxidative stress [35], while others reported only HNE elevation in hippocampus from PCAD subjects [36]. Taken together, our studies suggested that oxidative stress in brain occurred early in the progression of AD.

The lipid peroxidation product HNE and Aβ(1-42) were shown by us to cause loss of phospholipid asymmetry in synaptic membranes [37, 38]. The loss of lipid asymmetry in brain membranes caused by Aβ(1-42) was prevented by several antioxidant compounds (Structures given in Fig. 4). Exposure of phosphatidylserine (PtdSer) to the outer bilayer lamella normally invokes a response by membrane-bound flippase, an ATP-dependent enzyme with a critical cysteine in its active site, to return PtdSer to its normal location, the inner lamella of the lipid bilayer. Loss of lipid asymmetry by HNE and Aβ(1-42)-produced HNE conceivably results from binding of this alkenal to the active site cysteine of flippase. Using this information, we determined that synaptic membranes from AD and amnestic MCI inferior parietal lobule had lost lipid asymmetry, i.e., greater exposure of PtdSer to the outer bilayer lamella [39], which is a marker of apoptotic cells. These results showed that loss of lipid asymmetry occurred early in the progression of AD and were correlated with levels of Aβ(1-42). Similar studies with the human double mutant APP/PS-1 knock in mouse model of AD showed loss of lipid asymmetry in brain synaptic membranes occurred as a function of age, reaching a maximum loss with the onset of Aβ(1-42) deposition [40].

Redox proteomics, pioneered in our laboratory, is a subset of the field of proteomics that leads to the identification of oxidatively modified and, almost always, dysfunctional proteins [7, 8, 41, 42]. Metabolic proteins were identified by redox proteomics as oxidatively dysfunctional in AD and aMCI brain, consistent with the observation that glucose utilization is markedly depressed in both conditions, with the AD brain showing greater effects than the former [6, 25, 27, 29, 32, 43-49]. Among these proteins were various glycolytic enzymes, TCA enzymes, and components of ATP synthase. Lack of ATP is consistent with altered synaptic function in AD and induced by Aβ(1-42) oligomers [16]. Diminution of ATP also would greatly affect cellular and mitochondrial potential, glutamate neurotransmission, learning and memory, and maintenance of lipid asymmetry.

All these functions are lost in AD and aMCI, demonstrating again that redox proteomics-identified proteins often mirror the pathology and clinical presentation of this disease. One such protein that appears oxidatively modified at all stages of AD is enolase [50]. This protein is not only involved in glycolysis, but plays roles in activation of plasminogen, which in turn is activated to plasmin, a protease that, among other proteins, targets Aβ(1-42) for destruction. Moreover, enolase through c-myc activates pro-survival pathways involving ERK1/2. Thus, oxidatively dysfunctional enolase in AD would lead to elevated neurotoxic Aβ(1-42) and to loss of pro-survival processes [50], both effects consistent with observations in AD brain. Moreover, comparison of brain from subjects with PCAD, who have no cognitive loss, to those of subjects with amnestic MCI, who have only memory loss but no dementia, revealed that enolase is oxidatively modified in aMCI brain [51], consistent

with the notion that this protein is involved in memory, and its oxidation may be associated with loss of memory in this early form of AD.

Other classes of proteins identified by redox proteomics or Western blot methods in our laboratory as oxidatively modified and likely dysfunctional in AD and/or aMCI brain include proteins that normally function as: chaperones [52]; metabolic proteins [53]; proteins involved neurite extension [54]; proteasomal degradation of damaged, aggregated proteins [54]; glutathionylation [55-57] proteins involved in antioxidant defense [27, 28, 45, 47, 58, 59] cell cycle proteins [60, 61] p53-mediated non-transcriptional apoptosis [62, 63] glycoproteins [64]; [65, 66] proteins associated with PSD95 [67]; LRP-1, a major clearance protein that removes Aβ(1-42) from brain to blood [68]; heme oxygenase-1 that degrades pro-oxidant heme forming biliverdin [69]; biliverdin reductase, which rapidly converts biliverdin to the antioxidant and denitrifying molecule, bilirubin, is involved in various pro-survival signaling pathways [70, 71] lipoamide dehydrogenase-mediated reduction of lipoic acid [72]; and protein synthesis [25].

These oxidatively modified and dysfunctional proteins are consonant with the clinical presentation and pathology of AD and various stages thereof. They also represent potentially important targets for therapeutic intervention in early stages of AD. And these numerous proteins, involved in many pathways, are consistent with a free radical source in AD in which any protein modified by free radicals or free radical reaction products (i.e., HNE) would by oxidatively modified, of altered structure [73], and consequently dysfunctional.

An initial redox proteomics study of brain in familial AD (FAD) was conducted by our laboratory in collaboration with Ralph Martins, now of Edith Cowan University in Australia. Brain proteins associated with energy metabolism, nitric oxide utilization, the ubiquitin-proteasome system, and the spectrin actin cytoskeletal network were found to be oxidatively modified [74]. Some of these proteins were identified as oxidatively modified and dysfunctional in brain of sporadic AD and amnestic MCI as noted above.

Down syndrome (DS) is a consequence of trisomy of chromosome 21. With improvements in medical care, persons with DS often live to the sixth decade of life or longer. At approximately 40-45 years of age, Alzheimer-like dementia appears coincident with AD-like neuropathology [75]. In collaboration with Prof. Elizabeth Head at the University of Kentucky and Prof. Marzia Perluigi of the University of Rome-La Sapienza, we determined that elevated oxidative stress occurred in frontal cortex [76] and other brain regions of DS subjects with AD-like pathology [75]. In addition, redox proteomics analyses identified brain proteins, including those associated with dysfunctional proteastasis network, as oxidatively modified and likely dysfunctional in DS subjects with AD-like pathology [77-79]. The *APP* gene is located on chromosome 21; consequently, there is a dose effect of Aβ(1-42) in DS that likely contributes to the oxidative stress of this disorder. Other moieties like Cu,Zn-SOD also are coded for on chromosome 21 and also may contribute to oxidative stress in this disorder. However, oxidative stress and redox proteomics-identified oxidatively modified proteins also are found early in DS: for example, amniotic fluid from mothers carrying a DS fetus had elevated indices of oxidative stress and increased oxidative modification of key proteins such as apolipoprotein A1 [80].

3.3. Potential Biomarkers of AD and Its Earlier Forms

Ideally, biomarkers of AD and its earlier forms would be found in plasma or at least cerebral spinal fluid (CSF) [81, 82]. Given that oxidative stress may be a integral aspect of the pathogenesis of AD [21, 24], oxidatively modified proteins potentially may be among such biomarkers. The Butterfield laboratory in collaboration with the Perluigi laboratory of the University of Rome-La Sapienza demonstrated decreased expression and increased oxidation of plasma haptoglobin in AD patients [83] and alterations of the HO-1/BVR-A system in plasma of probable AD patients and MCI patients [84], suggesting that these damaged proteins could be part of a panel of altered proteins to serve as a potential biomarker in AD and its earlier forms.

In addition to plasma and CSF, we proposed that oxidatively damaged mitochondria isolated from peripheral lymphocytes potentially could contribute to a biomarker for AD and MCI [85, 86]. That elevated indices of oxidative damage to mitochondria isolated from lymphocytes inversely correlated with performance on measures of cognitive function in both AD and MCI, and that proteomics analysis of these mitochondria demonstrated differential levels of key proteins involved in ATP production, protection against oxidative stress and other pathways previously identified by our proteomics studies of brains of subjects with AD and MCI noted above, support our hypothesis that mitochondria isolated from peripheral lymphocytes potentially could be part of a biomarker for AD and its earlier forms.

3.4. *In Vivo* Studies of Models of Alzheimer Disease

As noted above, oligomeric Aβ(1-42) is viewed by many (most) AD researchers as underlying the pathology and clinical presentation of this dementing disorder. Accordingly, we performed *in vivo* studies of models of AD to assess the role of Aβ(1-42) to induce oxidative stress and oxidize specific proteins. Moreover, we investigaed the role of antioxidant compounds administered *in vivo* on oxidative stress induced by Aβ(1-42) *in vivo* and *ex vivo*.

Using a muscle promoter, DNA corresponding to human Aβ(1-42) was inserted into *C.elegans*, and oxidative stress was measured [87]. The phenotype observed in this constitutive Aβ(1-42) expression system was paralysis of the worms, and elevated protein carbonyls were demonstrated. Subsequent studies using a temperature-sensitive mutant of *C.elegans* that allowed for controlled temporal expression of Aβ(1-42) showed that elevated protein carbonyls occurred precisely when the paralysis phenotype occurred and prior to deposition of fibrillar Aβ(1-42), suggesting that Aβ(1-42)-induced oxidized muscle proteins led to the paralysis and that oligomeric Aβ(1-42) was the causative agent [88]. Redox proteomics analysis identified worm orthologues of human brain proteins in *C.elegans* expressing human Aβ(1-42) that had been identified previously [89]. If the codon for Met-35 of human Aβ(1-42) were mutated to Cys, no oxidative stress was found [87].

Human double mutant APP/PS-1 knock-in mice (*APPNLh/APPNLh × PS-1P264L/PS-1P264L*) were studied for oxidative stress in brain [90, 91]. Use of knock in mice obviates any putative compensatory responses in the mouse, since the mouse gene is

knocked out, but the mouse promoter remains. This means that human mutant *APP* and *PS-1* genes are inserted, resulting in the correct amount and correct location of the human proteins, albeit with mutations that lead to Aβ(142) deposition beginning at 6 months, becoming more obvious at 9 months of age, and displaying frank neuritic plaques at 12 months of age [40, 92]. Elevated protein carbonyls, protein-bound HNE, and 3-NT were observed in brain at all ages of the APP/PS-1 human double mutant knock in mouse, including embryonic neurons [93], suggesting that oxidative stress is a prominent and perhaps fundamental aspect of pathology in this AD mouse model. Consistent with this notion, this mouse model was treated *in vivo* with N-acetylcysteine (NAC, Fig. 4) in the drinking water, which provided the rate-limiting substrate for glutathione (GSH) elevation in brain [91]. The time of treatment spanned five months beginning at either 4 months or 7 months of age, terminating at the time of Aβ deposition or at the time of frank neuritic plaque formation, respectively. Decreased protein carbonyls in brain were found in both cases, with the magnitude of the decrease greater in brain of mice whose treatment began at an earlier age (Fig. 5). These results are consistent with the idea that elevated GSH might be a good therapeutic strategy in AD and that earlier stage treatment (amnestic MCI for example) may be more beneficial. Proteomics studies of brain from APP/PS-1 mice as a function of age identified oxidatively modified proteins in the same pathways as found in AD and MCI brain noted above [92].

Similar studies of another AD mouse model, the transgenic PDAPP(Swe/Ind) mouse, also called the J20 mouse, that has two mutations in APP, showed elevated levels of human Aβ(1-42) and elevated oxidative stress in brain [94]. NAC treatment also led to decreased oxidative stress in this mouse model of AD as this antioxidant molecule did in the APP/PS-1 human double mutant knock-in mouse noted above, and proteomics identified brain proteins in this mouse that likely contributed to this neuroprotection following treatment with NAC [95].

In a different kind of *in vivo* study of Aβ(1-42), this neurotoxic peptide was injected into the nucleus basalis of Mynert in the forebrain of rats in collaboration with Giancarlo Pepeu of the University of Florence, his a well-known laboratory with expertise in cholinergic neurons [96]. This brain region is highly involved in AD with dramatic neuronal loss and innervated by cholinergic neurons, many axons of which project to the outer molecular layer of the hippocampus. Coupled to the known diminution of choline acetyltransferase activity in AD brain [97], the cholinergic hypothesis of AD was developed [98]. One week post injection of Aβ(1-42) to the NBM region, we determined in the hippocampus that elevated protein oxidation was present, but not in saline-injected rats. Further, redox proteomics analyses identified many oxidatively modified hippocampal proteins in Aβ(1-42)-treated rats that mirrored those in AD and MCI brain. These results are consistent with the notions that Aβ causes oxidative stress *in vivo* and that oxidative stress in one brain region can be directed to another connected brain region [96].

The senescence-accelerated mouse, type 8 (SAMP8), is a good model of AD as demonstrated by age-related cognitive decline and deposition of Aβ(1-42) [99, 100]. Treatment of aged SAMP8 mice with lipoic acid and/or NAC led to significantly decreased oxidative damage in brain [101]. Quantitative proteomics identified brain proteins of

differential levels and oxidative modification in aged SAMP8 mice [102], and redox proteomics studies identified which brain proteins were less oxidized by lipoic acid [103]. These latter proteins were largely those found in pathways we had identified to be damaged in AD and MCI as noted above. Diminution of brain proteins thought to be involved in the pathogenesis of AD by use of antisense oligonucleotide treatment led to significantly decreased oxidative stress and decreased markers of AD pathology but increased learning and memory in aged SAMP8 mice [104-106]. In particular, antisense directed against *APP* [104], *PS-1* [105], or *glycogen synthase kinase-3β* [106] led to decreased levels of Aβ(1-42) deposition and phosphorylated tau protein, respectively. These studies strongly support the notion that these proteins, known to be fundamental to pathological alterations in AD, can be reduced by appropriate treatments, and such treatments improve cognitive behavior of this AD mouse model. These results support the notion that these proteins may be potential therapeutic targets in AD and MCI.

The beagle dog deposits Aβ(1-42) of identical sequence as that of human Aβ(1-42) in the form of plaques as the animal ages. Consequently, we hypothesized that the aged beagle dog brain would show evidence of oxidative stress and that dietary intervention with a high antioxidant diet and program of behavioral enrichment would lower this oxidative damage. Drs. Carl Cotman and Elizabeth Head of the University of California at Irvine had fed 12-year old beagles over a 3-year period with a diet rich in antioxidants, including lipoic acid and polyphenols, and provided behavioral enrichments to a cohort of these dogs. These researchers demonstrated a markedly reduced error rate in learning and memory of such treated then 15 year-old dogs compared to dog-chow fed beagles of the same age [107]. Dr. Head relocated to the University of Kentucky and provided brains of these treated dogs. We found elevated protein oxidation in brain of dog-chow fed 15-year old dogs and significantly reduced protein oxidation in brain of the dogs fed a high antioxidant diet and put on a program of behavioral enrichment [108]. Both interventions were necessary to produce the decreased oxidative stress in brain, and this lower oxidative stress correlated with significantly improved learning and memory performance, to the extent that both the oxidative stress and the cognitive improvement were reminiscent of brain from a 4 year-old beagle. If this paradigm is translatable to humans, it would suggest that people strongly consider eating a healthy, high antioxidant diet and remain intellectually engaged throughout their lifespan, and, as they are able, to engage in regular exercise to increase probability of a healthy brain and lower one's risk of AD as one ages.

Statins, such as atorvastatin, do not cross the blood brain barrier in a significant amount; yet, statins may have neuroprotective effects [109]. How can this neuroprotection occur? In collaboration with Dr. Elizabeth Head's laboratory, we used the beagle dog to investigate further the neuroprotective effects of atrovastatin. Middle-aged dogs were treated over a year with atrovastatin or vehicle. Several important findings were determined: (a) There was decreased oxidative stress in brain of atrovastatin-treated dogs relative to vehicle-treated dogs, and the former had elevated levels of inducible heme oxygenase-1 that correlated with improved learning and memory [110]. (b) Since biliverdin is produced by HO-1, we examined the enzyme biliiverdin reductase-A from atovastatin- and vehicle-treated dog brains and determined that in the former treatment this enzyme is much less oxidatively

modified and is phosphorylated on Ser and Thr residues, the latter required to activate the reductase activity of this enzyme [111]. The BVR-A product, bilirubin, is a good antioxidant at low levels, and protection of brain-resident BVR-A by atrovastatin therapy was correlated with improved learning and memory. (c) Inhibition of HMG-CoA reductase by statins also reduce synthesis of Co-enzyme Q_{10}, which is an electron carrier in the electron transport chain. Hence, we treated atrovastatin-treated dogs also with CoQ_{10} and found improved learning and memory function [112]. Based on these studies in beagle dogs taken together, we hypothesize that statins are neuroprotective in brain of AD patients not necessarily because of cholesterol lowering, but due to decreased oxidative stress in brain associated with upregulation and decreased oxidative damage to the HO-1/BVR-A system in brain regions of relevance to AD and MCI [109, 113].

3.5. *Ex Vivo* Studies of Aβ-induced Oxidative Stress

Aging is the single most risk factor for AD, but another prominent risk factor for AD is inheritance of the gene, *apolipoprotein E, allele 4* (*ApoE*). This gene has three alleles, *ApoE2, ApoE3, and ApoE4*. Persons who inherit two copies of *ApoE4* have as much as a 70 percent chance of developing AD, while persons who inherit two copies of *ApoE2* are highly unlikely to develop AD. To investigate the roles of Aβ peptide and *ApoE* allele status, we performed several studies. First, synaptic membranes from *ApoE* knockout mice were treated with Aβ(1-40), and these synaptosomes were more susceptible to oxidative stress than synaptosomes from WT mice [114]. In a second, direct test of the hypothesis that *ApoE4* would confer a greater risk of oxidative stress induced by Aβ(1-42), synaptic membranes from human *ApoE2, ApoE3, or ApoE4* targeted-replacement (mouse gene knocked out, human gene knocked in) mice were treated with Aβ(1-42). In all measures of oxidative stress, synaptic membranes from *ApoE4* targeted-replacement mice were significantly more elevated following addition of Aβ(1-42) compared to those from *ApoE2* and *ApoE3* targeted-replacement mice [115]. Taken together, these results are consistent with the notion that the greater risk of developing AD by inheritance of *ApoE4* may be related to the significantly more elevated oxidative stress in brain associated with Aβ(1-42).

The xanthate, tricyclodecan-9-yl-xanthogenate (D609), (Fig. 4) is a powerful antioxidant [116] that works through the thiol functionality of the molecule. Indeed, during the scavenging of radicals, the disulfide is formed, and this disulfide in turn is a substrate for glutathione reductase to recycle back to the reduced thiol [117]. Gerbils were injected i.p. with D609 or saline and synaptosomes were isolated. We demonstrated that Aβ(1-42) addition to the synaptosomes from saline-injected rodents led to significantly elevated protein oxidation and lipid peroxidation, both prevented in D609-injected rodents [118]. Also, mitochondria isolated from brain of the D609- or saline-injected rodents were treated with Aβ(1-42) and those of saline-treated rodents had significantly elevated oxidative stress that was prevented in brain mitochondria isolated from D609-treated animals [119]. It is unlikely that free D609 could be responsible for this neuroprotection, since in order to produce synaptosomes or to isolate mitochondria numerous centrifugation and washing steps are required. Rather, we hypothesize that D609 induces a cellular stress response that leads to upregulation of protective genes, likely through a Nrf-2 response. A similar hypothesis was confirmed in an analogous study involving ferulic acid ethyl ester (FAEE)

(Fig. 4). Ferulic acid has the structure of essentially half of curcumin, and the ethyl ester functionality permits transfer across the BBB [118]. Synaptic membranes were obtained from rodents treated i.p. with FAEE and treated with Aβ(1-42) or saline. Elevated protein oxidation and lipid peroxidation were demonstrated in synaptic membranes from saline-treated rodents but prevented in FAEE-treated rodents [118]. *In vivo* treatment of D609 or FAEE protected synaptic membranes from loss of Aβ(1-42)-mediated lipid asymmetry [38]. This neuroprotection was associated with elevated levels of heat shock protein 70, heme oxygenase-1 and decreased levels of i-NOS, a result that also was observed in primary neuronal membranes treated with Aβ(1-42) and FAEE [120], suggesting a cellular stress response (sometimes called hormesis).

The unifying theme of *in vivo* and *ex vivo* studies of Aβ(1-42) is that this neurotoxic peptide is associated with free radical oxidative stress in brain. It is our laboratory's contention that this peptide contributes extensively and may be the critical aspect of the significant oxidative stress under which brain of amnestic MCI and AD patients exists [21, 24, 121, 122].

3.6. *In Vitro* Studies of Aβ-Mediated Oxidative Stress and Neurotoxicity

We demonstrated that incubation of Aβ or Aβ oligomers caused protein oxidation and neurotoxicity in rat embryonic neuronal cultures that was abrogated by the antioxidants propylgallate, vitamin E, quercetin, upregulation of glutathione, D609, or FAEE, [87, 120, 123-129]. Aβ addition to neuronal cultures led to altered expression of creatine kinase BB isoform and altered levels of mRNA for Cu,Zn-superoxide dismutase and Mn-superoxide dismutase [125]. Protein carbonyls were elevated on glutamine synthetase, and creatine kinase, as well as other antioxidant enzymes by Aβ peptides [130-132]. Loss of activity of these enzymes in AD brain due to oxidative modification would have profound negative effects on free radical scavenging, mitochondrial dysfunction, neurotransmission, ammonia levels and pH balance, and glucose metabolism, all of which are observed in AD brain [121]. Redox proteomics studies of synaptosomes treated with Aβ(1-42) identified a number of oxidatively modified proteins that had been identified in AD and/or MCI brain using this method [133].

Several transport systems are known to be altered in AD brain [134]. Aβ(1-42) addition to synaptic preparations or neuronal cultures was able to reproduce this oxidative modification. For example, the glutamate transporter, EAAT2 (Glt-1) was found to be oxidatively modified by the lipid peroxidation product HNE in AD brain and separately by addition of Aβ(1-42) to synaptic preparations that contain EAAT2 [23], likely accounting for the loss of activity in both AD and following addition of this peptide to astrocytic cultures [135-137]. These results are consistent with the notion that glutamate-mediated excitotoxicity is one means of neuronal death in AD.

The activities of both Na^+,K^+-ATPase and Ca^{2+}-ATPase in hippocampal neuronal cultures and in human autopsy material from normal controls were inhibited following addition of Aβ(1-40) or Aβ(25-35) [138]. Dyshomeostasis of Ca^{2+} and cell death were observed in neuronal cultures by inhibition of these ion-motive ATPases.

Taken together, these above-cited results are consistent with Aβ-associated free radical-mediated oxidative stress and have relevance to the protein oxidation present in AD and MCI brain [24, 121].

As noted above, lipid peroxidation is a prominent feature of brain from subjects with AD and amnestic MCI [24, 25, 49, 139]. Our laboratory first demonstrated lipid peroxidation in synaptic membranes following exposure to Aβ indexed by protein-bound HNE or other means [140]; [23], and vitamin E, a lipid-soluble, chain-breaking antioxidant, prevented Aβ-mediated lipid peroxidation and ROS formation [127, 141]. Aβ-induced lipid peroxidation was subsequently demonstrated in neuronal cultures and prevented by overexpression of the anti-apoptotic protein Bcl-2 [142] or by antioxidants such as those listed above in the discussion of Aβ-induced protein oxidation. Mitochondrial lipid peroxidation also was evident following Aβ(1-42) addition [119]. Aβ(25-35) led to loss of the phosphatidylethanolamine pool of lipids [143], which also was observed in AD brain [144]. Such changes may have relevance to a recent report that altered lipid composition may be able to diagnose AD up to three years prior to onset of clinical symptoms [145]. When covalently modified by HNE, synaptic membrane proteins have altered conformation, and therefore likely altered function [73]. Such changes are consistent with the known alterations of synaptic functions in AD and MCI brain that may significantly contribute to the cognitive deficits in both disorders [16].

Taken together, these results are consistent with the notion that the known elevation of lipid peroxidation in AD and amnestic MCI has a significant contribution from free radical processes associated with Aβ(1-42) [4, 21] and that these alterations occur early in the progression of AD [4]; [49].

3.7 Role of the Single Methionine Residue of Aβ(1-42) in Oxidative Stress Associated with This Neurotoxic Peptide

Given that neurotoxic oligomers of Aβ(1-42) are associated with oxidative stress how does this occur? We hypothesized that the single methionine (Met) residue at position 35 of Aβ(1-42) is critical to the oxidative stress associated with this peptide [146-148]. Key to this hypothesis is the reasonable assertion that in order for lipid peroxidation to occur, a free radical source has to be localized to the lipid bilayer near allylic H-atoms of acyl chains of phospholipids: a reactive free radical localized outside the bilayer would simply be too reactive to diffuse into the lipid bilayer to encounter a lipid resident allylic H-atom. The free radical mediated mechanism of lipid peroxidation is shown in Fig. 6. In this case oligomeric Aβ(1-42) must be in the bilayer, consistent with the model for methionine-mediated, oxidative stress-associated neurotoxicity shown in Fig. 6.

Support for the hypothesis stated above comes from both *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies outlined below:

(A) In contrast to native Aβ(1-42), no neurotoxicity nor protein oxidation occurred in neuronal cultures treated with Aβ(1-42M35Norleucine) [20]. This latter peptide has a substitution of the Met S atom by CH_2, resulting in no net change in length or dipole moment of the Met residue, but simply lacking the S atom of Met. This is a one-atom

change in an approximately 4000 MW peptide. Moreover, if other amino acids of Aβ(1-42) were critical to the oxidative stress associated with this peptide, then the resulting norleucine-substituted peptide also should have elicited oxidative stress, but this did not occur [87].

(B) Substitution of Gly-37 to Asp in Aβ(1-42) has the effect of having a highly negative charge in the lipid bilayer, i.e., a medium of low dielectric constant. Consequently, this substituted Aβ peptide Met would be removed from the bilayer. That is, even though Aβ(1-42)G37D has a Met residue, localization of the Met region of the peptide to outside the lipid bilayer removed the allylic H targets for the Met-resident sulfuranyl free radical to attack and hence no lipid peroxidation [149].

(C) The great majority of proteins and peptides that reside in the lipid bilayer adopt a helical secondary structure. Given the i+4 rule of alpha-helices, this means Ile at residue 31 of Aβ(1-42) interacts with Met at residue 35. Indeed, high resolution NMR studies show that the carbonyl oxygen of Ile-31 is within a van der Waals distance of the S-atom of Met-35 [147, 150]. Since O is more electronegative than S, the lone pairs of electrons on the S atom of Met would be drawn to the O of Ile-31, loosening the influence of the positive charges on the protons in the S nucleus and making the lone pairs of electrons on the S-atom of Met-35 vulnerable to a one-electron oxidation [20, 42, 122, 151, 152]. The ultimate identity of the oxidant is unknown, but two possibilities among other conceivable moieties are molecular oxygen and Cu^{2+} bound to the Met-35 residue, resulting in superoxide free radical and Cu^+, respectively. Paramagnetic molecular oxygen has zero dipole moment so is highly soluble in the low dielectric environment of the lipid bilayer. Cu^{2+} has relatively low affinity for Met, but only weak binding is necessary for electron transfer to take place. Consistent with Fig. 7 above, the attack of the resulting sulfuranyl free radical on labile allylic H atoms of acyl chains of the lipid bilayer would form an acid on the S atom of Met-35 and a C-centered free radical on the acyl chain from which the allylic H-atom originated. This C-centered free radical would immediately bind molecular oxygen in a rapid radical-radical recombination reaction forming a lipid peroxyl free radical. The latter would attack another acyl chain resident allylic H-atom to form a lipid hydroperoxide, from which HNE and other reactive alkenals, as well is isoprostanes, can form. This chain reaction process will continue as long as there are allylic H-atoms available, and this process is consistent with the observation that a "chain-breaking" antioxidant like vitamin E can prevent lipid peroxidation as noted above. The acid formed on the S atom of Met of Aβ(1-42) following allylic H-atom abstraction has a pK_a of minus 5, meaning that any base would immediately remove the H^+ from the S atom in Met-35, reforming the original Met residue. That is, this whole process is catalytic and explains why even a small amount of total Aβ(1-42) in the lipid bilayer that undergoes this one-electron oxidation has its oxidative effect greatly amplified by lipid peroxidation resulting from the chain reaction process described above, yielding in significant protein and lipid damage. Moreover, this process can solve the quandary of explaining the observation that clioquinol, a divalent cation chelator previously proposed by others to remove Cu^{2+} from Aβ plaques and hence dissolve them from brain, can work even though Cu^{2+} binding to Aβ-bound Cu^{2+} is reportedly attomolar [153], while Cu^{2+} binding to clioquinol is nanomolar [154]. If instead of the Cu^{2+} tightly bound to the three His residues (at positions 6,13,14) of Aβ(1-42), the Cu^{2+} chelated by clioquinol is weakly (micromolar) bound to Met-35, then

that latter Cu^{2+} could participate in an electron transfer reaction with one of the lone pair electrons on the S-atom of Met-35, producing the sulfuranyl free radical discussed above and Cu^+ [20, 42, 151]. The latter could both participate in Fenton chemistry producing damaging free radicals and potentially impart a SOD-like characteristic for Aβ(1-42) as has been proposed [155].

(D) Spin trapping studies using ultrapure [repeatedly recrystallized] spin trap phenyl-t-butyl nitrone (PBN) in buffers made with deionized water that had been treated overnight with chelex-100 beads and containing desferal to chelate as many adventitious metal ions as possible led to EPR spectra of a trapped radical when treated with Aβ(1-42) but no EPR spectrum of either the PBN alone or with Aβ(1-42)M35Norleucine in which the S-atom of Met-35 was replaced by a CH_2 group [20]. This latter peptide, as noted above, was non-reactive and non-neurotoxic. Moreover, this norleucine substituted peptide was produced by the same company as native Aβ(1-42), presumably having the same amount of any metal ion bound to it and suggesting that it is the Met-35 S-atom that contributes to the oxidative stress associated with this peptide. Absence of molecular oxygen from the buffer solution prevented formation of an EPR spectrum [156], suggesting in this *in vitro* system O_2 could be an oxidant to oxidize the S-atom of Met-35.

(E) As noted above, Aβ(1-42) oligomers in the lipid bilayer of neuronal plasma membranes adopt a helical structure, and this secondary structure contributes to the reactivity of the peptide [157]. Also noted above, alpha helices obey the i+4 rule of amino acid interaction. Thus, we substituted the alpha-helix breaking amino acid proline for Ile at position 31. Addition of Aβ(1-42)I31P to neuronal cultures no longer led to protein oxidation nor to neuronal cell death [157].

(F) Substitution of the codon of Cys for Met-35 in the DNA of Aβ(1-42) in *C.elegans* led to a peptide that deposited to the same extent as the native peptide within the nematode, but resulted in no elevated protein oxidation, in marked contrast to native Aβ(1-42) [87]. Using the J20 mouse described above, addition of a third mutation to APP to form PDAPPM631L led to a mouse containing Leu in place of the Met residue at position 631 of APP, a position that corresponds to residue 35 of Aβ(1-42). Comparison of oxidative stress parameters in brain of the J20 mouse with those of the J20M631L mouse demonstrated significant oxidative stress in the former but no oxidative stress of the latter mouse at 9 months of age [158]. Proteomics studies identified differential levels and decreased oxidation of brain proteins in the J20M631L mouse compared to the J20 mouse [94, 159].

Taken together, these *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies strongly support the hypothesis that the S-atom of the single Met residue of Aβ(1-42) is key to the oxidative stress associated with this neurotoxic peptide.

3.8. Conclusions Related to Discoveries in AD from the Butterfield Laboratory

Two major interrelated discoveries from our laboratory relevant to Alzheimer disease are that the vast majority of evidence outlined above supports the notion that Aβ(1-42) is associated with oxidative stress and neurotoxicity, and that such oxidative stress is abundant in the brain of subjects with AD and amnestic MCI. These discoveries have contributed to

changing the paradigm of AD pathogenesis to include oxidative stress as a fundamental factor in the pathology and progression of this disorder (Fig. 7) [18, 19, 21, 122]. Lipid peroxidation and its sequelae, e.g., HNE for example, bind to and damage key proteins that contribute to Ca^{2+} dyshomeostasis and subsequent neuronal death. Redox proteomics, pioneered by our laboratory, identified oxidatively modified proteins in brain from AD and its earlier forms, whose dysfunction likely contributes to the pathology, biochemistry, and clinical presentation of the disease. Moreover, new potential therapeutic targets to slow progression of AD have emerged from these studies. Future investigations from the Butterfield laboratory are aimed at utilizing these discoveries to engage in disease-modifying approaches that slow onset and progression of this devastating dementing disorder.

4. Chemotherapy Induced Cognitive Impairment (CICI)

4.1. Brief Background of CICI

With 14 million cancer survivors in the United States alone, chemotherapy associated cognitive dysfunction is an increasing concern. A significant number experience Chemotherapy Induced Cognitive Impairment (CICI), called "chemobrain" by patients [160]. CICI reduces their quality of life with serious, even devastating, symptoms such as diminished executive function and intellectual impairment. There is an urgent, important need for treatment interventions that lead to a high quality of life for cancer survivors— projected to number 18 million within 10 years. Depending on the study, CICI affects up to 70% of cancer survivors, whose chemotherapy induced neurological deficits result in loss of executive function, inability to multi-task, and slowness in intellectual reasoning [160]. Furthermore, symptoms can be relatively long lasting, up to 10 years post-chemotherapy. Associated with these symptoms are significant MRI-determined volumetric diminution of the hippocampus [161], altered white [162-164] and gray [165] matter and decreased glucose utilization assessed by PET scanning [166].

A now well-recognized condition, CICI seriously limits the quality of life of cancer survivors [167]. Currently, no evidence-based treatment or preventative intervention for CICI exists, as the underlying mechanisms remain poorly understood. Particularly perplexing is that CICI often is associated with ROS generating chemotherapeutic agents that do not cross the BBB.

ROS-mediated mitochondrial injury is an important mechanism of chemotherapy-induced injury in tissues with high-energy demand, such as heart and brain. Doxorubicin (Dox), often used in therapy for solid tumors and leukemia, undergoes redox cycling involving its quinone structure to produce superoxide free radicals (Fig. 8), which are thought to underlie Dox-induced cardiomyopathy and limit its lifetime therapeutic dosage [1]. Dox, one of approximately 50% of FDA-approved chemotherapeutic agents associated with ROS, does not cross the BBB [168].

4.2. Oxidative Stress in Brain and Plasma Following ROS-associated Chemotherapy

Intraperitoneal injection of Dox led to elevated oxidative damage to brain [169, 170]. How can oxidative stress occur in brain by a drug that does not cross the BBB? To investigate this

key question, we determined that i.p administration of Dox led to elevated levels of the pro-inflammatory cytokine TNFα in plasma and in brain [171]. Moreover, this treatment led to translocation of p53 to mitochondria where it bound to the anti-apoptotic protein, Bcl-2, consistent with induction of apoptosis, which we also demonstrated via, cytochrome c release, TUNEL staining and elevation of caspase 3. Mitochondria also are dysfunctional based on loss of respiration following Dox treatment [171]. If animals were injected i.p. by the glutathione precursor, gamma-glutamylcysteine ethyl ester (GCEE, Fig. 4), brain GSH levels increase and Dox-induced, TNFα mediated oxidative stress in brain is prevented [170]. Of course, such an approach could not be used therapeutically, since elevated glutathione would be conjugated to the chemotheapeuric agent by glutathione-S-transferase and exported from the cancer cell by the multidrug resistant protein, MRP-1 [172, 173], However, this study does demonstrate again that oxidative stress is induced in brain by Dox treatment in the periphery. Plasma of Dox-treated wild-type mice showed evidence of oxidative stress that was blocked by treatment with GCEE, [81].

That peripheral (plasma) TNFα is involved in this process was demonstrated by the abrogation of all these processes noted above when anti-TNFα antibody was administered along with Dox [171]. This result is consistent with the notion it is TNFα, among the many proinflammatory cytokines, that is key to Dox-induced oxidative stress in brain. This concept is strengthened by our observation using a cytokine array that only TNFα was statistically significantly elevated in plasma from persons receiving Dox therapy [174].

4.3 Role of Nitrosative Stress in Dox-induced, TNFα-Mediated Damage to Brain

Given that respiration is compromised in brain mitochondria isolated from Dox-treated mice [171], that MnSOD is fundamental to mitochondrial function [175], and that 3-NT is elevated in brain of Dox-treated WT mice [170], we performed studies of brain mitochondria isolated from Dox-treated i-NOS knock-out mice [176]. Fig. 9 shows that absence of i-NOS (and hence no NO produced from NOS2) abrogates: loss of brain mitochondrial respiration, nitration of MnSOD, and diminution of MnSOD activity. Consequently, since i-NOS is downstream from NFκ-B activation [177], which, in turn, is activated by TNFα, we hypothesize that damaged mitochondria and apoptotic cell death in brain are secondary to TNFα accumulation in brain following Dox administration and in the sequence:
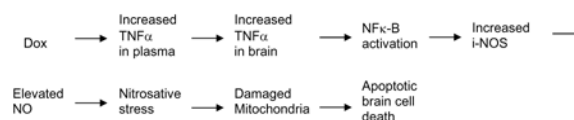
Nitric oxide reacts with superoxide radical anion to form peroxynitrte that in the presence of CO_2 leads to 3-NT formation [2].

4.4 Plasma ApoA1 Involvement in Dox-induced, TNFα-mediated Oxidative Stress in Brain

Using redox proteomics, Apolipoprotein A1 (ApoA1) was identified as an oxidized protein in plasma of children with lymphoma treated with Dox [174]. ApoA1 is a major component of the high density lipoprotein particle and is involved with cholesterol transport away from

tissues. Importantly, ApoA1 normally keeps TNFα levels low in plasma by both preventing monocyte-T cell interactions and by interaction with ABCA1, the cholesterol transporter [178]. Going from beside to bench, we confirmed in plasma of Dox-treated mice that ApoA1 was oxidatively modified (assessed by protein carbonyls). Further, addition of native ApoA1 to macrophage culture did not lead to TNFα elevation, but addition of oxidized ApoA1 to macrophage culture did result in significant TNFα release [174]. We speculate that, due to a changed conformation secondary to oxidation [2], oxidized ApoA1 interacts with ABCA1 differently and does not suppress TNFα elevation.

4.5 Prevention by Mesna of Biochemical Alterations in Brain Following Dox Treatment

Protein oxidation was clearly apparent in plasma from children with lymphoma treated with Dox, but, surprisingly, not so with lipid peroxidation assessed by protein-bound HNE [174]. However, examination of the medical records demonstrated that about half the patients studied had been given Mesna (2-mercaptoethane-1 sulfonate, Na^+ salt). Segregation of the data from the Mesna-treated group from the non-Mesna-treated group of patients showed significant suppression of lipid peroxidation in the former and significant elevation of lipid peroxidation of the latter, i.e., the sum of changes in the two groups was about zero compared to control [174].

Mesna is often given in therapeutic regimens containing ifosfamide and/or cyclophosphamide to prevent hemorrhagic cystitis in the bladder secondary to acrolein, formed as a metabolic byproduct of these two drugs [179]. An important feature of Mesna is its negative charge that prevents this molecule from entering cancer cells to interfere with cancer chemotherapy. This is an important distinction with other thiol compounds, for example NAC, which as described above if given to patients would have the effect of leading to export of the chemotherapeutic agent from cancer cells, thereby harming the cancer patient. Mesna does not suffer this fate, as it does not penetrate cancer cells and does not interfere with cancer chemotherapy [180].

Again pursuing a bedside to bench strategy, we treated WT mice with both Mesna and Dox, and found plasma levels of protein oxidation, lipid peroxidation, and, importantly, TNFα levels were suppressed to levels similar to those in plasma from saline-treated mice and in marked contrast to Dox-treated mice in the absence of Mesna [174] (Fig. 10). Based on these exciting results, and this time going from bench to bedside, our team of basic scientists and clinicians recently have conducted a NCI-sponsored pilot study of oxidative biomarkers and TNFα signature in plasma from patients with breast cancer or lymphoma randomized in the first cycle to Mesna or saline and the second cycle to the opposite treatment. The results of this latter study will be reported in a separate publication after statistical analyses are completed, but initial results are promising.

4.6 Conclusions and Discussion of CICI, with Overall Model

Based on our studies in humans and mice treated with Dox, we have developed the following model that for the first time provides a rational molecular mechanism for CICI. Fig. 11 shows the model. Redox cycling of Dox leads to superoxide free radicals to cause plasma protein oxidation and lipid peroxidation that, in turn, lead to oxidation of the key

plasma lipoprotein, ApoA1. The proinflammatory cytokine TNFα is elevated in plasma as a consequence of ApoA1 oxidation. These processes are blocked by co-administration of Mesna. The plasma resident elevated TNFα is transported to the brain parenchyma via receptor-mediated endocytosis. This process is blocked by co-administration of anti-TNFα antibody. Once in brain, TNFα through a series of biochemical events, including activation of i-NOS, leads to mitochondrial dysfunction, cytochrome c release, and apoptosis. When enough neurons have died, symptoms of CICI appear.

5.0 Overall Summary

Alzheimer disease and chemotherapy induced cognitive impairment each affect millions of persons worldwide. Both disorders are united by cognitive issues likely deriving from, or at least associated with, free radical events. But each disorder is unique: AD is associated with Aβ-associated oxidative stress within the brain parenchyma, leading to lipid peroxidation and protein oxidation (among other oxidative stress indices), which damages mitochondria, leads to oxidative dysfunction of key proteins involved in numerous pathways, including glucose metabolic proteins and death of neurons; in contrast, CICI involves oxidative stress events originating in the plasma that lead to TNFα elevation and subsequent transfer to brain glia and neurons, which in turn leads to more oxidative stress, mitochondrial dysfunction, and cell death. Neither condition is fully understood, and while pharmacological suppression of CICI shows initial promise, this still remains elusive in the case of AD. Continued studies of molecular mechanisms involved in AD and CICI and translational investigations in models of both disorders are ongoing in our laboratory.

Acknowledgments

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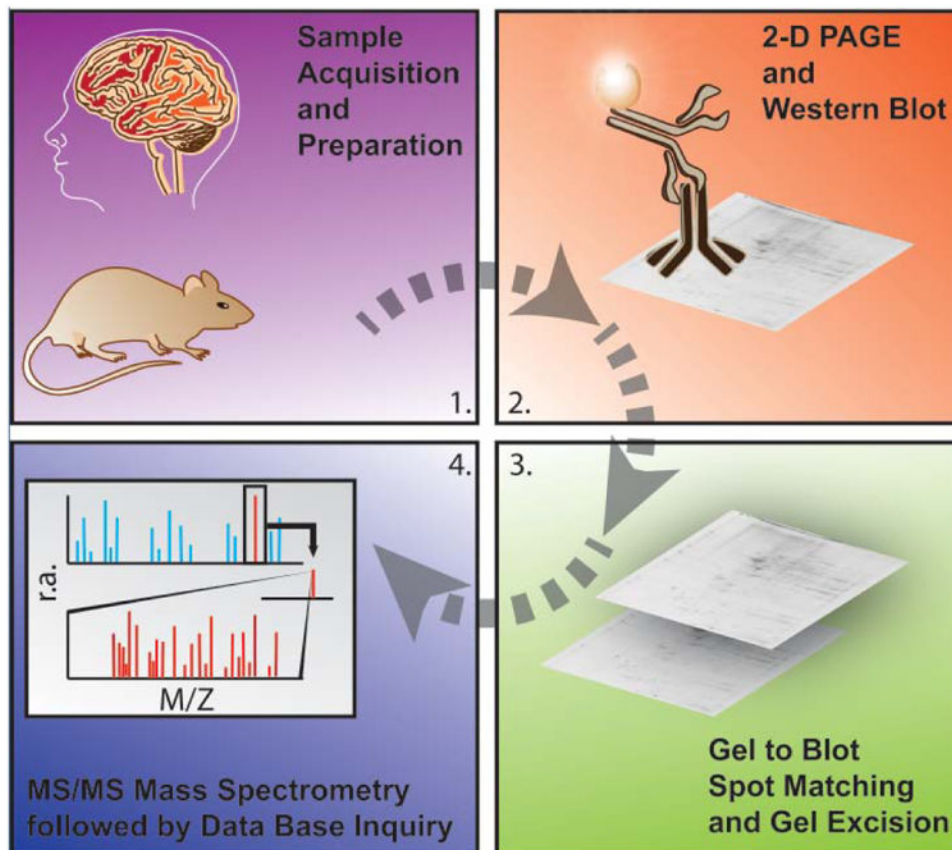
Figure 1.
Schematic representation of the major methodological steps involved in redox proteomics. For more details see recent reviews in [6, 7]. The figure, used with permission from Elsevier Science Publishers, is taken from reference [122].

Amyloid-ß 1-42
DAEFRHDSGYEVHHQKLVFFAEDVGSNKGAIIGL-**M**-VGGVVIA

Amyloid-ß 1-42 (M35Nleu)
DAEFRHDSGYEVHHQKLVFFAEDVGSNKGAIIGL-**NLeu**-VGGVVIA

Amyloid-ß 1-42 (I31P)
DAEFRHDSGYEVHHQKLVFFAEDVGSNKGA-**P**-IGLMVGGVVIA

Amyloid-ß 1-42 (M35C)
DAEFRHDSGYEVHHQKLVFFAEDVGSNKGAIIGL-**C**-VGGVVIA

Amyloid-ß 1-42 (G37D)
DAEFRHDSGYEVHHQKLVFFAEDVGSNKGAIIGLMV-**D**-GVVIA

Figure 2.
Sequences of Aβ(1-42) and variants of this sequence mentioned in this retrospective paper.
Note the key methionine residue at position 35 of Aβ(1-42).
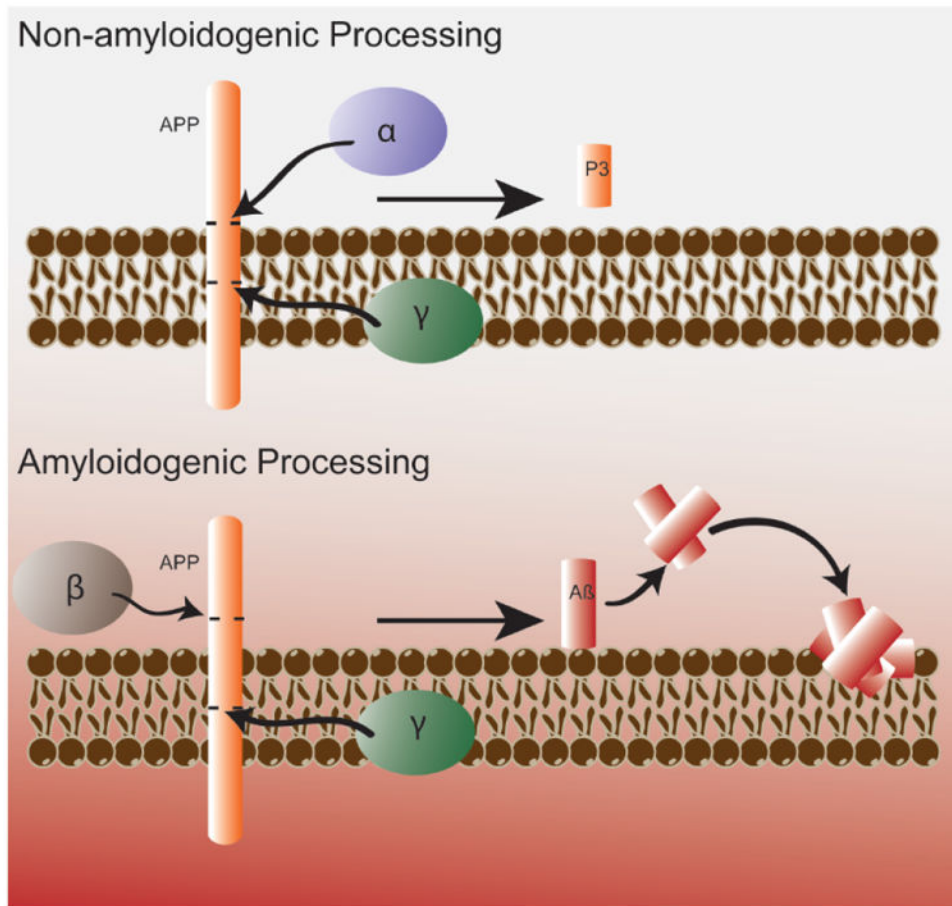
Figure 3.
Non-amyloidogenic (Top) and amyloidogenic (Bottom) pathways of APP processing. Note
the latter leads to olgimeric Aβ(1-42) that enters the lipid bilayer leading to damaging lipid
peroxidation and its sequelae as discussed in the text. The figure, used with permission from
Elsevier Science Publishers, is taken from reference [122].

4A
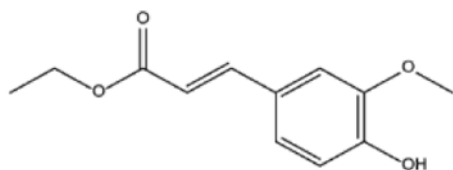
FAEE
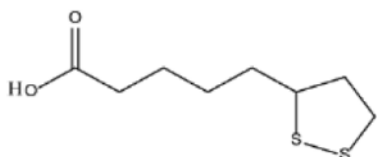
Lipoic Acid
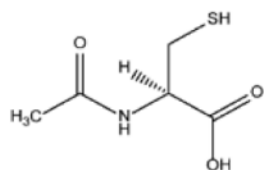
NAC

Atorvastatin

D609

4B
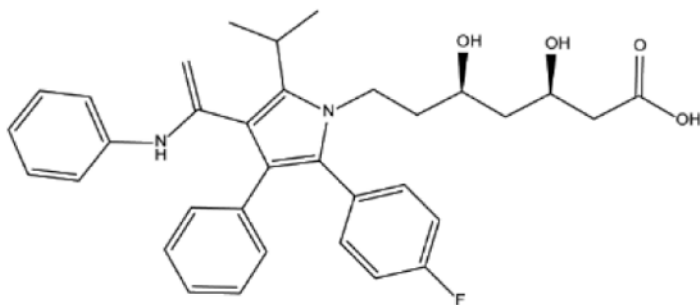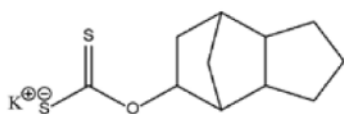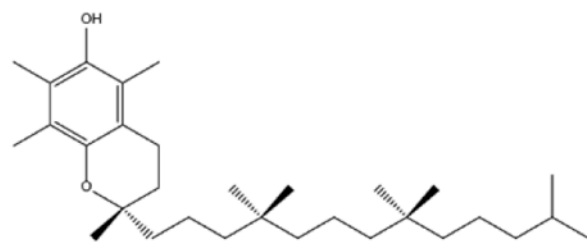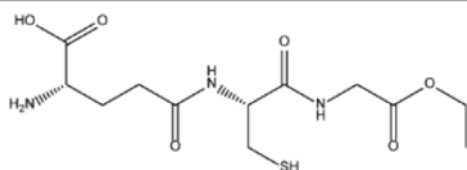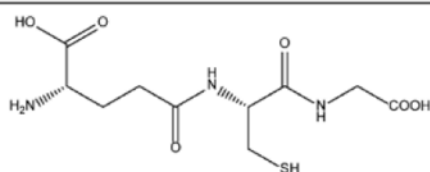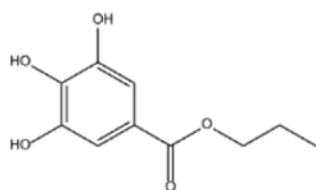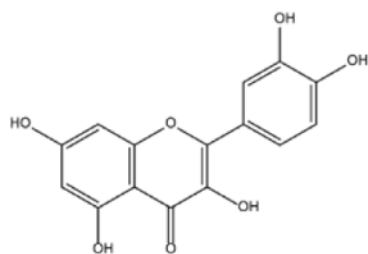
Figure 4.
A,B. Structures of antioxidant compounds mentioned in this retrospective paper.
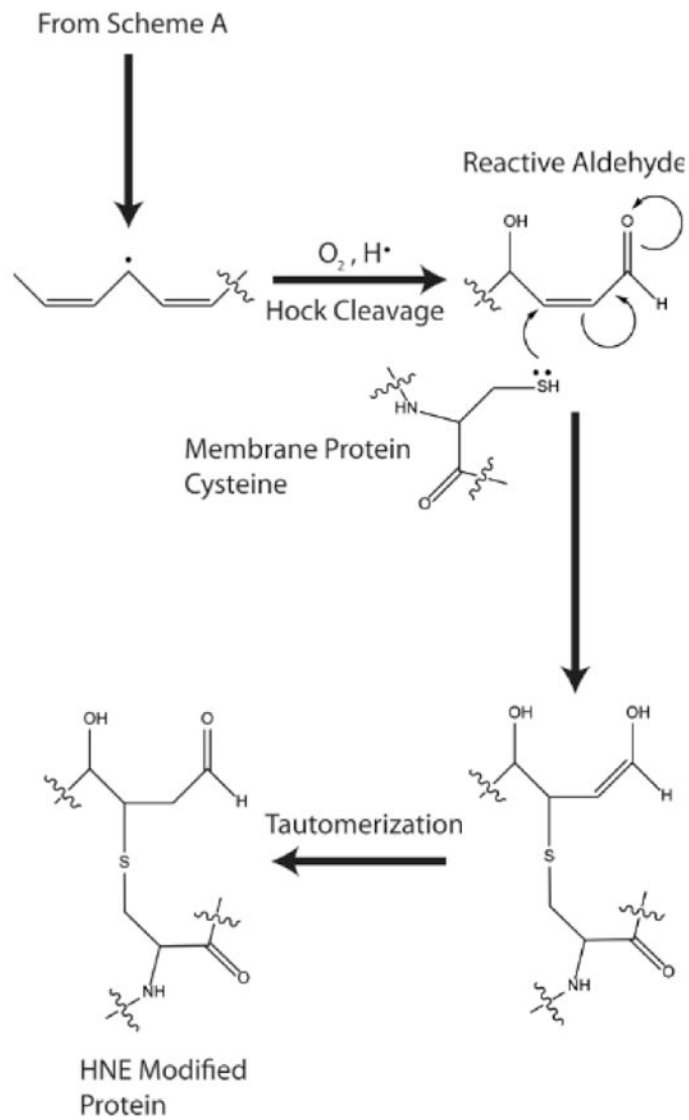
Protein Carbonylation
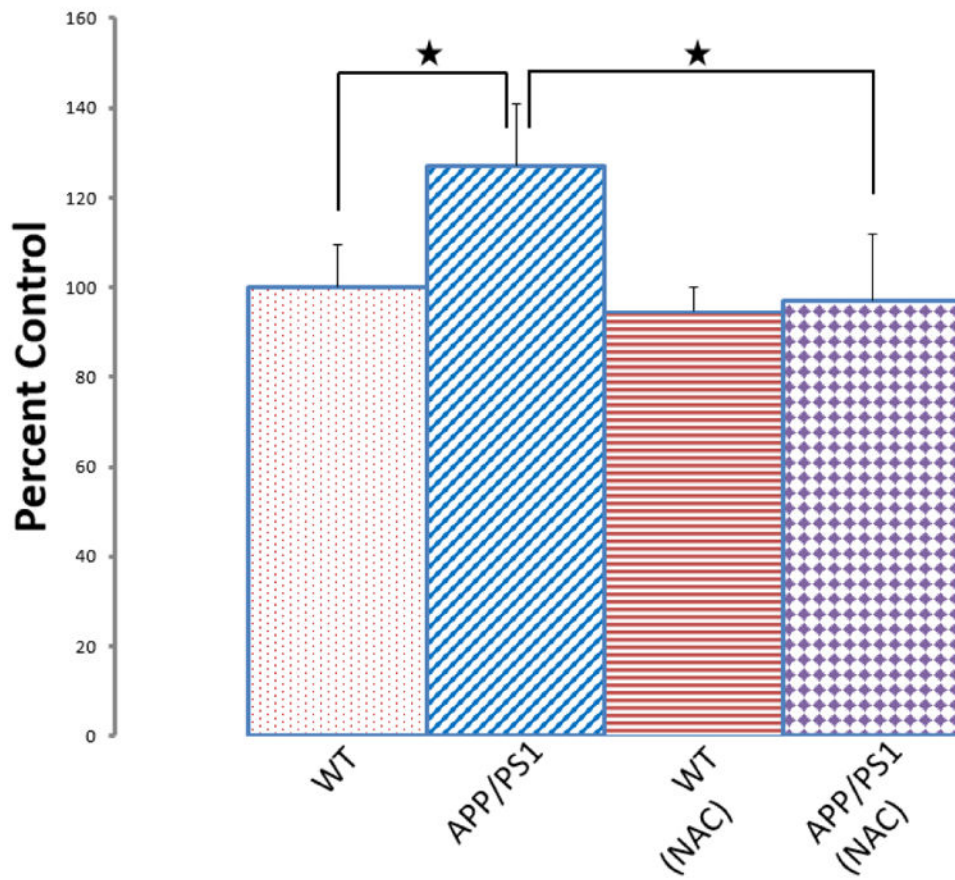
Figure 5.
N-Acetylcysteine (NAC) given in drinking water inhibits oxidative stress in brain at 9 mos. of age of the APP/PS-1 human double mutant knock in mouse model of AD. Protein oxidation in brain assessed by protein carbonyls is shown. The figure is adapted from [91].
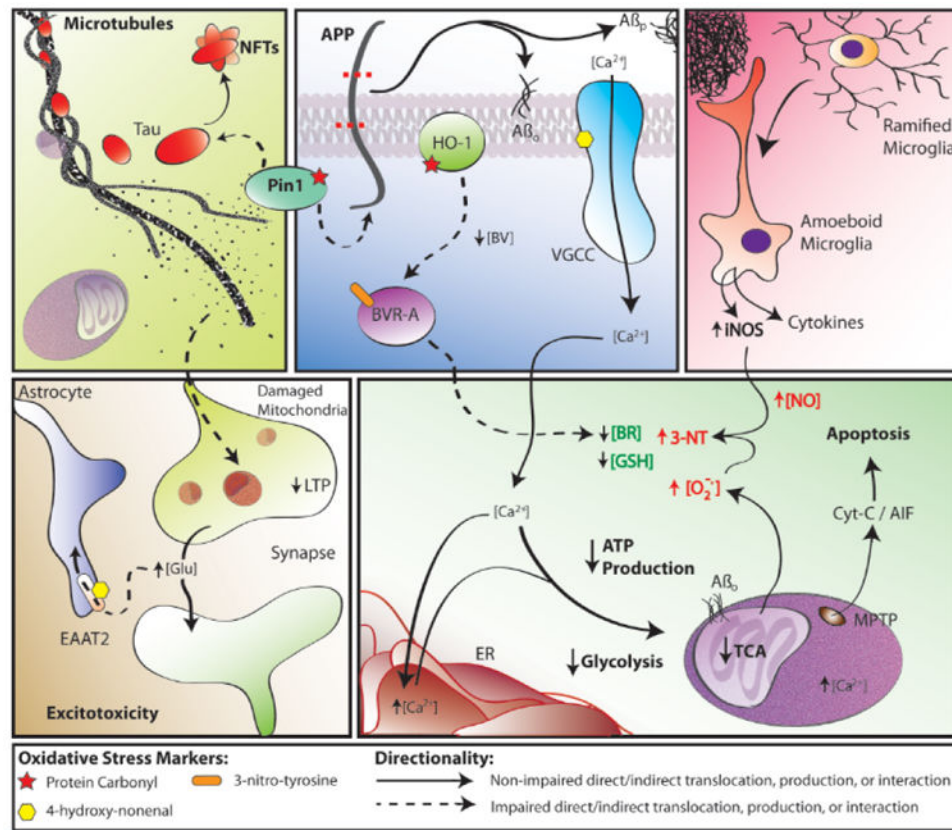
6A
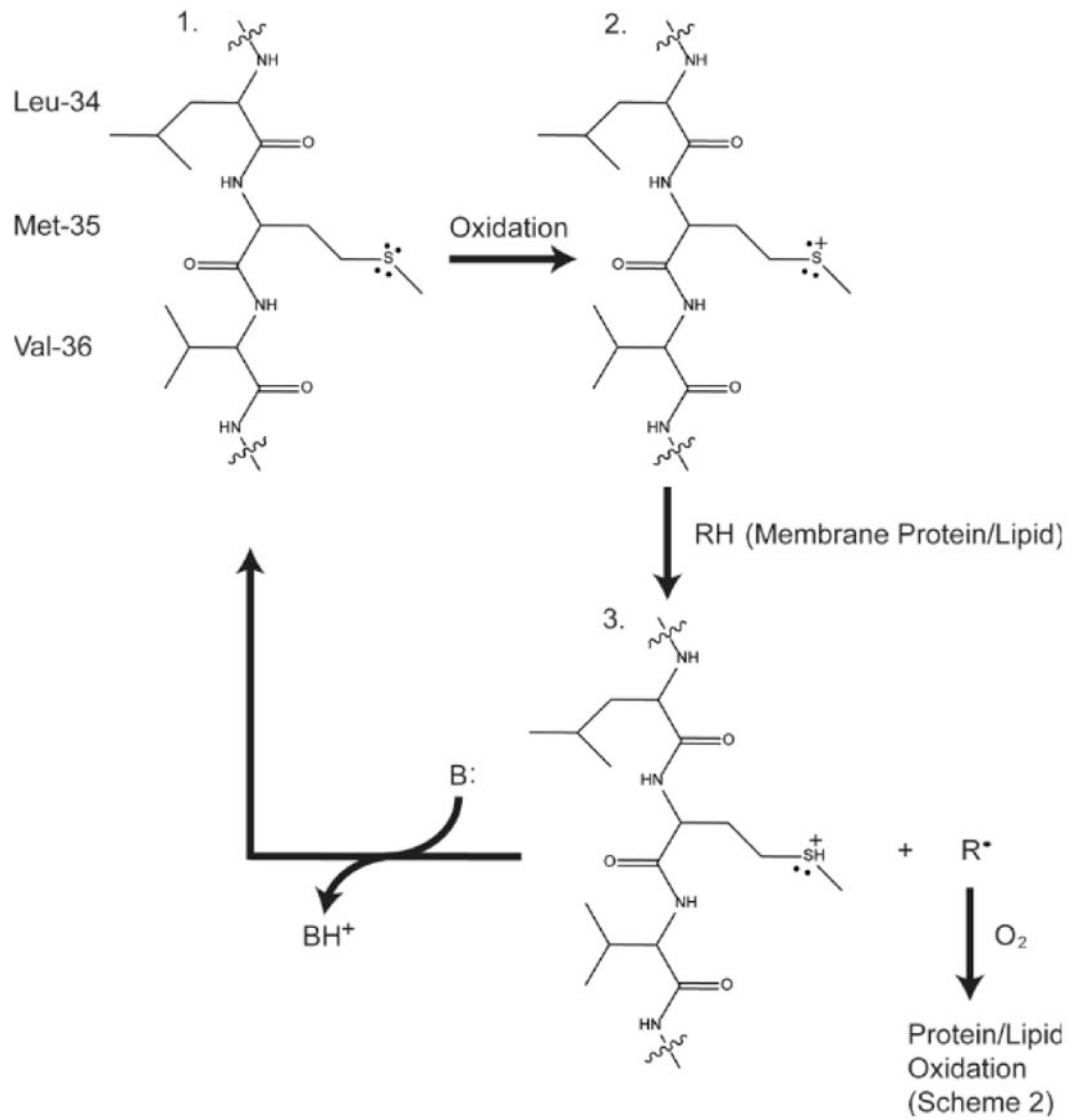
6B

Figure 6.
A,B. Role of the single methionine residue of Aβ(1-42) in lipid peroxidation, whose mechanism is shown. Note the HNE formed by lipid peroxidation forms Michael adducts with protein-resident Cys, His, or Lys residues, changing the conformation and decreasing function of the HNE-modified proteins.
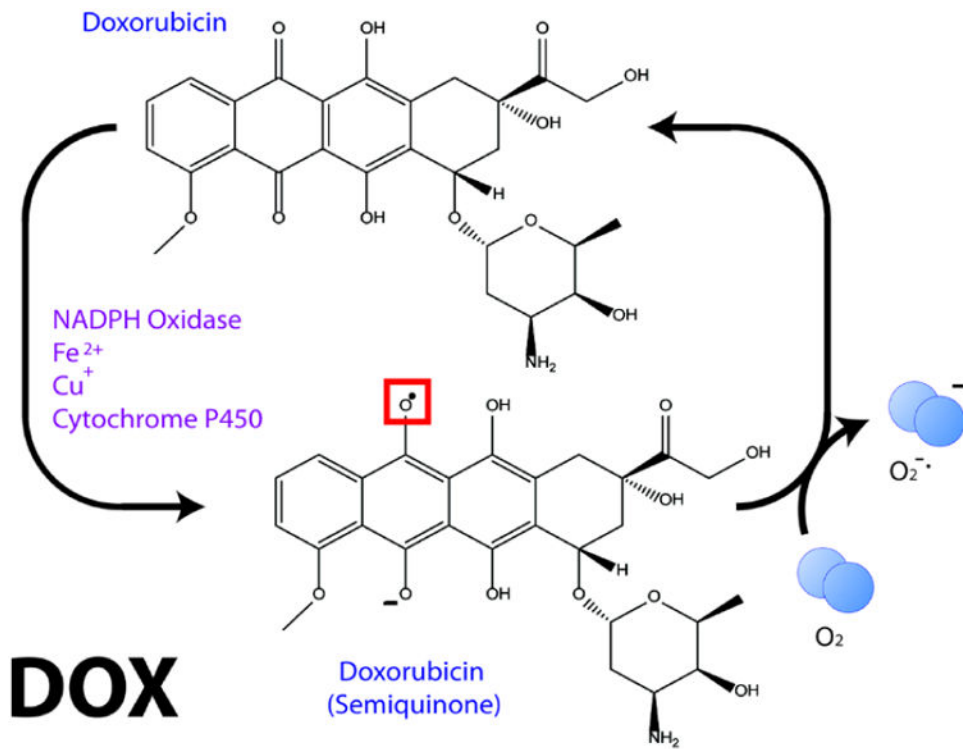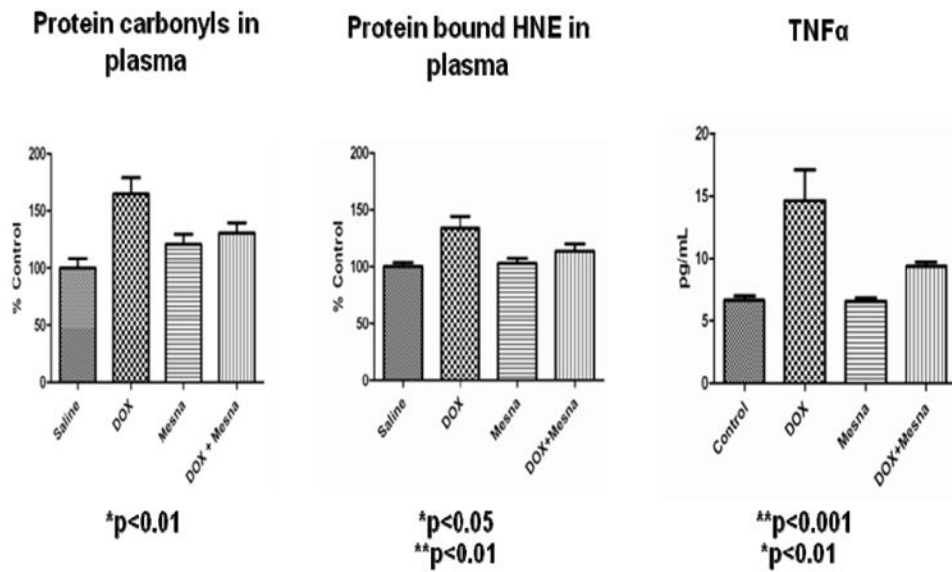
Figure 7.
Some findings and discoveries related to Aβ(1-42) oligomer-induced oxidative stress and its sequela published from the Butterfield laboratory that contribute to a unifying oxidative stress centric hypothesis for neuronal death in AD that is consistent with the pathology, biochemical alterations, and clinical presentation in this disorder. Amyloid β-peptide, produced by β- and γ-secretase (top, middle panel), aggregates into extracellular fibrils forming the core of SP or aggregates into hydrophobic oligomers that insert into the plasma membrane. One-electron oxidation of the S-atom of Met-35 of Aβ(1-42) [see text] initates the chain reaction of lipid peroxidation (LPO), greatly amplyfing the damage of the initial free radical on the peptide. HNE, produced by LPO, binds to and causes dysfunction of key proteins in the PM and cytosol. Among the former are ion-motive ATPases, e.g., Na,K-ATPase and Ca-ATPase. The resultant loss of cell potential opens voltage gated Ca^{2+} channels, leading to a massive influx of Ca^{2+} to the cytosol (bottom, right panel), and subsequent attempts to sequester this Ca^{2+} in ER and mitochondria. However, this massive overload of Ca^{2+} causes ER to undergo unfolded protein response and damage and decreases protein synthesis. Mitochondrial Ca^{2+} overload causes swelling of mitochondria and opening of the MPTP with release of cytochrome c to initiate the intrinsic pathway for apoptosis (bottom, right panel). The intracellular Ca^{2+} also activates numerous degradative enzymes such as calpains, PLA2, endonucleases, etc. causing necrotic mechanisms to engage (see text). The oxidative stress in cytosol and mitochondria lead to damage to many glycolytic, TCA, and ETC enzymes or complexes, resulting in dramatic loss of ATP production (bottom, right panel), which leads to loss of many important neuronal functions,

ranging from axonal transport to neurotransmission (bottom, left panel), as well as maintaining the cellular and organelle potentials. This oxidative stress also damages Pin1, which regulates both APP and Tau (top, left/middle panels), but also a key tau kinase (GSK-3β) and a tau phosphatase (PP2A). The resultant hyperphosphorylated tau, falls off microtubules (MT) [top, left panel], leading to cessation of anterograde and retrograde transport. Among other determimental consequences of this, synaptic-resident mitochondria are no longer able to produce the required ATP to maintain presynaptic function, including loss of LTP, needed for learning and memory (bottom, left panel). Note that Pin1 is involved in three major neuropathological hallmarks of AD: SP, NFT, and synapse loss. The intracellular detritus resulting from all these aberrant processes is not removed, since the proteostasis network of the ubiquitin-proteasome system (UPS), ER, and autophagy are all damaged by oxidative stress (see text). The Aβ(1-42)-initiated oxidative stress also leads to damage to heme oxygenase -1 (HO-1) and biliverdin reductase-A (BVR-A), which decreases intracellular antioxidant bilirubin (top, middle panel; bottom, right panel). Moreover, glutathione (GSH) is decreased because of elevated oxidative stress and since its rate limiting synthetic enzyme, γ-Glu-Cys ligase, is damaged by oxidative stress. There are many other processes associated with oxidative stress on which we and others have published. However, this schematic diagram outlines some of the key processes involved in neuronal death in AD that fit the pathology, biochemical alterations, and clinical presentations observed in AD that were published from our laboratory based on neurochemical, oxidative stress, and proteomics studies of AD and its earlier forms.
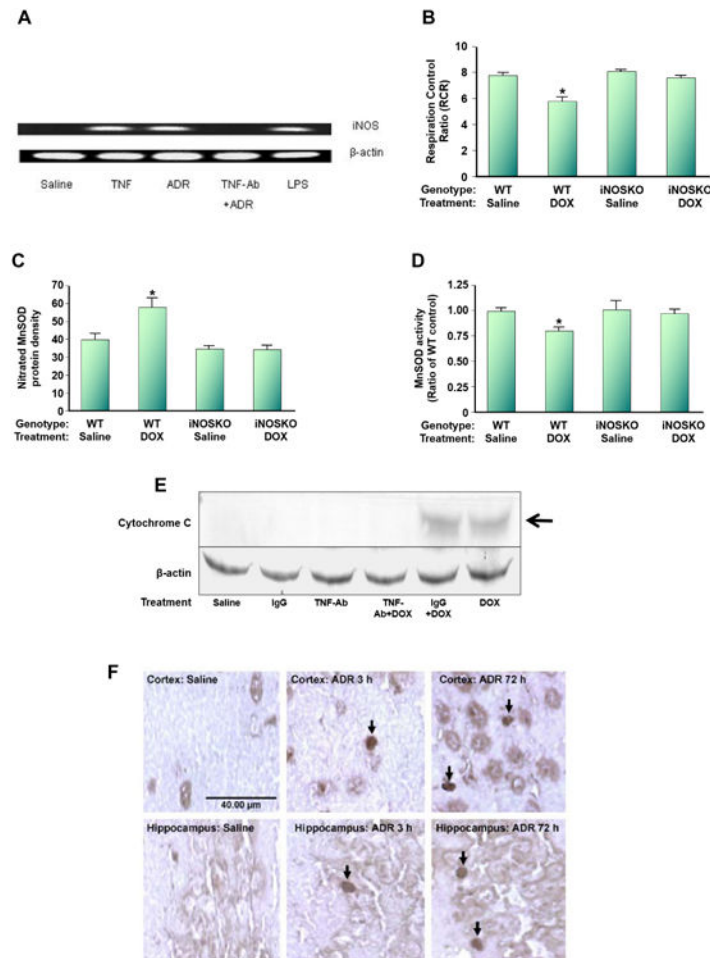
Figure 8.
Redox cycling of Dox to produce superoxide free radical. See text for more details.
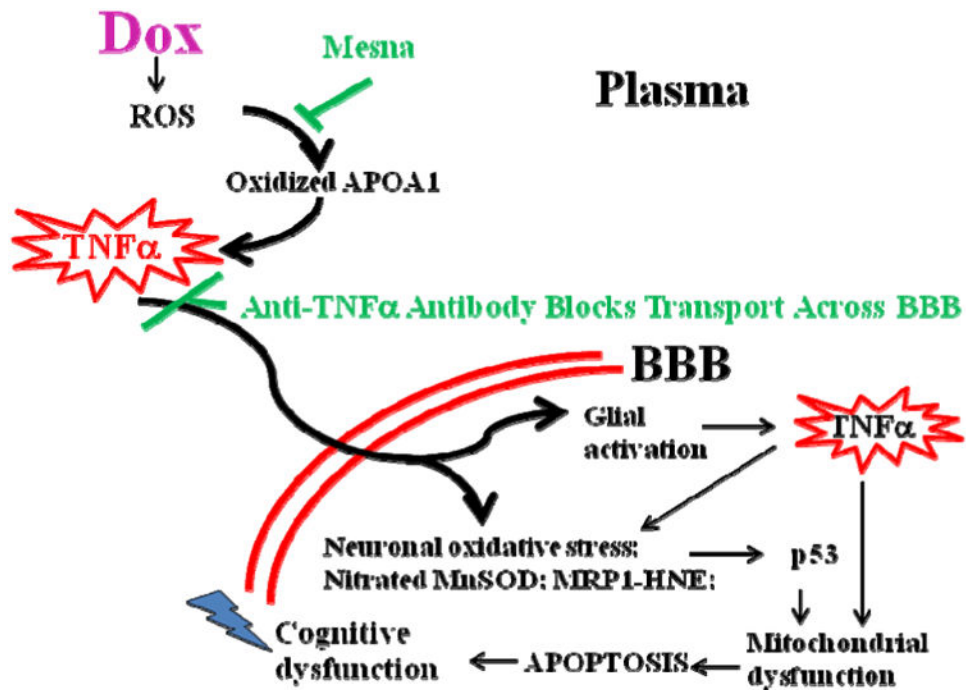
Figure 9.
Dox administration to WT mice (i.p.) leads in plasma to protein oxidation and lipid peroxidation (assessed by protein carbonyls and protein-bound HNE, respectively), and to elevated TNFα. Concomitant administration of Mesna significantly depresses these markers to essentially control levels. The figure, used with permission from Elsevier Science Publishers, is taken from reference [174].

Figure 10.

Dox (also called adriamycin, ADR) induces nitrosative stress in brain mitochondria. WT mice were injected i.p. with Dox. (**A**). i-NOS message was induced, but anti-TNFα antibody prevents i-NOS induction following ADR treatment. (**B**). The RCR, a measure of oxygen consumption, in brain mitochondria isolated from ADR-treated WT mice is significantly depressed, but not in i-NOS knock-out mice. (**C**). Mitochondrial-resident MnSOD is nitrated following ADR addition to WT mice, but not in i-NOS knock-out mice. (**D**). MnSOD activity is significantly depressed in mitochondria isolated from brain of ADR-treated WT mice, but not in i-NOS knock-out mice. (**E**). Mitochondria isolated from brain of ADR-treated WT mice lead to cytochrome c release, but not in mice also treated with anti-TNFα antibody. Note that ADR-treated WT mice also treated with IgG still lead to cytochrome c release from mitochondria isolated from brain, suggesting specificity of the anti-TNFα treatment. (**F**). Consistent with the results of (**E**), apoptosis occurs in brain of ADR-treated WT mice as assessed by TUNEL staining even at 3h post-ADR treatment, and pronounced apoptosis at 72h post-ADR treatment occurred. This latter time is the time at which oxidative stress in brain is maximal. The figure, used with permission from Elsevier Science Publishers, was modified from reference [171].

Figure 11.
Model for CICI ("chemobrain") based on demonstrated results from our laboratory. Dox
(ADR), as a prototypical ROS-generating agent that does not cross the BBB, causes
oxidation of ApoA1 in plasma, which leads to increased levels of TNFα. This cytokine
crosses the BBB to enter glia and neurons, generating even more TNFα. Subsequent
biochemical events lead to brain mitochondrial dysfunction and resultant apoptosis as
explained more in the text. Mesna, which does not interfere with cancer chemotherapy,
blocks Dox-mediated oxidation of ApoA1 and elevation of TNFα. Anti- TNFα antibody
blocks elevated TNFα from crossing the BBB. Both treatments inhibit the biochemical
events that otherwise cause neuronal death. See text and [169-171, 174, 176, 181, 182] for
more details.

Table I

Commonly Used Indices of Protein Oxidation and Lipid Peroxidation, Two Key Markers of Oxidative Stress, Employed in the Butterfield Laboratory[*]

Index		Comments
Protein Oxidation		
Protein Carbonyls (PC)	3-Nitrotyrosine (3-NT)	PC quantified by immunochemical detection of 2,4-dintrophenylhydrazone adduct to proteins. 3-NT is produced following formation of ONOO⁻ from reaction of NO and superoxide radical anion. Subsequent involvement of CO_2 and scission of nitrosoperoxylcarbonate leads to NO_2. 3-NT is detected immunochemically.
Lipid Peroxidation		
Protein-bound 4-hydroxy-2-nonenal (HNE)		HNE is formed from oxidized arachidonic acid and binds to Cys, His, and Lys on proteins via Michael addition.

[*]See Butterfield and Stadtman [2] for more details