

# Transition Metal-based Potential Therapy for Alzheimer's Disease

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Date: 2014-04-11



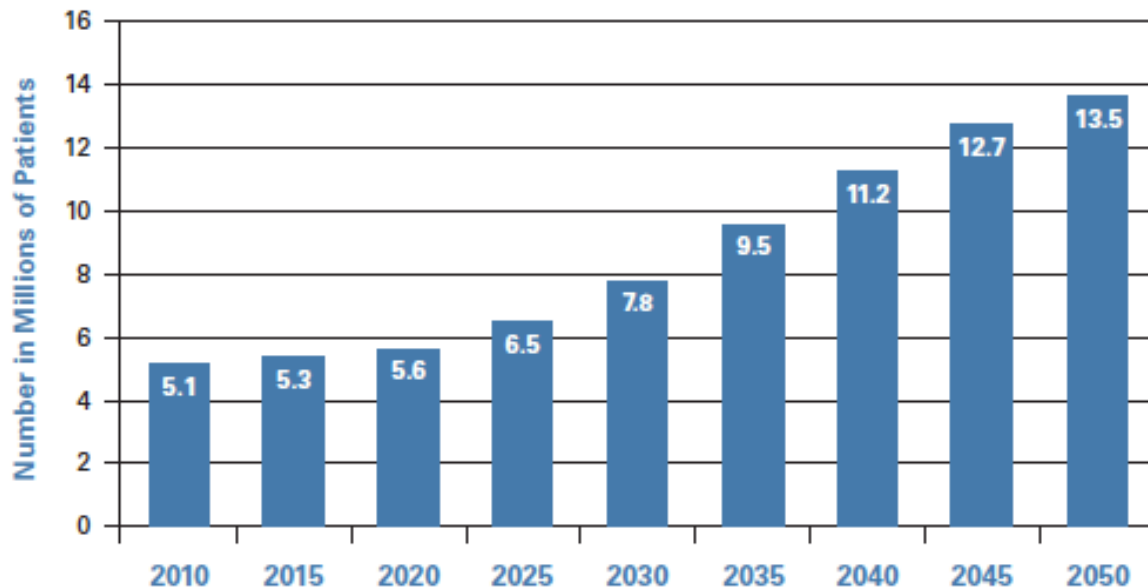
**Alzheimer's Disease** is the most common type of dementia:  
Degenerative brain syndromes which affect memory, thinking,  
behavior and emotion

# Outline

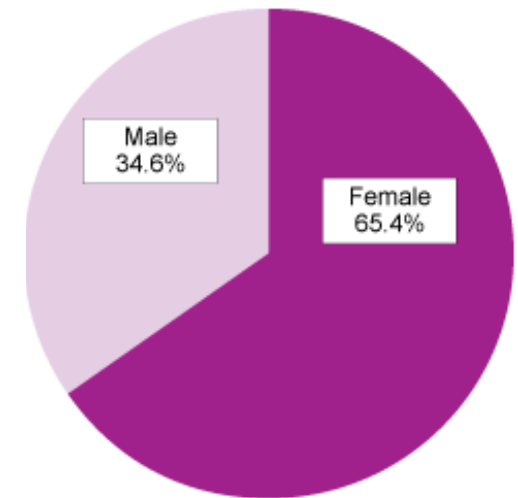
- Introduction
- Metal ions in amyloid aggregation
- Transition metal-based inhibitors
  - Chelating ligands
  - Transition metal complexes
- Summary

# Introduction

- **Alzheimer's disease (AD)** is a progressive neurodegenerative condition that results in synaptic failure and neuronal death. These symptoms initially manifest as mild forgetfulness but lead to complete loss of cognition.



65 Years and Older with AD in USA, 2012-2050



Adults Aged 65 and Older with AD By Sex, 2011

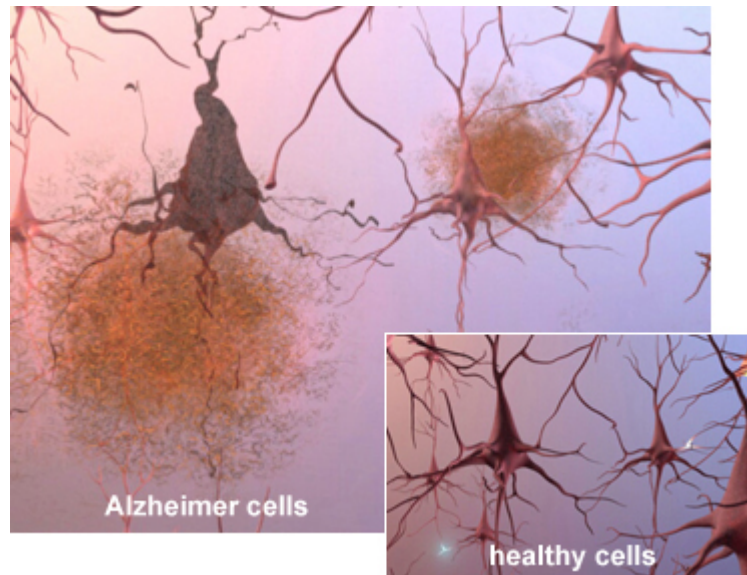
*Am J Manag Care.* **2011**,17, 339

Herbert et al. *Alzheimer Disease and Associated Disorders* . **2001**, 15, 169

# Pathological Hallmarks

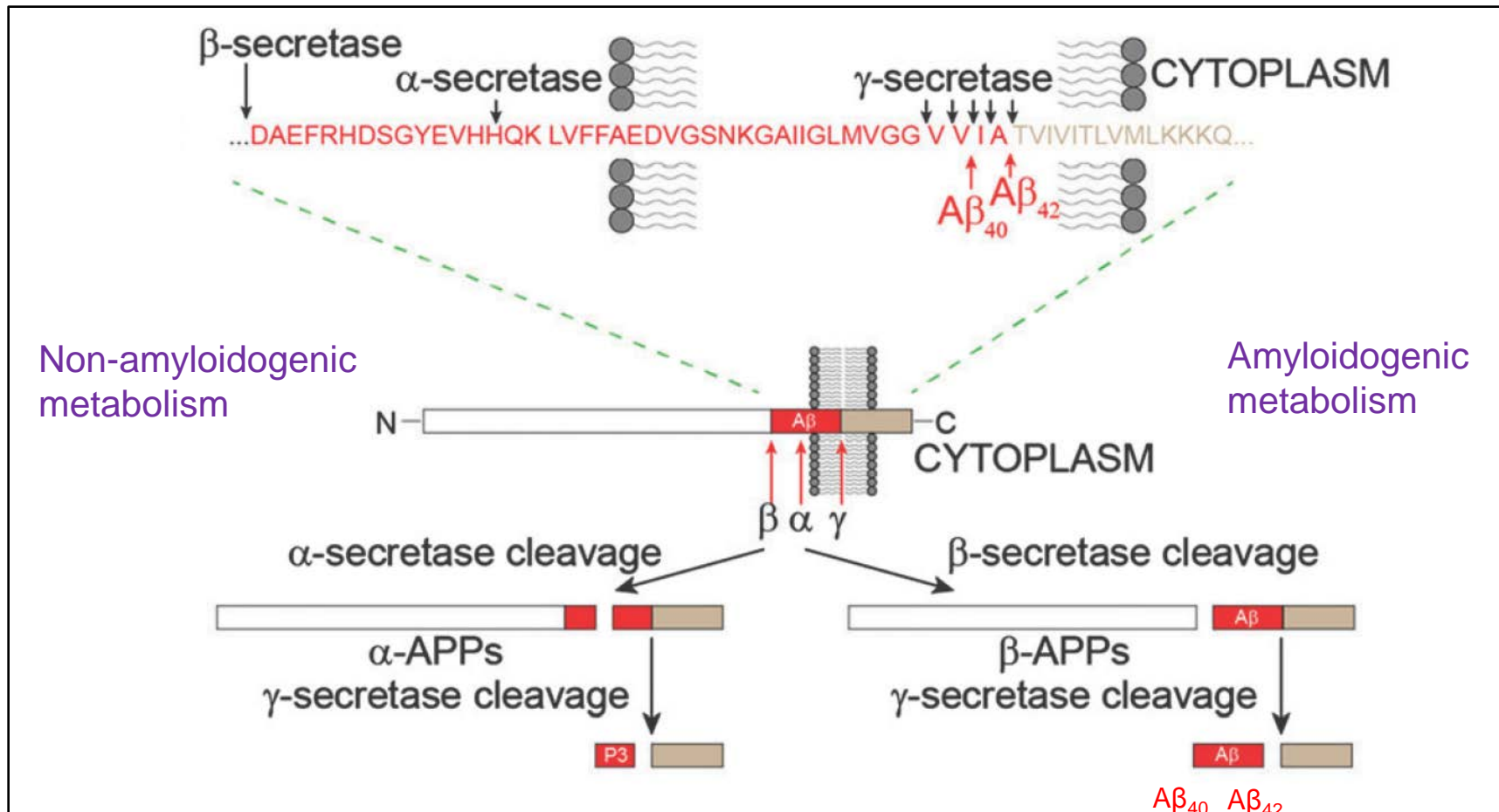
- Extracellular senile plaques (老年斑)
- Intracellular neurofibrillary tangles (神经纤维纠结)
- Altered levels of neurotransmitters

(reduced acetylcholine levels, loss of neurons, shrinkage of the brain)



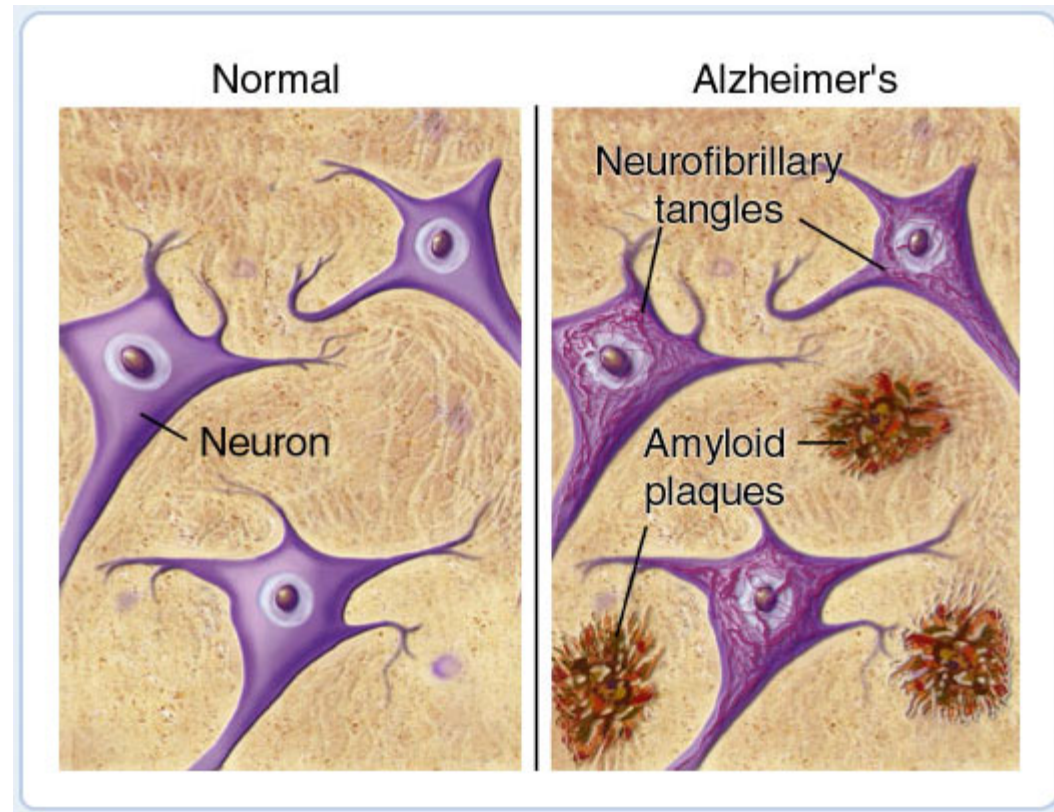
# Amyloid- $\beta$ plaques

Amyloid plaques are composed of an insoluble aggregated peptide called **amyloid- $\beta$  ( $A\beta$ )**, which contains 39–43 residues and derived from the Amyloid precursor protein (**APP**).



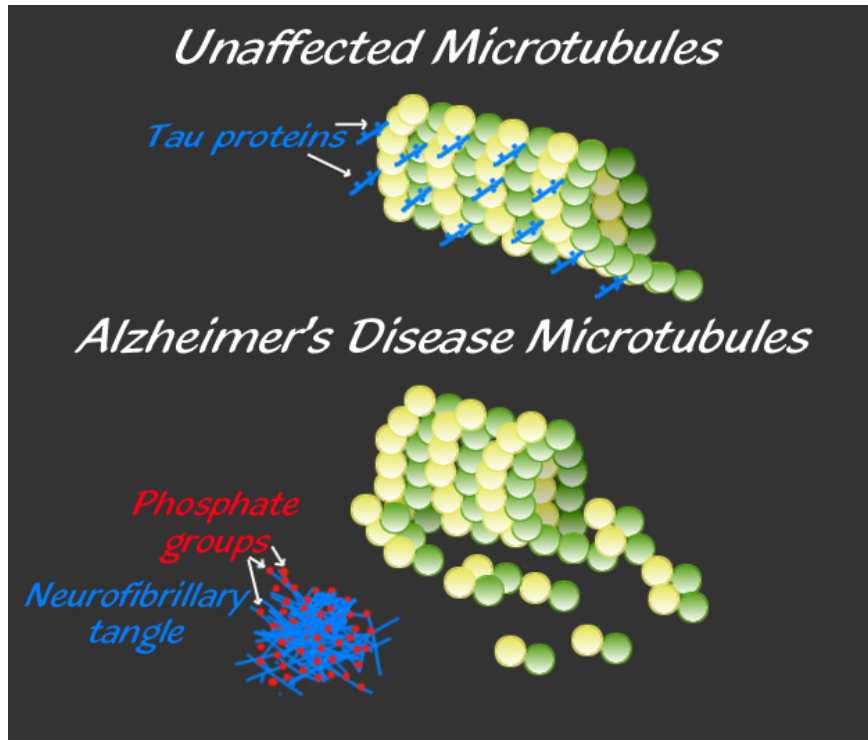
# Amyloid- $\beta$ plaques

- Abnormal accumulation of toxic A $\beta$  oligomers forms extracellular deposits that build up between neurons block signals between cells.
- Ab plaques and/or their precursors trigger a cascade of events leading to synaptic dysfunction, microgliosis, and neuronal loss



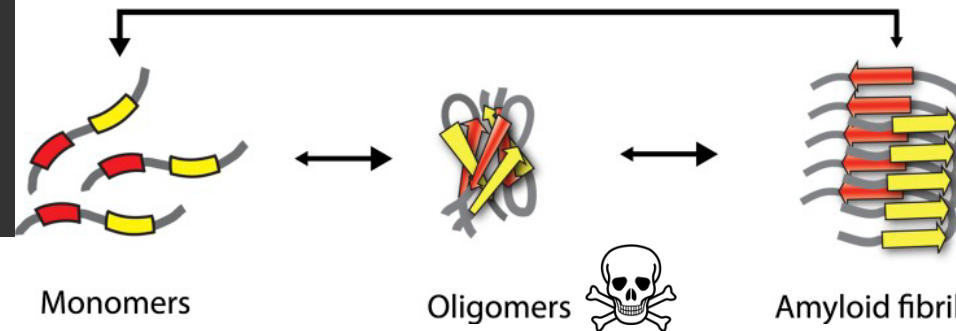
A $\beta$ 42 (A $\beta$ 1-42): DAEFRHDSGY<sup>10</sup>EVHHQKLVFF<sup>20</sup>AEDVGSNKG<sup>30</sup>IIGLMVGGV<sup>40</sup>IA

# Intracellular Neurofibrillary Tangles



Neurofibrillary Tangles consist of a hyper phosphorylated form of a microtubule associated protein called **tau**

The hyper-phosphorylation of tau results in its detachment from microtubules that consequently lose structural integrity



Soluble oligomers: disruption of the synaptic function, effects on the integrity of the membrane bilayer, and production of ROS

J. Marx and cowaorkers, Science, 2007, 316, 1416.

D. J. Hayne, S. Lim, P. S. Donnelly. *Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2014**, Advance Article

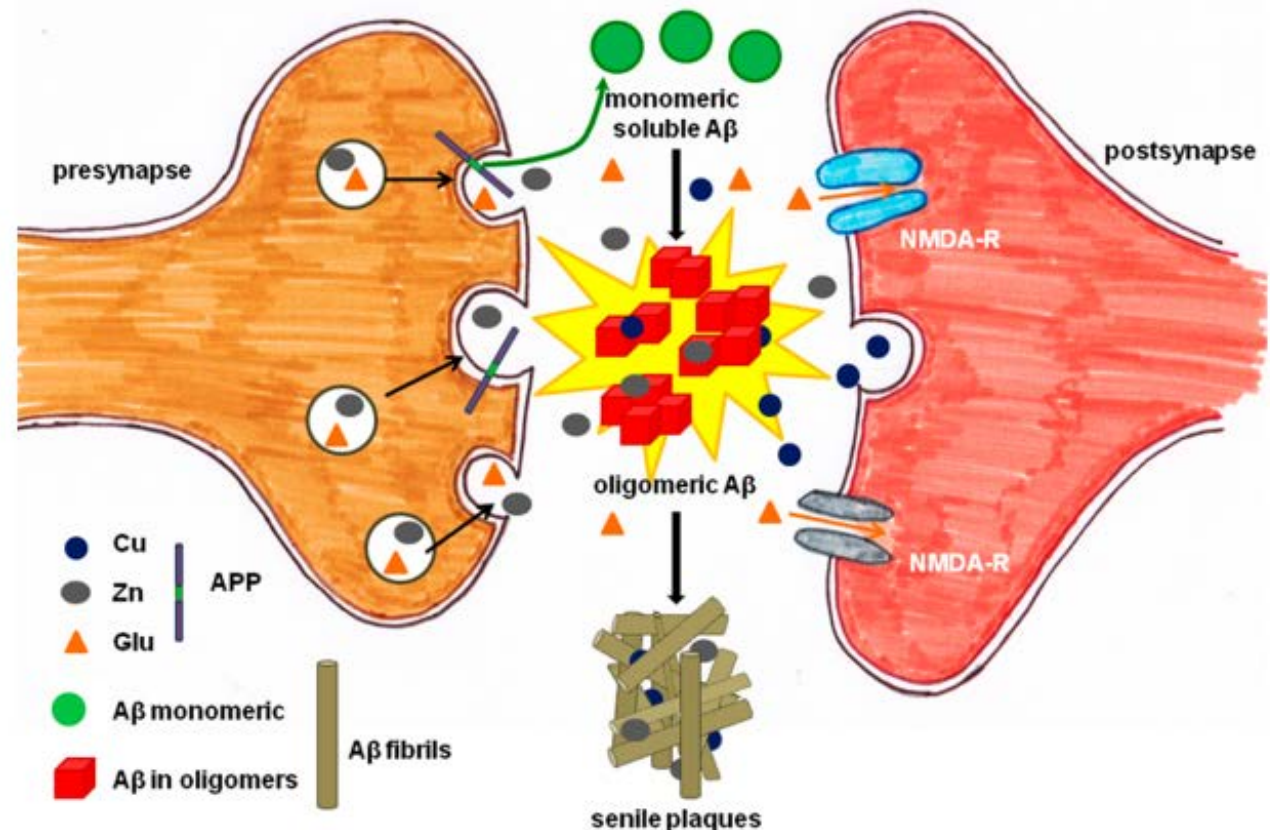


# Metal Ions in Amyloid Aggregation

Metal Ions:  $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$ ,  $\text{Zn}^{\text{II}}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II/III}}$

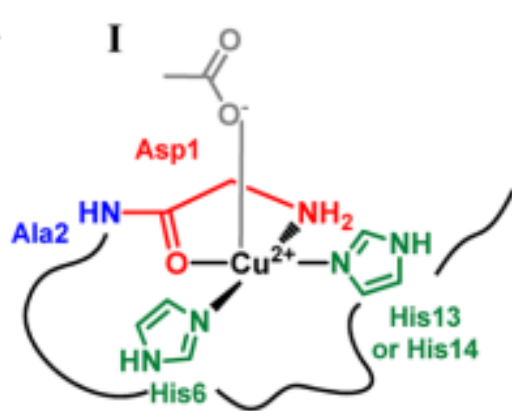
The binding of metal ions changes both the structure and the charge of  $\text{A}\beta$ . The decrease in the overall charge at physiological pH increases the overall driving force for aggregation (easier nucleation)

$\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$ ,  $\text{Zn}^{\text{II}}$  involved in the  $\text{A}\beta$  aggregation process

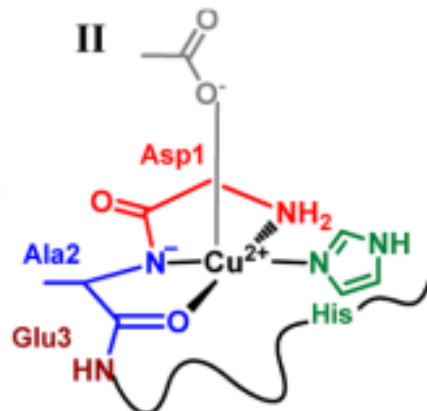


Abnormally high concentration of  $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$ ,  $\text{Zn}^{\text{II}}$

# Binding Modes



pH 6.5  
(component 1)

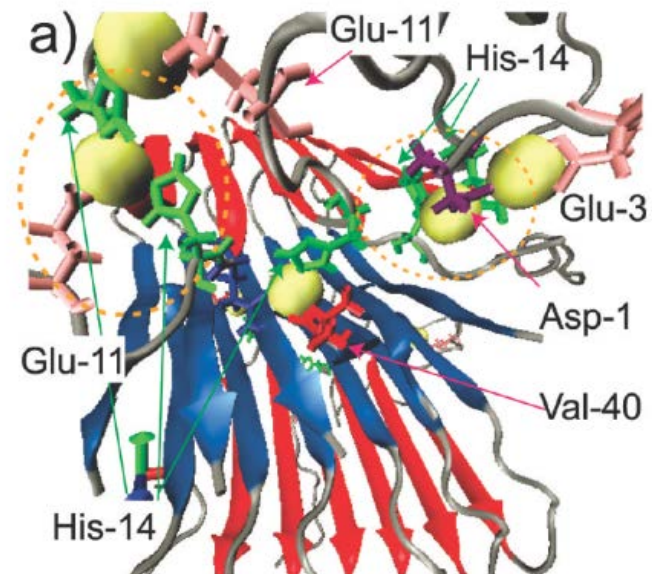
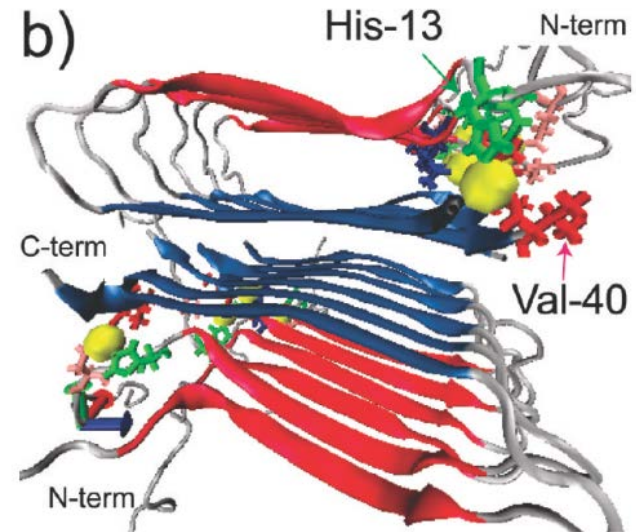


pH  $\geq$  8  
(component 2)

Primary  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  binding sites in  $\text{A}\beta(1-40)$  fibrils:

His6, His13 and His14

Asp1, Asp1-Ala2, Ala2-Glu3

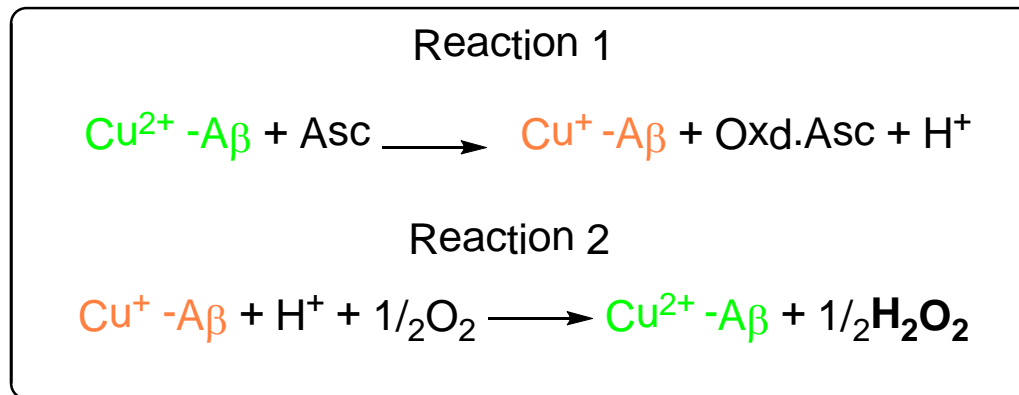


Y. Ishii and coworkers. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2011**, 133, 3390

D. Kim, N. H. Kim, S. H. Kim. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2013**, 52, 1139

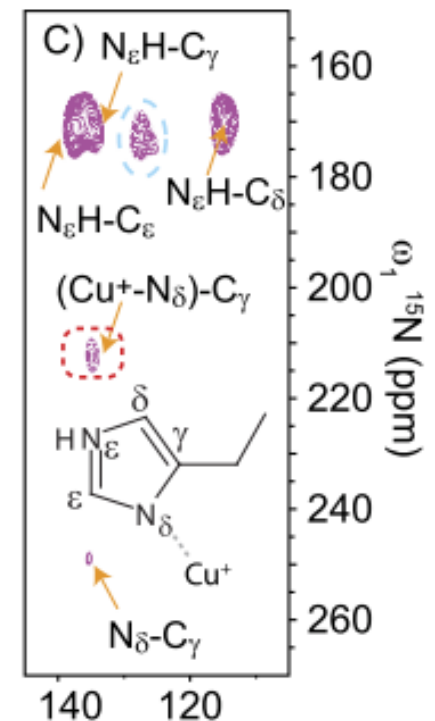
# Metal Ions in production of ROS

The interaction of redox-active copper ions with A $\beta$  is linked to production of reactive oxygen species (**ROS**), which has been associated with oxidative stress and neuronal damages.



Reducing agent: ascorbate

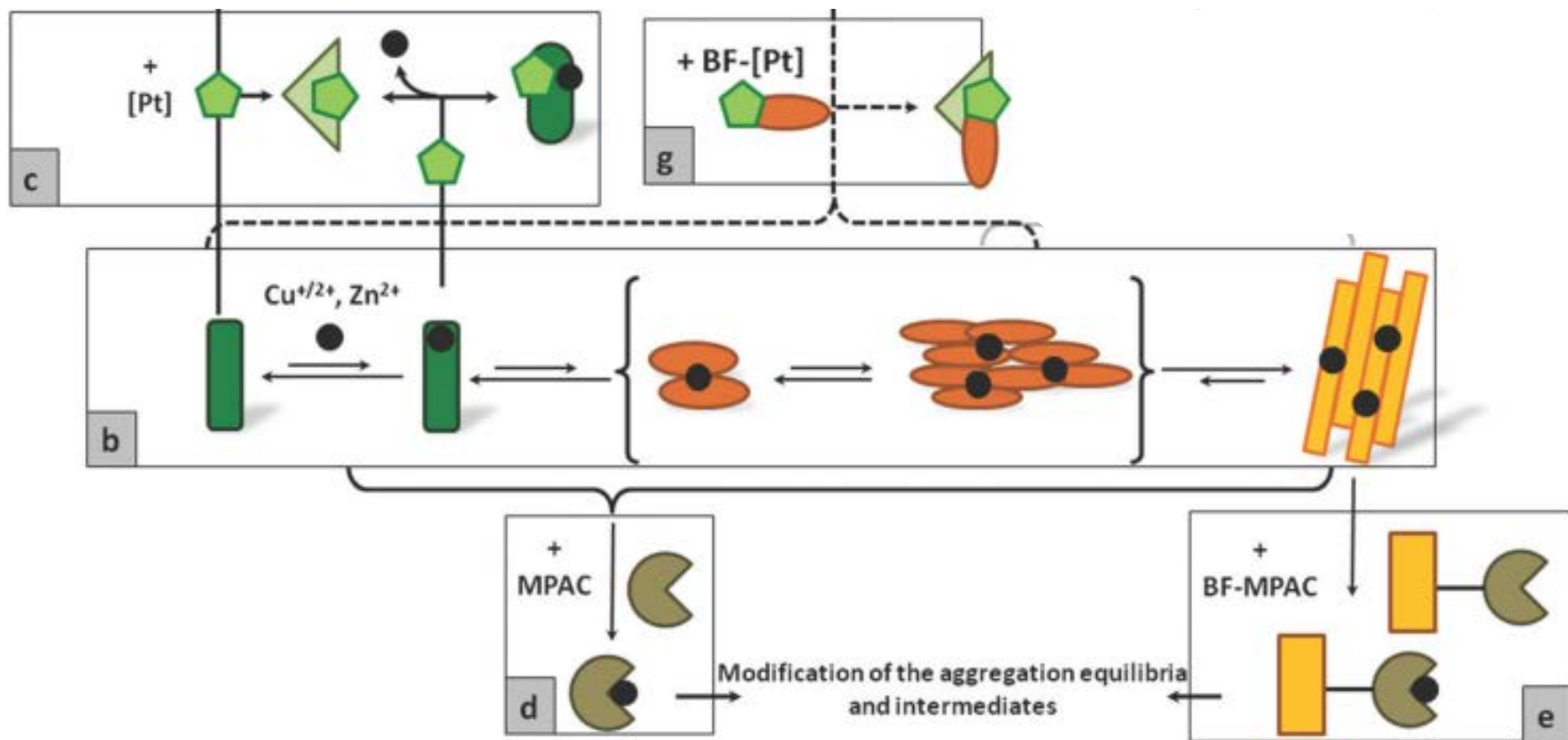
Enzyme-like reaction: A $\beta$  fibrils become a strong catalyst that attracts copper ions and introduce cyclic redox reactions involving Cu<sup>2+</sup>/Cu<sup>+</sup> ions



Reactive state : Cu<sup>+</sup>- A $\beta$

# Strategies of design metal ion inhibitors

Transition metal complexes (targeting side trains of A $\beta$ )



Chelating ligands (targeting metal ions)

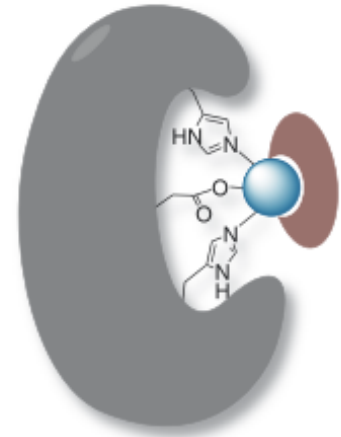
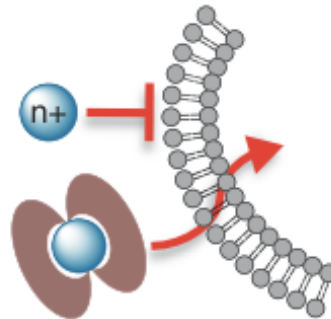
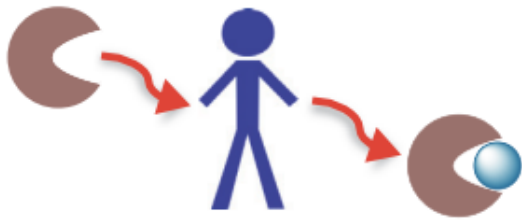
# Chelating Ligands

- Approaches

(b) Redistribute metals

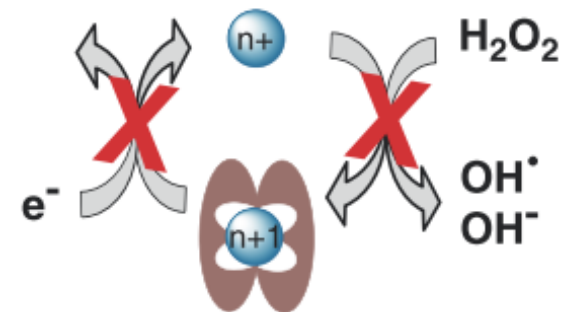
(c) Inhibit metalloenzyme function

(a) Eliminate toxic metals



(d) Enhance metal reactivity

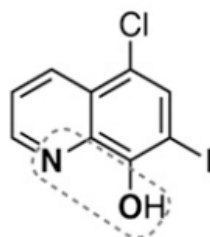
(e) Passivate metal reactivity



# Chelating Ligands

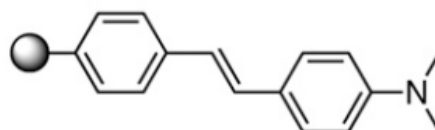
## Bifunctional ligands

### Metal Chelation



Clioquinol (CQ)

### A $\beta$ Interaction



Stilbene Derivative

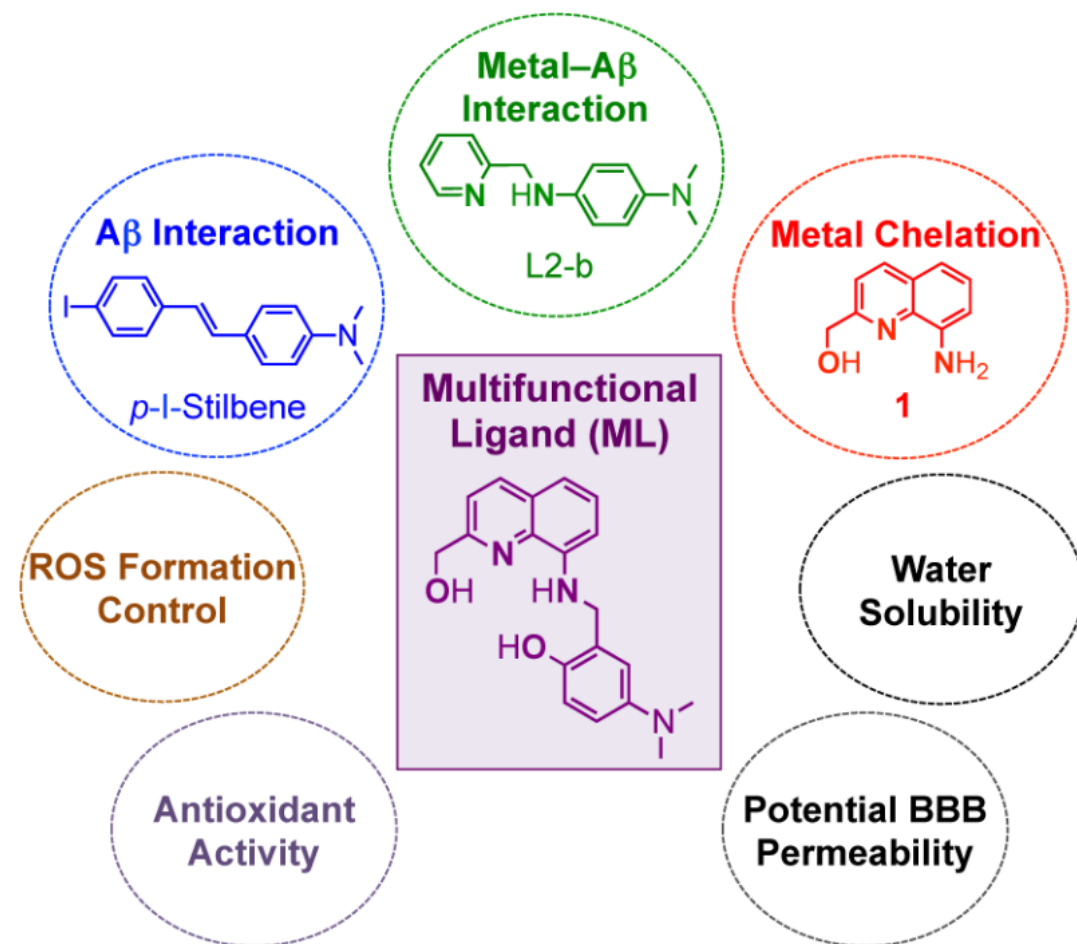
● = Radioactive element

CQ have moved into clinical trials and showed improved cognition but limited by its synthetic difficulties and toxicity

**Aromatic ring**

# Chelating Ligands

- Rational structure-based design of a multifunctional ligand

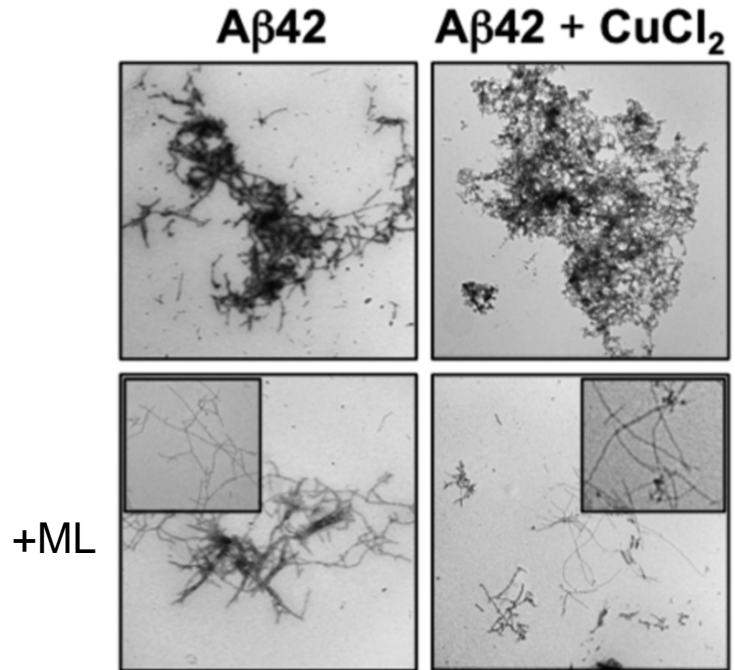
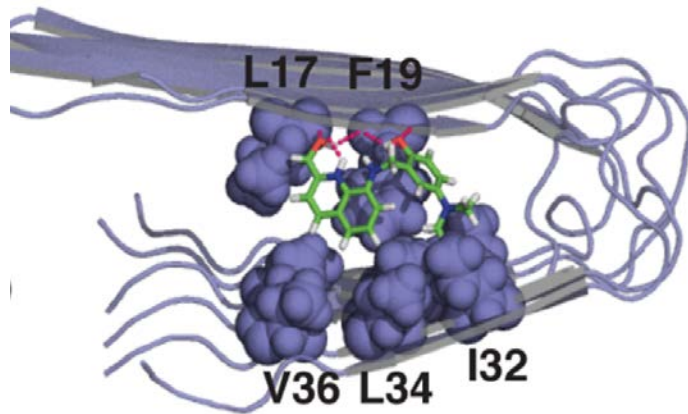


- ✓ Tetradentate ligand for Cu(II)
- ✓ substituents (e.g., quinoline and phenolic groups)
- ✓ polar functionalities (e.g., hydroxyl and amino groups)
- ✓ logBB



# Chelating Ligands

- Interactions with soluble forms of A $\beta$
- Control of A $\beta$  aggregation
- Regulation metal induced toxicity
- Control of ROS formation, antioxidant capacity and BBB permeability



ML interact with unpaired  $\beta$  sheet  
at the end of the A  $\beta$  fiber:

hydrogen bonding

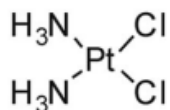
$\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking

Van der Waals interactions

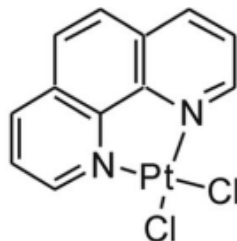


# Transition Metal Complexes

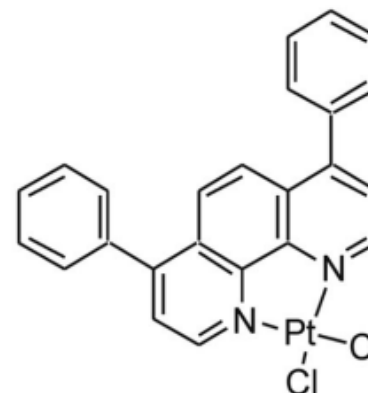
- Platinum-based inhibitors



cisplatin  
(1)



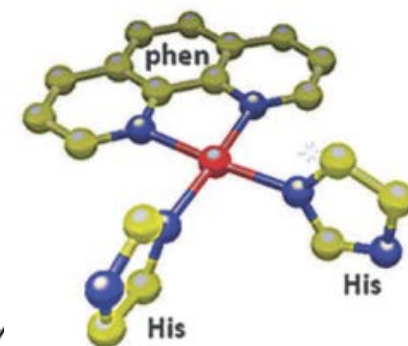
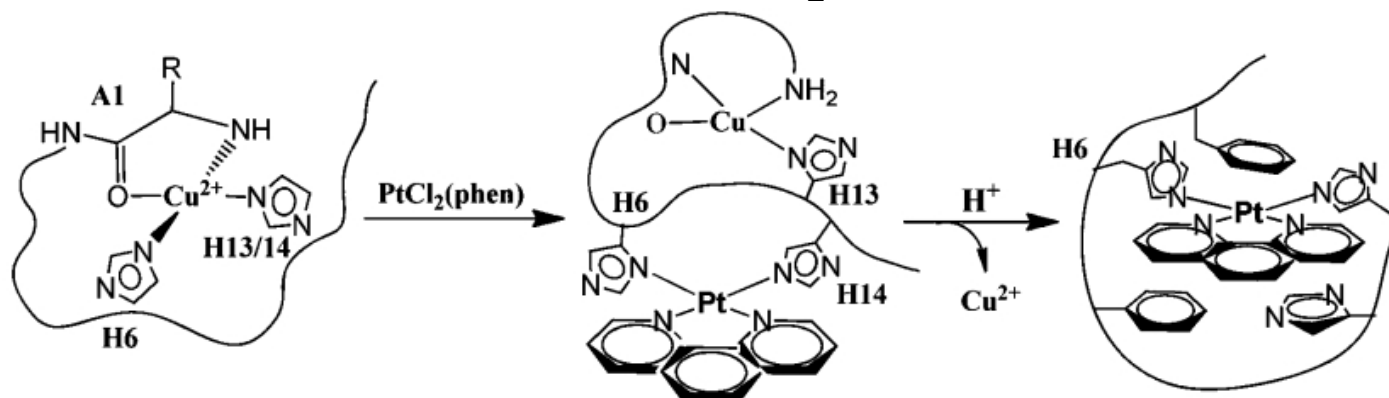
Pt(1,10-phenanthroline)Cl<sub>2</sub>  
(2)



Pt(4,7-diphenyl-[1,10]phenanthroline)Cl<sub>2</sub>  
(3)

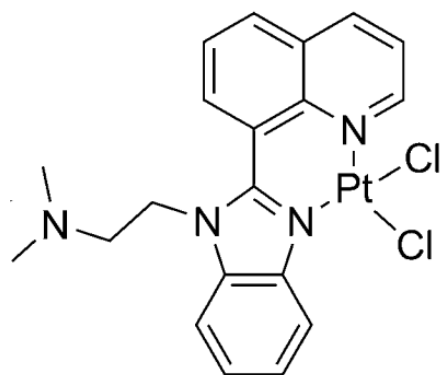
ligand-A $\beta$  interact through  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking

Proposed reaction mechanism of PtCl<sub>2</sub>(phen) targeting [Cu<sup>II</sup>-A $\beta$ ]



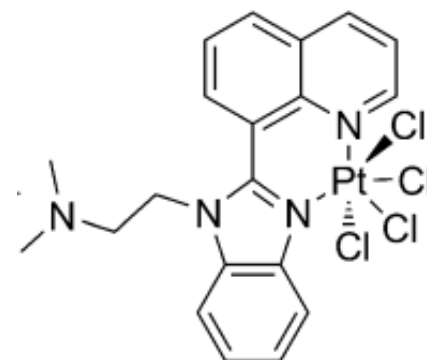
# Transition Metal Complexes

## Platinum complex as an anti-amyloid agent



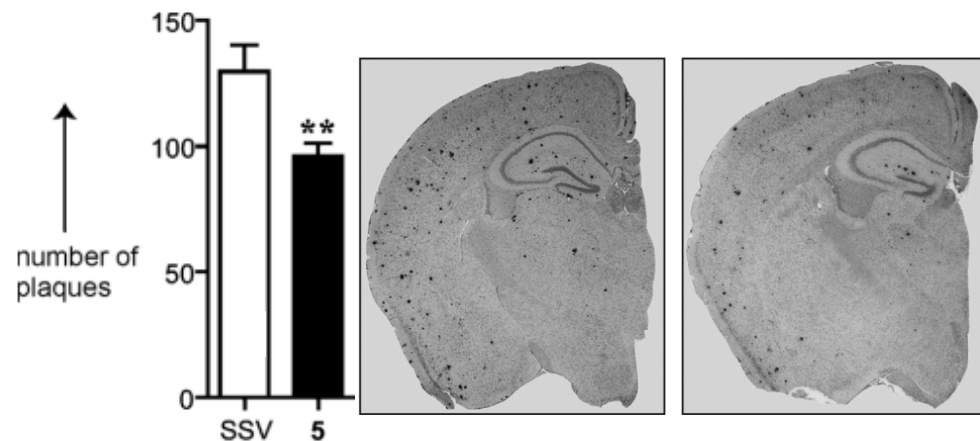
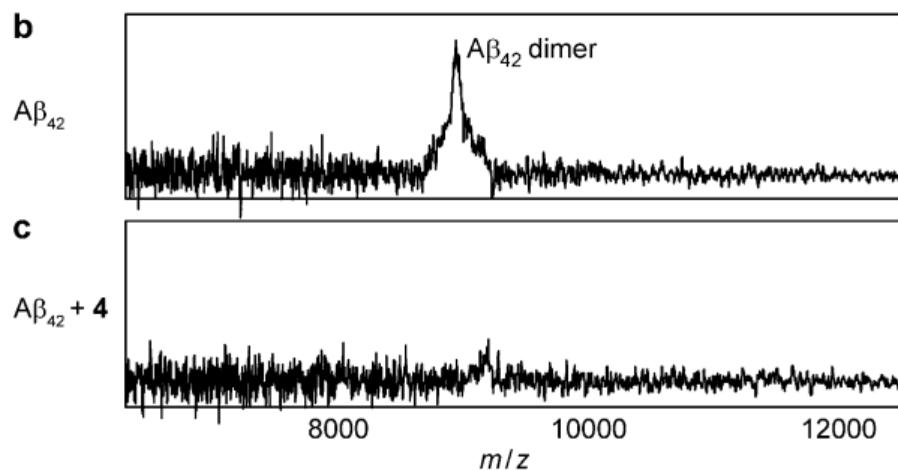
4

- Labile positions (replaced by the imidazole ring of His)
- Non-toxic
- BBB penetration



5

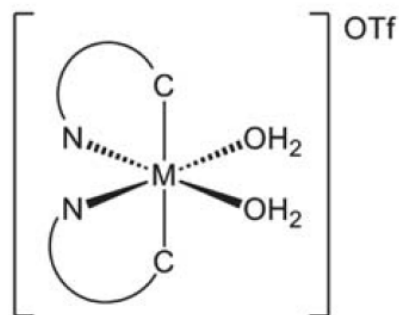
Improving bioavailability



Reduced  $A\beta$  levels in APP/PS1 mice after treatment with **5**

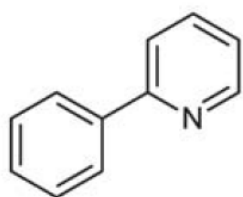
# Transition Metal Complexes

- Group 9 metal-based inhibitor

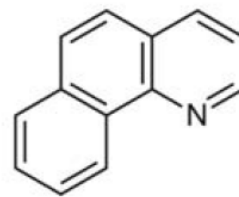


1a: M = Ir, C^N = ppy  
 1b: M = Rh, C^N = ppy

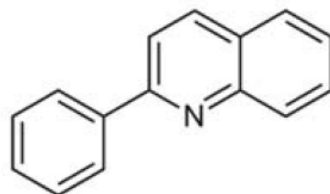
2: M = Ir, C^N = bzq  
 3: M = Ir, C^N = phq



ppy

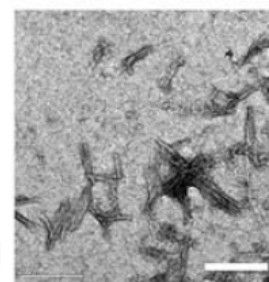
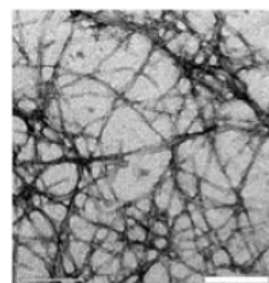
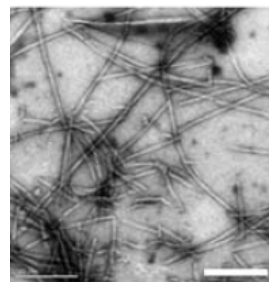


bzq

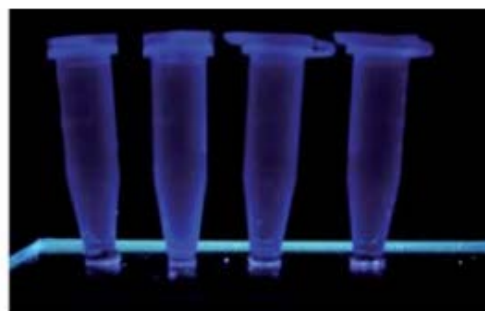
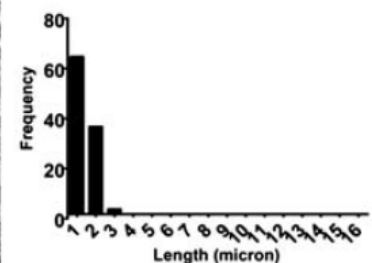
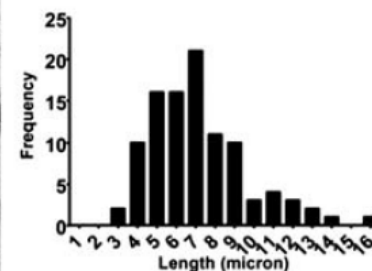
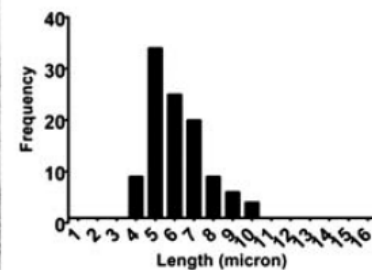


phq

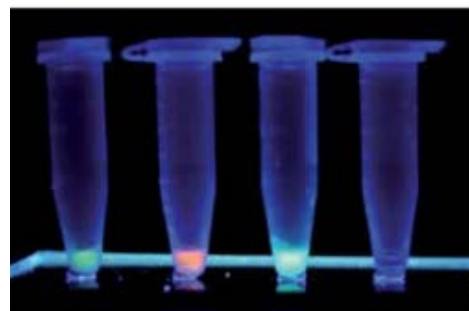
TEM



Frequency Histogram



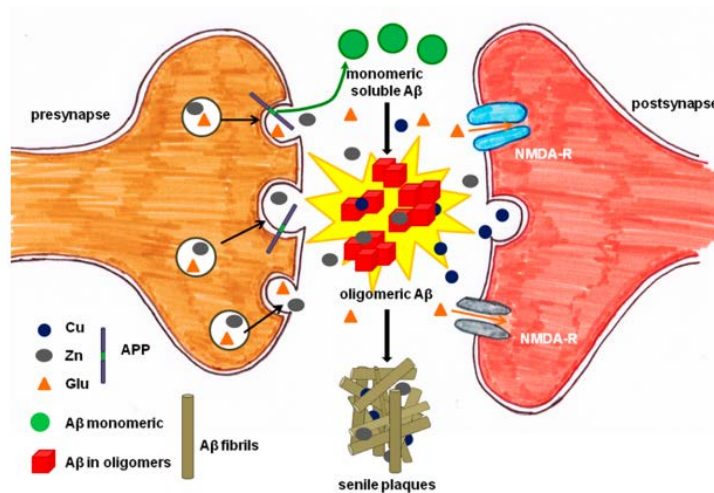
2 3 1a 1b



2 3 1a 1b

+Aβ<sub>1-40</sub>

# Summary



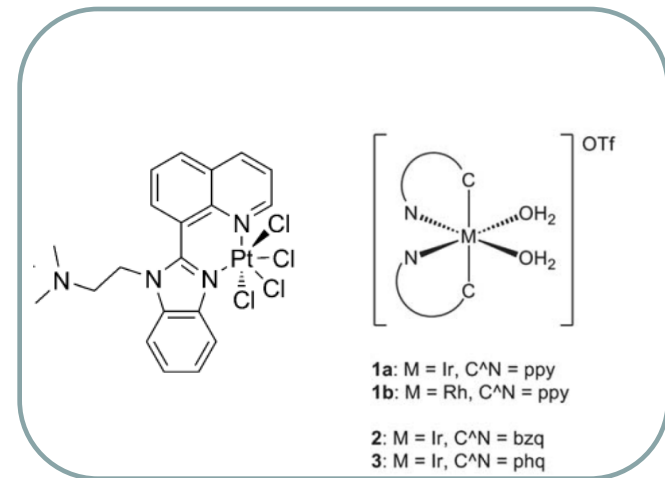
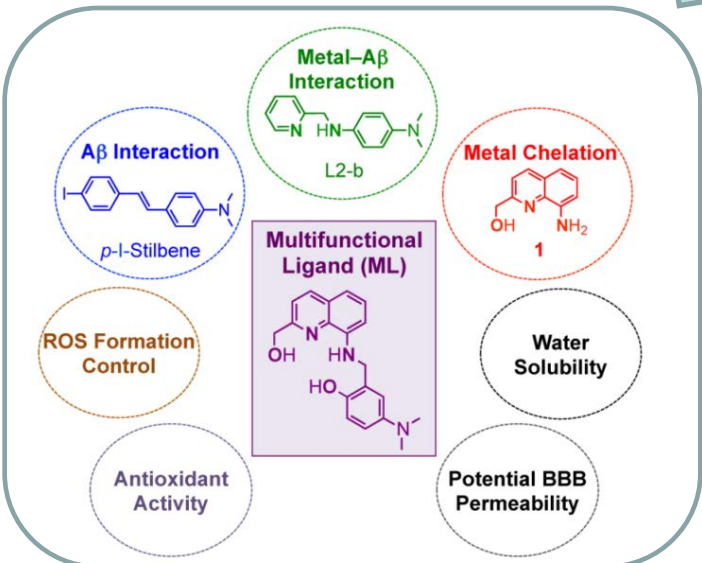
Metal ions binding to A $\beta$  to promote aggregation and show neurotoxic

Chelating ligands

Transition metal complexes

Inhibitors

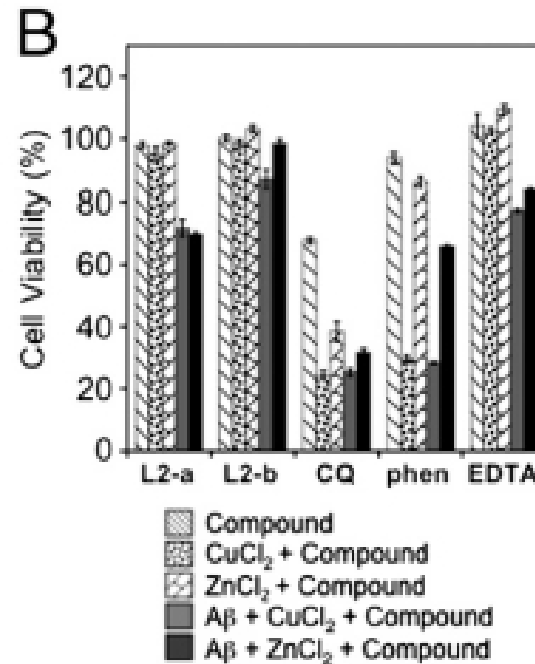
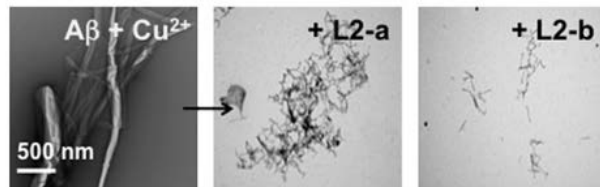
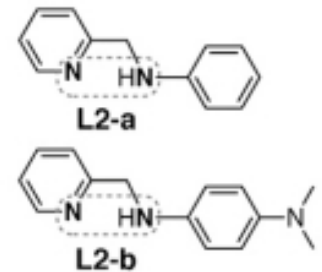
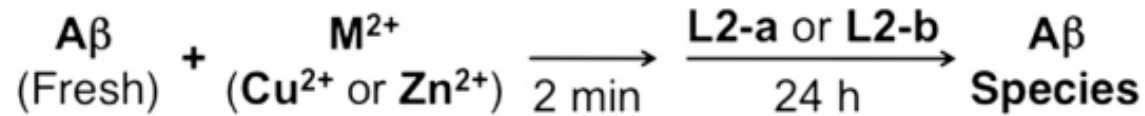
Peptide structural modification (methylation of His)



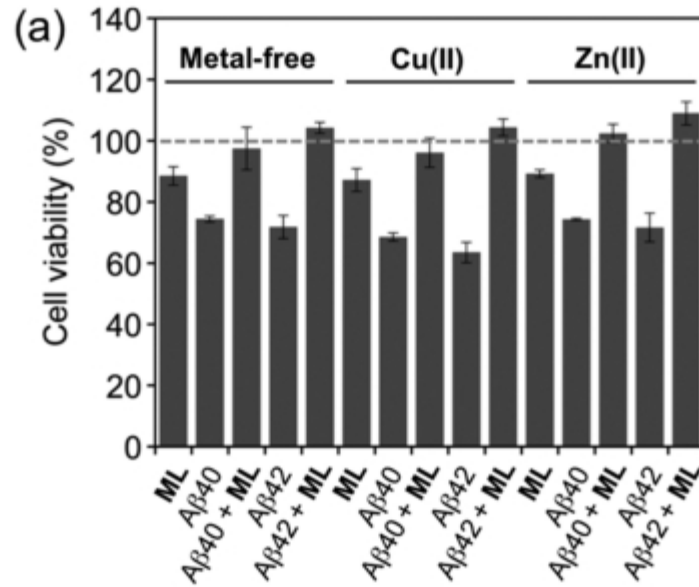
Thank you for you attention!

# p14

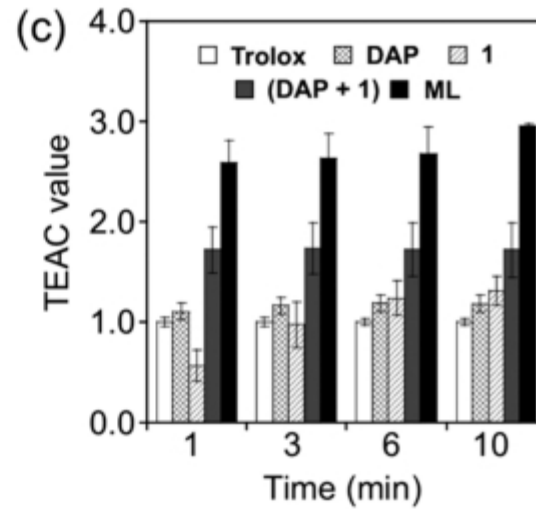
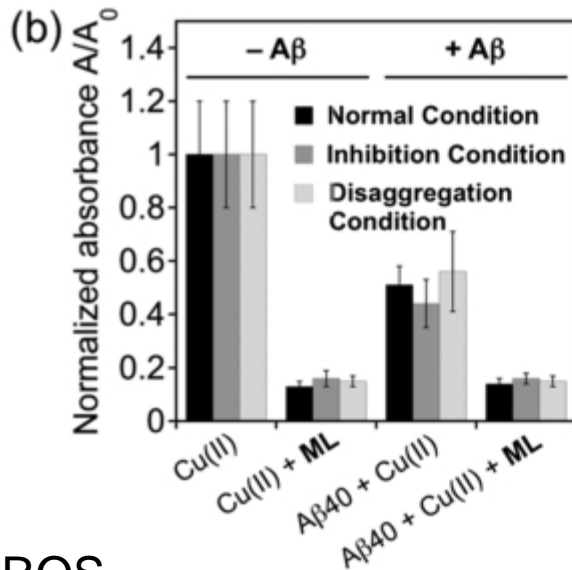
## Inhibition Experiment



# p16



toxicity



ROS

antioxidant

