

# Diabetes and Alzheimer's disease: Animal model study

Sun Ah Park M.D., Ph.D.

Neurology Dept. Soonchunhyang University



순천향대학교병원  
SOON CHUN HYANG  
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

# Suggested Common Pathogenesis

- ❖ Insulin deficiency
  - ❖ Insulin resistance
  - ❖ Impaired glucose metabolism
  - ❖ AGEs and oxidative stress
  - ❖ ↑FFA → inflammation and oxidative stress
  - ❖ Hypercholesterolemia → ↑caveolae and lipid rafts
-

# Studies using DM model

## ❖ Type I DM

- STZ injection model: ip, icv
- Spontaneous T1DM model
  - BB/Wor rat

## ❖ Type II DM

- Spontaneous T2DM model
  - db/db mouse, BBZDR/Wor rat

## ❖ Insulin signaling genetic model

- IDE KO
  - Irs2 KO
  - Neuron-specific IR KO
-

# Studies using AD model

## ❖ APP mutation model

- TG2576 mouse (APP K670N/M671L) taking high lipid diet
- TG2576 mouse injected STZ (i.c.v.)

## ❖ Tau mutation model

- pR5 (p301L) taking STZ (i.p.)

## ❖ Cross mating

- APP23 - ob/ob (leptin deficient) mouse
  - APP23 – NSY (polygenic T2DM) mouse
-

# ● T1DM, STZ systemic injection

❖ ↓ Insulin



❖ ↑ tau phosphorylation  
❖ A $\beta$  production: controversial



❖ ↓ Spatial learning,  
↓ hippocampal LTP

Recovered  
by  
insulin

# ● STZ intraventricular injection

STZ act to GLUT2 in the brain, small and heterogenous

- ❖ → IR, IGF-1R
- ❖ ↓ pPI-3K, pERK-1, pGSK-3 $\beta$
- ❖ ↓ GLUT-3, Glucose metabolism
- ❖ ↓ O-GlcNAcylation



- ❖ ↑ p-tau, ↑ p-NF, ↓ MT binding activity
- ❖ NF degeneration
- ❖ A $\beta$  production: ? ↑ congo-red+ aggregates in the capillaries

- ❖ ↓ Spatial learning

## ● T1DM, spontaneous

BB/Wor rat

- ❖ Progressive impaired cognitive function
- ❖ Insulin, IGF-1 action, neuronal apoptosis



Reversed by insulinomimetic C-peptide

## ● T2DM, spontaneous

**BBDZR/Wor**, diminished GLUT2 transporters, obesity and insulin resistance

❖ Neuronal loss, gliosis, ↓synaptophysin, ↑dystrophic neurites

❖ Normal IR- $\beta$  but ↓IGF-1R $\beta$  and ↓p-Akt

❖ ↑p-tau, ↑APP, ↑ $\beta$ -secretase, ↑A $\beta$

**Db/db mouse**, point mutation in *leptin* gene

❖ ↑Tau cleavage

❖ ↑p-tau at S199/202, T231, Ser396, more than ip STZ injected mouse

---



# ● T2DM

- ❖ Normal insulin, IR
- ❖ Impaired insulin signaling, Obese



- ❖ ↑ tau phosphorylation >> T1DM
- ❖ ↑ tau cleavage, only in T2DM
- ❖ ↑ A $\beta$  production



Neuronal loss, gliosis,  
↓ synaptophysin,  
↑ dystrophic neurites

Recovered  
by ?

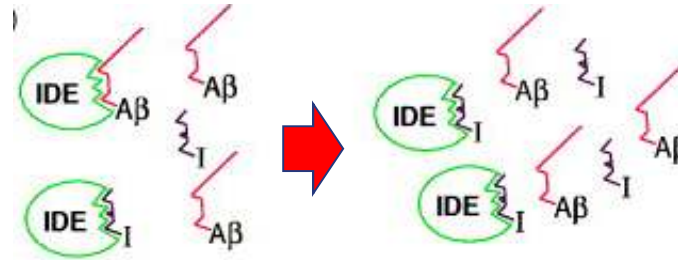
# Insulin deficiency

## + effect of insulin

- ❖ Memory
- ❖ Regulate synapse, trophic factor
- ❖ Improve cognition
- ❖ Intranasal insulin trial

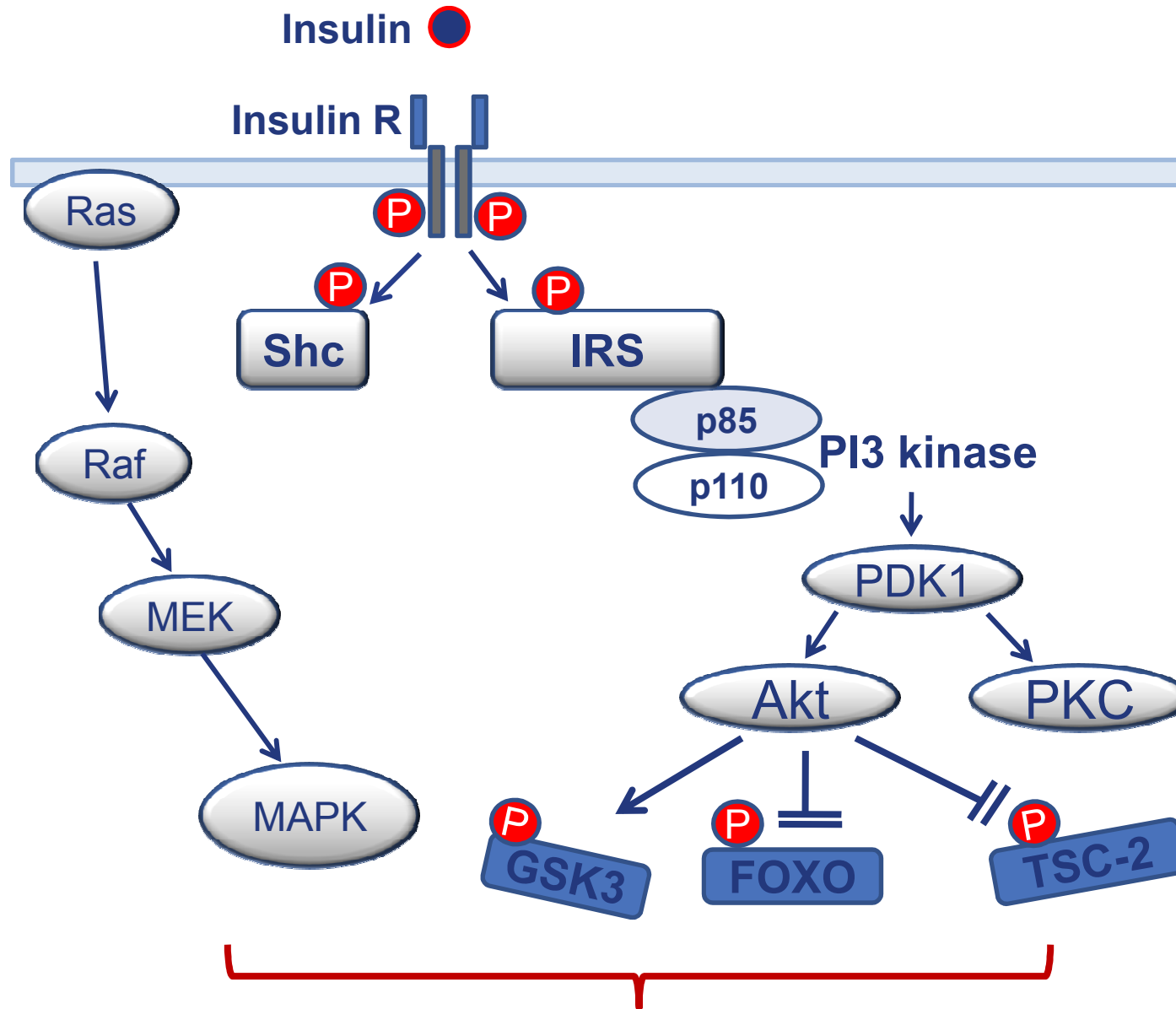
## - effect of insulin

- ❖ Hyperinsulinemia  
→ ↑A $\beta$ 42 & Inflamm cytokines
- ❖ IDE deficiency →  
↓A $\beta$ 42 clearance

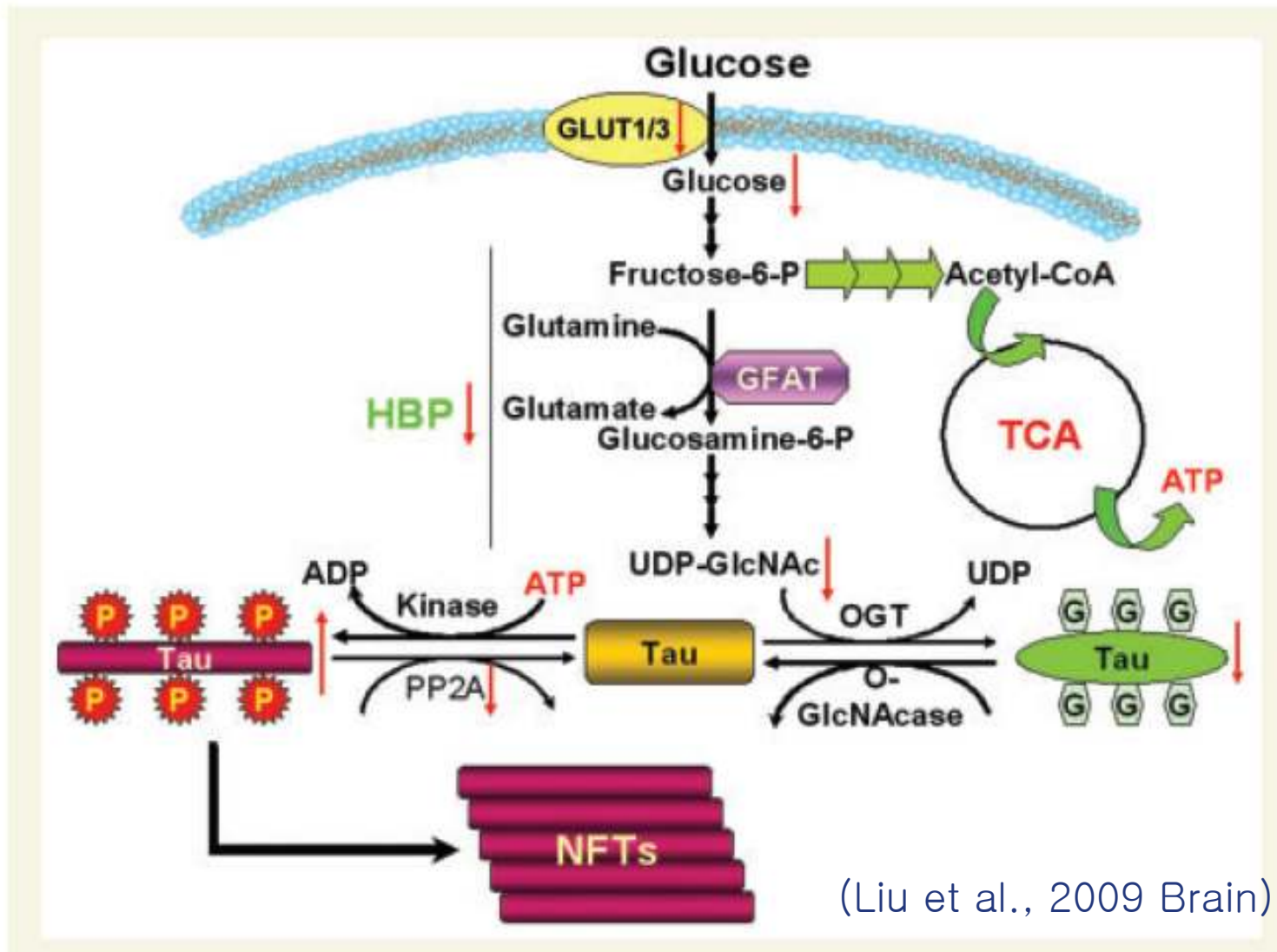


**Optimal dosage!**

# Insulin resistance



# Impaired glucose metabolism



## AGEs and others

- ❖ AGEs and oxidative stress
- ❖ ↑FFA → inflammation and oxidative stress
- ❖ Hypercholesterolemia → ↑caveolae and lipid rafts

## ● Insulin signaling animal model

IDE-/-

- ❖ Hyperinsulinemia and Glucose intolerance
- ❖ ↓ A $\beta$  degradation
- ❖ ↑ Cerebral accumulation of endogenous A $\beta$

Irs2-/-

- ❖ ↑ tau phosphorylation at Ser202 → ↑ cytoplasmic deposits → but not resulting in cell death ...? Significance

Tg2576/Irs2-/-, **Rather**

- ❖ ↓ Amyloid deposit
- ❖ Behavioral improvement on fear memory
- ❖ ↑ tau phosphorylation at 396/404, 235, 231, but not at Ser199/202/Thr205

## NIRKO mice

- ❖ ↓↓↓ PI-3K, p-Akt, GSK3 $\beta$
- ❖ ↑ tau phosphorylation at Thr231 but not at Ser202
- ❖ No change in neuronal survival and memory on MWZ, open field test, and PET

**Additional mechanism should be present!**



## ● in APP mutation model

TG2576 fed high fat diet

- ❖ Greater insulin level and obesity
  - ❖ ↓ Tyr P-IR, p-PI3K, p-Akt, IDE
  - ❖ 2x ↑ A $\beta$ 40 & 42, ↑  $\gamma$ -secretase
  - ❖ ↓ p-GSK $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , correlate with  $\gamma$ -CTF
  - ❖ Water maze spatial learning
-

## TG2576 injected STZ icv

- ❖ ↓ Spatial cognition
  - ❖ ↑ cerebral aggregated A $\beta$  fragments
  - ❖ ↑ total tau and ↓ p-tau fraction
  - ❖ No marked necrotic and apoptotic changes
  - ❖ Linear negative correlation
    - between A $\beta$ 42 and cognition,
    - between GSK-3 $\alpha/\beta$  and aggregated A $\beta$
-

## ● in Tau mutation model

P301L tau mutation, STZ injection

- ❖ ↑ tau phosphorylation, ↑ soluble tau
- ❖ Aggregation and NFT formation
  
- ❖ *But no behavior evidence*

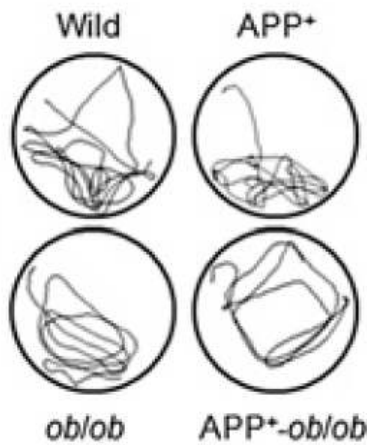
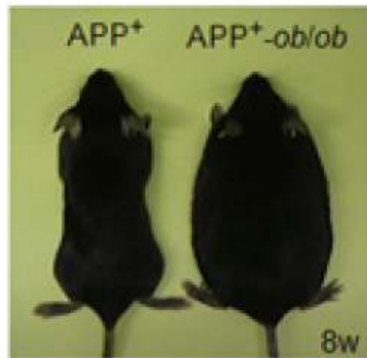
## in 3xTg-AD mouse

STZ exposure

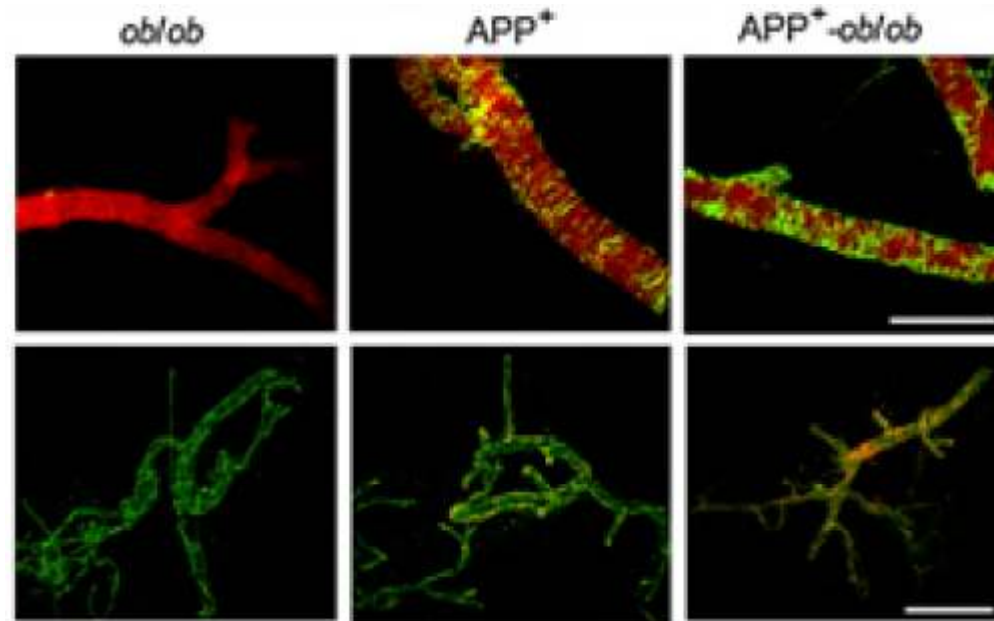
- ❖ ↑ Soluble A $\beta$
- ❖ ↑ APP
- ❖ Reversed by long-acting analogue  
exendin-4 (Ex-4) = GLP-1 receptor  
stimulator

## ● Cross mating

- ❖ APP23 (APP<sup>sw</sup> mutant)-ob/ob
  - Greater Hyperglycemia, Hyperinsulinemia, Glucose intolerance, Hyperlipidemia, ↓pAkt
  - Only faint amyloid plaques in Ent both in APP or APP-ob/ob at 12M
  - dense amyloid deposits in small arteries,
  - RAGE in blood vessels, ↑infl molecules
  - ↓brain volume, Early learning deficit



SMA/  
A $\beta$



CD31/  
A $\beta$

RAGE



Takeda et al., PNAS 2010

## ● Treatment evidence

- ❖ In 6M TgCRND8 (double APP mutation) → leptin treatment for 8 weeks
  - ↓ A $\beta$ 40, ↓ amyloid burden, ↓ C99-CTF, ↓  $\beta$ -secretase activity
  - ↓ p-tau
  - ↑ Cognitive function in object recognition and fear conditioning

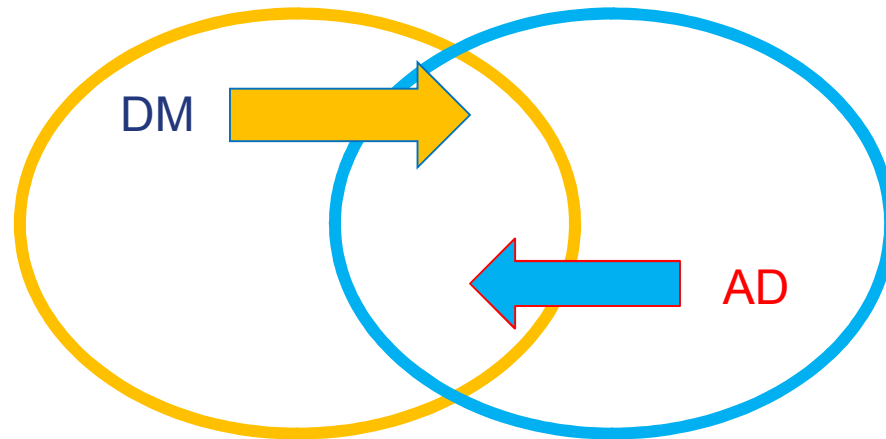
❖ Rosiglitazone for 4 months in 13M old J20 APP mutation mouse

- ↑A $\beta$  clearance, ↓A $\beta$  aggregation, ↓A $\beta$  oligomer
- ↓Neuropil threat
- ↓proinflammatory markers
- ↑ Object recognition and spatial memory



## SUMMARY

- ❖ Multiple factors are involved in linking DM and AD, not solitary one
    - Insulin deficiency
    - Insulin resistance, Impaired glucose metabolism
    - AGEs,  $\uparrow$ FFA, inflammation and oxidative stress, Hypercholesterolemia
  - ❖ What is the significance of  $\uparrow$ pTau?
  - ❖ Evidence of effect of DM on  $A\beta$  is weak
-



- ❖ Can AD itself sufficiently result in T2DM?
- ❖ Can T2DM itself sufficiently result in AD?
- ❖ At least, AD and DM aggravate each other  
→ modulation both at the same time will be beneficial



Thank you for your  
attention!