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## A Microglia Initiated Target Therapy in Neuroinflammation for Alzheimer's Patients

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### 1. Abstract

The research is focused on neuroinflammation a normal physiological process which is known to be associated with neurodegenerative diseases could be the potential targeted therapy via the microglia cells, it starts with defining Alzheimer's; a neurodegenerative disease which causes deposition of A $\beta$  [amyloid beta] protein in the cerebral cortex as well as NFT [neurofibrillary tangles] in the hippocampus and basal ganglia. The paper then describes process of neuroinflammation, microglia's role, apolipoprotein E4 gene in relation to Alzheimer's, which leads to different stem cell research and how pruning microglia as well as targeting microglia receptors in the brain is being used in current research trials, we included multiple meta-analysis showing microglia receptors being targeted currently by emerging drugs like propofol, antibodies CSF1R inhibitor etc, which are currently under trial phase, the research ends with some limitations which are being faced by researchers in current research trials as well as future models and feedback which can help improve the path of stem cell advancement.

### 2. Alzheimer's Disease and Its Effect on People

#### 2.1. Epidemiological Effect

The most frequent reason for a loss in cognitive capacity is Alzheimer disease [AD]. It is a neurological condition involving language, memory, understanding, attention, judgment, and reasoning that often affects persons over the age of 65. [29] In the US, it is the sixth most common cause of death. Less than 10% of Alzheimer's patients have early onset, which is rare and occurs before the age of 65. There may be 24 million dementia sufferers worldwide, and by 2050, that number is expected to have multiplied four times. Alzheimer's disease is thought to cost the US healthcare system \$172 billion annually. [29].

#### 2.2. Risk Factors

Both early-onset Alzheimer's disease and late-onset Alzheimer's disease have a genetic component. A risk factor for dementia with early

onset is trisomy 21. Alzheimer's disease has been linked to several risk factors. The main risk factor for Alzheimer's disease is getting older. Alzheimer's disease risk factors include traumatic brain injury, depression, cardiovascular and cerebrovascular illness, older parental age, smoking, a family history of dementia, elevated homocysteine levels, and the presence of the APOE e4 allele. The likelihood of getting Alzheimer's increases by 10% to 30% if you have a first-degree relative who has the illness. The chance of developing Alzheimer's disease is three times higher in people with 2 or more siblings who have the condition than in the general population. The risk of Alzheimer's disease is known to be reduced by higher education, estrogen use by women, anti-inflammatory drug use, leisure activities like reading or playing an instrument, a good diet, and regular aerobic exercise. [44] [33].

### 2.3. Pathophysiology of AD

Studies on etiology of the disease shows that overproduction and poor clearance of beta-amyloid are thought to cause AD. Tau hyperphosphorylation and neuronal toxicity are subsequent events. The three main pathologic characteristics of AD are extracellular amyloid deposition in the form of neurotic plaques, intraneuronal tau protein deposition in the form of intraneuronal neurofibrillary tangles, and brain atrophy from localized neuronal and synaptic loss. In the cerebral blood vessels, amyloid also accumulates. The severity of cerebral amyloid angiopathy varies from minor deposits of amyloid to significant accumulations that alter the architecture of the arteries and result in microinfarcts, microaneurysms, and cerebral microhemorrhages [2]. The microscopic lesions known as plaques are spherical and contain an extracellular amyloid beta-peptide core encircled by enlarged axonal endings. The transmembrane protein known as an amyloid precursor protein [APP] is the source of the beta-amyloid peptide. Alpha, beta, and gamma-secretases act as proteases to cleave the beta-amyloid peptide from the APP. The tiny fragments of APP that are produced when either alpha-secretase or beta-secretase cleaves it are typically not toxic to neurons; However, the beta-secretase and gamma-secretase cleavages in succession produce 42 amino acid peptides [beta-amyloid 42]. Amyloid aggregation, which results in neuronal toxicity, is caused by an increase in beta-amyloid 42 levels [29].

### 2.4. Other Genetic Risk Factors

There are other genetic risk factors that are related to AD. TREM2, APOE, CLU, SORL1, BIN1, and PICALM are additional genes with known variants linked to an increased risk of Alzheimer's disease. Apolipoprotein E [APOE], a protein involved in fat metabolism, and its E4 allele are the most prevalent genetic risk factors for AD, with an allele frequency of 13.7%. Heterozygosity for this allele increases the risk by threefold. TREM2R47H [triggering

receptor expressed on myeloid cells 2] has a similar effect size despite being less common. The association between inflammation and AD pathogenesis is supported by TREM2, a receptor that is expressed on various immune cell types [Sheppard & Coleman, 2020].

### 2.5. Symptoms of AD

Alzheimer's disease is initially only known to cause memory loss, but over time, the patient may experience severe cognitive and behavioral symptoms like paranoia, depression, anxiety, and anger [29]. Most of them will need assistance with activities of daily living as the disease worsens. In time, even walking becomes challenging, and many people may not be able to eat or experience swallowing issues that result in aspiration pneumonia. The amount of time between diagnosis and death varies; some people may pass away within five years, while others may live for ten years. However, overall, the quality of life is very bad. Although an inter-professional approach to the management of Alzheimer patients is advised, an analysis of several studies shows that this approach has no bearing on the care of his patients. But in order to ascertain what kind of strategy is most effective for treating these patients, more thorough studies will be needed due to the heterogeneity in the earlier studies; However, this research is trying to review deeper in neuroinflammatory pathophysiology correlated to microglia to hopefully can help with better management of the disease.

## 3. Neuroinflammation

### 3.1. General Background of Neuroinflammation

By eliminating or inhibiting various pathogens, neuroinflammation serves as a first line of defense for the brain [Wyss-Coray, & Mucke, 2002 as cited in [30]. Through the stimulation of tissue repair and the removal of cellular waste, this inflammatory response can be advantageous. But persistent inflammatory responses are bad because they prevent regeneration. The persistence of inflammatory stimulation can be brought on by internal [e. g., protein aggregation and genetic mutation] or environmental [e. g., drugs, trauma, and infections] factors. Microglia and astrocytes participate in the ongoing inflammatory responses, which can result in neurodegenerative diseases [30]. The central nervous system is composed primarily of neurons and glial cells. Since glial cells don't generate electrical impulses, they were once thought of as the support cells for neurons. In terms of cellular variety and function, it has been found that glial cells outperform neurons [30]. According to the traditional theory, AD amyloid plaques are surrounded by reactive gliosis and activated microglia, which define neuroinflammation [24]; [8] as cited in [25]. This approach views neuroinflammation as a passive response to tau protein and amyloid plaque. Recent research suggests neuroinflammation precedes

the typical AD characteristics, making it the third pathological hallmark of AD and contributing to its pathogenesis [11] as cited in [25].

### 3.2. Microglia's Role in Neuroinflammation

Neuronal activity can be regulated by glial cells like oligodendrocytes, microglia, and astrocytes. Innate immune responses are one of the many functions performed by microglia and astrocytes in the brain. The M1 [classical activation] and M2 [alternative activation] phenotypes of microglia are separated based on their level of activation [30]. Microglia using their senses, which are encoded by various genes, they can first detect changes in their environment. The second is the bodily housekeeping process, which entails moving to injured areas, remodeling synapses, and preserving myelin homeostasis. The third involves defense against harmful stimuli, such as damage- and pathogen-associated molecular patterns [PAMPs] and DAMPs. The toll-like receptors [TLRs], nuclear oligomerization domain-like receptors [NODRs], and viral receptors, which are expressed on microglia and can detect PAMPs and DAMPs, are examples of cellular receptors. In response to these stimuli, microglia release chemokines like C-C motif chemokine ligand 2 [CCL2] and IL-18, as well as proinflammatory cytokines like tumor necrosis factor [TNF]-, interleukin [IL]-1, and IL-16 to attract additional cells and clear pathogens [30]. Neuroinflammation is a neuroprotective mechanism, but it can also be neurotoxic and linked to neurodegeneration if it persists for an extended period of time. Additionally, microglia priming with aging and ongoing stress exhibits dystrophic morphology and an exaggerated inflammatory response [30]. Depending on their level of activation, microglia in the central nervous system [CNS] can be either pro-inflammatory or neuroprotective. Pro-inflammatory cytokines, which are byproducts of pathogens or damaged cells, cause resting microglia to express pro-inflammatory molecules like IL-1, TNF-, IL-6, nitric oxide [NO], and proteases, which are harmful in neurodegenerative diseases. Contrarily, IL-4, IL-10, IL-13, and transforming growth factor [TGF] activate neuroprotective microglia and cause the release of a variety of proteins, including FIZZ1, Chitinase-3-Like-3 [Chi3L3], Arginase 1, Ym1, CD206, insulin-like growth factor [IGF-1], and Frizzled class receptor 1 [Fzd1]. These microglial proteins may be involved in tissue repair and neuro [30].

### 3.3. Apolipoprotein E4 Role in Neuroinflammation

Numerous innate immune-related genes have been linked to an increased risk of developing neurodegenerative disorders by genome-wide association studies [GWAS], indicating that immune cells are important in the pathogenesis of neurodegeneration. Apolipoprotein E [APOE], a gene, is among those with disease-related variants. Apolipoprotein E4 [APOE4] allele is a significant shared risk factor for a number of neurodegenerative diseases, including

Alzheimer's disease [AD], and APOE2 allele lowers risk for AD. Due in part to its function in lipid metabolism and associated inflammation, APOE4 is also the strongest genetic risk factor for developing late-onset AD. Comparing APOE4 carriers to non-carriers, APOE4 carriers in AD exhibit earlier A-plaque deposition and clinical disease onset, as well as quicker disease progression, a heavier burden of A-plaques, and increased brain atrophy, highlighting a significant role for APOE4 in AD pathogenesis. Comparatively to non-APOE2 carriers, APOE2 carriers have later A deposition, clinical onset, and increased longevity. Although there are currently some hints as to the cause[s] of AD, there is still much that is not fully understood [48]. APOE plays a crucial role at the intersection of inflammation and neurodegeneration via glial-mediated mechanisms, in addition to clearance of or response to misfolded proteins, such as A and tau [48]. Leukocytes and hepatocytes, particularly a type of resident hepatic macrophage known as Kupffer cells, are the primary sources of ApoE expression in the periphery while astrocytes and disease-associated microglia [DAM] are the primary producers of ApoE in the CNS [48]. Studies indicate that the two sources and metabolism of each pool of ApoE work separately from one another, despite the fact that the peripheral role of ApoE in AD has not been studied as thoroughly as that of the CNS [48]. Learning and memory deficits seen in global ApoE KO mice are rescued by genetically restoring peripheral ApoE expression in those mice [94], suggesting that peripheral ApoE may affect CNS functions via the vasculature. According to APOE4 carriers who have elevated levels of the proinflammatory cytokines IL-8 and TNF after cardiopulmonary bypass surgery, APOE4 is also linked to an increased inflammatory response in the periphery, like the CNS [48]. Furthermore, APOE4 carriers had an increased risk of AD with earlier disease onset. This association was also true for peripheral chronic low-grade inflammation [48]. These studies demonstrate the diverse roles played by APOE4 in systemic inflammation in general and in AD, and they hypothesize that the APOE4 allele can influence AD pathology by altering the inflammatory response. How APOE4 interacts with immune cell activity to cause neurodegeneration associated with AD remains a crucial open question

## 4. Stem Cell Therapy Directed Towards the Inflammatory Factors

### 4.1. General Use of Stem Cell Therapy

Utilizing stem cell technologies for drug development, disease modeling, and cell therapies has garnered more interest in recent years [38]; [31] Yang et al., 2020 as cited in Si & Wang, 2021]. Induced pluripotent stem cells [iPSCs], neural stem cells generated from the brain [NSCs], and bone marrow mesenchymal stem cells are the stem cell types most frequently used in AD research [MSCs] [Yang et al., 2013; [9], [49] as cited in Si & Wang, 2021].

Traditional therapies may not be as effective as stem cell-based therapy since it has the potential to enhance the microenvironment of the brain fundamentally, boost synaptic connections, and prevent neuronal loss. Some of the mechanism of action of targeted stem cell therapy include.

1. Replacement of damaged or lost neuronal cells: Cholinergic neurons, which can differentiate from stem cells and integrate with the host, remodel brain circuits, and soon replace the missing neurons, can be produced by stem cells [Telias and Ben-Yosef, 2015 as cited in Si & Wang, 2021].

2. Neurotrophic factor secretion: To encourage cell survival, boost synaptic connections, and enhance cognitive function, stem cells can release neurotrophic factors such brain-derived neurotrophic factor [BDNF] and fibroblast growth [[6] as cited in Si & Wang, 2021].

3. Production of anti-amyloid proteins: Stem cell transplantation lowers levels of amyloid beta [A] and lowers toxic responses to A, which is advantageous again for survival of transplanted cells and cognitive recovery [[3] as cited in Si & Wang, 2021].

4. Anti-inflammatory response: stem cell transplantation reduces the expression of proinflammatory factors interleukin-1 $\beta$ , interleukin-6, tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$ , inducible nitric oxide synthase, and exerts neuroprotective effects [35] as cited in Si & Wang, 2021].

5. Promotion of endogenous stem cell activation: Exogenous stem cell transplantation enhances the brain's microenvironment, allowing endogenous stem cells to survive and be activated [50] as cited in Si, & Wang, 2021].

6. Enhancement of the metabolic activity of brain neurons: stem cell transplantation boosts neural connectivity and metabolism, which enhances cognitive performance [[7] as cited in Si, & Wang, 2021].

The ability of stem cells to multiply, regenerate, and divide into multiple mature cell lineages defines them. Embryonic stem cells [ESCs] induced pluripotent stem cells [iPSCs], mesenchymal stem cells [MSCs], and neural stem cells are among the various types of stem cells [NSCs]. The categorization is based on a variety of cell types that may be produced and derived [Sivandzade & Cucullo, 2021].

#### 4.2. Use of Mesenchymal Cells

The most often employed stem cells in therapeutic studies for AD are mesenchymal stem cells [MSCs]. [19] made the initial discovery of mesenchymal stem cells or mesenchymal stromal cells [25]. MSCs play a role in the growth of many mesenchymal tissue types and can be extracted from umbilical cord blood [UCB-MSCs] or Wharton's jelly. They can also be found in bone marrow and adipose tissue, among other adult stem cell habitats [15]. Mesenchymal stem cells offer a number of benefits: In comparison to ESCs and NSCs, MSCs have the following advantages:

I they are not associated with any complex ethical issues; [ii] they are simple to obtain, manipulate, and store; [iii] they nearly express no HLA antigen, allowing allogeneic transplantation to be accomplished without immunosuppression; [iv] they are far less likely to develop tumors; and [v] MSCs can modulate immune response and reduce neuroinflammation in AD. MSCs are currently the most commonly used stem cell source in AD regeneration therapy because to their adaptable qualities [25]. They have three key functions in treating AD: controlling the immune system, reducing the amount of A plaques by internalizing and degrading endosomal-lysosomal pathway oligomers, and having neurotrophic/regenerative potential [18]. Currently, the widespread consensus is that transplanted MSCs primarily work through paracrine mechanisms [Walker & Jucker, 2015; [15] ;[22]; [36] as cited in [25]. Mesenchymal stem cells secrete numerous neurotrophic and angiogenic factors through paracrine action, including glial cell derived neurotrophic factor [GDNF], vascular endothelial growth factor [VEGF], brain-derived neurotrophic factor [BDNF], insulin growth factor [IGF], and others, as demonstrated by our research and that of others. The milieu for the remaining neurons in the sick location may be improved by such neurotrophic and angiogenic substances, which may also encourage neuronal regeneration and repair. Intranasal delivery of the secretome obtained by MSCs subjected in vitro to AD mouse brain homogenates [MSCCS] has recently been shown to produce lasting memory recovery, together with a marked decrease in the amount of amyloid plaque and reactive gliosis, in APP/PS1 AD mice. Additionally, they discovered that MSC-CS-treated APP/PS1 mice had healthier conditions than vehicle-treated mice, as seen by larger neuronal densities in the cortex and hippocampus, which were linked to a decrease of hippocampal shrinkage and a longer lifetime. This suggests that MSC-derived secretome can be used to mimic the beneficial effects of MSC transplantation in AD, including improvements in memory, amplified amyloid plaque removal, reduced neuroinflammation, and enhancement of endogenous neurogenesis. This strongly suggests that perhaps the paracrine effects of MSCs play a crucial role in MSC transplantation studies [54], as cited in [25]. Modulation of neuroinflammation is a key component of the MSCs treatment mechanism. As was already noted, neuroinflammation is crucial to AD etiology. Mesenchymal stem cells have been proven in numerous studies to change microglia and astrocytes from pro-inflammatory M1 and A1 phenotypes to anti-inflammatory M2 and A2 phenotypes, thereby reducing the neuro-inflammatory response and neuronal damage in AD [Wei et al., 2018; Zhao et al., 2018; [52] as cited in [25]. In a different study it was found that after [Adipose-derived mesenchymal stem cells] ADSC transplantation in the cerebral of APP/PS1 transgenic mice, studies showed that the result was decreased amount of  $\beta$  amyloid [A $\beta$ ] which increased cognitive function and memory, it was also found that activated microglia predominately surrounded and

penetrated plaques in both the hippocampus and the cortex. The expression levels of anti-inflammatory were increased whereas pro-inflammatory factors decreased, as well as A-degrading enzymes, were higher in the activated microglia, demonstrating an activated phenotype. According to these findings, MSC transplantation can slow cognitive impairment in AD mice by preventing neuroinflammation mechanisms [39]. The MSCs may potentially target the recognizable traits of the traditional AD. Numerous research using MSC transplantation in AD transgenic mouse models have revealed lower tau hyperphosphorylation and A plaque load [43]; Zhao et al., 2018; [54] as cited in [25]. MSC's which are umbilical cord derivatives tend to secrete Soluble intracellular adhesion molecule-1 [Sicam-1] which stimulates release of neprilysin which is an alpha beta degrading enzyme and hence gets clear of the plaques, via internalization and degradation of the endosomal-lysosomal pathway, MSCs can further lower the load of plaque. By speeding overall clearance of amyloid and tau, MSC transplantation has been proven in animal tests to relieve the symptoms of AD rats [27] as cited in [25].

#### 4.3. Depletion of Microglia

Researchers have created microglia depletion methods utilizing pharmacological or genetics in response to the premise that microglia activation worsens AD progression. Depletion of microglia in AD mice models has been demonstrated to produce positive outcomes. It is well known that CSF1R is an essential surface receptor for microglia [[16] as cited in Si et al., 2023]. In many AD mouse models, CSF1R inhibitors can reduce the development of neuritic plaques, dendritic spine loss, and neuroinflammation while also enhancing cognition [[12] Sosna et al., 2018 as cited in Si et al., 2023].

#### 4.4. Human NSC in Betterment of AD

Studies using rodent AD models have demonstrated that human NSCs [hNSCs] from the embryonic telomere can move and develop into neurons and glial cells in the lateral ventricle of mice with AD. This phenomenon diminishes glial and astrocyte hyperplasia, tau phosphorylation, and A-42 levels [32]. enhances neuronal, synaptic, and nerve fiber density and promotes the creation of endogenous synapse [37]. Neurotrophic elements It has been demonstrated that NSCs' secretions enhance memory performance, and that NSCs that overexpress the -degrading enzyme decrease the aggregation of A  $\beta$  [Tang et al., 2008; Wu et al., 2016; [40] as cited in Si & Wang, 2021]. A  $\beta$  and tau protein levels were unaltered following the transplantation of human-derived NSCs into 3xTg mice, but memory performance and synaptic density improved, showing that the transplantation of human-derived NSCs may only correct symptoms [[9],[1] as cited in Si & Wang, 2021].

#### 4.5. Induced Pluripotent Cells

In a five familial AD [5 FAD] transgenic mice model, human

iPSC-derived macrophage-like cells were genetically altered to produce the A-degrading protease neprilysin-2, develop into functional neurons, and lower A levels therapeutically [Takamatsu et al., 2014 as cited in [37]. The transition from the pro-inflammatory cytokine response to the anti-inflammatory cytokine response through neurotrophin-related reprogramming effects could also explain the significant improvement in neural function following the injection of human iPSC-derived NSCs into the hippocampus of a mouse model of stroke [[17] as cited in [37].

### 5. Current Trials

#### 5.1. Microglia's Impact on Current Research

Many studies have confirmed that microglia promote the development and progression of neuroinflammation [46]; [5] as cited by [34]. So, it has become well established that microglia play a crucial role in AD progression. The microglial lysosome has been identified as the principal intracellular environment that promotes the proliferation and aggregation of A $\beta$  plaques [Spangenberg et al., 2019 as cited in Zhang et al., 2021]. This was confirmed once again in this study when A $\beta$  aggregation was observed in transgenic mice. The observation was done at the time of plaque formation in 15-month-old mice, the results showed intracellular aggregates that had the appearance of small plaques, intra-lysosomal plaques within microglia as well as ramified microglia. However, there was an absence of nearby plaques outside the microglial environment, strongly suggesting that the microglia were the source of the observed plaques.

#### 5.2. Inhibitors

From this knowledge it can then be extrapolated that depletion of microglia can halt the progression of plaque formation in AD. Colony stimulating factor 1 [CSF1] is a crucial element in the survival and development of microglia; thus, continued administration of CSF1R inhibitors is proving to be an effective, non-invasive approach to precisely ablate the microglia, and has been adopted in numerous studies. In 2018, Sosana and colleagues gave 3 months of treatment to 2-month-old mice, with a selective colony stimulation factor 1 receptor [CSF1R] inhibitor, PLX3397. The mice selected exhibited comparable levels of the human APP and PS1. After 3 months, it was found that early long-term administration of PLX3397, resulted in a dramatic decrease of intraneuronal amyloid as well as neurotic plaque deposition. Reductions were also seen in soluble fibrillar amyloid oligomers in brain lysates, a depletion of soluble pre-fibrillar oligomers in plasma. On fear conditioning tests done during behavioral analysis, there was improvement in cognitive function [Sosna et al., 2018 as cited by Zhang et al., 2021]. Another CSF1R inhibitor, JNJ-40346527 currently being developed by Janssen Biotech in partnership with the University of oxford is currently in phase 1 of clinical trials [4]. This mechanism of microglia suppression through CSF1 reduction

is also potentially achievable through genetic modification. Down-regulation of CSF1 production was observed by *in vitro* deletion of a CSF1 enhancer in mouse embryonic stem cells mediated by the CRISPR/Cas9 system [53] as cited by Zhang et al., 2021].

### 5.3. Drugs Enhancing Microglia's Role

The general intravenous anesthetic propofol, has also recently been seen to have some neuroprotective effects through microglia suppression. A recent study done by researchers affiliated with Tongji University in China, investigated this connection and their results suggested that administration of propofol in transgenic mice subsequently hindered the activation of microglia especially through the PI3k/Akt pathway. The drug seemed to have this regulatory effect through microRNA, especially miR-106b, which was identified as the vital miRNA that mediates the anti-inflammatory effects that propofol has on microglia [36].

### 5.4. Antibodies Approach

Emerging research shows microglia to play a role also in the promotion of tissue repair [34].

Another approach that is proving to be effective in the management of neurodegenerative diseases like AD is through the replenishment of healthy microglia. Cells that closely resemble microglia have been successfully derived from induced pluripotent stem [iPS] cells [14]. These cells perform phagocytosis similarly and respond to the similar negative stimuli as Human primary microglia. The TREM2 protein, which is expressed by microglia, as well as other phagocytic cells such as, osteoclasts, dendritic cells, and macrophages, is thought to be important in the proper functioning of microglia phagocytosis. Mutation in this protein has been linked to the development of progressive dementias, such as Nasu-Hakola disease [NHD], frontotemporal dementia [FTD] and AD, due to defective phagocytosis. The TREM2 transgenic mice showed enhanced learning as well as improvements in memory deficits [28].

### 5.5. Targeting Microglial Immunoreceptors

Due to the fact that it has been established that TREM2 mutation increases the risk for AD [28] and its deficiency in an AD patient aggravates the symptoms by reduction of A $\beta$  phagocytosis and clearance [Wang et al., 2015], it can then be deduced that enhancement of TREM2 activity has a positive effect on the symptoms of AD. Large pharmaceutical companies have recently become heavily interested in this area of research. Alector and Denali Therapeutics are two California- based companies showing promising results in the development of their TREM-2 agonist drugs, with Denali, in partnership with Takeda Pharmaceutical Company, already venturing into early human studies [4]. Certain individual antibodies have been identified that exhibit agonistic effects on TREM2. These antibodies currently being investigated are antibody 1, antibody 2 [10], AL002c [Wang et al., 2020], and AL002a [51]. Another monoclonal antibody of note, VGL101 is currently

being developed by Virgil Neuroscience. The company recently received approval from the Australian Human Research Ethics Committee and is currently undergoing phase 1 human trials on healthy volunteers receiving single and multiple doses. However, in the United States, where the company is based, they have recently entered phase 2 of their clinical trial, Where the first dose of the novel drug was given to a patient with ALSP. Another antibody that has been recently found to be effective in the enhancement of TREM2 activity is antibody 4D9 [Schlepckow et al., 2020]. Its mechanism of action is thought to be through reduction in proteolysis of TREM2, thereby exerting protective effects in AD. The second major microglial receptor is CD33. Polymorphisms in the CD33 gene are thought to be involved in the suppression of A $\beta$  phagocytosis, leading to the plaque accumulation mediated pathologies seen in AD [Zhao, 2019 as cited by Zhang et al., 2021]. Inhibition of CD33 is thought to be a promising method for resistance to the neurotoxic effects of CD33 in the progression of AD. CD 33 was identified in a study as one of the strongest potential candidates for the development of anti-AD therapies [Zhang et al., 2016], due to the existence of numerous available CD33 inhibitory antibodies that could also be effective as anti-AD therapies. In particular, the drug lintuzumab, which is presently used as a treatment for acute myelogenous leukemia, may be a viable candidate for treating AD. Novel drugs that inhibit CD33 are also being developed as potential therapies. AL003, a CD33 inhibitor was being developed by Alector, along with other AD therapies in their pipeline, however the trial for this drug was put on hold after phase 1. P22 a sialic acid-based ligand P22 exhibits high specificity for human CD33, was developed in a study by Parker and colleagues. The ligand works by binding to CD33 to then mediate an increase in A $\beta$  phagocytosis by microglia [41] as cited by Zhang et al., 2021].

### 5.6. Gene Targeted Therapy

MS4A is a gene that encodes a transmembrane protein which is expressed selectively in microglia in the brain and is associated with control of microglia functionality and potential viability. It is involved in the regulation of TREM2 and has been identified as a major indicator for AD risk [13]. A novel drug, AL044 is currently in phase 1 of clinical trials, targets this gene. Pre-clinical studies of this drug have shown it to be involved in the control of key microglial signaling systems such as proliferation, lysosomal activity, migration, phagocytosis, and immune response. AL044 is thought to recruit microglia to counteract multiple Alzheimer's pathologies [20].

## 6. Prospects and Conclusions

### 6.1. Some New Prospects in Stem Cell Research

We must use a dynamic approach while examining AD's etiology. The latent stage of AD is very long before clinical manifestation. The prodromal phase, which lasts for a long time, is most receptive to treatment. Early intervention may be able to stop neuronal

degeneration and turn AD's clinical course around. As a result, we should put more effort into discovering new and cutting-edge markers for this asymptomatic stage of AD. As an illustration, disease-specific exosomes, microRNAs, blood or CSF early disease indicators [particularly early biomarkers for neurodegeneration], paired with enhanced amyloid beta and tau imaging technologies, which offer superior AD predictive values [[21]; [45]; [23]; [42] as cited in [25]. The emergence of new stem cell-based technologies and associated goods will fundamentally alter this industry in the near future. For instance, genetic editing of stem cells can enhance their immune-modulatory and neurotrophic activities [15] as cited in [25]. On the other hand, more meticulously planned AD clinical trials that focus on more people in the prodromal or preliminary stages of the illness should produce better outcomes soon [25]. Also, to beta amyloid or tau pathology, new models should consider characteristics of multi-neurotransmitter loss, disease progression, and late illness onset. These models would ideally exhibit neuronal loss, synaptic breakdown, and vascular pathology like Alzheimer's disease. Future research should incorporate disease modifiers such as systemic inflammation, insulin resistance brain injury dietary conditions inactivity and obesity. Recognizing the unique roles that microglia, macrophages, astrocytes, neurons, and endothelial cells play in causing neuroinflammation, this will reveal which inflammatory processes—at various stages of Alzheimer's disease—are beneficial, harmful, and irrelevant for disease pathogenesis. We should utilize the impact of immune function, epigenetic, and microbiome mutations on neuroinflammation in Alzheimer's disease. Recent findings, such as SNPs in immune-associated genes, epigenetic immune regulation, and the impact of the microbiome on innate immunity, indicate a direct immune-related modification of an onset, progression, and phenotype of Alzheimer's disease. These findings should be taken into consideration [24].

### 6.2. Some Limitations

Although the safety of MSCs has been shown through clinical testing, efficacy hasn't been established. It is important to remember that when AD is clinically diagnosed, neuronal loss and abnormal proteins have accumulated in numerous brain regions, making it challenging to stop the progression of the illness. Additionally, in several clinical trial protocols, participants only receive stem cell infusions a few times, even though they may require several stem cell infusions over a lengthy period. Autologous MSCs were employed in several studies [such as those that used MSCs generated from adipose tissue]. Autologous MSCs may experience senescence due to the elderly age of AD patients, which impairs their capacity for regeneration. Most clinical trials for AD were intravenous the lungs and spleen will hold the majority of intravenously delivered stem cells [47] as cited in [25]. The varied mechanism of various stem cells have been disclosed by several

preclinical investigations, which also showed the immense potential of stem cells to cure AD. The main issue with this line of study, though, is how challenging it is to convert animal experiments into human trials. In fact, scientists have successfully treated AD in transgenic mouse models using close to 100 different techniques. Unfortunately, virtually every strategy has either never been tested on humans or has failed in human clinical trials. Clearly human therapeutic outcomes cannot be predicted using rat models and associated pathogenic presumptions. As a result, the development of more precise models is required for AD cell treatment. More studies on cell treatment are required now that the objective of accurately imitating the degenerative progression of AD in the human body has been accomplished [26].

### 6.3. Conclusion

Microglia's involvement in neuroinflammation is key in Alzheimer's, both concepts need to be studied in much more detail and on different models as well as tested with microglia's receptors, by either uptake or downregulating them or by pruning microglial antibodies, these three approaches seem to be effective in mice models to a certain degree, hence more data should be retrieved with different factors affecting the mice models, as to get a better understanding as of how different bodies with different physiologies react to antibodies and what factors can we relate for the advancement or disadvantage of the disease. better diagnostic markers before the symptoms occur should be found, apart from genetic testing there should be more research done on biomarkers from the blood or csf which are specific to Alzheimer's to get a head start with treating such patients.

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