
An investigation into Neuroimmunology, with Specific Focus on Illustrations from Neurodegenerative Disorders

Swastik Kumar¹, Ved Prakash², Raj Kumar³

Assistant Professor¹, Student^{2,3}

Department of Microbiology

Sachchidanand Sinha College of pharmacy

Corresponding Author's Email: vedprakash9865@yahoo.com

Abstract

The immune system is critical to the organism's protection. The immune system's effects, however, are not restricted to immunological activities and have implications beyond the anti-pathogen role. Indeed, neuroimmunology is a science that studies how the immune system influences non-immune biological and physiopathological activities. To provide light on this vital topic, we have chosen a variety of neurodegenerative disorders as illustrative cases. Clarifying the links and interactions between the immune system and the nervous system is important for understanding neurodegenerative diseases because it will lead to new theories about pathogenesis and the mechanisms underlying the related processes, providing us with new data and novel tools to both describe the related pathways and develop new therapeutic approaches, diagnostic approaches, and research methodologies.

Keywords: *Alzheimer's Disease Multiple Sclerosis Myasthenia Gravis Neurodegenerative Diseases Neuroimmunology Opsoclonus-Myoclonus Syndrome*

INTRODUCTION

Neuroimmunology, which combines neuroscience and immunology, is a rapidly growing field, with meetings held around the world to discuss its latest advances, particularly those related to neurovascular and neurodegenerative diseases [1]-[8], demonstrating the importance of this new area and the advances it will bring.

For example, variables such as the breakdown of blood-brain barrier integrity influence many central nervous system (CNS) illnesses [9] because it allows more components and molecules into the CNS, which may affect how the immune system regulates the neurological system. Furthermore, blood soluble biomolecules like adiponectin, an adipocytokine produced by adipose tissue, play key roles in inflammatory processes and may have a pathophysiological role in neurodegenerative illnesses [10]. Various immune cells and mediators [11, 12] have been found to impact the neurological system and vice versa. Furthermore, clinical experiments have strongly demonstrated the importance of inflammation in initiating tissue damage; however, it remains difficult to explain the persistence of neurodegeneration after the damage has begun, despite the fact that magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) has revealed no new inflammation [5]. More research is needed in neuroimmunology, and more light should be shed on the various associated elements, particularly in neurodegenerative disorders, in order to understand the linked pathways and processes as pathophysiology.

NEUROIMMUNOLOGY AND NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES

Neurodegenerative diseases constitute typical illustrations of the interactions between the nervous system and the immune system. Indeed, neuroimmunology gives divers example about how neuroimmunology could be a key for the medical future of these severe human pathologies. For each studies example, we can observe how the underlying mechanisms are described with a neuroimmunological context.

Among the neurodegenerative diseases, Alzheimer's disease (AD) is a chronic disease characterized by the loose of cognitive functions and neuronal degeneration [13] with an increased prevalence in aging populations [14]. Pharmaceutical companies, government agencies, national AD organizations and scientific research centers are collaborating to find out the best approaches to manage and eventually treat AD [15]. Amyloid- β ($A\beta$) brain deposits constitute a major factor in AD pathogenesis [16] and both long-term potentiation and synaptic plasticity are affected by the oligomeric amyloid β ($oA\beta$) [13]. It has been indicated that in AD oligomeric amyloid β has the ability to activate microglia and result in neuroinflammatory mechanism via the pro-inflammatory cytokine IL-1 β in AD [13]. In addition, more results indicate that AD is caused by elevated $A\beta_{42}$ fractions in the brain [17]. Risk factors for late onset AD include genetic component such as $\epsilon 4$ allele of Apolipoprotein E (ApoE $\epsilon 4$) and variants of the TREM2 gene [14]. Importantly, TREM2

receptor, that has immune function, has been proposed as a potential pharmaceutical target in AD [14]. On the other hand, a set of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) have been able to reduce A β 42 in diverse researches [17]. These show more potential implications of the inflammatory processes within the AD pathogenesis.

A decrease in dementia development was seen in AD patients with peptic ulcers following *H. pylori* eradication [18], indicating another potential relationship between immune function and neuro-symptoms, most likely mediated by an inflammatory process. Furthermore, given the amyloid cascade hypothesis for AD, many studies have recently focused on vaccine therapy for this disease via injectable immunisation, which has shown therapeutic efficiency in mice but has shown severe adverse reactions when applied clinically, posing a challenge that many researchers are working to overcome [19].

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is another autoimmune disease driven by T cells [20] that attacks CNS myelin through a series of immune system responses [21]. Nonetheless, while the activities of antibodies in MS are not well understood, several data suggest that antibodies have pathobiological roles in the pathogenic processes of MS [22]. Furthermore, there are several immunotherapies for MS [21], which are classified depending on their targets and pharmacological methods. The use of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technical capabilities [5] as a diagnosis and assessment tool has resulted in significant advances in understanding MS disease processes and the development of novel medications.

Myasthenia gravis (MG) is also an autoimmune illness in which autoantibodies produced by the body target proteins of the postsynaptic membrane at the neuromuscular junction [23]. MG is distinguished by erratic muscular weakening [24]. Within the patho-processes of this uncommon illness, T-cell (Treg) differentiation and the NF- κ B signalling pathway are involved [23]. It is also critical to investigate the possible risk factors connected with such disorders. Recently, a study was conducted in Japan over a short period of time to evaluate myasthenia gravis disease prognostic variables that produce an elevated frequency of anti-acetylcholine receptor antibody titer elevation in Kanazawa city residents [25]. It was shown that individuals with late-onset myasthenia gravis had a greater frequency of anti-Acetyl choline receptor antibody titer elevation than those with early-onset MG, and that thymus excision prevented antibody titer elevation in patients with non-thymoma-related

myasthenia gravis [25]. These and other findings emphasise the immunological component of this illness of the nervous system.

Opsoclonus-myoclonus syndrome (OMS) is a rare paraneoplastic illness [26],[27] that exemplifies neuroimmunological interactions. Opsoclonus, myoclonus, and ataxia define it [26],[28], and it has been linked to neuroblastic malignancies in children [26]. It has been suggested that this rare disorder with a neurological component could be another manifestation of HIV infection [29], and the involvement of B cell mechanisms within the disease pathway [30] point to the immunological aspects of this syndromes considered as a neuroinflammatory disorder [31]. Assume that neuroimmunology may supply treatments.

DISCUSSION

These examples demonstrate the potential applicability of neuroimmunology in neurological illnesses and the implications of current discoveries. As a result, we anticipate that neuroimmunology data will not only allow us to map the pathway of some pathological and physiological processes, but will also allow us to develop new treatments, such as the possible implication and therapeutic use of cytokines, cytokine antagonists, and soluble adhesion molecules in some neuroinflammatory disorders [30]. On the other hand, hepatocyte growth factor-induced tolerogenic dendritic cell formation has been demonstrated to decrease mouse autoimmune neuroinflammation [32], providing promise for neuroinflammatory illnesses.

G protein coupled receptors (GPCRs), which exist and perform significant activities in both the immune and neurological systems, are a prominent target in current pharmacology [33-36]. Thus, continued research on GPCRs [37]-[39] is critical for addressing future issues in neuroimmunology, particularly from a pharmacological standpoint [40], such as drug design and discovery [41],[42], and drug screening [43],[44].

PERSPECTIVES

It is critical to develop new techniques and creative approaches [45],[46] with higher sensitivity than those now available in order to better understand the processes of these neurodegenerative disorders, particularly ones capable of detecting extremely small levels of immune components. Indeed, an increasing number of evidences point to immune factors

playing roles in diverse non-immune pathways, and non-immune pathways can influence (or be linked to) immune functions such as obesity [47], diabetes [48], nutrition-related [49], schizophrenia [50], brain function [51], and aging-related changes to immunity [52].

CONCLUSION

More research combining interdisciplinary methods is needed to understand the important features of various elements of neuroimmunology from various domains. This objective can be reached, in part, by employing current technologies that allow for a better knowledge of the many immune activities and their consequences in neurodegenerative illnesses, not just through inflammatory processes but also through various cellular and molecular pathways. Importantly, a greater knowledge of neuroimmunological ideas in the context of neurodegenerative disorders will undoubtedly help us to enhance existing therapeutic methods through medication side effects management and the development of innovative therapies.

REFERENCES

1. R. A. Linker, et al., "Report on the 5th scientific meeting of the Verein zur Forderung des Wissenschaftlichen Nachwuchses in der Neurologie (NEUROWIND e.V.) held in Motzen, Germany," *Exp Transl Stroke Med*, vol/issue: 5(1), pp. 15, 2013.
2. R. Pedotti, et al., "Highlights from the Seventh International Congress of the International Society of Neuroimmunology," *Journal of Neuroimmunology*, vol/issue: 162(1-2), pp. 5-11, 2005.
3. C. Selmi, et al., "A clear look at the neuroimmunology of multiple sclerosis and beyond," *Autoimmunity Reviews*, vol/issue: 11(3), pp. 159-162, 2012.
4. R. A. Lewis, et al., "Introduction to the special section on Robert Lisak's contributions to neuroimmunology," *Journal of the Neurological Sciences*, vol/issue: 333(1-2), pp. 29, 2013.
5. Abstracts from the Second International Conference, "Advances in Clinical Neuroimmunology Gdaosk, Poland 31 May-1 June 2010," *Journal of Neuroimmunology*, vol/issue: 222(1-2), pp. 1-18, 2010.
6. ISNI 2010 Abstracts: Tuesday October 26th, "2010 10th Course of the European School of Neuroimmunology," *Journal of Neuroimmunology*, vol/issue: 228(1-2), pp. 1-219, 2010.

7. "8th Course of the European School of Neuroimmunology," *Journal of Neuroimmunology*, vol/issue: 203(2), pp. 119-280, 2008.
8. M. R. R. Agramonte, "International Workshop on Neuroimmunology," *Journal of Neuroimmunology*, vol/issue: 203(1), pp. 1-2, 2008.
9. M. Z. Adzemovic, et al., "Imatinib ameliorates neuroinflammation in a rat model of multiple sclerosis by enhancing blood-brain barrier integrity and by modulating the peripheral immune response," *PLoS One*, vol/issue: 8(2), pp. e56586, 2013
10. A. L. Teixeira, et al., "Decreased levels of circulating adiponectin in mild cognitive impairment and Alzheimer's disease," *Neuromolecular Med*, vol/issue: 15(1), pp. 115-21, 2013.
11. D. G. Payan, et al., "Neuroimmunology," in *Advances in Immunology*, K.F.A.L.E.H. Frank J. Dixon and W.U. Jonathan, Academic Press, pp. 299-323, 1986.
12. A. N. Coogan and C. A. Wyse, "Neuroimmunology of the circadian clock," *Brain Research*, vol. 1232, pp. 104- 112, 2008.
13. B.Parajuli, et al., "Oligomeric amyloid beta induces IL-1beta processing via production of ROS: implication in Alzheimer's disease," *Cell Death Dis*, vol. 4, pp. e975, 2013.
14. J. E. Khoury and S. E. Hickman, "TREM2 and the NeuroImmunology of Alzheimer's Disease," *Biochem Pharmacol*, 2014.
15. From the Centers for Disease Control, "Influenza activity--United States, 1989-1990," *JAMA*, vol/issue: 263(7), pp. 938, 941, 1990.
16. J. Mertens, et al., "APP Processing in Human Pluripotent Stem Cell-Derived Neurons Is Resistant to NSAID-Based gamma-Secretase Modulation," *Stem Cell Reports*, vol/issue: 1(6), pp. 491-8, 2013.
17. Y. P. Chang, et al., "Eradication of Helicobacter pylori Is Associated with the Progression of Dementia: A Population-Based Study," *Gastroenterol Res Pract*, pp. 175729, 2013.
18. K. Matsuo, et al., "Vaccine efficacy of transcutaneous immunization with amyloid β using a dissolving microneedle array in a mouse model of Alzheimer's disease," *Journal of Neuroimmunology*, vol/issue: 266(1-2), pp. 1-11, 2014.
19. H. P. Hadad, et al., "Amelioration of autoimmune neuroinflammation by the fusion molecule Fn14.TRAIL," *J Neuroinflammation*, vol. 10, pp. 36, 2013.
20. D. Karussis, "Immunotherapy of multiple sclerosis: the state of the art," *BioDrugs*,

- vol/issue: 27(2), pp. 113-48, 2013.
21. R. Pedotti, et al., "Exacerbation of experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis by passive transfer of IgG antibodies from a multiple sclerosis patient responsive to immunoadsorption," *J Neuroimmunol*, vol/issue: 262(1- 2), pp. 19-26, 2013.
 22. N. Avidan, et al., "Genetic basis of myasthenia gravis - A comprehensive review," *J Autoimmun*, 2013.
 23. [24] D. Dan, et al., "Double seronegative myasthenia gravis with antiphospholipid syndrome: a case report," *J Med Case Rep*, vol/issue: 8(1), pp. 2, 2014.
 24. K. Iwasa, et al., "Myasthenia gravis: Predictive factors associated with the synchronized elevation of anti- acetylcholine receptor antibody titer in Kanazawa, Japan," *Journal of Neuroimmunology*, 2013.
 25. B. Hero and G. Schleiermacher, "Update on pediatric opsoclonus myoclonus syndrome," *Neuropediatrics*, vol/issue: 44(6), pp. 324-9, 2013.
 26. P. Joshi and V. Lele, "Somatostatin receptor positron emission tomography/computed tomography (PET/CT) in the evaluation of opsoclonus-myoclonus ataxia syndrome," *Indian J Nucl Med*, vol/issue: 28(2), pp. 108-11, 2013.
 27. K. K. Pang, et al., "A prospective study of the presentation and management of dancing eye syndrome/opsoclonus– myoclonus syndrome in the United Kingdom," *European Journal of Paediatric Neurology*, vol/issue: 14(2), pp. 156-161, 2010.
 28. N. Kanjanasut, et al., "HIV-related opsoclonus–myoclonus–ataxia syndrome: Report on two cases," *Clinical Neurology and Neurosurgery*, vol/issue: 112(7), pp. 572-574, 2010.
 29. M. R. Pranzatelli, et al., "Cytokines, cytokine antagonists, and soluble adhesion molecules in pediatric OMS and other neuroinflammatory disorders," *J Neurol Sci*, vol/issue: 326(1-2), pp. 53-8, 2013.
 30. M. R. Pranzatelli, et al., "Expression of CXCR3 and its ligands CXCL9, -10 and -11 in paediatric opsoclonus- myoclonus syndrome," *Clin Exp Immunol*, vol/issue: 172(3), pp. 427-36, 2013.
 31. N. Molnarfi, et al., "The neurotrophic hepatocyte growth factor induces protolerogenic human dendritic cells," *J Neuroimmunol*, 2013.
 32. A. Ghanemi, "Psychiatric neural networks and neuropharmacology: Selected advances and novel implications,"
 33. *Saudi Pharmaceutical Journal*, vol/issue: 22(2), pp. 95-100, 2014.

34. A. Ghanemi, "Targeting G protein coupled receptor-related pathways as emerging molecular therapies," *Saudi Pharmaceutical Journal*, vol/issue: 23(2), pp. 115–129, 2015.
35. A. Ghanemi, "Schizophrenia and Parkinson's disease: Selected therapeutic advances beyond the dopaminergic etiologies," *Alexandria Journal of Medicine*, vol/issue: 49(4), pp. 287-291, 2013.
36. E. Blasko, et al., "Beneficial role of the GPR30 agonist G-1 in an animal model of multiple sclerosis," *Journal of Neuroimmunology*, vol/issue: 214(1–2), pp. 67-77, 2009.
37. A. Ghanemi, et al., "New factors influencing G protein coupled receptors' system functions," *Alexandria Journal of Medicine*, vol/issue: 49(1), pp. 1-5, 2013.
38. A. Ghanemi, "Biological properties and perspective applications of "Bio-neuter" chemicals?" *Saudi Pharmaceutical Journal*, vol/issue: 22(1), pp. 1-2, 2014.
39. S. J. Bradley, et al., "Employing novel animal models in the design of clinically efficacious GPCR ligands,"
40. *Current Opinion in Cell Biology*, vol/issue: 27(0), pp. 117-125, 2014.
41. K. A. Jacobson, "New paradigms in GPCR drug discovery," *Biochemical Pharmacology*, vol/issue: 98(4), pp. 541- 555, 2015.
- A. S. Tautermann, et al., "What can we learn from molecular dynamics simulations for GPCR drug design?"
42. *Computational and Structural Biotechnology Journal*, vol. 13, pp. 111-121, 2015.
43. M. Bermudez and G. Wolber, "Structure versus function—The impact of computational methods on the discovery of specific GPCR–ligands," *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry*, vol/issue: 23(14), pp. 3907-3912, 2015.
44. P. Kumari, et al., "Emerging Approaches to GPCR Ligand Screening for Drug Discovery," *Trends in Molecular Medicine*, vol/issue: 21(11), pp. 687-701, 2015.