

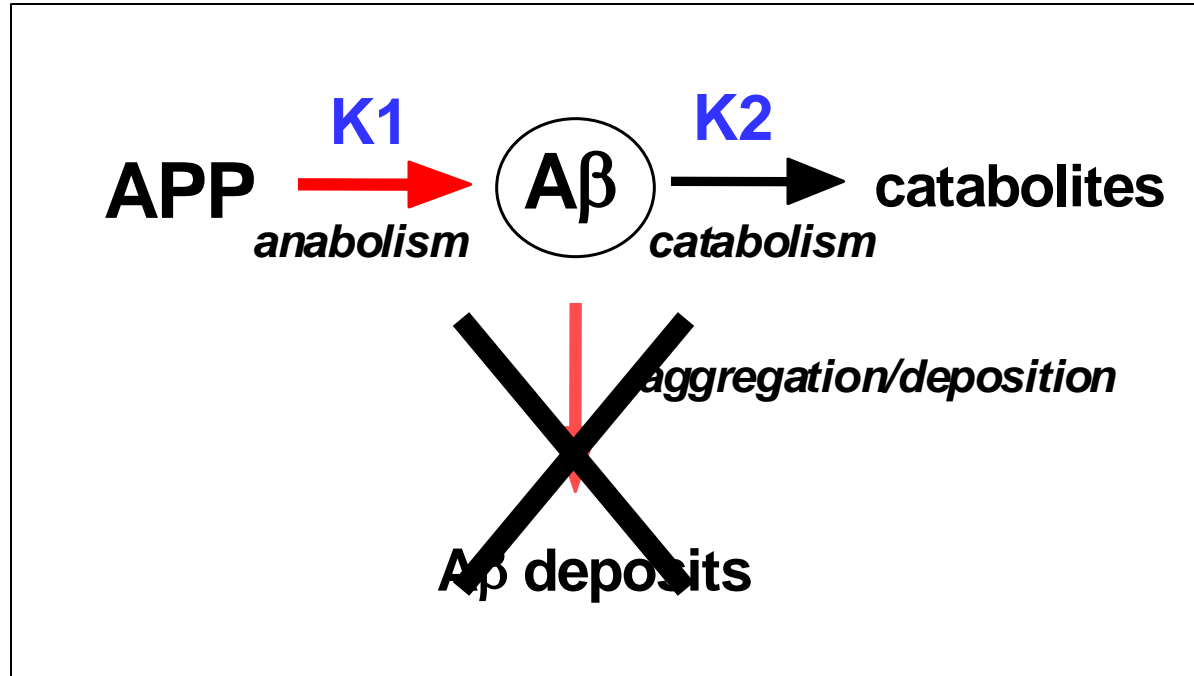


**OECD Global Coalition on Aging  
Oxford University  
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**Gene therapy and 2<sup>nd</sup> generation mouse models of  
Alzheimer's disease**

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# Metabolism of A $\beta$ under steady-state conditions



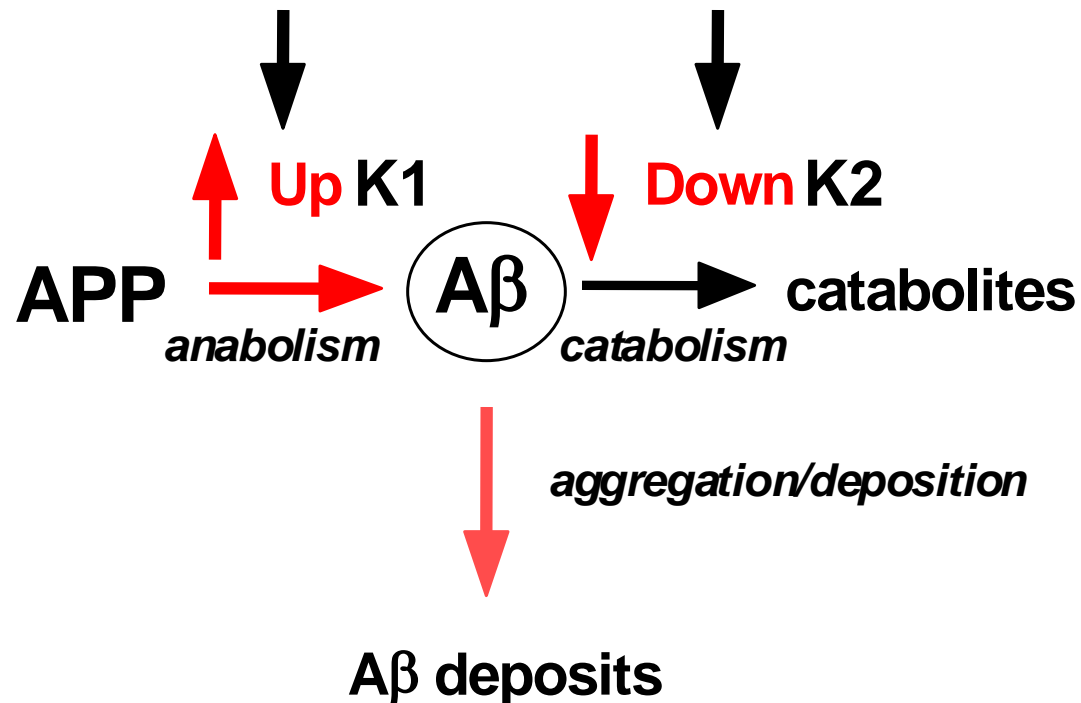
Under steady-state conditions:

$$[A\beta] = K1/K2 \times [APP]$$

# What is the cause for A $\beta$ deposition in SAD?

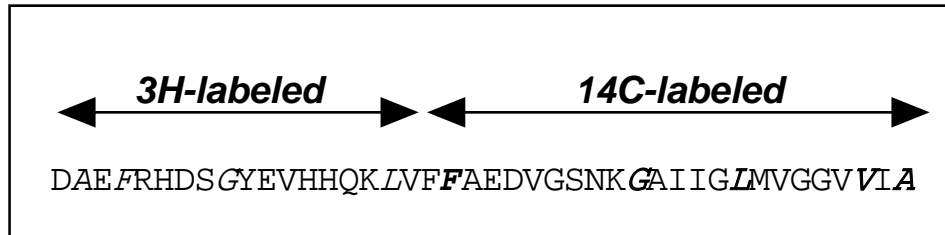
familial AD mutations  
APP  
presenilin 1 & 2

**SAD ?**

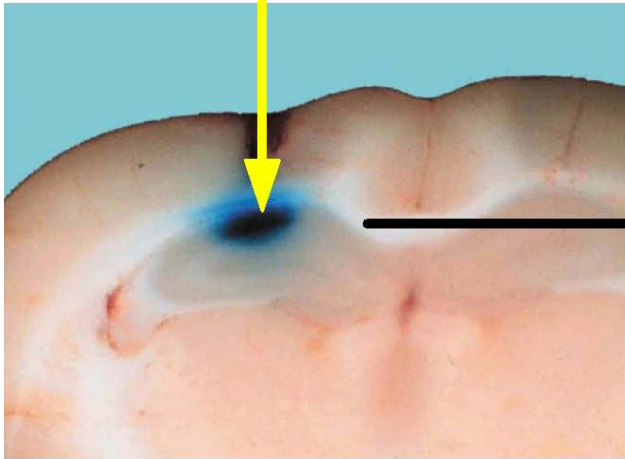


# Analysis of *in vivo* A $\beta$ 1-42 catabolism

## Radiolabeled A $\beta$ 1-42



stereotaxic injection\*



extraction

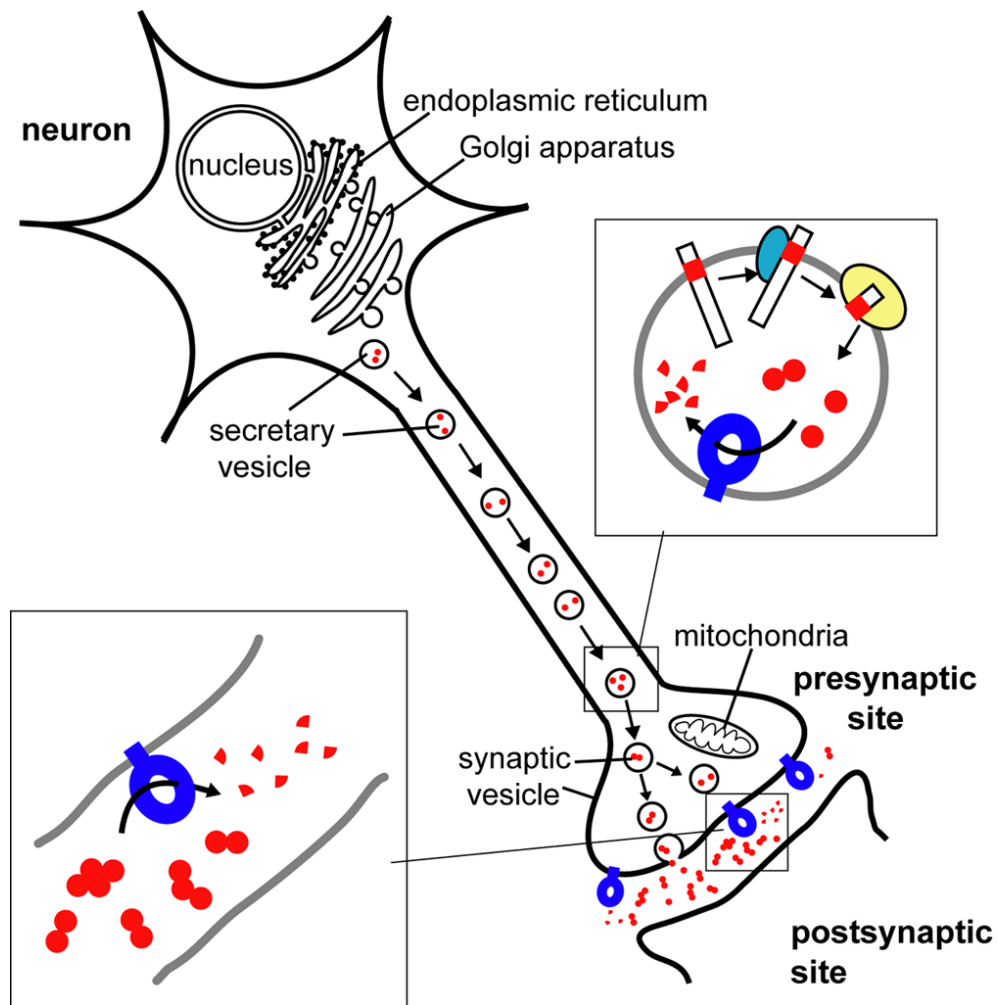
Analysis by radio-HPLC

HPLC

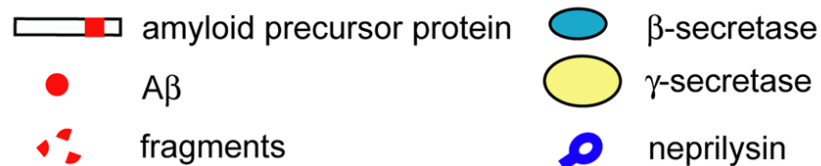
scintillation analyzer

# Neprilysin degrades synaptotoxic A $\beta$ oligomers.

Neprilysin is the only peptidase that can degrade A $\beta$  monomer & oligomers at synapses.



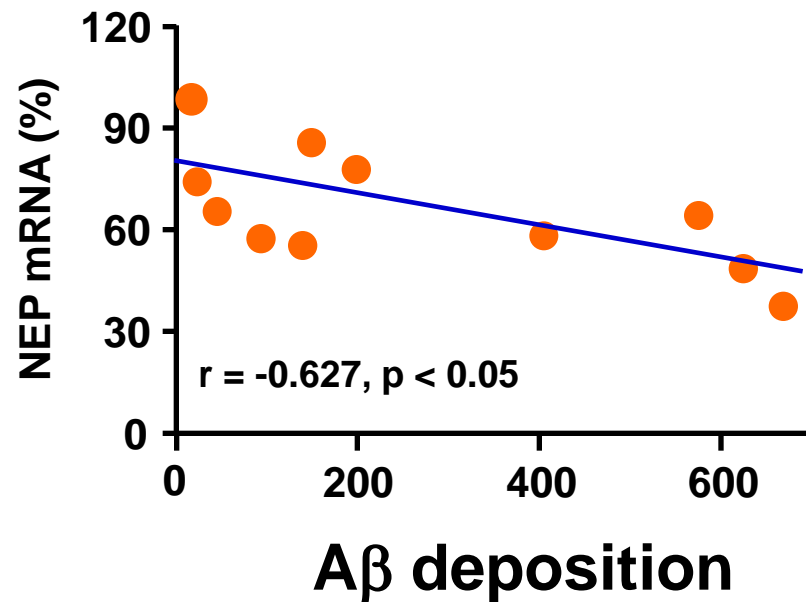
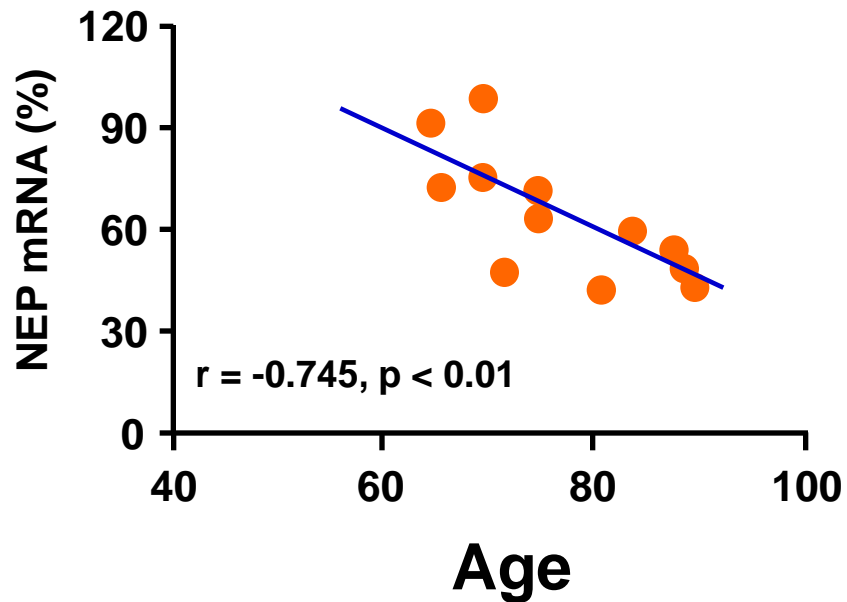
Neprilysin activity can be utilized for prevention and treatment of Alzheimer's disease.



# Decline of neprilysin expression with aging

*Hellström-Lindahl et al. Neurobiol. Aging 29, 210-221 (2008)*

## Temporal cortex





# Global brain delivery of neprilysin gene by intravascular administration of AAV vector in mice

SUBJECT AREAS:  
EXPERIMENTAL MODELS  
OF DISEASE  
ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE  
GENETIC VECTORS  
PROTEASES

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- 1. Selective expression of neprilysin in brain**
- 2. Reduction of A $\beta$  pathology**
- 3. Recovery of cognitive dysfunction**

# Discussion

- 1. Aging-dependent downregulation of neprilysin activity is likely to contribute to etiology of SAD.**
- 2. Gene therapy using neprilysin will be one of the promising options in prevention and treatment of AD.**