

# Study examines amyloid deposition in patients with traumatic brain injury

11 November 2013

Provided by The JAMA Network Journals

Patients with traumatic brain injury (TBI) had increased deposits of  $\beta$ -Amyloid (A $\beta$ ) plaques, a hallmark of Alzheimer Disease (AD), in some areas of their brains in a study by Young T. Hong, Ph.D., of the University of Cambridge, England, and colleagues.

There may be epidemiological or pathophysiological (changes because of injury) links between TBI and AD, and A $\beta$  plaques are found in as many as 30 percent of patients who die in the acute phase after a TBI. The plaques appear within hours of the injury and can occur in patients of all ages, according to the study background.

Researchers used imaging and brain tissue acquired during autopsies to examine A $\beta$  deposition in patients with TBI. Researchers performed [positron emission tomography](#) (PET) imaging using carbon 11-labeled Pittsburgh Compound B ([<sup>11</sup>C]PIB), a marker of brain amyloid deposition, in 15 participants with a TBI and 11 healthy patients. Autopsy-acquired [brain tissue](#) was obtained from 16 people who had a TBI, as well as seven patients with a nonneurological cause of death.

The study's findings indicate that patients with TBI showed increases in [<sup>11</sup>C]PIB binding, which may be a marker of A $\beta$  plaque in some areas of the [brain](#).

"The use of ([<sup>11</sup>C]PIB PET for amyloid imaging following TBI provides us with the potential for understanding the pathophysiology of TBI, for characterizing the mechanistic drivers of disease progression or suboptimal recovery in the subacute phase of TBI, for identifying [patients](#) at high risk of accelerated AD, and for evaluating the potential of anti-amyloid therapies," the authors conclude.

**More information:** *JAMA Neurol*. Published online November 11, 2013. [DOI: 10.1001/jamaneurol.2013.4847](#)

APA citation: Study examines amyloid deposition in patients with traumatic brain injury (2013, November 11) retrieved 16 January 2021 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2013-11-amyloid-deposition-patients-traumatic-brain.html>

*This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.*