

Designed and Synthesis of Bi-functional Molecule as Anti-Alzheimer agent

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Alzheimer's disease (AD) was thought as age-related neurodegenerative disease. As the lifespan prolong, it will become one of the most costly disease in healthcare. Amyloid β plaques and neurofibrillary tangles are observed in AD patients and become a promising target in drug development. Biometal like Zn^{2+} and Fe^{2+} homeostasis were considered important factors in Alzheimer. They could induce $A\beta$ aggregation and produce reactive oxygen species (ROS) to enhance oxidative stress contributing tau hyperphosphorylation and neurofibrillary tangle formation if the metal concentration was unregulated. We designed and synthesized a compound, J2326, containing neurotrophic activity and anti-amyloid aggregation ability. J2326 specifically induced neurite outgrowth in a concentration-dependent manner and had little mitogenic effect. These outgrew neurites were positive for mature neuronal markers; and were ERK-dependent but p38-independent. Treatment with J2326 also enhanced neuronal survival under β -amyloid ($A\beta$) challenge. It inhibited the aggregation of $A\beta$ *in vitro* in a concentration-dependent manner. The inhibition of $A\beta$ aggregation could be a consequence of directly targeting amyloid by J2326. Moreover, we found that J2326 restored the neurite outgrowths following $A\beta$ -induced neurodegeneration both *in vitro* and *in vivo*. These findings manifest the immense importance of this compound since it possesses both neurite outgrowth promotion and anti-amyloid aggregation activities. These biological novelties indicate J2326 may serve as a dual-function agent for Alzheimer's disease therapeutic strategy.