

DEBATE :IMMUNIZATION WILL CURE AD

E. Giacobini

Dept. Rehabilitation and Geriatrics, University of Geneva, Medical School, Geneva, Switzerland

The first immunization trial for Alzheimer Disease (AD) therapy initiated in 2002 and was halted abruptly because of severe side effect. The analysis of the clinical results and complications, including imaging and autopsies data lead to a controversy on whether this kind of approach should be continued or not. Some crucial questions raised from this trial should be discussed in depth, such as:

1. Encephalitis: what was the cause? Can it be avoided in future trials?
 2. Cerebral atrophy. A paradoxal result, is it reversible?
 3. Increased vascular a-beta: where did all the amyloid go?
 4. Microhemorrhages: their significance and risks
 5. Questionable reduction in NFT (neurofibrillary tangles) and P-Tau. A new residual symptomatic type of AD after vaccination?
 6. Lack of clinical effect or weak clinical effects?
 7. Questionable cognitive effect
 8. Hyperintensities and MRI flair in recent immunization trials. What is their significance?
 9. Many vaccines: which is the best?
 10. The best time for vaccination: when? How early?
- Answering these questions will be crucial for the future development of immunization strategies.