

# Vitamin E but not 17 $\beta$ -estradiol protects against vascular toxicity induced by $\beta$ -amyloid wild type and the dutch amyloid variant

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Amyloid  $\beta$ -peptide (A $\beta$ ) fibril deposition on cerebral vessels produces cerebral amyloid angiopathy that appears in the majority of Alzheimer's disease patients. An early onset of a cerebral amyloid angiopathy variant called hereditary cerebral hemorrhage with amyloidosis of the Dutch type is caused by a point mutation in A $\beta$  yielding A $\beta$ Glu22 $\rightarrow$ Gln. The present study addresses the effect of amyloid fibrils from both wild-type and mutated A $\beta$  on vascular cells, as well as the putative protective role of antioxidants on amyloid angiopathy. For this purpose, we studied the cytotoxicity induced by A $\beta$ 1-40 Glu22 $\rightarrow$ Gln and A $\beta$ 1-40 wild-type fibrils on human venule endothelial cells and rat aorta smooth muscle cells. We observed that A $\beta$ Glu22 $\rightarrow$ Gln fibrils are more toxic for vascular cells than the wild-type fibrils. We also evaluated the cytotoxicity of A $\beta$  fibrils bound with acetyl-cholinesterase (AChE), a common component of amyloid deposits. A $\beta$ 1-40 wild-type-AChE fibrillar complexes, similar to neurona