

Herpes Simplex Virus: Possible Root Causes of Dementia

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Abstract: - In this paper, we consider the prevalent Herpes Virus as the root cause of plaque in the brain that leads eventually to Dementia. Biostatics suggest this may be the case, although more study is necessary and warranted. There is a cure for HSV-1. This could lead to a cure for dementia.

Key words: - Herpes Simplex Virus; Dementia;

Introduction:

Dementia affects 1 in 4 people over 50 years of age. It costs the health care systems billions of dollars per year. Researchers still do not know the root cause; but have determined that a plaque buildup in the brain is a common affect found in those with Alzheimer's.

So researchers believe that the plaque found in brain tissue is actually a by-product of the immune system. In this paper, I theorize that that is the case. What attacks the immune system that causes this plaque buildup over a life time? I suggest it is the herpes simple virus (HSV-1). There is also HSV-2 which infects the genitals of about 20% of the population. HSV-1 affects about 80% of the population. We will show below that the biostatics affirm the HSV infection as perhaps the root cause of dementia.

It is important that there is a relationship that married couples are several fold times more likely of having Dementia if their spouse does. This leads itself to HSV infection being the connection between spouses that leads to Dementia and eventually Alzheimer's.

The HSV-1 virus is infected into the 5th trigeminal nerve and lays dormant in the brain. When the patients have a weakened immune system, the HSV virus travels down the nerve and comes out on the lips until it runs its course. Some people are infected by contact; others are infected as children when they come into close contact with a carrier. They may not even have had an outbreak (cold sores), but carry the virus in their saliva.

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How many die pre 40 years old (excluding babies)

$$[134525-23985] / 2,500,000 = 4.422\%$$

$$100\% - 4.421\% = 95.57\%$$

$$\text{Over 65 w/ Alz } 1 \text{ in } 14 = 7.14\%$$

$$\text{Less double counting: } 1 \text{ in } 10 = 10\%$$

$$\text{Over 80 w/ Alz. } 1 \text{ in } 6 = 62.5\%$$

So Number who have Alzheimer's:

Percentage who will die before given age x Pr [Alz.]

$$95.57\% \times 80\% = 76.46\%$$

$$30\% \times 62.5\% = 18.75\%$$

$$\text{Less } 41\% \times 10\% = -4.1\%$$

$$67.57\% \times 7.14\% = 4.82\%$$

$$14.8\% \times 0 = 0$$

$$\text{Total: } 23.32\% = \text{Ln } \pi$$

Number who develop ALz and have HSV-1:

$$95.57\% \times 80\% = 76.46\% \times 80\% = 61.2\%$$

$$30\% \times 62.5\% = 18.75\% \times 80\% = 15\%$$

$$\text{Less } 41\% \times 10\% = -4.1\% \times 80\% = 3.28\%$$

$$67.57\% \times 7.14\% = 4.82\% \times 80\% = 3.856\%$$

$$\text{Total} = 76.73\%$$

$$\text{Pr [Alz.]} = 23.32\%$$

$$\text{Pr [Not having Alz.]} = 100\% - 23.32 = 76.68\% \sim 3 \text{ in } 4$$

This agrees with the data that one in 4 will have Alz over 50 years of age.

$$\text{Pr[Alz.]} + \text{Pr [HSV /Alz]} = 1.00 = 100\%$$

$$23.32\% + 76.73 = 100.05\%$$

Conclusion:

In this paper, we attempted to suggest a root cause for Dementia based on biostatistical probabilities. It is recommended that other studies look at what HSV-1 does to the human brain, such as plaque build up as a by-product of the immune system. This could eventually lead to a cure for dementia.

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