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NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES**

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Non-pathological brain ageing vs dementia

A leading character in life processes is their irreversibility, the fact that they are tied to the passage of time. The most common causes of death and suffering, even in most underdeveloped nations are age-related diseases. These diseases share fundamental and often have less appreciated pathology at the cellular and genetic levels. Ageing is a mandatory degenerative process that includes CNS (Central Nervous System) as well as other systems. Death is an unavoidable sequel that cannot be separated from the differentiation of cells, tissues and organs. Age-associated memory impairment is a part of ageing syndrome which includes changes that are deleterious, progressive, universal and thus far irreversible. Diseases of old age (diseases which increase in frequency with age, such as arthritis, osteoporosis, heart disease, Alzheimer's Disease, etc.) are often distinguished from aging per se. Senescent cells accumulate with age and contribute to age-related declines in brain function. At the same time cellular senescence prevents the unregulated growth and malignant transformation of proliferating cells as indicated by the decreasing incidence of brain tumors with advanced ageing. A sharp demarcation between normal brain ageing and Alzheimer's disease can be achieved by understanding the pathogenesis of the latter. A good example is the evaluation of amyloid deposition which can provide a solid base for specific and efficient treatment for Alzheimer's disease but not for ageing.

Biography

Hashim Missawi is currently working as a Consultant Pathologist and Head of Pathology Department at MMC Hospital, Ministry of Health Madinah Munawara, KSA. He is also a Member of Maria's Sudanese Charitable Association for Care of Alzheimer's Disease patients. He has completed his MBBS degree in 1982.

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