Argyrophilic grain disease - molecular genetic difference to other four-repeat tauopathies

JournalArticle (Originalarbeit in einer wissenschaftlichen Zeitschrift)

ID 83001
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Year 2003
Title Argyrophilic grain disease - molecular genetic difference to other four-repeat tauopathies
Journal Acta neuropathologica
Volume 106
Number 4
Pages / **Article-Number** 363-6
Keywords argyrophilic grain disease, four-repeat tauopathies, tau H1 haplotype

Argyrophilic grain disease (AgD) is a four-repeat tauopathy that is almost exclusively restricted to allocortical areas. Progressive supranuclear palsy and corticobasal degeneration also show predominant deposition of four-repeat tau filaments, and are associated with the tau H1 haplotype. We investigated a possible association between AgD and the tau H1 haplotype. In AgD, no difference between the prevalence of the tau H1 haplotype or H1/H1 genotype was observed when compared to non-demented control cases. These data suggest that a dysfunction of the tau protein in AgD-in contrast to other four-repeat tauopathies-may arise irrespective of the genetic background regarding the tau H1 or H2 haplotypes.

Publisher Springer
ISSN/ISBN 0001-6322
edoc-URL http://edoc.unibas.ch/dok/A5250793
Full Text on edoc No;
Digital Object Identifier DOI 10.1007/s00401-003-0742-x
PubMed ID http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/14513264
ISI-Number WOS:000185600700010
Document type (ISI) Journal Article