

ORAL BACTERIA LINKED TO ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE??

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An interesting article was just published regarding Alzheimer's disease. In an animal study they found that Alzheimer's disease could be produced in animals by introducing a certain bacteria, a bacterial that is commonly found in periodontal disease. When these animals had these bacteria introduced into their systems, they developed Alzheimer's disease. Interestingly enough, they discovered that the bacteria produced an enzyme which triggered the death of brain cells. When the researchers injected an enzyme that would block this bacteria produced product, the brain cells regenerated and the Alzheimer's seemed to abate.

This is the first article that ever linked oral bacteria with Alzheimer's disease.

The researchers also looked at the brains of deceased patients who had Alzheimer's. They found a footprint of the bacteria within the brain. This has stimulated research to understand how the bacteria could somehow be responsible for producing the changes that occur in brain cells leading to their destruction and ultimately be onset of Alzheimer's.

There is a great deal of research going on regarding the relationship between periodontal disease and systemic diseases, whether it be heart disease, arthritis, or, as in this case, possible Alzheimer's. I would urge you to stay tuned.

Yours truly,
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