Could Alzheimer Disease Be Diabetes Type 3?

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Evidence is mounting that links insulin deficiency and insulin resistance to mediation of Alzheimer disease-type neurodegeneration. Get the highlights in these 9 slides.

The provocative title of this slide show is borrowed from a review of evidence published in the Journal of Diabetes Science and Technology several years ago by de la Monte and Wands. They combed through a growing body of literature that points toward insulin deficiency and insulin resistance as mediators of Alzheimer disease (AD)-type neurodegeneration. This short presentation highlights some of the many links now seen clearly between the metabolic derangements of diabetes and progressive cognitive decline:

-- The risk of developing AD may be up to 65% higher in people with diabetes vs those without
-- Chronic hyperglycemia is identified as a risk factor for cognitive impairment and dementia
-- Central insulin receptors are clustered in the learning and memory areas of the brain

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