

# Max Lugavere on Controversial Alzheimer's Drugs and Studies

<https://silosolo.com/354363>

## Summary

The prevailing hypothesis in Alzheimer's research was the amyloid hypothesis, which suggests plaques in the brain as the cause of the disease. However, the link between plaques and cognitive decline was missing until the identification of a subtype of the amyloid beta protein called beta star 56, which was found to cause rapid decline in cognition. Developing drugs for Alzheimer's has been challenging, with high fail rates and minimally effective approved drugs. The FDA-approved drug Aducanumab had significant side effects, including brain swelling and bleeding. The revelation that data in a seminal Nature paper linking the amyloid hypothesis to cognitive symptoms was fabricated brings into question the integrity of the study.

## Silo sample questions

- What was the prevailing hypothesis regarding the cause of Alzheimer's disease?
- What was the missing link in tying plaques to cognitive decline in Alzheimer's disease?
- What were the challenges in developing drugs for Alzheimer's disease?
- What were the significant side effects of the FDA-approved drug Aducanumab?
- What was the revelation about the seminal Nature paper that linked the amyloid hypothesis to cognitive symptoms?

## Topics

Alzheimer's research

Amyloid hypothesis

Drug development

Aducanumab

Fabricated data

## Key Takeaways

- The prevailing hypothesis was the amyloid hypothesis, which suggests that plaques in the brain are the causative force in Alzheimer's disease.
- The missing link was the identification of a subtype of the amyloid beta protein called beta star 56, which was found to cause a rapid decline in cognition when injected into a healthy mouse.
- Alzheimer's drug trials have a high fail rate, and the drugs that are currently approved on the market are minimally effective. Additionally, there is no correlation between amyloid burden in the brain and cognitive abilities.
- Significant side effects of Aducanumab included brain swelling and bleeding associated with the inflammatory response caused by the drug.
- The paper's data, particularly regarding the presence of the amyloid beta subtype beta star 56, was found to be fabricated and essentially fake.

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