

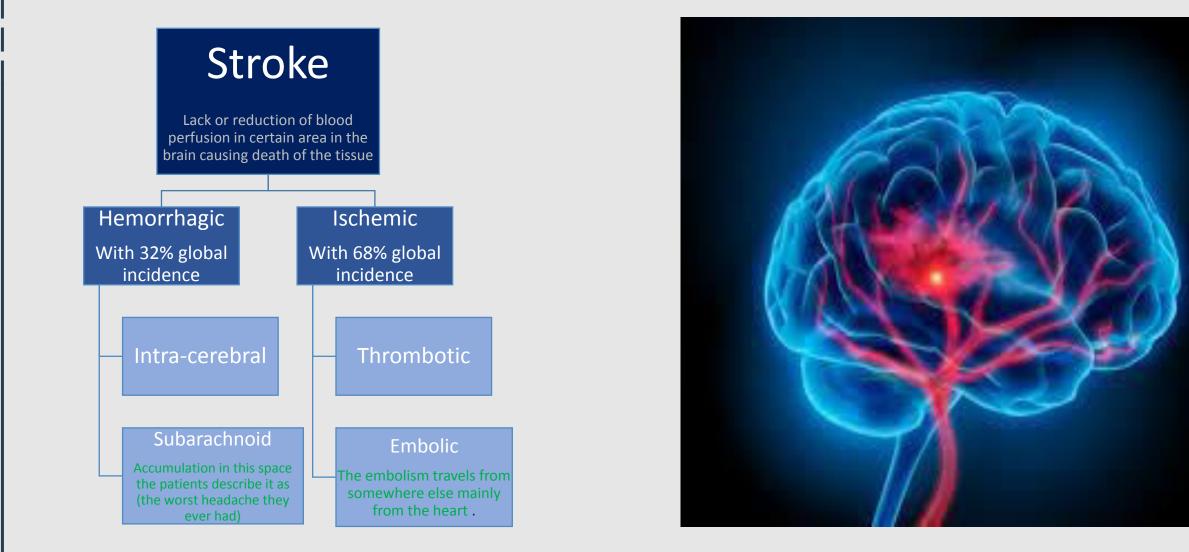
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# By the end of this lecture, the students should be able to:

- Identify the possible cell death mechanisms implicated in the pathogenesis of ischemic brain injury
- Acquire the knowledge of the important role played by oxidative stress and free radicals in the pathogenesis of cerebral infarction
- Understand the various factors involved in ischemia-induced metabolic stress
- Identify the Neurochemical changes involved in cerebral ischemia

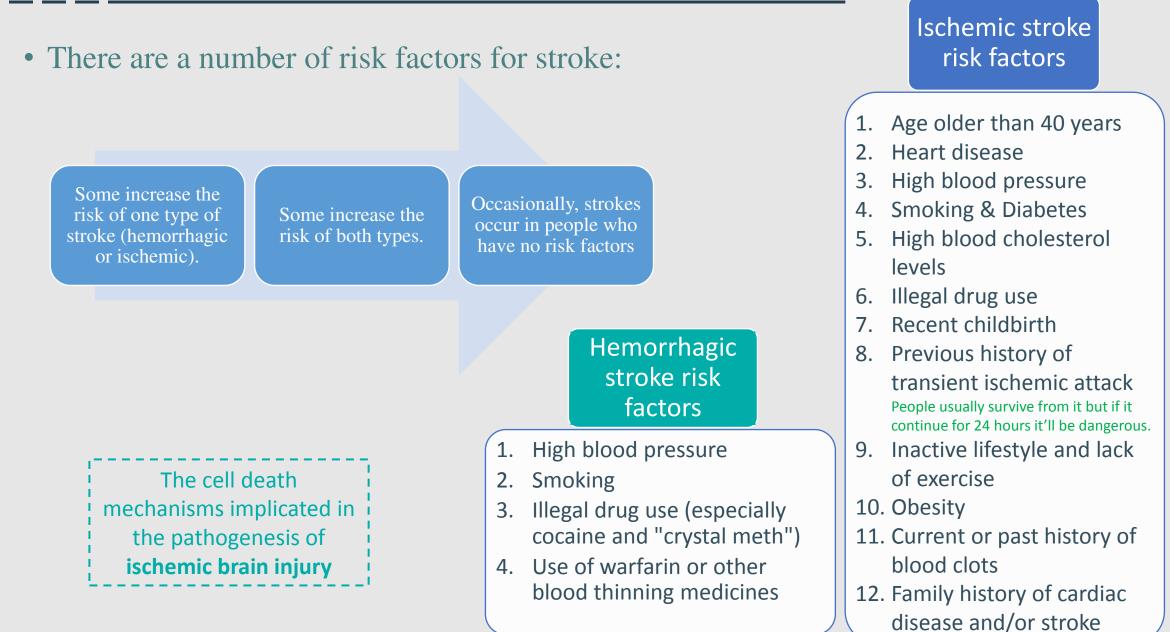


#### Cerebral Ischemia (Strokes) subtypes:





### Risk factors of strokes:



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- Necrosis is commonly observed <u>early</u> after <u>severe</u> ischemic insults
- Apoptosis occurs with more <u>mild</u> insults and with <u>longer</u> survival periods
- The mechanism of cell death involves calcium-induced calpain-mediated proteolysis of brain tissue

"A condition where the intra-cellular calcium builds up"

- Substrates for calpain include:
  - Cytoskeletal proteins, Membrane proteins and Regulatory and signaling proteins

the cell death can happen by 2 processes: 1- necrosis: it's not programmed cell death and it's abnormal condition .
2- apoptosis: normal and programmed cell death. Both happen after ischemia depending on the duration and the severity of the trauma which one of these two mechanism will happen .

Biochemical Responses to Ischemic Brain Injury :

✓ Oxidative stress
 ✓ Metabolic stress
 ✓ Neurochemical response



#### Oxidative stress

The Role of Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) & Reactive Nitrate Species (RNS) in Normal Brain Physiology:

During periods of increased neuronal activity, ROS & RNS diffuse to the myelin sheath of oligodendrocytes activating Protein kinase C (PKC) → posttranslational modification of myelin basic protein (MBP) by phosphorylation

They are required for essential processes as learning & memory formation

They regulate neuronal signaling in both central & peripheral nervous systems

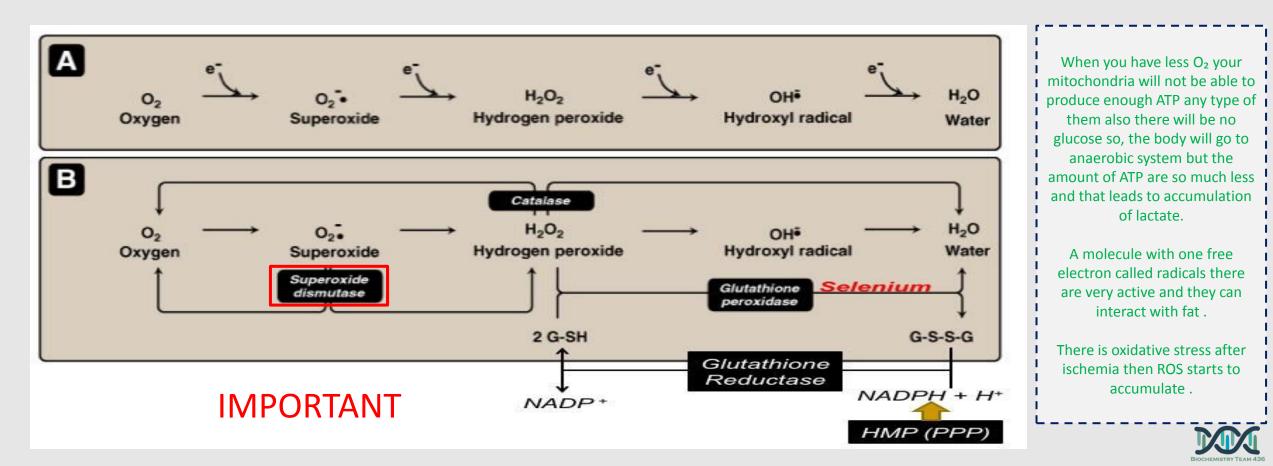
They are mainly generated by microglia & astrocytes

They modulate synaptic transmission & nonsynaptic communication between neurons & glia

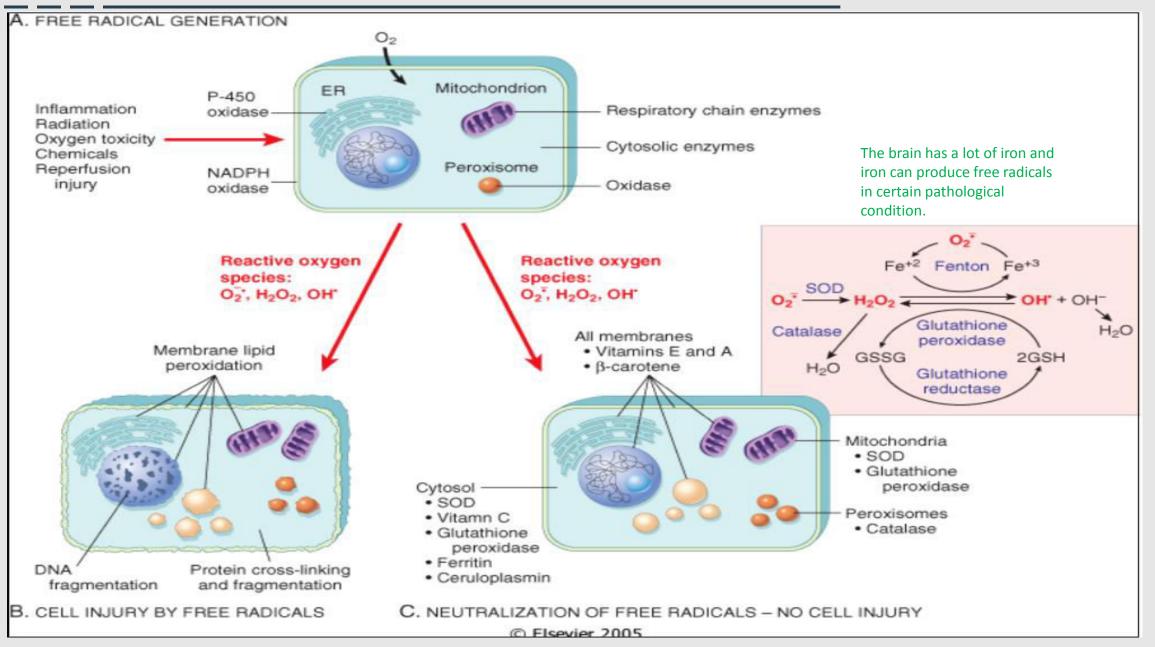


### Oxidative stress

 A condition in which cells are subjected to excessive levels of Reactive oxidizing species (ROS or RNS) & they are unable to counterbalance their deleterious effects with antioxidants.
 It has been implicated in the ageing process & in many diseases
 (e.g., atherosclerosis, cancer, neurodegenerative diseases, stroke)



#### Generation of free radicals





#### The brain and Oxidative stress:

The brain is highly susceptible to ROS-induced damage because of:

✓ High concentrations of peroxidisable lipids
 Saturated fatty acids that are normally produce free radicals and the brain has a lot of them.

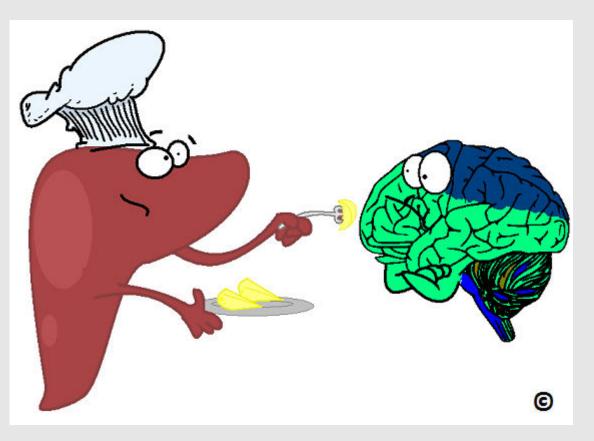
 $\checkmark$  Low levels of protective antioxidants

✓ High oxygen consumption

✓ High levels of iron (acts as pro-oxidants under pathological conditions)

 The occurrence of reactions involving dopamine & Glutamate oxidase in the brain

ATP deficiency leads to shut down of NA/K pump because they are ATP dependent also the Ca<sup>+2</sup>/Na<sup>+</sup> channels is also shutting down because there is no gradient difference. this lead to accumulation Na and Ca inside the cell, then the water comes in leading swelling of the neuron, then it'll release glutamate which will activate other near neuron, leading extra activation (excitement) of the neurons.





### Effects of ROS and NO

Molecular & Vascular effects of ROS in ischemic stroke

- 1. DNA damage
- 2. Lipid peroxidation of unsaturated fatty acids
- 3. Protein denaturation
- 4. Inactivation of enzymes
- Cell signaling effects (e.g., release of Ca<sup>2+</sup> from intracellular stores)
- 6. Cytoskeletal damage

7. Chemotaxis

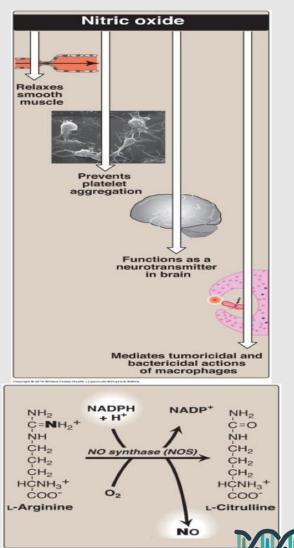
Molecular effects

- 1. Altered vascular tone and cerebral blood flow
- 2. Increased platelet aggregation
- 3. Increased endothelial cell permeability

Vascular effects

## The role of NO in the pathophysiology of cerebral ischemia

- ✓ Ischemia leads to abnormal production of Nitric oxide and this may be both beneficial and detrimental, depending upon " when and where " NO is released .
- NO produced by endothelial NOS (eNOS) and causes improvement in vascular dilation and perfusion . In this situation its (beneficial) .
- ✓ In contrast, NO production by neuronal NOS (nNOS) or by the inducible form of NOS (iNOS) has detrimental (harmful) effects .
- ✓ Increased iNOS activity generally occurs in a delayed fashion after brain ischemia and trauma and is associated with inflammatory processes.

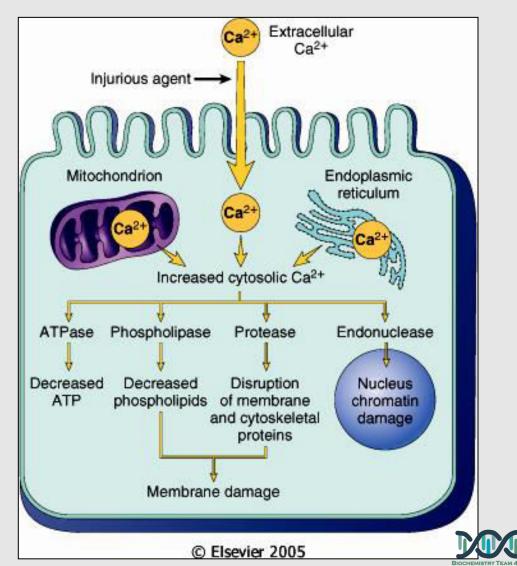


Metabolic stress "The cell starts the anaerobic respiration that lead to acidosis"

Biochemical changes in The brain during ischemia

## Sources & consequences of increased cytosolic Calcium in cell injury

- ❖ Ischemia leads to interruption or severe reduction of blood flow,
   O2 & nutrients in cerebral arteries → energy depletion
   (depletion of ATP & creatine phosphate)
- Energy depletion due to inhibition of "ATP dependent ion pumps "which effect <u>membranes depolarization</u> and <u>Perturbance of transmembrane ion gradients</u>.
- Ca<sup>2+</sup> Influx leads to activation of cellular proteases (Calpains) & lipases which further leads to breakdown of cerebral tissue
- Na<sup>+</sup> Influx
- K<sup>+</sup> efflux leading to K+-induced release of excitatory amino acids
- Increased lactic acid in neurons leads to <u>acidosis</u> which promotes the pro-oxidant effect and increases the rate of conversion of O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> to H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> or to hydroxyperoxyl radical



#### Neurochemical response

## The Blood tests in patients with brain ischemia or hemorrhage

Complete blood count, including hemoglobin, hematocrit, white blood cell count, and platelet count

Prothrombin time, international normalized ratio (INR), and activated partial thromboplastin time

Thrombin time and/or ecarin clotting time if patient is known or suspected to be taking a direct thrombin inhibitor or a direct factor Xa inhibitor

Blood lipids, including total, high-density lipoprotein (HDL), and low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol, and triglycerides.

Cardiac enzymes and troponin

#### Biochemical changes in The brain during ischemia

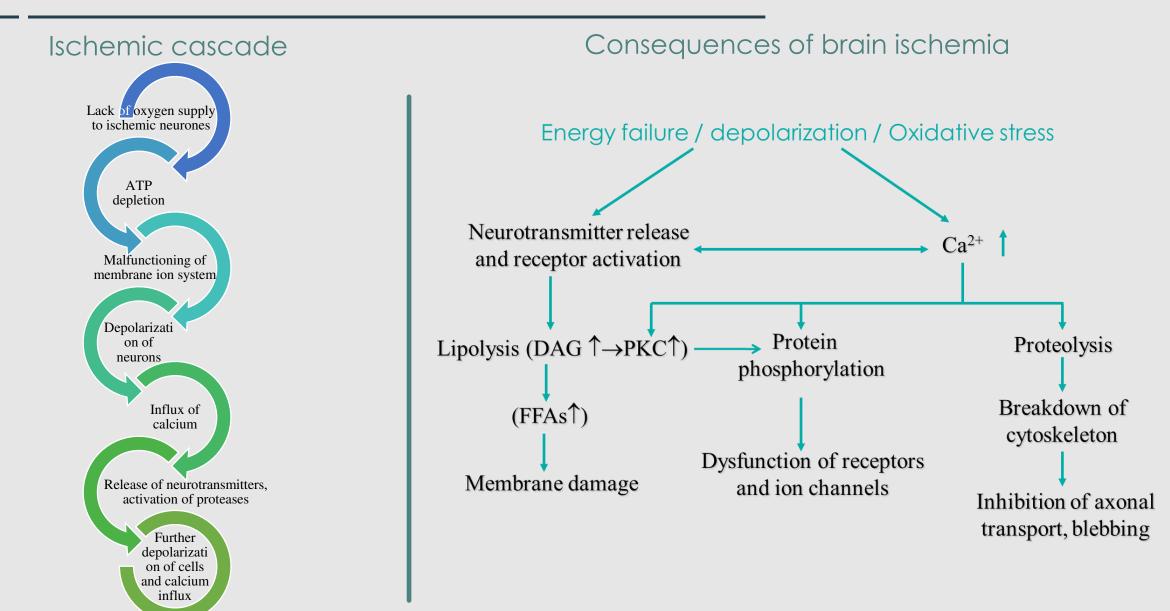
- Following cerebral ischemia, extracellular levels of various neurotransmitters are increased
- ✓ Glutamate "Main NT"
- ✓ Glycine
- ✓ GABA
- ✓ Dopamine

Examples of Potential Biochemical Intervention in Cerebral Ischemia

- ✓ Inhibitors of glutamate release.
- ✓ Ca<sup>2+</sup> channel blockers.
- ✓ Nitric oxide synthase inhibitors & free radical inhibition.
- ✓ Calpain inhibitors



#### To summarize





## Summary

#### The lecture talked about 3 main aspects:

1- Types of strokes and their risk factors:

Stroke	Hemorrhagic	Ischemic	
Types	1- Intracerebral 2- Subarachnoid	1- Thrombotic 2- Embolic	
Risk Factors	<ol> <li>Hypertension</li> <li>Smoking</li> <li>Illegal drug use</li> </ol>		
	<ul> <li>✓ Blood thinning medications like Warfarin</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Has much more risk factors, thus it occurs more commonly than the hemorrhagic type.</li> </ul>	

2- Cell death in ischemic injury:

Necrosis	Apoptosis	
observed early after severe ischemic insults	In more mild insults and with longer survival periods	
Involve <b>calcium-induced calpain-mediated proteolysis</b> of brain tissue, and <b>Calpain</b> includes many <u>proteins</u> ;		

cytoskeletal, membranous, regulatory, and signaling.

3- The biochemical responses to Ischemic injury:

Oxidative stress	<ul> <li>ROS &amp; RNS have important functions in the nervous system.</li> <li>When cells are exposed to amounts of ROS and RNS, and can't fight them with antioxidants, oxidative stress occurs.</li> <li>The brain is highly susceptible to ROS damage.</li> <li>ROS has both molecular and cellular damaging effects.</li> <li>NO has beneficial vascular effects but harmful neural effects.</li> </ul>	
Metabolic stress	- Ischemia eventually leads to energy depletion mainly due to inhibition of <u>ATP dependent ion pumps which affects the cell</u> <u>membrane.</u> - Influx: Ca <sup>2+</sup> , Na <sup>+</sup> Outflux: K <sup>+</sup> - Increased lactic acid ➤ acidosis ➤ increases conversion of $O_2^-$ to $H_2O_2$ .	
Neuro- chemical response	<ul> <li>Extracellular NTs are increased: Glutamate - Glycine - GABA - Dopamine</li> <li>So as intervention we give inhibitors to Ca<sup>2+</sup>, Glutamate, NO, free radicals, and calpain.</li> </ul>	
Required Blood tests	<ul> <li>Complete blood count</li> <li>Prothrombin time, INR, Activated partial thromboplastin time</li> <li>Thrombin time, Ecarin clotting time</li> <li>Blood lipids (HDL, LDL) - Cardiac enzymes and tropological</li> </ul>	

### Quiz

1) Which of the following cell death mechanisms occurs with more mild insults and with longer survival periods ?

- a) Necrosis
- b) Phagocytosis
- c) Apoptosis
- d) None of them

#### 2) Which of the following is not a risk factor for ischemic stroke ?

- a) Recent child birth
- b) Past history of blood clots
- c) Warfarin usage
- d) Heart disease
- 3) The enzyme that converts superoxide to hydrogen peroxide is ?
- a) NADPH oxidase
- b) Superoxide dismutase
- c) Catalase
- d) Glutathione peroxidase

4) Which of the following is not an effect of ROS in an ischemic stroke ?

- a) DNA damage
- b) Decrease platelet aggregability
- c) Increased endothelial permeability
- d) Inactivation of enzymes

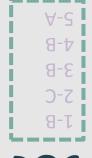
#### 5) ROS & RNS are mainly generated by ?

- a) Microglia and astrocytes
- b) Oligodendrocytes
- c) Schwann cells
- d) Myelin sheath

Q: How can NO have beneficial and harmful effect ?

**Q** : Describe the ischemic cascade ?





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