

Functionalization of Amyloid Beta Peptide into Ferritin Cage and Observation of the Cage Disassembly

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The intrinsically disordered, amyloid beta (A β) peptides are known to be linked with the Alzheimer's disease.¹ The toxic A β oligomers aggregate to form fibrillar structure and deposited into brain.¹ To develop oligomer specific drug, understanding their role in the disease and the formation process of A β fibrils, it is important to know the details of an oligomeric state. However, due to frequent aggregation, transient nature, heterogeneity etc., it is difficult to isolate and characterize a precise oligomeric state. In this work, we aimed to encapsulate a defined number of A β peptides into the confined environment of a ferritin cage (Figure 1). 24 A β peptides were genetically fused at the C-terminal of ferritin cage which is located inside the cage. In vivo assembly will incorporate the A β peptides into the cage. Since ferritin cage is known to show reversible disassembly in solution, the encapsulated amyloid core can be exposed by cage disassembly.² This presentation will describe the process of A β peptides encapsulation into the ferritin cage, detailed characterization, and study of the amyloid dynamics by high-speed AFM measurement.



Figure 1: Schematic representation of the encapsulation of A β oligomer into ferritin cage.

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