

Amyloid Plaques

- Accumulation of beta amyloid due to neuron cut incorrectly
- Toxic to neurons
- Genetic link; overproduction of amyloid has been linked, so amyloid plaques very common in inherited Alzheimer's
- Drug treatments generally worsen symptoms

Neurofibrillary Tangles

- Occur when microtubules that make up a neuron become tangled during breakdown caused by Tau protein
- Leads to cell death
- Tangles show up when stained

Which causes Alzheimer's?

- Begins with an increase in amyloid, then an increase in tangles, causing neuron death
- Progression is caused by the spreading of tangles; Tau proteins effect more neurons by moving microtubules

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