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#### Amyloid Protein Aggregation in Type-II Diabetes

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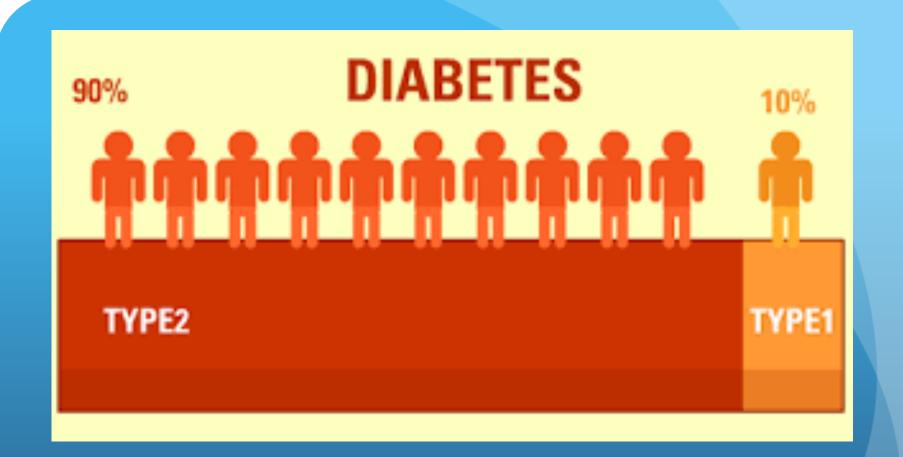
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# Amyloid Protein Aggregation in Type-II Diabetes

Shannon Pilcher

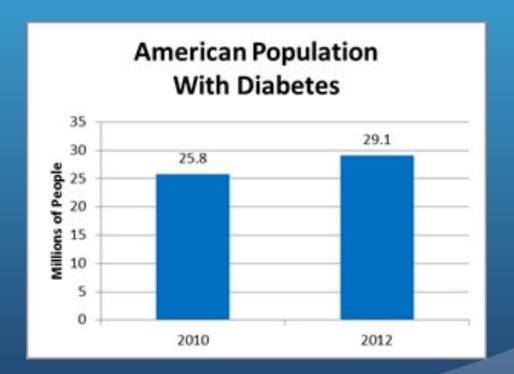
Mentor: Dr. Moffet



Diet, Obesity, Genetics?

# Type-II Diabetes

- According to American Diabetes Association...
  - 9.3% of population have diabetes
  - 37% of population in America has prediabetes
  - Economy cost: \$174 billion annually

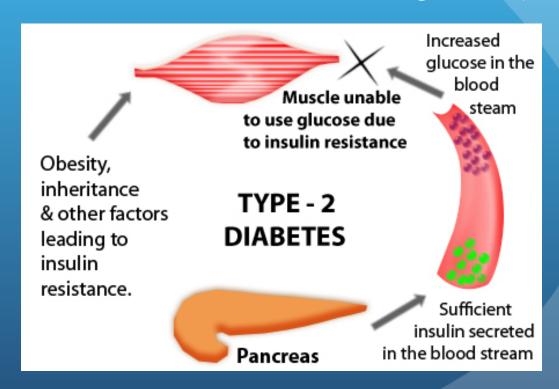


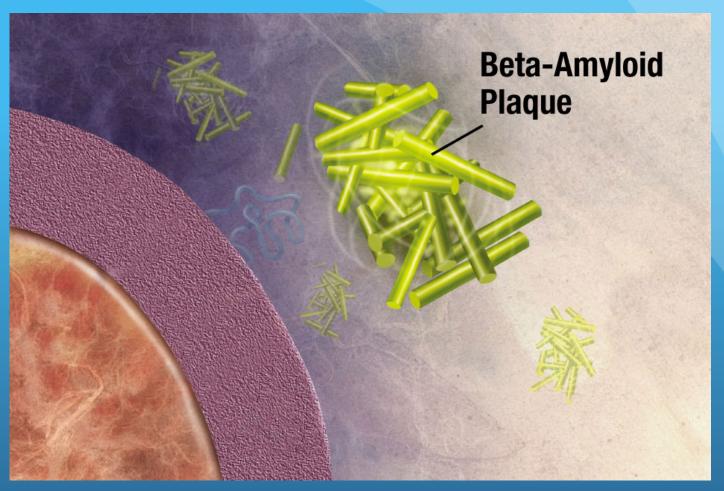
## The Science of Diabetes...

Diabetes is high glucose levels

• Insulin (which is hormone breaks down glucose) is

depleted





- Beta cells: secrete insulin
- Amyloid Protein (IAPP) kills beta cells
  - Unable to secrete insulin = type-II diabetes

How can metal cation compounds inhibit the aggregation of the human protein IAPP?

# Metal Cation Compounds

• Examples: CuCl2, ZnCl2, FeCl2

#### **METHODS**

- Add together metal compound, IAPP protein, and TRIS Buffer
  - TRIS Buffer = same pH as the body

Test aggregation of the protein alone, and test aggregation of protein with metal



### References

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- Chiti, F., & Dobson, C. (n.d.). Protein Misfolding, Functional Amyloid, And Human Disease. *Annual Review of Biochemistry*, 333-366.