

Glutamate

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Table of contents

1 Overview	1
2 Dysfunction	1
2.1 Excitotoxicity caused neurodegeneration	1
3 Related pathologies	1
3.1 Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis	1

1 Overview

- Glutamate is an excitatory neurotransmitter¹
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2 Dysfunction

2.1 Excitotoxicity caused neurodegeneration

- Excess glutamate triggers a cascade of events leading to cell death¹

3 Related pathologies

3.1 Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

- [Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis](#) via [excitotoxicity](#)

- Increased levels of glutamate in the cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), plasma, and in post-mortem tissue of individuals with ALS have been reported¹
 - Researchers attribute a deficiency in [excitatory amino acid transporter 2 \(EAAT2\)](#) in the motor cortex and spinal cord of postmortem ALS tissue was reported and lends support to the theory of excitotoxicity causing neurodegeneration.
1. O'Sullivan SB, Schmitz TJ, Fulk GD, eds. *Physical Rehabilitation*. 7th ed. F.A. Davis Company; 2019.