Cover: This ultrastructural image shows ‘dystrophic neurites’, a characteristic feature of the pathology in the Alzheimer disease (AD) brain. These structures, which are grossly swollen portions of an axon or sometimes a dendrite, are filled predominantly with autophagic vacuoles such as autophagosomes and autophagolysosomes, reflecting a pathological impairment in the crucial process of autophagy in AD. Disruption of autophagy has important implications for amyloid accumulation and neuron survival in this disease. See Commentary by Nixon (p. 4081-4091).

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