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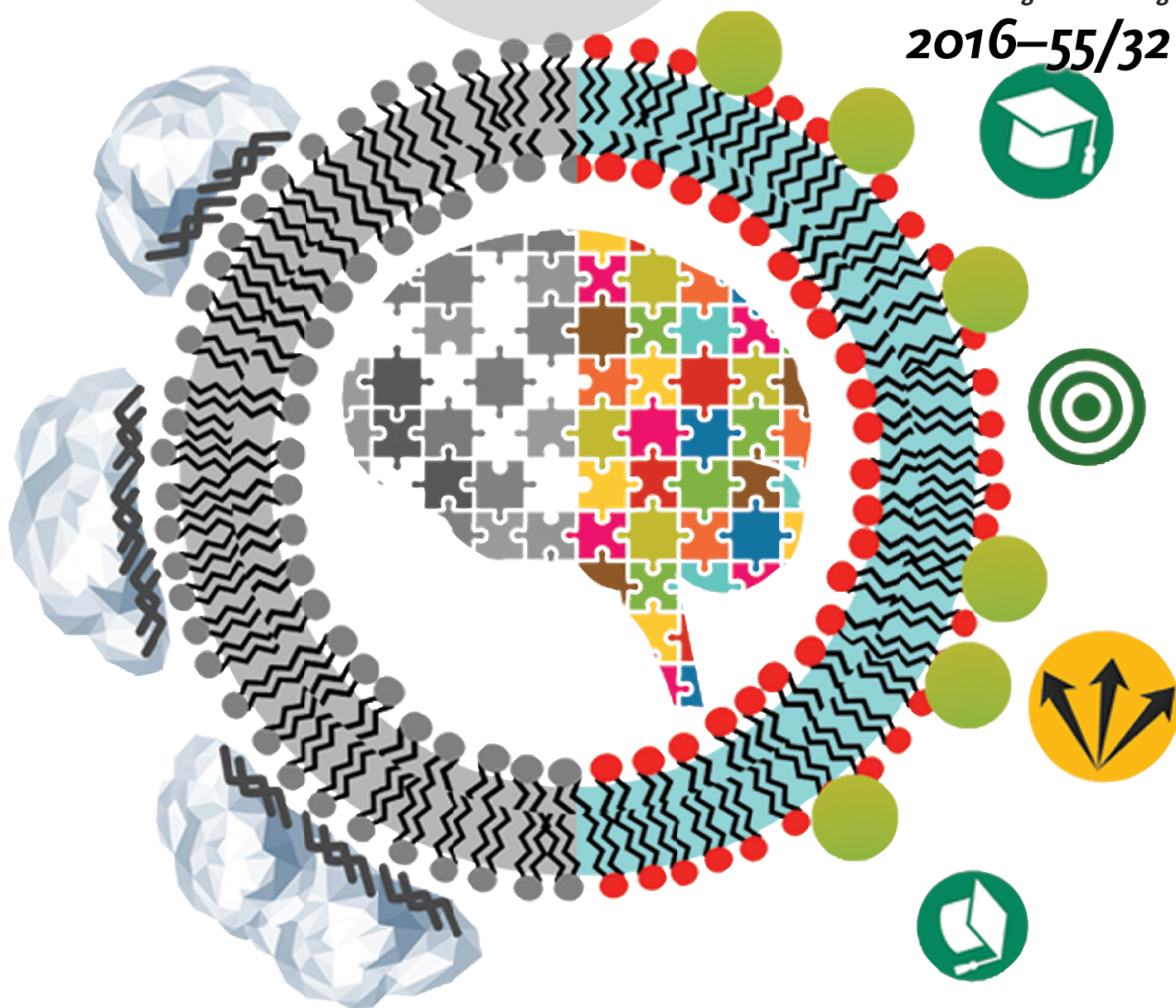
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The oligomerization of β -amyloid ...

... is thought to spark Alzheimer's disease. While sphingomyelin triggers the oligomerization (represented by gray structures on the left), GM₁ ganglioside (in green) inhibits the process, as M. Amaro, M. Hof et al. report in their Communication on page 9411 ff. These molecular insights might rationalize the development of Alzheimer's disease with the observed decrease in ganglioside concentration in the affected brain.

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