

On “Isomerization as the secret Achilles’ heel of long-lived proteins”

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This summary (1) calls to our attention the importance of often-overlooked stochastic processes that occur as proteins age—especially long-lived proteins. The demonstration by Lyon *et al.* (2) of the failed chaperone function of α -crystallins and its relationship to cataract and potentially other protein precipitation diseases is elegant. They should, however, acknowledge that Groenen *et al.* (3) and Voorter *et al.* (4) published on this topic decades ago. Goenen showed how simple

water-based hydrolysis after racemization can lead to the extensive cleavages that are observed in the aged lens.

References

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