New brain memory model could offer new pathways for Alzheimer's research

[PhD candidate and physician Thanh Pierre] Doan is investigating the intricacies of the parts of the brain that keep track of memory, place and time. ...

A recognized model states that there are two parallel streams of information:

One stream includes visual sensory impressions that travel to the sense of place, and the second stream is of other impressions that go to the lateral entorhinal cortex....

Doan's results show that almost all the information whizzes directly into the lateral entorhinal cortex.... It's like the brain version of all roads leading to Rome.

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Many studies have shown that Alzheimer's is closely related to the cells of the lateral entorhinal cortex. The earliest sign of the disease is that these cells begin to fade away.

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[The researchers] hope the discovery will eventually help us understand what is causing these vital cells to die.

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The path from basic research to new treatments for Alzheimer's is long. But the better models we have of the brain, the better chance we have of figuring out how to prevent these important cells from failing.

It can't be helped that some renowned scientists probably have to let go of their longstanding hypotheses.

Read full, original post: PhD candidate stumbled upon evidence disproving a 25-year-old belief about the brain