



## The Biopsychosocial Facets of Alexithymia and Its Role in Psychiatric, Psychosomatic, and Medical Illnesses

Guest Editors:

**Dr. Domenico De Berardis**

Department of Mental Health,  
Azienda Sanitaria Locale Teramo,  
64100 Teramo, Italy

domenico.deberardis@  
aslteramo.it

**Dr. Alessandro Valchera**

Villa S. Giuseppe Hospital,  
Hermanas Hospitalarias, 63100  
Ascoli Piceno, Italy; Polyedra  
Research Group, 64100 Teramo,  
Italy

a.valchera@ospedaliera.it

**Dr. Federica Vellante**

ITAB Institute of Advanced  
Biomedical Technologies,  
University "G. d'Annunzio", Via  
Luigi Polacchi 11, 66100, Chieti,  
Italy; Polyedra Research Group,  
64100 Teramo, Italy

federica.vellante@gmail.com

### Message from the Guest Editors

It has been suggested that alexithymic subjects may scarcely respond to both pharmacotherapy and psychotherapy. The characteristic attributes of alexithymic behavior are predominantly manifest in social interactions with high emotional significance. The affect-avoiding interpersonal pattern behavior showed by such subjects is often maladaptive and may elicit disorders and conflicts in important relationships, finally contributing the risk of the development of psychiatric symptoms such as depression or anxiety, thus increasing the risk of suicide.

Therefore, the aim of the present Issue is to give an update on biopsychosocial aspects of alexithymia concerning several points of view (neurobiological, structural, functional, psychological aspects, etc.). Both theoretical and empirical papers are welcome, as well as reviews, mini-reviews, interesting case-reports, and commentaries. All areas concerning alexithymia may be welcomed, from neurobiological and imaging findings to psychopathological and psychological issues. In addition, review papers or original studies on psychosomatic diseases and somatic symptoms would be of great interest.

Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**closed (20 May 2020)**





an Open Access Journal by MDPI

## Editor-in-Chief

### Prof. Dr. Stephen D. Meriney

Department of Neuroscience,  
University of Pittsburgh,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15260, USA

## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

You are invited to contribute a research article or a comprehensive review for consideration and publication in *Brain Sciences* (ISSN 2076-3425). *Brain Sciences* is an open access, peer-reviewed scientific journal that publishes original articles, critical reviews, research notes, and short communications on neuroscience. The scientific community and the general public can access the content free of charge as soon as it is published.

## Author Benefits

**Open Access:**— free for readers, with [article processing charges \(APC\)](#) paid by authors or their institutions.

**High Visibility:** indexed within [Scopus](#), [SCIE \(Web of Science\)](#), [PubMed](#), [PMC](#), [Embase](#), [PSYINDEX](#), [CAPlus / SciFinder](#), and many other databases.

**Rapid Publication:** manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision provided to authors approximately 19.9 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.8 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2021).

## Contact Us

---

*Brain Sciences*  
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66  
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[www.mdpi.com](http://www.mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/brainsci](http://mdpi.com/journal/brainsci)  
[brainsci@mdpi.com](mailto:brainsci@mdpi.com)  
[@BrainSci\\_MDPI](https://twitter.com/BrainSci_MDPI)