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Molecular Basis for the Environmental Promotion of Neurodegenerative Disease

Guest Editor:

Prof. Dr. Stephen C. Bondy

Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, Department of Medicine, University of California, Irvine 100 Theory, Suite 100, Irvine, CA 92617-1830, USA

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Message from the Guest Editor

Most neurodegenerative diseases have a relatively minor genetic component. Huntington's disease is the only major exception with the genetic penetrance being 100%. This implies that unknown environmental factors play a major role in determining the prevalence of defined neurological diseases in a specific population. Such agents consist of materials present in the general environment, such as those present in air, water, or surrounding terrains.

This special issue is focused on the possible molecular mechanisms by which these exogenous influences can initiate or accelerate processes associated with brain aging. Such expedition of normal events can lead to the premature emergence of distinctive disorders associated with brain aging. Mechanistic clues may be initiated by findings from clinical or epidemiological studies to be followed up using more detailed analyses of animal and isolated cell models. Each of the chapters will elaborate on some aspect of the more common neurodegenerative disorders toward better understanding the molecular disruption that is involved.









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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Maurizio Battino

Department of Odontostomatologic and Specialized Clinical Sciences, Sez-Biochimica, Faculty of Medicine, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Via Ranieri 65, 60100 Ancona, Italy

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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International Journal of Molecular Sciences Editorial Office MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66 4052 Basel, Switzerland Tel: +41 61 683 77 34 www.mdpi.com mdpi.com/journal/ijms ijms@mdpi.com X@IJMS_MDPI