

Special Issue

Understanding the Neurobiology of Social Withdrawal and Avoidance: Exploring Brain Structure, Function, Neural Processes, and Biological Markers

Message from the Guest Editor

The concept that humans are inherently social beings, supported by influential 20th-century studies in anthropology, ethology and psychology, and the Aristotelian idea that 'man being is a social animal by nature', is being challenged by the recent literature. The emerging corpus of the literature reveals a widespread occurrence of social withdrawal and avoidance behaviour (SWA), leading to a "silence epidemic" of social isolation and reclusive lifestyles worldwide.

Although the magnitude and phenomenology of SWA have received attention, there is a lack of research examining the structure, function, neural processes and biological markers of the brain associated with SWA. Exploring these biological markers and neuropsychological profiles holds great potential to gain valuable insights into the underlying mechanisms of SWA. By understanding the neurobiological and cognitive aspects of these behaviours, researchers and clinicians can develop targeted interventions that address the specific challenges and impairments faced by individuals. This Special Issue highlights the critical need for more research, advancing our understanding of such behaviour.

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Samir Al-Adawi

Department of Behavioral Medicine, College of Medicine & Health Sciences, Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat 123, Oman

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 March 2024)



Brain Sciences

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.8
CiteScore 5.6
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/179869

Brain Sciences
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
brainsci@mdpi.com

[mdpi.com/journal/
brainsci](https://mdpi.com/journal/brainsci)





Brain Sciences

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.8
CiteScore 5.6
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/journal/
brainsci](https://mdpi.com/journal/brainsci)



About the Journal

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.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Stephen D. Meriney

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

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, PMC, Embase, PSYINDEX, PsycInfo, CAPlus / SciFinder, and other databases.

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 17.6 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.5 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).

Recognition of Reviewers:

reviewers who provide timely, thorough peer-review reports receive vouchers entitling them to a discount on the APC of their next publication in any MDPI journal, in appreciation of the work done.