

Special Issue

Inflammation and Mental Health

Message from the Guest Editor

Behavioral change and depression can follow infection. Treatments that modulate inflammation, like corticosteroids, are related to mood and psychotic symptoms, and depression appears to impact the inflammatory response to stress. Early adversity can cause inflammatory changes related to diverse behavioral outcomes as well as macrostructural, microstructural, and functional brain modifications. At a genetic and epigenetic level, differences in HLA subtype confer vulnerability to psychotic illness, and methylation of immune response genes may predispose to psychiatric and addictive illness. Still, these findings do not yet cohere in an actionable way to assist in the treatment of psychiatric illness, and trials of immunomodulatory drugs are only partially successful. The details of how inflammation impacts mental health has yet to be completely elucidated. This Special Issue aims to find original research, reviews, and meta-analyses in the realms of epidemiology, neuroscience, molecular biology, and neuroimaging to fill this gap by exploring the relationship of inflammation with obesity, mental illness, and substance use on a humoral, neural, genetic, and epigenetic level.

Guest Editor

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