

Special Issue

Shaping the Brain in Sleep: Neurodevelopmental Mechanisms Across the Lifespan

Message from the Guest Editors

Sleep is essential for brain functioning and plays a significant role in cognition, physical health, mental health and social wellbeing. While the relationship between sleep and human functioning is well established, the understanding of the role of sleep in brain development and the mechanisms that link sleep and neurodevelopment remains relatively limited. This Special Issue aims to highlight emerging evidence on how sleep both shapes and is shaped by brain development across the lifespan. We welcome publications from a range of disciplines and methodologies, including (but not limited to) imaging, clinical case, observational, longitudinal and cross-sectional studies. Articles focused on specific developmental periods or age ranges and those addressing development across the lifespan will be considered, as well as narrative, systematic or scoping reviews and meta-analyses. Publications offering new theoretical models of the relationship, processes or mechanisms connecting sleep and neurodevelopment are also highly encouraged.

Guest Editors

Dr. Sally Staton
Dr. Jasneek Chawla
Dr. Kartik Iyer

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 March 2026)



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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

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