Special Issue

Update on the Treatment of Fragile X Syndrome

Message from the Guest Editors

Fragile X syndrome (FXS) is a well-defined genetic cause of inherited intellectual disability (ID). It is also the best-understood single-gene factor associated with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Deficits in the fragile X gene's key protein seem to be the critical unifying factor linked, at a synaptic level, to dysfunction in brain pathways and to at least some aspects of behavioral symptoms in idiopathic ASD. Thus, further advances in the understanding of FXS may help to inform studies on ID and other ASD in highly heterogenous idiopathic ASD. In last decade, major progress in elucidating the underlying causes of FXS has generated new targeted approaches to manage them. Indeed, among all neurodevelopmental disabilities, FXS has been at the forefront of efforts to test preclinical evidence for these interventions in clinical studies. In this issue, we focus on the objective and/or directly observable quantitative measures of FXS pathophysiology of meaningful relevance not only to the treatment challenges but also to understanding the developmental trajectory in FXS, including novel topics with implications on ASD and ID.

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