Special Issue

Causes of Parkinson's Disease

Message from the Guest Editor

Parkinson's disease (PD) is a neurodegenerative disease that has been known of for a very long time. Since the original description of a few patients in the 19th century, the disease bears the name of the man who first published on it: James Parkinson. In addition to the original Parkinson's disease, other forms have, in the meantime, been classified, such as genetic, symptomatic and atypical forms (for example, MSA, PSP, and CBD). We do not as of yet fully understand the causes of the disease, but the discovery of the relevance of alpha synuclein was a major breakthrough. as was the realization that the disease does not originate in the brain but rather in the periphery. However, further progress has ironically been hampered by an otherwise highly effective therapy in the form of levodopa, which meant that we became more focused on advances in diagnostics and therapy than the origin of PD. There may possibly be other individual diseases hidden within Parkinson's disease that we do not recognize. We invite you to help us to determine the present status of the disease and design new approaches for conducting future work about this disease.

Guest Editor

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