Special Issue

Human Developmental Disability, Neurogenetics and Rare Diseases: From Basic Science to Genetic Counseling

Message from the Guest Editors

Since the advent of next-generation sequencing (NGS), both whole exome sequencing (WES) and whole genome sequencing (WGS), we have seen rapid progress in gene discovery and diagnostics for developmental disabilities (DDs) as a whole, and rare DDs in particular. As a result, rare diseases have become more amenable to diagnosis and treatment innovation and are, as a result, considerably less 'orphaned'.

In this 'Special Issue', we present articles outlining innovation in the molecular genetics, biochemistry, and treatment of DDs in general. In addition to contributing to the literature on gene discovery and molecular biology, we hope our efforts will facilitate: 1) awareness of rare or undertreated developmental disabilities; 2) discussion of how improved diagnostics leads to improved treatment options for patients and their families in the context of genetic counseling; and 3) discussion of the use of animal and cell models of DDs in order to better understand disease processes, facilitate drug development, and establish clinical trials.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Genes is central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fast-moving field. There is a need for good quality, open access journals in this area, and the *Genes* team aims to provide expert manuscript handling, serious peer review, and rapid publication across the whole discipline of genetics. Starting in 2010, the journal is now well established and recognised. Why not consider *Genes* for your next genetics paper?

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