Special Issue

Genetics of Primary Microcephaly and Intellectual Disability

Message from the Guest Editor

Human brain size increased dramatically due to a disproportionate increase in the volume of the cerebral cortex which is thought to underlie increased intellectual capacity to execute complex cognitive functions. It is the product of millions of years of multifaceted evolution, operating intricately towards its structural and functional optimization, which stays an enigma to modern science. Primary microcephaly (PM) and intellectual disability (ID) are the manifestations of the disruption in these processes and studying their etiologies unravel the indispensable components of normal brain functions—every new study adds a new piece to the puzzle. Technological limitations were confining the studies to the genetic causes of familial and sporadic cases. But the latest and robust genomic technologies now available have opened the avenues to explore their genetic causes. These hold the potential to identify the most crucial, thus inherently most vulnerable components of normal brain function. Therefore, this Special Issue focuses on the identification of genetic events causing PM and ID and their underlying pathomechanisms.

Guest Editor

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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?

Editor-in-Chief

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