

Special Issue

Olfaction: From Genes to Behavior

Message from the Guest Editor

Dear colleagues, The senses dictate how the brain represents the environment, and guide our behavior. Among the five senses, olfaction is maybe the most mysterious one, because a large part of olfactory information is processed at the unconscious level. However, the influence of olfaction in the control of behavior and cognitive processes is undeniable, and many studies demonstrate a tight relationship between olfactory perception and behavior. For example, olfactory cues are determinant for partner selection, parental care, and feeding behavior. Furthermore, the sense of smell can even contribute to emotional responses, cognition and mood regulation. Accordingly, the malfunctioning of the olfactory system could lead to the occurrence of pathological conditions, such as neuropsychiatric or metabolic disorders. Thus, clear identification of the molecular mechanisms controlling olfaction is vital in the understanding of the physiopathology of animal behavior. In particular, this special issue focuses on the genetic contribution to olfactory behavior.

Guest Editor

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