



Molecular Basis and Therapy of Optic Neuropathies

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Message from the Guest Editors

Optic neuropathy is a frequent cause of visual loss that can have implications not only for sight but also for systemic health. There is a wide range of aetiologies, including demyelinating, inflammatory, ischemic, traumatic, compressive, toxic, nutritional, and hereditary causes. Understanding the basic molecular mechanisms of disease processes affecting the optic nerves and the anterior afferent visual pathway is essential for developing targeted and effective therapy. Currently, the molecular basis for many of these underlying diseases is being elucidated.

There are many examples of the evolving understanding of the diseases that affect the optic nerves: The defining of the clinical features and treatments of the neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder (NMOSD) optic neuritis and myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein (MOG) optic neuritis versus multiple sclerosis (MS) optic neuritis. Research to restore the mitochondrial electron transport chain of the retinal ganglion cells in Leber's hereditary optic neuropathy has led to unique findings of drug effects in the contralateral eye...





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