



## Genomics of Brain Disorders 4.0

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Brain disorders represent the third major problem of health and disability in developed countries after cardiovascular disorders and cancer. The primary cause of most brain disorders is poorly understood. In NPDs there is a convergence of multiple genomic defects distributed across the human genome with epigenetic phenomena and environmental risk factors leading to the phenotypic expression of the disease. In children, neurodevelopmental disorders are determinant for abnormal brain maturation and early mental derailment. In age-related neurodegenerative disorders, a common feature is the presence of intracellular and/or extracellular deposits of abnormally processed proteins that represent prototypical hallmarks probably contributing to premature neuronal death. A better characterization of the genomic background of mental and neurological disorders is necessary for elucidating disease-specific pathogenesis, as well as the identification of accurate biomarkers, and the implementation of novel treatments addressing pathogenic, mechanistic, metabolic, transporter and pleiotropic genes, and their products, associated with specific NPDs.





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