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Tracking Back Proteotoxicity in Neurodegenerative Diseases

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Message from the Guest Editors

Many neurodegenerative diseases belong to the large category of proteinopathies, conditions characterized by the presence of proteinaceous inclusions within and/or outside the degenerating neurons. The identification of such aggregates supports the view that misfolded proteins represent a basic requirement for the neurodegenerative process and provides input to verify the existence of possible dysfunctions of the biological systems influencing protein homeostasis.

Besides the impairment of intracellular protein catabolic systems, epigenetic mechanisms are often involved, implying a putative environmental contribution to altering the physiological processes involved in the synthesis of disease-specific proteins. This may result in the over-production of post-translationally modified proteins more prone to aggregation.

The aim of this Special Issue consists in enlarging the focus of our previous Special Issue "Proteotoxicity and Neurodegenerative Diseases", tracing back even more the steps leading to protein aggregates, including also chromatin and DNA modification and transcription factor interactions, besides RNA metabolism alterations.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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