

Special Issue

Molecular Advances in Neurodegenerative Diseases

Message from the Guest Editor

Neurodegenerative diseases are extremely difficult to study for a number of reasons. First, animal models reproduce only some aspects of human disease. Second, the extremely long time course can obscure the events that initiate the process of degeneration. This implies that molecular changes seen later in the disease may be consequences and not causes of the degeneration. Third, it is difficult to make conclusive clinical diagnoses and separate clinical phenotypes, and so even powerful molecular techniques may not be successful. The role of amyloid and tau in Alzheimer's disease and the roles of alpha synuclein in Parkinson's disease and TDP-43 in ALS and frontotemporal dementia are probably only the beginning of the molecular pathogenesis, and novel studies are critical.

Guest Editor

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