

Special Issue

ATXN2 in Health and Disease

Message from the Guest Editor

Ataxin-2 (ATXN2) and its homologues down to yeast and plants have been implicated in RNA binding, in translation regulation, and in EGF/insulin receptor endocytosis. They act during stress responses, relocating to cytosolic stress granules and modulating RNA decay in P-bodies. Defense against viral, bacterial, and possibly toxic mitochondrial RNA seems to be a part of their roles. Downstream of AMP kinase, they act to repress mTORC1 signals that govern cell growth.

Their genetic variants trigger various pathological consequences. In view of the dramatic neuroprotective effects of ATXN2 depletion, clinical trials will use antisense oligonucleotides and locked nucleic acids to prevent disease. Now there is an urgent need to define the natural course of the ATXN2-associated disorders, to identify biomarkers of ATXN2 effects, to understand their pathway roles, and to elucidate potential side-effects of ATXN2 deficiency.

The journal mainly focuses on molecular mechanisms or pathophysiology implications including basic studies in biochemistry, molecular biology, and molecular medicine.

Guest Editor

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The International Journal of Molecular Sciences (*IJMS*, ISSN 1422-0067) is an open access journal, which was established in 2000. The journal aims to provide a forum for scholarly research on a range of topics, including biochemistry, molecular and cell biology, molecular biophysics, molecular medicine, and all aspects of molecular research in chemistry. *IJMS* publishes both original research and review articles, and regularly publishes special issues to highlight advances at the cutting edge of research. We invite you to read recent articles published in *IJMS* and consider publishing your next paper with us.

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