Special Issue

Circadian Biology in Human Health and Disease

Message from the Guest Editor

Photosensitive organisms from cyanobacteria to humans have evolved internal circadian timing systems, allowing them to anticipate environmental changes related to day/night variations. In mammals, this system is composed of a central pacemaker in the brain's suprachiasmatic nucleus (SCN) and self-sustained and cell-autonomous oscillators present in almost all body cells. Accumulating evidence from rodent studies indicates that the temporal orchestration of the entire physiology is a major purpose of circadian clocks in central and peripheral tissues and leaves little doubt concerning the essential role of the circadian system in the coordination of body metabolism. Turning to studies in human subjects, a lot of recent work now supports the novel concept that a misalignment between the internal circadian clock and the external rhythm imposed by modern lifestyle can provoke alteration of multiple physiological processes. In this Special Issue, we aim to explore the genetic, molecular and biochemical mechanisms underlying the link between circadian clock disruption and the development of physiological dysfunctions.

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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