

Special Issue

Compounds with Anxiolytic or Antidepressant Properties

Message from the Guest Editors

Major depression and anxiety are devastating disorders with a major impact on public health and important socio-economic costs. The monoaminergic system is one of the cornerstones of the pathological processes of depression, such that the currently used antidepressant drugs almost all target these systems. However, one-third of patients are totally resistant, feel no relief after such treatment. Therefore, novel therapeutic strategies are urgently needed. Recent research highlights the fact that some endogenous neuropeptides, hormones and lipid neuromodulators may counteract mood disorders. Among these endogenous molecules are a sortilin-derived peptide, digitalis-like compounds, etc., whose therapeutic potentials will be presented in this Special Issue. Additionally, a focus will be put on the adipose-derived hormones leptin and adiponectin, for which recent studies show their ability to fight against the establishment of anxiety and depression-like behaviors in rodents. This Special Issue will provide an overview of recent findings from basic and genetic research on the involvement of various endogenous molecules in the treatment of anxiety and mood disorders.

Guest Editors

Dr. Joëlle Chabry

Institut de Pharmacologie Moléculaire et Cellulaire, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Université Côte d'Azur, 660 route des Lucioles, 06560 Valbonne, France

Dr. Carine Bécamel

Institut de Génomique Fonctionnelle (IGF), UMR5203 CNRS, U1191 INSERM Université de Montpellier, 34094 Montpellier, France

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4052 Basel, Switzerland
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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. José L. Quiles
Department of Physiology, Institute of Nutrition and Food Technology
"Jose Mataix", Biomedical Research Center, University of Granada,
Avda. Conocimiento s/n, 18100 Armilla, Granada, Spain

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