

Special Issue

Identifying the Molecular Mechanisms of Psychiatric Disorders to Define New Therapeutic Targets

Message from the Guest Editors

Psychiatric disorders have specific behavioral and mental patterns and are characterized by atypical behavior, ideas, perceptions, emotions, and relationships. Currently, therapeutic approaches revolve around imbalance in the function of neurotransmitters such as dopamine, serotonin, GABA, and norepinephrine for most psychiatric disorders. However, although new generations of neurotransmitter-based therapies (including antipsychotics, serotonin reuptake inhibitors, and serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors) are available, the efficacy of these medications is limited. In addition, relapse rates in psychiatric disorders are relatively high, indicating the potential involvement of other pathological mechanisms. Indeed, recent genetics and molecular biology studies have shown that the pathogenesis of major psychiatric illnesses involves hundreds of genes and numerous signaling pathways. This Special Issue aims to present new data regarding cellular and molecular mechanisms contributing to such disorders to nominate new candidate targets for future drug development.

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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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