

Special Issue

The Intriguing Sigma-1 and Sigma-2 Receptors and Their Potential Therapeutic Roles

Message from the Guest Editors

Almost five decades after their discovery, the role of sigma receptors in health and disease is still an intriguing subject. The sigma-1 subtype has been defined as a pluripotent chaperone that interacts with several client proteins. Its recently obtained crystal structure, which shows a peculiar folding, will facilitate the understanding of the oligomerization/polymerization processes that address the sigma-1 receptor functions. Drugs interacting with the sigma-1 subtype have potential for the treatment of CNS disfunctions, neurodegenerative diseases, pain, cocaine abuse, and tumors. After diverse hypotheses, the sigma-2 subtype was recently identified as TMEM97, rejuvenating the interest in sigma-2-related research. The present thematic issue will collect data from the experts in the sigma receptor field with the aim of disseminating the knowledge about these pluripotent proteins and advancing the research toward their full understanding and possible therapeutic applications.

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