Special Issue

Advances in Millimeter-Wave-Based Pain Therapy

Message from the Guest Editors

Pain management is a global problem with increasing prevalence in various pathologies. Both acute and chronic pain have a profound impact on people's lifestyle and quality of life.

Opioid analgesics are very useful for acute pain and pain at the end of life. They completely change the experience of patients enduring severe pain, especially post-surgical pains, and they should keep being used for the relief of moderate to severe pain.

The body possesses its own opioid system, using molecules with more potent analgesic effects than morphine. Because the release of endogenous opioids is triggered by the stimulation of the peripheral nervous system, treatments such as thermal cures, acupuncture, and cryotherapy are often proposed to patients. These solutions, though effective, require significant time, money, and effort. A potential solution uses the emission of millimeter waves (MMW) that stimulate the peripheral nervous system, provoking the intracerebral release of endorphins (endogenous opioids). Enthusiastic scientists will present clinical, mechanistic, and fundamental mechanistic aspects. This issue highlights the potential of MMW therapy in pain care strategies.

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