

Melatonin in Psychiatric Disorders

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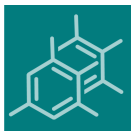
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Message from the Guest Editor

Psychiatric disorders constitute a growing health burden worldwide. Melatonin has attracted particular interest due to the potential role as an aetiological factor in some disorders (e.g., bipolar disorder due to alteration in circadian rhythms). Melatonin agonists, such as agomelatine, have been approved for the treatment of major depression, while others may be of utility in the treatment of sleep disturbance associated with psychiatric disorders. Alteration of the sensitivity of melatonin to light and the daily secretion of the hormone have been proposed as biomarkers in some disorders. Melatonin itself has been proposed as a treatment for seasonal affective disorders as well as the metabolic syndrome associated with the use of atypical antipsychotic medications. The aetiological significance of melatonin secretion and rhythm alterations remains debatable, while the therapeutic effects, at least of the agonists, have a better evidence base. This Special Issue aims to identify and review data related to melatonin secretion, rhythms and the use of agonists in psychiatric disorders.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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