Special Issue

Periphery-Brain Interactions and Leptin in the Regulation of Whole-Body Energy Metabolism

Message from the Guest Editors

Since the seminal discovery of the adipokine leptin in 1994, our understanding of the molecular, cellular and systems bases of whole-body energy metabolism regulation has grown tremendously. However, the incidence of obesity and its comorbidities continue to soar globally.

We now know that peripheral tissues bi-directionally communicate with the central nervous system through various signalling molecules to regulate whole-body energy metabolism. As a recently characterized example, leptin communicates with a chemically defined network of hypothalamic neurons to in turn increase sympathetic nerve activity and innervation of brown and white adipose tissues, thereby promoting thermogenesis and a negative whole-body energy balance.

In this Special Issue, we invite articles that expand our knowledge on periphery-brain interactions. These can include adipokines such as leptin and gut hormones such as glucagon-like peptide 1, but also microbiota products and host-derived metabolites. Articles that shed light on how nutritional, pharmacological, exercise or surgical interventions promote healthier whole-body energy metabolism through periphery-brain interactions are also welcome.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (5 January 2022)



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Nutrients is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2009. Nutrients adheres to rigorous peer-review and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues related to the impacts of nutrients on human health. The Impact Factor of Nutrients has risen rapidly since its establishment and it is now ranked in the first quartile of journals publishing in the field of nutrition and dietetics research.

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