

Special Issue

Novel Pharmaceutical and Pharmacological Strategies to Induce Autophagy

Message from the Guest Editors

Both genetic and molecular evidence have implicated autophagy in the pathogenesis of neurodegenerative disorders. Thus, the pharmacological induction of autophagy may result a potential therapeutic approach relevant to neurodegenerative disorders. Autophagy inducers rapamycin and trehalose proved to be effective in vitro and in vivo. However, those compounds have a limited clinical applicability because of safety and pharmacokinetic issues. Meanwhile, new autophagy-connected molecular targets were identified and validated, and drug discovery efforts targeted against them are appearing at a fast pace. Clearly, autophagy induction may be a promising therapeutic opportunity, but clinically relevant drugs are still to be discovered. The Special Issue invites research on new strategies to induce autophagy in therapeutic, authentic models. Studies on the identification of natural and synthetic autophagy inducers from HTS campaigns, on the rational design and structure-activity relationships of small molecule autophagic inducers, biologicals, nanocarriers, alternative systems to deliver putative autophagic drugs, and preclinical evaluation of promising leads, are welcomed.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Giovanni Piccoli
Dr. Daniela Arosio
Dr. Pierfausto Seneci

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 December 2021)



Pharmaceutics

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 6.9
CiteScore 12.5
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/81076

Pharmaceutics
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
pharmaceutics@mdpi.com

[mdpi.com/journal/
pharmaceutics](https://mdpi.com/journal/pharmaceutics)





Pharmaceutics

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 6.9
CiteScore 12.5
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/journal/
pharmaceutics](https://mdpi.com/journal/pharmaceutics)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Pharmaceutics (ISSN 1999-4923) is an online open access journal on the science and technology of pharmaceuticals and biopharmaceuticals. The scientific community, the wider community and the general public have unlimited and free access to the content as soon as a paper is published; this open access to your research ensures your findings are shared with the widest possible audience. Please consider publishing your impressive work in this high quality journal. We would be pleased to welcome you as one of our authors.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Patrick J. Sinko

Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, William Levine Hall, Room 225C, 160 Frelinghuysen Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854-8020, USA

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, PMC, Embase, CAPIus / SciFinder, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Pharmacology and Pharmacy) / CiteScore - Q1 (Pharmaceutical Science)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 15.7 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 3.5 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).