Special Issue

Roles of Transporters and Receptors in Drug Delivery to the Brain in Health and Disease

Message from the Guest Editors

Drug delivery to the brain, restricted by the blood-brain barrier (BBB) with its tight junctions, membrane transporters, receptors, and metabolizing enzymes, remains one of the major reasons for high failure rates of the central nervous system (CNS) drug candidates. Solute carriers (SLCs) and ATP-binding cassette family (ABC) transporters play crucial roles in drug delivery to the brain. Knowledge about transporters and receptors expressed at the BBB and brain parenchymal cells has opened new opportunities for the improvement of drug delivery to the brain. However, the expression and function of transporters and receptors at the brain barriers can be altered in neuropathological conditions, which can affect drug delivery efficacy to the brain. This Special Issue aims to provide readers with an overview of the latest developments in the field of transporterand receptor-mediated drug delivery to the brain, current knowledge about the changes in expression and function of transporters and receptors expressed at the brain barriers in CNS diseases, as well as advances in the methodologies for evaluation of carrier-mediated drug delivery to the brain.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Gert Fricker

Department of Pharmaceutical Technology and Biopharmacy, Institute of Pharmacy and Molecular Biotechnology, University of Heidelberg, Im Neuenheimer Feld 329, D-69120 Heidelberg, Germany

Dr. Elena Puris

Department of Pharmaceutical Technology and Biopharmacy, Institute of Pharmacy and Molecular Biotechnology, University of Heidelberg, Im Neuenheimer Feld 329, D-69120 Heidelberg, Germany

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (20 April 2024)



Pharmaceutics

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 5.5 CiteScore 10.0 Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/127908

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

mdpi.com/journal/pharmaceutics





an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 5.5 CiteScore 10.0 Indexed in PubMed



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 pharmaceutics and biopharmaceutics. 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

Department of Pharmaceutics, Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ 08854, USA

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubMed, PMC, Embase, CAPlus / 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 14.9 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 3.3 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).

