



Recent Molecular Research of Parkinson's Disease

Guest Editors:

Dr. Toshiharu Nagatsu

School of Medicine, Fujita Health
University, Aichi, Toyoake 470-
1192, Japan

Dr. Hirohisa Watanabe

Department of Neurology, Fujita
Health University, Aichi, Toyoake
470-1192, Japan

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Message from the Guest Editors

Various causative genes (e.g., PARKs) have been discovered in the small cohort with familial PD (fPD, ~5%). Alpha-synuclein, a main protein in Lewy bodies, was found not only in the brain in “brain-first PD” but also in the whole body and in the intestine, where it is produced by intestinal microbiota in “body-first PD”. Most cases, which are of sporadic PD (sPD, ~95%) without family history, are aging-related, and the molecular mechanism has been intensively explored. Oxidative stress by internal (genetic) and external factors might trigger endoplasmic reticulum stress (ERS) and mitochondrial dysfunction, which results in production of reactive oxygen species (ROS), with subsequent impairment of intracellular proteolysis due to dysfunctions in the autophagy (mitophagy) and ubiquitin–proteasomal systems, alpha-synuclein oligomer accumulation and neuromelanin accumulation with iron, neuroinflammation, and finally neuronal death. This Special Issue aims to provide an update on the recent research progress in the mechanism and treatment of PD.





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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Maurizio Battino

Department of
Odontostomatologic and
Specialized Clinical Sciences,
Sez-Biochimica, Faculty of
Medicine, Università Politecnica
delle Marche, Via Ranieri 65,
60100 Ancona, Italy

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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*International Journal of Molecular
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MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
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