



Retinal Neurodegenerative Diseases: Molecular Targets Driving Neuroinflammation and Neuroprotection

Guest Editors:

Dr. Ana Raquel Santiago

Coimbra Institute for Clinical and Biomedical Research (iCBR),
Faculty of Medicine, University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal

Dr. Raquel Boia

Coimbra Institute for Clinical and Biomedical Research (iCBR),
Faculty of Medicine, University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal

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Message from the Guest Editors

Retinal neurodegenerative diseases are among the major causes of blindness worldwide. Glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy, and age-related macular degeneration (AMD) are chronic diseases affecting more than 150 million people worldwide. Despite their different etiologies, chronic neuroinflammation is a common feature that correlates with neurodegeneration. Several cells, like microglia, astrocytes, and immune cells from the periphery and endothelial cells, orchestrate an inflammatory response that drive neurodegeneration. The inflammatory signals occur early and precede neurodegeneration, suggesting that strategies targeting the control of inflammation could provide therapeutic benefits for the treatment of retinal diseases. Several molecular targets and strategies have been proposed to afford protection to the retina, either by acting directly on the affected cells or by controlling inflammation.





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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

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MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
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