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# **Advances in Treatment of Drug Addiction**

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#### Message from the Guest Editors

Drug addiction is a substantial problem in several countries. In the US, for example, more than 100,000 people died from drug overdose in the last twelve months. Opioid addiction is currently the causative drug in 75% of these overdoses. Other drugs such as cocaine or newly designed drugs are increasing too and sometimes dishabituation is ineffective. Relapses in drug addiction are one of the primary problems in this disease due to the neurobehavioral changes that occur. Relapses can happen even after years of withdrawal. On the other hand, in recent years different research institutes have been developing trials with new treatments to help avoid relapses. Some of them are in phase II or III and are targeted to different neurocircuitry or systems (i.e., the extended amygdala) involved in stress, which is believed to be a key factor. Some new dosage forms are also being tested in dishabituation

In this Special Issue we intend to compile new advances related to drug addiction, focusing on treatment and how to improve drug abusers' quality of life.

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- drug addiction
- treatment
- withdrawal
- relapse
- pharmacokinetics
- stress
- dopamine
- noradrenergic system
- drug abuse





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### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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