



Psychopharmacology and Biological Studies of Psychosis

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Message from the Guest Editors

Psychotic disorders (including schizophrenia and schizophrenia-related disorders) cover a wide group of mental illnesses, with a total incidence rate estimated at approximately 4/1000/year. Due to the significant heterogeneity, research into the biological mechanisms of these disorders is a huge challenge, and we are far from understanding their detailed etiology and pathophysiology. While there is significant progress in the field of psychopharmacotherapy, still, only about half of patients with a diagnosis of schizophrenia achieve symptomatic remission, and only a quarter of them have adequate social functioning after a long period of treatment. In addition, approximately one-third of patients are drug-resistant. A significant problem in the pharmacotherapy of psychoses is their multidimensional nature (the need to simultaneously influence positive, negative, and affective symptoms, as well as cognitive and behavioral disorders), treatment nonadherence, side effects of antipsychotic drugs, somatic consequences of their use and general medical comorbidity. In this Special Issue, our aim will be to focus on the challenges of psychopharmacology and biological studies of psychosis.





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