



Advances in Study of Molecular and Cellular Mechanisms Underlying Pain and Itch

Guest Editors:

Dr. Linlin Zhang

1. Department of Anesthesiology,
Tianjin Medical University,
Tianjin, China
2. Department of Anesthesiology,
Tianjin Medical University
General Hospital, Tianjin, China

Prof. Dr. Xin Luo

Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao
Greater Bay Area Center for Brain
Science and Brain-Inspired
Intelligence, Southern Medical
University, Guangzhou, China

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Message from the Guest Editors

Pain and itch are distinct peripheral sensory modalities. Whereas pain leads to withdrawal responses following noxious stimulation, itch (pruritus) leads to scratching. The treatment of pain and itch continues to be a major clinical challenge. Accumulating evidence emphasizes that neuroinflammation and oxidative insult drive the peripheral and central sensitization of nociceptive and itch circuitry, which governs multiple pain and itch perceptions after peripheral inflammation, nerve injury, chemotherapy and cancer. The specific molecular and cellular mechanisms underlying pain and itch development remain unclear and have attracted considerable attention.

The overall aim of this Special Issue is to share and discuss recent achievements to understand and/or augment the neuroinflammatory and neural circuits underlying the peripheral and central sensitization in pain and itch with different etiologies. Also, we aim to summarize the most recent insights into the pathogenesis of pain in females, to help inform clinical practice and to design new research addressing unanswered questions.





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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Stephen D. Meriney

Department of Neuroscience,
University of Pittsburgh,
Pittsburgh, PA 15260, USA

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Contact Us

Brain Sciences Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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