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Inherited Disorders in Neurotransmitters: A Molecular, Cellular and Systemic Perspective

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Message from the Guest Editors

Aromatic amino acid decarboxylase (AADC) is a pyridoxal 5'-phosphate-dependent enzyme-producing dopamine and serotonin from L-Dopa and 5-hydroxytryptophan. Genetic mutations in its gene cause a devastating disease called AADC deficiency, which leads to dramatic consequences and premature death. AADC deficiency patients are treated by a combination of drugs (pyridoxine, monoamine oxidase inhibitors, dopamine agonists, and others) to ameliorate the symptoms. Although an increasing number of papers have been published leading to both the identification of mutations in the AADC gene and many case reports about patients, a lot of information regarding molecular causes, cellular effects and systemic approaches is still lacking. This represents a fundamental question for a full understanding that could be the rationale for the development of new drugs. This Special Issue will include a selection of research papers and reviews about different aspects of AADC deficiency, with a particular focus on the molecular and cellular level, as well as the wider approach of system biology.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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