



Molecular Mechanisms and Treatments of Dependence and Neurotoxicity of Amphetamine-Type Stimulants

Guest Editor:

Prof. Dr. Anna Moszczynska
Department of Pharmaceutical
Sciences/College of Pharmacy
and Health Sciences, Wayne
State University, Detroit, MI
48201, USA

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Message from the Guest Editor

Amphetamine-type stimulants (ATSS) such as methamphetamine and 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA, Ecstasy) are highly addictive drugs with neurotoxic properties. In recent years there has been a pronounced increase in the production and use of ATSS worldwide. Preclinical studies have demonstrated that, in addition to having the potential for abuse, ATS drugs have a potential to elicit neurotoxic effects, particularly at high doses. There are no FDA-approved pharmacotherapies to treat ATS dependence, and there are no appropriate therapeutic strategies to manage the neurological and neuropsychological problems associated with ATS abuse. This Special Issue will review current knowledge on molecular mechanisms underlying the dependence and neurotoxicity of methamphetamine, MDMA, and other ATSS, as well as developing strategies to treat ATS dependence and resultant neurotoxicity. The emphasis will be placed on methamphetamine, as its abuse in the USA has been increasing, together with the deaths from methamphetamine overdose. Consequently, the development of effective pharmacotherapy for methamphetamine dependence and the neurotoxic effects of this drug is a high priority.





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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

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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*International Journal of Molecular
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MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
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