

## Special Issue

# Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis as a Systemic Disease

### Message from the Guest Editor

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) is a lethal neurodegenerative disease affecting both the upper and lower motoneurons, which leads to a progressive paralysis of the voluntary muscles. In spite of being studied for decades, ALS etiology, diagnosis and pathogenesis remain largely unclear. Although the primary cause is the motoneuron's death, ALS must be considered as a multisystemic syndrome, in which multiple organs and tissues participate and contribute to the disease progression. Cross-talks between different types of cells and retrograde signals, from peripheral tissues to the central nervous system, are emerging as essential contributors to the ALS process. In this special issue, we aim to collect new findings underlying ALS etiology and diagnosis, including the search for reliable biomarkers. Special attention is pointed towards new frontiers of targeting and multidisciplinary approaches to counteract ALS progression, including cell-based research and therapy, nutritional intervention to counteract altered body and muscle metabolism, gastrointestinal status and microbiota.

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### Guest Editor

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## International Journal of Molecular Sciences

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