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Inflammation and Brain Diseases

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Message from the Guest Editors

Inflammation is the common denominator of several CNS pathologies. It is now well-accepted that inflammatory pathways are involved in the pathogenesis of several neurodegenerative disorders. Clinical observations and experimental findings support a link between inflammation and epilepsy. In the brain, the major players in the inflammatory response are resident cellular elements. Microglia and astrocytes are strongly activated in most neurodegenerative diseases and produce a variety of inflammatory mediators. However, in recent decades, most findings have suggested that inflammation exacerbates the pathological manifestation of CNS diseases. This evidence has framed inflammation as a common target for a broad range of CNS diseases. Thus, anti-inflammatory agents could potentially be effective for different pathologies. Approved anti-inflammatory drugs, as well as innovative, multifunctional, and/or hybrid molecules, are fundamental tools both in elucidating pathological pathways of brain diseases and in mitigating disease progression.

This SI aims to provide an overview of approved drugs exploited in brain diseases and to highlight state-of-the-art new compounds under study.





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