



## Special Issue on **Mediators of Inflammation in Neuropsychiatric Disorders and Suicide: Current Knowledge and Future Perspectives**

# CALL FOR PAPERS

The pathogenesis of most neuropsychiatric disorders is commonly believed to be based on gene-environment interactions. Genetic studies have suggested that genes related to immune-inflammatory response contribute to the pathophysiology of such disorders. Furthermore, epidemiological and animal studies have indicated that adverse environmental factors, such as an unhealthy family environment and stressful life events, prenatal and perinatal exposure to adverse factors may increase the risk of developing several neuropsychiatric disorders such as schizophrenia, affective disorders, and anxiety disorders. In fact, altered immune-inflammatory cytokine dysregulation has been suggested as a potential common pathway to both genetic and environmental components of several psychiatric disorders.

Inflammation is an adaptive body response and many immune cells and molecules such as cytokines, TNF- $\alpha$ , c-reactive protein, adipokines, melatonin, HPA axis hormones, microglia, and mast-cells may be involved together with neurotrophic factors. Immune-inflammatory mediators play a fundamental role in brain signaling and have been associated with the pathophysiology of several neuropsychiatric disorders. Immune-inflammatory mediators may play a role in the development of suicidal ideation as well even in absence of clinically significant depressive symptoms.

This special issue aims to give an overview of the current research on mediators of inflammation in neuropsychiatric disorders and suicide.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Clinical relevance of novel inflammatory markers in the diagnosis of schizophrenia and mood and anxiety disorders
- ▶ The role of acute phase proteins and cytokines in neuropsychiatric disorders and suicide
- ▶ Role of immune cells in the development and maintenance of schizophrenia and mood and anxiety disorders
- ▶ Relationships between HPA axis, inflammation, and neuropsychiatric disorders and suicide
- ▶ Relationships between neurotrophic factors and immune-inflammatory mediators in the development of schizophrenia and mood disorders
- ▶ Inflammation in antipsychotic-induced metabolic syndrome
- ▶ Effect of psychopharmacotherapies on inflammation
- ▶ Anti-inflammatory agents as novel therapies in the treatment of psychiatric disorders

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