Parkinson's Disease

Special Issue on

Neuroprotective Agents in Parkinson's Disease

CALL FOR PAPERS

Parkinson's disease (PD) is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder characterized by nonmotor and motor clinical features, for which the cause remains unknown. PD is one of the most common neurodegenerative diseases, and the numbers are projected to double in the next two decades with the increase in the aging population. However, treatment of PD is limited to symptomatic therapy. The currently available medications are neither able to arrest nor reverse the progression of this relentlessly progressive and severely debilitating condition. Thus, neuroprotection has become the focus of efforts aimed at slowing or halting the progression of PD. Neuroprotective therapies are defined as those that slow the underlying loss of neurons. Presently, no proven neuroprotective therapies exist for PD.

The reasons for this phenomenon are unclear but are likely to stem from the complexity of pathogenesis, the inability to intervene in the disease process sufficiently early in its course, lack of reliable and objective biomarkers of disease progression, and importantly the choice of a neuroprotective agent according to the unknown etiology. Thus, there is extensive and long-term effort in this area in both basic research and clinical trials.

The objective of the current special issue will encourage contribution of original research papers as well as review papers that will motivate the remaining efforts to understand the preclinical assessments of various animal models of PD relevant to neuroprotective agents with potential translation values and the development of neuroprotective agents to slow or halt the progression of PD in both experimental research and clinical trials.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- Preclinical animal models of PD
- The identification of neuroprotective agents for PD
- Testing the effects of putative neuroprotective agents of PD
- Combined use of neuroprotective agents in PD
- Potential targets for neuroprotection in PD
- Natural products for neuroprotection in PD
- Recent advances and thought-provoking comments of neuroprotective agents in PD

Authors can submit their manuscripts through the Manuscript Tracking System at http://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/pd/nppds/.

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