

Special Issue on
**Neuropeptides and Pain Modulation: From Basic Science
to Therapeutic Possibilities**

CALL FOR PAPERS

Pain, as defined by the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP), is “an unpleasant sensory and emotional experience associated with actual or potential tissue damage or described in terms of such damage.” Due to its complexity, several systems/molecules are involved in this process. Indeed, during pain conditions, some of these systems/molecules are dysregulated. In this regard, neuropeptides are the most diverse class of signaling molecules acting as neurotransmitters and/or neuromodulators in the central nervous system. In recent years, an accumulating body of evidence suggests the potential use of neuropeptides as modulators of pain transmission. Certainly, an array of neuropeptides like substance P, calcitonin gene-related peptide (CGRP), vasoactive intestinal peptide (VIP), pituitary adenylate-cyclase-activating polypeptide (PACAP), neuropeptide Y (NPY), somatostatin (SS), oxytocin, and orexins, among others, is emerging as interesting molecules involved in pain modulation acting as inhibitors of facilitators of nociceptive transmission. Moreover, the potential role of neuropeptides receptors in pain conditions remains an interesting topic in pain research.

In this context, researchers are cordially invited to contribute original as well as review articles to this special issue that may improve our understanding about the potential use of neuropeptides or neuropeptides receptors as therapeutic target to treat pain. The scope of this special issue includes both humans and animal models. We encouraged the submission of papers from the view of different disciplines ranging from molecular to behavioral to have a comprehensive view of therapeutic possibilities in this field.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- ▶ Novel insights into the peptidergic mechanisms and targets involved in pain modulation
- ▶ Human and basic research to disentangle the analgesic effects of neuropeptides
- ▶ Current therapeutics and/or potential approaches using neuropeptides in pain treatment
- ▶ The use of selective ligands to activate or blockade neuropeptide receptors related to pain modulation
- ▶ Intranasal delivery of neuropeptides for the treatment of pain conditions
- ▶ Prodrug design for brain delivery to enhance the bioavailability of neuropeptides with analgesic actions
- ▶ Role of intracellular mechanisms activated by neuropeptides receptors in pain modulation
- ▶ Reviews of recent advances in animal research on the analgesic effect of neuropeptides

Authors can submit their manuscripts through the Manuscript Tracking System at <https://mts.hindawi.com/submit/journals/prm/npfs/>.

Papers are published upon acceptance, regardless of the Special Issue publication date.

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