Oxidative Stress in Neurodegenerative Diseases

Neurodegenerative disorders encompass a wide variety of diseases, which give way to heterogeneous symptoms and have distinct characteristics each. The pathophysiological pathways behind each separate disorder may differ, but they all eventually lead to the loss of neuronal cells. Significant research efforts have been made in the last decades, towards elucidating the underlying mechanisms, and they seem to all converge over oxidative stress. Oxidative stress is more usually defined as an imbalance between the production of reactive oxygen species in cells, and their ability to cleanse the system of these products. This is very harmful, especially for neurons, and has thus been incriminated for many neurodegenerative processes. In light of this, antioxidant substances have also been examined as possible therapeutic alternatives, and present great interest. Considering the need for further understanding of neurodegenerative diseases and the paucity of effective treatments so far, we decided to introduce this Special Issue of Journal of Integrative Neuroscience, and hereby invite authors to submit articles of any kind regarding oxidative stress in neurodegenerative diseases, and help promote research towards this direction.

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