PROPOSAL
FULL-THEMATIC ISSUE
TRANSLATIONAL PERSPECTIVES IN TREATMENT-RESISTANT MOOD DISORDERS
CURRENT NEUROPHARMACOLOGY

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1. Management of treatment-resistant major depressive disorder: current evidences.
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2. Pharmacological approaches for treatment-resistant bipolar disorder.
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3. Novel targets for treatment-resistant major depressive disorder.
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4. Novel targets for treatment-resistant bipolar disorder.
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5. Treatment-resistant late-life depression: challenges and perspectives.
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6. Cognitive dysfunction in major depressive disorder: a novel therapeutic target?

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7. Pharmacogenomic predictors of treatment response in depression.

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8. Meta-analysis of drug treatments for mood disorders: methodological aspects may lead to different conclusions.

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AIMS AND SCOPE

Treatment-resistant depression and bipolar disorder are highly prevalent and disabling conditions associated with substantial mortality. Treatment-resistant mood disorders are heterogeneous phenotypes without standardized unifying definitions. Only 30% of patients with depression remit after a standard antidepressant trial. Most available antidepressant target monoaminergic neurotransmission. Furthermore, the therapeutic effects of conventional antidepressants typically emerge after several weeks of treatment, which may increase suicidality. Similarly, there are several unmet needs in the pharmacological treatment of bipolar disorder. A minority of bipolar disorder patients achieve sustainable euthymia and functional recovery on a single mood stabilizer. Most patients require polypharmacotherapy. Several mechanisms are involved in the
patho-etiologic of depression, namely: oxidative and nitrosative stress pathways, opioid peptidergic pathways, glutamatergic signaling, mitochondrial dysfunction, alterations in CNS bioenergetics, neurotrophins and purinergic signaling. Similar mechanisms are involved in the pathophysiology of bipolar disorder. Novel agents targeting these signaling pathways have been developed for treatment-resistant mood syndromes. Apart from treating affective symptoms, widespread cognitive dysfunction has been reported in major mood disorders. Cognitive symptoms are associated with diminished levels of psychosocial functioning in mood disorders. Research efforts have revealed structural and functional correlates of cognitive impairment in mood disorders. More recently, therapeutic targets for cognitive symptoms of mood disorders have been proposed. This issue of Current neuropharmacology will provide an overview of the current pharmacological approaches to treatment-resistant mood disorders. Furthermore, this issue will cover translational aspects of treatment-resistant mood syndromes, such as the development of drugs targeting novel neurotransmitter systems (e.g., NMDA receptors system) and pharmacogenomics predictors of response.

**ITEMS COVERED IN THE THEMATIC ISSUE:**

1- Pharmacological management of treatment-resistant major depressive disorder;

2- Pharmacological management of treatment-resistant bipolar disorder;

3- Residual symptoms in mood disorders;

4- Novel therapeutic targets for treatment-resistant mood disorders;

5- Pharmacogenomics of mood disorders;

6- Cognitive remission in mood disorders;

7- Experimental models of mood disorders;
8- Augmentation strategies for treatment-resistant mood disorders;
9- Biomarkers for mood disorders;
10- Treatment resistance in late-life mood disorders.

TENTATIVE DEADLINE FOR MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION: September 1st, 2014

COMPLETION OF THE PEER-REVIEWING PROCESS: October 30th, 2014

MANUSCRIPTS SENT TO THE JOURNAL: November 5th, 2014