

## Tentative Outline

### Special Issue for Current Neuropharmacology

*Guest Editors: Simona Pichini, Francesco P. Busardò, Roberta Pacifici, Pascal Kintz*

### **New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), a New Global Issue; Neuropharmacological, Chemical and Toxicological Aspects**

**Aims & Scope:** Over the past five years or so there has been an unprecedented increase in the number, type and availability of new psychoactive substances.

This special issue aims to focus on the chemical and toxicological aspects of this heterogeneous group which includes: Synthetic cannabinoids, Synthetic cathinones, Opioids (fentanyl, AH-7921 and MT-45 etc), Piperazines, Arylamines, Tryptamines and others.

The NPS market alongside the “legal highs” and “research chemicals” has reached new groups of consumers thanks to “food supplements” used and abused in an attempt to enhance body and mind. We therefore aim to investigate the scientific data currently available in this field. Furthermore, special attention will be given to NPS emerging from the diversion of medicines, an emblematic example of this is adrafinil, which was detected for the first time in Europe in 2014 and is a derivative of the medicine modafinil. This substance is sold as a “nootropic” supplement with claims that it will increase energy, focus and memory.

**Key words:** New psychoactive substances (NPS), neuropharmacology, substance abuse, legal highs, smart drugs, research chemicals, synthetic cannabinoids, Synthetic cathinones, tryptamines, opioids.

#### **Subtopics of interest include, but are NOT limited to:**

- Clinical pharmacology and psychopathological consequences of the use of NPS
- NPS and doping
- Tolerance, withdrawal and neurobiological adaptations to prolonged use
- Analytical toxicology and NPS
- Performance and image enhancing drugs (PIEDs)
- Use of alternative biological matrices
- Neuroscience of NPS

**Schedule:**

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Peer Review Due: 30 April 2016

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Final manuscripts due: 10 July 2016

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