

## Proposal for

### Current Neuropharmacology

#### Psychobiology of Eating Disorders

Stephan Zipfel, Ulrike Schmidt (Eds.)

Eating disorders (anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, binge eating disorder, and related syndromes) are highly distinctive psychiatric disorders. The peak age of onset is 15–25 years, a developmentally sensitive time. The average illness duration is about 6 years. Young women make up the majority of people with anorexia and bulimia nervosa, with binge eating disorder nearly equally common in both sexes. The prevalence of eating disorder behaviours is rising in high-income countries, especially in combination with obesity. One in every six or seven young women has an eating disorder and anorexia nervosa is one of the most common chronic disorders in adolescence. Mortality rates are almost twice as high for people with eating disorders as in the general population, and nearly six times higher for people with anorexia nervosa. To date there is a lack in basic, neurobiologically informed research in eating disorders. Alongside genetic research, brain imaging might help to elucidate mechanisms related to brain pathophysiology that drive eating disorder behaviours. There are also various endocrine alterations in eating disorders, and especially when patients are underweight. However, such endocrine alterations frequently normalize with weight restoration, and whether they specifically affect the brains and behaviours of patients with an eating disorder is uncertain. Thus far pharmacotherapy has a secondary role in the treatment of eating disorders and should not be considered as a sole or primary intervention. With this special issue on “Psychobiology of eating disorders” leading experts in the field of eating disorders aim to provide current and up-to-date knowledge with focused and cutting edge reviews of hot topics in eating disorders research to close the gap of bench to bedside and facilitate a more individualized and precision medicine therapy approach in the treatment of eating disorders for the future.

#### 1. “Psychobiology of brain volume changes in anorexia nervosa”?

Konrad Seitz, Beate Herpertz-Dahlmann  
Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Psychosomatics and Psychotherapy  
RWTH Aachen University, Germany

#### 2. “Neuromodulation in eating disorders”

Savani Bartholdy, Maria Kekic, Ulrike Schmidt  
Institute of Psychiatry, Kings College London UK

3. "Treatments for socio-cognition in eating disorders "

Janet Treasure et al.  
Kings College London

4. "Oxytocin in eating disorders and obesity"

Manfred Hallschmid, Stephan Zipfel, Katrin Giel  
University of Tuebingen, Germany

5. "An overview of current fMRI research on eating disorders"

Steward, T; Jimenez-Murcia, S.; Soriano-Mas, C.; Menchon, Jose M;  
Fernandez-Aranda, F

University of Barcelona, Spain

6. "Microbiome in eating disorders"

Isa Mack, Nazar Mazurak, Paul Enck  
University of Tuebingen, Germany

7. "Update on genetics in eating disorders"

CM Bulik and Z Yilmaz  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA

**Schedule:**

Manuscript submission deadline: 1/6/17

Peer Review Due: 15/7/17

Revision Due: 1/9/17

Notification of acceptance by Guest Editors: 1/10/17