

Non-Coding RNAs and the Pathogenesis Of Neurodegenerative Disorders

Approximately 1.5% of the transcribed human genome encodes proteins; the rest gives rise to a large and diverse population of RNA molecules. In recent years, the roles of many small (sncRNA) and long non-coding RNAs (lncRNAs) have been characterized; however, the mechanisms by which these molecules regulate gene expression and contribute to cellular functions remain poorly understood.

Studies have shown that the expression and/or activity of lncRNAs and sncRNAs are altered in several neurodegenerative conditions with roles for ncRNAs suggested in the pathology of Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and Huntington's disease among others. As more ncRNAs associated with neurological disorders are identified and their functions characterized, these molecules are becoming interesting new therapeutic targets for the treatment of neurological diseases via RNA interference (RNAi).

Healthy Aging Research invites submissions of original research and review articles that provide insights into the expression and regulation of non-coding RNAs and their function in relation to neurodegeneration. Topics of interest for this special issue include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Non-coding RNA functions and regulation related to neurodegenerative disease
- The roles of lncRNAs in neurodegeneration
- The roles of RNA binding proteins (such as TDP-43 and FUS) in neurodegeneration
- The identification of ncRNAs as therapeutic targets for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases
- The translation of RNAi from the lab to patients for the treatment of neurodegenerative diseases



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