

Special Issue

Frontiers in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis

Message from the Guest Editors

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder with a rapid functional decline and a short survival, but its progression rate has a large interindividual variability. The identification of biomarkers of disease progression would make it possible to improve clinical trials design and facilitate an easier identification of effective compounds. There is an extensive body of literature on neurophysiological, imaging, and neurochemical markers for investigating CSF and blood samples, cells, and tissues. Phosphorylated neurofilament heavy chain (pNfH) and the neurofilament light chain (NfL) are now considered as the most promising biomarkers. However, investigators persist in a continuous effort to find other biomarkers, as demonstrated by the emerging literature on chitinases in ALS. The impact of these different markers on clinical trials depends on their predictive value for disease outcome. In this Special Issue we intended to collect original contributions on novel markers of disease progression and related outcomes, in the perspective of their potential interest for clinical trials.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Mamede de Carvalho

Faculty of Medicine-IMM, University of Lisbon, 1649-028 Lisbon, Portugal

Prof. Dr. Susanne Petri

Department of Neurology, Hannover Medical School, Hannover, Germany

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MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Stephen D. Meriney

Department of Neuroscience, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
15260, USA

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