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Insula: Rediscovering the Hidden Lobe of the Brain

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Message from the Collection Editors

Considered as the fifth lobe of the brain, the insula has long been neglected in the study of normal and pathological brain functioning. However, thanks to the advent of functional neuroimaging and other innovative techniques, growing interest in the insula has been observed within the scientific community since the beginning of the 21st century. A large amount of data now allows us to better understand the role(s) played by this once enigmatic structure. It is now well acknowledged that the insula is involved in multisensory processing, interoception, and socioemotional functions, and that it may play a crucial role in certain psychological and neurological disorders.

The purpose of this Special issue is to provide an exhaustive portrait of current knowledge on the insula, its functions, and its role in pathology. Literature reviews and original research from leading scientists in insula research will contribute to a better and more complete understanding of this poorly known but functionally important brain region.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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