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4th International Conference on **Epilepsy & Treatment**

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4th World Congress on Parkinsons & Huntington Disease

August 29-30, 2018 | Zurich, Switzerland

J Neurol Disord 2018, Volume 6 DOI: 10.4172/2329-6895-C5-038

Presentation on: Emerging approach against Parkinson disease

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Parkinson's disease (PD) is the most common progressive neurodegenerative movement disorder affecting more than 10 million people worldwide. The prevalence of Parkinson's disease (PD) increases with age and is projected to increase in parallel to the rising average age of the population. The characteristic hallmark of PD involves progressive loss of dopaminergic neuron in Substantia Nigra pars compacta (SNpc) region of the brain, however, aetiology of the disease still remains unclear. Mitochondrial dysfunction and oxidative insult are considered to be the key culprit. The currently available drugs for treatment provide only symptomatic relief and do not control or prevent disease progression, and as a result patient compliance and satisfaction are low. Several emerging pharmacotherapies for PD are in different stages of clinical development. These therapies include adenosine A2A receptor antagonists, glutamate receptor antagonists, monoamine oxidase inhibitors, anti-apoptotic agents, and antioxidants such as coenzyme Q10, N-acetyl cysteine, and edaravone. Other emerging non-pharmacotherapies include viral vector gene therapy, microRNAs, transglutaminases, RTP801, stem cells and glial derived neurotrophic factor (GDNF). In addition, surgical procedures including deep brain stimulation, pallidotomy, thalamotomy and gamma knife surgery have emerged as alternative interventions for advanced PD patients who have completely utilized standard treatments and still suffer from persistent motor fluctuations. Emerging therapies and surgical procedures will provide enhanced symptomatic control remain in developmental demand.

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