Orexin – A Potential Neurotransmitter : A Review

V. Jayashree*1, N.Thenmozhi1

1Vels university, School of Pharmaceutical sciences, Department of Pharmacology, Chennai, India

Abstract: The orexins are recently described hypothalamic neuropeptides. Their discovery was reported by two groups using various techniques. De et al, identified the Pro-hormone preprohypocretin, and its peptide products namely the orexin-A and orexin B which was also reported simultaneously by sakurai et al who used the technique of Receptor cloning. The findings that cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) Levels of these peptides were abnormal in patients with narcolepsy has stimulated research on the potential role of these peptides in human disease. We represent here an overview of the identification of the neurotransmitter and its receptors, its functions, its projections of the system it’s various uses with depression, narcolepsy etc.


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