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Compared to other areas of medicine, psychiatric research faces unique biological, technological, clinical, regulatory and ethical challenges. Efforts to develop new treatments have languished for decades and the underlying causes of psychiatric disorders remain elusive. This issue focuses on psychiatric disorders and the recent advances in basic and clinical sciences advancing mental health research. The cover is a reference to the Herrenhausen Gardens in Hanover, Germany, where leaders in psychiatric research met at a symposium in May 2016 to discuss unmet needs in the field. Artwork by Lewis Long.
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