Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

The discovery that macular xanthophylls are selectively present throughout central nervous system tissue has led to the question of how these dietary components influence the retina and brain. Interest in the macular carotenoids comes from diverse areas of study ranging from biochemistry to psychophysics. Fundamental human and animal studies have linked these pigments as important prophylactic agents in a number of degenerative diseases as well as basic functioning. These effects manifest as early as prenatal development and extend to the end of life.

In this special topical issue of Foods, we invite papers on all aspects of the macular carotenoids especially as they pertain to influences on the health and function of the nervous system.

Dr. Billy R. Hammond
Guest Editor

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