

Special Issue

Antimicrobial Peptides in Animals and Their Application in Veterinary Medicine

Message from the Guest Editors

From the earliest times, man has always had recourse to natural remedies from the plant and animal kingdoms, for both therapeutic and preventive purposes. Among the natural molecules that have most recently come to the fore in light of some of their important properties, including antibacterial ones, there are natural peptides. They belong to a large and extremely varied group of active molecules of the innate immune response, which represent the first line of defense against pathogens in many organisms, such as bacteria, fungi, insects, amphibians, and fish, up to the more evolved mammals, including primates and man himself. Their compositions and physicochemical characteristics allow them to interact selectively with the bacterial membrane, causing the death of microorganisms. In particular, in view of the growing phenomenon of antibiotic resistance, it seems desirable to envisage the increasingly widespread use of these compounds in both medical and veterinary antimicrobial therapy and prophylaxis, as well as in safeguarding the hygienic integrity of many foodstuffs.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Animals is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2011. *Animals* adheres to rigorous peerreview and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues in the many varied disciplines that involve animals, with a focus on animal science, animal welfare and animal ethics. *Animals* is covered in the Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) in Web of Science, with the latest Impact Factor: 2.7 (2024, ranks 15/86 (Q1) in 'Agriculture, Dairy & Animal Science'; 21/170 (Q1) in 'Veterinary Sciences'), 5-Year Impact Factor: 3.2.

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