

Special Issue

Signaling Molecules in Mammalian Reproduction

Message from the Guest Editors

Efficient communication between cells and tissues is necessary for many physiological processes, including embryo development. Typically, inside the body, mammalian cells communicate with each other either through direct interaction (juxtacrine signalling) or by secreting molecules such as hormones, growth factors, and cytokines. Mammalian preimplantation embryos develop in vivo inside the female genital tract (i.e., the oviduct and uterus) and communicate with these dynamic and elastic surroundings on which the embryo depends for its development and survival. Recent decades have seen a growing interest in the study of miRNAs, extracellular vesicles, proteins, and other signalling molecules driven by their role in cellular communication, and potential as biomarkers. The scope of this Special Issue includes reviews and original research papers focused on identifying or characterizing different signalling factors that are involved in mammalian reproduction both in vivo and in vitro. However, articles related to the use of animals solely to provide information of relevance to humans are not suitable for this Special Issue.

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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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