

Special Issue

Drug Discovery in the Fight Against Bacterial Infections

Message from the Guest Editors

The increasing number of infections caused by antibiotic-resistant bacterial pathogens over recent decades has become a critical global health problem. A recent report on the global burden of bacterial antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in 2019 stated that 4.95 million deaths were associated with AMR bacteria, including 1.27 million directly attributed deaths. If a sustained effort to contain AMR is not undertaken, it is anticipated that by the year 2050, or before, there will have been 10 million deaths caused by untreatable bacterial infections. Therefore, new antimicrobials are urgently needed. In 2021, the WHO identified only 27 antibiotics in clinical development that might address the priority pathogens, of which only two fulfil all of the criteria to be considered fully innovative: no cross-resistance, of a new chemical class, and with a new target and new mechanism of action.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

30 November 2026



Antibiotics

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.6
CiteScore 10.2
Indexed in PubMed



mdpi.com/si/222830

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

There are very few fields that attract as much attention as scientific endeavor related to antibiotic discovery, use and preservation. The public, patients, scientists, clinicians, policy-makers, NGOs, governments, and supra-governmental organizations are all focusing intensively on it: all are concerned that we use our existing agents more effectively, and develop and evaluate new interventions in time to face emerging challenges for the benefit of present and future generations. We need every discipline to contribute and collaborate: molecular, microbiological, clinical, epidemiological, geographic, economic, social scientific and policy disciplines are all key. *Antibiotics* is a nimble, inclusive and rigorous indexed journal as an enabling platform for all who can contribute to solving the greatest broad concerns of the modern world.

Editor-in-Chief

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