

Special Issue

The Ecological Role of Antibiotic Production in Bacteria

Message from the Guest Editor

Antibiotic research has made huge progress, especially in the middle decades of the 20th century, resulting in the discovery of many novel antibiotics. To date, most of the compounds with antimicrobial activity were obtained from soil- bacteria. In bacterial communities, inter-specific competition for nutrients is a major type of interaction. An important survival strategy in this competition is interference competition, which is the production of secondary metabolites with antimicrobial activity that can suppress or kill microbial opponents. In nature, antibiotics may be produced after receiving specific environmental signals or signals from surrounding microorganisms. So far, there is no scientific consensus on the ecological role of antibiotics and why they are produced. With this Special Issue, we would like to give an overview of the current status of antibiotic discovery from bacteria and the ecological role of antibiotic production in bacteria.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 November 2021)



Antibiotics

an Open Access Journal
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Impact Factor 4.6
CiteScore 10.2
Indexed in PubMed



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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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