

Special Issue

Glycans in Therapy and Diagnostics

Message from the Guest Editors

Glycans are a major constituent of glycolipids as well as secreted and cell surface glycoproteins and account for the overall structural microheterogeneity of these molecules. Human-type glycan structures are characterized by a set of individual glycan moieties composed of varying numbers of glycosidically linked hexose and desoxyhexose units and neuraminic acid. Aberrant patterns of glycosylation have been observed in the context of several diseases and are therefore being developed into valuable biomarkers that help to distinguish a healthy from the diseased state and lift the power of diagnostic assays to yet another level. Glycan discovery, glycan engineering and glycan analytics are among the most important fields of current biopharma research. This Special Issue comprises expert contributions on glycans in the context of diagnostic biomarker discovery and development, glycan structure as a target for molecular engineering of production hosts for therapeutic glycoproteins and current advances in glycan analytical technology.

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