

## Special Issue

# Peptides of Natural Origin as Leads for Drug Discovery: From Native Structures to Peptidomimetics, Peptide-Conjugates, and Peptide-Nanoparticles 2.0

### Message from the Guest Editor

More than 60 peptide therapeutics are currently marketed worldwide, another ca. 170 are in various stages of clinical development, and more than 200 others are at preclinical stages. The predominant therapeutic areas are in metabolic diseases and oncology, followed by infections; cardiovascular, respiratory, renal, and gastrointestinal disorders; pain; the CNS; and dermatology. The year 2017 was exceptional for peptide and peptidomimetic drugs, with six approved, in comparison with one in 2016: angiotensin II (for the control of blood pressure), etelcalcetide (for secondary hyperparathyroidism), plecanatide (for chronic idiopathic constipation), abaloparatide (for osteoporosis), semaglutide (for type 2 diabetes mellitus), and macimorelin (for GH deficiency).

In this issue, we intend to present the recent trends in peptide drug discovery, from naturally occurring peptides to peptidomimetics, from therapeutic applications to the new opportunities enabled by conjugation with biomaterials and nanotechnology.

### Guest Editor

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 August 2022)



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### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Biomedicines* (ISSN 2227-9059) is an open access journal devoted to all aspects of research on human health and disease, the discovery and characterization of new therapeutic targets, therapeutic strategies, and research of naturally driven biomedicines, pharmaceuticals, and biopharmaceutical products. Topics include pathogenesis mechanisms of diseases, translational medical research, biomaterial in biomedical research, natural bioactive molecules, biologics, vaccines, gene therapies, cell-based therapies, targeted specific antibodies, recombinant therapeutic proteins, nanobiotechnology driven products, targeted therapy, bioimaging, biosensors, biomarkers, and biosimilars. The journal is open for publication of studies conducted at the basic science and preclinical research levels. We invite you to consider submitting your work to *Biomedicines*, be it original research, review articles, or developing Special Issues of current key topics.

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### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Felipe Fregni

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