Special Issue

Retinoids in Embryonic Development

Message from the Guest Editors

Animal development is characterized by the deployment of highly conserved sets of morphogens and transcription factors that contribute to the patterning and formation of a startling variety of adult morphologies. One of these conserved effector–receptor systems is retinoic acid (RA) signaling that plays critical roles during development. Within a target cell, RA signaling is activated by the binding of all-*trans* RA, the biologically active metabolite of vitamin A, to heterodimers of two nuclear receptors, the retinoic acid receptor (RAR) and the retinoid X receptor (RXR). Since the discovery of these nuclear RA receptors a little bit over 30 years ago, an enormous effort has been undertaken by the scientific community to disclose both the molecular intricacies of the RA signal and the biological readouts of its activity. This Special Issue intends to provide examples of current exciting work on RA signaling, with a special focus on developmental processes in the embryo, highlighting intriguing results and exciting perspectives for the future of RA research.

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Biomolecules is a multidisciplinary open-access journal that reports on all aspects of research related to biogenic substances, from small molecules to complex polymers. We invite manuscripts of high scientific quality that pertain to the diverse aspects relevant to organic molecules, irrespective of the biological question or methodology. We aim for a competent, fair peer review and rapid publication. Please look at some of the exciting work that has been published in *Biomolecules* so far. We would be delighted to welcome you as one of our authors.

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