



## In Honor of Elie Metchnikoff, a Nobel Prize Winner, Who Discovered Macrophages as Phagocyte Cells Involved in the Process of Innate Immunity

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### Message from the Guest Editor

This Special Issue honors the discoverer of macrophages, Elie Metchnikoff, who observed these phagocytic cells in the process of innate immunity in 1882. Macrophages serve important functions in immune response, development, tissue homeostasis e.g. wound healing and tissue repair. The important functions of the macrophages can be disturbed in chronic diseases and autoimmune diseases, which includes atherosclerosis, asthma, fibrosis, inflammatory bowel disease, rheumatoid arthritis (RA), experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE), multiple sclerosis (MS), autoimmune hepatitis, Crohn's disease and chronic demyelinating diseases of the central nervous system. The pathogenesis of these diseases is based on changes in the differentiation, polarization, repolarization and activation of macrophages. In order to gain a better understanding of how novel therapies can be developed, the diversity of macrophage functions needs to be better understood.





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