



## The Alveolar Epithelium: Mechanisms of Injury and Repair

Guest Editors:

**Prof. Dr. Michael Kasper**

Institut für Anatomie,  
Medizinische Fakultät Carl  
Gustav Carus, TU Dresden,  
Dresden, Germany

**Prof. Dr. Christian Mühlfeld**

Institute of Functional and  
Applied Anatomy, Hannover  
Medical School, Hannover,  
Germany

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Alveolar epithelial cells (AECs) of the lung importantly contribute to pulmonary immune functions and to pulmonary development and alveolar repair mechanisms following lung injury. AECI, together with the capillary endothelium, form the extremely thin barrier between alveolar air and blood. AECII produce and metabolize the surface-tension lowering and immune-modulating surfactant and are the progenitors of AECI. A great variety of processes rely on their normal functioning, including the maintenance of the alveolar barrier; innate immune defense; and processes of differentiation, senescence, apoptosis, and autophagy. In this Special Issue, we welcome your contributions, original papers, or review articles, on all aspects of alveolar epithelial function, including normal and pathological development, acute and chronic forms of injury and repair, as well as new regenerative approaches





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### Prof. Dr. José L. Quiles

Department of Physiology,  
Institute of Nutrition and Food  
Technology “Jose Mataix”,  
Biomedical Research Center,  
University of Granada, Avda.  
Conocimiento s/n, 18100 Armilla,  
Granada, Spain

## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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*International Journal of Molecular  
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MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
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