

Special Issue

Progression of Innate Immunity in Tuberculosis Infections

Message from the Guest Editor

Innate immune responses comprise a wide array of cells, molecules, and mechanisms that are active against infection. Its role in tuberculosis has been intensively studied, but the nature of a protective immune response remains elusive. The importance of the innate immune cells is highlighted by their direct participation in the elimination of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, as revealed by the recently described early bacterial clearance. This process is characterized by the absence of an adaptive immune response in heavily exposed individuals that do not develop the disease. Although the knowledge of the specific mechanisms involved in this phenomenon would be fundamental for the design of effective therapeutic approaches, a clear description of its features is lacking. The difficulties in the development of tuberculosis vaccines and the continuous appearance of new drug-resistant strains prompt the search for alternative means to tackle this dreaded disease. Strengthening the innate immune response emerges as one of the most promising options.

Guest Editor

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