

Special Issue

Molecular Mechanisms and Non-Conventional and Complementary Treatments for Inflammatory Bowel Disease

Message from the Guest Editors

Inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD) are chronic relapsing diseases of the gastrointestinal tract that include two major subtypes: Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. Their etiology is still unknown, but it is assumed to be a genetic predisposition coupled with an altered immune response against bacterial antigens. More than 50% of IBD patients, mainly those with impaired quality of life, sought treatment with complementary medicine such as probiotics, psychotherapy, and medical cannabis. Moreover, the potential role of microbiota and central and enteric nervous system—the so-called brain–gut axis—in the pathophysiology of symptoms in IBD have been investigated. Despite intense research, the etiology of IBD is still not well established. For this reason, the investigation of molecular mechanisms involved in IBD symptoms could reveal important new therapeutic targets for treatment development. Original research articles, comprehensive reviews, and novel communications dealing with the molecular pathways involved in disease mechanisms will be considered for publication.

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