

Special Issue

Antiviral Activity of Lectins

Message from the Guest Editor

Lectins are ubiquitous proteins found in various taxonomy, animals, plants, algae, and bacteria. Numerous lectins have been reported to show antiviral activity against viruses such as influenza virus, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), SARS-CoV and hepatitis C virus (HCV). As the glycan profiles on viral surface are diverse among these viruses, antiviral potency of lectins are largely depended on their unique carbohydrate-binding specificity as well as the characteristic structure of lectins. We are consistently facing the risk to encounter unknown viruses to which no one has sufficient immunity. Therefore, antiviral agents are in great demand to confront the emergence of new viruses. To develop therapeutic or prophylactic agents targeted for pathogenic viral glycans, fundamental information on lectin-virus interaction via glycan moiety is truly valuable. In this open-access special issue, we welcome any research articles regarding novel aspects of antiviral lectins. We hope that this issue will contribute to advancing our understanding on lectins that are ultimately applicable for microbicides to prevent the transmission of viruses.

Guest Editor

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