Special Issue

B Cells and Immunological Tolerance

Message from the Guest Editors

The main goal of the immune system is to protect the body against foreign agents. To achieve this mission, the immune system acquires an advanced degree of specialization that allows it to recognize and neutralize any pathogen and danger signal present in the organism. On the other hand, this high degree of specialization increases the risk of systemic ruptures of the physiological mechanisms controlling immunological tolerance and anomalous or unanticipated responses are induced, as in the case of autoimmune diseases, where some "misguided" immune cells attack their own antigens (autoantigens). To counter these effects, the immune system has established a balanced equilibrium between the effector and the inhibitor mechanisms of the immune response. This issue focuses on tolerance mechanisms affecting B cell responses from the molecular level (microRNA. microbiota...) to the cellular level (apoptosis, Bregs). These are targets for the development of diagnostic and/or therapeutic approaches in human inflammatory, autoimmune or alloimmune processes.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (25 September 2018)



International Journal of Molecular Sciences

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Impact Factor 4.9 CiteScore 9.0 Indexed in PubMed



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