

## Special Issue

# Biofouling and Antifouling: Interactions between Microbes and Larvae of Invertebrates

### Message from the Guest Editor

Biofouling refers to the undesirable accumulation and deposition of living organisms on submerged hard surfaces. The initial stages of biofouling are represented by biofilms, which are composed of assemblages of different microorganisms—such as bacteria, fungi, diatoms, and protozoa—incorporated into exopolymeric substances and attached to each other and to substrata. The bioactive compounds produced by the microbes in biofilms can induce or inhibit the larval recruitment of invertebrates. Biofilms are highly dynamic systems. Environmental changes cause substantial changes in the community structure and composition of biofilms, which in turn affect the settlement of macrofouling species and their health. The molecular interactions between the biofilm community composition and settlement of invertebrate larvae remain poorly understood. This Special Issue targets research results focusing on microbe–larva interactions. Special emphasis will be placed on the novel “omics” approaches, such as metagenomics, metatranscriptomics, and metabolomics.

### Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Sergey Dobretsov

Centre of Excellence in Marine Biotechnology, Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat P.O. Box 50, Oman

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 May 2020)



## International Journal of Molecular Sciences

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Impact Factor 4.9  
CiteScore 9.0  
Indexed in PubMed



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*International Journal of  
Molecular Sciences*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[ijms@mdpi.com](mailto:ijms@mdpi.com)

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### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Maurizio Battino

Department of Odontostomatologic and Specialized Clinical Sciences,  
Sez-Biochimica, Faculty of Medicine, Università Politecnica delle  
Marche, Via Ranieri 65, 60100 Ancona, Italy

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