

Special Issue

Role of Proteases and Associated Inhibitors in Chronic Airways Diseases

Message from the Guest Editor

Within the airways, a protease–antiprotease imbalance plays a major role in the pathophysiology and progression of diseases such as cystic fibrosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and bronchiectasis. Proteases are also involved in the propagation of a muco-obstructive phenotype through their role as activators of the epithelial sodium channel (ENaC), leading to defects in epithelial ion–fluid transport, resulting in airway dehydration and dysfunctional mucociliary clearance mechanisms which increase the risk of infection. More recently, host proteases have been highlighted as playing a critical role in SARS-CoV-2 infectivity. Proteases are therefore attractive targets for therapeutic intervention.

Authors are invited to submit original research and review articles which address the progress and current understanding of the proteolytic environment of the airways, how aberrant proteolysis contributes to disease pathophysiology or how advances in the field may aid the identification of novel biomarkers and patient stratification, therapeutic targets or the development of targeted therapies.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (15 April 2021)



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