

Special Issue

Regulation and Physiopathology of Gut Barrier

Message from the Guest Editors

The intestinal barrier refers to chemical and physical components of the intestinal mucosa, which form a dynamic interface between the gut lumen and the body. The intestinal mucosa ensures an efficient equilibrium between the absorption of nutrients and the prevention of uncontrolled translocation of harmful luminal contents.

Many actors are involved in maintaining an effective gut barrier. The intestinal epithelial cells, through cell-cell contacts and notably the presence of tight junctions, form a physical barrier. Intestinal epithelial cells also contribute to the establishment of a chemical barrier through the secretion into the lumen of mucus, secretory IgA and antimicrobial peptides. The immune cells present in the intestinal mucosa act as an immunological defense and are involved in the education of systemic immune system towards commensal microbiota while protecting the gut and the body from intrusion of bacteria and other microorganisms.

All aspects of gut barrier regulation and dysfunction throughout life in health and disease are welcome in this special issue, which will take into consideration submissions of both original research articles and reviews.

Guest Editors

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The International Journal of Molecular Sciences (*IJMS*, ISSN 1422-0067) is an open access journal, which was established in 2000. The journal aims to provide a forum for scholarly research on a range of topics, including biochemistry, molecular and cell biology, molecular biophysics, molecular medicine, and all aspects of molecular research in chemistry. *IJMS* publishes both original research and review articles, and regularly publishes special issues to highlight advances at the cutting edge of research. We invite you to read recent articles published in *IJMS* and consider publishing your next paper with us.

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