

Special Issue

Molecular Mechanisms of Nitric Oxide in Cardiovascular System

Message from the Guest Editor

In the cardiovascular system, nitric oxide (NO), which is mainly produced by the endothelial NO synthase isoform, is highly involved in the modulation of vascular homeostasis and cardiac systo-diastolic function through mechanisms related to calcium handling and maintaining endothelial and mitochondrial function. Furthermore, due to its ability to interact with reactive oxygen species and activate the nitroso-redox signaling pathway, NO can play a central role in the pathophysiology of cardiovascular conditions. Hence, along with other factors, dysfunction in NO bioavailability or in downstream NO-related molecular mechanisms may result in the onset of hypertension, coronary disease, atherosclerosis, heart failure, and stroke. Despite the wide range of information available on this issue, however, unanswered questions about the signaling pathways and the control of NO bioactivity still remain. Increasing knowledge about this issue could be useful from the perspective of preventive medicine and therapeutic strategies. For the abovementioned reasons, this review aims to fill these gaps on the topic.

Guest Editor

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