

Special Issue

Lipopolysaccharides

Message from the Guest Editor

LPS is a complex glycolipid comprised of a hydrophobic membrane-anchored lipid A and a core oligosaccharide, which is linked to O-antigen in smooth-type bacteria. The lipid A part constitutes the endotoxin principal and is highly conserved. LPSs are potent activators of the mammalian immune system. LPS composition is highly heterogenous, and this heterogeneity arises due to the incorporation of non-stoichiometric modifications, alterations in acyl chain length which contribute to antibiotic resistance, and evasion of host immune system. Recent studies have unraveled novel essential components in the regulation of a tight balance between LPS and phospholipid content, and discovery of new information on the LPS transport to the OM. Regulated assembly of LPS, structural diversity, new LPS structures, LPS transport, and recognition of LPS by host immune system will be the focus of this issue.

Guest Editor

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