

Special Issue

Impact of Molecular Biology in the Prevention, Diagnosis and Treatment of Invasive Meningococcal Disease

Message from the Guest Editors

The bacteria *Neisseria meningitidis* is the aetiological agent associated with Invasive Meningococcal Disease (IMD), a devastating disease that remains a public health concern because of its rapid onset and significant risk of death and long-term disability. Even with proper therapy, the disease has a high mortality rate (5–10%) and a high number of long-term sequelae (10–20% of survivors). In recent years, the greater accessibility of molecular and cellular techniques has allowed an enormous advance in the knowledge of the disease, defining risk factors in the susceptible population, describing genetic mechanisms of antimicrobial resistance, and particularly developing new vaccines with different antigenic formulations for which new tools also based on molecular biology have been developed. Diagnosis, population biology and animal models are also topics that have ostensibly improved in parallel with molecular biology. For any of these topics, and for those that may not have been mentioned, the special issue of the journal is open to contributions both in the form of reviews and research articles.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Julio A Vázquez

National Reference Laboratory for Meningococci, Instituto de Salud Carlos III, 28029 Madrid, Spain

Dr. Raquel Abad

National Reference Laboratory for Meningococci, Instituto de Salud Carlos III, 28029 Madrid, Spain

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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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.

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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