

Special Issue

The Role of Protease and Protease Inhibitors in Human Diseases

Message from the Guest Editor

There are approximately 600 proteases and 150 endogenous protease inhibitors in humans that regulate diverse physiological processes such as cellular signaling, DNA replication, cellular proliferation and differentiation, remodeling of the extracellular matrix, angiogenesis, neurogenesis, fertilization, blood coagulation, food digestion, apoptosis, inflammation, etc. Therefore, it is not surprising that the deregulation of their activities governs multiple pathological conditions including cancer, neurodegeneration, skin overdesquamation and inflammation. In addition, recent data has shown that human endogenous proteases regulate certain viral infections.

Thus, proteases are druggable targets and important diagnostic molecules. In the latter context, the development of assays to measure their activity instead of the total amount is expected to increase their diagnostic potential since it is the activity that underlies the (patho)physiological phenotype. This Special Issue will cover a selection of recent research and review articles on the role of proteases and/or their inhibitors in human pathophysiology.

Guest Editor

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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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