

Special Issue

Melanin Pigmentation: Physiology and Pathology

Message from the Guest Editors

Melanins are a group of biopolymeric phenolic pigments ubiquitously present in most organisms. In mammals and birds, two types of melanin are found, the brown-to-black insoluble eumelanin and the reddish-brown, sulfur-containing pheomelanin. Contributions to this Special Issue may cover any aspect of the chemistry of natural and synthetic melanins with potential practical applications; melanogenesis inhibition through the definition of its mechanism of action; approaches to the amelioration or control of any type of melanin-based pigmentary disorder, as well as photoprotection strategies; innovative methodologies for the analysis of pigmented tissues and for diagnostic purposes; structure and function of extracutaneous melanins including neuromelanin in the brain; molecular engineering methodologies for melanin production in microorganisms; and novel functions of melanins that are of potential interest for applications, drug targeting, and exploiting the specific affinities of melanins. Experimental papers and up-to-date review articles are welcome.

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