

Special Issue

Advances in Immunotherapeutic Approaches to Type 1 Diabetes

Message from the Guest Editor

Type 1 diabetes (T1D) is an organ-specific autoimmune endocrinopathy, where autoreactive T lymphocytes destroy target islet β cells producing insulin. Clinically, T1D presents with interrelated metabolic, vascular, and neuropathic sequelae, and, after the onset of the disease, if it is not promptly treated with insulin, severe clinical manifestations can occur such as ketoacidosis, potential coma, and death. The treatment always allows the patient to escape certain death but does not treat the ongoing autoimmune process. A significant advance beyond the state of art is therefore the effect that any immunotherapeutic intervention may play in halting pathogenic immunological mechanisms, thereby preserving the residual hormone producing cells. This would improve metabolic stability during the disease course in order to avoid the typical 'instability' that requires adjustments to daily insulin administration and continuous glucose monitoring, thereby preventing or reducing long-term complications. This Special Issue focuses on several immunotherapeutic approaches being experimented with in T1D.

Guest Editor

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