

Special Issue

Leptin and Obesity Associated Diseases

Message from the Guest Editor

Leptin was discovered almost 30 years ago as a lipostatic signal produced by adipocytes to inform the central nervous system about energy stores in order to control body weight. However, leptin was found to be a pleiotropic hormone with many different effects in multiple systems in addition to human metabolism, such as reproduction, including pregnancy; immunological functions; and cardiovascular and musculoskeletal systems. Furthermore, leptin levels are increased in obesity, and may mediate, at least in part, the pathophysiological complications of being overweight; therefore, leptin may also be considered as a link between obesity and its associated diseases, such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, musculoskeletal problems, and immunological diseases, both immune deficiency- and inflammation-related diseases. This refers not only to autoimmune diseases, but also concerns cancer development and progression. The aim of this Special Issue is to provide a specialized forum which can summarize and further enlarge the knowledge of leptin in the pathophysiology of obesity-associated diseases.

Guest Editor

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