

## Special Issue

# Vitamin E: Function and Metabolism

### Message from the Guest Editor

Vitamin E is a fat-soluble vitamin with several forms, but alpha-tocopherol is the only one used by the human body. Its main role is to act as an antioxidant, scavenging loose electrons—so-called “free radicals”—that can damage cells. Free radicals form as a result of normal body processes. Vitamin E is a powerful antioxidant that may help reduce free radical damage and slow the aging process of cells. Its deficiency is associated with ataxia, neuropathy, anaemia and several other health conditions. Vitamin E is considered the most important fat-soluble antioxidant of cellular membranes and circulating lipoproteins, with important applications in prevention and adjuvant treatment of some chronic and degenerative diseases, such as atherosclerosis, Alzheimer’s disease, neuroinflammation and neurotoxicity associated with epilepsy. This Special Issue examines in detail, and provides an update on, the molecular targets, protective effects and modes of action of vitamin E and its metabolites, as well as their roles in prevention and treatment of human diseases both in preclinical animal models and clinical trials.

### Guest Editor

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 March 2022)



## International Journal of Molecular Sciences

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Impact Factor 4.9  
CiteScore 9.0  
Indexed in PubMed



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*International Journal of  
Molecular Sciences*  
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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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