

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

Dr. Manfred L. Eggersdorfer

Department of Internal Medicine, University Medical Center Groningen, 9713 GZ Groningen, The Netherlands

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4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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Prof. Dr. José L. Quiles
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Avda. Conocimiento s/n, 18100 Armilla, Granada, Spain

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