Special Issue

Dietary Fibre: New Insights on Biochemistry and Health Benefits

Message from the Guest Editors

When the term dietary fibre was first coined, over sixty years ago, it referred only to the plant cell walls in the diet. Since then, the definition of dietary fibre has changed considerably and the term now encompasses a wide range of different components, including resistant starches and non-digestible oligosaccharides. This has presented substantial challenges in devising methods for determining the dietary fibre content of foods. However, it also vitally important to recognize that the term dietary fibre is applied to such a wide range of components, with quite diverse properties, when the effects of dietary fibre on human health are considered, in both cohort and dietary intervention studies. Different types of dietary fibres may produce quite different effects on health. This Special Issue will highlight the relationship between the biochemistry of dietary fibre and its health benefits and contributions on any aspect are welcome. Professor Dr. Philip James Harris Dr. Jan Willem van der Kamp

Guest Editors

Prof. Philip J. Harris

School of Biological Sciences, The University of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland, New Zealand

Dr. Jan Willem Van der Kamp

The Netherlands Organization for Applied Scientific Research (TNO), Microbiology and Systems Biology, 3704 HE Zeist, The Netherlands

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (15 June 2018)



International Journal of Molecular Sciences

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Maurizio Battino

Department of Odontostomatologic and Specialized Clinical Sciences, Sez-Biochimica, Faculty of Medicine, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Via Ranieri 65, 60100 Ancona, Italy

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