

Special Issue

Nutrients and Nitrite

Message from the Guest Editors

Although nitrate and nitrite were previously considered to be inert end products of endogenously produced nitric oxide (NO) in the process of NO oxygenation, they are now known to be physiologically recycled in the blood and tissue to form NO and other bioactive nitrogen oxides. Decreased NO availability, caused by obesity and endothelial dysfunction, might be causally related to the development of lifestyle-related diseases, such as insulin resistance, ischemic heart disease, and hypertension. However, dietary intake of nitrite as a nutrient may compensate NO synthase (NOS)-dependent NO generation through the enterosalivary nitrate-nitrite-NO pathway by transmitting NO activity in various molecular forms, including NO and protein S-nitrosothiols. Potential topics in this special issue may include the above-mentioned metabolic disorders but are not limited to the association of nitrite-mediated NO activity with lifestyle-related diseases. In this special issue, we look forward to discussions on the prophylactic and therapeutic effects of nitrite intake as a nutrient in a variety of pathophysiological conditions.

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