

Special Issue

Oral Inflammations and Systemic Diseases

Message from the Guest Editors

Oral infections occur frequently in humans and often lead to chronic inflammations affecting the teeth (i.e., caries), the gingival tissues surrounding the teeth (i.e., gingivitis and endodontic lesions), and the tooth-supporting structures (i.e., periodontitis). At least four basic pathogenic mechanisms have been proposed that involve oral inflammations in the pathogenesis of these widespread diseases: (1) low level bacteremia, by which oral bacteria enter the blood stream and invade the body; (2) systemic inflammation induced by inflammatory mediators released from the sites of the oral inflammation into the blood stream; (3) autoimmunity to host proteins caused by the host immune response to specific components of oral pathogens; (4) pathogenic effects resulting from specific bacterial toxins that are produced by oral pathogenic bacteria. This Special Issue focuses on several aspects of the interaction between oral infections and widespread systemic diseases, and we invite contributions of reviews and/or original papers reporting recent efforts in this field.



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The *International Journal of Molecular Sciences (IJMS)* 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, and molecular biophysics. *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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