

Special Issue

Bacterial Protein Toxins: Enemies within or Unexpected Friends

Message from the Guest Editors

Bacterial protein toxins are the principal virulence factors of pathogenic bacteria and their production represents one of the main bacterial strategies to interact with mammalian cells. Using diverse and sophisticated mechanisms, bacterial toxins manipulate the host cell functions to suit their own needs, favoring the spreading, colonization, and survival of the microbes. However, toxins play a negative role in human health, not only because implicated in infectious diseases but also because potentially involved in harmful situations, such as cancer development. Under all these aspects, bacterial toxins can certainly be considered as “enemies”. In this Special Issue of IJMS, the focus will be on bacterial protein toxins pointing to both their pathogenetic strategies and their therapeutic potentials, thus highlighting the Janus aspect of such virulence factors.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 January 2019)



International Journal of Molecular Sciences

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

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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