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Metabolomics and Microbiota Metabolism

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

Metabolomics is the investigation of metabolites in any sample type and finds application in diverse areas including biomarker discovery, systems biology, and drug discovery. Within the past decade, it has become evident that microbiota produce a plethora of metabolites that can profoundly affect the human host by impacting physiology and disease development. These microbial communities inhabit the entire surface of the human body including the gastrointestinal tract and skin. The vastly expanded enzymatic repertoire and corresponding (bio)chemical capabilities of the microbiota compared to the human host increases the complexity of metabolomics studies. However, improved methods for the analysis of the host–microbiome co-metabolism are steadily emerging and developing.

This Special Issue highlights an analysis of microbiota metabolism using metabolomics techniques. Current challenges for targeted and untargeted microbiota metabolism studies include sample type selection, sample quality, data handling, as well as the integration of metabolomics and metagenomics data among others.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The metabolome is the result of the combined effects of genetic and environmental influences on metabolic processes. Metabolomic studies can provide a global view of metabolism and thereby improve our understanding of the underlying biology. Advances in metabolomic technologies have shown utility for elucidating mechanisms which underlie fundamental biological processes including disease pathology. *Metabolites* is proud to be part of the development of metabolomics and we look forward to working with many of you to publish high quality metabolomic studies.

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