

Special Issue

The Effects of Heavy Metals on Human Metabolism

Message from the Guest Editors

The identification and characterization of metabolites are of paramount importance to many areas. Many drugs are developed as prodrugs, which after intake are metabolized into pharmacologically active molecules. On the other hand, there are many molecules, inorganic metals, and metal-organic compounds that are administered, and their active and/or putative metabolites are not characterized. Additionally, endogenous molecules are present in many metabolic/biochemical pathways, and their reactions, enzymes, and proteins involved need to be identified. The characterization of unstable metabolites is an analytical challenge. The development of *in silico* tools to predict drug metabolism is essential for the design of biologically active molecules; however, some computational parameters need to be improved to avoid false-positive events, especially for metals. Cell-based assays play an important role in preventing the unnecessary use of animal models and human volunteers. This Special Issue is devoted to the identification and characterization of heavy inorganic metals and metal-organic compounds and the putative effects of metabolites in humans health.

Guest Editors

Dr. Cláudia Sirlene Oliveira

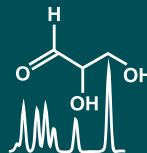
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About the Journal

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.

Editor-in-Chief

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