

Special Issue

Biomarkers for Early Detection of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs): Discovery, Validation and POC (Point-of-Care) Devices Implementation

Message from the Guest Editor

The vast majority of NTDs is represented by vector-borne or food-borne parasitic diseases. Usually, NTDs affecting humans are co-endemic, and most of them also have the same early acute symptoms, thus leading to difficulties in precise early diagnosis. Moreover, the clinically available diagnostic tests detect a specific disease at a mid-to-late stage, when most of the chronic/late symptoms have arisen.

Most of the time, field hospitals and dispensaries first give the prophylaxis treatment for the most common parasitic disease in the area and then perform a true diagnosis, thus increasing the risk of complications and mistreatment.

Therefore, there is a great need for cheap and easy-to-use diagnostic tests, the so-called POC, to implement the mass drug administration (MDA) programs of the World Health Organization (WHO).

In this Special Issue we would like to focus on: (i) The research for unique biomarkers in NTDs; (ii) the methodology for biomarkers validation; (iii) the pathway leading from translational research to POC implementation.

Guest Editor

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