

Special Issue

Ubiquitin and Ubiquitin-Like Proteins: From Basic Mechanisms to Human Disorders

Message from the Guest Editors

Ubiquitination is a widespread PTM and corresponds to the transient attachment of ubiquitin (UB), a small protein (8.6 kDa) conserved among the Eukaryota. Since three decades, other protein modifiers, called ubiquitin-like proteins (UBL), have been identified, presenting significant sequence similarity to ubiquitin (e.g., SUMO, NEDD8, ISG15, FAT10, etc.). UB and UBL are attached to proteins by similar enzymatic cascades and form multiple types of monomeric or polymeric-chain PTM. These different types of PTM determine the fate of a protein (protein degradation, localization, interactions, and activity). UB and some UBL marks can be further modified by additional post-translational modifications, such as phosphorylation, or reversed (e.g., by deubiquitinases, DUBs). UB and UBL regulate many cellular processes, and, not surprisingly, dysregulation of this system (e.g., mutations in the enzymatic cascade or DUBs) is associated with many pathologies. This Special Issue aims to identify and review the latest advances in the field and illustrate the therapeutic prospects of targeting the ubiquitinating and deubiquitinating enzymes in human diseases.

Guest Editors

Dr. Cécile Polge

INRA, University of Clermont - Auvergne, Department of Human Nutrition, St Genès Champanelle, France

Prof. Dr. Alfred Vertegaal

Leiden University Medical Center, Albinusdreef 2, 2333 ZA Leiden, The Netherlands

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 October 2020)



Molecules

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CiteScore 8.6
Indexed in PubMed



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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Thomas J. Schmidt

Institute of Pharmaceutical Biology and Phytochemistry, University of Münster, Corrensstrasse 48, D-48149 Münster, Germany

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