

Special Issue

Proteases: Structure and Drug Development

Message from the Guest Editors

Proteases (also called peptidases or proteinases) catalyze the breakdown of proteins into polypeptides or single amino acids. Proteases play an important role in many physiological functions from food digestion to signalling pathways. Tight regulation of protease activity is important for homeostasis, and a dysregulation can lead to many human diseases. Proteases are known drug targets with small molecule inhibitors currently used clinically against cancer and several viral targets. This Special Issue welcomes the submission of original research, communications, and review manuscripts focusing on proteases as targets for diagnosis and therapy, inhibitor design, and discovery as well as structural characterization of medically relevant proteases.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Steven Verhelst

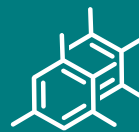
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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As the premier open access journal dedicated to experimental organic chemistry, and now in its 25th year of publication, the papers published in *Molecules* span from classical synthetic methodology to natural product isolation and characterization, as well as physicochemical studies and the applications of these molecules as pharmaceuticals, catalysts and novel materials. Pushing the boundaries of the discipline, we invite papers on multidisciplinary topics bridging biochemistry, biophysics and materials science, as well as timely reviews and topical issues on cutting edge fields in all these areas.

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