

Special Issue

Assessing the Role of Diet and Nutrients in Immunity, Autoimmunity and Cancer

Message from the Guest Editors

The role of diet and nutrients in shaping the immune system has started to emerge. Experimental data from animal studies have shown that dietary habits and constituents can significantly alter immunological functions affecting both humoral (antibody) and cellular immune responses. The interaction of the innate and adaptive immune systems with other systems can be influenced by alterations in diet, dietary restrictions, or excesses consumption of certain dietary constituents. Data from experimental studies on animal models of inflammatory diseases have defined the influences of specific nutrients in the homeostasis of the immune system in health and disease states. Auto-antigen-specific and tumor-antigen-related immune responses can be affected by the restriction of protein, calories, or protein and calories. Dietary supplements appear to be instrumental in shaping the immune system, with several playing pivotal roles in promoting anti-inflammatory cytokine production. In particular, the immunoregulatory role of the Mediterranean and Ramazan diets is a research focus.

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Message from the Editorial Board

Nutrients is an on-line open access journal that was first published in 2009. *Nutrients* adheres to rigorous peer-review and editorial processes and publishes only high quality manuscripts that address important issues related to the impacts of nutrients on human health. The Impact Factor of *Nutrients* has risen rapidly since its establishment and it is now ranked in the first quartile of journals publishing in the field of nutrition and dietetics research.

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