



## Therapeutic Strategies and Targets to Improve the Efficacy of PD-1/PD-L1 Blockade

Guest Editor:

**Prof. Dr. Yanfeng Gao**

School of Pharmaceutical  
Sciences (Shenzhen), Sun Yat-  
Sen University, Guangzhou,  
China

Deadline for manuscript  
submissions:

**closed (25 July 2024)**

### Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Programmed cell death protein 1 (PD-1) and its ligand programmed cell death ligand 1 (PD-L1) are the hottest drug targets in cancer immunotherapy. Increasing numbers of researches are focusing on the combination therapies to cope with the low average response rate of PD-1/PD-L1 antibody blockade therapy in cancer and other indications. The combinational strategies include the use of Toll-like receptor (TLRs) and STING agonist vaccines, cytokines, nanomedicines, radiotherapy or chemotherapy to activate the innate immunity or induce tumor cell death. In addition, the combination with various targets and their drugs to achieve the purpose of activating innate and adaptive immunity are ongoing.

This Special Issue aims to improve the efficacy of PD-1/PD-L1 blockade in cancer and expand the knowledge on a wide range of topics in this field.





an Open Access Journal by MDPI

## Editor-in-Chief

### **Prof. Dr. Amélia Pilar Rauter**

Departamento de Química e  
Bioquímica (DQB) e Centro de  
Química Estrutural (CQE),  
Institute of Molecular Sciences,  
Faculdade de Ciências,  
Universidade de Lisboa, Lisboa,  
Portugal

## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Because of your expertise in the field of drug sciences, I kindly invite you to consider publishing your current work, in the form of a research article or a review, in the open access electronic journal *Pharmaceuticals*.

*Pharmaceuticals* is characterized by an active editorial board and a dynamic editorial staff. Manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a final decision is provided to authors within 4–6 weeks after submission. Papers are published on the web immediately after acceptance. For details on the submission process or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We hope to handle your contribution to *Pharmaceuticals* soon.

## Author Benefits

**Open Access:** free for readers, with [article processing charges \(APC\)](#) paid by authors or their institutions.

**High Visibility:** indexed within [Scopus](#), [SCIE \(Web of Science\)](#), [PubMed](#), [PMC](#), [Embase](#), [CAPus / SciFinder](#), and [other databases](#).

**Journal Rank:** JCR - Q1 (Pharmacology and Pharmacy) / CiteScore - Q1 (Pharmaceutical Science)

## Contact Us

*Pharmaceuticals* Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[www.mdpi.com](http://www.mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/pharmaceuticals](http://mdpi.com/journal/pharmaceuticals)  
[pharmaceuticals@mdpi.com](mailto:pharmaceuticals@mdpi.com)  
[X@Pharmaceut\\_MDPI](https://twitter.com/Pharmaceut_MDPI)