

## Special Issue

# Drug Target Exploration and Drug Design & Development Based on Small Molecule

### Message from the Guest Editors

The development of novel therapeutics represents a significant area of scientific interest, with small-molecule compounds offering a promising frontier in this field of research. The ability of small molecules to modulate the functionality of diverse targets (proteins or nucleic acids) through the process of activation or inhibition provides a potential strategy for the treatment of conditions such as cancer, autoimmune disorders, infectious diseases, and inflammatory diseases. The recent advancements in medicinal chemistry have facilitated the identification and development of small molecules by using classical and green methods. This Special Issue aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the latest advances in the research on drug target exploration as well as drug design and development based on small molecules. We welcome submissions from researchers in the field of drug discovery and design, including original research and review articles related to pharmaceutical sciences, pharmacology, chemical biology, and bioinformatics.

### Guest Editors

Dr. Giulia Culletta

Dipartimento di Scienze e Tecnologie Biologiche Chimiche e Farmaceutiche (STEBICEF), Università degli Studi di Palermo, Via Archirafi 32, 90123 Palermo, Italy

Dr. Marco Tutone

Dipartimento di Scienze e Tecnologie Biologiche Chimiche e Farmaceutiche (STEBICEF), Università degli Studi di Palermo, Via Archirafi 32, 90123 Palermo, Italy

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 December 2025



## Pharmaceuticals

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 4.8  
CiteScore 7.7  
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/si/230051](https://mdpi.com/si/230051)

*Pharmaceuticals*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[pharmaceuticals@mdpi.com](mailto:pharmaceuticals@mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/  
pharmaceuticals](https://mdpi.com/journal/pharmaceuticals)





# Pharmaceuticals

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 4.8  
CiteScore 7.7  
Indexed in PubMed



[mdpi.com/journal/  
pharmaceuticals](https://mdpi.com/journal/pharmaceuticals)



## About the Journal

### 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.

---

### 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

---

### 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, CAPlus / SciFinder, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q1 (Pharmacology and Pharmacy) / CiteScore - Q1 (Pharmaceutical Science)