

## Special Issue

# Current Trends to Discover New Drugs Targeting Protease Inhibition

### Message from the Guest Editors

Enzymes are biological macromolecules that have essential functions in biological processes. In the current drug discovery process, proteolytic enzymes, or proteases, stand out due to their critical roles in the pathophysiology of several diseases. Several protease inhibitors exemplify the success of using these targets developed against the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and, more recently, Nirmatrelvir, a main protease inhibitor of the SARS-CoV-2 virus (3CLpro). Viral infections such as dengue and zika also present attractive proteases for the design of small protease inhibitors (NS2B-NS3). The TBDD approach is accelerated using computational computer-aided drug design (CADD) techniques, increasing the probability of finding a promising inhibitor. Thus, research groups worldwide focus on the design of small molecules targeting proteases of several diseases, providing new insight and promising hits and leads to drug development. In this context, this Special Issue will select comprehensive reviews and research papers of promising protease inhibitors designed for various diseases, including classical medicinal chemistry techniques or CADD campaigns.

### Guest Editors

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### Deadline for manuscript submissions

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## Pharmaceuticals

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### Editor-in-Chief

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