

Special Issue

Design of Injectable and Self-Healing Hydrogels for Tissue Regeneration and Drug Delivery

Message from the Guest Editors

Injectable and self-healable hydrogels have shown great promise in tissue engineering and drug delivery because they have the capacity to provide mechanical support, cell adhesion sites, and the controlled release of therapeutic molecules at the site of the defect. In addition to the merit of mimicking the natural extracellular matrix of defect tissues, these hydrogels can also be delivered to various anatomical sites, including irregularly shaped or hard-to-reach areas without the need for open surgeries, leading to less trauma, faster recovery times, and lower risk of infection and complications. This Special Issue aims to cover the most recent advances in injectable and self-healable hydrogels by discussing different fabrication strategies, available triggered drug release mechanisms, their potential for multimodal therapy and cell delivery, as well as challenges of optimal balance between gelation time, mechanical properties, and biodegradability to provide high flexibility in their biomedical application and make them a more promising tool for the future of regenerative medicine and drug delivery.

Guest Editors

Dr. Mohammad-Ali Shahbazi

Department of Biomedical Engineering, University Medical Center Groningen, University of Groningen, Antonius Deusinglaan 1, 9713 AV Groningen, The Netherlands

Dr. Yuan Xiong

Department of Orthopedics, Union Hospital, Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, 1277 Jiefang Avenue, Wuhan, China

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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Prof. Dr. Patrick J. Sinko
Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, William Levine Hall, Room 225C, 160 Frelinghuysen Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854-8020, USA

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