

Special Issue

Bioavailability of Topically Applied Drugs

Message from the Guest Editors

One of the main requisites for successful topical therapy is to achieve an optimal drug concentration at the target site in order to minimize systemic side effects and to reduce the required dose to be applied. The improvement of the bioavailability of topically applied drugs represents a great challenge for researchers, as the different structures to be addressed (i.e., skin, eye, nail, buccal and vaginal mucosa) present anatomophysiological barriers and selective transport mechanisms. Different drug delivery strategies have been pursued in order to provide selective tissue permeation and distribution, such as the use of new functional materials, the development of nanotechnologies, and the synthesis of new conjugate molecules acting as polymeric pro-drugs. Moreover, the assessment of drug bioavailability with in vitro pharmacokinetic modeling is an important issue, even with the availability of suitable biological models and drug pharmacokinetic studies. For this Special Issue, we welcome original research or review articles dealing with formulation strategies to improve the bioavailability of topically applied drugs and in vitro/in vivo evaluation.

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