



## Functionalization and Medical Application of Polymer Materials

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### Message from the Guest Editor

We can functionalize the preformed polymeric chain or the monomers whose polymerization constitutes the second step of the synthesis. Different requirements induce functionalization. Enhancing water solubility, altering the conformation in solution, inducing coordination capability toward ionic or neutral molecules, and inducing optical properties such as light absorption or fluorescence improve the polymers' applicability. Functionalized polymers can find applications in all medical fields, e.g., drug delivery, tissue engineering, theranostic medicine. Polymer functionalization for medical application is a research field that mainly involves organic chemists interested in the synthesis of novel biomaterials for challenging targets.

Prof. Dr. Carmine Coluccini





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