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Novel Chitin/Chitosan

Guest Editors:

Prof. Dr. Liqing Zhao
Department of Food Science and Engineering, College of Chemistry and Environmental Engineering, Shenzhen University, Shenzhen 518060, Guangdong, China

Dr. Muhammad Shahid Riaz Rajoka
Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Tohoku University, Sendai, Miyagi 980-8577, Japan

Dr. Muhammad Umair
Department of Food Science and Engineering, College of Chemistry and Environmental Engineering, Shenzhen University, Shenzhen 518060, Guangdong, China

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Message from the Guest Editors

Chitosan, a rather abundant naturally occurring polysaccharide, is a biocompatible and biodegradable polymer widely applied in bio-medicine, cosmetics, the chemical industry, the food industry, and the environmental field. The extensive application of such a polymer is due to the presence of functional groups that are easily editable with different molecules in order to obtain materials with new or improved properties. Chitosan is also one of the most used excipients in pharmaceutical formulations thanks to its mucoadhesive and enhanced penetration properties as well as to its ability to make the drug more available. Moreover, the use of chitosan nanoparticles as a drug delivery system offers many advantages because chitosan is non-toxic and does not require any hazardous solvents. It enables the controlled release of active agents and, due to the presence of amino groups, it has readily available sites for crosslinking and modification and, most importantly, it has a mucoadhesive character, which increases residual time at the site of absorption. Recently, considerable research effort has been made in order to develop safe and efficient chitosan-based products.

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Alexander Böker
Lehrstuhl für Polymermaterialien und Polymertechnologie, University of Potsdam, 14476 Potsdam-Golm, Germany

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Since its foundation in 2009, *Polymers* has developed into an internationally renowned, extremely successful open access journal. The editorial team and the editorial board dedicatedly combine open-access publishing and high-quality rigorous peer reviewing. The performance of the journal has proven this strategy to be well-suited and highly successful. This is reflected in the increasing impact factor of *Polymers*, the most recent one being 5.0.

I would like to invite you to contribute to the success of the journal by sending us your high quality research papers. We would be pleased to welcome you as one of our authors.

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Contact Us

Polymers Editorial Office
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66
4052 Basel, Switzerland

Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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polymers@mdpi.com
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