

Special Issue

Naturally Occurring Polymers as Tools for Coping with Diseases

Message from the Guest Editor

Historically, natural products have significantly contributed to pharmacotherapy. Plant-derived drugs comprise 25% of the total drugs used in therapeutics in developed countries such as the United States. In contrast, this statistic rises to as high as 80% in rapidly developing nations like China and India. This fact directs our attention to the study of naturally occurring polymers. Plant-derived polymers as non-digestible carbohydrates are gaining relevance due to their direct (immunomodulatory) and indirect (prebiotic) effects on health. In vitro, in vivo, and even in silico studies and clinical trials are strengthening the field of research into these types of molecules. This Special Issue is a call to share the scientific experiences among those studying naturally occurring polysaccharides and their implications in human or animal pathology, from the basic mechanisms to translational strategies.

Guest Editor

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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 4.7.

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.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Alexander Böker

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